

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Tar-Pamlico River Basin Regional Council

NC Estuarium
223 East Water Street
Washington, NC
August 24, 2001

AGENDA

10:00am	Welcome	Vice Chairman Paul Blount
10:05	Roll Call/Self-Introductions	Joan Giordano, APNEP
10:15	Consideration of Minutes (6/15/01)	Vice Chairman Blount
10:20	<u>OLD BUSINESS</u> Louisburg Greenway Project	Joe Shearon, Louisburg
10:30	<u>DISCUSSION</u> Estuarium Exhibit Proposals	All
12:30pm	Public Comment	All
12:40	Plans for Next Meeting	All
12:45	Adjourn for Lunch	



Tar-Pamlico River Basin Regional Council
North Carolina Estuarium
Washington, North Carolina

August 24, 2001

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Vice-Chairman Paul Blount. He welcomed members and guests present and asked for self-introductions. Betty Sandow was introduced as a new Administrative Assistant at ANEP, located in the DENR offices in Washington. A motion was then made to accept the minutes from the June 15 meeting in Wilson, which was seconded and passed.

C. L. Gobble of Louisburg gave a presentation on the Greenway project being undertaken by the town. Louisburg is piecing together parcels of land along both sides of the Tar River to preserve as green space. Soon they will have all of the land on the north side of the river from one side of town to the other in public or semi-public hands.

During his presentation, Mr. Gobble stated that Louisburg has had \$2.3 million worth of sewer line, outfall and wastewater reuse projects ready to go for over 2 years, but the State permitting of the projects has been extremely frustrating. Discussion then occurred regarding the bureaucracy of environmental permitting. Comments expressed included the obstruction of good projects, permitting delays that end up making a project more expensive, the lack of agency staff, and the sometimes high rate of turnover of agency staff.

Next, Tom Stroud of the N. C. Estuarium and Partnership for the Sounds staff introduced other staff members in attendance, and then began discussion of the Estuarium exhibit proposals that the TPRBRC might consider for funding with our \$12,000. He began by describing the construction activities occurring around the Estuarium, namely the Stewart Parkway renovation at the Washington waterfront and the 5-acre stormwater wetland at the old Moss Planing Mill site. Tom then gave a brief history of the Estuarium, which opened in 1998. The group watched the Estuarium's introductory video and toured the Estuarium exhibits. This was all done in preparation for our discussion on exhibit proposals. Tom discussed each of the six proposals he had drafted ahead of time, and the pros and cons of each were discussed.

Consensus eventually was gained on an interactive exhibit that demonstrates the value of wetlands in filtering pollutants. Specifically, a model of downtown Washington, with stormwater running off into the Moss Planing Mill wetland, and then release into the Pamlico River. This may cost more than \$12,000, and Jeff Furness said he would approach PCS Phosphate to see if additional funds could be made available.

There being no more business, the next meeting was set for October 19 at a place to be determined, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 to lunch provided by the Estuarium.



Published Thursday, August 30, 2001

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EDITORIALS

Reviving dead zones

Farmers can produce clean water, too, if they have help

After years of concerted effort to clean up American rivers and bays, research by the U.S. Geological Survey and other federal agencies indicates that agricultural runoff is still the leading pollutant in 13 of the nation's 17 most polluted bays.

Among them is North Carolina's Neuse River, a vast waterway wider than the Mississippi at some points and the third-most polluted bay in the country, based on nitrogen from agricultural runoff. According to the Geological Survey, nearly two-thirds of the nitrogen in the Neuse estuary comes from agricultural runoff that could be sharply reduced.

And, says a new report published by the group Environmental Defense, agricultural runoff accounts for more than a third of the nitrogen pollution in Pamlico Sound, listed as the 13th most troubled bay. The Neuse River joins the Pamlico River to form Pamlico Sound, one of the world's largest inland seas. The sound cannot easily flush its pollutants into the ocean because of the Outer Banks and the few, narrow inlets that punctuate their length at odd intervals.

The heavy agricultural runoff from the rich farmlands bordering the Neuse and Pamlico has created dead zones. The

pollutants cause low oxygen levels, toxic algae blooms and a loss of the underwater grasses that provided aquatic habitat for fish and crabs. The chemical pollutants consume dissolved oxygen at night. Dying algae blooms consume more dissolved oxygen as they decompose. The result is oxygen-starved water, where aquatic life cannot thrive.

None of this is new science. Farmers have known it for years. They have sought government help to protect water quality by creating streamside buffers, restoring wetlands, managing waste better and using the best management practices. But that doesn't come cheap - and there's not nearly enough assistance for the farmers who want to take advantage.

"Most farmers and feedlot operators seeking federal financial and technical assistance to reduce polluted runoff into bays have been rejected due to inadequate federal funding," the report says. "The nation's largest conservation backlogs are in states like Texas, North Carolina and Florida - states where many of the bays threatened by agricultural runoff are located."

In fact, about 70 percent of the farmers and ranchers seeking federal money to improve water quality were rejected, the report says. Those farmers were offering to restore more than 500,000 acres of wetlands - critical features in filtering runoff - but were turned away for lack of funds.

These are among the reasons that members of Congress must see to it that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has the financial resources to help farmers in cleaning up agricultural runoff. Congress will debate a farm bill when it returns to Washington after Labor Day, and it should be sure to make adequate provisions for farmers who want to do the right thing and clean up our waters.

Legislative Bulletin

North Carolina League of Municipalities

P.O. Box 3069, Raleigh, NC 27602-3069; Telephone: (919) 715-4000; Fax: (919) 733-9519

Bulletin No. 27

July 27, 2001

House Finance Committee approves tax package that includes local option sales tax – Financial picture worsens

On Wednesday evening, the House Finance Committee approved **HB 1429 – Financial Responsibility Act**, a package of tax increases and cuts that includes authorization for a one-half cent local option sales tax. The package is designed to provide \$440.4 million in additional revenues to the state for FY 2001-2002 and more money in future years.

As the tax package was rolled out, the fiscal analysts downgraded the projected revenue growth rate for the second year of the biennium by one percentage point, creating a \$140 million hole in the second year of the respective budgets adopted by the House and Senate and now in conference. This is in addition to the \$167 million gap reported in last week's *Legislative Bulletin*.

The package also includes the following:

- A new 8.75 percent income tax bracket for married couples with taxable income over \$200,000 (singles, \$120,000);
- A 6 percent sales tax on liquor sales;
- A 1 percent tax on Health Maintenance Organizations/Blue Cross;
- Removal of a \$1,500 highway use tax cap on non-commercial vehicles [please note: fire

and rescue vehicles would receive an exemption from this tax];

- A tax decrease in the "marriage penalty" by increasing the income tax standard deduction for married persons filing jointly; and
- An increase in the income tax child credit.

If the bill passes authorizing counties to levy the additional half-cent local option sales tax, local government reimbursements will be eliminated effective July 1, 2001. That means there would be no August 30 distribution of intangibles tax reimbursements and no September 30 distribution of business inventory tax reimbursements.

Counties may, but are not required to, hold a referendum on the additional sales tax. If a county levies the sales tax, every municipality in that county will receive at least 105 percent of the annual amount the jurisdiction previously received from the reimbursements. If sales tax proceeds exceed that amount, municipalities will receive the higher amount.

Cities and towns would receive a "hold harmless" payment in November. The amount of this payment would be figured by the Department of Revenue projecting each unit's additional sales tax receipts for FY 2001-2002 (a partial year). If that sales tax amount is less than 105 percent of that unit's repealed annual reimbursement amount, the unit would receive a "differential" or "hold harmless" payment to bring the total amount to 105 percent of the reimbursement amount. All cities and towns would be eligible to receive this payment, regardless of whether their county commissioners had voted to levy the tax.

