

Meeting of the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission

April 17, 2025

Online and in-person at
Tawes State Office Building
C-1 Conference Room
Annapolis, MD 21401

(See below for connection information)

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

* Agenda

- 2:00 - 2:15 Administrative, Updates, and Announcements – Chair Steve Lay and Lynn Waller Fegley, Director Fishing and Boating Services MD DNR
- **Public Comment - Two minutes allowed per speaker
 - Desired Outcome - Public's opportunity to speak to the commission
 - Introduction of Katherine Charbonneau, Aquatics Assistant Secretary MD DNR
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
 - Roll Call - Steve Lay
 - Desired Outcome - A quorum
 - January 23, 2025 Commission Meeting Summary Approval - Steve Lay
 - Desired Outcome - Commission vote
- 2:15 - 2:30 Outdoors Maryland, Upcoming Licensing System - Jeff Roberts, Brandt Information Services
- Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
- 2:30 - 2:45 Barren Island Phase 2 Update - Rachael Glide, MDOT MPA
- Desired Outcome - Update and Q&A
- 2:45 - 3:00 Beyond 2025 Bay Program Update - Gina Hunt, MD DNR
- Inform and Q&A
- 3:00 - 3:10 Striped Bass Science Update - Carrie Kennedy, MD DNR
- Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
- 3:10 - 3:20 Natural Resource Police Activities and Upcoming Priorities - Lt. Kevin Kelly, MD NRP
- Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
- 3:20 - 3:50 Regulatory and Legislative Review
- Regulatory and Penalty Update, Scoping Update - – Jacob Holtz, MD DNR
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and feedback from commission
 - Penalty Workgroup
 - Desired Outcome - Inform
 - Legislative 2025 Summary - Sarah Widman, MD DNR
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A

- 3:50 - 4:20 Interjurisdictional Management - Lynn Waller Fegley, Carrie Kennedy, and Michael Luisi, MD DNR
- ASMFC / MAFMC Updates and Announcements
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
 - Joint Committee on Striped Bass Management Update
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
 - Menhaden Update
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
 - Yellow Perch Timeline
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
- 4:20 - 4:35 Shellfish - Chris Judy, MD DNR
- Oyster Advisory Commission and 2024-2025 Season Harvest Updates
 - Desired Outcome - Inform and Q&A
- 4:35 - 4:45 Committee Reporting
- Invasive Catfish Advisory Committee - Bill Rice, Commissioner
 - Desired Outcome - Bring recommendations to commission
- 4:45 - 5:00 New Business - Commissioners
- Desired Outcome - Opportunity for commissioners to discuss items not on agenda
- 5:00 Adjourn

* Agenda is subject to change

** For topics on the agenda the chair will attempt to provide an opportunity for public comment during the time allotted for the topic. Additional public comment will be allowed at the designated time period, a maximum of two minutes per individual. Written comments may be emailed to paul.genovese@maryland.gov.

Connection (through Google Meet)

By internet

<https://meet.google.com/wat-oxqt-icj>

By Phone

1-754-702-3165 PIN: 653 528 134#

MD DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
MDOT	Maryland Department of Transportation
MPA	Maryland Port Administration
MD NRP	Maryland Natural Resources Police
ASMFC	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
MAFMC	Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council

