



*Larry Hogan, Governor*  
*Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor*  
*Mark Belton, Secretary*  
*Joanne Throwe, Deputy Secretary*

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Meeting of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission  
April 27, 2016  
C-1 Conference Room  
DNR Tawes Office Building  
580 Taylor Ave  
Annapolis, MD 21403

### *Summary of Motions & Actions*

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Chairman William (Billy) Rice, Vice-Chair Robert (Moochie) Gilmer, Robert T. Brown, David M Sutherland, Gale Sindorf, Rachel Dean, Ken Jeffries, Buddy Carson III, William (Bill) Scerbo, William (Troy) Wilkins, Charles (Richard) Manley, J.D. Blackwell and Steve Lay.

**Commissioner Absent and Not Represented:** Aubrey Vincent

**DNR Staff Attending:** Fisheries Director Dave Blazer, Paul Genovese, Jacob Holtz, Mike Luisi, George O'Donnell, Lt. Corporal Catherine Medellin, Lt. Roy Rafter, Corporal Troy Rymer, Jodi Baxter, Lynn Fegley, Sara Dawes, Joe Schanno and Bill Anderson.

**Members of the Public Attending:** Larry Powley, Richard Young and Bobby Whaples.

**Action Items:**

- Commissioner Manley requested the department scope a new regulation to address variability in nets from stretching. The request came about after legislation (HB 1339) to increase mesh size to 7" failed to pass during latest legislative session.
- Commission asked the department to broadcast to commercial crabbers that even though HB 1314 passed, it is not in effect. Therefore crabbing cannot begin one hour earlier than current rules permit during certain summer holidays and the day before the holidays until HB 1314 takes effect on July 1, 2017, but the regulations required to implement the provisions will not be in effect until late summer/early fall when a regulatory package can be submitted and approved.
- Penalty Workgroup will meet sometime in May. Agenda will include a discussion of ideas to 'tighten' penalties for recreational violations. Commissioner David M Sutherland requested to join the penalty workgroup.
- Commission asked DNR staffer Michael Luisi to speak with his New York counterparts on the ASMFC regarding their seafood importation laws related to fish caught in other states and report out. Currently the state will not allow the importation of striped bass under 28" in length
- Commission requested the department report out on number of striped bass fishing tournament approved for 2017, including date(s) of each scheduled tournament.
- Bycatch, topic was brought up by Boo Powley, attending as a citizen. Department will research the idea of addressing bycatch, including herring, shad and black drum.

- Department will investigate and report out to commission on feasibility of giving commercial license holders the ability to change their beneficiary at any time. Currently, license holders can only change beneficiaries during the license renewal period.
- The commission requested the department report out on past striped bass hatchery efforts. Specific information requested includes year, numbers released, assessment of effect on overall YOY class-size and funding. Also requested - any report available, that estimates number of hatchery-striped bass which lived to migration size.

**Motions:**

- *Yellow perch amendment to the yellow perch fishery management plan – Support approval of amendment as currently written.* Motion by Robert T. Brown, seconded by Rachel Dean. Vote in favor: 14, against: 0, abstained: 0
- *Advisory commission recommends the prohibition of catch and release fishing tournaments prior to opening day (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of April).* Motion submitted by Rachel Dean, seconded by Ken Jeffries. Vote in favor: 14, against: 0, abstained: 0

**Tentative Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

**Next Meeting Date:** May 25, 2017

To be held in the Conference Room C-1 of the Tawes Building from 4:00-6:00 PM.