



N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rulemaking

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Marine Fisheries

Marine Fisheries Commission | Catherine Blum | August 2025



N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rulemaking Presentation Outline

Subjects and next steps:

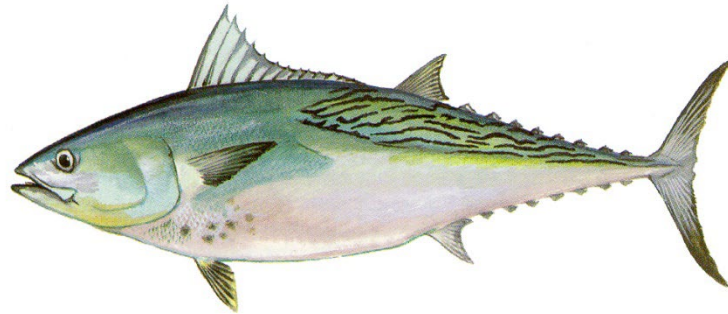
- 2024-2025 Rulemaking Cycle (underway)
- 2025-2026 Rulemaking Cycle (underway)



2024-2025 Rulemaking Cycle

Subjects

- 8 rules
- Subjects:
 - Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (6 rules)
 - False albacore management (1 rule)
 - Pot marking requirements (1 rule)



2024-2025 Rulemaking Cycle – Next Steps

- Fiscal analysis of rules prepared by DMF staff and approved by Office of State Budget and Management
- Marine Fisheries Commission votes on approval of Notice of Text for Rulemaking
- Publication of proposed rules in the *N.C. Register*
- Public comment period and public hearing held
- Marine Fisheries Commission receives public comments and votes on final approval of permanent rules
- Rules reviewed / voted on by Office of Administrative Hearings / Rules Review Commission for final approval
- Rules not subject to legislative review become effective
- Rulebook supplement available online
- Rules subject to legislative review await the next regular legislative session
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2024-2025

2024-2025


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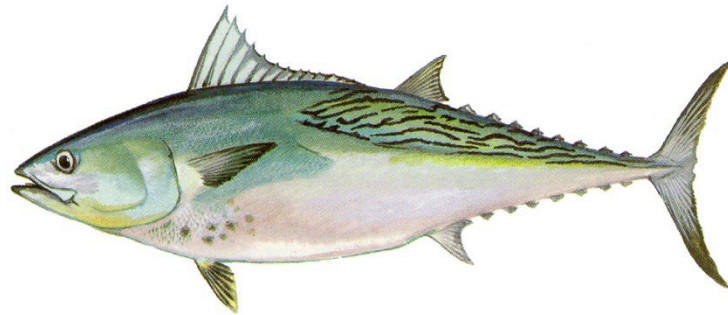
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2024-2025 Rulemaking Cycle

Legislative Review

- False albacore management
Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 150B)
- Pot marking requirements
Session Law 2019-198 and N.C.G.S. 14-4.1
- Adds time to the process



2025-2026 Rulemaking Cycle Subjects

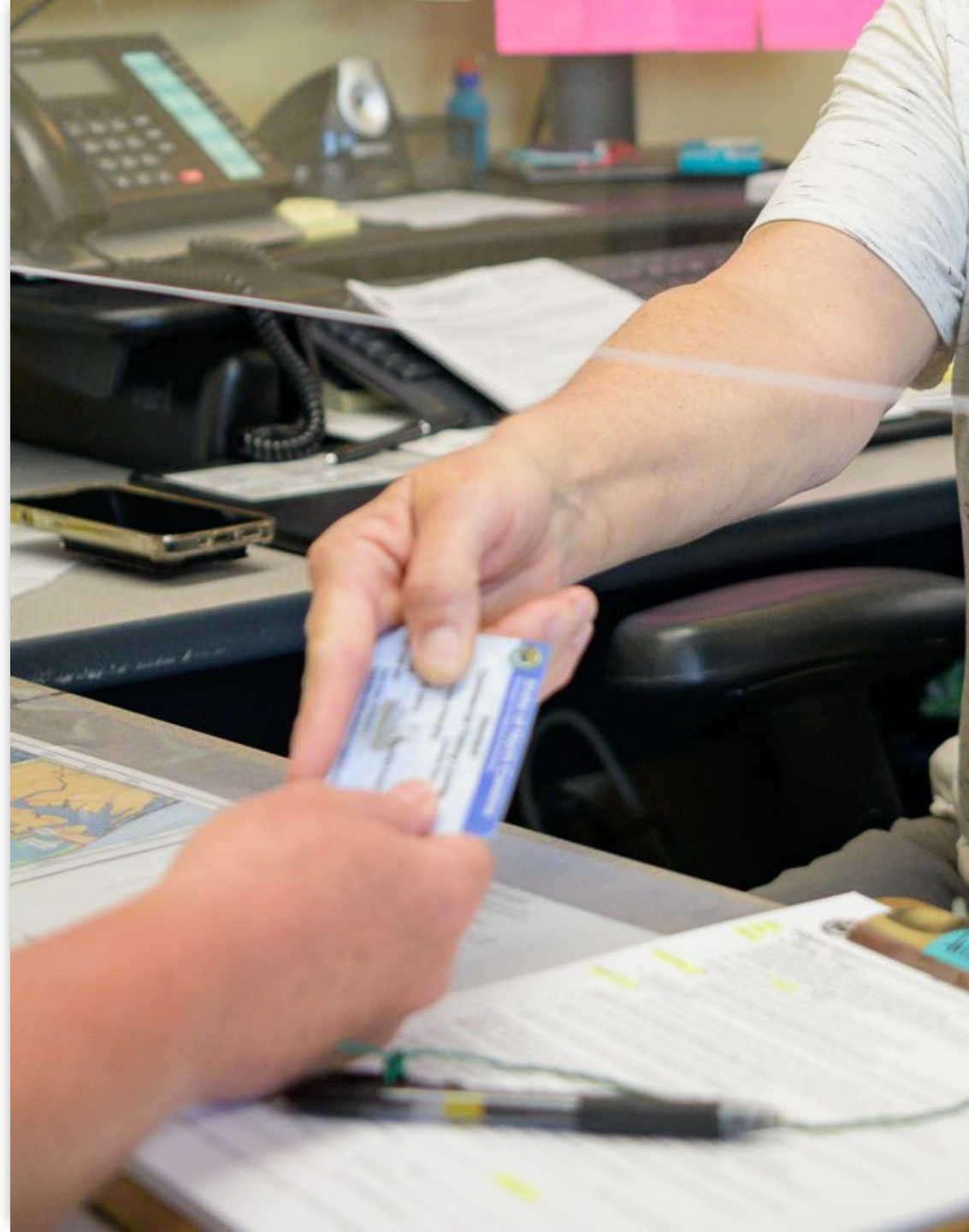
- 9 rules
- Subjects:
 - Permits
 - Franchises and shellfish leases



2025-2026 Rulemaking Cycle

Permits

- Place requirements in permanent rule that are no longer variable;
- Increase efficiencies for quota monitoring;
- Improve data collection and public health protection, and further protect DMF employees who do that work;
- Reduce burden on stakeholders;
- Clarify rules; and
- Remove outdated requirements.



2025-2026 Rulemaking Cycle

Franchises and Shellfish Leases

- Aligns rules with current procedures and laws for shellfish aquaculture
- No recent changes for franchises
- Clarifies production requirements for shellfish leases



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N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rulemaking Update

Questions?

N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries Rulemaking Coordinator

Catherine.Blum@deq.nc.gov

<https://deq.nc.gov/mfc-proposed-rules>

