



North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries Overview

Marine Fisheries Commission

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Marine Fisheries

N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission | Michael S. Loeffler | November 2023



Mission

- The Division of Marine Fisheries is dedicated to ensuring sustainable marine and estuarine fisheries and habitats for the benefit and health of the people of North Carolina



Vision Statement

As a model fisheries management agency, the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries:

- Ensures healthy, sustainable marine and estuarine fisheries and habitats through management decision based on sound data and objective analyses.
- Monitors and evaluates coastal waters for the safe harvest of molluscan shellfish and recreational uses to safeguard the public health of shellfish consumers and recreational bathers.
- Provides excellent public service by motivated employees in an open and healthy working environment
- Views public participation as essential for successful management of North Carolina fisheries resources.
- Enforces Marine Fisheries statutes and rules fairly and consistently.



Organization



Director's
Office



Fisheries
Management



Shellfish Sanitation
& Recreational
Water Quality



Marine Patrol



License and
Statistics



Administrative &
Maintenance
Services



Habitat &
Enhancement



Information
Technology

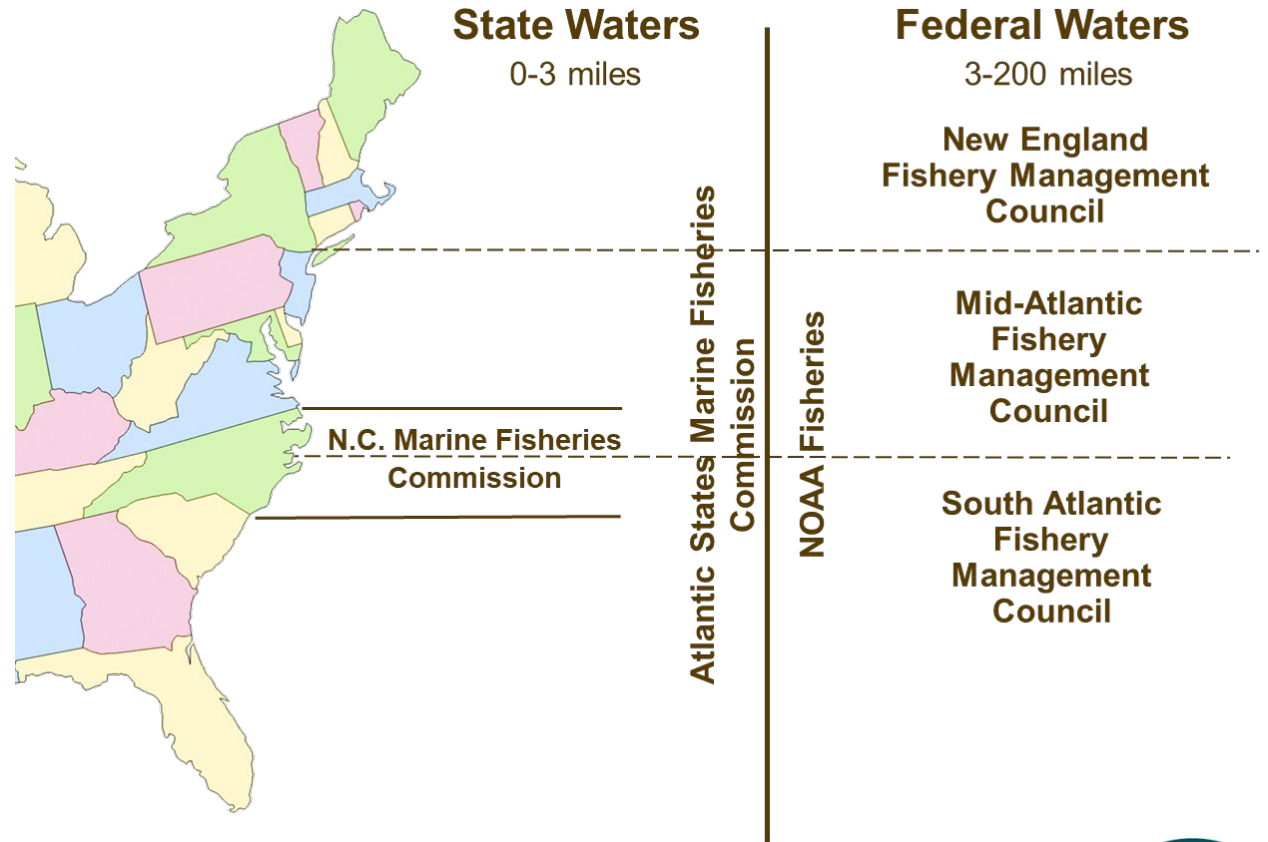


Public Affairs



Directors Office

- Executive Assistant
- Marine Fisheries Commission Staff
- Fisheries Management Council Liaisons
- Strategic planning
- Rules Coordination
- Directors Safety Committee
- IT Steering Committee
- Special Projects



