

American Shad

Spring 1980 – banned purposeful catching both for commercial and recreational
Oct. 1980 – Declared “in need of conservation” and banned catching,
possessing, purchasing and sale except:

- with a science collection permit
- incidental catch if returned to the water
- also, required annual review of stock

1991 – proposed season- Feb 4 through April 30th open in Atlantic coastal areas
of Maryland waters

2004 – ASMFC required closure of fishery in Atlantic waters

White Perch

1975- written into regulation – no changes

Croaker

1995 – established recreational 9 inch catch minimum

- commercial 10 inch catch minimum
- recreational creel of 20 per day

1996 – commercial season – March 16 through November 30

1997- recreational catch limit of 25 per day

Bluefish

1991 – recreational catch limit of 10 per day

1994 – minimum size of 8 inches; commercial fishery quota of 323,306 lbs.
annually; allows for public notices to be used for certain fishery changes

1995 – commercial quota switched to a public notice process

Striped Bass

1994 April

Emergency Action for amendments to .12-1

- Altered season, quota and size limit of trophy season, prohibited use of whole eels

1994 July

Emergency Action for amendments to .01, .02, .05, and .07-.13

- .01: Removes “incidental” to provision under which catch and immediate return of striped bass to water unharmed a non-violation
- .02: Adds definition of cull and pound net, removes definition of take

- .05: Requires declaration of intent to participate and commercial striped bass fishery and sets out rules for commercial striped bass fishery
- .06: Alters season language
- .07: Removes maximum legal size striped bass catches
- .08: Added that a striped bass must be tagged before removing a boat from the water (in addition to before a striped bass is removed from a boat); Altered Importation Requirements to allow striped bass fillets to be imported without a tag
- .09: omitted the word “daily” from requirement that packers and dealers maintain logs of striped bass transactions
- .10: Set out requirements for Commercial Fishery, including quota, minimum size, and season for Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays, and Tributaries, also including prohibitions and limitations on commercial fishing (such as legal gear and flag marker requirements) and licensing provisions (such as intent to fish requirements and legal seasons/times).
- .11: Specified rules for Recreational Fishery including quota, minimum size, and season for Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays, and Tributaries
- .12: Specified rules for Charterboat Fishery including quota, minimum size, and season for Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays, and Tributaries
- .12-1: Specified rules for Trophy Fishery including quota, minimum size, and season for Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays, and Tributaries
- .13: Clarified language in general restrictions; noted that failure to submit required report could result in license revocation

1994 October

Emergency Action for amendments to .01, .02, .05-.13

- Extended emergency status of July Amendments
- Added Amendments:
- .04: Altered quota; minor language changes
- .10: Altered commercial fishing season
- .11: Altered recreational fishing season

- .12: Altered recreational fishing season; minor language changes

1995 March	Extended Emergency Status of amendments to .01, .02, and .04 – .13 enacted in July and October 1994
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1995 May	<p>Emergency Regulation amending .01 and .02, amending and recodifying existing Regulations .05, .08, .09, and .13, repealing Regulations .04, .06, .07, and .10 - 12.1, and adopting new Regulations .07-.11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .01: Adds “incidental” to provision under which catch and immediate return of striped bass to water unharmed a non-violation • .02: Removes definition of “take” and changes the quota year • .05: Became .04; Department issued commercial license was added with limitations • .08: Became .05; Added that a striped bass must be tagged before removing a boat from the water (in addition to before a striped bass is removed from a boat); Altered Importation Requirements to allow striped bass fillets to be imported without a tag • .09: Became .06; omitted the word “daily” from requirement that packers and dealers maintain logs of striped bass transactions • New Regulation .07: Set out requirements for Commercial Fishery, including quota, minimum size, and season for Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean, Coastal Bays, and Tributaries, also including prohibitions and limitations on commercial fishing (such as legal gear and flag marker requirements) and licensing provisions (such as intent to fish requirements and legal seasons/times). • New Regulation .08: Set out requirements for the Recreational and Charter Boat Spring Season, including dates, size and catch limit, intent to participate requirements, fishing area, prohibition of eels as bait, and disposition of catch requirements (tagging and reporting requirements) • New Regulation .09: Set out requirements for the Recreational and Charter Boat Summer Fishery, including season, minimum size, and catch limit
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- New Regulation .10: Set out requirements for the Recreational and Charter Boat Fall Fishery, including season, minimum size, and catch limit
- New Regulation .11: Set out requirements for the Atlantic Ocean Recreational and Charter Boat Fishery, including season, minimum size, and catch limit
- Regulation .13: Changed to .12; set out possession of striped bass requirements under general restrictions, including restriction on culling, restrictions for Charter Boats, and failure to report penalty (possible license revocation)

1995 September	Adopted regulations for the same stuff as contained in the May 1995 proposed regulation
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1996 May	<p>Emergency Regulation for amendments to .07 - .12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .07: Altered quota and fishing season for Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay and Tributaries • .08: Altered season, quota, fishing area, and reporting method (to phone number) for Recreational and Charter Boat Spring Fishery- Chesapeake Bay • .09: Altered minimum legal length for catches during Recreational and Charter Boat Summer Fishery- Chesapeake Bay • .10: Altered Season for Recreational and Charter Boat Fall Fishery- Chesapeake Bay • .11: Removed Season limitations contained in the Recreational and Charter Boat Season for the Atlantic Coast • .12: Removed annual target harvest language; made it so that for recreational striped bass seasons, persons may not possess striped bass from 9 pm to 5 am uniformly
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1996 August	Regulations adopted as emergency regulations May 1996 adopted as final regulations
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1996 November	<p>Emergency Regulation for amendments to .05 and .07</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .05: Loosened regulations on disposition of catch to allow more time for commercial licensees to have their harvest counted and weighed
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- .07: Altered season and time for Commercial Striped Bass fishery

1997 April	<p>Emergency Regulation for amendments to .08 and .09</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .08: Altered recreational and charter boat spring fishery • .09: Altered recreational and charter boat summer fishery
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1997 June	<p>Emergency Regulation for amendments to .07 and .10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .07: Altered commercial fishery quota and season; Added limitations on commercial striped bass hook and line fishery, including crew limit and flag requirement • .10: Altered recreational and charter boat fall fishery
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1998 January	<p>Emergency Regulation for amendments to .05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .05: Loosened regulations on disposition of catch to allow more time for commercial licensees to have their harvest counted and weighed
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1998 January	<p>Emergency Regulation to extend emergency status of amendments to .07 and .10 of June 1997</p>
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1998 March	<p>Emergency Regulation for amendments to .07</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .07: Altered gill net regulations
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1998 April	<p>Emergency Regulation for amendments to .04, .05, .07-.10, and .12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .04: Added alternative that gill net and hook and line could be used together as a possible method of fishing under commercial license • .05: Loosened regulations on disposition of catch to allow more time for commercial licensees to have their harvest counted and weighed • .07: Altered quota and seasons for commercial fishery; altered hook and line limitations • .08: Altered recreational and charter boat spring fishery and length limitations
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- .09: Altered recreational and charter boat summer fishery, length limitations, and take limitations
- .10: Altered recreational and charter boat fall fishery
- .12: Altered possession prohibitions in general restrictions

