

WEEKLY UPDATE: 7/11/2014
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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TRADEWINDS: The next issue of Tradewinds was scheduled to be printed this week, but with the fluid nature of what's going on in Raleigh we decided to wait. And we might wait one more week so we can provide the latest updates possible on what's going on.

NCFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS was held on Monday. The Board met Justin LeBlanc from Ocracoke who did some work for us at the last ASMFC meeting. Jerry gave updates on what's going on in Raleigh and as a result of one of the items the Board clarified its position on our license package currently before the General Assembly. Jerry also mentioned that although 3 members of the Marine Fisheries Commission are due for reappointment or replacement by the Governor, those decisions won't be made until the Boards & Commissions office is convinced that the General Assembly won't be making any changes to the makeup of the MFC. An update was also given on the status of our 60-day letter of intent to sue on the sea turtle issue.

AFFILIATE NEWS:

CARTERET COUNTY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Next meeting to be announced.

PAMLICO COUNTY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Their next meeting will be scheduled when the General Assembly adjourns so Jerry can attend, so stay tuned for more information. (Should be able to announce the next meeting date soon, and yes we know we've been saying that for awhile!)

ALBEMARLE FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION met this past Tuesday evening in Edenton. We'll let you know when their next one is scheduled.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION have not scheduled their next meeting but will probably be in August.

Jerry's comments:

As noted above, we had an NCFA Board of Directors meeting on Monday afternoon and the Board clarified its position on our license proposal. Given the sensitive nature of the ongoing deliberations in Raleigh and the fact that this update gets broad distribution, I won't give the particulars on our position here, but if any member wants more information, either drop an e-mail or give me a call.

On Tuesday I attended the meeting of the Albemarle Fishermen's Association in Edenton and then drove to Raleigh for the legislative session. There were two meetings of the Conference Committee working on S744, or the budget bill. Conference meetings are typically private so this was unusual and it was packed. Within 15 minutes it was quite obvious that they would not be adjourning this week, as the Senate disagreed with the way the House was proceeding with the meeting, so the Senators got up and left. They came back in an hour and during another public meeting later that day appeared to be making progress.

Although the Conferees have not had any discussions on the fisheries related issues in public, I have been talking to individuals and staff to give updates on our positions and to answer their questions.

Since there was talk about this session going on till Christmas, I wore a red shirt with my suspenders and a Christmas tie on Thursday.

I'll be back in Raleigh, hopeful that they will adjourn this week, but there is a possibility that it may go on the following week. For that reason, we have decided to wait for printing Tradewinds until they adjourn. I had prepared my Tradewinds column a week ago, but it was already out of date and not pertinent based upon the actions this week.

Please note that the next NCFA Board meeting is on Monday, August 4th at 2:00pm at the Hampton Inn, Washington, NC. Also note that we have a lot of meetings in August: NCFA Board, ASMFC, Mid Atlantic Council and Marine Fisheries Commission.

God bless,
Jerry

MEETINGS:

NOTE: If you are aware of ANY meetings that should be of interest to commercial fishing that is not on this list, please contact us so we can include it here.

July 15	Finfish Advisory Meeting; Washington Square Mall; Washington NC; 6:00pm
July 18	ASMFC American Eel Advisory Panel; Hanover MD; 9:00am (all day)
Aug 4	NCFA Board of Directors; Hampton Inn; Washington NC; 2:00pm
Aug 4-8	Sedar workshop on Red Snapper and Gray Triggerfish
Aug 5-7	ASMFC Meeting; Alexandria VA
Aug 7	SAFMC Public Hearing & Scoping meeting on a variety of issues ; Joslyn Hall, MC, 4-7pm
Aug 12-14	Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Washington DC
Aug 20-22	Marine Fisheries Commission meeting; Brownstone in Raleigh

[MFC/DMF Meeting Schedule](#)

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