

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

LETTERS & ONLINE COMMENTS

ETHICS TRAINING & SEI REMINDER

2021 PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE

COMMISSION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS



# LETTERS & ONLINE COMMENTS



# GILL NETS

**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Fill netting in NC creeks  
**Date:** Monday, January 25, 2021 6:30:54 AM

---

See below...Thanks!

Lara K. J. Klibansky  
Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison  
Executive Assistant for Councils and Commissions  
NC Division of Marine Fisheries  
Department of Environmental Quality



252 515 6020 mobile (direct)  
252 726 7021 main office  
[Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov)

P.O. Box 769  
3441 Arendell Street  
Morehead City, NC 28557

*Email correspondence to and from this address is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties*

---

**From:** Bizzell, Rob <r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 5:30 PM  
**To:** Klibansky, Lara <Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External] Fill netting in NC creeks

For the books

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** Roger Qualman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 24, 2021 3:53 PM  
**To:** Bizzell, Rob  
**Subject:** [External] Fill netting in NC creeks

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.<<mailto:report.spam@nc.gov>>

Hello Rob-

What will it take to eliminate gill netting in North Carolina Creeks?

This is severely impacting fish populations.

Thank You,

Roger Qualman



Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** FW: For the books  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 10:45:12 AM

---

FYI see below

Lara K. J. Klibansky  
Marine Fisheries Commission Liaison  
Executive Assistant for Councils and Commissions  
NC Division of Marine Fisheries  
Department of Environmental Quality



252 515 6020 mobile (direct)  
252 726 7021 main office  
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Morehead City, NC 28557

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---

**From:** Bizzell, Rob <r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 10:44 AM  
**To:** Klibansky, Lara <Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov>  
**Subject:** For the books

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [Report Spam](#).

Hi, found your contact information after I sent this email to NC Wildlife enforcement. I'm not suggesting North Carolina ban gill nets all together, just that we reduce the impact of this practice. We need to take a close look at commercial recreational equipment and locations that allow these techniques. Restricting the use of gill nets inland of the Queens Creek Rd bridge would be a great start. There are places where the creek is no more than 30 feet wide at low tide and any wildlife transiting the waterway is indiscriminately killed or injured. Please contact me if there is any way I can help.

Thanks

Roy  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Thomas Newman](#)  
**To:** [Gillikin, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Fwd: Small mesh gillnet rules modification  
**Date:** Thursday, November 19, 2020 9:43:54 AM

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**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [report.spam@nc.gov](mailto:report.spam@nc.gov)

I just wanted to forward this to you to maybe be included in with late meeting notes.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Thomas Newman [REDACTED]  
**Date:** November 18, 2020 at 17:25:42 EST  
**To:** r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov  
**Subject:** **Small mesh gillnet rules modification**

I apologize for not submitting my comment in time online. I did not realize I also had to sign up early to speak as well.

I feel like this is an issue that was only brought up solely because of conflict issues.

The state and federal government have plenty of data records; federal observer trips, dockside monitoring, fish house trip tickets, vessel trip tickets all in relation to small mesh gillnet. Our data speaks for itself. We have low discards and low endangered species interactions. Small mesh gillnets is one of the cleanest fisheries in our state. It provides most of the less expensive fish lower and middle income families buy.

The limits already imposed on the small mesh gillnet fisheries earlier this year most impacted fishermen who fish small mesh gillnet full time. We had data that showed we used more gear than we were given through proclamation this spring, but we were only given a 1500 float net limit anyway.

There was supposed to be a study group, which was supposed to include myself, about this issue over the summer but due to Covid-19 it was reduced to a 30 minute phone call with Steve Poland. Steve also contacted other fishermen as well but it's not easy for one man working on a task this big with as many different areas and styles we fish in our state. Hopefully we can get a study group together to talk about this before this moves forward.

Please contact me if you want to know more or need any clarification. I am sending this email to all persons on the commission.

