

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting

AGENDA

Teleconference via WebEx
November 19-20, 2020

N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e) mandates at the beginning of any meeting of a board, the chair shall remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest under Chapter 138. The chair also shall inquire as to whether there is any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the board at that time.

N.C.G.S. 143B-289.54.(g)(2) states a member of the Marine Fisheries Commission shall not vote on any issue before the Commission that would have a "significant and predictable effect" on the member's financial interest. For purposes of this subdivision, "significant and predictable effect" means there is or may be a close causal link between the decision of the Commission and an expected disproportionate financial benefit to the member that is shared only by a minority of persons within the same industry sector or gear group. A member of the Commission shall also abstain from voting on any petition submitted by an advocacy group of which the member is an officer or sits as a member of the advocacy group's board of directors. A member of the Commission shall not use the member's official position as a member of the Commission to secure any special privilege or exemption of substantial value for any person. No member of the Commission shall, by the member's conduct, create an appearance that any person could improperly influence the member in the performance of the member's official duties.

Commissioners having questions about a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict should consult with counsel to the Marine Fisheries Commission or the secretary's ethics liaison. Upon discovering a conflict, the commissioner should inform the chair of the commission in accordance with N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e).

Thursday, November 19th

9:00 a.m. Preliminary Matters

- Commission Call to Order* - Rob Bizzell, Chairman
- Conflict of Interest Reminder
- Roll Call
- **Approval of Agenda ****
- **Approval of Meeting Minutes****

9:30 a.m. Public Comment Period

10:00 a.m. Chairman's Report

- Letters and Online Comments
- Ethics Training and Statement of Economic Interest Reminder
- 2021 Proposed Meeting Schedule
- Commission Committee Assignments
- Ethical Duty Comment

10:10 a.m. Committee Reports

- Nominating Committee – Chris Batsavage
 - **Vote on slate of nominees for the at-large seat for the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council****
- Joint Meeting of the MFC Commercial Resources Fund Committee and the Funding Committee for the N. C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund

** Times indicated are merely for guidance. The commission will proceed through the agenda until completed.*

***Probable Action Items*

Thursday, November 19th continued...

- 10:20 a.m. Director's Report – Director Steve Murphey
Reports and updates on recent Division of Marine Fisheries activities
- Division of Marine Fisheries Quarterly Update
 - COVID-19 Impact Update
 - CARES Act Update
 - Updates on Issues from Commissioners:
 - Recreational Hook and Line Modification Workgroup
 - Informational Materials:
 - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
 - Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update
 - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update
 - Highly Migratory Species
 - Protected Resources Update
 - Observer Program
 - Incidental Take Permit Updates
 - Landings Updates
- 11:20 a.m. Break
- 11:25 a.m. Small Mesh Gill Net Rules Modification Information Paper – Steve Poland, Kathy Rawls
– **Vote on preferred management options to inform development of proposed rules****
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break
- 1:45 p.m. **Gear Restrictions as a Management Tool for Artificial Reefs in State Ocean Waters Information Paper (SMZs) – Jason Peters ****
- 2:45 p.m. Break
- 2:50 p.m. Prohibiting Repacking of Foreign Crab Meat in North Carolina Issue Paper – Shannon Jenkins and Shawn Nelson
– **Vote on preferred management option and associated proposed language for rulemaking****
- 3:50 p.m. 2019 Landings Overview – Brandi Salmon, Alan Bianchi, and Chris Wilson
- 4:10 p.m. Coastal Habitat Protection Plan
- Comments on CHPP Steering Committee Meeting– Commissioner Martin Posey
 - 2021 CHPP Development Update – Anne Deaton

Friday, November 20th

- 9:00 a.m. Fishery Management Plans
- Status of ongoing plans – Corrin Flora

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***Probable Action Items*

Friday, November 20th, continued...

Fishery Management Plans continued...

- Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan – Kathy Rawls
 - Development of Amendment 3 Update– Mike Loeffler, Anne Markwith
 - **Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 3: Commercial and Recreational Sector Harvest Allocations****
- Estuarine Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan Update – Yan Li, Todd Mathes, Laura Lee, Charlton Godwin
 - Assessment Reports
 - Estuarine Striped Bass FMP Amendment 1 Revision (adaptive management)

10:30 a.m. Break

10:40 a.m. Rulemaking Update – Catherine Blum

- 2020-2021 Annual Rulemaking Cycle
 - “Package A” - Coastal Recreational Waters Monitoring, Evaluation, and Notification (7 rules)
 - Update on public comments received
 - **Vote on final approval of readoption of 15A NCAC 18A .3401-.3407 ****
 - “Package B” Update (50 rules)
 - Classification of Shellfish Growing Waters and Laboratory Procedures (14 rules)
 - Rules with minor changes relating to standards for commercial shellfish sanitation and processing procedures (21 rules)
 - Shellfish Lease User Conflicts, per S.L. 2019-37 (3 rules)
 - General Regulations: Joint (9 rules)
 - Shrimp FMP Amendment 1 Special Secondary Nursery Areas (2 rules)
 - Oyster Sanctuaries (1 rule)
- 2021–2022 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Preview

11:00 a.m. **Rule Suspensions –Kathy Rawls**

11:10 a.m. Issues from Commissioners

11:50 p.m. Meeting Assignments and Preview of Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Lara Klibansky

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

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***Probable Action Items*