
From: Glenn Skinner
Sent: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 7:53 PM
To: Nicholson, John A.; Michael.Regan@ncdenr.gov; McCleskey, James
Subject: Bluefin Fishery

Gentlemen,

Attached is a letter written by North Carolina Watermen United (NCWU) requesting that NMFS transfer a portion of the Atlantic Bluefin quota from the purse seine category to the reserve category and then from the reserve category to the general category. If approved this transfer would reopen the Bluefin fishing season for North Carolina fishermen and provide a much needed economic boost to coastal communities in the slow winter months. The North Carolina Fisheries Association (NCFA) strongly supports NCWU's position on this issue and would appreciate the support of Governor Roy Cooper as well. This is a time sensitive issue as Bluefin Tuna are highly migratory species and will leave N.C. waters as water temperatures start to rise. It is important that we act quickly to assure that the economic benefits of this important fishery remain in N.C. I would like to thank you in advance for your much needed support on this issue.

Thanks,
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