1998 July	Adopted Regulations submitted as emergency regulations in April 1998
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1999 April	<p>Changed sections of rivers and other special conservation areas known as striped bass spawning reaches- <i>used to be</i> area within and bounded by the shoreline and lines connecting Worton Point to Abbey Point in the Chesapeake Bay, <i>Carpenter Point to Red Point</i>, Scotland Point to Old Frenchtown Wharf in the Elk River, the Maryland/Delaware state line in the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, Town Point to Ford Landing at the mouth of the Bohemia river, Grove Point to Howell Point at the mouth of the Sassafras River, and Meeks Point to Rocky Point at the mouth of Still Pond Creek; <i>now</i> area within and bounded by the shoreline and lines connecting Worton Point to Abbey Point in the Chesapeake Bay, <i>Sandy Point to Turkey Point</i>, Scotland Point to Old Frenchtown Wharf in the Elk River, the Maryland/Delaware state line in the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, Town Point to Ford Landing at the mouth of the Bohemia river, Grove Point to Howell Point at the mouth of the Sassafras River, and Meeks Point to Rocky Point at the mouth of Still Pond Creek</p>
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1999 April	<p>Changed commercial seasons for taking striped bass as follows:</p> <p>Pound net season was June 1 through November 27; <i>changed to</i> June 1 through November 30</p> <p>Haul seine season was June 8 through November 27; <i>changed to</i> June 7 through November 30</p> <p>Hook and line season was June 15 through November 27; <i>changed to</i> June 14 through November 30</p> <p>Drift gill net season was <i>November 15</i> through February 28; <i>changed to</i> <i>December 1</i> through the last day of February</p>
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1999 April	Added exception to prohibition on commercial tidal fish licensee catching of striped bass between 6 p.m. on Friday and 5 a.m. Monday <i>for use of pound nets on Saturdays</i>
1999 April	Set minimum legal size for the spring season at <i>28 inches</i> for all areas (previously 32 inches for some areas)
1999 April	<p>Made the following rules for recreational and charter boat striped bass fishery in the Chesapeake Bay and its Tidal Tributaries, except for the tributaries of the Potomac River:</p> <p>Set Summer and Fall Season at June 1 through November 30</p> <p>Set minimum legal size for June 1 through June 13 at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One striped bass between 18 inches and 28 inches in total length One striped bass at least 28 inches in total length <p>Set minimum legal size for June 14 through November 30 at 18 inches in length</p> <p>Set catch limit at two striped bass per person per day</p>
1999 April	<p>Made following rules for recreational and charter boat striped bass fishery in the Maryland tributaries of the Potomac River:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Summer and Fall Season at July 1 through December 31 Set minimum size at 18 inches in total length Set catch limit at two striped bass per day per person
1999 April	Changed restriction on the Captain and Mate of a chartered fishing trip, which said that they may not land or possess striped bass during the Chesapeake Bay summer season to permit them to land and possess one striped bass per day for personal consumption only
1999 April	Changed language to read that a person who employs a fishing guide licensee authorized to participate in a striped

bass season is not required to obtain a striped bass permit stamp in accordance with section *F* of the regulation instead of with section *G*.

1999 April	Changed season limitations on the Secretary to read that the gill net season must be set within the period December through February instead of November through March 15.
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NOTE April 1999 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2000 March	Removed the prohibition on hook and release fishing for striped bass in the Susquehanna Flats, upstream of a line from Sandy Point to Turkey Point and the Northeast River from April 3 through April 30 for individuals who held a valid Chesapeake Bay sport fishing license, while leaving the prohibition on gill netting activities in these areas in effect
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2000 March	Changed the definition of "quota year" for striped bass <i>from July 1 through June 30 to January 1 through December 31</i>
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2000 March	Changed sections of rivers and other special conservation areas known as striped bass spawning reaches- <i>used to be</i> area within and bounded by the shoreline and lines connecting Worton Point to Abbey Point in the Chesapeake Bay, <i>Carpenter Point to Red Point</i> , Scotland Point to Old Frenchtown Wharf in the Elk River, the Maryland/Delaware state line in the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, Town Point to Ford Landing at the mouth of the Bohemia river, Grove Point to Howell Point at the mouth of the Sassafras River, and Meeks Point to Rocky Point at the mouth of Still Pond Creek; <i>now</i> area within and bounded by the shoreline and lines connecting Worton Point to Abbey Point in the Chesapeake Bay, <i>Sandy Point to Turkey Point</i> , Scotland Point to Old Frenchtown Wharf in the Elk River, the Maryland/Delaware state line in the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, Town Point to Ford Landing at the mouth of the Bohemia river, Grove Point to Howell Point at the mouth of the Sassafras River, and Meeks Point to Rocky Point at the mouth of Still Pond Creek
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2000 March	For the striped bass commercial fishery in the Chesapeake Bay and its Tidal Tributaries set minimum legal size at 18 inches in total length and the maximum legal size at 36 inches in total length
2000 March	<p>Changed commercial seasons for taking striped bass as follows:</p> <p>Pound net season was June 1 through November 27; <i>changed to</i> June 1 through November 30</p> <p>Haul seine season was June 8 through November 27; <i>changed to</i> June 7 through November 30</p> <p>Hook and line season was June 15 through November 27; <i>changed to</i> June 14 through November 30</p> <p>Drift gill net season was <i>November 15</i> through February 28; <i>changed to December 1</i> through <i>the last day of February</i></p>
2000 March	Added exception to prohibition on commercial tidal fish licensee catching of striped bass between 6 p.m. on Friday and 5 a.m. Monday <i>for use of pound nets on Saturdays</i>
2000 March	For areas governed by sections F(1) and (2) (Maryland's portion of the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland Tributaries), the recreational and charter boat spring season was changed from April 24 through May 31 to April 25 through May 31
2000 March	For areas governed by section F(3) (Maryland Tributaries of the Potomac River), the recreational and charter boat spring season was changed from April 25 through May 10 to April 22 through May 31
2000 March	For the striped bass recreational and charter boat spring season the minimum legal size was set at 28 inches total length for all areas.

