



TOWN OF BEULAVILLE
PO BOX 130 • 111 W. QUINN STREET
BEULAVILLE, NC 28518-0130

Phone: 910-298-4647

Fax: 910-298-3481

May 13, 2015

North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission
3441 Arendell Street
Morehead City, NC 28557

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Town of Wallace Resolution

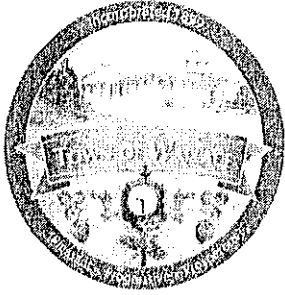
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please allow this letter of support to serve as my wholehearted endorsement of the Town of Wallace's RESOLUTION ASKING THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION (MFC) TO SUPPORT THE NC DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES (DMF) USE OF THE SUPPLEMENT PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT REDUCTIONS ON SOUTHERN FLOUNDER. I agree with Wallace's request that action should be taken to reverse depleted southern flounder population stocks in North Carolina, as stated in their Resolution.

Regards,

Kenneth L. Smith
Mayor

Enclosure



Town of Wallace

316 EAST MURRAY STREET • WALLACE, NORTH CAROLINA 28466 • PHONE: 910-285-4136

MAYOR
Charles C. Frazier, Jr.

TOWN MANAGER
Matthew S. Livingston

TOWN COUNCIL
David E. Jordan, Mayor Pro-Tem
Frank Dandley

William Jeffrey Carter
Greg S. Caye
David Warren Hepler

TOWN CLERK
Lacie Nicholson

TAX COLLECTOR
Kathy B. Hubbard

FINANCE OFFICER
Tracy Chesnut

TOWN ATTORNEY
Richard F. Barrows

RESOLUTION ASKING THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION (MFC) TO SUPPORT THE NC DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES (DMF) USE OF THE SUPPLEMENT PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT REDUCTIONS ON SOUTHERN FLOUNDER

WHEREAS, all marine creatures are public trust resources owned equally by all citizens of NC regardless of residency; and

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is a traditional recreational target of Town of Wallace residents; and

WHEREAS, the southern flounder population stocks in NC are classified as "depleted"; and

WHEREAS, a recent NCDMF stock assessment as well as the peer reviewers agreed that the stocks are showing no signs of improvement and that harvest of juvenile fish within the population is alarming; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Wallace have no representation except through the MFC to manage these public trust resources conservatively and for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, many Town of Wallace businesses provide goods and services to many local citizens as well as traveling fishermen on interstate 40 in the pursuit of southern flounder; and

WHEREAS, there is need for absolute and focused management of these fish to attain, and then maintain, a viable stock of not only southern flounder, but all traditional estuarine fish stocks for our citizenry to enjoy in perpetuity as required by the NC Fishery Reform Act of 1997.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Wallace Town Council asks the NC Marine Fisheries Commission to support the NC Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reduction of southern flounder harvest and that such

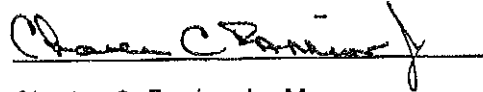
Pleasant... Progressive... Prosperous

FAX: 910-285-5135 • EMAIL: mail@townofwallace.com • WEB: <http://www.townofwallace.com>

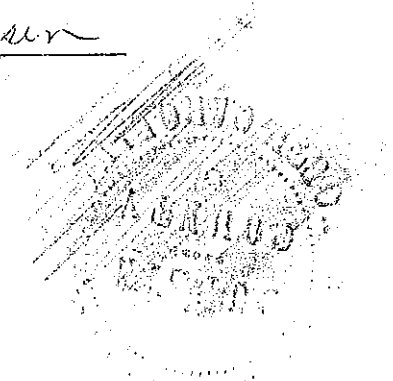
The Town of Wallace is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

reductions be made so that the fishery is revived in order to serve all of NC's citizen fishermen and not just ones who fish for profit.

