



Marine Fisheries Commission  
3441 Arendell Street  
Morehead City, NC 28577

August 13, 2018

Dear Chairman,

The North Carolina Watermen United (NCWU) agrees with and supports the recommendations of the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) and the Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) Advisory Committee to delay any action on the Striped Mullet Fishery Management Plan until 2019 to allow time to obtain more up-to-date and reliable data.

Basing any Fishery Management Plan only on minimum and maximum landings to assess the health of the species simply doesn't work for accurate data.

Fluctuations in catch poundage can be a reflection of many factors, including market conditions, fishermen's effort levels influenced by participation in other fisheries and environmental conditions like hurricanes or changes in migration patterns.

NCWU is respectfully requesting that MFC follow the recommendations provided by the DMF Staff and Advisory Committee to delay action until proper assessments can be made of the commercial effort and the recreational effort by fishermen using commercial gear.

Yours truly,

*Andrew Berry*

Andrew Berry  
Vice President, NCWU



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