

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting

AGENDA

Beaufort Hotel, Beaufort, NC

May 24-26, 2023

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).

Wednesday, May 24th

6:00 p.m. Public Comment Period

Thursday, May 25th

9:00 a.m. Public Comment Period

9:30 a.m. Preliminary Matters

- Commission Call to Order* - Rob Bizzell, Chairman
- Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
- Conflict of Interest Reminder
- Roll Call
- **Approval of Agenda ****
- **Approval of Meeting Minutes****

9:40 a.m. Chairman's Report

- Letters and Online Comments
- Ethics Training and Statement of Economic Interest Reminder
- 2023 Meeting Schedule
- Commission Committee Assignments
- Committee Reports

10:00 a.m. Director's Report

Presentation of Life Saving Award to Sergeant Brian Long by Marine Patrol Colonel Carter Witten

Reports and updates on recent Division of Marine Fisheries activities.

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

****Probable Action Items**

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting Agenda - May 2023

- Division of Marine Fisheries Quarterly Update - Kathy Rawls, Director
- Councils and Commission Update – Chris Batsavage
- Marine Patrol Update – Col. Carter Witten
- Shellfish Lease Program Update – Owen Mulvey-McFerron
- CHPP Implementation – Anne Deaton
- Informational Materials:
 - MFC Workplan
 - Protected Resources Update and Reports

11:00 a.m. False Albacore Data Update – McLean Seward, Anne Markwith

12:00 p.m. Salt Marsh Action Plan Presentation – Claire Rapp, NC Coastal Federation

12:30 p.m. Lunch

2:00 p.m. Allocation as a Management Tool in Fisheries – Chris Batsavage

2:40 p.m. Fishery Management Plans

- Status of ongoing plans – Corrin Flora
- Blue Crab FMP Amendment 3 Adaptive Management Revision Update – Joe Facendola, Robert Corbett
- Estuarine Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update Overview– Laura Lee, Nathaniel Hancock
- Spotted Seatrout FMP Amendment 1– Lucas Pensinger, Jason Rock
 - Scoping Period Overview
 - **Review and Vote on Approval of FMP Goal and Objectives****

Friday, May 26th

9:00 a.m. Fishery Management Plans Continued...

- Striped Mullet FMP – Dan Zapf, Jeff Dobbs, Willow Patten
 - Supplement to Amendment 1 of the Striped Mullet FMP
 - **Vote on final approval****

10:00 a.m. Rules

- **Rule Suspensions – Steve Poland****
- Rulemaking Update – Catherine Blum
 - 2021-2022 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Update
 - 2022-2023 Annual Rulemaking Cycle Update
 - 2023-2024 Annual Rulemaking Cycle
 - **Vote on Notice of Text for Rulemaking to readopt per G.S. 150B-21.3A, amend, adopt, and repeal 15A NCAC 03K .0110, 18A .0301, .0302, .0305, .0401-.0424, .0426-.0430, .0432-.0439, .0501-.0504, .0601-.0621, .0701-.0713, .0801-.0806****
 - **Vote on Notice of Text for Rulemaking to amend 15A NCAC 03I .0113, 03O .0101, .0109, .0112, .0301 for Data Collection and Harassment Prevention for the Conservation of Marine and Estuarine Resources****

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***Probable Action Items*

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting Agenda - May 2023

- **Vote on Notice of Text for Rulemaking to amend 15A NCAC 03R .0117 for Oyster Sanctuary Changes****
- **Vote on Notice of Text for Rulemaking to amend and repeal 15A NCAC 03I .0101, 03K .0101, .0104, .0301, .0401, .0403, .0405, 03O .0201, .0501, .0503, 18A .0901, .0906 for Conforming Changes for Shellfish Relay Program and Shellfish Leases and Franchises****

10:40 a.m. Issues from Commissioners

11:30 a.m. Meeting Assignments and Preview of Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Lara Klibansky

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

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***Probable Action Items*