



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

MEMORANDUM

January 9, 2017

TO: KDH Board of Commissioners
FROM: Mayor Sheila F. Davies, Ph.D.
REF: Mayor's Agenda

1. Resolution Opposing a Petition to Designate Special Secondary Nursery Areas (Attached MA-1)

This resolution was adopted by the Dare County Board of Commissioners at their January 3rd meeting and they have requested similar action and support by the other Dare County local governments and our citizens.

The NC Wildlife Federation has submitted a petition for rulemaking with the Marine Fisheries Commission that seeks to designate all inshore and ocean waters out to three miles as Special Secondary Nursery Areas. If approved, this would have a devastating impact on commercial fishing families and seafood consumers.

I recommend approval of the *Resolution Opposing a Petition to Designate Special Secondary Nursery Areas* as presented and a motion will be in order.

Our action will be shared with Kill Devil Hills' electronic distribution lists including all local news media, the other Dare County local governments, our State representatives, the NC Resort Towns Association, posted on our Facebook page, and an original filed with the Marine Fisheries Commission.



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RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DESIGNATION OF SPECIAL SECONDARY NURSERY AREAS

WHEREAS, a petition for rulemaking to designate Special Secondary Nursery Areas and Reduce Bycatch Mortality has been submitted to the NC Marine Fisheries Commission by the NC Wildlife Federation; and

WHEREAS, the petition seeks to designate all inshore and ocean waters out to three miles as Special Secondary Nursery Areas and define the type of gear and how and when gear may be used during shrimp season; and

WHEREAS, if adopted, the petition would severely limit shrimp trawling, which would have a devastating impact on commercial fishing families by arbitrarily impairing their livelihood and depriving American tables of fresh, healthy catches of North Carolina harvested shrimp; and

WHEREAS, shrimp trawling has been a vibrant and successful part of North Carolina's heritage and culture for all of its history and represents a means by which generations of commercial watermen create jobs, provide for their families, and contribute to the economic wellbeing of North Carolina's coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, existing state and federal regulations provide ample provisions for monitoring and regulation of commercial shrimping with serious penalties and sanctions for rule violations, which have proven to be effective in preventing overfishing and waste.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners hereby opposes the petition for rulemaking to Designate Special Secondary Nursery Areas and Reduce Bycatch Mortality in North Carolina Coastal Fishing Waters as set forth by the NC Wildlife Federation and strongly urges the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission to reject it.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners asks all coastal communities to support North Carolina's working watermen by adopting similar resolutions in opposition of this petition for rulemaking that would put North Carolina shrimping in jeopardy.

This 9th day of January, 2017.

SEAL

Sheila F. Davies Ph.D., Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary E. Quidley
Town Clerk

ATTACHMENT MA-1