

WEEKLY UPDATE: 1/18/2016
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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**PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD REGARDING POSSIBLE CLOSURES IN NEW RIVER AT
CAMP LEJEUNE!!!**

The Marine Corps is hosting an Open House public meeting to provide information on unexploded ordnance safety risks and a proposal to LIMIT PUBLIC ACTIVITIES IN THE WATERS adjacent to the K-2 Range at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune.

The meeting will be held on January 27, 2016 from 5:00 - 7:00pm at the Sneads Ferry Community Center in Sneads Ferry. There will not be a formal presentation, but Marine Corps representatives will be available to answer your questions.

For more detailed information, call the NCFA office and we can send it via email or regular mail. OR, attend our Annual Meeting next Monday for more information!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

NCFA will host its annual membership Monday, Jan. 25 from 3-5 p.m. at the Riverfront Convention Center in New Bern. This is the meeting where the members elect the Board of Directors and help set the agenda for NCFA for the upcoming year.

The agenda will include the election of Board members and a discussion of some very important issues facing commercial fishermen in 2016 including the latest on the southern flounder situation and the Marine Fisheries Commission's role in the definition of a commercial fisherman.

Prior to the membership meeting the Marine Fisheries Commission's Shrimp Bycatch Reduction Industry Work Group will meet from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. At this workshop, the group will learn about 2015 testing of bycatch reduction gear technologies; prioritize new gears or broad technological solutions for field testing; and recommend what percentage of shrimp loss is acceptable with new bycatch reduction devices.

The Southern Shrimp Alliance will also host a brief meeting to update the industry on anti-dumping duties and how to keep them in place to protect our domestic fishermen.

Members in good standing who cannot attend may designate another member in good standing to serve as his or her proxy. Simply copy the language below, insert your name and the name of your proxy, and paste into an email to Peggy Page: peggy@ncfish.org

I, the undersigned, _____, being a member in good standing entitled to vote at the annual membership meeting hereby appoint _____ as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the January 25, 2015 annual membership meeting and at any adjournment of the meeting. My proxy may vote as he/she thinks.

If you prefer to mail, fax or deliver a hard copy you can download the form [here](#).

PROPOSED BOUNDARY EXPANSION TO MONITOR NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

After several years of scientific and archaeological assessment and in coordination with the public, NOAA is proposing to expand Monitor National Marine Sanctuary off North Carolina's Outer Banks to include additional maritime heritage resources. The proposed expansion would protect a nationally significant collection of shipwrecks that currently have little or no legal protection, including one of America's only World War II battlefields.

For more details and maps see <http://monitor.noaa.gov/management/expansion.html>.

This expansion could have significant impacts on fishermen off the Outer Banks. Please plan to attend one of the following public meetings:

Raleigh, NC

Tues., Feb. 9 from 6-9 p.m.
North Carolina Museum of History
5 East Edenton Street
919-807-7900

Beaufort, NC

Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 6-9 p.m.
North Carolina Maritime Museum
315 Front Street
252-728-7317

Hatteras, NC

Thurs., Feb. 11 from 6-9 p.m.
Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum
9200 Museum Dr.
252-986-2995

Washington, D.C.

Tues., Feb. 16 from 6-9 p.m.
US Navy Memorial - Main Auditorium
701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
202-380-0710

Nags Head, NC

Wed., Feb. 17 from 6-9 p.m.
Jennette's Pier - Oceanview Hall
7223 S. Virginia Dare

FEDERAL FISHERY MANAGERS SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT ON PROPOSED ELECTRONIC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR CHARTERBOATS AND PROPOSED MEASURES FOR HOGFISH, MUTTON SNAPPER AND KING MACKEREL

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is soliciting public input through a series of public hearings on proposed measures that could affect federally permitted charter ("6-pack") vessels along the Atlantic coast. For-hire vessels (charter and headboats) operating more than three miles offshore in federal waters must have specific federal permits to legally target dolphin and wahoo, Coastal Migratory Pelagics (mackerel and cobia), and snapper grouper species. The Council is considering alternatives that would require electronic reporting for charter vessels with those federal permits, ranging from weekly reporting to daily reporting, through development of the Atlantic Generic Charterboat/Headboat Reporting Amendment. For more information on this issue and other proposed measures see the [news release](#).

MFC SEEKS ADVISERS FOR NORTHERN REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

IF INTERESTED, RESPOND BY THIS FRIDAY!!!

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission is still looking for commercial and recreational fishermen and scientists to serve on the Northern Regional Advisory Committee.

The committee advises the commission on various fisheries issue referred to it by the commission, such as draft fishery management plans, and recommends management strategies. The committee may also bring issues pertaining to the region or subject matter to the commission's attention.

The Marine Fisheries Commission chairman appoints members to the committee for three-year terms.

To be qualified to serve on a committee, applicants may not have had a significant fisheries violation within the past three years.

Individuals interested in serving as an adviser should be willing to attend meetings at least once every two months and actively participate in the committee process, which includes reviewing scientific documents and papers summarizing issues to make recommendations on management strategies. Advisers will be reimbursed for travel and other expenses incurred in relation to their official duties.

Adviser applications are available online at <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/mf/mfc-advisory-committees>, at Division of Marine Fisheries' offices or by calling 252-808-8022 or 800-682-2632. Applications should be returned by Jan. 22 to the Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, N.C. 28557, Attention: Nancy Fish.

