

# PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** March 1, 2012

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## Potomac River Fisheries Commission Meeting

Colonial Beach, VA —

Chairman Thomas J. O'Connell announced today the Potomac River Fisheries Commission would hold its regular meeting on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in the John T. Parran Hearing Room of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission Building, 222 Taylor Street, Colonial Beach, Virginia. Mr. O'Connell expressed his desire to invite all interested persons to attend this open public meeting.

Items on the agenda include: reviewing the crab, fish and oyster harvest reports, reports from the Blue Ribbon Oyster Panel, Crab and Finfish Advisory Committees. The Commission will also set the commercial quota and recreational limits for summer flounder and black sea bass. There will be discussions on closing the commercial river herring fisheries (the recreational river herring catch is already closed); and modifying the commercial catch limit of pike or chain pickerel to 1 fish. The Commission will consider adopting an Order in regards to increasing the allowable commercial by-catch of shad for pound nets and gill nets.

Other items on the agenda include but are not limited to: an update of the crab pot ID tagging program. The Commission will elect their Chairman, Vice-chairman and Secretary for 2012. The incoming Chairman will appoint members to the advisory committees and appoint a committee to develop the 2012-2013 budget.

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