

Coastal Commercial Fisheries Forum

April 8, 2016

Agenda



Follow up from October 2015 Forum

- Blue Crabs - Declaration, Hours
- Whelk girth
- HB 916 – mechanical dredging
- Horseshoe Crabs / Lobster / SF Am

Other Topics of Interest

- Smooth Dogfish Management
- HSC, BSB, SF Permits
- Spiny Dogfish Permit Application / Relinquished Permits

Issues Brought to DNR

- Enforcement

Open Discussion

Blue Crabs



- Hours
 - We are working on this –Will keep you posted on the implementation timeline.
- Declaration
 - Unfavorable / Authority is complicated
 - 5,000 people would be involved
 - Prevent Coastal Bay crabbers from working Chesapeake Bay
 - Expensive

Whelk Girth



- Research revealed that 6" minimum size was too small for channeled whelks to reproduce 1x before harvest (16%)
 - 80-90% mature by 6.5"
 - Would need a 3.5" girth
 - Working with other State Directors to increase minimum size
- Knobbed whelk girth - 3.25"
- Channel whelk girth - 3.5"

~ HB 916 ~

Mechanical Clam Dredging



- Amended in March for a Study
 - Amendments Included:
 - Using biological reference points to determine if the commercial fishery can open and to set appropriate harvest limits.
 - Evaluate the appropriateness of various gear types.
 - Considering daily electronic reporting / hailing
 - Bill FAILED the Senate yesterday

HSC / Lobster / SF Am

ASMFC Process



- ARM Assessment – Females
- May 1 start on Males

MAMFC /ASMFC



Smooth Dogfish



- NOAA implemented a Coastal Quota triggering:
 1. Implementation of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Coastal Sharks Fishery Management Plan Addendum II (2013) – State shares
 - Total coastal quota = 2,649,268 lbs
 - MD share = 6.703% = 177,581 lbs
 - **Do you want a trip limit or wait to see if one is necessary?**
 2. Development of draft Addendum IV
 - At least 25% of catch onboard must be smoothhounds to land them with fins removed (removing head and gutting ok)
 3. Federal waters has a 2 hour gill net check time, ASMFC voted not to include that provision in draft Addendum IV

HSC, BSB, SF Permits



- Do you want us to continue issuing paper permits for horseshoe crab, black sea bass, and summer flounder?
 - The Department does not need the paper record to monitor quota anymore.
 - It is a place for permittees to have a readily available record in the event of an ITQ transfer.
 - This would not immediately happen.

Spiny Dogfish

- Trip Limit Increase in Federal Waters
- Application for Relinquished Permits
 - Will be reviewed by the SD Workgroup



Spiny Dogfish Application for Relinquished Permits



Category	Criteria	Comments
Eligibility	Must have a commercial license	COMAR 08.02.05.24
	Must own a vessel, required by regulation	COMAR 08.02.05.24
Coastal Bays/Atlantic Ocean State Permits	Black Sea Bass Permit	
	Horseshoe Crab Permit	
	Summer Flounder Permit	
	Striped Bass	More points awarded because this species is caught with spiny dogfish.
	Previously relinquished Spiny Dogfish Permit	Provide an opportunity for new participants
	Current Spiny Dogfish Permittee	Provide an opportunity for people that do not already have this permit
ACCSP Maryland Spiny Dogfish Vessel Landings May 1, 2013-Present	0 pounds	
	1-4,999 pounds	
	5,000-19,999 pounds	
	20,000+	Matches 4 year requirement for a transfer; someone landing at the bycatch level could easily do this by fishing 5x/year/for 4 yrs

Topics Brought to DNR



- Enforcement Regional Priorities



Open Discussion