Thank you for your time,  
Thomas Newman  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



# MFC ADVISORY COMMITTEES





**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

January 21, 2021

Fred Harris  


Dear Mr. Harris:

I am pleased to welcome you as a member of the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Division of Marine Fisheries.

The committee is comprised of 7 members representing the scientific, recreational, commercial, and conservation communities. Meetings usually last two or three hours, and are scheduled only when the commission refers an issue to the committee. Also, please be aware that advisers are required to attend at least 75 percent of the meetings of their committee.

Please find an orientation package enclosed. If you have any questions concerning your orientation to the advisory committee process, feel free to contact Dana Gillikin at [Dana.Gillikin@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Dana.Gillikin@ncdenr.gov) or 252-808-8022.

Speaking for the Marine Fisheries Commission, I want to thank you for your interest in managing our state's resources. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
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January 21, 2021

Gary Nowell  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Nowell:

I am pleased to welcome you as a member of the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Division of Marine Fisheries.

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Speaking for the Marine Fisheries Commission, I want to thank you for your interest in managing our state's resources. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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January 21, 2021

Gary Williams  


Dear Mr. Williams:

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Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Wilmington  
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Beaufort  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

January 21, 2021

John Costner  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Costner:

I am pleased to welcome you as a member of the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Division of Marine Fisheries.

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Speaking for the Marine Fisheries Commission, I want to thank you for your interest in managing our state's resources. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Wilmington

January 21, 2021

Miriam Sutton  


Dear Ms. Sutton:

I am pleased to welcome you as a member of the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Division of Marine Fisheries.

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Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Beaufort  
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Wilmington

January 21, 2021

Rick Sasser  


Dear Mr. Sasser:

I am pleased to welcome you as a member of the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Division of Marine Fisheries.

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Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Beaufort  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

January 21, 2021

Dr. Wilson Laney



Dear Dr. Laney:

I am pleased to welcome you as a member of the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the Division of Marine Fisheries.

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Speaking for the Marine Fisheries Commission, I want to thank you for your interest in managing our state's resources. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,

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W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Wilmington

January 22, 2021

Louis Ray Brown, Jr.  


Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your application to serve as an adviser on the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, I am unable to appoint you to the committee at this time; however, please do not be discouraged from participating in the process as a member of the public. Your input is invaluable, and I encourage you to attend the committee meetings.

Please visit the Division of Marine Fisheries website at [www.ncfisheries.net](http://www.ncfisheries.net) for meeting schedules, proclamations, fisheries hot topics, and various fishing information. You may also contact Dana Gillikin at 252-808-8022 for meeting information.

Again, thank you for your interest in the conservation of our state's resources.

Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky





**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
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Beaufort  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

January 21, 2021

Mark Hewett  


Dear Mr. Hewett:

Thank you for your application to serve as an adviser on the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, I am unable to appoint you to the committee at this time; however, please do not be discouraged from participating in the process as a member of the public. Your input is invaluable, and I encourage you to attend the committee meetings.

Please visit the Division of Marine Fisheries website at [www.ncfisheries.net](http://www.ncfisheries.net) for meeting schedules, proclamations, fisheries hot topics, and various fishing information. You may also contact Dana Gillikin at 252-808-8022 for meeting information.

Again, thank you for your interest in the conservation of our state's resources.

Sincerely,



W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Wilmington  
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**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

January 21, 2021

Byron Phipps  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Phipps:

Thank you for your application to serve as an adviser on the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, I am unable to appoint you to the committee at this time; however, please do not be discouraged from participating in the process as a member of the public. Your input is invaluable, and I encourage you to attend the committee meetings.

Please visit the Division of Marine Fisheries website at [www.ncfisheries.net](http://www.ncfisheries.net) for meeting schedules, proclamations, fisheries hot topics, and various fishing information. You may also contact Dana Gillikin at 252-808-8022 for meeting information.

Again, thank you for your interest in the conservation of our state's resources.

