

**WEEKLY UPDATE: 9/5/2014**  
**NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION**  
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"  
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**NCFA BOARD** will meet on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at the Hampton Inn, Washington NC at 2:00pm.

**VIDEO ON SHRIMPING:** Here is a very good video, almost a half hour long, about the history of shrimping in the United States. We are getting some copies of this video on disc, if anyone is interested.

[History of shrimping in the United States](#)

**AFFILIATE MEETINGS:** None scheduled at this time, but we will notify when any affiliate schedules a meeting.

**Jerry's comments:**

**STATE FAIR:** The North Carolina State Fair is not far off. It's a 10 day event October 16-26, and NCFA may assist with helping to staff an educational booth for commercial fishing. More details will be discussed at the Board meeting this coming Monday. NCFA had an educational display for a few years sometime back, and it's a real challenge to get enough help, so if we commit to helping with this very worthwhile effort, we will need volunteers. We all talk about the need to educate the public. Well, let's not talk about, but do it! Stay tuned!

**NCFA BOARD MEETING:** The meeting will be at 2:00pm this coming Monday at the Hampton Inn in Washington NC. Only Board members can vote, but if you would like to attend, please feel free to do so. Lots going on and lots on the agenda!

**POUND NETS, GILLNETS, PERMITS, TURTLES and OBSERVERS:** I wrote about this last week, but will reprint it again at the end of this Update. It's very important, so I feel like it should remain on the Weekly Update for awhile. By the way, Louis Daniel does read these updates. Shortly after it was sent last week he called about a suggested restaurant for a dinner.

**GOD & COUNTRY BANQUET:** This has nothing to do with NCFA but involves an organization that I've been with for 20+ years. The Craven-Pamlico Christian Coalition will hold its 21<sup>st</sup> Annual God & Country Banquet on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Havelock Tourist & Event Center in Havelock NC. It begins at 6:30 pm with a dinner and the program follows. Excellent speakers and introductions of many candidates for public office, including judicial. Supreme Court Justice Paul Newby will be the Master of Ceremonies. Tickets are \$20 each or table of 8 for \$150. For tickets, call Pam: (252) 514-0381. For more information on speakers and guests, call me.

God bless,  
Jerry

**MEETINGS:**

**NOTE:** 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.

**Sept 8            NCFA Board of Directors Meeting; Hampton Inn; Washington, NC; 2:00pm**

Sept 15 – 19 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
Oct 7 – 9 Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Philadelphia  
Oct 27 – 30 ASMFC Annual Meeting: Mystic, CT

[MFC/DMF Meeting Schedule](#)

[GILL NETS – ALBEMARLE SOUND AREA- MANAGEMENT UNIT A](#)

[SNAPPER-GROUPER COMPLEX-COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES](#)

**LARGE MESH GILLNETS: PERMITS AND OBSERVERS:**

Beginning on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, if you fish gillnets in internal waters, you need a permit. (Drift gillnets, strike, runaround or drop gillnets are exempt.) The permit wasn't the Division's idea, but came from commercial fishermen. It was thought that if one of the requirements for the federal ITP in the fishery is to have 7% of large mesh trips observed, then rather than have more restrictions, why not devise a permit to make sure we get enough coverage. Without the coverage, the feds can shut down the fishery, so a permit can keep that from happening. If a fisherman refuses to take an observer, he can lose his permit.

If you are fishing large mesh gillnets, don't wait to be called to take an observer. Call DMF and volunteer if you haven't taken an observer. Don't let it up to a few to take observers. If everyone does their part, the burden can be spread around a bit and you can do your part in keeping the fishery open.

If you call DMF and volunteer rather than waiting around for them to call you, we'll put your name in a hat and the winner will have a nice dinner with Louis Daniel, courtesy of NCFA! (Louis doesn't know about this, so just testing to see if he reads these updates.)

One other point about fishing and turtles: If you have an interaction with a turtle while you're fishing and you don't have an observer, then call DMF and let them know. That's better for all of us. You won't get penalized for it and it's something that should be done.

**POUND NETS:**

Most fishermen check their pound nets daily for a number of reasons. One is the quality of the fish is better if fished frequently. NCFA encourages all pound net fishermen to check their nets daily, weather permitting. Fishermen should not be expected to risk their lives when checking their nets, but if the weather allows, we encourage you to check. It just makes sense, but most of you already know that.