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MARYLAND - VIRGINIA
"Potomac River Compact of 1958"

Potomac River Fisheries Commission

P.O. Box 9
Colonial Beach, Virginia 22443
www.prfc.us



OFFICERS:

MARTIN L. GARY
Executive Secretary

MICHAEL C. MAYO, ESQ.
Legal Officer

TELEPHONE:
(804) 224-7148
(800) 266-3904

FAX:
(804) 224-2712

E-MAIL:
contactprfc@gmail.com

Meeting Summary and Agenda
Teleconference of the PRFC Oyster/Clam Advisory Committee
March 16, 2017
7 PM

Dial-In Number: 888-831-8980
Passcode: 37486#

Agenda

1. Welcome and Roll Call of Attendees (Chairman Tucker Brown)
2. Update on Proposed National Marine Sanctuary at Mallows Bay-Potomac River (Marty Gary)
3. Questions
4. Comments
5. Actions?
6. Adjourn

Attendees:

Committee Members: Tucker Brown (Chairman, MD), Wayne France (Vice Chairman, VA), Paul "Pete" Springer (MD), Billy Howeth (VA), Craig Kelley (MD), Rocky Rice (MD)

Staff: Marty Gary (PRFC)

Commissioners: None

Public: Monica Schenamann (Potomac River Working Watermen's Association),

Synopsis

Chairman Brown called the Committee meeting to order via teleconference at 7:08 PM. Mr. Gary informed the committee members that they had a quorum, so anything they wanted brought forward to the Commission would be official, and made by a formal motion and 2nd. Mr. Gary then provided a chronological summary of the proposed National Marine Sanctuary at Mallows Bay-Potomac River to the committee starting with the origin of a nominating committee, description of the scoping period, publishing of the proposal in the Federal register in January of 2017, up to the current time frame. This included all involvement with PRFC. Mr. Gary then described the various feedback that he has heard, and the projected time line up to the end of the comment period which ends on March 31, 2017. Mr. Gary asks if there were any questions. Chairman Brown stated his concerns of uncertainty with the

establishment of a sanctuary, asked others to state their thoughts. Wayne France stated he could speak on behalf of the Twin Rivers Watermen's Association and that they have watermen on the northern neck that work in the Potomac and would be opposed to any sanctuary. He also stated his concerns that even if something is put in place that does not limit fishing now, could change in the future. Craig Kelley agreed that you don't know what could happen and that a sanctuary would not be a good thing. Billy Howeth agreed. Pete Springer agreed. There were several questions about where the boundaries were located and a lengthy discussion of the possible problems that could come about. Chairman Brown said he sides with the decision of the Fin Fish Committee. Chairman Brown asked who Ms. Schenemann was there to represent, and she mentioned the newly formed Potomac River Working Watermen's Association.

After more discussion, the **Committee unanimously passed the following motion: Motion by Wayne France (VA) "For PRFC's OCAC to oppose the designation of a National Marine Sanctuary in any part of PRFC jurisdictional waters, but would support a National Marine Sanctuary designation in Maryland jurisdictional waters of Mallows Bay". 2nd by Billy Howeth (VA).**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM

Respectfully submitted:

John F. Tucker Brown, Chairman