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners is a strong backer of this proposal, and the Association's leaders believe that individual county boards will vote to levy the sales tax. We are working on provisions to provide more assurance that county commissioners will in fact levy the tax.

NC General Assembly Information

Main Number (Any Legislator)	(919) 733-4111
Printed Bills Office	(919) 733-5648
Bill Status Desk	(919) 733-7779
Legislative Building	fax (919) 733-2599
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www.ncga.state.nc.us (NC General Assembly Website)	
www.ncmlm.org (NC League of Municipalities Website)	

JUL 28 2001

The effective date of the additional local options sales tax can be as early as November 1, 2001.

The League supports this plan as a means to solve the long-standing problem of the instability of the local government reimbursements. A governor cannot withhold local option sales tax proceeds from local governments, and sales tax proceeds will grow in future years.

We are not certain where the tax package will go next. It could proceed to the House floor, although there are hints that it may go straight to the House and Senate budget conference committee. Please let legislators know that you support this proposal as being in the best long-term interests of cities and towns.

Homestead exemption changes signed into law

Governor Mike Easley has signed into law **HB 42 - Property Tax Homestead Exclusion**. The legislation, codified as Chapter 308 of the 2001 Session Laws, amends the homestead exemption for qualified elderly and disabled property owners to provide that the amount of property value of the residence to be excluded from taxation is the greater of \$20,000 or 50% of the appraised value. It also increases the income eligibility limit from \$15,000 to \$18,000 and provides that, for taxable years beginning on or after July 1, 2003, the income eligibility limit is to be adjusted according to the percentage cost-of-living adjustment made to social security benefits. It also extends the time for filing an annual application for the exclusion from April 15 to June 1. The homestead provisions are effective for taxable years beginning on or after July 1, 2002. Another provision of the legislation allows local governments to reduce their property tax levies to account for additional and unanticipated revenues received after July 1, 2001. The provision is intended to give flexibility to local governments to reconfigure budgets in response to the Governor's release of the \$95 million in inventory tax reimbursements that were withheld. The provision expires October 1, 2001.

Purchasing bill presented to Governor

The bill to update the local government purchasing statutes, **HB 1169 - Amend Local Gov't Purchasing Laws**, has been ratified by the General

Assembly and sent to the Governor for his signature. The bill makes a number of changes to the procedures for the letting of public contracts. It raises the threshold for formal bidding on the purchase of apparatus, materials, supplies and equipment from \$30,000 to \$50,000, and authorizes the use of electronic advertisement for construction and purchasing contracts after securing governing board approval. It also establishes an optional "request for proposals" procedure for information technology goods and services. More details on the bill are in the bill summary section of last week's *Legislative Bulletin*. The League strongly supported the bill and we thank Rep. Drew Saunders for sponsoring it.

Conflict of interest bill discussed

A bill to rewrite the conflict of interest statute, G.S. 14-234, was discussed this week in the Senate Judiciary I Committee but no vote was taken. A committee substitute for **HB 115 - Business Transactions Involving Public Funds** seeks to clarify and update the language of the statute. Among other things, the bill would provide that no public officer or employee who is involved in making or administering a contract on behalf of a public agency may derive a direct benefit from the contract. It specifies that a public officer or employee derives a direct benefit from a contract if the person or his or her spouse has more than a 10% ownership or other interest in an entity that is a party to the contract; derives any income or commission directly from the contract; or acquires property under the contract. It specifies that a public officer or employee is involved in the making of a contract if he or she participates in the development of specifications or terms or in the preparation or award of the contract. A person is also involved in making a contract if the body of which he or she is a member takes action on the contract, whether or not such person actually participates in that action. The bill provides that no public officer who will derive a direct benefit from a contract entered into under one of the exceptions may deliberate or vote on the contract or attempt to influence anyone involved in making or administering the contract. It retains the substance of the existing "small town" exception for municipalities but would increase the population threshold to 15,000 (now 7,500) and the

dollar amount of the exception to \$25,000 (now \$15,000). It provides that contracts entered into in violation of the statute are void, but provides for continuation of contracts under certain circumstances to protect the public health or welfare until alternatives can be arranged. It clarifies G.S. 160A-75 [voting] to indicate that a governing body member may be excused from voting on matters on which the member is prohibited from voting under G.S. 14-234. Under the committee substitute the changes would be effective July 1, 2002.

Following are some of the bills that were introduced or acted upon this week. If you need a copy of these or any other bills, please contact the Legislative Printed Bills Office at 919-733-5648 or the League office. Remember that bills and legislative calendars are now available on the Internet at <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us>. Please contact the League staff if you have any particular interest or concern regarding any piece of legislation.

ENVIRON

HB 570 Tar-Pamlico Agricultural Rule

Provides that a rule on the Tar-Pamlico River Basin Agricultural Nutrient Control Strategy is to become effective September 1, 2001, to be implemented in accordance with this act. Defines "agricultural operation" for purposes of the rule, specifying thresholds based on number of animals. Includes special provisions to deal with onetime harvest of trees on land within a riparian buffer. Provides that harvesting of trees must comply with Forest Practices Guidelines Related to Water Quality (15A NCAC 11) and that the nutrient removal function of trees that are harvested shall be replaced through other measures implemented by the land owner. States that no person is required to implement a best management practice for pasture-based production or management of livestock until the Soil and Water Conservation Commission has approved BMPs and the EMC has approved a nutrient loading accounting methodology that includes credit for reductions in nutrient loading that have been achieved since January 1, 1992.

Rep Allen Passed Senate

HB 969 Air Quality/Motor Vehicle Inspection Fees

Provides for the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Improvement Act of 1999 by increasing the fees charged for motor vehicle emissions and safety inspections. Effective October 1, 2001, increases the safety inspection fee to \$14.45 and the emission and safety inspection fee to \$33.45. Exempts motor

vehicles over 25 years old and those that are a 1996 or later model from exhaust emissions analysis. Vehicles that are 1996 or later are subject to the OBD analysis. Authorizes issuance of a waiver for a vehicle that fails a safety inspection because it does not have one or more emissions control devices, and has documented repairs within the previous calendar year to replace missing emissions controls costing at least the waiver amount. Waiver amount is \$75 for a pre-1981 model and \$200 for 1981 or newer model. **Rep Hackney Referred to subcom of S Finance**

HB 1439 Water and Sewer Authorities

Provides that two or more units of local government, at least one of which is located primarily in a county with a population of 500,000 or more, and whose wastewater discharge flows downstream solely within the state, may organize a water and sewer authority as provided in the act. Provides that a board governs authority with one member appointed by the governing body of each participating political subdivision.

Rep Miner Fav Rpt from H Envr

SB 783 Extend Sunset/Demolition Debris Landfill

Extends the sunset on disposal of demolition debris in an on-site landfill with a disposal area of one acre or less until September 30, 2003. Amends G.S. 130A-301.2 to provide that the county may only approve a demolition debris landfill if the perimeter of the landfill is at least 50 feet from any stream or river. Requires county to forward documentation related to such landfills to DENR. Effective June 30, 2001.

