



Potomac River Fisheries Commission

MARYLAND – VIRGINIA

“Potomac River Compact of 1958”



EMERGENCY ORDER # 2026-09

GILL NET FISHERY RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

THE POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION, having found the current striped bass harvest by gill nets is below its quota, having found winter storm conditions in January and February 2026 have caused considerable economic hardship to the gill net fishery in the Potomac River, having found an Emergency situation exist, and pursuant to its authority under Regulation I, Section 7(a),

HEREBY DECLARES AND ORDERS: that Commission Order 2025-17, 2025-2026 GILL NET SEASON AND RESTRICTIONS & COMMERCIAL STRIPED BASS CATCH AND SIZE LIMITS, paragraph b), sub-paragraphs ii) and iii) are amended to read as follows:

b) **Permitted Nets** – Each licensee, shall be permitted to set and fish a single properly identified net, in the number of his licensed locations (stands) as follows:

- i) November 10th through February 28th – all stands, and;
- ii) March 1st through March 5th – 4 stands, and;
- iii) March 6th through March 25th – 5 stands.

IT IS FUTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED: that no other conditions, terms or provisions of Order 2025-17 are changed in any way by this Emergency Order 2026-09.

AND, IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED: having determined an emergency exists, this Emergency Order 2026-09 shall become effective March 6, 2026, and remain in effect through March 25, 2026.