January 23, 2025 Meeting

Actions

- Cynthia Goshorn, a long time Fishing and Boating Services staff member and wife of Deputy Secretary Dave Goshorn, passed away on Jan. 20, 2025. Please find a place in your heart for Dave, his family, and our staff as we process this loss.
- The department requests comment from the commission on fisheries-related items it is currently scoping and proposing. Please review your handouts and send your comments to Jacob Holtz (jacob.holtz@maryland.gov). Additionally, the items reviewed during the meeting will be posted on [the department website](#) requesting public comment, please share with your constituents.
- Chair Lay requests commissioners to review and prepare to discuss the scoping item titled “*Commercial Reporting — Electronic Reporting for Commercial Harvest*” at the next commission meeting. Additionally, please share with your constituents. The scoping items are found in [your handouts](#).
- Legislative-Related - Review your handouts for all unit-related bills, bills can be followed on <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite>. Updates will be forwarded from Sarah Widman / Paul Genovese. Commissioners with questions on any of the departmental bills should contact Sarah Widman (sarah.widman@maryland.gov, 410-972-7709).
- Please review the [Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Winter Meeting \(Feb. 4-5, 2025\) information](#) for agenda items. Spiny dogfish, horseshoe crab, and striped bass are the species in which actions may be taken.
- Fishing and Boating Services is looking into developing a joint striped bass committee to help with Addendum III guidance. Contact Mike Luisi (michael.luisi@maryland.gov, 410-758-6547) if you are interested or if you have a recommendation. The deadline to submit names is January 31. The work of the committee would include approximately 6-8 in person meetings finishing in May of this year.
- The MAFMC will hold a virtual meeting February 11-12, all meeting information including agenda and how to connect are found through the [MAFMC website](#). The main topic for the commissioners' awareness is the council's work surrounding sector separation and data collection for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, and bluefish.
- In the interest of time, Chris Judy did not discuss two topics (shell market price update and the Oyster Advisory Commission 2025 meeting schedule). Please look at the end of [this meeting's handouts](#) found online to review the topics. Please submit comments or questions to Chris Judy (chris.judy@maryland.gov).
- A new chair of the Statewide Oyster Committee is needed, a chair is required for the committee to conduct its business (this is not the department's committee to lead). The department will supply an administrator. Robert T. Brown offered to run the committee if no one else would volunteer.
 - Simon Dean has volunteered to be a candidate for chair of the committee, an election on the chair can take place at the committee's next meeting.
- Per request, the presentation by Michael Luisi on striped bass quota calculations is found online. All meeting presentations are bundled and [found on your website](#).
- Blue Crab
 - The department is looking for more participants for its [Cooperative Data Collection Program](#), particularly in the Upper Bay and Tangier Sound. Contact Mandy Bromilow (mandy.bromilow@maryland.gov) if you or someone you know is interested. Crabbers are compensated \$100-200 per trip to collect data on their catch, which can be used to identify trends in catch composition and crab distribution throughout Maryland. **Please consider participating and share this opportunity with other crabbers in your region.**
 - The department is also looking for more participants for its container sampling program. Biologists sample catch at dealer locations and the data are used to determine appropriate bushel conversions for

the various alternative containers now being used in the fishery (e.g., KIBB crate, lug, barrel). **If you are a dealer, please consider participating and share this opportunity with other dealers in Maryland who may be interested.** Contact Mandy Bromilow (mandy.bromilow@maryland.gov).

- The blue crab stock assessment is due Spring of 2026.
- Commissioner Dean again requests an agenda item at a future meeting to discuss whether or not to remove the prohibition on harvesting razor clam from prohibited (polluted) waters.

Motions:

- *Commission approves October 17, 2024 meeting actions and motions.* Motion by Bill Rice, seconded by David Sutherland. Vote: No objections. Approved.

Awareness:

- Commissioner Lay made a comment that the commercial yellow perch fishery reductions are unfair as compared to the recreational yellow perch fishery (lack of reductions).
- Major Melissa Scarborough (melissa.scarborough@maryland.gov) is the NRP's Field Operations Bureau lead, please contact Melissa if you need assistance.
- Matt Scales with Maryland Seafood Marketing is available at matthew.scales1@maryland.gov and 443-510-0937. Matt is currently looking for candidates for his Seafood Marketing Commission.
- Matt Scales encourages individuals to sign up to become a member of Maryland's Best at <https://marylandsbest.maryland.gov/become-a-marylands-best-producer/>.
- Commissioners should contact Yen-Der Cheng (yen-der.cheng@maryland.gov or 410-537-3363) with the Maryland Department of the Environment regarding questions surrounding his presentation to the commission municipal discharge permitting.
- Maryland Outdoors, the state's new licensing system, was not presented during this meeting as scheduled. Once the system has gone live it is hoped to have a thorough presentation at a future meeting.
- Lieutenant Kevin Kelly is the NRP's new liaison for the commission. Lt. Kelly (kevin.kelly@maryland.gov) encourages commissioners to reach out to their local areas if they have questions regarding their [region](#) [/area](#).
- The department is currently recruiting officers with the hope of adding 18 new hires, these would be laterals and new officers (individuals already certified in law enforcement), requiring less training than a cadet.
- The spiny dogfish fishery on the coast has been doing very well. A request for a quota transfer was answered by North Carolina in the amount of 500,000 lb. New York also offered to transfer some poundage of their quota but Carolina was chosen due to the full amount offered.
- A science webinar open to the public will be held online March 6. Topics will include a summary of FACTS charter reporting by Angela Guiliano and a catch and release mortality study of striped bass in the Patuxent River by T. Reid Nelson.
- A Chesapeake Bay Program science workshop will be held on February 13-14 on the status of the department's surveys. The public may connect in listen-only mode. The connection information will be distributed once available.
- Blue Crab Industry Advisory Committee - Richard Young, a long time member of the committee has sold his license and retired from the industry. Please contact Mandy Bromilow (mandy.bromilow@maryland.gov) if you or you know someone from Richard's area that may be interested in his seat on the committee.