

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Potomac River Fisheries Commission Meeting

Colonial Beach, VA —

Madam Chair Lynn Fegley announced today the Potomac River Fisheries Commission will hold its next regular meeting on **Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.** in the John T. Parran Hearing Room at the PRFC Commission Office. Madam Chair Fegley invites all interested persons to attend this open public meeting.

Items on the agenda include: the election of Commission officers; reports on the 2022 crab, fish, and 22/23 oyster harvest; a summary of the Winter ASMFC meeting and summary reports from the FFAC, BCAC, and OCAC meetings; an update on oyster projects, advisory committee vacancies or upcoming term expirations, a presentation of the status of online license and credit card sales, and setting the 2023 crab harvest season.

The advertised public hearing will include the following: to amend Reg. I, Sec. 5(d)(8) Reduction of License Fees – amend language from "a single boat or vessel used by the licensee..." to "a natural person using a license to..."; Amend Reg. I, Sec. 2(u) Charter Boat Captain – amend language to include "Whenever a vessel is used to carry fee paying passengers, they must fly the pennant that was issued with their Charter Boat Captains license"; Repeal Reg. VI, Sec. 5(d) Recreational Striped Bass Permit; Repeal Reg. VI, Sec. 5(e) - Barbless Hooks Required; Amend Reg. I, Sec. 2(g)(1) – Oyster Buyer Registration Fee – remove the words "registration" and amend to "license"; Amend Reg. II, Sec. 2(a) (4) Closed Areas for Hand Scraping / Hand Tonging- move line to Swan Pt across to Bluff Pt.; Amend Reg. I, Sec. 2(d)(5) CP ID Tags/Decals Fee and Replacement – to set fee by order; Amend Reg. VI, Sec. 4(a), 4(b), 4(c), 4(d), and 4(e) (Sport Crabbing) – to limit free sport crabbing to only private landowners and change the existing sport crabbing boat license to a sport crabbing individual license; Amend Reg. VII, Sec. 2(a)(1) - Size limits – allow minimum size to be set by order; Adopt Reg. VIII, Sec. 4(f) - Establishing an OMR Administrative Fee; propose new commercial license fees under Reg. I, Sec. 2 – License Fees as follows: PN - \$200, GN - \$75, HS - \$200, FN - \$75, FTL - \$75, FP - \$100, EP - \$150, BP - \$100, HL - \$100, CBC - \$100, Crab Dip Nets & Trot Lines - \$100, PT - \$50, CP-300 - \$200, CP-400 – \$300, CP-500 – \$400, Oyster Tonger - \$150, "OT" Tags for boat - \$50, P.A. Hand Tongs - \$100, HSV - \$300, HS Ind. - \$225, Registered Oyster Buyer - \$75 and Clam Dredge - \$375. The full text of the proposal can be found at www.prfc.us or by requesting a copy by email at contactprfc@gmail.com.

PRFC does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. If you are unable to attend this meeting in person, you have the option to attend the meeting virtually by logging into the virtual meeting listed below.

<https://meet.goto.com/216877013>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code: 216-877-013

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