



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

**A Resolution Reaffirming
the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Kill Devil Hills
Continued Opposition to Offshore Drilling, Seismic Testing, and Leasing**

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills and all of coastal North Carolina realize enormous economic and environmental benefits from the Atlantic Ocean; and,

WHEREAS, N.C. State University research notes the economic impact for the wild-caught commercial seafood industry is almost \$300 million, and supports over 5,500 jobs; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, North Carolina's tourism industry generated more than \$20 billion, generating over \$3 billion in federal, state and local taxes; and in Dare County alone, tourism expenditures exceeded \$1 billion in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners has understood the importance of the a pristine coastline with clean water, oil-free beaches, and abundant fish and wildlife, first adopting a resolution in opposition to offshore oil exploration and drilling in 1989, and reaffirming its position seven times through resolutions over several decades; and

WHEREAS, the community of Huntington Beach, California, temporarily closed its beaches and waters to the public in 2021 following a massive spill of up to 131,000 gallons of oil from an offshore oil pipeline, resulting in an environmental disaster that resulted in lost tourism, a negative impact on its economy, and a threat to the ecological balance of its coastline; and

WHEREAS, following the California oil spill, the Huntington Beach City Council approved a resolution supporting the permanent ban on new offshore oil and gas drilling, fracking, and other well stimulation in federal and California waters, as well as no oil and gas leasing in all U.S. waters; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners stands in continued support of its unique coastal environment, economy, citizens, and visitors by adopting this resolution urging the U.S. Congress, the State of North Carolina, and all federal agencies to support a ban against new federal oil and gas leasing in all U.S. waters, as well as a permanent ban on new offshore oil and gas drilling, seismic drilling, and other well stimulation in all waters off the coast of North Carolina.

This the 8th day of November, 2021.

SEAL

Benjamin A. Sproul
Mayor

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Deputy Town Clerk

North Carolina's Wild-Caught Commercial Seafood Industry

MAKING A SPLASH ON THE COAST AND ACROSS THE STATE

North Carolina's wild-caught commercial seafood industry provides nearly \$300 million in economic impact and 5,500 jobs in the state. While the largest impacts occur in the harvesting sector along the coast, the industry also includes the seafood preparation and wholesaling, retail, and restaurant sectors. Growing inland consumer demand for local seafood is increasing the economic impact of the industry across the state via restaurant and retail sales. This project was funded through the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries Commercial Fishing Resource Fund Grant Program.

Total Income

Commercial Fishing

economic impact	\$155.3M
employment	2,660

Seafood Preparation and Processing

economic impact	\$14.4M
employment	210

Fish Markets and Retailers

economic impact	\$80.3M
employment	1,616

Seafood Restaurants

economic impact	\$47.3M
employment	1,043

Total

economic impact	\$297.3M
employment	5,528

North Coast



Commercial Fishing	\$65.8M
Seafood Preparation and Processing	\$5.4M
Fish Markets and Retailers	\$5.3M
Seafood Restaurants	\$2.1M
North Coast Total	\$78.6M

Central Coast



Commercial Fishing	\$48.6M
Seafood Preparation and Processing	\$3.2M
Fish Markets and Retailers	\$0.6M
Seafood Restaurants	\$5.0M
Central Coast Total	\$57.5M

South Coast



Commercial Fishing	\$21.6M
Seafood Preparation and Processing	\$1.8M
Fish Markets and Retailers	\$1.0M
Seafood Restaurants	\$6.0M
South Coast Total	\$30.3M

VALUE ADDED INCOME

All figures are value-added income for 2019. For commercial fishing value-added is total sales. At the seafood processing, restaurant, and retail levels, value-added is sales minus the cost of non-labor inputs. Value-added does not include non-North Carolina inputs, and avoids double counting product used several times in the production chain. Economists view value-added as the most accurate measure of economic impact.

Methodology and addition details for the estimates included in this factsheet are available by emailing eric.edwards@ncsu.edu