

FISHING IN NONTIDAL WATERS – Bass in Youghioghney River Lake

What is being considered?

The Department is considering changes to the bass season in Youghioghney River Lake.

Why is this change necessary?

Youghioghney River Lake, also known as Youghioghney Reservoir, is one of two impoundments that span the Maryland/Pennsylvania jurisdictional boundary that are jointly managed by Pennsylvania and Maryland. Conowingo Reservoir is the other water body. The joint management agreement calls for Pennsylvania to make management decisions regarding the fish resources in the Youghioghney River Lake and for Maryland to make the management decisions in the Conowingo Reservoir. When one state changes the rules that apply to the water body for which they are responsible, the other state is obligated to update its rules to mirror that management decision. In this case, Pennsylvania has changed its bass (largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted) season to have a closed season from the second Saturday in April through the second Saturday in June. Maryland is updating its rules that apply to the Youghioghney River Lake to reflect that change. This will aid in proper enforcement of the correct rule by the Maryland Natural Resources Police.

Who will this affect?

This action will affect nontidal recreational anglers fishing for bass in Youghioghney River Lake.

When will this be effective?

The Department projects that this change could be effective in the winter of 2023-2024. However, the exact date cannot be determined. The Department will follow our normal scoping and proposal procedures.

Has this change been discussed with stakeholders?

No.