



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

## **DECISION MEMORANDUM**

To: Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission

From: Tom O'Connell, Director, MD DNR Fisheries Service Director

Issue: SFAC Meeting Times & Frequency for 2012

Background: The number of commissions, committees and work groups which MD DNR Fisheries Service administers has increased substantially over the past several years. The result has been a significant increase in the amount of time senior management and support staff has been providing and this time is competing for other tasks which support Fisheries Service priorities and core functions. In addition, the current meeting time is universally demanding. Commission members with long drives are not arriving home until after midnight and having to get up early the next day; and staff is spending many evenings away from their families.

Given these issues and the fact that the Boating Advisory Commission, Wildlife Advisory Commission, Off Road Vehicle Advisory Workgroup, PRFC and VMRC all meet during the day, DNR Fisheries Service would like to propose making a change to the Sport Fisheries Commission meeting schedule. Recognizing that many Commission members also serve on committees and work groups, and have their own time limitations, we would appreciate your feedback. Items 1 and 2 below list some possible options for discussion at the November 15 meeting. DNR will be asking the Commission to choose a preferred time for 2012 meetings of SFAC from the list of options under #1 below, and choose a preferred frequency of meeting for the calendar year from the options listed under #2. The Department would like the Commission to vote on these two items.

1. Time of SFAC Meetings:

- a. 9 AM to 12 noon
- b. 10 AM to 1 PM (with lunch served)
- c. 1 PM to 4 PM
- d. 2 PM to 5 PM
- e. 3 PM to 6 PM
- f. 4 PM to 7 PM

2. Frequency of Meetings"

- a. Quarterly (February, May, August & November)
- b. Bimonthly (January, March, May, July, September, November)
- c. Status quo monthly (except June, August & December)

Meetings would remain on Tuesdays, with options for Commissioners and the public to observe and participate via the Internet. Additional meetings could be added via teleconference or Internet if needed.