

Editor’s Note on Incorporation by Reference

Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-207, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coast King and Spanish Mackerel Fishery Management Plan (1994), and the Fishery Management Plan for Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) in Maryland Tidewater (January 2014) have been declared documents generally available to the public and appropriate for incorporation by reference. For this reason, they will not be printed in the Maryland Register or the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). Copies of these documents are filed in special public depositories located throughout the State. A list of these depositories was published in 45:1 Md. R. 8 (January 5, 2018), and is available online at www.dsd.state.md.us. These documents may also be inspected at the office of the Division of State Documents, 16 Francis Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

.01 Fishery Management Plans.

A. The following [Chesapeake Bay Program Agreement Commitment Reports (Fishery Management Plans)] are adopted and incorporated by reference:

(1)—(12) (text unchanged)

(13) *Chesapeake and Atlantic Coast King and Spanish Mackerel Fishery Management Plan (1994)*;

[(13)] (14) (text unchanged)

[(14)] (15) Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Coast Tautog Fishery Management Plan (December 1998); [and]

(16) *Coastal Bays Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan (September 2001)*;

(17) *Coastal Bays Hard Clam Fishery Management Plan (February 2002)*;

[(15)] (18) Maryland Tidewater Yellow Perch Fishery Management Plan (November 2002)[.]; and

(19) *Fishery Management Plan for Largemouth Bass (Micropterus salmoides) in Maryland Tidewater (January 2014)*.

[B. The following Coastal Bays Fishery Management Plans, as directed by The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for Maryland’s Coastal Bays, are adopted and incorporated by reference:

(1) Coastal Bays Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan (September 2001); and

(2) Coastal Bays Hard Clam Fishery Management Plan (February 2002).]

[C.] B. (text unchanged)

MARK J. BELTON
Secretary of Natural Resources

Subtitle 02 FISHERIES SERVICE

08.02.01 General

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[18-021-P]

The Secretary of Natural Resources proposes to amend Regulation **.05** under **COMAR 08.02.01 General**.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to modify the number of commercial fishing license authorization targets. The proposed action makes modifications to the authorization targets to reflect the number of tidal fish license conversions made in the 2016—2017 license year. Natural Resources Article, §4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland allows the conversion (downgrade) of an unlimited tidal fish license

(UTFL) into its individual component authorizations and requires the department to adjust all authorizations accordingly. Downgrading a UTFL decreases the UTFL target and increases the target of each license type that is included in a UTFL (resident fishing guide (FGR), unlimited finfish harvester (FIN), crab harvester 300 pot (CB3), clam harvester (CLM), oyster harvester (OYH), oyster dredge boat (ODB), and conch turtle lobster (CTL)). The number and type of authorizations involved in a downgrade of a UTFL provide the basis for changes to the license authorization target levels.

During the 2016—2017 license renewal period, 9 individuals downgraded their UTFL. Applicants could choose which license components of the UTFL they wanted to retain. In summary, the UTFL number is decreased by 9 and the number for FGR, FIN, CB3, CLM, OYH, ODB, and CTL is increased by 9 each.

The proposed action shows the target number for each authorization available after all of the additions and subtractions. The targets are correct as of April 1, 2017. The Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission was consulted regarding these changes at their April 2017 meeting and did not have any questions or concerns.

Comparison to Federal Standards

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to License Target Regulations, Regulatory Staff, Department of Natural Resources Fishing and Boating Services, 580 Taylor Avenue, B2, Annapolis, MD, 21401, or call 410-260-8300, or email to fisheriespubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov, or fax to 410-260-8310. Comments will be accepted through February 20, 2018. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

.05 Targets for the Number of Tidal Fish License Authorizations [and Apprenticeship Permits].

A. The targets for the number of tidal fish license authorizations issued by the Department are the number of authorizations issued between September 1, 1998, and March 31, 1999, including adjustments made annually according to specifications listed in §B of this regulation, listed by the following categories:

Abbreviation	Authorization	Number
FGR	Fishing Guide Resident	[481] 490
FGN — HLI	(text unchanged)	
FIN	Unlimited Finfish Harvester	[263] 272
LCC — LCCM	(text unchanged)	
CB3	Crab Harvester—300 Pots	[262] 271
CB6 — CB9	(text unchanged)	
CLM	Clam Harvester	[31] 40
OYH	Oyster Harvester	[696] 705
ODB	Oyster Dredge Boat	[23] 32
CTL	Conch, Turtles, and Lobster Harvester	[30] 39
TFL	Unlimited Tidal Fish	[2,100] 2091

B.—C. (text unchanged)

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Secretary of Natural Resources