



## *N.C. Shrimp FMP Amendment 2*

*DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY*

Marine Fisheries

February 2022 MFC Meeting | Chris Stewart, Jason Rock, Dan Zapf | Feb. 24, 2022



# *Shrimp FMP Amendment 2 Next Steps*

• Division holds public scoping period

• Marine Fisheries Commission approve goal and objectives of FMP

• Division drafting FMP

• Division hold workshops to further develop draft FMP with plan advisory committee

• Division updating draft plan

• Marine Fisheries Commission vote to send draft FMP for public and advisory committee review

• Commission advisory committees meet to review draft FMP and receive public comment

• Marine Fisheries Commission select preferred management options

• Department of Environmental Quality secretary and legislative review draft FMP

• **Marine Fisheries Commission vote on final adoption of FMP**

Next Step

• Division and Marine Fisheries Commission implement management strategies

# *Marine Fisheries Commission Preferred Management Strategy*

1. Permanently prohibit ALL trawling in Crab Sanctuary areas.
2. Eliminate the four quarts (heads on) or two and one-half quarts (heads off) recreational creel limit for cast nets only in areas closed to the taking of shrimp.
3. Change the flexible opening date in all SSNA's to a static Sept. 1 each year.
4. Continue collaboration with the commercial stakeholder groups through the industry workgroup to identify and test gear modifications to further reduce bycatch in the shrimp fishery.

## *Marine Fisheries Commission Preferred Management Strategy*

5. Prohibit shrimp trawling in Bogue Sound and its tributaries except for the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW).
6. Prohibit shrimp trawling in the Carolina Beach Yacht Basin except for the IWW.
7. That the NCDMF collaborate with the CHPP support staff and the Habitat and Water Quality Advisory Committee on issues related to SAV habitat. As the Division deems appropriate and feasible, actions to address that impact will be identified by the appropriate committees and brought to the NCMFC in the future for action as part of adaptive fisheries management with the collaboration of stakeholder groups and their advisory committees.

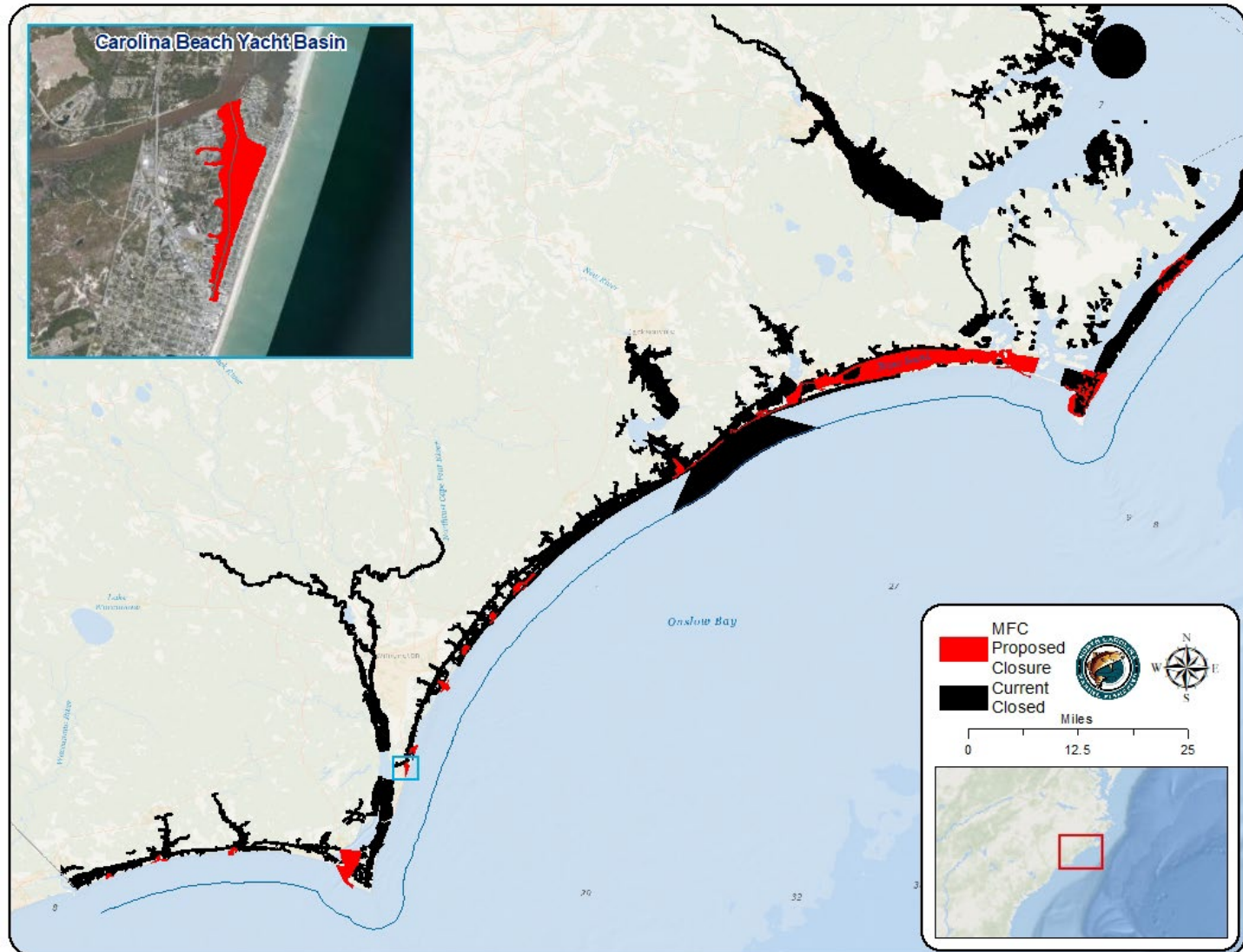
## *Marine Fisheries Commission Preferred Management Strategy*

