

**WEEKLY UPDATE: 12/19/2014**  
**NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION**  
**"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"**  
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**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

The N.C. Fisheries Association Board of Directors and staff wish you a joyful holiday season. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year.

**DOMESTIC SHRIMP INDUSTRY TRADE RELIEF FORMS:**

The Southern Shrimp Alliance and NCFCA held three town hall meetings this week in North Carolina to ask shrimpers to support trade relief that has been in place since 2005 to offset the unfairly low prices of shrimp imports. If you profit from the shrimp industry in any way, as a fisherman, fish house, processor, or transporter - these tariffs are important to you. Without them, imports could flood the market and drive prices lower than ever. It is important you take the time to complete and return the forms linked below. The forms are simple, the information you provide is confidential, and they can be submitted via mail, email or fax. If you need any help completing the forms, please contact Lauren.

**[Industry Support Forms](#)**

**ANNUAL NCFCA BOARD MEETING SET FOR JAN. 23 AT 12 P.M.:**

The annual Board of Directors Meeting has been rescheduled for Jan. 23 at 12 p.m. The board will meet at the Hampton Inn in Washington, N.C. and will elect its officers and take other administrative actions at this meeting. This is the one meeting a year where ALL members, including half percenters, can vote on issues and give direction for the organization.

**PERSONAL CONSUMPTION SURVEY TO BE MAILED SOON:**

The Division of Marine Fisheries is conducting a survey to estimate the amount of unsold catch that is harvested with commercial gear. The survey is intended to take only a few minutes to complete and will be mailed to commercial fishing license holders soon. All information provided is confidential.

**SMALL VESSEL DISCHARGE PERMIT UPDATE:**

President Obama signed the "Howard Coble Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014" which extends the current exemption for all fishing vessels of any size from the EPA discharge permit requirements for another three years.

**VOLUNTARY SURVEY OF RIVER HERRING HARVESTERS:**

This fall and through the end of January, NOAA Fisheries is conducting a voluntary survey of individuals who have harvested river herring (alewives and blueback herring) commercially,

recreationally, or for personal use at any point in time over the past 20 years. For more information, see the [news release](#),

**MEETINGS:**

*If you are aware of ANY meetings that should be of interest to commercial fishing that is not on this list, please contact us so we can include it here.*

**Jan. 5 at 6 p.m.**

- Oyster and Hard Clam Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, DENR Regional Office, 943 Washington Square Mall, Washington, NC

**Jan. 6 at 10 a.m. -**

Coastal Habitat Protection Plan Steering Committee, DENR Regional Office, 943 Washington Square Mall, Washington, NC

**Feb. 2 at 6 p.m. -**

Oyster and Hard Clam Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee, DENR Regional Office, 943 Washington Square Mall, Washington, NC

**Feb. 3-5 -** Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Winter Meeting, The Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA

[MFC/DMF Meeting Schedule](#)

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

[COMMERCIAL SHARK CLOSURE: PORBEAGLE SHARKS](#)

[BLACK SEA BASS – COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS –ATLANTIC OCEAN-NORTH OF CAPE HATTERAS](#)

[FLOUNDER – COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS - ATLANTIC OCEAN](#)

[SPINY DOGFISH-COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS](#)

[COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL SHARK HARVEST](#)

[STRIPED BASS RECREATIONAL SEASON - ALBEMARLE SOUND MANAGEMENT AREA](#)

[STRIPED BASS SEASON – COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS – ALBEMARLE SOUND MANAGEMENT AREA](#)

[STRIPED BASS SEASON – GILL NETS ATLANTIC OCEAN](#)

[RED DRUM-COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS](#)

SNAPPER-GROUPER COMPLEX-COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

SNAPPER-GROUPER COMPLEX- RECREATIONAL PURPOSES