Sen Odom Passed House

SB 1014 Strengthen Littering Laws

Amends G.S. 14-399 (littering) to include the offense of unintentional or nonreckless littering, punishable as an infraction. Does not apply to the accidental blowing, scattering, or spilling of an insignificant amount of municipal solid waste during the automated loading of a vehicle designed and constructed to transport municipal solid waste if the vehicle is operated in a reasonable manner and according to manufacturer specifications. Requires vehicles licensed for more than 7,500 pounds gross vehicle weight that are loaded with rock, gravel, stone or any other similar substance to secure loads and cover with a tarpaulin or other suitable covering to prevent any of the load from falling, blowing, or otherwise escaping. Requires vehicles licensed for 7,500 pounds or less gross vehicle weight that are loaded with rock, gravel, stone or similar substance to load so that the height of the load against all four walls does not extend above a horizontal line six inches below the top. If such vehicle is not loaded in this manner, a tarpaulin or other suitable covering must cover the load. Amends G.S. 153A-136 (counties) and G.S. 160A-185 (cities) to authorize ordinances regulating the illegal disposal of solid waste, including littering, on public and private property. Specifies that ordinances may provide for

enforcement by civil penalties as well as other remedies and that employees specially appointed as environmental enforcement officers may enforce regulations. **Sen Albertson H placed on cal for 7/30**

FIN & TAX

SB 247 Reallocate Clean Water Bond Funds

Shifts \$75 million in bond proceeds originally earmarked for loans and reallocates them to the Rural Economic Development Center for unsewered community grants (\$37.45 million) and supplemental grants (\$37.45 million). Authorizes the REDC to make reallocations of funds from unsewered community grants to supplemental grants and vice versa if the relative needs warrant in a given fiscal year. **Sen Kerr H placed on cal for 7/30**

LOCAL

HB 522 Cumberland Transportation Authority

Creates a regional transportation authority for Cumberland County, the City of Fayetteville, and the Towns of Hope Mills and Spring Lake that will have the powers set forth in G.S. Chapter 160A, Articles 26 and 27. Authority has jurisdiction within Cumberland County and all areas within 15 miles of the county's boundary. **Rep Hurley Fav Rpt from H Finance**

SB 255 Midland/Elon Local Act

Adds described property to the Town of Midland, effective July 31, 2001. Authorizes the Town of Elon to exercise planning powers over a described area. Exempts Elon from following statutory procedures in initial adoption of zoning for the area but ordinance adopted by the process expires 90 days after adoption and any new zoning ordinance must be adopted in accordance with statute. Requires a referendum on November 6, 2001 in the area on the question of the continued exercise of ETJ by Elon in the area. Referendum may also be held upon petition of 35% of the registered voters in the area. Provides that if the Ossipee Sanitary District is dissolved and the Town of Ossipee is simultaneously incorporated, the town may exercise planning jurisdiction up to one mile outside corporate limits. If any of the described area placed in Elon's jurisdiction is coterminous with Ossipee's ETJ, the jurisdiction of Ossipee will prevail. **Sen Hartsell H cal pursuant rule 36(b)**

SB 551 Weldon Annexation Agreement

Retroactively changes effective date of annexation of territory to the Town of Weldon in SL 2001-49 to June 30, 2011. Provides that none of the affected territory may be annexed by any municipality other than Weldon and authorizes the town to enter into an agreement binding on future governing boards that the area will not be involuntarily annexed prior to June 30, 2011. Allows acceptance of payments in lieu of

taxes as consideration for the agreement. **Sen Ballance S placed on cal for 7/31**

SB 664 City of Monroe Prepared Food Tax

Authorizes the City of Monroe to levy a prepared food tax of up to 1% of the sales price. Proceeds must be used for the construction, operation and maintenance of a civic center, for Downtown Monroe development, and for economic development. **Sen Plyler Passed Senate**

PERSON

SB 866 Persons with Disabilities Changes

Amends definition of "reasonable accommodation" in G.S. 168A-3 to remove provisions capping the cost of physical changes to accommodate a disabled person in the workplace. Adds definition of "undue hardship." Defines "place of public accommodation" to include equivalent services provided via information technology. Defines "information technology" to include information transaction machines. Effective October 1, 2001. Applies to information technology placed into service on or after July 1, 2002. **Sen Miller Fav Rpt from H Judic. 3**

PUBLIC SAFETY

SB 680 Lawful Firearm Activities Protected

Provides that the authority to bring suit against any firearm or ammunition marketer, manufacturer, distributor, dealer, seller or trade association by or on behalf of any governmental unit for damages, abatement, injunctive relief or any other remedy resulting from or related to lawful design, marketing, manufacture, distribution, sale or transfer of firearms or ammunition to the public is reserved exclusively to the state. Provides that the Attorney General on behalf of the state shall bring any such action. Does not prohibit a political subdivision or local governmental unit from bringing an action for breach of contract or warranty for defect of materials or workmanship as to firearms or ammunition purchased by the political subdivision or local governmental unit. **Sen Odom Fav Rpt from H Judic. 3**

**Ellis Hankins
Executive Director**

**Andrew L. Romanet, Jr.
General Counsel**

Legislative Bulletin

North Carolina League of Municipalities

P.O. Box 3069, Raleigh, NC 27602-3069; Telephone: (919) 715-4000; Fax: (919) 733-9519

Bulletin No. 30

August 17, 2001

Governor Easley offers another plan to raise state revenues

In an attempt to break the budget impasse, Governor Mike Easley has proposed a one-cent sales tax increase along with a new state earned income tax credit, patterned after the federal earned income tax credit, and an increase in the standard deduction for married couples (easing the "marriage penalty"). The Governor spoke to citizens Thursday night in a television broadcast intended to build support for a tax increase.

According to the Governor, his plan would raise about \$607 million for the state in FY 2002-2003, more than a House plan, which calls for a one-half cent local option sales tax and an increase in income tax rates for individuals and couples with higher incomes. Easley said that his plan has the advantage of producing increased revenues immediately rather than having to wait for income tax payments.

There are no details yet about the Governor's proposal to raise the state sales tax by one cent. We do not know if his proposal includes the one-half cent local option tax or intends for all the new revenue to go to the state, but senior administration officials have told us that the Governor remains open to a local option sales tax.

The challenge for the Governor's plan, or for any other plan, is building enough consensus among legislators to ensure passage. The House plan mentioned above does not yet have the support of a majority of the House members. Some Senate leaders have said that they favor a one-cent sales tax increase, but no details of such a proposal have been released.

Republican legislative leaders in the House and Senate countered the Governor's plan by opposing any new tax increases and proposing that each state department be required to cut its budget across the board by 3 percent. The heads of state departments would be given the power to decide where cuts should be made.

The financial situation is serious, and the state's bond rating is in jeopardy, but legislators seem no closer to agreement on crucial budget issues than they were a month ago. Legislators need to hear a strong message from you about how to resolve this budget impasse.

Where does this leave the local government revenues and the possibility of a local option sales tax?

These are the points to continue to make with your legislators.

- Local government reimbursements for previously repealed local taxes should not be reduced or eliminated unless authority for an additional local option sales tax is granted. And hold harmless provisions should be included in any additional sales tax authority.
- Realizing that there is a limit on taxing capacity, if the state is going to raise the sales tax by one cent, local governments should receive a share of that tax.