Fisheries Management Section

- Fishery Management Plans
- Stock Assessments
- Protected Resources
- Fisheries and gear research
- Resource monitoring
- Interstate technical committees
- Citation Program
- Carcass Collection Program
- Tagging Program
- Collection (dependent and independent) and analysis of biological data



Habitat and Enhancement Section

- Oyster Sanctuary Program
- Cultch Planting Program
- Shellfish Mapping Program
- Shellfish Lease Program
- Artificial Reef Program
- Aquaculture Permitting
- Coastal Habitat Protection Plan
- Public Trust/submerged Lands Program
- Executive Order 80 Liaison



License and Statistics Section

- Commercial Statistics Program
- Recreational Statistics Program
- License Program
- Fisheries Economics Program



Marine Patrol Section

- Compliance monitoring of fisheries regulations by land, water, and air
- Protection of habitat, fisheries, and public.
- Inspections
- Assist Observer Program
- Assist Marine Mammal Stranding Network
- Swift Water Rescue Team



Shellfish Sanitation and Recreational Water Quality Section

- Shellfish Growing Areas Program
- Inspections Program (Shellfish and Crustacea Facilities)
- Recreational Water Quality Program

Shellfish Sanitation

**Temporary
Closure Public
Viewer**

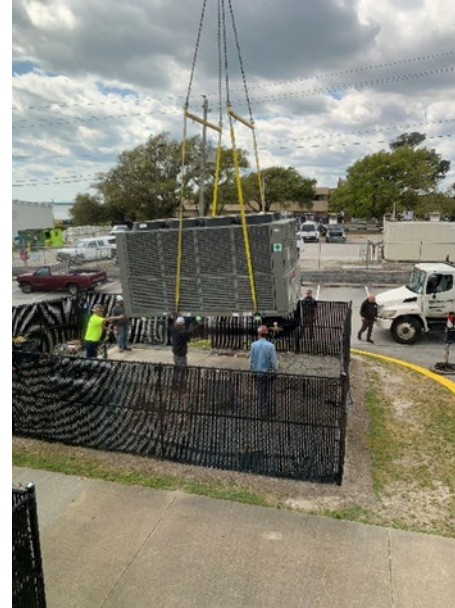
RECREATIONAL WATER QUALITY

**Swimming
Advisories**



Administrative Services and Maintenance Section

- Accounts receivable and payable
- Grants Program
- Budget management
- Purchasing services
- Warehouse operations
- Travel Office
- Vessel outfitting and maintenance
- Division owned facilities maintenance
- Capital and repair/renovations
- Fixed assets and surplus coordination



Information Technology Section

- Development and maintenance of IT applications
- Fishery Information Network
- Biological Database
- Liaison with DMF ITS for service Desk and GIS support



Fisheries Information Network
NC Division of Marine Fisheries
Production version 2.1.0.7

Welcome samcinerny!

Home | FIN Module | Trip Ticket | Marine Patrol | Reports | Resources | FIN Admin

Participant Search | Search Results

Recently Accessed... ▾

Search by ID

Category: Participant | Type: Participant ID | ID:

Search by Name

Last: | First: | Middle:
Alias: | Business:

Add New Individual | Add New Business | Clear | Search

NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS
OF MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

NC Biological Data
Division of Marine Fisheries
Production v0.3.0.4

Home
Coding Manual
Record Dump
Tag Search

North Carolina Biological Data

[Sharepoint Biological Database \(BDB\) User Resources](#)

Report any issues [here](#).

Contacts

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BDB Data Helpers

[BDB Data Editor](#)

[SAS/R Subset](#)

