



Standard Commercial Fishing License Eligibility Pool Determination

Presented to: Marine Fisheries Commission

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Marine Fisheries

License and Statistics Section | August 18, 2016



Eligibility Board

- Eligibility Board meets as needed.
 - Currently, meets at least twice a year (fall and spring)
 - Board approves on average 73 people per year
- Board Members
 - Chairman of the Marine Fisheries Commission
 - Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality
 - Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries
- Approvals are based on eligibility criteria (15A NCAC 03O .0404):
 - 1) Involvement in commercial fishing
 - 2) Compliance with applicable laws and regulations
 - 3) Applicant shall not have transferred a license granted by the Eligibility Board.
 - 4) Applicant must meet all other statutory eligibility requirements.
- Individuals approved in the fall
 - Have until June 30 of the current license year to purchase their license (i.e., June 30, 2016).
- Individuals approved in the spring
 - Have until June 30 of the next license year to purchase their license (i.e., June 30, 2017).

Determining the Number in the Eligibility Pool

Temporary Cap

Session Law 1998-225, Section 4.24(c)

The maximum number of Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses that can be issued is the number of valid Endorsements to Sell as of June 30, 1999 plus 500 for the first eligibility pool, for a total of 8,896.

Pool Determination

Session Law 1998-225, Section 4.24(f).

The number of Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses in the pool of available licenses in license years beginning with the 2000-01 license year is the temporary cap minus the number of standard commercial fishing licenses that were issued and renewed during the previous license year.

Eligibility Pool Calculation

The number of Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses in the pool of available licenses in license years beginning with the 2000-01 license year is the temporary cap minus the number of standard commercial fishing licenses that were issued and renewed during the previous license year

1) Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2) <u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3) Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Original

Add the total number of Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses not renewed in 2014-2015. If a licensee does not renew their license during the following license year after it expires, the license is returned to the eligibility pool (Line 4).

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
4)	<u>Plus total number of licenses not renewed in 2014-2015.....</u>	<u>+ 213</u>
5)	Total number licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,646

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Original

Subtract the total number of approvals through the eligibility pool from July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2016. This is the cumulative total of all approvals through the pool since the start of the program (Line 6).

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
4)	<u>Plus total number of licenses not renewed in 2014-2015.....</u>	<u>+ 213</u>
5)	Total number licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,646
6)	<u>Less total number of approvals through the pool (July 1, 1999-June 30, 2016).</u>	<u>- 1,187</u>
7)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,459

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Original

Add the total number of approvals through the eligibility pool from last year (2015-2016) that were not purchased by the deadline. Those approved in the fall who did not purchase their license by June 30, 2016 were returned to the pool (Line 8).

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
4)	<u>Plus total number of licenses not renewed in 2014-2015.....</u>	<u>+ 213</u>
5)	Total number licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,646
6)	<u>Less total number of approvals through pool (July 1, 1999-June 30, 2016).....</u>	<u>- 1,187</u>
7)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,459
8)	<u>Plus number of 2015-2016 approvals through pool not purchased by 6/30/2016</u>	<u>+ 7</u>
9)	Total number of SCFLs available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,466

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Original

Final Original Calculation – as presented in previous reports

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
4)	<u>Plus total number of licenses not renewed in 2014-2015.....</u>	<u>+ 213</u>
5)	Total number licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,646
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7)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,459
8)	<u>Plus number of 2015-2016 approvals through pool not purchased by 6/30/2016.....</u>	<u>+ 7</u>
9)	Total number of SCFLs available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,466

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Revised

1st correction: Licenses not renewed in 2014-2015 were added back to the eligibility pool but when starting from the total cap (8,896), any license that returns to the pool is already accounted for in the maximum number of licenses available (cap). **This was removed from the calculation (Line 4).**

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
4)	<u>Plus total number of licenses not renewed in 2014-2015.....</u>	<u>+ 213</u>
5)	Total number licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,646
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7)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,459
8)	<u>Plus number of 2015-2016 approvals through pool not purchased by 6/30/2016.....</u>	<u>+ 7</u>
9)	Total number of SCFLs available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,466

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Revised

2nd correction: The cumulative number of approvals through the eligibility pool since July 1, 1999 were subtracted from the pool. Any license that was purchased through the pool and renewed over time will be accounted for in Line 2. **This was removed from the calculation (Line 6).**

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
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9)	Total number of SCFLs available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,466

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Revised

3rd correction: Approvals in 2015-2016 that were not purchased by June 30, 2016 were added back to the eligibility pool but when starting from the total cap (8,896), any license that returns to pool is already accounted for in the maximum number of licenses available (cap). **This was removed from the calculation (Line 8).**

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
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9)	Total number of SCFLs available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,466

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Revised

Final correction: Approvals in 2015-2016 that should be purchased by June 30, 2017 were subtracted from the Eligibility Pool because these licenses are obligated to an individual and represent potential licenses available for purchase. **This was included in the calculation.**

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
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5)	Total number licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,646
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7)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,459
8)	Plus number of 2015-2016 approvals through pool not purchased by 6/30/2016.....	+ 7
9)	Total number of SCFLs available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	1,466
10)	<u>Less number of 2015-2016 approvals through pool not yet issued.....</u>	<u>-16</u>
11)	Total licenses available for the 2016-2017 license year.....	2,417

Eligibility Pool Calculation - Revised

Final Revised Calculation

1)	Total original Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available (Cap).....	8,896
2)	<u>Less total number of licenses issued and renewed in 2015-2016.....</u>	<u>- 6,463</u>
3)	Total number of licenses available in the pool for 2016-2017.....	2,433
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11)	Total licenses available for the 2016-2017 license year.....	2,417

Marine Fisheries Commission Role

Role of the Marine Fisheries Commission

Session Law 1998-225, Section 4.24(f).

- The commission may increase or decrease the number of Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses that are issued from the pool of available licenses.
- The commission may increase the number of Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses that are issued from the pool of available licenses up to the temporary cap.
- The commission may decrease the number of licenses that are issued from the pool of available licenses but may not refuse to renew a license that is issued during the previous license year and that has not been suspended or revoked.
- The commission shall increase or decrease the number of licenses that are issued to reflect its determination as to the effort that the fishery can support, based on the best available scientific evidence.

Things to Consider

- Out of the 6,463 Standard and Retired Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses issued last year, only 36% landed their catch at a licensed seafood dealer.
- As part of Amendment 4 to the Oyster Fishery Management Plan, the commission adopted a strategy to pursue elimination of the Shellfish License for oysters only.
 - If approved by legislature, an average of 382 licensees will need to get a Standard Commercial Fishing License to harvest oysters.
- On average, about 73 people are approved through the Eligibility Pool each year.
 - Last year, the Eligibility Board approved 45 applications.
 - If more applicants are approved than licenses available in the pool, the board would have to use a lottery system to determine who received a license.

Conclusion

- There are 2,417 licenses available to the Eligibility Board this year.
- The commission should take the following into account when determining what number to put forward for the 2016-2017 license year:
 - Potential number of fishermen that may shift from the Shellfish License to the Standard Commercial Fishing License to harvest oysters
 - The average number of licenses currently approved by the Eligibility Board
 - Statutory guidance that increasing or decreasing the number of licenses in the pool reflects the commission's determination as to the effort that the fishery can support, based on the best available science.

QUESTIONS ?

