



Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
John R. Griffin, Secretary
Joseph P. Gill, Deputy Secretary

Winter Meeting of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission
February 7, 2013
Tawes State Office Building
C-1 Conference Room
Annapolis, MD 21401
2-5 PM

Summary of Motions & Action Items

Commissioners Present: Chairman Billy Rice, Gibby Dean, Rachel Dean, Richard Young, Moochie Gilmer, Bill Sieling, Russell Dize (proxy for Vice Chairman Larry Simns), Robert T. Brown, Gail Sindorf, Danny Webster, Mike Benjamin, Steve Gordon, Bill Goldsborough

Commissioners Absent: Vice Chairman Larry Simns, Dale Dawson, Brian Keehn

DNR Staff Present: Tom O'Connell (DNR Fisheries Service Director), Gina Hunt (DNR Fisheries Service Deputy Director), Lynn Fegley (DNR Fisheries Service Deputy Director), Martin Gary, Brenda Davis, Mike Luisi, Jacob Holt, Olivia Campbell Anderson, Mike Naylor, Sarah Widman, Joe Evans, Lt. Nick Powell (MD DNR NRP), Karen Knotts

Members of the Public Present: Ken Hastings, Kate Culzoni, Eleanore Benjamin, Mike Anderson

Motions

- Motion by Gibby Dean, 2nd by Moochie Gilmer...“For the TFAC to support SB 662 as written with proposed amendments as discussed by the Commission.” 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion passes.
- Motion by Russell Dize, 2nd by Robert T. Brown....”To let the Male only LCC licenses go back into use as a male only LCC.” 9 in favor, 4 opposed, 0 abstentions. Motion passes.

- Motion by Bill Sieling, 2nd by Richard Young....”For the Department to proceed with the implementation of a flexible system to allow the importation of sponge crabs to maintain the same amount of days but begin or end two weeks earlier or later.” 2nd withdrawn by Richard Young. Ammendment by Steve Gordon....“Pending support from the work group.” Confirmed by Bill Sieling, 2nd by Richard Young. 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. Motion passes.
- Motion by Robert T. Brown, 2nd by Moochie Gilmer....”To request the St. Mary’s county oyster committee to review the current power dredge line at the mouth of the St. Mary’s River.” 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion passes.

Action Items

- TFAC recommends that Fisheries Service discuss with the County Oyster Committees options for restructuring the County Oyster Committees. Specifically, creating one Statewide Committee that has representation by region and gear similar to the TFAC Blue Crab and Striped Bass Industry Workgroups.
- TFAC recommends that Fisheries Service discuss with the Maryland Aquaculture Coordinating Council the idea of including maps and coordinates of current shellfish leases in the Oyster Closure Booklet that oystermen obtain when purchasing their oyster surcharge each year. The purpose is to document oystermen knowledge of lease areas in case lease markers are intentionally or unintentionally moved and illegal harvest off the lease occurs. This may prove beneficial to NRP and if a case goes to the courts.
- TFAC recommends that Fisheries Service discuss with the St. Mary’s County Oyster Committee the idea of creating additional harvest reserve areas and moving the power dredge line at the mouth of St. Mary’s River to the dividing line of the Potomac River and St. Mary’s River.

Next Meeting: May 16th (Thursday), 2013 from 2-5 PM at the Tawes State Office Building in Annapolis, MD 21401.