NC General Assembly Information	
Main Number (Any Legislator)	(919) 733-4111
Printed Bills Office	(919) 733-5648
Bill Status Desk	(919) 733-7779
Legislative Building	fax (919) 733-2599
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096	
Legislative Office Building	fax (919) 733-3113
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925	
www.ncga.state.nc.us (NC General Assembly Website)	
www.ncim.org (NC League of Municipalities Website)	

AUG 17 2001

As a postscript, remember that sizeable reimbursement payments are due to cities and counties soon. A \$129 million payment of intangibles tax reimbursement funds is due by August 30 - \$92 million to counties and \$37 million to municipalities. By August 31, the state is supposed to pay an additional \$6.4 million to reimburse the repealed local sales tax on food purchased with food stamps - \$1.8 million to cities and \$4.6 million to counties. Then on September 30, 50% of the annual inventory tax reimbursement amount is due - \$64 million to counties and \$31 million to cities, for a total of \$95 million (does that sum ring a bell?). We expect that these payments will be made on time - but all of this money remains at risk.

Unsafe buildings clarification advances

A bill to clarify the application of unsafe building procedures to nonresidential buildings passed the House this week. **SB 885 - Unsafe Buildings**, sponsored by Sen. Dan Clodfelter, amends G.S. 160A-426(a) (condemnation of unsafe buildings) to allow the provisions for declaring residential buildings unsafe to apply to nonresidential buildings or structures as well. The League supports the bill and we thank Sen. Clodfelter for his work on this legislation. The bill now returns to the Senate for concurrence.

Conflict of interest bill moves

A committee substitute for **HB 115 - Public Conflicts of Interest** passed the Senate this week and was sent to the House for concurrence. The bill rewrites G.S. 14-234 (the conflict of interest/self-dealing statute) to update it and clarify the circumstances in which a public official derives a direct benefit from a contract or is involved in making or administering a contract. The bill retains the substance of the existing "small town exception" but applies it to municipalities of no more than

15,000 where the amount of the contract does not exceed \$25,000 for goods and services within a 12-month period. A detailed description of the legislation was included in the bill summary section of last week's *Legislative Bulletin*.

Following are some of the bills that were introduced or acted upon this week. If you need a copy of these or any other bills, please contact the Legislative Printed Bills Office at 919-733-5648 or the League office. Remember that bills and legislative calendars are now available on the Internet at <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us>. Please contact the League staff if you have any particular interest or concern regarding any piece of legislation.

ENVIRONMENT

HB 1257 Stream Identification for Buffer Rules

Directs Division of Water Quality to develop a program to train and certify individuals to determine the presence of surface waters that would require application of rules to protect riparian buffers. Persons who may be trained include employees of local governments to whom responsibility for implementation and enforcement of riparian buffer rules has been delegated and employees of the Division of Forest Resources who are registered foresters. **Rep Underhill S passed 2nd Reading**

HB 1439 Water and Sewer Authorities

Provides that two or more units of local government, at least one of which is located primarily in a county with a population of 500,000 or more, and whose wastewater discharge flows downstream solely within the state, may organize a water and sewer authority as provided in the act. Provides that authority is governed by a board with one member appointed by the governing body of each participating political subdivision. Authority may issue revenue bonds as provided in G.S. 162A-6(6) and may collect rates, fees, and charges as provided in G.S. 162A-6(9). Allows authority to issue revenue refunding bonds and make special assessments against benefited property. **Rep Miner Scheduled in H Finance for 8/21**

FINANCE & TAX

HB 1431 Car Property Tax Credit

Provides that if the tax year for a classified motor vehicle changes because of a change in its registration and the new tax year begins before the expiration of the vehicle's original tax year, the taxpayer may receive a credit against the taxes on the vehicle for the new tax year equal to a proportion of the taxes paid for the original tax year. Proportion is the number of full calendar months remaining in the original tax year as of the first day of the new tax year, divided by 12. Taxpayer must apply for credit within 30 days after the taxes for the new tax year are due and must provide the county tax collector with information establishing the original tax year of the vehicle and the amount of taxes paid on the vehicle for that year. Credit does not apply if transfer of registration plates is to another classified motor vehicle category owned by transferee. **Rep Hackney S ref to Com on Finance**

LOCAL

HB 118 Belville De-annexation

Removes a number of described tracts from the Town of Belville. Provides that the act is effective when it becomes law, but that it does not affect the validity of any tax liens for the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and that ad valorem taxes for that fiscal year shall remain payable as if the act had not been passed. **Rep Hill Scheduled in S Finance for 8/21**

HB 715 Redistribute Mecklenburg Local Tax

Amends existing local act authorizing the Mecklenburg County prepared food and beverage tax to require the City of Charlotte to distribute a portion of the net proceeds to other Mecklenburg municipalities. Provides for a sunset on the tax. **Rep Gulley Scheduled in S Finance for 8/21**

HB 822 Oak Ridge Annexation

Adds certain described territory to the corporate limits of the Town of Oak Ridge. **Rep Decker House failed 2nd reading**

SB 664 City of Monroe Prepared Food Tax

Authorizes the City of Monroe to levy a prepared food tax of up to 1% of the sales price. Proceeds must be used for the construction, operation and maintenance of a civic center, for Downtown Monroe development, and for economic development. **Sen Plyler H re-ref to Com on Finance**

PERSONNEL

SB 866 Persons with Disabilities Changes

Amends definition of "reasonable accommodation" in G.S. 168A-3 to remove provisions capping the cost of physical changes to accommodate a disabled person in the workplace. Adds definition of "undue hardship" and delineates factors to be considered in determining whether an accommodation is an undue hardship. Amends GS 168A-7 to provide that the state and its political subdivisions and any person that contracts with these entities shall administer services, programs and activities in the most integrated setting appropriate to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. Provides that the N.C. Office on the ADA shall adopt rules to provide a consistent and comprehensive mechanism for accommodating accessibility requests and shall adopt dispute resolution procedures to govern responsiveness to those requests. Provides that the Joint Select Committee on Information Technology shall study the question of whether the N.C. Persons with Disabilities Protection Act should be amended to specifically apply to services provided via information technology. Provides that the Committee shall review the report of the IRMC's Accessibility Work Group and shall include its findings as a part of its March 1, 2002 report. **Sen Miller Fav rpt from H Judic. 3**

TRANSPORTATION

SB 206 Tourist Directional Sign Program

Establishes a tourist-oriented directional sign (TODS) program. Authorizes DOT to establish the program where eligible tourist-oriented businesses pay fees for DOT to erect guide signs that display business identification and directional information. Specifies that TODS shall not be placed where prohibited by local ordinance. Provides that DOT shall limit the placement of TODS to along highways other than fully controlled access highways and to rural areas in and around towns or cities with a population of less than 40,000. Effective January 1, 2002. **Sen Thomas Sent to Governor**

Ellis Hankins
Executive Director

Andrew L. Romanet, Jr.
General Counsel

ATTENDANCE

TAR-PAMLICO REGIONAL COUNCIL

NC Estuarium
Washington, NC
August 24, 2001

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
1. MARY JANE JENNINGS	Franklin Co / Env. member
2. C. L. COBBLE	Town of Louisburg
3. Joe Swanson	LOUISBURG NC
4. Deborah J. Brown	Henderson, NC
5. Bucky Robbins	Wilson
6. Charles L. Smith	Wilson
7. ROB ROBBINS	COUNTY OF WILSON
8. Jojo Ardood	APNEP
9. Paul Blount	Pocahontas
10. Jeff Funniss	Pitt Co / B
11. Jan Wynne	Pitt
12. Elaine Wynne	Pitt
13. Jenny Gray	Dare County
14. Betty Sandow	APNEP

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20. _____



NEW EXHIBIT OPTIONS - NORTH CAROLINA ESTUARIUM

Potential exhibits are listed below in rough order of preference and/or affordability. Various factors such as space, potential for quality, ease of installation, and long-term operational costs could affect the feasibility of the ideas listed and our interest in pursuing them.