Sincerely,

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W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Wilmington

January 21, 2021

Kenneth Seigler  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Seigler:

Thank you for your application to serve as an adviser on the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, I am unable to appoint you to the committee at this time; however, please do not be discouraged from participating in the process as a member of the public. Your input is invaluable, and I encourage you to attend the committee meetings.

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W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



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Wilmington  
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Beaufort  
**SAM ROMANO**  
Wilmington

December 11, 2020

Thomas Newman  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am pleased to welcome you as a member of the Northern Regional Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission on various fisheries issues.

The committee is currently comprised of 10 members representing the scientific, recreational, commercial, and conservation communities. Meetings usually last two or three hours, and are scheduled only when the commission refers an issue to the committee. Also, please be aware that advisers are required to attend at least 75 percent of the meetings of their committee.

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Speaking for the Marine Fisheries Commission, I want to thank you for your interest in managing our state's resources. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "W. Robert Bizzell".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WB/dg

cc: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Lara Klibansky



# REPACKAGING **FOREIGN** CRAB MEAT

**From:** [Klibansky, Lara](#)  
**To:** [Gibson, Dana](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External] Fwd:  
**Date:** Thursday, January 7, 2021 1:08:23 PM

---

Please see Robs email and the attached letter below for inclusion with the Feb business meeting materials.  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Bizzell, Rob <r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 7, 2021 12:54:36 PM  
**To:** Klibansky, Lara <Lara.Klibansky@ncdenr.gov>; Maier, Shawn <Smaier@ncdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External] Fwd:

---

Lara, for the books. Thanks, Rob  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Rob Bizzell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 7, 2021 12:53 PM  
**To:** Bizzell, Rob  
**Subject:** [External] Fwd:

---

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [Report Spam](#).

---

"Take care of business and make things happen"

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Rob Bizzell <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** January 7, 2021 at 12:53:09 PM EST  
**To:** Bizzell Rob <r.bizzell.mfc@ncdenr.gov>

W. Robert Bizzell

Home  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Office  
[REDACTED]

January 7, 2021

Honorable United States District Judge James C. Deaver III

Your Honor,

As Chairman of the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission, I recently became aware of the harmful and disturbing practice of repackaging and/or knowingly selling repackaged foreign-harvested crab meat to appear as if it was harvested in North Carolina. Those engaged in this practice are placing consumers at risk and causing economic harm to North Carolina's more reputable sea food producers. Intentionally mislabeling crab meat obscures the origin of crab meat and prevents state regulators from being able to guarantee a product's safety or integrity.

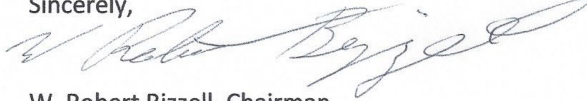
This practice is not only potentially dangerous for consumers, but harmful to the reputation and competitiveness of North Carolina's reputable sea food producers. An inferior foreign product mislabeled as being from North Carolina undermines the perceived quality of what should be an outstanding resource. By selling cheaper, foreign crab with a North Carolina label, these unscrupulous actors are also able to undercut their competition. Legitimate producers of North Carolina crab meat simply cannot compete when a lesser-grade, lower-cost product is being sold at a fraction of the cost of legitimate North Carolina crab meat. Unchecked, this deceptive tactic could drive reputable processors out of business, or force them engage in similar practices, with the potential to spill over into other products as well.

North Carolina currently permits the repackaging of foreign crab meat so long as it is labeled accordingly. Recent incidents involving deliberate mislabeling have made clear that the danger from those flouting these rules is real and that the harm outweighs the benefits of allowing repackaging. Citing these concerns, in November 2020, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission voted unanimously to begin rulemaking to make all repackaging of foreign crab meat in North Carolina illegal.

I would urge your Honor to strongly consider giving the maximum punishment allowed by law to those participating in this type of practice. There is an opportunity to send a strong message to anyone that would consider engaging in this illegal and unethical practice, while protecting consumers and helping our seafood processors maintain their reputation, competitiveness, and professional standards.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Robert Bizzell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "W".

