

**WEEKLY UPDATE: 8/3/2015**  
**NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION**  
**"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"**  
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**FORMER NCFA PRESIDENT MR. ROY WATSON DIES AT 97**

Roy Lynmore Watson, 97, of Hobucken, died Monday, Aug. 3, 2015, at Grantsbrook Nursing & Rehab Center. Affectionately known as "Mr. Roy" to many, he was born April 12, 1918, the third of ten children, to the late Kelly L. and Ada Mercer Watson of Lowland. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his loving and faithful wife of 69 years, Hilda Sadler Watson; three brothers, Merritt Watson, Lowland, Ebern Watson, Raleigh, and Olen Watson, Knightdale; one sister, Gladys who died as an infant; and a foster sister, Nettie Daniels.

He is survived by four sisters and one brother, Nellie Cahoon of Garner, Ruby Allsbrook of Beulaville/Raleigh, Marjorie Eggleston of Lovington, VA, Bertie Dougherty (Ronald) of Asheville and Kelly Watson Jr., of New Bern. Although he and Hilda never had any children of their own, he claimed all of his 33 nieces and nephews and many great nieces and nephews as his own.

He served in the US Coast Guard from 1942-1945, stationed at Ocracoke, and was assigned to Diamond Shoals where his duty was to watch for German Submarines. At the end of one of his sea trips, he realized he couldn't see out of his left eye. After many attempts to determine the cause, and lots of hospital stays, he was declared legally blind and received a medical discharge from the Coast Guard. For 27 years, his wife, Hilda, drove him everywhere he went. Then a physician at Duke University Hospital preformed an operation which allowed him to regain his sight. During those years while he could see only images, he held to the philosophy he overheard a doctor once tell a patient, "Let's not talk about what we can't see, let's talk about what we can." Roy said what that doctor told that elderly patient taught him how to live without even knowing it. "From that day forward I never worried about what I couldn't see." From 1982 until his death he had a new lease on life with his eyesight restored, and was very thankful to God for it.

Mr. Watson was owner of the R.E. Mayo & Co. seafood business in Hobucken from 1970 until he sold it to Carroll Potter, a Lowland native, in 2011. One condition he put on the sale of the property was that he got to keep his fishing boat on his boat lift for as long as he wanted it. An avid mullet drop net fisherman, he would often go out at daylight and stay until dark. He served as a director of the Wachovia Bank in Bayboro, and at the end of his tenure was Chairman of the Board. He was one of the founders of the North Carolina Fisheries Association, and served as President from the 50's until 1982. He served on the board of directors for Roanoke Bible College (Mid-Atlantic Christian University). He was a lifelong member of the Lowland Church of Christ and was active in its leadership. His legacy as a generous, caring gentleman, and much loved husband, brother and uncle will be remembered by all who had the privilege to know him.

His funeral service will be held 2 p.m., Friday, Aug. 7 at the Hobucken Community Center with his nephew, Merritt Watson Jr. officiating. Interment will follow immediately in the Watson Memorial Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 12 to 2 p.m. prior to the service at the community center. In lieu of flowers the family suggested memorial contributions be made to Lowland Church of Christ, 5906 Lowland Rd., Lowland, NC 28552 or Lowland Community Center, Hobucken, NC 28537.

## **MFC SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED RULES FOR GILL NETS AND MECHANICAL OYSTER HARVEST**

The Marine Fisheries Commission approved notice of text for three rules at its May 2015 business meeting. The commission takes this action so that the public can review the actual text of proposed rules in the North Carolina Register and comment before the rule is effective. *This is the best time to address any concerns or suggestions you have regarding these rules.* The commission will consider making these rules permanent at its quarterly business meeting Nov. 18-20 at Jeanette's Pier in Nags Head.

Two of the rules are necessary to implement the commission's preferred management options outlined in [Amendment 1](#) to the N.C. Striped Mullet Fishery Management Plan. The third clarifies existing mechanical oyster harvest rules apply to internal waters only, not the ocean. You can read the proposed rules in [Volume 30 Issue 3 of the North Carolina Register](#). More information, including the associated economic impact, can be found [here](#).

The commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule changes at 6 p.m. Sept. 9 at the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries Central District Office, 5285 U.S. 70 West, Morehead City.

The public may also comment on the proposed rules in writing to Catherine Blum, Rulemaking Coordinator, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, N.C. 28557 or send comments by [email](#) or fax to 252-726-0254. The public comment period will close at 5 p.m. Oct. 2.

## **TRADEWINDS**

The July/August issue goes to press this week. Our board member, Henry Daniels and his wife, Joyce, are the cover story. Don't miss it! If you don't receive your copy in the mail next week, please let [Lauren](#) know. If you are interested in advertising, contact [Maureen](#).

## **STATE FAIR/FISH VILLAGE**

Fishermen's Village at the N.C. Seafood Festival and the State Fair will be here before you know it. Fishermen, we need you to come out for both events to tell your story. No one can do it better than you. Fishermen's Village is Oct. 3 and the State Fair begins mid-October. If you cannot attend, please consider donating seafood. We will be providing samples again this year in Raleigh. It's a big hit and great way to show people why it's "Got to be NC."

## **NCFA AND NC CATCH BOARD MEMBER DEWEY HEMILRIGHT RECEIVES PELICAN AWARD**

Dewey Hemilright, a commercial fishermen out of Wanchese, was honored by the nonprofit North Carolina Coastal Federation on July 31, 2015 for his work as an advocate for a healthy and productive coast. To read more about Dewey's contributions and thoughts on NCCF, check out the NC Catch [blog](#).

## **UPCOMING MFC MEETING**

The Marine Fisheries Commission will meet Aug. 19-21 at the Brownstone Hotel in Raleigh. The commission is expected to vote on management options to reduce southern flounder harvest via the supplement process. *We encourage all of our fishermen and members to attend.*

## **REGULATION AND RULE CHANGES:**

- [Coral Amendment 8](#) in the South Atlantic Effective Aug. 17
- USCG Mandatory Dockside Inspections Required Effective Oct. 15

## **DEADLINES:**

- Aug. 4 - MAFMC Northeast Trawl Survey [AP Applications](#)
- Sept. 1 - [SAFMC Snapper-Grouper Draft Vision Blueprint](#) Comments
- Sept. 14 - [NMFS Generic Amendment to Snapper-Grouper, Golden Crab and Dolphin-Wahoo FMPs](#) Comments
- Oct. 2 - MFC Proposed Rules 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.

**Aug. 3 at 2 p.m.** - NCFA Board of Directors Meeting

**Aug. 4-6** - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting

**Aug. 11-13** - Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council Meeting

**Aug. 12** - SAFMC Snapper-Grouper Amendment 26 Public Hearing, Jacksonville, NC

**Aug. 13** - SAFMC Snapper-Grouper Amendment 26 Public Hearing, Morehead City

**Aug. 19 at 1:30 p.m.** - MAFMC Spiny Dogfish Advisory Panel Meeting via webinar

**Aug. 19-21** - Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting, Raleigh

**Aug. 31-Sept.1** - ASMFC Menhaden Ecosystem Management Workshop

**Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.** - MFC Rules Public Hearing, DMF Central District Office, 5285 Hwy 70 W, Morehead City

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

No new proclamations have been issued this week.