1) Computer-based exhibit that allows visitors to manipulate a SLOSH program or other flood modeler to demonstrate surge impacts from various storm scenarios in a particular area (e.g., Washington, NC)

Notes:

- If the program doesn't need to be heavily customized, the \$12,000 budget is probably adequate.
- Associated text and graphics could stress the importance of avoiding development in flood-prone areas. Photos and information about recent hurricanes could also be added to program to enhance visitor interest. (Current Estuarium exhibit was designed just as the onslaught of recent hurricanes began and so includes little information about them).
- Good hardware is essential so the exhibit could handle heavy use with minimal breakdown.

2) Cross-section model of an estuarine benthic layer, having side-by-side comparisons of a healthy layer and one affected by heavy metal contamination

Notes:

- This is the simplest proposal and a top quality display could likely be done within the budget.
- We do not currently have an exhibit devoted specifically to the benthic layer.
- The reasons we don't have an exhibit devoted specifically to the benthic layer are: (1) describing its function and importance in 50 words or less is nearly impossible; and (2) the public is bored by mud. The key would be linking it to the food chain.
- One of APES' most important research findings was the significant heavy metal contamination in some parts of the A-P. This could create greater awareness of the value of and impact of NEP-funded research.

3) Interactive exhibit depicting wind tide impacts, including water movement and transport of fish larvae/fry within estuarine system

Notes:

- A good exhibit of this type would probably cost significantly more than \$12,000 since it would involve prototyping and a lot of moving parts.
- We currently have a good interactive exhibit on wind tides, but it does not deal at all with larval transport. Some type of retrofit that substantially enhances the existing exhibit may be feasible within the budget.

4) Interactive exhibit that demonstrates the value of wetlands in filtering pollutants

Notes:

- A good exhibit of this type may cost significantly more than \$12,000.
- There is a good interactive model on wetland filtering at Goose Creek State Park that we would not want to replicate too closely.

5) Computer-based exhibit displaying information from existing water quality monitoring stations in the A-P (such as the MOD/MON ferry-based monitors or USGS remote monitors), so visitors can see WQ conditions in real time

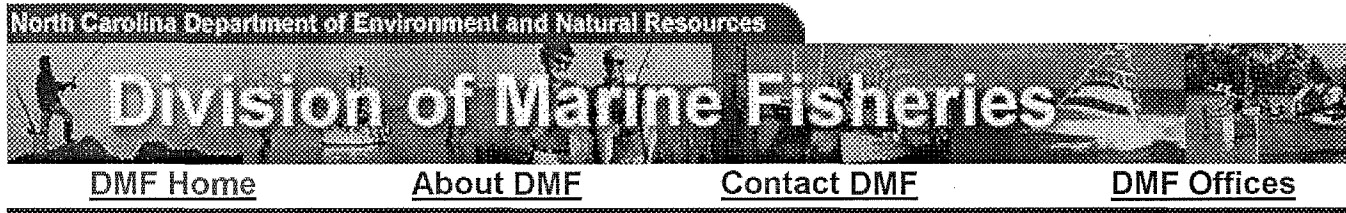
Notes:

- If this involved dial-up access it would stress staff resources and ratchet up the potential for technical problems. However, USGS or DWQ might be willing to donate substantial technical advice up front so that we could negate some of those problems.
- There is no better way to help the public understand the basics of water quality than letting them see actual measurements in real time, plus letting them see trends over long periods.
- If the monitoring system we connect to is replaced or de-funded, the exhibit may be made obsolete overnight.
- Continual or frequent on-line access could involve long-term expenses we can't absorb.

6) New introductory film to welcome visitors and give them an overview of the A-P system

Notes:

- A really good film would easily cost \$20,000 or more. However, the impact of a good film on the visitor experience is very high. If we could either add our own funds or find a matching grant, this would probably provide the biggest bang for the buck.
- Our current introductory film is excellent but is becoming dated and physically worn. We are interested in updating it.



NR-29-2001 ~ NR-28-2001

MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION SEEKS ADVISORS

July 24 MOREHEAD CITY - The North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) is looking for interested individuals to fill vacancies on its Shellfish, Central Regional and Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan advisory committees.

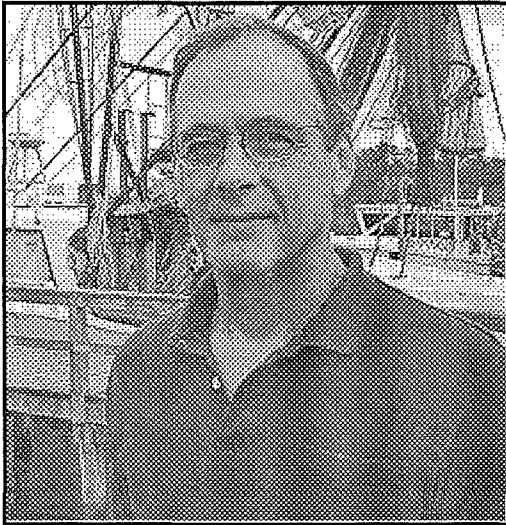
Advisory committees provide information and guidance to the MFC when developing fisheries regulations. The Shellfish Advisory Committee advises the MFC on issues dealing with oyster, clams and scallops. The Central Advisory Committee advises the MFC on fisheries issues involving Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Hyde, Jones and Pamlico counties. The Southern Flounder FMP Advisory Committee assists with developing long-term recovery strategies for southern flounder - the type of flounder commonly found in North Carolina sounds and estuaries.

Individuals interested in serving as advisors should be willing to attend at least bimonthly meetings and actively participate in the committee process. Advisors will be reimbursed for travel and other expenses incurred in relation to official duties.

The MFC will be accepting applications for these openings until August 10, 2001. Applications are available at North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) offices or can be obtained by calling Jess Hawkins or Belinda Loftin at 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021.

LYNCH SELECTED AS TOP COP WITH N.C. MARINE PATROL





July 13 MOREHEAD CITY - Joseph T. Lynch, of Hampstead, has been named colonel of the North Carolina Marine Patrol, the law enforcement branch of the state Division of Marine Fisheries.

As head of enforcement, Lynch will supervise operations of Marine Patrol's 56 officers who oversee 4,000 miles of coastline and 2.4 million acres of ocean and coastal waters. These officers work to ensure compliance with state fisheries rules and regulations for both commercial and recreational fishermen, seafood houses, fish dealers and restaurants that buy

fresh Tar Heel seafood.

Lynch succeeds Col. Pete Rivenbark, who retired last October.

"We are excited to have Joe join our management team," said Fisheries Director Pres Pate. "His extensive knowledge, training and 26 years of experience in conservation law enforcement, at both the state and federal level, will help him lead the N.C. Marine Patrol to new levels of professionalism and train the next generation of our enforcement leaders," said Pate.

From 1966 to 1992, Lynch worked with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, where he rose to the rank of assistant director of the law enforcement. He later worked briefly as chief of law enforcement for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and served for five years with the U.S. State Department as a foreign service officer in Ecuador and Canada.

He is a former chairman of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Law Enforcement Committee and a past president of the Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chief's Association.

"One of the primary traits we were looking for in this important role, aside, of course, from a strong law enforcement background, was a proven leader - someone who could effectively convey our conservation goals to our officers and the public," said Fisheries Deputy Director Mike Buhl, who headed up the enforcement chief search.

"Col. Lynch has excellent management and leadership credentials and is an outstanding communicator who will focus on building better working relationships with our diverse user groups and enhancing the professionalism of the Marine Patrol," said Buhl.



