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MARYLAND - VIRGINIA

"Potomac River Compact of 1958"

Potomac River Fisheries Commission

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**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS
of the
POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION
September 11, 2026**

Pursuant to the Potomac River Compact of 1958, as duly enacted into law by the General Assemblies of the States of Maryland and Virginia and duly ratified by the Congress of the United States of America, the Potomac River Fisheries Commission hereby proposes to amend and/or adopt regulations as follows, so as:

1. Amend **Reg. III, Sec. 1(b) Resisting or Impeding Officers** - to strike "curse" from language to comply with US Constitutional First Amendment Rights.
2. Amend **Reg. III, Sec. 13(d) Individual Striped Bass Allocation Transfer from Gill Net to Commercial Hook and Line** - to clarify the dates for when such transfer may occur
3. Repeal **Reg. VIII Oyster Management Reserve Program** and amend **Reg. II, Section 2(g)(1) Identification Tags Required** - to reflect the dissolution of the program
4. Amend **Regulation II, Sec. 2(b) Season Dates, Days, and Times for taking of Landing Oysters** - to include "in accordance with the NSSP Ordinances"
5. Amend **Reg. II, Sec. 2(g) Concealment of Oysters** - to strike "unless said person has a written permit from the commission" and replace with "as approved by the Commission by order."
6. Amend **Regulation II, Section 3(a) Measures Used for Oysters in Shell and Oysters Shells** - to align with existing regulations
7. Amend **Reg. III, Sec. 9(a) Gear Specific Fishing Seasons** - to extend pound net season to Dec. 25
8. Amend **Reg. II, Sec. 2(a)(4) Closed Areas for Hand Scraping / Hand Tonging** - to strike #1 to allow hand scraping above the existing line from Cuckhold Creek to Rosier Creek.
9. Amend **Reg. II, Sec. 4(a) Oyster Sanctuaries** - to strike #2 and open Bluff Point Lumps to harvest
10. Amend **Regulation II, Section 1(l) Oyster Basket** - to include dimensions for all containers allowable in the storage of oysters
11. Amend **Regulation VII, Section 1, Section 2(c), Section 6(a)** - to add definitions for crab containers such as bushels, barrels and lugs

NOTICE OF HEARING

September 11, 2026

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that a public hearing will be held by the Potomac River Fisheries Commission on adoption of the foregoing proposed regulations or amendments to the regulations of the Commission on Friday, September 11, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the John Thomas Parran Hearing Room of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Building, 222 Taylor Street, Colonial Beach, Virginia. The precise text of the proposed amendments is available at the Commission office or by calling (804) 224-7148 or visiting our website - www.prfc.us.