



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

Tri-Annual Fisheries Service Regulatory Scoping Public Meeting

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Service will hold a Regulatory Scoping Public Meeting on February 23, 2011 at 6:00pm in the C-1 Conference Room of the Tawes State Office Building, 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401. All interested parties are invited to attend and give their views. Sign language interpreters and other appropriate accommodations will be provided upon request.

Tri-Annual Public Fisheries Regulatory Scoping Meetings are held to discuss possible changes to fishing rules. The public has the opportunity to comment at these meetings prior to the ideas becoming proposed regulations. Draft regulatory ideas are posted on the Fisheries' Service website and comments are taken by email, fax, or mail by a specified date and at the Public Scoping Meeting.

If you are unable to attend this regulatory scoping meeting you may submit electronic comments on these regulatory ideas by going to the Fisheries Draft Regulations Website, www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/regulations/draftregulations.html, mailing comments to Fisheries Regulations, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 580 Taylor Ave., B-2, Annapolis, MD 21401, or by faxing them to 410-260-8310.

Once the Department proposes a regulation (based on ideas scoped at public meetings), there will be a public comment period on that proposal. Visit the Department's website to view current proposed regulations.

On February 23rd the Department will be scoping regulatory ideas on the following topics:

Regulatory Ideas

- **Standardization of Bushel Containers and Oyster Tagging**
Brings Maryland in line with FDA requirements under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program's shellstock identification and traceability requirements.
- **TFL Buyback Program Permit Clarification**
Clarifies the ability of individuals participating in the 2011 buyback program to transfer their permits.
- **Summer Flounder Recreational**
Three options for 2011 season: 1) 18.5" size limit, 3 creel, and season Apr. 17- Nov. 22; 2) 18.5" size limit, 3 creel, and season all year; and 3) 18" size limit, 3 creel, and season Apr. 17- Nov. 22.
- **Penalties**
Create a penalty for failing a striped bass or yellow perch tag audit.
- **Crabs**
Modifications to regulation based on enforcement concerns.