

December 15, 2015

In an effort to open dialogue between the Maryland aquaculture industry, traditional oyster industry, the Department and stakeholders, I would like to request the Department provide members of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission with the following information and data at the January 2016 Tidal Fisheries Meeting.

Industry:

- Trends in paid oyster surcharges
- Trends in bushels harvested yearly and to date
- County oyster committees update, purpose, and charge

Aquaculture:

- A map of leases in the State of Maryland
- Total number of acres leased in the State of Maryland
- Total number of acres leased inside State Sanctuaries
- Total number of acres leased on Yates Bars/historic bars
- Number of lease holders in the State of Maryland
- Number of lease holders who hold TFL or oyster harvester licenses
 - o number of those license holders who harvested prior to leasing
- Names of individuals, corporations, or entities who hold leases
 - o number of leases each individual owns
 - o total acreage each individual owns
- Seafood Marketing Surcharge requirements for aquaculture
- Recreational oyster harvest data
- Oyster Advisory Commission purpose, charge, and meeting schedule