2000 March	<p>Made following rules for recreational and charter boat striped bass fishery in the Maryland tributaries of the Potomac River downstream of Woodrow Wilson Bridge (I-95):</p> <p>Set Summer and Fall Season at June 1 through December 31</p> <p>Set minimum size at 18 inches in total length and set a maximum size for one of the fish at 28 inches in total length</p> <p>Set catch limit at two striped bass per day per person</p>
2000 March	<p>Changed restriction on the Captain and Mate of a chartered fishing trip, which said that they may not land or possess striped bass during the Chesapeake Bay summer season to permit them to land and possess one striped bass per day for personal consumption only during that season</p>
2000 March	<p>Changed language to read that a person who employs a fishing guide licensee authorized to participate in a striped bass season is not required to obtain a striped bass permit stamp in accordance with section <i>F</i> of the regulation instead of with section <i>G</i>.</p>
2000 March	<p>Changed season limitations on the Secretary to read that the gill net season must be set within the period December 1 through the last day of February instead of November through March 15.</p>
2001 April	<p>Changed dates for hook and release fishing for striped bass in the Susquehanna Flats, upstream of a line from Sandy Point to Turkey Point and the Northeast River from April 3 through April 30 to April 1 through April 30 for individuals who held a valid Chesapeake Bay sport fishing license, while leaving the prohibition on gill netting activities in these areas in effect</p>
2001 April	<p>For areas governed by sections F(1) and (2) (Maryland's portion of the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland Tributaries) of the striped bass regulations, the recreational and charter boat spring season was changed from April 25 through May 31 to April 20 through May 31</p>

2001 April	For areas governed by section F(3) (Maryland Tributaries of the Potomac River), the recreational and charter boat spring season was changed from April 22 through May 31 to April 21 through May 31
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NOTE April 2001 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2001 June	April 2001 Emergency/Proposed Regulations Adopted as Final
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2002 February	For the Commercial Striped Bass Fishery, the number of licensees allowed to catch striped bass with their individual permits from a boat on any day was limited to three
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2002 February	For the Commercial Striped Bass Fishery, the definition of stretched mesh size for drift gill nets was made to conform to COMAR 08.02.05.02A.
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2002 February	<p>For commercial tidal fish licensees, language pertaining to daily tolerance allowances was altered.</p> <p>Previously, it read:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A commercial tidal fish licensee may not <i>harvest</i> more than the licensee's <i>daily allocation plus 10 percent</i>.</p> <p>It was changed to read:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A commercial tidal fish licensee may not <i>catch</i> more than the licensee's <i>catch limit and the tolerance allowance in pounds as follows</i>:</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;"><i>For a daily catch limit, there is a 50-pound tolerance allowance</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;"><i>For a weekly catch limit, there is a 50-pound tolerance allowance</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;"><i>For a seasonal catch limit, there is a 50-pound tolerance allowance</i></p>
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2002 February	<p>For commercial tidal fish licensees, language pertaining to permits was altered.</p> <p>Previously it read:</p>
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A commercial tidal fish licensee may not *harvest* striped bass, using another licensee's permit, until the licensee's own season allocation has been harvested.
It was changed to read:
A commercial tidal fish licensee may not *catch* striped bass, using another licensee's permit, until the licensee's own season allocation has been harvested.

2002 February For commercial tidal fish licensees, language pertaining to permits was altered.
Previously it read:
A commercial tidal fish licensee may not *harvest more than one permit's daily allocation per day*.
It was changed to read:
A commercial tidal fish licensee may not *catch more than one permit's allocation, except as permitted by a valid tidal fish license transfer under Natural Resources Article, section 4-701(i), Annotated Code of Maryland*.

2002 February For commercial striped bass fishing, limitations to the striped bass allocation permit were defined. Such a permit must be assigned to the permittee's tidal fish license, transferred only with the tidal fish license, and assigned tamper-evident tags in accordance with Natural Resources Article, section 4-701(i), Annotated Code of Maryland.

NOTE February 2001 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2002 April Changed dates for hook and release fishing for striped bass in the Susquehanna Flats, upstream of a line from Sandy Point to Turkey Point and the Northeast River from *April 1* through April 30 to *March 15* through *May 3* for individuals who held a valid Chesapeake Bay sport fishing license, while leaving the prohibition on gill netting activities in these areas in effect

2002 April Limited the number of pound net sites a commercial licensee may have registered with the Department of Natural Resources to a maximum of eight and prohibited a fisherman from registering non-active sites.

2002 April	Set the dates of the striped bass recreational and charter boat Spring Season at April 20 through May 15 for all areas described in sections F(1), F(2), and F(3) of the regulation (Maryland tributaries of the Potomac River).
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2002 April	Set the dates of the striped bass recreational and charter boat Summer and Fall Seasons at May 16 through May 31 for areas described in Regulation .08F(1) and (2); at June 1 through December 15 for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries except the tributaries of the Potomac River; and at June 1 through December 31 for Maryland tributaries of the Potomac River downstream of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge (I-95)
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NOTE April 2002 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2002 May	Emergency/Proposed Regulations listed above at April 2002 were adopted as Final
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2002 May	Definitions were added and clarified: “Harvest” was defined at “take, fill, trap, gather, catch, or in any manner reduce any fish to personal possession or to attempt to engage in this conduct. “Striped bass permit stamp” was replaced by “striped bass allocation permit,” which means “a permit issued by the Department which allows a person to commercially harvest striped bass.
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2002 May	It was clarified that for purposes of this chapter, the designation of a spawning river, area, and reach includes all tributaries to the river, area, or reach.
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2002 May	Language pertaining to Registration of a Tidal Fish Licensee Intent to Fish was altered. Previously it read: A commercial tidal fish licensee or fishing guide licensee shall declare intent to participate in a striped bass season in accordance with B(1) or (2)(a) or this
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regulation, within the time period established in this chapter.

It was changed to read:

A commercial tidal fish licensee shall register for a striped bass allocation permit to participate in a striped bass season in accordance with sections (A)(2), (A)(3), and B(1) or (2)(a) of this regulation, within the time period established in this chapter. A fishing licensee shall register to participate in the striped bass season in accordance with section A(3) of this regulation.

In addition, a registration schedule was added:

A tidal fish licensee shall submit an application to the Department by March 31 of each year; a tidal fish licensee who has not registered by March 31 of the current year, and who has not registered late in any of the three preceding years, may apply up to April 14 of the current year to the Director of Fisheries Service if the licensee can show good reason why the application should be validated; an individual that does not register by April 14 of the current year, or the close of business the next business day when April 14 occurs on a weekend, is not eligible to participate in the striped bass fishery for the current year; and an exception to the April 14 deadline will be considered only for an individual who can provide satisfactory documentation of a physical or mental incapacity that prevented that individual from meeting the registration time period established in this subsection.

