

Via email to: fisheriespubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov

RE: Support for baseline season adjustment for striped bass.

To Whom it May Concern,

We, the undersigned businesses, charter operators, guides, and recreational-fishing and boating organizations, **respectfully express our SUPPORT for the new baseline approach for striped bass seasons in Maryland as proposed by DNR.** This action would reset Maryland's striped-bass fishing seasons to balance conservation and long-standing public access for anglers statewide.

This proposal would directly benefit Maryland's sportfishing and boating economy, by increasing the number of days that anglers may go fishing for striped bass from 83% to 92% of calendar days, without impacting the overall population of this important fish.

Predictable access to our waters provides critical revenue for marinas, charter operations, tackle shops, and tourism partners, while maintaining Maryland's leadership in responsible fisheries management. Specifically, a return of catch-and-release fishing in April, when post-release survival is very high, allows access during a time of year that provides vital revenue for businesses who serve the recreational fishing and boating public in Maryland.

While opinions on striped-bass management may vary, our shared commitment remains the same: protecting the resource and ensuring that the communities built around it remain strong. We believe the proposed framework achieves both goals — using sound science to sustain the fishery and fair access for Marylanders who depend on it.

We urge DNR to approve and move forward with implementing this balanced, science-based approach that provides important and timely access to our fisheries and maintains Maryland's protection of striped bass on their vital spawning grounds.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention and for your continued dedication to Maryland's natural resources, working families, and our cultural heritage.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Hughes, President & CEO
American Sportfishing Association

Chad Tocowicz, Govt. Relations Manager
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas

David Sikorski, Executive Director
Coastal Conservation Association Maryland

John Stefancik, Executive Director
Marine Trades Assoc. Maryland

Jeff Crane, President & CEO
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Sam Romano, Manager. NE Region GR
National Marine Manufacturers Association

Capt. Keith Fraser

Alltackle.com - Ocean City, Md &
Annapolis,MD

Mike Ebersberger

Angler's Sport Center

Mark Kurth, President

Northwest Fishing Club

Chris Linetty, President

Frederick Saltwater Anglers Club

Phil Zalesak, President

Southern MD Rec. Fishing Org.

Dave Stith, President

Kent Island Fishermen

Lenny Rudow

Fish Talk Magazine

Capt. Tom Weaver

Weaver's Guide Service & Eastport Yacht Co.
Co-founder, MD Light Tackle Guides
Association

Capt. Steve Griffin

Griffin's Guide Service
Co-founder, MD Light Tackle Guides
Association

Capt. Jacob Beltz

Hookset Guide Service LLC.
Chesapeake Beach

Capt. Jonathan Bland

Bay Bound Guide Service

Capt. Frank Bonnano

Il Pescatore Guide Service

Brian Buckland

Chessie Marine Sales
Elkton, MD

Capt. Ron Buffington

JLS Light Tackle Charters & JLS Rods

Capt. James Clough

Eastern Shore Light Tackle Charters LLC

Michael & Brian Conner

Rhode River Marina Inc.

Capt. Pete Dahlberg

Four Season's Guide Service

Capt. Dennis Fleming

Chaptico, Maryland

Capt. Brad Foxwell

Chesapeake Fishing Adventures

Capt. Michael Gardner

Sandbar Light Tackle Fishing
Stevensville, MD

Capt. Gio Gargano

Griffin's Guide Service

Capt. Jeff Geary

Sick Day Charters
Salisbury, MD

Capt. Lawrence Geipe

Chasing Light Charters LLC

Captain Eric Goodrich

Stella Charters
Pasadena, MD

Capt. Drew Grahame

Griffin's Guide Service

Capt. Kayla Haile

River Queen Guide Service
TFL #2149

Capt. Lee Haile

TFL 100191

Capt. David Heath

C&S Sportfishing
Annapolis, MD

Captain Charles Hill

Chill's Light Tackle Guide Service
Baltimore

Capt. Matt Huss

East Wind Fishing

Capt. Chuck Jones

Salty Siren Fishing

Bill Judge

Judge Yachts

Capt. Travis Long

Schooled Up Fishing Charters
Chesapeake Beach, MD

Capt. Pat Love

Backcreek Charters

Capt. CL Marshall

Tangier Sound Charters

Travis McCann

Silver Tree Marine

Capt. Brian McCormick

Southern Girl Sportfishing
Annapolis & Deale, MD

Capt. Josh Pasquariello

Good Fish Outdoors
Annapolis, MD

Alan Ring

Reel Faith Fishing Charters
Salisbury, MD

Capt. John Rogers

Elkton, MD
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Capt. Brian Sabo

Old Line Charters

Capt. Brennan Shute

iFishMD.com Charters

Capt. Greg Shute

iFishMD.com Charters & Judge Yachts

Capt. Ethan Sommer

Sommertime Outdoors

Capt. Pedro Sousa-Paz

Vasco da Gama Charters
Edgewater

Capt. Jackson Talbott

Lite.Tackle MD

Capt. Brian Thomason

Thomason Tradition Sportfishing

Sam Weaver, President

Weaver's Marine Service

Capt. Brandon Wingate

Salt Tale Charters