April 23, 2015


Charles C. Farris, Jr., Mayor


Attest



County of Brunswick

Office of the County Commissioners



RESOLUTION ASKING THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION (MFC) TO SUPPORT THE NC DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES (DMF) USE OF THE SUPPLEMENT PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT ADJUSTMENTS ON SOUTHERN FLOUNDER

WHEREAS, all marine creatures are public trust resources owned equally by all citizens of NC regardless of residency; and

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is a source of income for the livelihood of commercial fishermen and is a traditional target by recreational fishermen in Brunswick County; and

WHEREAS, the southern flounder population stocks in NC are classified as “declining” and there is need to implement a regional management plan that adjusts accordingly; and

WHEREAS, a recent NCDMF stock assessment as well as the peer reviewers agreed that the stocks are showing no signs of improvement and that harvest of juvenile fish within the population is questionable; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Brunswick County have representation through the MFC to manage these public trust resources conservatively and for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, many Brunswick County businesses including commercial fishermen, seafood retailers, seafood wholesalers, guides, tackle shops, restaurants, lodging and boat dealers provide goods and services to many local citizens as well as tourists in the pursuit of southern flounder; and

WHEREAS, there is need for absolute and focused management of these fish to attain, and then maintain, a viable stock of not only southern flounder, but all traditional estuarine fish stocks for our citizenry to enjoy in the perpetuity as required by the NC Fishery Reform Act of 1997;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners asks the NC Marine Fisheries Commission to support the NC Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to fairly implement necessary adjustments of southern flounder harvest and those adjustments are made so that the fishery is maintained for a viable future in order to serve all of NC’s citizen fishermen.

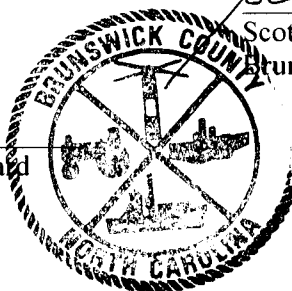
This the 18th day of May, 2015.

Scott Phillips

Scott Phillips, Chairman
Brunswick County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Margie Stephenson
Margie Stephenson, Clerk to the Board





COUNTY OF CURRITUCK

A RESOLUTION ASKING THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION (NCMFC) TO NOT SUPPORT THE NC DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES (NCDMF) USE OF THE SUPPLEMENT PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT REDUCTIONS OF SOUTHERN FLOUNDER

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is regionally diverse throughout Currituck County and statewide with regard to gear, timing of harvest and size of fish harvested; and

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is a \$5.6 million fishery for NC commercial fishermen and the economic impact of the region would be devastating if harvest cuts of 25% to 60% are implemented by NCMFC; and

WHEREAS, recent NCDMF stock assessment report did not pass peer review and the harvest reduction parameters are arbitrary and subjective and not based on stakeholder input; and

WHEREAS, the supplement process disenfranchises stakeholders because of lack of public input; and

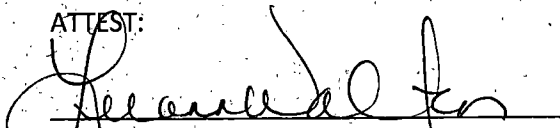
WHEREAS, Currituck County's commercial fishermen have already made their investments for the fall 2015 season that will not be able to be recovered, which subjects them to a double economic hit that will be catastrophic for these small businesses; and


WHEREAS, there is need for thoughtful, arid, comprehensive review of any proposed measure to assess the long-term viability of the fishery, and that review must incorporate stakeholder input.

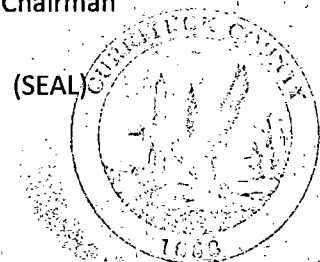
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Currituck County Board of Commissioners asks the NC Marine Fisheries Commission to not support the NC Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reductions of southern flounder and that any proposal to limit the fishery be subjected to comprehensive review that includes stakeholder input.