The Department's Actions concerning registration were also defined:

The Department shall make registration applications available to eligible tidal fish license holders at regional licensing centers not later than March 12 of each year and shall use the registrations received as of April 14 of each year to determine gear and net allocations for the striped bass fishing season.

A fishing guide licensee's requirements were defined:

A fishing guide licensee shall register to carry paying customers to fish for striped bass within the time period established by the Department.

2002 May

It was clarified that a tidal fish licensee must specify and be authorized to use one of the listed fishing alternatives when registering for fishing in both the Chesapeake Bay and its

tributaries and the Atlantic Ocean, its coastal bays and their tributaries.

2002 May It was specified that a fishing guide licensee is not required to register to participate in the striped bass season for the Atlantic Ocean, but a commercial tidal fish licensee must possess a Department issued striped bass allocation permit while fishing during the appropriate season

2002 May Restrictions on commercial tidal fish licensees who had no registered to catch striped bass for sale or participate during the Chesapeake Bay Season was expanded to include the entire commercial striped bass season

2002 May Pound net registration requirements for participation in the striped bass season were added and clarified to conform to the previously recorded registration requirements. A requirement that a pound net is required to have a heart or funnel leading into the pound net crib were specified. Other requirements were also added:
 A commercial tidal fish licensee may not register to participate in the striped bass season for more pound nets than the number of pound nets registered to that licensee and for no more than four pound nets
 New certification is required if a licensee wishes to increase the number of pound nets from that registered form the previous year or the licensee has not previously had pound nets certified for the fishery
 In addition to the above requirements, it was specified that the net body or crib shall have a bottom panel and that latitude and longitude coordinates from a GPS shall be on record with the Department for each registered pound net site.

2002 May It was specified that a commercial tidal fish licensee who catches striped bass must have license transfer paperwork if applicable, along with previously required items

2002 May It was specified that assigned allocation permits must be returned to the department within 10 days of the end of the season

2002 May	It was specified that striped bass tags may be transferred only in accordance with a Department approved license transfer pursuant to Natural Resources Article section 4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland.
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2002 May	Check in time requirements were altered to require that a commercial tidal fish licensee registered with a hook and line striped bass allocation permit must have his striped bass harvest counted and weighed by the Department representative at the check station not later than 9 p.m. on the day of harvest or 9 a.m. on the day immediately following harvest
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2002 May	The requirement that at check-in a person shall surrender the allocation permit to the Department representative upon achieving his allowable harvest for the season was removed
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2002 May	The term "landing ticket" was replaced by "daily logsheet"
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2002 May	The requirement that a commercial tidal fish or fishing guide licensee participating in a striped bass season shall maintain current daily logs and transmit weekly reports to the Department postmarked not later than Tuesday following the end of the reporting week was repealed.
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2002 May	For the commercial fishery in the Atlantic Ocean, its coastal bays and their tributaries, language was added permitting the Secretary to modify the number for licensees with individual permits that may catch striped bass on a boat on any day by publishing notice in a daily newspaper of general circulation at least 48 hours in advance of the time of modification, stating the effective hour and date.
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2002 May	It was clarified that the definition of stretched mesh size for attended drift gill nets for commercial fishing in tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay is that specified in COMAR 08.02.05.02A(6)
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2002 May	It was added that the Secretary an proportionally increase the weekly allocation of all commercial tidal fish licensees during the season (as well as the daily and seasonal allocations)
2002 May	Language proscribing catch limitations for a commercial tidal fish licensee was altered to remove daily allocation plus 10 percent and to substitute that with daily, weekly, and seasonal 50-pound tolerance allowances and substituted the term "harvest" with "catch"
2002 May	It was clarified that a commercial tidal fish licensee may not catch more than one permit's allocation unless permitted by a valid tidal fish license transfer according to section 4-701. Assignment and transfer of a valid tidal fish license is attached to tidal fish license and tamper-evident tags in accordance with section 4-701.
2002 May	For the Recreational and Charter Boat Spring Fishery, seasonal catch limit language was eliminated, the requirement to have a permit-stamp to fish was repealed for private recreational anglers, and the requirement to report possession of a striped bass at the end of the trip was repealed.
2002 May	<p>Requirements for filleting striped bass were clarified:</p> <p>Dockside landings of striped bass must be of the whole fish except that a licensed charter boat captain or mate may fillet striped bass taken on a vessel with a charterboat decal where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The total length or species of the fish may still be identified *The fish is available at dockside unmixed after all passengers from the vessel have left the dock area and is included in the possession limit *All striped bass carcasses from a previous trip must be disposed of before any person begins to fish on a subsequent trip

2002 May	The striped bass permit stamp requirement was repealed along with restrictions and exceptions pertaining thereto
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2003 January	A provision was added that during the month of December and not later than 9 a.m. on the day immediately following harvest, a commercial tidal fish licensee registered with a gill net striped bass allocation permit shall have the licensee's striped bass harvest counted and weighed by a Department representative at a check station
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2003 January	The hook and line commercial season was altered to be <i>Monday through Thursday</i> June 14 through <i>December 12</i> from June 14 through <i>November 30</i>
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2003 January	The drift gill net commercial fishery limitations were altered to state that a commercial tidal fish licensee may not fish with, but may maintain on a boat more than 600 linear yards of drift gill net; the total length of drift gill net allowed aboard a boat was changed from 2400 to 3200 yards; the language was altered to require that a licensee must be on board a boat for every 600 yard increment of drift gill net in the water; time restrictions were added such that from January 1 through February 28 a drift gill net may not be set before 3 a.m. and shall be retrieved and in the boat by 6 p.m.; and from December 1 through December 31, a drift gill net may not be set before 3 a.m. and shall be retrieved and in the boat by 10 p.m.
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****Note: This Emergency Regulation Went Into Effect December 2002 and was never adopted as a final regulation through N&C rulemaking

2003 July	Fishing guide licensees are no longer required to register to participate in the striped bass fishing season
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2003 July	The registration schedule for tidal fish licensees was changed such that a tidal fish licensee shall submit an application to the Department by <i>August 31</i> of each year instead of <i>March 31</i> of each year
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2003 July The registration schedule for tidal fish licensees was changed such that a tidal fish licensee who has not registered by *August 31* instead of *March 31* of the current year, and who has not registered late in any of the three preceding years, may apply up to *September 14* instead of *April 14* of the current year to the Director of Fisheries Service if the licensee can show good reason why the application should be validated

2003 July The registration schedule for tidal fish licensees was changed such that an individual that does not register by April 14 of the current year, or the close of business the next business day when *September 14* instead of *April 14* occurs on a weekend, is not eligible to participate in the striped bass fishery for the *next calendar* instead of the *current year*;

2003 July The registration schedule for tidal fish licensees was changed such that an exception to the *September 14* instead of *April 14* deadline will be considered only for an individual who can provide satisfactory documentation of a physical or mental incapacity that prevented that individual from meeting the registration time period established in this subsection.