8. Maintain existing headrope limits for shrimp trawls in internal coastal waters. If needed, implement additional headrope restrictions to resolve user conflicts.
9. Investigate the feasibility and utility of a long-term shrimp trawl observer program that encompasses all seasons, areas, and gears.





# Marine Fisheries Commission Preferred Management Strategy



## *Action Needed*

Vote on final approval of Amendment 2.





# Questions?

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# *NCDMF Recommended Management Measures*

## Area Restrictions

- Use targeted closures to protect critical habitat and reduce bycatch (*Appendix 2.1, Page 51; Figures 2.1.1a-g and 2.1.2, Pages 75-81*).\*
- Change the designation of all SSNAs to permanent SNAs (*Table 2.2.1, Page 99; Figures 2.2.1-2.2.3, Pages 105-107; Maps 3.1-3.12, Pages 294-305*).\*
- Permanently prohibit trawling in all crab spawning sanctuaries (*Table 2.1.1, Page 71; Page 228; Maps 3.1-3.12, Pages 292-303*).

Note: Recommendations that address the NCWF petitions for rulemaking are denoted by an asterisk (\*). Page numbers for references in the issue papers are listed by each recommendation.

# *NCDMF Recommended Management Measures*

## Effort and Gear Modifications

- Maintain existing headrope limits for shrimp trawls in Internal Coastal Waters. If needed, implement additional headrope restrictions to resolve user conflicts (*Appendix 2.4, Pages 224, 231; Tables 4.1-4.3, Page 304-310*).\*
- Allow non-trawl net gears to harvest shrimp in areas closed to shrimp trawling (*Appendix 2.4, Pages 224, 227, 235*).
- Eliminate the four quarts (heads on) or two and one-half quarts (heads off) recreational creel limit for cast nets only in areas closed to the taking of shrimp (*Appendix 2.4, Pages 227, 235*).
- Investigate the feasibility and utility of a long-term shrimp trawl observer program that encompasses all seasons, areas, and gears (*Appendix 1, Pages 48-49, Tables 1.3-1.5*).
- Continue collaboration with the commercial stakeholders through the industry workgroup to identify and test gear modifications to continue to reduce bycatch in the shrimp fishery (*Appendix 2.4, Page 217*).