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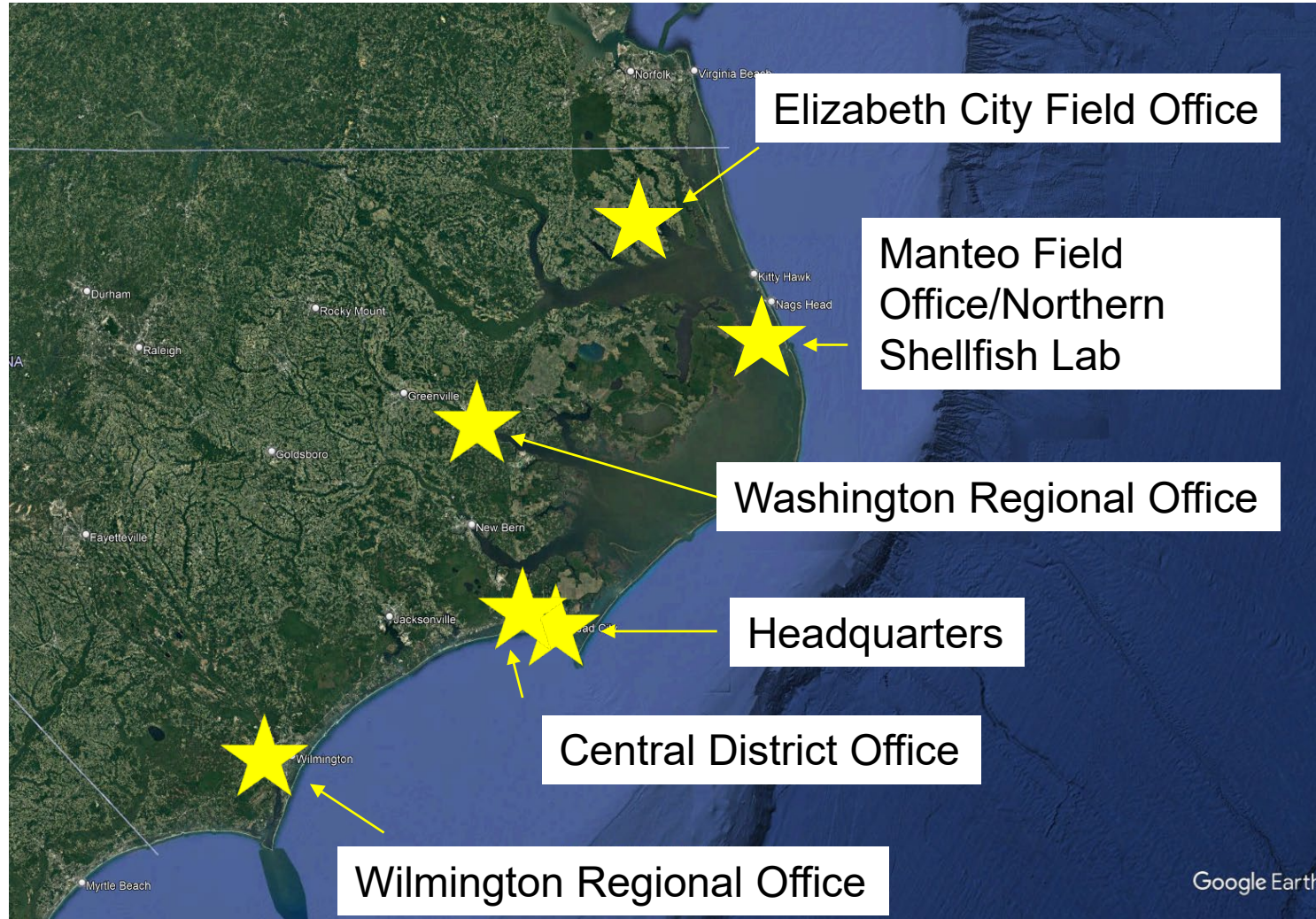


Public Information Office

- Press Releases
- Public outreach and engagement
- DMF social media campaign
- Public records requests
- Point of contact for news media



Office Locations



315 Positions

- 266 Full Time Employees (87%)
 - 49 Temporary Solutions Employees (13%)
 - 3 new positions created through the 23/24 budget
-
- Does not include staff who work with Human Resources, Information Technology, or Public Information Office



Staffing Challenges

- Stock Assessment Program Vacancies
 - 2 of 3 positions vacant, includes stock assessment program manager position
 - Will impact DMF actions moving forward
 - Actively recruiting
- Recreational Port Agent Vacancies
 - End of 2022, 30% vacancy rate
 - Impacting number of intercepts
 - Cost of living challenges