2003 July The Department's Actions concerning registration were also defined:

The Department shall make registration applications available to eligible tidal fish license holders at regional licensing centers not later than *August 1 of each year* instead of *March 12 of each year* and shall use the registrations received as of *September 14* instead of *April 14* of each year to determine gear and net allocations for the striped bass fishing season.

2003 July A new pound net registration requirement that an affidavit signed by the licensee shall be on record with the Department and shall include a specific time period during which the net or nets shall be set and available for inspection was created

2003 July	<p>New requirements for the Atlantic Ocean, its coastal bays and their tributaries commercial striped bass fishery were created:</p> <p>Striped bass caught in the waters of the state must be landed in the state</p> <p>The Department may waive the provisions set forth in section B(4) of this regulation if an individual files with the Department an affidavit signed by the individual which specifies out of state landing location and Maryland check station where fish will be counted and weighed</p>
2003 December	<p>A provision was added to make it so that check-in in the month of December and not later than 9 a.m. on the day immediately following harvest, a commercial tidal fish licensee registered with a gill net striped bass allocation permit shall have his striped bass harvest counted and weighed by a Department representative at a check station</p>
2003 January	<p>For the Drift Gill Net fishery, language was altered such that a commercial tidal fish licensee may not fish, but may maintain upon a boat more than 600 linear yards of drift gill net; total length of drift gill net aboard a boat shall not exceed 3200 yards rather than 2400 yards; a licensee must be on the boat for every 600 yards of drift gill net in the water; time restrictions were added such that from January 1 through February 28 a drift gill net may not be set before 3 a.m. and shall be retrieved and in the boat by 6 p.m.; and from December 1 through December 31, a drift gill net may not be set before 3 a.m. and shall be retrieved and in the boat by midnight</p>
2005 January	<p>For spawning rivers, areas, and reaches exceptions to the regulation that a person may not catch, harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, or attempt to catch striped bass hybrids in the striped bass spawning rivers and areas listed in section b of the regulation were limited to those contained in regulation.09 (omitting regulation .08)</p>
2005 January	<p>New reporting requirements were added (Chapter .06): A tidal fish licensee shall return the forms containing catch and</p>

landing information tot the Department in the time period specified by the Department; In addition to any other penalty, failure to submit a report as required by this chapter may result in license revocation under Natural Resources Article section 4-701, Annotated Code of Maryland

2005 January Language pertaining to the Recreational and Charter Boat Summer and Fall fishery was corrected to clarify that .09 applies to the Chesapeake Bay, but not its tributaries and removes an exception of regulation .08 that allows fishing in the Susquehanna Flats during March 1 through May 1, thus clarifying a general restriction in Regulation .03D(1)

2005 January The general restriction that a failure to submit a report as required by chapter .12 was removed (it was added to .06 as noted above.

2006 April The period during which a recreational angler may hook striped bass was changed from *March 1* through May 3 to *March 15* through May 3.for Susquehanna flats upstream of a line from Sandy Point to Turkey Point and the Susquehanna River downstream from a line connecting the Susquehanna State Park Boat Ram in Lapidum to Twin Rocks to Tomes Wharf in Port Deposit. It is also added that the Secretary may extend the season for catch and release fishing as described in section B(5) of this regulation by public notice.

NOTE April 2006 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2006 November The restriction against culling striped bass was altered to include the exception that an individual may cull striped bass if the bass is released unharmed by an individual who is a registrant participating in a catch and release fishing tournament authorized by the Secretary

NOTE November 2006 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2007 April .03 amended to modify areas where recreational angle for finfish may hook fish and immediately release to include the line connecting the Susquehanna State Park boat ramp to Twin Rocks to Tomes Wharf.
.08 amended to modify the size limits for recreational and charter boat spring fishery from 25 inches to "25 inches to 35 inches" or 41 inches or greater.

NOTE April 2007 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations.

2007 July .12 amended to create the Mycobacteriosis Tagging Study.

NOTE July 2007 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations.

2008 February .03 amended to include a reference to COMAR 08.02.01.06B(6); amended to modify by N&C the where recreational angle finfishing may occur; it is modified to include the Susquehanna River downstream from the Susquehanna State Park boat ramp to Twin Rocks to Tomes Wharf; amended to add in the regulating where recreational angle finfishing may occur in the area of Chester River.
.07 amended the organization of catch limits.
.08 amended the season for recreational and charter boat spring fishery from the third Saturday in April through May 15 to April 19, 2008 through May 13, 2008.
.09 amended to include provisions concerning Susquehanna Flats and Northeast River's catch restrictions; also amended to include catch restrictions during the summer and fall season.
.12 amended to include the Mycobacteriosis Tagging Study as a finalized N&C regulation.

2008 August .04 amended to establish that when a commercial tidal fish licensee has registered and certified pound nets, a recipient of the transfer of the registered nets does not have to recertify pound nets.
.05 amended: to modify how permits and tags are affixed and to affix within 200 yards of the pound net to a striped bass; to allocate a permit card and striped bass tags for one fishing-gear type on vessel.

2009 September	.04 amended to modify the allocation permit or permits or the hook and line portion from the period of April 1, 2009 through April 24, 2009, to March 1 through March 31, or the allocation permit or permits described in §B of this regulation during the period August 1 through August 31; and establish that a tidal fish licensee may not receive a permit to be authorized to use gears mentioned in this section for regulating harvest; and establish limitations for commercial tidal fish licensees in harvesting from the Chesapeake Bay waters. .07 amended to include a floating marker, with a volume of at least 460 cubic inches.
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2010 March	.03 amended to add fishing restrictions for the period of March 1 through to the third Friday in April, when recreationally angling. Also dictates that no more than six lines may be used on a vessel.
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Blue Crab

1999 March	Clarified that if two or more individuals without a non-commercial crabbing license are on a boat, not more than two trotlines, neither of which may be over 600 feet in length, may be used per boat. These trotlines shall have afloat of the same color, size, and shape attached to each end. If floats are round or spherical, they must be 12 inches in diameter. If not round or spherical, floats must be at least 10 inches in width and 12 inches in length
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1999 March	Deleted requirement that a trotline in excess of 2,000 feet in length have an addition float at or near the midpoint of the trotline in accordance with certain specifications. Included in regulation .08.02.03.01(2) a limit already imposed by Natural Resources Code Section 4-805 Annotated Code of Maryland that multiple individuals on one boat who do not have a non-commercial fishing license may not use more than any combination of 25 collapsible crab traps and net rings.
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1999 March New crab pot specs require a turtle reduction device, which is attached to each entrance or funnel of the lower chamber, is constructed of wire or plastic, is rectangular, and has dimensions not to exceed 1.75 inches in height and 4.75 inches in length.

