

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS**  
**of the**  
**POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION**  
**June 11, 2009**

Pursuant to the Potomac River Compact of 1958, as duly enacted into law by the General Assemblies of the States of Maryland and Virginia and duly ratified by the Congress of the United States of America, the Potomac River Fisheries Commission hereby proposes to amend and/or adopt regulations as follows, so as:

1. To amend **Reg. VII, Sec. 5(e)** Crab Pot Depth Restrictions to change: a) the closed season dates, b) the depth of water restriction, or c) to repeal this regulation.
2. To amend **Reg. VII, Sec. 1(d)** Peeler Trap or Crab Pound to specify and clarify when peeler traps or crab pounds must be removed from the river.
3. To amend **Reg. I, Sec. 2(m)(3)** Fish Pot to increase the length of a fish pot from 10ft. to 18 ft. and clarify the definition of a fish pot.

**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
**June 11, 2009**

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that a public hearing will be held by the Potomac River Fisheries Commission on adoption of the foregoing proposed regulations or amendments to the regulations of the Commission on Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in the John Thomas Parran Hearing Room of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Building, 222 Taylor Street, Colonial Beach, Virginia. The precise text of the proposed amendments is available at the Commission office or by calling (800) 266-3904 or (804) 224-7148 or visiting our website – [http://www.prfc.us/commission/press\\_releases.htm](http://www.prfc.us/commission/press_releases.htm).

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

New Language

~~Deleted Text~~

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

Option A, changing the season dates for the crab pot depth restrictions.

Option B, changing the water depth restriction

Option C, to repeal the regulation

Reg. VII, Sec. 5(e) Crab Pot Depth Restrictions

Option A

It shall be unlawful to place, set or fish any crab pot from ~~September 1<sup>st</sup> through the end of the season~~ June 15<sup>th</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup> in waters greater than 30 feet MLW, and in the area bounded by straight lines between the federally maintained navigational aids Red nun #10, Red nun #12, Red nun #14, Green can #13, Green can #11, a point 500 yards due north of Ragged Point Light and Red nun #10 at the point of beginning.

Option B

It shall be unlawful to place, set or fish any crab pot from September 1<sup>st</sup> through the end of the season in waters greater than 30- ~~XX~~ feet MLW, and in the area bounded by straight lines between the federally maintained navigational aids Red nun #10, Red nun #12, Red nun #14, Green can #13, Green can #11, a point 500 yards due north of Ragged Point Light and Red nun #10 at the point of beginning.

Option C Repeal Regulation VII, Section 5(e)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

New Language

~~Deleted Text~~

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

clarifying the language of when peeler traps and crab pounds must be removed from the river.

**Regulation VII, Sec. 1(d) Peeler Trap or Crab Pound**

A device used to catch peeler crabs consisting of an enclosure or retention box no larger than four feet by four feet (4' x 4') and a single row of hedging no more than seventy-five feet (75') in length. The retention box must have a mesh size not less than one inch (1") measured along its longest axis. There must be twelve inches (12") of air space between the surface of the water at mean high tide and the top of the trap. The licensee must remove all stakes or poles within thirty (30) days of either: (a) the last day of fishing activity, or (b) the last day of the season by October 31, whichever come first.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

increasing the length of a fish pot to greater than 10 ft. and clarifying the definition of a fish pot.

**Reg. I, Sec. 2(m)(3) Definitions**

- (i) Fish Pot – a finfish entrapment device with no wings or leader, with or without hoops, with a single entrance funnel. No fish pot shall exceed ten (10) eighteen (18) feet in overall length or have a mesh size which is less than two (2) inches measured at its longest axis.