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Public Hearing
7 DE Admin. Code 3502
Striped Bass Spawning Season and Area Restrictions
Docket #2019-R-F-0026



February 26, 2020



Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Delaware

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Proposed Amendments to 7 DE Admin. Code 3502 Striped Bass Spawning Season and Area Restrictions

- Status quo is no fixed gill nets above Liston Point (DE River) from Jan 1 – May 31
- Commercial fishermen requested through the Advisory Council on Tidal Finfisheries - opening the Delaware River to anchor gill nets from Jan 1 – May 31
 - Intent of current line not a biological one, but based on potential user conflicts
 - Quota-based management
 - Possible biological implications (discard mortality), may or may not be off-setting
 - Given expected number of participants and spatial coverage, not a significant concern at the population level
 - Enforcement Section had concerns about boater interactions
 - Issue discussed at three meetings
 - A council member, working with DFW Enforcement, proposed as an accommodation, extending the area where fixed gill nets could be fished to the southern shore of the Appo. R.
 - Not in an area highly trafficked by recreational boaters in the spring
 - May reduce drift net/recreational angling interactions
 - Division provided draft regulation at Council request
 - Council approved taking measure through the reg process; Division did not object

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Comment may be submitted to the Hearing Officer

- Orally or in writing tonight
- Via the online comment form at: <https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/public-hearings/comment-form/>
- Via email to: DNRECHearingComments@delaware.gov
- Via USPS to:

Theresa Newman, Hearing Officer
DNREC – Office of the Secretary
89 Kings Highway,
Dover, DE 19901

- The Department will accept public comment through the **close of business on Thursday, March 12, 2020.**

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