

YELLOW PERCH — Commercial Season

What is being considered?

The Department is considering modifying the commercial yellow perch season in regulation to start a month earlier than the current regulation establishes.

Why is this change necessary?

The fishery has been opened December 1 by public notice for several years to allow for fish potters, and others, to harvest yellow perch against the quota. This has been beneficial to commercial yellow perch permit holders, but has not created any overages in the yellow perch quota.

Who will this affect?

Commercial yellow perch permit holders. There are approximately 20 yellow perch permit holders who pay for a yellow perch permit annually that could benefit from being able to plan the start of their yellow perch harvest a month earlier every year.

When would this be effective?

The Department projects that this change could be effective in the winter of 2024-2025. However, the exact date cannot be determined. The Department will follow our normal proposal procedures if this concept moves forward.

Has this change been discussed with stakeholders?

No.