

MINUTES
SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SMAC)
MEETING

July 21, 2021

Members Present

J. C. Hudgins
Tommy Kellum
Ernest George
Beverly Ludford via WebEx
John DeMaria

Members Present

Jackie Shannon
Dan Dise via WebEx
Don Porter Sr.
Charles Johnson
Richard Harding

VMRC/VIMS/VDH Staff

Andrew Button
Pat Geer
Jamie Hogge via WebEx
Roger Mann, VIMS
Melissa Southworth, VIMS
Ryan Carnegie, VDH/DSS, via WebEx

J. C. Hudgins, Vice Chairman, opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Andrew Button, Head Conservation and Replenishment, provided detailed information and updates on the Public Seed Harvest Areas. Mr. Button's comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Mr. Button recommended reducing the James River Public Seed Harvest Season, including Deep Water Shoals State Replenishment Seed Area quota from 120,000 bushels to 90,000 bushels. Of the 90,000 bushel seed quota, no more than 30,000 bushels of this quota shall be harvested from October 1 through December 31. However, if it is projected and announced that 30,000 bushels have been harvested before December 31, it shall be unlawful for any person to harvest seed oysters from that date forward until January 1.

Of the 90,000 bushel seed quota, no more than 60,000 bushels of this quota shall be harvested from January 1 through May 31.

Jackie Shannon made a motion to accept the proposed reduced quota of 90,000 bushels from 120,000 for 2021-2022 James River Public Seed Harvest Season as presented. Associate Member Hudgins seconded the vote. Motion carried unanimously 10 – 0.

Mr. Button discussed the proposed establishment of the 2021-2022 areas of public harvest, public oyster harvest seasons, and management measures.

Tommy Kellum made a motion to approve the proposed 2021-2022 Public Oyster Harvest Season with the following exceptions: Rappahannock Area 1: open season second half of October though the second week of February for PT, Rappahannock Area 8 open for HS in December and a 12:00 noon Public Harvest end time for HS for the entire 2021-2022 Public Oyster Harvest Season. The motion was seconded. Motion carried unanimously 10 – 0.

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Mr. Button reviewed the proposed regulatory changes pertaining to the Importation of Shellfish 4 VAC 20-754-10 ET SEQ., Restrictions on Shellfish 4 VAC 20-1230-10 ET SEQ., and Tagging of Shellfish 4 VAC 20-1250-10 ET SEQ for the members. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Tommy Kellum accepted the proposed changes but made a recommendation that the proposed regulatory changes listed above be brought back to SMAC after it is discussed with AMAC prior to presenting to the Commissioner at the Commission Meeting. The motion was seconded. Motion carried unanimously 10 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.