

WEEKLY UPDATE: 1/16/2015
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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ANNUAL MEETING THIS WEEK:

The annual NCFA meeting is this Friday at 12 p.m. The board will meet at the Hampton Inn in Washington, N.C. This is the one meeting a year where ALL members, including half percent contributors, can vote on issues and give direction for the organization. To conduct business, fifty members must be present or have given their proxy to another member. We encourage all who can attend to join us, but if you are not able to make the meeting please give your proxy to a member in good standing. For your convenience, you can complete the proxy form to ensure you are represented.

SENATOR BILL COOK NAMED AS CO-CHAIR OF THE AGRICULTURE/ENVIRONMENT/NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE!

Senate Committee assignments have been announced. We will give a more complete list of committee assignments once assignments for the House are complete, but it's important to note the following: Senator Bill Cook is co-chairman of the Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee. He will co-chair the committee along with Senators Andrew Brock and Trudy Wade.

Congratulations to Senators Andrew Brock, Bill Cook and Trudy Wade! Also serving on that Committee are Senator Bill Rabon and Senator Brent Jackson.

SAFMC TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING/SCOPING MEETINGS AND Q&A WEBINAR FOR SNAPPER GROUPER AND MACKEREL AMENDMENTS:

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is requesting public input on proposed management measures affecting the fishery management plans for snapper grouper, and coastal migratory pelagics (king mackerel). The public is encouraged to provide written comment and participate in upcoming public hearings scheduled throughout the region between Jan. 13-Feb. 4, 2015. For more information, see the [news release](#).

MAFMC TO HOLD HEARINGS ON DEEP SEA CORALS AMENDMENT:

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold six public hearings in January to gather public comments on the [Deep Sea Corals Amendment](#) to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The amendment considers measures to address the potential impacts of fishing gear on deep sea corals in the Mid-Atlantic. The hearings will be held January 12 - 20, 2015 (schedule below), and written comments will be accepted until January 28, 2015. 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.

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

Feb. 10-12 - Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Doubletree by Hilton Raleigh Brownstone University, 1707 Hillsborough St., Raleigh

Feb. 18-20 - Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting, Hilton Wilmington Riverside, 301 North Water St., Wilmington, NC

March 2-6 - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, The King and Prince Resort, 201 Arnold Rd., St. Simons Island, GA

[MFC/DMF Meeting Schedule](#)

PROCLAMATIONS:

[STRIPED BASS SEASON –COMMERCIAL TRAWL: ATLANTIC OCEAN](#)