Equipment

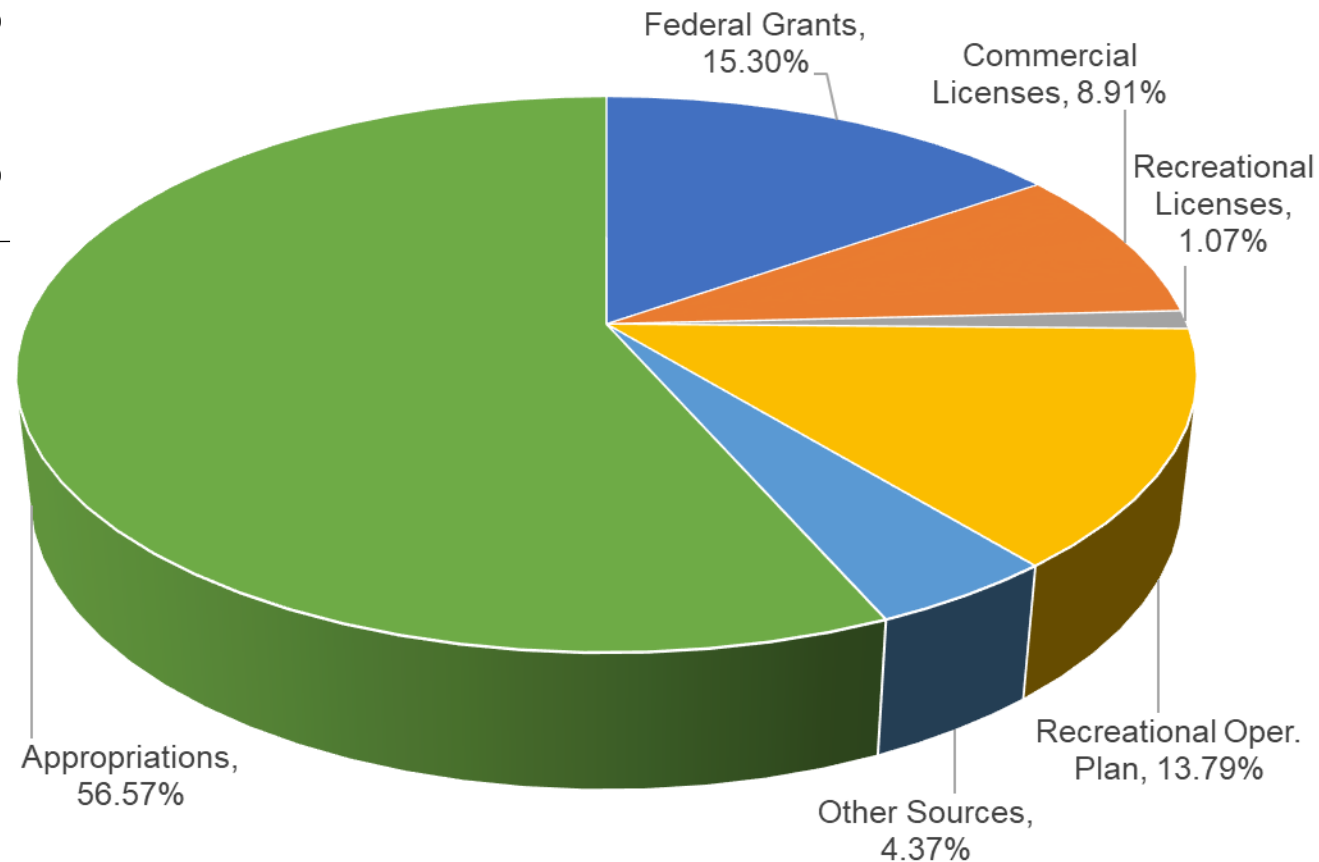
- Fleet of cars, trucks, and vessels
- 3 Dump Trucks
- 6 Loaders
- Conveyors
- 1 Mack Truck and Low Boy Trailer
- 6 Self propelled barges ranging from 11 to 45-ton capacity
- New 150-ton capacity R/V Oyster Creek
- One 44-foot research vessel
- One 48-foot patrol vessel
- 1 Fixed-wing aircraft
- 3 swift water rescue trailers with equipment to support long duration deployments



Budget for FY 2023

Appropriations	\$21,908,242	56.57%
Federal Grants	\$5,925,658	15.30%
Commercial Licenses	\$3,449,338	8.91%
Recreational Licenses	\$413,564	1.07%
Recreational Oper. Plan	\$5,341,182	13.79%
Other Sources	\$1,690,782	4.37%
	<hr/>	
	\$38,728,766	100%

Salaries:	\$20,298,441
Operations:	\$18,430,325
	<hr/>
	\$38,728,766



Program Evaluation

- Focus on data for stock assessments
- Limited opportunities for addressing research recommendations
- Seeking avenues for research outside DMF



Annual Highlights

- Continued development of Spotted Seatrout, Eastern Oyster, Hard Clam, and Striped Mullet FMP's
- Completed or began stock assessments for Spotted Seatrout, Striped Bass, Blue Crab, and Southern Flounder
- Completed retrofits to the RV Oyster Creek
- Added materials to 4 existing artificial reef sites
- Issued 19,333 Commercial Licenses and permits
- Issued/managed 485,007 Recreational Licenses
- Interviewed 12,461 recreational fishermen
- Processed 71,612 Trip Tickets
- 812 Shellfish Sanitation Inspections completed
- Analyzed 13,322 recreational and shellfish growing area water samples
- Inspected 120,634 commercial and recreational fishermen for compliance to fishery regulations



Annual Production Highlights

- Issued 119 proclamations
- 5,825 Saltwater Fishing Tournament citations processed
- 1,200 Carcass Collection samples processed
- 3,592 followers on social media
- 9,027 Quota monitoring logs completed
- Attended 404 educational or exhibit events for 41,022 participants (not including the state fair)
- 7 new State Records processed
- Continual updates to our interactive mapping tools
- Launched the Biological Database web application
- Developed early warning system and other upgrades for Marine Patrol in FIN



Thank You