1999 March The daily catch limit for recreational crabbers in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries was set at
 For Hard Crabs: 1 bushel per individual without a non-commercial crabbing license; 2 bushels per boat if two or more individuals that do not hold a non-commercial crabbing license are on the boat; 2 bushels per individual that holds a valid non-commercial crabbing license; 3 bushels per boat if two or more individuals are on the boat and at least one of the individuals holds a valid non-commercial fishing license; 3 bushels per boat if two or more individuals that hold a valid non-commercial crabbing license are on the boat
 For Peeler Crabs and Soft Shell Crabs: 1 dozen per individual that does not hold a valid noncommercial crabbing license; 3 dozen per individual that holds a valid non-commercial crabbing license.
The recreational daily catch limit in the waters of the coastal bays of the Atlantic Ocean and their tributaries for hard crabs is 1 bushel per individual; and 2 bushels per boat if two or more individuals are on the boat.

2000 March Changed regulations concerning setting commercial bank traps and channel pounds in the tidal waters of Somerset County, which are primarily used to target peeler and soft crabs in shallow waters and are constructed of hedging and a retention box:
 -Altered legal placement of wire bank traps or channel pounds in Somerset County such that these traps may not be placed within 300 feet of another bank trap or channel pound; within 500 feet of an occupied residence located on riparian waterfront property unless the riparian waterfront property owner, tenant, or lessee provides written permission (including signature, address, and telephone number and held for presentation to a DNR or other police officer upon request) authorizing the placement of bank traps or channel pounds within a closer proximity; or within

300 feet of a private community association bathing beach or 1,000 feet of a public bathing beach, or 500 feet of another bank trap or channel pound
-Set legal number of bank traps allowed to be set in tidal waters of Somerset County at 35 bank traps or channel pounds

2000 March Clarified that the top of a bank trap or channel pound includes the entire surface of the top of the trap and not just the chimney (this portion is to remain 12 inches above the surface of the water to provide airspace to permit air-breathing animals to survive).

2000 June Modified the navigational crab pot float free channel to Bodkin Creek.

2001 July Set regulations to control the use of blue crabs as bait in commercial crab pots used to catch peeler stage blue crabs such that adult male live blue crabs used as bait in the upper chamber of peeler pots, or crab pots as peeler pots may not be less than the legal minimum size and may not have the claws removed

2001 July Set regulations to reduce the commercial harvest rates of blue crabs in the Chesapeake Bay:
-Set an eight hour workday for the harvesting of crabs by commercial crabbers using all great types (trotlines, between 1 hour before sunrise to 7 hours after sunrise; crab pots, bank traps, collapsible traps, net rings, scrapes, hand lines, or dip nets between 0.5 hour before sunrise to 7.5 hours after sunrise). In addition, commercial crab pot licensees would be able to set pots already on board the boat at the end of the 8-hour crabbing period for an additional hour after the 8-hour crabbing period. These limits were not applicable to the fishing of bank traps before May 1.

2001 July Altered regulations concerning declared days off, requiring that a commercial licensee that has declared a day off include the person vehicle i.d. number and declared day off

on the person's license. A person will not be permitted to change the declared day off during a season.

2001 July An exception to the required days off for both recreational and commercial crabbers was added: Recreational crabbers are allowed to crab on Wednesday if that day immediately precedes or falls on a State or Federal Holiday. When a State or Federal Holiday occurs between the Saturday preceding the declared day off through the Friday following the declared day off, commercial crabbers will be allowed to crab on their required day off (Sunday or Monday) during the specified period.

2001 July Minimum air volume requirements for bank traps to enable air breathing animals to survive entrapment in commercial crab bank traps was altered such that an airspace safety chamber must extend 12 inches above the water at mean high tide, and consist of a cube not less than 12 inches on each side and 12 inches high, or a cylinder not less than 18 inches in diameter and 12 inches high (instead of requiring the entire top surface to be 12 inches above the water at mean high tide).

2001 July Set regulations for commercial harvesting of blue crabs in Worcester County:
 -Established a time restriction for the commercial blue crab fishery, such that a person licensed to catch crabs for sale may not remove crabs from commercial gear in the seaside bays of the Atlantic Ocean and their tidal tributaries of the Atlantic Ocean and their tidal tributaries between 2 p.m. and 5:30 a.m.
 -Prohibited the catching of blue crabs by scrapes and dredges.

2001 August Altered the commercial crab season, closing it one month early, changing it from April 1, 2001 through *November 30, 2001* to April 1, 2001 to midnight on *October 31, 2001*. Additionally, all crab pots must be removed from State waters by *November 15* instead of *December 31* as the regulation previously required.

2002 March	<p>Changed dates when a person may not catch blue crabs from <i>October 31</i> to <i>April 1</i> to <i>December 15</i> to <i>April 1</i>. Changed requirement for removal of all crab pots from state waters from <i>November 15</i> to <i>December 31</i> of each year.</p> <hr/>
2002 March	<p>Set complete prohibition on possession, transport, or packing of female crabs from which the egg pouch or bunion has been removed, or an egg bearing female crab known as the sponge crab.</p> <hr/>
2002 March	<p>Altered time for catching crabs such that, notwithstanding Natural Resources Article Section 4-813, Annotated Code of Maryland, an individual licensed to catch crabs for sale may remove crabs from commercial gear in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries only during specified times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -For trotlines and scrapes: between 1 hour before sunrise and 9 hours after sunrise during the period May through September, and between sunrise and 10 hours after sunrise during April, October, November, and December -For crab pots, bank traps, collapsible traps, net rings, hand lines or dip nets between .5 hour before sunrise to 7.5 hours after sunrise <hr/>
2002 March	<p>Increased minimum size prohibitions for male hard, peeler, and soft crabs that may be caught by commercial or recreational means in Maryland and reduced tolerance limits for undersized crabs:</p> <p>A person may not catch or possess more than 5 hard crabs per bushel and 13 hard crabs per barrel which measures less than specified in these regulations; on August 1, 2002 male hard crabs must measure at least 5.25 inches across the shell from tip to tip of spike in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tribal tributaries; catch a male hard crab which measures less than 5 inches across the shell from tip to tip of spike in the waters of Worcester County; catch or possess more than 10 peeler crabs per bushel or more than 20 per float which are less than 3.5 inches across the shell from tip to tip of spike; and catch or possess a soft crab that measures less than 4 inches across the shell from tip to tip of spike.</p>

