

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting

MEETING AGENDA

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel; New Bern, NC

May 13-14, 2026

N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e) mandates at the beginning of any meeting of a board, the chair shall remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest under Chapter 138. The chair also shall inquire as to whether there is any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the board at that time.

N.C.G.S. 143B-289.54.(g)(2) states a member of the Marine Fisheries Commission shall not vote on any issue before the Commission that would have a "significant and predictable effect" on the member's financial interest. For purposes of this subdivision, "significant and predictable effect" means there is or may be a close causal link between the decision of the Commission and an expected disproportionate financial benefit to the member that is shared only by a minority of persons within the same industry sector or gear group. A member of the Commission shall also abstain from voting on any petition submitted by an advocacy group of which the member is an officer or sits as a member of the advocacy group's board of directors. A member of the Commission shall not use the member's official position as a member of the Commission to secure any special privilege or exemption of substantial value for any person. No member of the Commission shall, by the member's conduct, create an appearance that any person could improperly influence the member in the performance of the member's official duties.

Commissioners having questions about a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict should consult with counsel to the Marine Fisheries Commission or the secretary's ethics liaison. Upon discovering a conflict, the commissioner should inform the chair of the commission in accordance with N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e).

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

- 1:00 p.m. Preliminary Matters
- Commission Call to Order* – *Sammy Corbett, Chairman*
 - Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
 - Conflict of Interest Reminder
 - Roll Call
 - **Approval of Meeting Minutes ****
- 1:15 p.m. Chairman's Report
- Letters and Online Comments
 - Ethics Training and Statement of Economic Interest Reminder
 - 2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule
- 1:30 p.m. Director's Report – *Kathy Rawls*
- Red Snapper EFP Update – *Trish Murphey*
 - Marine Patrol Update – *Colonel Chris Lee*
 - Incidental Take Permit Update – *Jason Rock*
- 2:00 p.m. Fishery Management Plan Updates – *Dan Zapf, Jeff Dobbs*
- Implementation of Adopted FMPs
 - Upcoming FMPs
 - Red Drum FMP Amendment 2
 - Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 5
- 2:30 p.m. Kingfishes Fishery Management Plan Amendment 1 – *Matthew Doster, Claire Pelletier*
- Background, Life History, and Fishery Characterization

** Times indicated are merely for guidance. The commission will proceed through the agenda until completed.*

***Probable Action Items*

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting Agenda

- 3:00 p.m. Legislative Study of Coastal and Marine Fisheries Report – *Dr. Joel Fodrie*
- 4:00 p.m. Break
- 6:00 p.m. Return for Evening Public Comment Period

Thursday, May 14, 2026

- 9:00 a.m. Public Comment Period
- 9:30 a.m. Rulemaking – *Catherine Blum*
- 2024-2025 Rulemaking Cycle Update
 - 2025-2026 Rulemaking Cycle Update
 - 2026-2027 Rulemaking Cycle
 - **Vote on Notice of Text for Rulemaking for adoption of 15A NCAC 03M .0524 for Atlantic Bonito Management ****
- 10:15 a.m. 2025 Spotted Seatrout Cold Stun Update – *Lucas Pensinger*
- 10:45 a.m. Updates on the Blue Crab Benchmark Stock Assessment Process – *Dan Zapf, Matt Damiano, Matt Zink*
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- 1:30 p.m. Eastern Oyster Fishery Management Plan Amendment 5 – *Bennett Paradis, McLean Seward, Zach Harrison*
- Deepwater Oyster Recovery Areas Presentation
- 2:15 p.m. Red Drum Satellite Tagging Project – *Cara Kowalchyk, John Mohan*
- 3:00 p.m. Issues from Commissioners
- 3:30 p.m. Meeting Assignments and Preview of Agenda Items for Next Meeting – *Jesse Bisette*
- 3:45 p.m. Adjourn

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***Probable Action Items*