

Motions
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission
Feb. 14-15, 2018

Agenda approved by consensus.

Minutes from November 2017 meeting approved by consensus.

Cobia

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to approve the following recreational cobia management measures:

- Private - May 1 – May 31: 2 fish/vessel; June 1 – Dec 31: 1 fish/vessel
- For Hire - May 1 – Dec 31: 4 fish/vessel
- 230,513 pounds

Second by Cameron Boltes.

Motion carries 5-2.

Shellfish Leases

Motion by Alison Willis to temporarily stop issuing shellfish leases and accepting shellfish lease applications from Bogue Sound south until the division can fully assess the safety concerns and other regulatory needs and report back to the commission at its May 2018 meeting. Second by Brad Koury.

Motion carries 8-1.

Trip Tickets

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to ask the Division of Marine Fisheries to study issues surrounding requiring that both the target species and bycatch species be recorded on trip tickets, including a study of similar motions from 2014 and later.

Motion withdrawn.

Standard Commercial Fishing License Eligibility Requirements

Motion by Pete Kornegay to send a letter to the legislature recommending the below changes to fishing licenses. Second by Chuck Laughridge.

COMMERCIAL

- 1) Develop a new commercial fishing license based on criteria to qualify current commercial license holders. Current license holders must demonstrate a minimal level of participation in the fishery as reported by landings (1,000 pounds of seafood products) or effort (15 trips) through the DMF trip ticket program during any two out of five continuous calendar years.
- ~~2) Allow only one license per individual at an annual fee that will remain revenue neutral.~~
- ~~3) Task the MFC/DMF with developing a plan to expand opportunities including extended seasons, higher trip limits, authorization of hook and line as an allowable gear for all species, and other incentives to allow commercial fishermen greater access to commercial fisheries and provide more~~

~~harvest opportunities to qualified commercial fishermen.~~

- 4) Only allow license transfers or assignments to members of the immediate family or corporation of a licensed commercial fisherman.
- 5) Create a Crew license for individuals to apprentice with commercial fishermen for 3 years after which time they would be eligible to purchase a standard commercial fishing license. The annual fee for the Crew license would be \$100.
- 6) Cap the pool at 100 and establish a new pool to receive licenses that are not renewed each year. Any non-renewed licenses would be transferred into the new pool and used to fill new commercial fishing license demand for qualified applicants. Inactive licenses may be reactivated for a fee.

Motion to amend by Chuck Laughridge to withdraw number 3 from the original motion. Second by Pete Kornegay.

Motion carries unanimously.

Motion by Mark Gorges to amend original motion by striking number 2. Second by Janet Rose.

Motion carries unanimously.

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to amend the original motion to include the below. Second by Rick Smith.

Motion carries 5-3 with one abstention.

- 1) Inactive Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses that do not have requirements set forth by the legislature would go back into a special pool and these licenses may be reissued to the original holder subject without going through the Eligibility Pool.
- 2) Create a Heritage Standard Commercial Fishing License that families may want to maintain that are inactive that may be maintained for \$100 per year and may be reissued one time to a family member without going through the Eligibility Pool or any of the requirements listed above. If reissue is not wanted, a one-time fee of \$100 will retire that license number.
- 3) Graduation or completion of community colleges offering a commercial fishing program will be recognized as having served an apprenticeship eligible for an Eligibility Pool license.

Motion as amended.

Motion by Pete Kornegay to send a letter to the legislature recommending the below changes to fishing licenses. Second by Chuck Laughridge.

- 1) Develop a new commercial fishing license based on criteria to qualify current commercial license holders. Current license holders must demonstrate a minimal level of participation in the fishery as reported by landings (1,000 pounds of seafood products) or effort (15 trips) through the DMF trip ticket program during any two out of five continuous calendar years.
- 2) Only allow license transfers or assignments to members of the immediate family or corporation of a licensed commercial fisherman.

- 3) Create a Crew license for individuals to apprentice with commercial fishermen for 3 years after which time they would be eligible to purchase a standard commercial fishing license. The annual fee for the Crew license would be \$100.
- 4) Cap the pool at 100 and establish a new pool to receive licenses that are not renewed each year. Any non-renewed licenses would be transferred into the new pool and used to fill new commercial fishing license demand for qualified applicants. Inactive licenses may be reactivated for a fee.
- 5) Inactive Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses that do not have requirements set forth by the legislature would go back into a special pool and these licenses may be reissued to the original holder without going through the Eligibility Pool.
- 6) Create a Heritage Standard Commercial Fishing License that families may want to maintain that are inactive that may be maintained for \$100 per year and may be reissued one time to a family member without going through the Eligibility Pool or any of the requirements listed above. If reissue is not wanted, a one-time fee of \$100 will retire that license number.
- 7) Graduation or completion of community colleges offering a commercial fishing program will be recognized as having served an apprenticeship eligible for an Eligibility Pool license.

Roll call

Boltes	yes
Gorges	yes
Kornegay	yes
Koury	no
Laughridge	yes
Rose	no
Smith	yes
Willis	no
Corbett	no

Motion carries 5-4.

Southern Flounder

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to suggest that the NCDMF director use his proclamation authority to address overfishing of southern flounder. Seconded by Pete Kornegay.

Motion withdrawn.

Rulemaking

Motion by Rick Smith to approve schedule for re-adoption of 15A NCAC 03 rules to be completed by June 30, 2022. Second by Brad Koury.

Motion carries unanimously.

Motion by Alison Willis to approve draft report on 15A NCAC 18A .0100, .0300 - .0900 and .3400 rules to proceed to public notice, per G.S. 150B21.3A. Second by Cameron Boltes.
Motion carries unanimously.

Land and Sell

Motion by Chuck Laughridge to have the MFC send a request to the NCGA, Senate president pro-tem, House speaker and N.C. Governor to request allowing fishermen who hold federal permits to be able to use the same land and sell permit as non-NC boats use to land in North Carolina.
Motion withdrawn.

Tarpon

Motion by Cameron Boltes that the division draft rules to make tarpon a no spear, no gaff and no possession fish. Second by Chuck Laughridge.
Motion carries 6-0 with 2 abstentions.

Letter to Gov. Cooper

Motion by Janet Rose that the commission send a request to Governor Cooper asking that he examine the current membership of this commission and, if need be, make changes to ensure this commission functions as intended. Second by Cameron Boltes.

Roll call

Boltes	yes
Gorges	yes
Kornegay	no
Koury	no
Laughridge	no
Rose	yes
Smith	no
Willis	yes
Corbett	yes

Motion carries 5-4