Lynch has a B.S. in Police Science, is a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy's police management training and is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Lynch assumes his new duties July 30.

NC Division of Marine Fisheries - 3441 Arendell Street - Morehead City, NC 28557 - 252-726-7021 or
800-682-2632

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Marine Fisheries

[DMF Home](#)[About DMF](#)[Contact DMF](#)[DMF Offices](#)[NR-35-2001](#) ~ [NR-34-2001](#) ~ [NR-33-2001](#)[NR-32-2001](#) ~ [NR-31-2001](#) ~ [NR-30-2001](#)

STATE ANNOUNCES GILL NET RESTRICTIONS IN PAMLICO SOUND

Measures Taken to Protect Sea Turtles

MOREHEAD CITY - New gillnet restrictions impacting portions of Pamlico Sound are being established to protect the fall migration of endangered and threatened sea turtles, according to officials with the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF).

In 2000, there were 838 turtle strandings in North Carolina's coastal waters, with the majority of interactions occurring in the ocean and deep water portions of the Pamlico Sound. Last year, the cause of 91 percent of sea turtles injuries and mortalities in the state was unknown, with some strandings being traced to boating interactions, cold water events, entanglement in fishing gear, mutilation and disease. Through Aug. 11 of this year, there have been 173 turtles stranded - 93 in ocean waters and 80 in coastal sounds and rivers.

The DMF has worked closely with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the federal agency with jurisdiction over sea turtles, to find ways to protect the turtles by limiting interactions with fishing gear during the fall flounder season. On Aug. 1, DMF applied to NMFS for an incidental take permit under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, to allow the state to implement special management measures to allow a restricted fishery.

Monitoring has shown few interactions between turtles and gill nets in shallow water (areas less than 10 feet deep) on the eastern side of Pamlico Sound, so a limited fishery will be allowed in these areas this fall. From Sept. 15 through Dec. 15, large mesh gill nets (greater than five inches) will be allowed in three shallow water areas behind Hatteras and Ocracoke islands. Fishermen can use a maximum of 2,000 yards of large mesh gill net and 2,000 yards of small mesh gill nets (five inches or less). Small mesh nets must be attended at all times from Sept. 15 - Oct. 31. Fishermen must apply to the DMF for

special permits to participate in these fisheries.

In past years, high numbers of sea turtles have been observed around Hatteras and Ocracoke inlets during the fall migration. These areas will be closed to all large mesh nets from Sept. 15 through Dec. 15. Fishermen holding special DMF permits for participation in this fishery will be allowed up to 2,000 yards of attended small mesh gill nets from Sept. 15 - Oct. 31.

It is anticipated NMFS will close the majority of deep water areas of the Pamlico Sound to large mesh gill nets later this fall.

If these measures do not adequately protect the turtles, further restrictions will be implemented.

For more information on these restrictions, please contact Fentress Munden by e-mail at Red.Munden@ncmail.net or Jeff Gearhart by email at Jeff.Gearhart@ncmail.net or by calling 252-726-7021 or 1-800-682-2632. Visit the DMF's Website at: www.ncdmf.net/procs/ to view the proclamation implementing these restrictions.

WEAKFISH UPGRADED TO VIABLE

Other Tar Heel Stocks Remain Stable According to a State Report on Coastal Fisheries

MOREHEAD CITY - In the early 1990s, weakfish along the east coast were in serious trouble. The future of this popular fish, also known as gray trout, was grim because stocks were severely overfished.

Today, there is good news. After years of intensive conservation and recovery efforts by state and federal managers and significant sacrifices by fishermen from the mid and south Atlantic states, all stock indicators show North Carolina weakfish are in good shape and the stock has been declared viable.

According to the state Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) Director Pres Pate, the credit for the recovery goes to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's fishery management plan process. Fishery management plans, or FMPs, as they are more commonly known, describe the nature and problems of a fishery along with regulatory recommendations to conserve that fishery. Regional plans are developed through the Mid



and South Atlantic fisheries management councils and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission for migratory species like weakfish, that move up and down the eastern seaboard. State-level plans are developed for non-migratory stocks like southern flounder and blue crab.

"The take-home message here is FMPs work," said Pate. "By collaborating with partner states, federal agencies, and fishermen, we were able to map out and implement a proactive, long-term recovery strategy for weakfish that today has resulted in a record high spawning stock biomass, along with a continuous expansion of the age structure in the population. In other words, we now have lots of females producing babies and those babies are growing older and successfully contributing to the stock."

While the comeback is good news, Pate cautioned that regulators will not immediately ease fishing restrictions. "Even though the stock has been declared viable, it is still vulnerable and must be protected," said Pate. "We will maintain the current harvest restrictions for the foreseeable future, and gradually lessen restrictions as the stock continues to build. We can't fling the doors wide open and let folks return to wasteful fishing practices of the past. If we do that we will wind up right back where we were in the early 90s," Pate said.

The DMF's annual stock status report evaluates the health of North Carolina's important coastal fisheries, spotlighting successes, as well as areas of concern. Of the 40 stocks listed, 12 fall into the viable and recovering categories, 12 are listed as concerned, 10 are listed as overfished, and six are listed as unknown. The North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission uses this report to decide priority development of the state's fishery management plans.

Weakfish was the major classification change in the 2001 report. Other changes include shifting **American shad** and **striped bass** (in waters other than the ocean, Albemarle and Roanoke sounds) from the unknown to the concerned category, because more information has become available this past year. In addition, **yellow perch** was added to the stock status list for the first time during this assessment.

Several stocks were not upgraded but continue to show strong signs of improvement under the FMP process.

Summer flounder, which is managed through an FMP developed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, of which North Carolina is a partner, is continuing a strong recovery. Older, more productive spawners, are increasing in abundance and the spawning stock biomass was at a record level in 1999. The stock is listed as recovering and will

likely be moved to the viable category next year if rebuilding trends continue.

The outlook also appears good for **red drum**, the state's saltwater fish. In 1998, temporary rules and harvest restrictions were implemented to begin stabilizing the red drum stock as part of the initial FMP development. The plan was finalized in April 2001 and the state Marine Fisheries Commission is in the process of fully implementing the plan's regulatory recommendations. Even though the stock is still listed as overfished, several strong year classes continue to make their way into the spawning stock, which is very encouraging for fisheries managers.

While many stocks show signs of improvement, some stocks have problems.

Although North Carolina led the nation in **blue crab** harvest in 2000, landings were off by 46 percent in the Neuse River and Pamlico Sound. In 2001, crabs, the state's most valuable fishery, appear scarce throughout coastal waters. The shortage of crabs is thought to be linked to flooding associated with Hurricane Floyd in 1999. It appears only blue crabs were immediately impacted by the hurricane, but it is too early to determine the long-term affects of the storm and associated flooding on the overall health of our fisheries.

Concern still exists for **striped mullet** due to increased pressure and depressed harvest landings. The DMF continues intensive sampling to assess the impact increased fishing pressure has on this stock and believes data will be sufficient to conduct an assessment in 2002-2003.

Croakers continue to be plentiful in ocean waters, but virtually absent from sounds and inside waters. This trend has been ongoing for several years and has fisheries managers worried about the viability of the stock.

To determine the status of Tar Heel fisheries, the DMF collects data and analyzes long-term trends in the length, weight, age, catch, and fishing effort for each stock. It also evaluates the total weight of the fish in a stock that are old enough to spawn, the number of juvenile or immature fish, fishing mortality, natural mortality, migration, size and age at maturity, regulatory impacts and bycatch.

