

## **CCA MD Position on Catch and Release Fishing**

- 1) In general, catch and release fishing is a sustainable practice, and is the least harmful type of fishing.
- 2) Catch and release fishing is good for the state and good for local economies that rely on revenue generated from recreational fishing.
- 3) Catch and release fishing is a proven management tool.
- 4) The MD Department of Natural Resources should be more proactive in promoting individual angler responsibility and careful catch and release techniques.
- 5) The current, low impact, Striped Bass catch and release seasons that occur in the Main stem of Chesapeake Bay, and the Susquehanna Flats are supported by science. However, additional studies on the sub-lethal effect of hooking and hooking mortality may be required to properly manage the Striped Bass fishery year round.

Approved by Executive Board  
October 2, 2009