



ROY COOPER  
*Governor*

## New Estuarine Flounder Dealer Permit

ELIZABETH S. BISER  
*Secretary*

June 2022

KATHY B. RAWLS  
*Director*

Dear Licensed Seafood Dealer,

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission voted to give their final approval for the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3. As part of this amendment, Southern Flounder have been added to the Division of Marine Fisheries' Quota Monitoring Program for daily harvest monitoring. The Southern Flounder commercial fishery annual harvest quota will be divided into two gear categories and split by harvest areas for monitoring purposes. Seafood Dealers will be required to hold a Permit for Monitoring Fisheries under a Quota/Allocation in order to purchase any amount of Southern Flounder from commercial fishermen moving forward. This new permit is called the Estuarine Flounder Dealer Permit (ESFLDEAL) and will be available to licensed Seafood Dealers starting June 13th, free of charge.

Permits for Monitoring Fisheries under a Quota/Allocation, including the Estuarine Flounder Dealer Permit, require Seafood Dealers to complete and submit Quota Monitoring Logs daily while the state-monitored fisheries are open. These logs must be submitted to the Quota Monitoring Biologist via fax or e-mail by 12 PM (noon) each day to report the previous day's landings. Even if a dealer does not purchase the permitted species on a particular day, the dealer must still report that they had no transactions. If the dealer is unable to send their logs by fax or electronic mail, the Seafood Dealer may call in the previous day's landings, but they still must submit the completed paper logs (one log per day) by fax, e-mail, or mail within five days of the commercial fishing season closing.

Please see the new Daily Quota Monitoring Log Template example provided with this letter. Seafood Dealers already familiar with reporting to the Quota Monitoring Program will notice that a reporting section for Estuarine Flounder has been added to the log. This new log must be used for meeting the reporting requirements of all Permits for Monitoring Fisheries under a Quota/Allocation moving forward. For Seafood Dealers using the NC Trip Ticket System software to create their Quota Monitoring Logs, the new log will be available through a software update and will appear when the Quota Monitoring Report tool is used. Dealers will be notified once this update becomes available. Please contact the Quota Monitoring Biologist for assistance if needed.

For any questions about the Quota Monitoring Program, Estuarine Flounder Dealer Permit, or reporting requirements, please contact the Quota Monitoring Biologist, Willow Patten.

### **Contact Information:**

Willow Patten – Quota Monitoring Biologist

**Office Phone:** 252-808-8109

**Cell Phone:** 252-904-7810

**Fax:** 252-726-3903

**Email:** [Willow.Patten@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Willow.Patten@ncdenr.gov)

**Office:** NCDMF Headquarters Office in Morehead City, NC

**Address:** 3441 Arendell Street | P.O. Box 769 | Morehead City, North Carolina 28557