This the 18th day of May, 2015.

ATTEST:


Leeann Walton, Clerk to the Board


S. Paul O'Neal, Chairman



Office of
County Commissioners
(919) 989-5100
FAX (919) 989-5179

Paula G. Woodard, Clerk

Johnston County

POST OFFICE BOX 1049
SMITHFIELD, N.C. 27577

Tony Braswell, Chairman
DeVan Barbour, Vice Chairman
Cookie Pope
Allen L. Mims, Jr.
Jeffrey P. Carver
Ted G. Godwin
Chad M. Stewart

**A RESOLUTION ASKING THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION (MFC)
TO SUPPORT THE NC DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES (DMF) USE
OF THE SUPPLEMENT PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT
REDUCTIONS ON SOUTHERN FLOUNDER**

WHEREAS, all marine creatures are public trust resources owned equally by all citizens of North Carolina regardless of residency; and

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is a traditional recreational target of many Johnston County residents; and

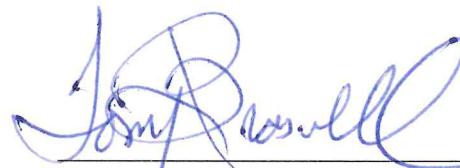
WHEREAS, the southern flounder population stocks in North Carolina are classified as “depleted”; and

WHEREAS, a recent NCDMF stock assessment as well as the peer reviewers agreed that the stocks are showing no signs of improvement and that harvest of juvenile fish within the population is alarming; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for absolute and focused management of these fish to attain and then maintain a viable stock of not only southern flounder but all traditional estuarine stocks for our citizenry in perpetuity as required by the North Carolina Fishery Reform Act of 1997.

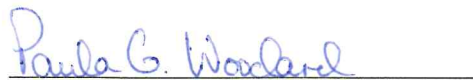
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Johnston County Board of Commissioners does hereby ask the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission to support the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reduction of the southern flounder harvest and that such reductions be made so that the fishery is revived to serve all of North Carolina citizens and not just ones who fish for profit.

Adopted this the 4th day of May, 2015.



Tony Braswell, Chairman

Attest:



Paula G. Woodard
Clerk to the Board



Resolution Asking the NC Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) to Support the NC Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) Use of the Supplement Process to Implement Reductions on Southern Flounder

WHEREAS, all marine creatures are public trust resources owned equally by all citizens of North Carolina regardless of residency; and,

WHEREAS, the southern flounder fishery is a traditional recreational target of thousands of Pitt County residents; and,

WHEREAS, the southern flounder population stocks in NC are classified as “depleted”; and

WHEREAS, a recent North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries stock assessment as well as the peer reviewers agreed that the stocks are showing no signs of improvement and that harvest of juvenile fish within the population is alarming; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Pitt County have no representation except through the MFC to manage these public trust resources conservatively and for all citizens; and,

WHEREAS, many Pitt County businesses including tackles shops, restaurants, and boat dealers provide goods and services to many local citizens as well as traveling fishermen on the Highway 64 & Highway 264 corridor in the pursuit of southern flounder; and,

WHEREAS, there is need for absolute and focused management of these fish to attain, and then maintain, a viable stock of not only southern flounder, but all traditional estuarine fish stocks for our citizenry to enjoy in perpetuity as required by the NC Fishery Reform Act of 1997.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pitt County Board of Commissioners asks the NC Marine Fisheries Commission to support the NC Division of Marine Fisheries use of the supplement process to implement reduction of southern flounder harvest and that such reductions be made so that the fishery is revived in order to serve all of NC’s citizen fishermen and not just ones who fish for profit.

Adopted this 4th day of May, 2015.



Glen Webb, Chairman

Kimberly W. Hines
Kimberly W. Hines, Clerk to the Board

