

# FISH

## ORDER #2015-02 (replaces #2014-03)

### 2015 COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS CATCH LIMITS AND RESTRICTIONS

**THE POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION**, having found it necessary for the preservation of the striped bass (rockfish) population to impose restrictions on fishing for striped bass, and pursuant to its authority under Regulation III, Sections 10 and 13(b); **HEREBY DECLARES AND ORDERS:** the catch limits for striped bass (rockfish) provided for in Regulation III, Section 10, Sub-sections (a) and (b) shall be 583,362 pounds and divided by gear type as follows:

- 1) Commercial Hook and Line: 83,462 pounds (11,505 ID tags) total for all licensees, plus any available gill net allocation as may be allowed under Regulation III, Sec. 13(d).
- 2) Pound Net: 130,090 pounds (22,000 ID tags) total for all licensees. Each pound net licensee must have at least one net set and fishing before receiving his share of the total, and such share will be proportional to the total number of pound net licenses issued and the number held by the licensee.
- 3) Miscellaneous Commercial Gear: 14,001 pounds (2,300 ID tags) total for all licensees. This gear type includes and is limited to fyke net and haul seine licenses only. The yearly total number of ID tags shall be divided 60% haul seine, 40% fyke net, and further divided equally among fishermen who have held the specific license type and who have fished such gear and reported catch of other species during each of the last 3 license years.
  - i. Each haul seine licensee must have his/her haul seine measured and sealed by PRFC or law enforcement prior to qualifying to receive striped bass tags. Only one (1) seal per net will be allowed.
  - ii. Each fyke net licensee must have at least one net set and fishing before receiving his share of the total.
  - iii. Unlawful to harvest striped bass from any haul seine or fyke net that has not been certified/inspected.
- 4) Gill Net: Published Separately

**BE IT FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED:** that striped bass identification tags may be used only on fish harvested with the gear type for which the striped bass identification tags were issued.

**AND, IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED:** this Order #2015-02 shall become effective January 1, 2015, shall supersede and repeal Order #2014-02 and remain in effect until further notice.