# *NCDMF Recommended Management Measures: Region Specific Management*

## Croatan and Roanoke Sounds

- Prohibit shrimp trawling in Croatan Sound (*Appendix 2.3, Pages 133-135; Figures 2.3.6-2.3.10, Pages 170-174; Map 3.4, Page 295*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in Roanoke Sound and Oregon Inlet area (*Appendix 2.3, Pages 133-135, Figures 2.3.6-2.3.10; Pages 170-174; Map 3.4, Page 295*).\*

## Pamlico Sound and Adjacent Bays

- Prohibit shrimp trawling in the Parched Corn Bay, Berrys Bay, East Bluff Bay, and West Bluff Bay (*Appendix 2.3, Pages 122-127; Figures 2.3.6-2.3.10; Pages 170-174*).\*
- Extend existing closures in the mouth of Stumpy Point Bay, Pains Bay, Long Shoal River, Otter Creek ; Hyde County (*Appendix 2.3, Page 122-126; Figures 2.3.6-2.3.10, Pages 170-174; Maps 3.1 and 3.2, Pages 292-293*).\*



# *NCDMF Recommended Management Measures: Region Specific Management*

## Pamlico, Bay, and Neuse rivers and West Bay

- Prohibit shrimp trawling in the Pamlico, Bay, and Neuse rivers (*Appendix 2.3, Pages 126-132; Figures 2.3.6-2.3.15, Pages 170-179; Map 3.3, Page 294*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in West Bay (*Appendix 2.1, Page 62; Figure 2.1.8-2.1.9, Pages 88-89; Map 3.5, Page 296*).\*

# *NCDMF Recommended Management Measures: Region Specific Management*

- Central Region

- Prohibit shrimp trawling in Core Sound and its tributaries except for the Mechanical Clam Harvest Area (MCHA) (*Appendix 2.3, Page 135; Figure 2.1.3, Page 83; Map 3.5, Page 296*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in North River, Back Sound, and their tributaries except for the MCHA in North River (*Appendix 2.3, Page 137; Figure 2.1.4, Page 84; Map 3.6, Page 297*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in the Newport River and its tributaries except for the MCHA and waters north and west between the MCHA and the Trawl Net Prohibited Area (*Appendix 2.3, Page 138; Figure 2.1.1e, Page 79; Map 3.5, Page 296*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in Bogue Sound and its tributaries except for the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW) (*Appendix 2.3, Page 136; Figure 2.1.7, Page 87; Map 3.5-3.6, Pages 296-297*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in the White Oak River and its tributaries (*Figure 2.1.1f, Page 80; Maps 3.5-3.7, Page 296-298*).\*