W. Robert Bizzell, Chairman  
North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission





## EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS

Public Servants must complete the Ethics and Lobbying Education program provided by the N.C. State Ethics Commission within **six months** of their election, appointment, or employment. We recommend that this be completed as soon as possible, but the training must be repeated every two years after the initial session.

Since Adobe Flash was terminated on December 31, 2020, our online program is not available. A new and shorter online program will be available in the near future. The new program will be compatible with portable devices such as phones and tablets.

Live webinar presentations are being offered monthly and registration information for the live presentations can be found [here](#). These presentations are about 90 minutes long and give you the opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.

For questions or additional information concerning the Ethics Education requirements, please contact Dottie Benz at (919) 389-1383.

## **2020 STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST REMINDERS:**

Completed SEIs must be filed on or before April 15, 2020. If you have already filed a 2020 SEI, do not refile. The forms and instructions can be found at <https://ethics.ncsbe.gov/sei/blankForm.aspx>.

If you filed a 2019 SEI **and** you have had **no changes** since your 2019 filing, you may file a 2020 SEI No Change Form, located on the website.

### **You must file a 2020 Long Form if any of the following apply to you:**

- a. You filed a 2019 SEI **but** you have had changes since your 2019 filing;
- b. You did not file a 2019 SEI; or
- c. You are a first-time filer or have been appointed to a new or additional position/board.

This year, the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement will roll out a new electronic process for filing SEIs. That electronic filing option will be available in **early February**.

You are encouraged to file your SEI electronically. However, if you want to file your SEIs before the updated electronic version is available, hard copies are available for filing now at the link above.

New commissioners will need to file a 2020 SEI; however, if you have not had any changes since you last filed, you can use the No Change Form, which is fairly easy to complete.

Please file by April 15th to avoid fines and other penalties.

## **SEI HELPFUL TIPS**

**1. PUBLIC RECORDS.** The State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement (State Board) is required to collect and maintain disclosures from certain persons covered by the State Elections and Ethics Enforcement Act Government Ethics Act (Elections and Ethics Act). By law, the information requested is public record and available to the public upon request. As public records, Statements of Economic Interest (SEI) are available on the Commission's website. Personal contact information, however, is not.

**2. CONTACT INFORMATION PAGE.** The Contact Information page, which includes your personal contact information, will not be available on the Commission's website, but is a public record.

**3. CHILDREN'S INITIALS.** Only list minor children's INITIALS on the SEI. List each child's full legal name on the Confidential Unemancipated Children's Form. If you are filing electronically, the form will be generated at the end of the SEI from the information that you provided on your electronic SEI. The Confidential Form is not a public record, and the State Board will not make it available to the public.

**4. READ EACH QUESTION CAREFULLY.** Read each question carefully and pay close attention to the time periods in each question as they do vary.

**5. ANSWER EACH QUESTION.** It is important to answer each question, including all applicable subparts. Even if your answer is "no" or "not applicable," make certain you answer each question. Many of the questions have "yes" and "no" boxes to check for your convenience. Incomplete SEIs may cause delays and negatively impact your public service on a covered board or as an employee.

**6. WHY ARE YOU FILING.** You must list the complete name of the state board or state agency employer for which you are filing the SEI. Without this information, your SEI may be delayed and negatively impact your public service on a covered board or as an employee.

**7. HOW TO FILE.** The State Board strongly recommends electronic on-line filing as it is secure, allows easy information updates, and gives you access to your electronic SEIs previously filed. Filing your SEI on-line is easy, quick, convenient, and reduces the chance of reporting errors. Getting started is easy. Follow the simple steps to create your own account and get access today: <https://EFILE.ncsbe.gov/> To file a paper version of the SEI, you must provide the State Board with a signed, original SEI form. Each SEI includes an "affirmation" and is a legally binding document. Faxed or emailed copies of your SEI CANNOT be accepted.

