

MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING
Hilton Garden Inn, Kitty hawk, N.C.
Nov. 16-18, 2016

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).

Nov. 16

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

Nov. 17

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. Petition for Rulemaking by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation – Blakely Hildebrand
Presentation of petition to designate all coastal fishing waters not otherwise designated as nursery areas as special secondary nursery areas; establish clear criteria for the opening of shrimp season; and define the type of gear and how and when gear may be used in special secondary nursery areas during shrimp season.
9:30 a.m. Public Comment
Receive public comment relative to any fisheries management issues
11:30 a.m. Chairman's Report

- Letters
- Ethics Training Reminder
- 2017 Meeting Schedule Reminder

11:45 a.m. Committee Reports

- Nominating – Michelle Duval
 - **Vote on slate of nominees for obligatory seat for the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council****
- Standard Commercial Fishing License Criteria – Nancy Fish
 - **Vote on recommendations****

12:30 p.m. Lunch Recess
2 p.m. Martins Point Conflict Resolution – Kathy Rawls

- **Vote to approve proclamation****

2:30 p.m. Fishery Management Plan Update – Catherine Blum
2:45 p.m. Albemarle Roanoke Striped Bass Stock Assessment – Charlton Godwin
3 p.m. Central Southern Management Area Striped Bass Genetics Study – Charlton Godwin (Presentation)
4 p.m. Collaborative Shrimp Trawl Gear Study Update - Kevin Brown (Presentation)
4:30 p.m. Rulemaking – Catherine Blum

- 2016/2017 rulemaking cycle
 - Periodic review and expiration of existing rules (Presentation)
- 4:45 p.m. Rules Suspensions – Kathy Rawls
The commission must vote to continue suspension of the following rule(s)
- **Vote on rule suspension for 15A NCAC 03M .0516 COBIA regarding possession limits ****
 - **Vote on rule suspension for a portion of 15A NCAC 03L .0201 CRAB HARVEST RESTRICTIONS regarding culling tolerance and size limits and for a portion of 15A NCAC 03L .0203 CRAB DREDGING regarding targeted crab dredging****
 - **Vote on rule suspension for portions of 15A NCAC 03J .0501 DEFINITIONS AND STANDARDS FOR POUND NETS AND POUND NET SETS to increase the minimum mesh size of escape panels for flounder pound nets****
 - **Vote on rule suspension for portions of 15A NCAC Shad and 03Q .0107 SPECIAL REGULATIONS: JOINT WATERS to change the season and creel limit for American shad****
- 5 p.m. Recess

Nov. 18

- 8:30 a.m. Director's Report – Director Braxton Davis
Reports and updates on recent Division of Marine Fisheries activities
- Division of Marine Fisheries quarterly update
 - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission – Michelle Duval and Chris Batsavage
 - Red Drum Stock Assessment Update – Lee Paramore
 - Sustainable Fishery Management Plan for Shad – Holly White and Charlton Godwin (Presentation)
 - Informational materials
 - Quotas
 - Landings for red drum and southern flounder
 - Protected Resources
 - Observer Program
 - Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
 - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
 - Highly Migratory Species
 - Preliminary Landings, January – June 2016
 - License and Statistics 2016 Annual Report
- 10:30 a.m. Issues from Commissioners
- 11 a.m. Meeting Assignments and Preview of Agenda Items for February Meeting – Nancy Fish
- 11:15 a.m. Adjourn

2017 Meeting Dates

- Feb. 15-17 Hilton Wilmington Riverside, Wilmington**
May 17-19 BridgePointe Hotel and Marina, New Bern (location tentative)
Aug. 16-18 Brownstone, Raleigh
Nov. 15-17 Hilton Garden Inn, Kitty Hawk

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

****Potential Action Items**