

**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 Fishery Management Plans Regulations, Regulatory Staff, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fishing and Boating Services, 580 Taylor Avenue, E-4, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call 410-260-8300, or fill out the comment form at <https://dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/Pages/regulations/changes.aspx#fisherymanagementplans>. Comments will be accepted through July 5, 2022. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

Editor’s Note on Incorporation by Reference

Pursuant to State Government Article, §7-207, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Fishery Management Plan for Tidewater Catfish (December 2021) has been declared a document generally available to the public and appropriate for incorporation by reference. For this reason, it will not be printed in the Maryland Register or the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). Copies of this document are filed in special public depositories located throughout the State. A list of these depositories was published in 49:1 Md. R. 9 (January 3, 2022), and is available online at [www.dsd.state.md.us](http://www.dsd.state.md.us). The document 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 Fishery Management Plans are adopted and incorporated by reference:

(1)—(17) (text unchanged)

(18) Maryland Tidewater Yellow Perch Fishery Management Plan (November 2002) and Amendment 1 to the 2002 Maryland Tidewater Yellow Perch Fishery Management Plan (December 2017); [and]

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

(20) *Fishery Management Plan for Tidewater Catfish (December 2021)*.

B. (text unchanged)

JEANNIE HADDAWAY-RICCIO  
Secretary of Natural Resources

**Subtitle 02 FISHERIES SERVICE**

**08.02.01 General**

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §4-215, Annotated Code of Maryland

**Notice of Proposed Action**

[22-106-P]

The Secretary of Natural Resources proposes to amend Regulation **.10** under **COMAR 08.02.01 General**.

**Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of this action is to add catfish to the list of species for which the Department may conduct a pilot program. Pilot programs are projects which demonstrate and evaluate new approaches to managing fisheries under a fishery management plan. In order for the Department to conduct a pilot program, the species must have a fishery management plan, the plan must be incorporated into COMAR 08.02.01.01, and the species must be listed as pilot program eligible in COMAR 08.02.01.10. The Department adopted the

Fishery Management Plan for Tidewater Catfish (December 2021) and is in the process of incorporating it into regulation. This change would give the Department the ability to conduct a pilot program for the commercial catfish fishery.

**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 Pilot Program Regulations, Regulatory Staff, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fishing and Boating Services, 580 Taylor Avenue, E-4, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call 410-260-8300, or fill out the comment form at <https://dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/Pages/regulations/changes.aspx#pilotprogram>. Comments will be accepted through July 5, 2022. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

**.10 Pilot Programs.**

A. The Department may conduct pilot projects to demonstrate and evaluate new approaches to managing fisheries under the fishery management plans as incorporated by reference in Regulation .01 of this chapter for the following species:

(1)—(14) (text unchanged)

(15) Alosid; [and]

(16) Croaker and Spot[.]; and

(17) *Catfish*.

B.—D. (text unchanged)

JEANNIE HADDAWAY RICCIO  
Secretary of Natural Resources

**Subtitle 03 WILDLIFE**

**08.03.03 Open Seasons, Bag Limits for Game Birds and Game Animals**

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §§10-205, 10-405, 10-410, and 10-415, Annotated Code of Maryland

**Notice of Proposed Action**

[22-104-P]

The Secretary of Natural Resources proposes to repeal and replace Regulations **.03—, .05, .07, and .08** under **COMAR 08.03.03 Open Seasons, Bag Limits for Game Birds and Game Animals**.

**Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of this action is to establish the season dates and bag limits for the 2022—2023 and 2023—2024 hunting seasons for forest game, upland game, fur-bearing mammals, white-tailed deer, and sika deer. Season dates and bag limits for most species are similar to previous hunting seasons with some exceptions. An additional day of black bear hunting has been added to the established black bear hunting season. One additional day has been added to the Region A antlerless deer firearms season. Ruffed grouse season has been shortened and will now close on December 31. The northern bobwhite quail season in the Eastern Zone will now close on January 15 and hunting will be closed on lands owned or managed by the Department in the area east of the Susquehanna River. Wolf Den Run State Park will become open to public hunting.