SEI Helpful Tips, continued

**8. INCOME.** List each source of income as requested on the SEI. The actual dollar amount is not required. Be sure to list your employer as a source of income in Question # 6 of the SEI.

**9. READ CAREFULLY.** Read each question carefully, as the Elections and Ethics Act requires that you disclose your financial holdings and obligations, personal property, and real property and may also include your knowledge of the holdings of both your immediate family and your extended family. "Immediate family" and "extended family" are defined terms in the Elections and Ethics Act, and those definitions are included with this document.

**10. REFLECT.** Think carefully about WHY you are filing, and whether it has any relationship to your position. Does your board or commission license or regulate you? For many of the boards, a subject matter expert like a licensee is needed. Answering "yes" does not prohibit your service on the board, and your perspective is valued.

**11. MAKE A COPY.** Make a copy of the SEI for your own records, and make a note in your calendar when you submit it, whether on-line or by mail or hand delivery. When you successfully submit your SEI electronically on-line, the final screen will provide a confirmation number and will be proof that you have satisfied your filing obligation. Please print the **confirmation screen for your records.**

**12. ETHICS LIAISON.** Contact your Ethics Liaison to assist you in your obligations under the Elections and Ethics Act. Your Ethics Liaison is good source of information about how to fill out your SEI.

**13. ON-LINE HELP.** The State Board has on-line resources to answer questions you may have about your SEI. For more information, please visit the State Board website which has education offerings.

**14. DEFINITIONS.** As noted above, certain terms are defined in the Elections and Ethics Act (“immediate family”). These definitions may be helpful to you in completing your SEI. A complete list of all definitions used in the Elections and Ethics Act is available on the State Board’s website, under “Ethics”. Some of the more common ones are attached to this document.

**15. YOUR INTERNET BROWSER.** Consider using Internet Explorer or Chrome to submit your SEI. Some users have had trouble using other browsers. **16. WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU.** In addition to on-line resources and written materials, the State Board has expert staff ready to answer any questions you might have and assist you in completing and filing your SEI. Do not hesitate to contact us at [sei@ncsbee.gov](mailto:sei@ncsbee.gov) (919) 814-3600.

## 2021 Meeting Planning Calendar

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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31						

February						
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28						

March						
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November						
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December						
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #00b0f0; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> MFC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #92d050; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> ASMFC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ff0000; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> SAFMC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #9933cc; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> MAFMC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #c0c090; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> ASMFC/MAFMC Joint Meeting</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #00ffff; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Southern Regional AC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Northern Regional AC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ff6699; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Finfish AC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #add8e6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Habitat and Water Quality AC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffa500; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Shellfish/Crustacean AC</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #a9a9a9; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> State Holiday</li> </ul> |
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## 2021 Committee Assignments for Marine Fisheries Commissioners

02/02/2021

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### **FINFISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required standing committee comprised of commissioners and advisers that considers matters related to finfish.*

**Commissioners:** Tom Roller – chair, Sam Romano – vice chair

**DMF Staff Lead:** Lee Paramore - [lee.paramore@ncdenr.gov](mailto:lee.paramore@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Can meet quarterly, depending on assignments from MFC

### **HABITAT AND WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE & COASTAL HABITAT PROTECTION PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required standing committee comprised of commissioners and advisers that considers matters concerning habitat and water quality that may affect coastal fisheries resources.*

**Commissioners:** Pete Kornegay – chair, Dr. Martin Posey – vice chair

**DMF Staff Lead:** Anne Deaton - [anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Committee can meet quarterly, depending on assignments from MFC. CHPP Steering Committee can meet a couple of times a year.

