

MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING
Hilton Riverfront, New Bern, N.C.
May 20-22, 2015

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).

May 20

6 p.m. Public Meeting
Receive public comment relative to any fisheries management issues

May 21

9 a.m. Call to Order*
Invocation
Conflict of Interest Reminder
Roll Call
Vote on Approval of Agenda**
Vote on Approval of Meeting Minutes**

9:15 a.m. Public Comment
Receive public comment relative to any fisheries management issues

11:15 a.m. Chairman's Report
Review administrative actions and issues from the chair

- Letters
- Ethics Training Reminder
- 2015 Meeting Schedule Reminder

11:20 a.m. Issues from Commissioners

11:30 a.m. Committee Reports
Review and consideration of action items from committee meetings

- Northern
- Southern
- Finfish
- Sea Turtle
- Nominating
- Oyster and Hard Clam Fishery Management Plans
- Coastal Recreational Fishing License – Louis Daniel

11:15 a.m. Fishery Management Plans – Catherine Blum

- Status of Ongoing Plans
- Timeline for Oyster and Clam Fishery Management Plans

Noon Lunch Recess

1:30 p.m. Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan

- Review and discuss data and options for supplement consideration – Tom Wadsworth and Chris Stewart (Presentation)

- **Vote on proposed supplement to Amendment 1 to send out for public comment****
 - Discuss timeline for next amendment
- 2:45 p.m. Spotted Seatrout Stock Assessment – Laura Lee and Mike Loeffler (Presentation)
- 3:45 p.m. Kingfish Fishery Management Plan – Beth Egbert and Kevin Brown (Presentation)
Review public comment and Division of Marine Fisheries responses and recommendations
 - **Vote on developing fishery management plan revision or initiating fishery management plan amendment****
- 4:15 p.m. Sheepshead Management – Stephen Taylor (Presentation)
Review advisory committee and public comment, and Division of Marine Fisheries position
 - **Vote on management options for sheepshead****
- 4:45 p.m. Rulemaking – Catherine Blum
 - 2014/2015 Rulemaking Cycle
 - Rulebook Update
 - **Vote on 2015/2016 Notice of Text for Rulemaking****
Review and vote on three proposed rules and associated regulatory impact analyses
 - **N.C. Striped Mullet Fishery Management Plan Amendment 1**
 - **Clarify Dredges and Mechanical Methods Prohibited Areas for Harvesting Shellfish in Internal Coastal Waters**
- 5 p.m. Rule Suspension Notification – Kathy Rawls
The Division of Marine Fisheries is providing notification of rule suspensions that are no longer needed
 - 15A NCAC 03O .0501 Procedures and Requirements to Obtain Permits
 - 15A NCAC 03M .0510 American Eel
- 5:05 p.m. Review Brad Scott Timeline – Patti Fowler (Presentation)
- 5:30 p.m. Recess

May 22

- 8:30 a.m. 2014 Landings
 - Commercial Landings - Alan Bianchi (Presentation)
 - Recreational Landings - Doug Mumford (Presentation)
- 9 a.m. Tagging Program - Mike Loeffler and Amy Comer (Presentation)
- 9:30 a.m. 2015-2016 Marine Fisheries Commission Initiatives
- 10 a.m. Director's Report - Louis Daniel
Reports and updates on recent Division of Marine Fisheries activities
 - Legislative Update
 - Oysters
 - For-hire Logbook
 - Personal Consumption Survey – John Hadley
 - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
 - American Eels
 - Quota Update
 - Shrimp Trawl Industry Workgroup Update – Kevin Brown
 - Protected Resources Update – Chris Batsavage
 - Observer Program
 - Observer Program Video
 - Incidental Take Permit Updates
 - Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update – Chris Batsavage
 - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update – Michelle Duval
 - Informational Materials (No Verbal Reports)
 - Rule Suspension Notices/No Action Required
 - Highly Migratory Species
 - Landings Update
 - Southern Flounder

- Red Drum
- Oyster

11:30 a.m. Issues from Commissioners

11:45 a.m. Meeting Assignments and Preview of Agenda Items for August Meeting – Nancy Fish

Noon Adjourn

2015 Meeting Dates

Feb. 18-20 Hilton Riverside, Wilmington

May 20-22 Hilton Riverfront, New Bern

Aug. 19-21 Hilton Brownstone, Raleigh

Nov. 18-20 Jennette's Pier, Nags Head

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

***Potential Action Items*