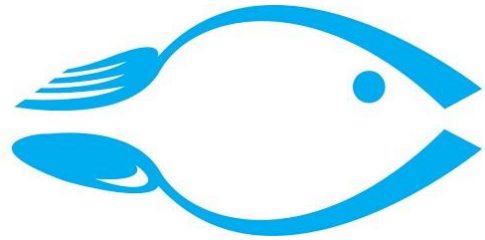


OUTER BANKS CATCH



Outer Banks Catch opposes offshore drilling

WHEREAS, Outer Banks Catch is a nonprofit with a mission to support commercial fishermen, their families and communities by providing education about the industry and the need to protect water quality and habitats needed to maintain a robust fishery; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's commercial fishing industry contributes \$725 million to the state's gross economy and the sales impact of the harvesting and sale of commercial seafood is \$388 million, and the income impact of employed commercial fisherman is \$166 million; and

WHEREAS, the availability of fresh wild-caught seafood is part of what draws millions of visitors to the coast every year and thus helps fuel the coastal economy; and

WHEREAS, an oil spill could severely impact marine life and water quality; and

WHEREAS, sonic testing has been found to affect sea life and thus cause harm to the coastal economies; and

WHEREAS, it is established that the State would gain few if any jobs from offshore drilling that could mitigate the loss of jobs due to adverse impacts of the preparations and actual drilling; and

WHEREAS, our coastal economy largely depends on sports fishing, clean beaches and the harvest of seafood; and

WHEREAS, both Republican and Democratic county boards of commissioners have voted to oppose these efforts thus showing that it is not a partisan issue.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Outer Banks Catch opposes offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of North Carolina.

Adopted Feb. 3, 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sandy Semans Ross". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light blue rectangular background.

Sandy Semans Ross, Chairman