2002 May	Adopted the Fisheries Management Plan of September 2001.
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2002 November	Prohibited the use of crab scrapes in the Chesapeake Bay north of a line extending in a westerly direction from the southern point of the mouth of Punch Island Creek in Dorchester County at Lat. 38°25'52.3", Long. 76°17'19.7"W to Cove Point in Calvert County at Lat. 38°23'05.4"N, Long. 76°22'52.3" W.
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2002 November	Provided for the importation of hard crabs consistent with the 5-inch minimum size limit required in Maryland, but a tolerance limit for undersize hard crabs consistent with the undersize tolerance limit for the jurisdiction of origin.
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2002 November	<p>Changed recreational time restrictions for crabbing for blue crabs such that, except for handlines and dipnets, a person may not set any recreational crabbing gear or catch crabs for recreational purposes from a boat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-May through September between 5 p.m. and .5 hours before sunrise in the main Chesapeake Bay; and sunset and .5 hours before sunrise in tidal waters tributary to the Chesapeake Bay.-April, October, November, and December between 5 p.m. and .5 hours after sunrise in the main Chesapeake Bay and Sunset and .5 hours after sunrise in tidal waters tributary to the Chesapeake Bay.
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2003 April	Permitted a person to use a single hand pulled light scrape, not exceeding 45 pounds in weight or 48 inches in width in the area of the Chesapeake Bay east of a line from Cooks Point in Dorchester County at Lat. 38°37'41.5"N Long. 76°17'21.1"W then running approximately 193° True to Hills point in Dorchester County at Lat. 38°34'19.9"N Long 76°18'21.2"W
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2003 April	Set recreational daily crab limits to comply with Natural Resources Article Section 4-805, Annotated Code of Maryland.
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2003 April	Allowed importation of a female crab from which the egg pouch or bunion had been removed, or an egg bearing female crab known as the sponge crab from a state if accompanied by a bill of sale or bill of lading from the jurisdiction of origin.
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2003 April	The second and third Thursdays in November were added to a prohibition on commercial setting or retrieving of gear, or catching crabs in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries under .08.02.03.08(B)(1), unless they declare intent under section C of the regulation.
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2003 April	Added regulation that notwithstanding Natural Resources Article section 4-809, annotated code of Maryland, a person may not, from April 1 through July 14, catch or possess a male hard crab which measures less than 5 inches across the shell from tip to tip of the spike, from the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries; added possession prohibition for undersized crabs under .08.02.03.08(E); for peeler crabs, the size limitations were altered- from April 1 through July 14, they could not be less than 3.25 inches across the shell from tip to tip of the spike and from July 15 through December 15, they could not be less than 3.5 inches across the shell from tip to tip of the spike; changed size limitation for soft crabs so that they must be at least 3.5 inches across from tip to tip for possession.
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NOTE April 2003 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2003 June	Adopted as final Emergency Regulations set out above from April 2003 with non-substantive clarification that second and third Thursdays in November represent extra days upon which fishing may not take place
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2004 April	Modified blue crab regulations pertaining to commercial crabbing by clarifying that a crab scrape may only be
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set or put overboard during the period of time which a commercial crabber may harvest crabs from a crab scrape; Permitted harvest of crabs from pound nets only by those individuals authorized to harvest both crabs and finfish for commercial purposes and only during the hard crab season for up to 2 bushels per pound net per pound net licensee. Removed text specific to the fishery in the year 2000, which was thus outdated.

2004 April Modified blue crab regulations by moving the language for Worchester County recreational catch limits previously found in Regulation .03 into Regulation .06; moves the language of the current Regulation .04, which states that crabs landed in Worcester County may be landed out-of-State into Regulation .06.

2004 April With the repeal of Natural Resources Article, section 4-805, Annotated Code of Maryland, on December 31, 2003, provisions concerning recreational crabbing in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries that were contained in the former NR section 4-805 are enacted as regulations with language modifications that are consistent with other crab regulations.

2004 April Gear restrictions contained in the former NR section 4-805 for trotlines, collapsible crab traps, and crab net rings used for recreational purposes in the Chesapeake have been amended into existing regulation .01

2004 April New regulation .03 contains recreational crabbing license and recreational crabbing boat license provisions for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries and specifies fees for these licenses. Fees and types remain identical to those contained in former NR section 4-805.

2004 April New regulation .04 contains specifies recreational catch limits for the Chesapeake Bay formerly found in NR section 4-805. Modifications and one more restrictive catch limits from NR section 4-805 is added: the peeler and soft crab catch limit for 2 licensed individuals on a non-licensed boat was changed from 4 dozen peeler or soft crabs to 2 dozen

peelers or soft crabs. This change brings the regulation for these crabs into line with the rest of the regulation and limits provided for in the former NR section 4-805.

2004 April Two provisions not previously in former NR section 4-805 were added to aid enforcement officers: an individual must be in possession of the recreational crabbing license issued to the individual in order to use specified gear or amounts of gear and in order to catch and possess the higher catch limits when not on a boat licensed to catch crabs; an individual who purchases a recreational crabbing boat license must affix the decal to the owner's boat.

2004 April A buoy marking areas of the Pocomoke River in which a person may not set buoyed crab pots previously set out in the regulations as number 15 was corrected to reflect that it is actually marked number 23. Coordinates for this buoy are assigned. Coordinates were also added for the eroding Terrapin Sand Point, a location marking a boundary of Tangier Sound, where persons may set crab pots in water less than 4-feet deep at mean low tide.

2004 April The Regulation clarifies that regardless of the number of people that may own a pier or own or lease a piece of private property along the shore, the number of crab pots that can be set to catch crabs for recreational purposes is two pots per parcel of private property.

2004 April For commercial crabbing, to reflect current statute, bank traps were removed as a legal gear type for the harvest of crabs in St. Mary's County. "Constructed of wire mesh" was added to the definitions of both bank trap and channel pound eliminating the need for "wire" to be repeated throughout section H of Regulation .01. Under the new regulation, November 16 is set as the date by which all crab pots set for commercial purposes must be removed from State waters of the coastal bays of the Atlantic Ocean and their tributaries. Pots set for recreational purposes in State waters of the coastal bays of the Atlantic Ocean and their tributaries may remain through December 31.

