



*Martin O'Malley, Governor*  
*Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor*  
*John R. Griffin, Secretary*  
*Eric Schwaab, Deputy Secretary*

### ***Regulatory Scoping Meeting to Address Possible Changes to the Commercial Striped Bass Fishery***

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources will be holding a public scoping meeting in the C-1 conference room at the Tawes Building in Annapolis from 6-9 pm on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009. This meeting will address possible changes to regulations dealing with the commercial striped bass fishery. Possible changes are the result of recommendations from the Commercial Striped Bass Work Group. These include:

- Increasing the length of gill net allowed on a vessel
- Removing the shape requirement for gill net buoys
- Extending the hook & line season to begin on June 7<sup>th</sup>
- Providing a permit transfer period in the spring of 2010
- Establishing limitations so that a licensee may not hold both Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic striped bass permits during the same year

All interested parties are invited to attend and give their views. Sign language interpreters and other appropriate accommodations will be provided upon request. Public Scoping meetings are part of a pre-regulatory process intended to inform the public of any regulations that the Fisheries Service may propose over the next few months and to get public feedback on the issues before regulations are proposed. This meeting is not part of the official regulatory proposal process as required under the Maryland Administrative Procedures Act.