Fish and shellfish stocks considered viable are **striped bass in the Albemarle Sound and the ocean, dolphin/wahoo, king and Spanish mackerel, Atlantic menhaden, spot, spotted seatrout (speckled trout), shrimp and weakfish.**

Recovering stocks include **bluefish and summer flounder.**



Stocks listed as concerned include **black sea bass south of Cape Hatteras, striped bass (in waters other than the ocean, Albemarle and Roanoke sounds), Atlantic croaker, southern flounder, striped mullet, white and yellow perch, reef fish, American shad, bay scallops, oysters and blue crabs.**

Black sea bass north of Cape Hatteras, red drum, gag grouper, river herring in the Albemarle Sound, monkfish, scup, sharks, dogfish, Atlantic sturgeon and tautog are listed as overfished.

The DMF does not have sufficient data to conduct appropriate assessments on the status of some stocks. These stocks are listed as unknown and include **catfishes, American eel, river herring outside of Albemarle Sound, kingfishes (sea mullet), hickory shad and hard clams.** The DMF is collecting the necessary assessment information for these important fisheries and will be moving many of these stocks into the appropriate categories over the next few years.

Visit the DMF's Web site at: <http://www.ncdmf.net/stocks/index.html> to view the new stock status report, along with species profiles and a glossary of fisheries terms. For more information about this stock status assessment, please contact Dr. Louis Daniel, DMF - Morehead City, by e-mail at Louis.Daniel@ncmail.net or by phoning at 1-800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021.

STRIPED BASS MEETINGS TO BE HELD

MOREHEAD CITY - The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) will hold two public meetings in late August to discuss the upcoming striped bass commercial and recreational seasons in the Albemarle Sound Management Area and the Atlantic Ocean.

On, Wednesday evening, August 22, the DMF will meet in Elizabeth City at the College of the Albemarle. From 7pm - 8 pm, a discussion will be held on the recreational season in the Albemarle Sound Management Area, including the season, harvest days, daily creel limit and quotas. From 8 pm - 9 pm, the meeting will focus on commercial issues, including the season opening, quotas and daily landing limits.

Tuesday, August 28, the DMF will hold a similar meeting in Manteo at Festival Park. From 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., the recreational and commercial fisheries in the Albemarle Sound Management Area will be discussed, including the season openings, harvest days, daily



creel and landing limits, and season quotas. This will be followed by a discussion regarding the commercial season in the Atlantic Ocean from 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. Topics to be talked about during the second segment of the meeting include harvest allocations to the beach seine, gill net and trawl fisheries, along with the timing of the season opening and daily landing limits.

Fishermen and interested public are encouraged to attend these meetings to learn more about striped bass management and share their thoughts on these important fisheries with the DMF.

For further information, please contact Sara Winslow, Division of Marine Fisheries, by e-mail at Sara.Winslow@ncmail.net or by phone at 800-338-7805 or 252-264-3911.

MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION TO MEET AUGUST 16 AND 17

MOREHEAD CITY -- The Marine Fisheries Commission will hold a business meeting August 16 and 17 at the Four Points Sheraton in Wilmington.

The meeting is open to the public.

A public hearing and meeting will also be held at 7 p.m. on August 15 at the Brunswick Community College's Teaching Auditorium, in Supply.

For more information, contact Jess Hawkins by e-mail at Jess.Hawkins@ncmail.net or by calling 1-800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021.

NOTE: Meeting Agenda

MARINE PATROL PROTECTS SEAFOOD CONSUMERS

Clammer Arrested for Fishing in Polluted Area

MOREHEAD CITY - Just after midnight, on Friday, August 3, North Carolina Marine Patrol officers nabbed a fisherman illegally harvesting clams that had the potential to cause serious public health problems.

Roy Jefferson Abbott, Jr., 22, of Sea Level, was charged with one felony count of taking



shellfish from a polluted area at night. In addition, he was charged with harvesting shellfish without a license and failure to properly tag the clams - both misdemeanor violations.

"Shellfish found in polluted areas can store high concentrations of contaminants that can make the consumer extremely ill, in some cases even causing death," said Marine Patrol Colonel Joe Lynch.

Lynch explained, "Protecting the public health is one of our primary missions, that is why this offense carries such a stiff penalty. And in addition to health implications, just one outbreak of a shellfish-related illness can send the market value of all of our shellfish products plummeting."

North Carolina has an excellent reputation for producing high quality shellfish. There has never been a documented outbreak of serious illness associated with shellfish harvested from Tar Heel waters, according to the state Office of Shellfish Sanitation. This is due, in part, to the constant vigil the Marine Patrol keeps on state waters to ensure the safety of Tar Heel seafood.

Officers John Martin, Dean Nelson and Jimmy Paylor participated in the arrest in the Nelson's Bay area of eastern Carteret County. The Marine Patrol is the law enforcement component of the state Division of Marine Fisheries. Officers patrol 4,000 miles of coastline and 2.4 million acres of coastal and ocean waters.

FISHERIES HEARINGS SCHEDULED

MOREHEAD CITY - The Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) will be holding a series of six public hearings in eastern North Carolina during the next several months.

The MFC will receive public comment on the following proposed rules at these hearings:

Required attendance of recreational gill net with a mesh size larger than 5 inches at all times, from Hwy. 70/Beaufort Inlet Drawbridge, including the Newport River and its tributaries, to the South Carolina state line;

Required attendance of commercial gill net with a mesh size less than 5 inches from May - Oct. in certain areas to allow the release of red drum entangled in the nets;

Establishment of a new commercial fishing year for red drum from Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 of each year, with a trip limit set by proclamation to ensure continuation of this bycatch fishery;

Prohibit the possession or sale of adult red drum larger than 27 inches to allow the larger, older fish the opportunity to spawn and produce more fish;

Reduction of the recreational harvest limit of red drum to one fish per day between 18 inches - 27 inches to limit the recreational impact on the fishery; and

Proclamation authority for the DMF director to set the quantity and size of red drum that can be taken by commercial and recreational fishermen to allow the management agency to be able to respond quickly to changes in the fishery.

The public will also be asked to comment on the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Management Plan. All hearings begin at 7 p.m.

**Aug. 15-Brunswick Community College -Administration Building -Teaching Auditorium
-Supply**

Aug. 30-Comfort Inn -Rocky Mount

Sept. 11-N.C. Aquarium -Manteo

Sept. 20-Beaufort Community College -Washington

Sept. 25-Radisson Prince Charles -Fayetteville

Oct. 3-Best Western Resort -Atlantic Beach

For more information about these hearings, please contact Jess Hawkins by e-mail at Jess.Hawkins@ncmail.net or by calling 1-800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021.



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Public Meeting Notices

Last Updated 08/17/01

Be sure to hit the **Reload** button on your browser when checking this page to be certain it displays the LATEST version of meeting updates. We are now posting the meeting notices further in advance to help provide more notification time. This means that meeting times and even dates may sometimes change.

NCMFC Business Meetings Scheduled for remainder 2001

August 16-17 Wilmington (Business Meeting), **October 4-5** Morehead City (Business Meeting), **December 4-5** Announced

For more information contact NC DMF 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632

To signup to receive NCDMF News Releases and Public Meeting Notices [via e-mail go here](#).

