

**Motions**  
**N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission**  
**Aug. 15-16, 2018**

Motion by Cameron Boltes to approve agenda. Second by Chuck Laughridge  
Motion carries with no opposition.

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to approve minutes from the May 2018 meeting. Second by Pete Kornegay.  
Motion carries with no opposition.

**Election of Vice Chair**

Motion by Brad Koury to nominate Chuck Laughridge for vice chairman. Second by Pete Kornegay.  
Motion carries with no opposition.

**Summer Flounder**

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to say if we miss the deadline for public comment on summer flounder to be discussed by MFC in a public meeting (Oct. 12) that in the November meeting MFC will adopt a position and allow Commissioner Blanton to present at ASMFC November meeting.  
Motion amended.

Amended motion by Chuck Laughridge to put discussion of position on summer flounder on the MFC agenda for the November meeting. Second by Cameron Boltes.  
Motion withdrawn.

**Standard Commercial Fishing License Eligibility Pool**

Motion by Mike Blanton to set the 2018-2019 SCFL Eligibility Pool cap at 500. Second by Chuck Laughridge.  
Motion carries with no objection.

**Fishery Management Plan Schedule**

Motion by Tom Hendrickson to approve the FMP schedule as presented. Second by Mike Blanton.  
Motion carries 5-1

**Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3**

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to approve the Blue Crab FMP goals and objectives as presented.  
Second by Tom Hendrickson.  
Motion carries with no opposition.

**Striped Mullet Fishery Management Plan Amendment 1**

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to continue the current management measures for striped mullet, as recommended by the division. Second by Tom Hendrickson.  
Motion carries 5-2

### **Rulemaking**

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to approve final report on 15A NCAC 18A .0100, .0300-.0900, and .3400 rules, per G.S. 150B-21.3A

Second by Tom Hendrickson.

Motion carries with no opposition.

### **Rule Suspension**

Motion by Mike Blanton to continue the rule suspension of portions of N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03M .0301 Spanish and King Mackerel.

Second by Cameron Boltes.

Motion carries with no opposition.

### **Fishery Management Plan Schedule, continued**

Motion by Cameron Boltes to amend the previously adopted FMP schedule to include the immediate development of the Shrimp FMP Amendment 2 in 2018-2019. Second by Pete Kornegay.

Motion carries 5-1 with one abstention.

### **Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Amendment 2**

Motion by Cameron Boltes to include the following general focus in the development of Amendment 2 to the Shrimp FMP:

- Continue minimizing waste and enhance economic value of the shrimp resource by promoting more efficient harvesting practices.
- Further reduce mortality of non-target species of finfish and crustaceans and protected, threatened and endangered species.
- Promote the protection, restoration and enhancement of habitats and environmental quality.
- Encourage research and education to improve the understanding of the overall cumulative impacts of shrimp trawl bycatch on fish population dynamics.

Second by Brad Koury.

Motion carries 5-0 with 2 abstentions.

### **Letter to U.S. Coast Guard**

Motion by Chuck Laughridge:

With the recent collision of two trawlers in North Carolina waters, and the increase of vessel traffic, I am concerned that all is not being done to prevent accidents on our waters. 33 CFR 164.35 states that proper use shall be made of radar equipment fitted and operational on a vessel. And 33 CFR 164.46(b) states that AIS equipment must be installed and operational on a vessel larger than 65 feet. I would like to make a motion that the chairman and the director write a joint letter to the appropriate Coast Guard personnel stating this concern and asking that they be more vigilant and active in insuring such vessels are following these regulations, pending approval of DMF counsel. Second by Brad Koury.

Motion carries with no objection.

**Supplement to Estuarine Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan**

Motion by Cameron Boltes to request the secretary of DEQ authorize the development of a supplement to the Estuarine Striped Bass FMP to address concerns in discard mortality to ensure the long-term viability of the fishery. Motion fails for lack of a second.

**Policy on Scientific Uncertainty**

Motion by Pete Kornegay to adopt the following policy. Second by Chuck Laughridge.

**Policy on Scientific Uncertainty**

It shall be the policy of the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission that in deliberating fishery management cases where there is uncertainty or where information is unknown or where there are no certain data with which to guide fishery management determinations or decisions, that a precautionary approach to fisheries management will be employed. A precautionary approach requires preventative conservation actions, when in the absence of certainty and without action; there is a risk of damage to fish or shellfish stocks. In cases in which there is disagreement on the need to implement conservation actions, the burden of proof that conservation actions are not warranted falls on those who seek inaction. Fisheries management actions adopted under this policy, either interim or long-term, shall give highest priority to rebuilding, conserving and wisely managing fish or shellfish stocks until stock recovery is achieved or the case is otherwise resolved. This policy shall be stated and addressed in every Fishery Management Plan prepared by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries.

Motion tabled.