

Regulations and Requirements for Sport Shellfishing

Regulation VI

Each individual wanting to recreationally oyster, must follow the Sport Shellfishing Regulations **and** are required to pay the oyster inspection tax of \$2.00 per bushel directly to the PRFC either by mailing in the form below or in person at the PRFC office during normal business hours. Failure to pay the inspection tax, may result in late fees and penalties set out in Regulation IV, Section 2(a).

Section 3 Sport Shellfishing

Sec. 3(a) Limits and Methods

The taking or catching of oysters or clams for sport, recreation or immediate household use, without a license, shall be lawful provided that no person shall in any one day take more than the following:

- (1) One bushel of oysters per person or two bushels per vessel with two or more persons onboard: by hand tongs; by hand or; by diving with or without scuba and by no other means;
- (2) One bushel of soft-shell clams per person or two bushels per vessel with two or more persons onboard: by hand held shovel, rake or hoe or; by hand and by no other means.

Section 1 Oyster Inspection Tax

Sec. 1(a) Tax Imposed

The Potomac River Fisheries Commission hereby imposes an inspection tax of \$2.00 per bushel on all oysters caught within the limits of the Potomac River within the jurisdiction of the Commission. The tax shall be paid by the buyer at the place in Maryland or Virginia where the oysters are unloaded from vessels and are to be shipped no further in bulk in vessel. The tax shall be paid to an agent of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission or to such officer or employee of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, or of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, as may be designated by the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, and by him paid over to the Potomac River Fisheries Commission. Any officer or employee of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, or of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, or an agent of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission shall have the right to board any licensed oyster boat or buy boat or vessel on the Potomac River within the jurisdiction of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, and examine any records, and count the bushels or oysters thereon taken from the Potomac River, and may issue a tax bill or statement therefore, to be presented to the buyer at the place in Maryland or Virginia where said oysters are unloaded from said boat or vessel and are to be shipped no further in bulk in vessel, and where the tax thereon must be paid.

Section 2 Penalty Provisions

All the aforesaid persons failing to pay the aforesaid inspection tax shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to the penalties as provided herein:

Sec. 2(a) Late Payments

Any tax payments received after the due date specified in sections 1(a) and 1(b) shall be subject to a late charge plus interest calculated as follows:

- (1) late charge shall equal \$100.00 before any interest is added;
- (2) interest shall be calculated at the rate of \$1.00 per day, and interest shall accrue each day the payment is late.

Sec. 2(b) Failure to Pay

Failure to pay the tax due, together with any late charges and interest assessed, shall be subject to the general penalty provisions provided in Regulation I, Section 6 of these regulations.

Please refer to Regulation II, Section 2 for Oyster Size, Culling Requirement, and Concealment of Oysters.

Please remit this page with your oyster inspection tax to the PRFC at PO Box 9, Colonial Beach, VA 22443 or in person at the PRFC office during normal business hours. This reporting is due in our office each week that you harvest. Reports are due in our office no later than the Thursday following the week you harvested.

Full Name of Harvester: _____

If more than one person onboard, full name of second harvester: _____

Harvester Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number of Harvester: _____

Date Harvested	Name of Oyster Bar	Total Number of Bushels	Gear Used To Harvest	Tax Owed To PRFC \$2/bushel
Total Oyster Tax Owed to PRFC:				