

Pender County Shellfish Lease Hearing Comment Form

Submission Details

Submitted Time First Name: Last Name: City: State:

5/19/2021 10:17 Wayne

Rees



NORTH
CAROLINA

Please type your comments in the box below:

My comments about the shellfish lease program are essentially the same as I submitted last week following the Onslow County meeting. The program is well intended, but lacks limits on the amount of acreage which can be leased (providing that the lease requests meet various state guidelines). In areas such as southern NC coastal waters, which generally lack large expansive bodies of water suitable for leasing, this has resulted in a proliferation of leases in many of the bays and sounds of Pender and Onslow counties. I would like to be informed of what the state is doing to determine "how many is too many" with regards to granted leases in southern NC coastal waters. Other than the existing requirements (shellfish population sampling, SAV determinations, impacts on navigation, etc.), what new limiting factors is the State considering as the number of leases grows significantly larger each year (the large majority of these being water column leases with highly restrictive impact on the general public use of these waters)? Wayne Rees 