

Press Release

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Bradley Styron Joins NCWU Board

Cedar Island, NC -- Britt Shackelford, president of the North Carolina Watermen United Board of Directors, announced the addition of Bradley Styron of Cedar Island in Carteret County as a new member of the Board. Mr. Styron is a Cedar Island native and has worked in the fishing industry his whole life. Currently, he owns and operates Quality Seafood on Cedar Island, a wholesale-retail fish market, which he opened some 20+ years ago.

Mr. Styron served the commercial industry for some 11 years on the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission beginning in 2002. He also served on several advisory committees to the Commission. The NCMF Commission is a nine-member board appointed by the Governor to manage, restore, develop, cultivate, protect and regulate the State's marine and estuary resources. Mr. Styron is also active in Carteret Catch and the Carteret County Working Watermen's Association.

He started working on the water while still in high school on a dredge boat. He's been married for 43 years to Deborah Styron and has three grown children, two of whom also make their living on the water.

NCWU, which originally came together in 2005 as a group of recreational - including charter/headboat owners-operators - and commercial fishermen has worked hard to promote the North Carolina fishing industry and protect those who work on the water along with recreational fishermen who enjoy being able to fish. This organization was originally responsible for developing the idea of Outer Banks Catch as a means of educating the consumer of the benefits of fresh, local NC seafood; and has brought the importance of the NC fishing industry to the attention of local, state and federally elected officials.

Last year (2013) in North Carolina, fishermen harvested 50 million pounds of fish and shellfish from North Carolina waters (a 12 percent decrease from 2012) with a value of \$79 million (up 9% from 2012) to the economy. Membership in the

organization goes to help make sure that possible threats to the industry are taken seriously and that fishermen are kept aware of all the laws that effect fishermen and their ability to make a living on the water. And to deliver as the seasons permit, good, local seafood fresh from the sounds and ocean that define the east coast of our state.

The NCWU Board of Directors is headed by Britt Shackelford, a local fisherman. For more information on the organization, visit www.ncwu.net or <https://www.facebook.com/NCWatermenUnited>.