NOTE April 2004 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2004 July	Adopted April 2004 Emergency Regulations set out above.
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2005 February	Clarified and corrected existing blue crab regulations: removed duplicate language in Regulation .01 related to prohibited areas and setting crab pots in the Patapsco River; clarified the season prohibition on crab scrapes and dredges and the legal areas for hand scrapes and dredges and the legal areas for hand scrapes; clarified that the trotline gear may be used for commercial or recreational purposes and the maximum amount of recreational trotline; clarified how many crab traps or net rings may be used on a boat without a license; amends conflicting language related to the 300 crab pots limit in the coastal bays; corrects a discrepancy in regulations .01J(4)(c)(iv) and (vi), which previously created two possible enforceable lines for prohibition of crab pot setting, to set a single line which had historically been the enforced line;
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2005 February	Clarified in Regulation .03 that an individual using a seine to catch crabs for recreational purposes in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries does not have to obtain a recreational crabbing license, and in Regulation .04 the catch limit for unlicensed crabbers is applied to crabbers using a seine.
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2005 February	Clarified in Regulation .09, that recreational crabbing is permitted on Wednesdays which fall on or immediately precede a State or federal holiday.
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2005 February	Repealed Regulation .04-1 and places all language on the prohibition of the sale of recreationally caught crabs into Regulation .09
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2005 November	Reorganized, corrected discrepancies, and updated crab regulations and related regulations. Reorganization included addition of a new lawful methods section to clearly list and defines all crab gear, and a clarification as to where crab pots may or may not be set, rectifying inconsistencies in
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boundary language. These changes to .08.02.03 included: repeal of previous Regulations .01 and .07, adoption of new regulations .01-.07, amendment and recodification of .03, .05, .06, and .08 to be regulations .09, .11, .12, and .13 and recodification of existing Regulations .02, .04, and .09 to be Regulations .08, .10, and .14

2005 November	Created a float free channel in the mouth of the Patuxent River frequently traversed by tug-boats to help prevent loss of fishing gear
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2005 November	Language removed from existing Regulation .07 was added to Regulation .05 to create one regulation containing both seasons and times for crabbing; language was clarified for the crab scrape season and pound nets were added to the season and time descriptions; the term "dredge" was removed from the regulations because it was previously used interchangeably with the term "scrape," creating confusing regulations.
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Oysters

1999 November	Established areas in which power dredging is permitted in Calvert County, Dorchester County, St. Mary's County, and Somerset County
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1999 November	Preserved areas within the power dredging zones as oyster sanctuaries in the counties listed above
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1999 November	Established DNR's ability to purchase oysters from a licensed oyster fisherman to assist in the transplant of oysters to the sanctuary zones
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1999 November	Established DNR's ability to reserve areas on a rotational basis for restoration and harvesting in accordance with Natural Resources Article, Section 4-1103, Annotated Code of Maryland.
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1999 November Established a penalty to be assessed upon individuals convicted of taking oysters from a sanctuary or other area closed to the harvesting of oysters

NOTE November 1999 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2000 April Emergency Status of Regulations passed November 1999 was continued.

NOTE April 2000 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2000 October Expanded the season for catching oysters for commercial purposes from *October 12* through March 31 to *September 25* through March 31 for gear types listed in .08.02.04.03(A)

2000 October Added September 25 through September 27, Monday through Wednesday from sunrise until 3 p.m. as times in which a person may catch oysters for a commercial purpose using shaft tong, patent tong, and diving apparatus; set daily catch limits for these gear types at 10 bushels per licensee

2000 October Set limit at three licensees to be aboard a boat while catching or possessing oysters from September 25 through September 27

NOTE October 2000 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2000 October Altered regulations to provide flexibility to commercial harvesters using dredge boats propelled by means of an auxiliary yawl boat carried on the dredge boat flexibility to choose two days between Monday and Friday to harvest oysters, instead of being limited to Mondays and Tuesdays; Notice to the Department must be made in advance of each day a boat is propelled in this fashion.

NOTE October 2000 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2000 December Finalized emergency/proposed regulations of October 2000

2000 December	Established areas in which power dredging is permitted in Calvert County, Dorchester County, St. Mary's County, and Somerset County
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2000 December	Preserved areas, at least 100 acres, in the counties listed above
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2000 December	Established DNR's ability to purchase oysters from a licensed oyster fisherman to assist in the transplant of oysters to the sanctuary zones
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2000 December	Established DNR's ability to reserve areas on a rotational basis for restoration and harvesting in accordance with Natural Resources Article, Section 4-1103, Annotated Code of Maryland.
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2000 December	Established a penalty to be assessed upon individuals convicted of taking oysters from a sanctuary or other area closed to the harvesting of oysters
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NOTE December 2000 Regulations Were Emergency/Proposed Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2001 April	Finalized emergency/proposed regulations of December 2000
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2003 February	Expanded and added oyster power dredging areas in Dorchester and Wicomico Counties, St. Mary's County and St. Mary's River, Somerset County, and Talbot County; for persons operating a power dredge under a power dredging permit under Natural Resources Article §4-1014, 4-1014.1, 4-1014.2, 4-1014.3, Annotated Code of Maryland, the regulation set a maximum size power dredge bar at 42 inches.
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NOTE February 2003 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2003 September	Finalized February 2003 Emergency regulations. (These regulations were proposed as a permanent change to the regulations July 2003.
2003 October	<p>Established criteria for the commercial harvest of oysters from harvest reserve areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Opened the harvest reserve areas to commercial harvest by shaft tong, patent tong, or diving apparatus at the Department's discretion Monday through Saturday *Set a minimum size for at 4 inches in length and required that culling take place on the reserve with culled shells and undersized oysters being returned to the reserve *Set commercial take limit at 10 bushels per day per licensed individual with a maximum of 20 bushels per boat per day *Set time for catching oysters from reserve at sunrise to noon *The Secretary may open or close harvest reserve areas and modify the catch limit from these areas by publishing notice in a daily newspaper of general circulation at least 48 hours in advance, stating the effective hour and date.
2004 October	Corrected references to sections of law and regulation that have changed due to renumbering, removed duplicate language to clarify the chapter, collected information relating to general oyster prohibitions in the section dealing with general provisions.
2004 October	Incorporated power dredge permit requirements from former Natural Resources Article, §§ 4-1014, 4-1014.1, 4-1014.2, 4-1014.3, Annotated Code of Maryland into regulation
2004 October	Incorporated Natural Resources Article, §4-1009.1, Annotated Code of Maryland into the regulations adding the definition of "harvest reserve" contained therein, listing previously closed harvest reserves (including areas of the Chester River, the Choptank River, the Mogathy River Oyster Reserve, the Patuxent River Broad Neck Reserve, and the Poplar Island Oyster Reserve) and laying out the

biological and public notice requirements that the Department shall use when managing harvest reserves, rotating openings to meet ecological and harvest goals

2006 January	Established 12 oyster bars, six open for dredging and six closed from dredging, for a scientific study on the effect of power dredging, as a method of harvest, on oyster bed structure and productivity and Chesapeake Bay oyster restoration activities
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NOTE January 2006 Regulations Were Emergency Regulations
(Proposed December 2006) Instead of Finalized N&C Regulations

2006 February	Finalized Emergency/Proposed regulation enacted in January 2006
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2006 October	Placed all named oyster sanctuaries in a consolidated location in the regulations, a new regulation .08.02.04.15; replaced sanctuary names and coordinates previously appearing in Regulation .12 and .13 with references to .15.
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