### **SHELLFISH/CRUSTACEAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required standing committee comprised of commissioners and advisers that considers matters concerning oysters, clams, scallops and other molluscan shellfish, shrimp and crabs.*

**Commissioners:** Sam Romano – chair, Pete Kornegay – co-vice chair, Dr. Martin Posey – co-vice chair

**DMF Staff Lead:** Tina Moore - [tina.moore@ncdenr.gov](mailto:tina.moore@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Can meet quarterly, depending on assignments from MFC

### **CONSERVATION FUND COMMITTEE**

*Committee comprised of commissioners that makes recommendations to the MFC for administering funds to be used for marine and estuarine resources management, including education about the importance of conservation.*

**Commissioners:** Sam Romano - chair, Tom Hendrickson and Robert McNeill

**DMF Staff Lead:** Randy Gregory - [randy.gregory@ncdenr.gov](mailto:randy.gregory@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CIVIL PENALTY COMMITTEE**

*Statutorily required committee comprised of commissioners that makes final agency decisions on civil penalty remission requests.*

**Commissioners:** Rob Bizzell - chair, Doug Cross and Tom Hendrickson

**DMF Staff Lead:** Col. Carter Witten – [carter.witten@ncdenr.gov](mailto:carter.witten@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

### **COASTAL RECREATIONAL FISHING LICENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*Committee consisting of the three recreational seats and the science seat to provide the DMF advice on the projects and grants issued using Coastal Recreational Fishing License trust funds.*

**Commissioners:** Pete Kornegay – chair, Rob Bizzell, Tom Roller, and Robert McNeill

**DMF Staff Lead:** Jamie Botinovch - [jamie.botinovch@ncdenr.gov](mailto:jamie.botinovch@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

*Committee comprised of commissioners that makes recommendations to the MFC on at-large and obligatory nominees for the Mid- and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils.*

**Commissioners:** Robert McNeill – chair, Pete Kornegay, Tom Roller and Mike Blanton

**DMF Staff Lead:** Chris Batsavage - [chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov](mailto:chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Typically meets once a year

## **STANDARD COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE ELIGIBILITY BOARD**

*Statutorily required three-person board consisting of DEQ, DMF and MFC designees who apply eligibility criteria to determine whether an applicant is eligible for a SCFL.*

**Commission Designee:** Mike Blanton

**DMF Staff Lead:** Marine Patrol Capt. Garland Yopp – [garland.yopp@ncdenr.gov](mailto:garland.yopp@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets two to three times a year, could need to meet more often depending on volume of applications

## **N.C. COMMERCIAL FISHING RESOURCE FUND COMMITTEE**

*Committee comprised of commissioners that the commission has given authority to make funding decisions on projects to develop and support sustainable commercial fishing in the state.*

**Commissioners:** Doug Cross – chair, Mike Blanton and Sam Romano

**DMF Staff Lead:** William Brantley – [william.brantley@ncdenr.gov](mailto:william.brantley@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets two to three times a year

## **WRC/MFC JOINT COMMITTEE ON DELINEATION OF FISHING WATERS**

*Committee formed to help integrate the work of the two commissions as they fulfill their statutory responsibilities to jointly determine the boundaries that define North Carolina's Inland, Coastal and Joint Fishing Waters as the agencies go through a statutorily defined periodic review of existing rules.*

**MFC Commissioners:** Rob Bizzell, Dr. Martin Posey and Pete Kornegay

**DMF Staff Lead:** Anne Deaton - [anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

## **SHELLFISH CULTIVATION LEASE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

*Three-member committee formed to hear appeals of decisions of the Secretary regarding shellfish cultivation leases issued under G.S. 113-202.*

**MFC Commissioners:** Rob Bizzell

**DMF Staff Lead:** Jacob Boyd – [jacob.boyd@ncdenr.gov](mailto:jacob.boyd@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed

## **COASTAL HABITAT PROTECTION PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE**

*The CHPP Steering Committee, which consists of two commissioners from the Marine Fisheries, Coastal Management and Environmental Management commissions reviews and approves the plan, recommendations, and implementation actions.*

**MFC Commissioners:** Dr. Martin Posey, Pete Kornegay

**DMF Staff Lead:** Anne Deaton – [anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov](mailto:anne.deaton@ncdenr.gov)

**Meeting Frequency:** Meets as needed