September 24, 2001 10:30 AM

NCMFC Finfish Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

NCDENR Regional Office - 943 Washington Square Mall - Washington, NC

Contact Rick Monaghan 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021

September 18, 2001 6:00 PM

NCMFC Central Regional Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

Craven Community College Board Room Building B, New Bern, NC

Contact Mike Marshall 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021

September 13, 2001 6:00 PM

NCMFC Inland Regional Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

Archdale Building, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Raleigh, NC

Contact Jess Hawkins 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021

September 5, 2001 3:00 PM Subcommittee Meets at 1:00 PM

NCMFC Habitat and Water Quality Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

C-Mast, College Circle, 3rd Floor Conference Room #306, Morehead City, NC

Contact Mike Street 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021

September 5, 2001 6:00 PM

NCMFC Shellfish Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

Center for Marine Science Technology (CMAST), 303 College Circle, 3rd Floor Conference #306, Morehead City, NC 28557

Contact Mike Marshall or Trish Murphey 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021**September 4, 2001 6:00 PM**

NCMFC Southeast Regional Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

NCDENR Regional Office - 127 Cardinal Drive - Wilmington, NC

Contact Rich Carpenter 910-395-3900 or 1-800-248-4536**August 22 & 28 - See News Release**

NCDMF Striped Bass Meetings

Public is encouraged to attend

Elizabeth City and Manteo (See News Release for Locations/Times)

Contact Sara Winslow 800-338-7805 or 252-264-3911**August 22, 2001 7:00 PM**

NCDMF Artificial Reef Meeting - To discuss artificial reef activity in Dare County

Public is encouraged to attend

Roanoke Island Festival Park, Manteo, NC

Contact Kenny Pekrun 252-473-1512**August 16-17 - See Agenda**

NCMFC Business Meeting

Public is encouraged to attend

Four Points Sheraton - Wilmington, NC

Contact Jess Hawkins 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021**August 15 - October 3**

NCMFC Public Hearings

Public is encouraged to attend

See News Release for times and locations**Contact** Jess Hawkins 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021**August 14, 2001 6:30 PM**

NCMFC Southern Flounder FMP Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

NCDENR Regional Office - 943 Washington Square Mall - Washington, NC

Contact Carter Watterson 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021

August 9, 2001 6:00 PM

NCMFC Crustacean Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

NCDENR Regional Office - 943 Washington Square Mall - Washington, NC

Contact David Taylor 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021**August 6, 2001 4:00 PM Subcommittee Meets at 2:00 PM**

NCMFC Habitat and Water Quality Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

2nd Floor Conference Room, 223 Middle Street (O'Marks Building), New Bern, NC

Contact Mike Street 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021**July 26, 2001 9:00 AM**

NCDMF License Eligibility Review Board

Public is encouraged to attend, but will not be allowed to participate

NCDMF Conference Room, 3441 Arendell St., Morehead City, NC

Contact Cheryl Deberardinis 252-726-7021 or 800-682-2632**July 19, 2001 7:00 PM**

NCMFC Northeast Regional Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

Old Currituck Courthouse, Highway 168, Currituck, NC

Contact Sara Winslow 252-264-3911 or 800-338-7805**July 19, 2001 6:30 PM**

NCMFC Southern Flounder FMP Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

NCDENR Regional Office - 943 Washington Square Mall - Washington, NC

Contact Carter Watterson 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021**July 17, 2001 6:00 PM**

NCMFC Central Regional Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

Crystal Coast Civic Center, Room1, Morehead City, NC

Contact David Taylor 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021**July 10, 2001 6:00 PM**

NCMFC Shellfish Advisory Committee

Public is encouraged to attend

Center for Marine Science Technology (CMAST), 303 College Circle, 3rd Floor Conference #306, Morehead City, NC 28557

Contact Mike Marshall or Trish Murphey 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021



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NC Division of Marine Fisheries - 3441 Arendell Street - Morehead City, NC 28557 - 252-726-7021 or
800-682-2632

TAR-PAMLICO RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

BEAUFORT	County Representative	Municipal Representative
	Stan Deatherage 106 Beachtree Road Washington, NC 27889 W - 252-946-2361 H - 252-946-5916	Jeffery Peed 404 Pearl Circle Aurora, NC 27806 H - 252-322-4388
	Conservation VACANT	

DARE	County Representative	Municipal Representative
	Jenny Gray PO Box 1308 Manteo, NC 27954 ✓ H - 252-473-2747	VACANT
	Commercial fishing VACANT	

EDGECOMBE	County Representative	Municipal Representative
	George Whitehurst Env. Health Specialist Edgecombe Co. Health Dept.	Tom Allgood Town Council 1906 Speight Forest Dr. Tarboro, NC 27886 252-823-2256
	Business/Industry VACANT	

FRANKLIN	County Representative	Municipal Representative
	Matthew Livingston, Planning Director 215 East Nash Street Louisburg, NC 27549 W - 919-496-2281 919-496-5994 (C) 919-496-2083 Fax → 919-496-2637 (W - 919-496-2909 / email: mlivingston@co.franklin.nc.us)	Joseph Shearon ✓ Town Council 203 Tucker Drive Louisburg, NC 27549 919-496-3256
	Conservation Mary Jane Jennings ✓ 566 Jones Chapel Rd. Louisburg, NC 27549 919-853-2917	

8/24/01

GRANVILLE	County Representative Jason Falls PO Box 906 Oxford, NC 27565 W - 919-603-1355 / H - 919-603-6986 Fax - 919-690-1766 recycle@granvillecounty.org	Municipal Representative Jesse Sullins 109 Pine Cone Drive Oxford, NC 27565 (919) 693-9784
	SWCD VACANT	

HALIFAX	County Representative Robert Whitaker 112 McDaniel St. Enfield, NC 27823	Municipal Representative VACANT
	Recreational fishing or tourism VACANT	

HYDE	County Representative D. Scott Coble Rt. 1 Box 75 Swan Quarter, NC 27885 252-926-7271	Municipal Representative Gwen Newman 462 Main Street Swan Quarter, NC 27885 252-926-3621
	Commercial fishing VACANT	

MARTIN	County Representative J.H. Dixon PO Box 408 Robersonville, NC 27871 252-795-3921	Municipal Representative Eugene Roberson, Jr. PO Box 748 Robersonville, NC 27871 W - 252-795-4081 H - 252-795-3561
	Silviculture VACANT	

NASH	County Representative Larry Odom 120 W. Washington Street Suite 2110 Nashville, NC 27856 252-459-1212 Fax: 252-459-1381 Larry.Odom@ncmail.net	Municipal Representative Paul Blount City of Rocky Mount ✓ P.O. Box 1180 Rocky Mount, NC 27802-1180 252-972-1290 blount@ci.rocky-mount.nc.us
	Agriculture Warnell Joyner 12030 East NC 97 Rocky Mount, NC 27803 252-442-7615	

8/24/01

PAMLICO	County Representative Will not be sending a representative	Municipal Representative William Crow Town Manager City Hall P.O. Box 472 Oriental, NC 28517
	Environmental Science VACANT	

PERSON	County Representative S. Edwin Knott County Commissioner 422 Chub Lake St. Roxboro, NC 27573 W - 336-599-7585 Fax - 336-599-1609 H - 336-599-8224	Municipal Representative VACANT
	At-large Timmy Thomas 8181 Oxford Rd. Timberlake, NC 27583 336-503-0457	

PITT	County Representative Dan Wynne County Planning Board 1574 Mason School Rd. Stokes, NC 27884 252-830-6323	Municipal Representative VACANT
	Environmental Science Dorothea Ames 313 Longmeadow Rd. Greenville, NC 27834 252-328-6015	Business/Industry Jeff Furness PCS Phosphate Co. P.O. Box 48 Aurora, NC 27806 252-322-8249 jfurness@pcsphosphate.com

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	Recreational fishing or tourism VACANT	

Deborah Brown

8/24/01

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Agriculture

VACANT

