

WEEKLY UPDATE: 12/14/15
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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SAFMC APPROVES MEASURES FOR BLUELINE TILEFISH MANAGEMENT

The council approved an Annual Catch Limit of 174,798 lbs (87,521 lbs comm/87,277 lb rec) for 2016/2017; a commercial trip limit of 300 lbs (gutted weight); a recreational bag limit of 3 fish/person with harvest allowed only May through August.

The amendment still must go through the rulemaking process and is anticipated to be published for a 30-day comment period in February/March and finalized in May.

NMFS TRANSFERS 24.3 MT FROM DECEMBER 2016 SUBQUOTA TO JANUARY 2016 SUBQUOTA; DAILY RETENTION LIMIT FOR JANUARY 2016 SUBQUOTA PERIOD IS THREE FISH

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) transfers 24.3 metric tons (mt) of Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) quota from the General category (commercial handgear) December 2016 subquota period to the January 2016 subquota period, and adjusts the Atlantic tunas General category BFT daily retention limit from the default of one to three large medium or giant BFT (measuring 73" or greater) per vessel per day/trip for the January 2016 subquota period. Although called the "January" subquota, the General category fishery under this quota may continue until the subquota is reached or March 31, whichever comes first. Hence, the retention limit adjustment is effective January 1 through March 31, 2016, or until the January subquota is reached, whichever comes first.

Through December 31, 2015, or until the available General category quota is reached, whichever comes first, the current General category retention limit of three large medium or giant BFT per vessel per day/trip (as announced November 25, 2015) remains in effect. For more information on BFT fishing regulations, including recreational size and retention limits, please go to hmspermits.noaa.gov.

For more details see the [news release](#).

NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION SEEKS ADVISERS

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission is looking for commercial and recreational fishermen and scientists to advise it on various fisheries issues. For information on the types of committees, requirements and how to apply see the [news release](#). Applications are due by Dec. 15.

DEADLINES:

Dec. 15 - MFC Adviser Applications

Dec. 16 - NMFS [Draft Ecosystem-based Fishery Management Policy](#) Comments

MEETINGS:

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.

Dec. 16 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. - [MAFMC Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel](#), Radisson Hotel Providence Airport, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI, 02886

PROCLAMATIONS:

[BLACK SEA BASS - COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS - ATLANTIC OCEAN - NORTH OF CAPE HATTERAS](#)

[FLOUNDER - COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS - ATLANTIC OCEAN](#)

[SPINY DOGFISH - DEALER PERMIT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS](#)

[SPINY DOGFISH-COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS](#)

[HORSESHOE CRABS - COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS](#)

[SHAD-COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AND TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF RULES](#)

[STRIPED BASS SEASON -GILL NETS ATLANTIC OCEAN](#)

[2015-2016 MECHANICAL HARVEST OF CLAMS](#)

[2015-2016 OYSTER HAND HARVEST RESTRICTIONS](#)

[2015- 2016 OYSTER RESTRICTIONS-OYSTER DREDGING CLOSURE](#)

[FLOUNDER - COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS - ATLANTIC OCEAN- INCREASE POSSESSION LIMIT](#)