

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Statutory Authority: 7 Delaware Code, Section 903 (7 **Del.C.** §903)

7 **DE Admin. Code** 3505

PROPOSED

PUBLIC NOTICE

SAN# 2023-11

DOCKET # 2023-R-F-0021

3505 Striped Bass Commercial Fishing Seasons; Quotas; Tagging and Reporting Requirements.

1. TITLE OF THE REGULATIONS:

Amend 7 **DE Admin. Code 3505 Striped Bass Commercial Fishing Seasons; Quotas; Tagging and Reporting Requirements.**

2. BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE SUBJECT, SUBSTANCE AND ISSUES:

This action is being proposed to modify the spring anchor gill net season by adding two weeks in February and eliminating two weeks in April and May to better synchronize the spring anchor gill net season with the availability of and market for Striped Bass. This action was recommended in a unanimous motion by the Advisory Council on Tidal Finfisheries at its September 19, 2023 meeting.

3. POSSIBLE TERMS OF THE AGENCY ACTION:

N/A

4. STATUTORY BASIS OR LEGAL AUTHORITY TO ACT:

7 **Del. C.** § 903

5. OTHER REGULATIONS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSAL:

N/A

6. NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT:

The hearing record on the proposed changes to 7 **DE Admin. Code 3505** will be open January 1, 2024. The virtual public hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The web link to the virtual hearing can be accessed through the DNREC Public Hearings site at <https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/public-hearings/>. If prompted, use Meeting ID: 836 4525 0188 Passcode: 607330. To access the audio-only portion of the virtual hearing, dial (305) 224-1968 and enter the Meeting ID and Passcode noted above. Closed captioning is available in over 20 languages, including English and Spanish, to attendees via the Zoom platform utilized for all DNREC Public Hearings.

Those wishing to offer verbal comments during DNREC virtual public hearings must pre-register no later than noon on the date of the virtual hearing. The designated page for this Pre-Registration process can be found here: <https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/public-hearings/comments/registration/>

The proposed amendments may be inspected online starting January 1, 2024 at https://regulations.delaware.gov/services/current_issue.shtml, or in-person, by appointment only, by contacting John Clark by phone at 302-739-9914 or by email at John.Clark@delaware.gov.

Public comments will be received until close of business Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Comments will be accepted in written form via email to DNRECHearingComments@delaware.gov, or by using the online form at <https://de.gov/dnrecomments>, or by U.S. mail to the following address:

Theresa Smith, Hearing Officer
DNREC - Office of the Secretary
89 Kings Highway, Dover, DE 19901

7. PREPARED BY:

John H. Clark

Email: John.Clark@delaware.gov

Phone: (302)739-9914