# *NCDMF Recommended Management Measures: Region Specific Management*

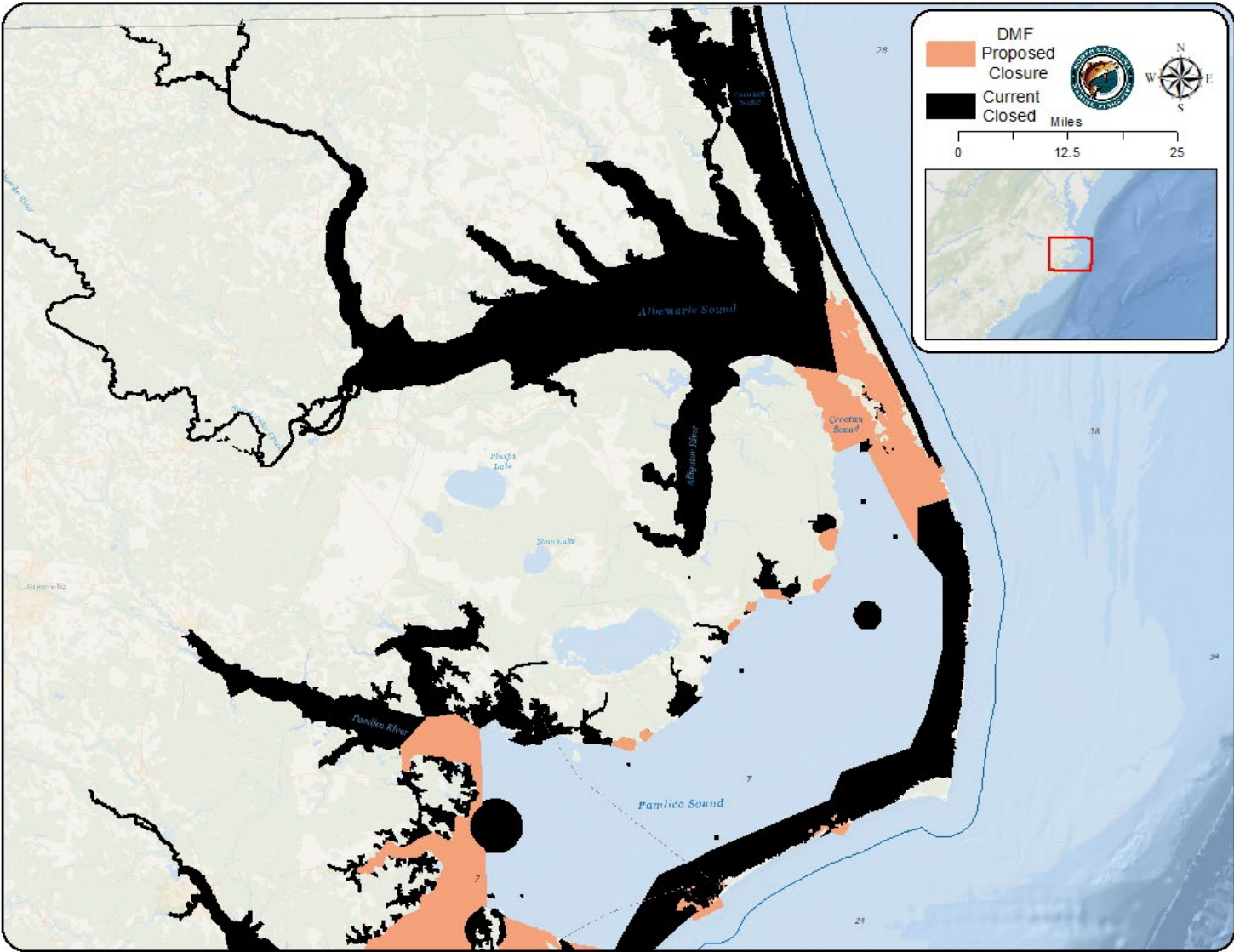
## Southern Region

- Prohibit shrimp trawling in Queens and Bear creeks (*Appendix 2.3, Page 139; Map 3.6-3.7, Page 297-298*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in the channels that connect to the Atlantic Ocean [Banks Channel (Topsail Sound), Green Channel, Nixon Channel, Mason Channel, Stokley Cut/Old Moores Inlet Channel, Lee's Cut/Spring, Landing Channel, Banks Channel (Wrightsville Beach), Mott Channel, Muddy Slough, Dutchman Creek, Elizabeth River, Eastern Channel (Montgomery Slue), Jinks Creek, and Bonaparte Creek] (*Appendix 2.3, Pages 141-144; Maps 3.9-3.12, Pages 300-303*).\*
- Prohibit shrimp trawling in the Carolina Beach Yacht Basin (*Appendix 2.3, Page 142; Map 3.11, Page 302*).\*

## Cape Fear River

- NCDMF recommended area closures in New Hanover and Brunswick counties (i.e., Carolina Beach Yacht Basin and channels that connect to the Atlantic Ocean). The main channel of the IWW will remain open to shrimp trawling.

# *NCDMF Recommended Management Measures*



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