Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee
Department of Environmental Quality Regional Office
943 Washington Square Mall, Highway 17, Washington, NC
Wednesday, May 2, 2018, 6 p.m.

6 p.m. Call to Order*
Vote on the Approval of the Agenda **
Vote on the Approval of the Jan. 31, 2018 Minutes **

6:05 p.m. Public Comment
Receive public comment on fisheries management issues under the scope of the committee

6:20 p.m. Introduction to the streamlined FMP
Receive a presentation from DMF staff on the division’s efforts to streamline FMP documents

6:45 p.m. 2018 Blue Crab Stock Assessment Results
Receive a presentation from DMF staff on the results of the blue crab stock assessment

7:45 p.m. Future Meeting Schedule
Discuss tentative schedule for future meetings

7:50 p.m. Review the Goal and Objectives and Solicit issues to address in the FMP
Review the goal and objectives for the FMP and the process for identifying substantive management issues to address in the FMP

8 p.m. Adjourn

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

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF), through the Department of Environmental Quality, is charged with the preparation and writing of proposed fishery management plans (FMP), for adoption by the Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC). To assist the DMF in the development of FMPs, the chair of the MFC appoints a fishery management plan advisory committee (AC) that is composed of commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, scientists, and others, all with expertise in the fishery for which the FMP is being developed. The following are the specific roles of appointed advisers in assisting the DMF in the development of FMPs:

- Assist DMF staff in identifying and evaluating management issues and options to be addressed in the FMP
- Evaluate the impacts of management options on the resource and user groups
- Review and provide comments on all sections of the draft FMP for completeness and accuracy
- Assist the DMF in informing the public on the issues contained in the FMP
- Attend public meetings held in advisers’ regional area
- Solicit comments from peers and bring comments back to the AC