

VMRC April 28, 2020 Electronic Commission Meeting – Public Participation Instructions

VMRC Offices are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, interested parties can participate in the Tuesday, April 28, 2020 electronic meeting as follows:

PRIOR TO THE MEETING DATE:

If you are interested in commenting, we highly encourage you to submit written comments prior to the meeting. Comments sent by mail should be sent to 380 Fenwick Rd, Ft. Monroe, VA 23561 and should be delivered by Thursday, April 23, 2020. **Electronic comments are encouraged and can also be emailed to fisheries@mrc.virginia.gov and will be accepted until 5PM on Monday, April 27, 2020. Click on these links for meeting [Agenda](#), [Public Notice](#), and [draft menhaden regulation](#).**

Any individuals interested in providing spoken testimony via the public conference call-in line during the public hearing held on the day of the meeting should email their name, place of residence, and “for or against” regulation to fisheries@mrc.virginia.gov by 5PM on Monday, April 27, 2020.

ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING (10-15 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE 9:30AM START TIME):

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO PROVIDE SPOKEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

Watch and listen to a YouTube livestream of the meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/vamarineresources/live>.

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Watch a YouTube livestream of the meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/vamarineresources/live>.

To listen to the meeting audio dial 1-866-845-1266 and when prompted enter the participant code 80441794#.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a 8 to 10 second delay between the phone audio and the YouTube audio. The public phone line will have the audio that reflects closest to real time. **We highly recommend that you MUTE your computer audio and listen exclusively to the phone audio.**

Once the public comment period begins, the Commissioner will call on people by name according to the list below. The public conference call will be muted at the start of the meeting, so callers will only be able to hear audio from the VMRC host. When public comment is requested by the Commissioner via the public conference call, the line will be un-muted, all callers who are not speaking should keep their personal phone on mute (use *6 or the mute function on personal phone). **Please speak loudly and clearly to ensure the Commissioners can hear your comments.**

Public comments will be taken in order as follows:

1. Those that email fisheries@mrc.virginia.gov by the day prior to the meeting, indicating they would like to speak.
2. Those that comment on our live chat on YouTube on the day of the meeting, indicating they would like to speak. ***
3. Those that did not indicate with the previous methods they would like to speak on the conference call. Please state your name for the record before you speak.

IF THERE IS A TECHNICAL PROBLEM WITH THE LIVESTREAM:

Participants can obtain meeting materials by using the web links associated with the Tuesday, April 28, 2020 meeting date on the Commission web calendar: <https://mrc.virginia.gov/calendar.shtm> and follow along with the presentation there.

*****HOW TO INDICATE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK VIA YOUTUBE CHAT:**

1. Log in with your Gmail or YouTube account on the YouTube page (<https://www.youtube.com/user/vamarineresources/live>).
2. When the live stream begins, the chat box will appear on the right side of the screen.
3. Type your FULL NAME and that you would like to speak during the public comment period.
4. Staff will collate names prior to the public comment period and hand them off to the Commissioner.
5. Since YouTube is delayed by 8 to 10 seconds, MAKE SURE YOU LISTEN FOR YOUR NAME ON THE PUBLIC CALL AUDIO. Mute your computer audio when you begin speaking so there is no feedback and the Commissioners can hear you clearly.