

POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION**Commissioners from the State of Maryland:**

Dr. H. C. Byrd, Jeremiah Valliant, Richard E. Lankford

Officers of the Commission:

Chairman: Jeremiah Valliant, Maryland
 Vice Chairman: J. C. Hutt, Virginia
 Secretary: Richard E. Lankford, Maryland
 Legal Officer: K. Thomas Everngam
 Executive Secretary: Robert M. Norris, Jr.

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The Potomac River Fisheries Commission operates under the Maryland-Virginia Compact of 1958, which was authorized by an act of Congress. Maryland ratified the Compact by Chapter 269, Acts of 1959, subject to referendum held on November 8, 1960. The Commission is a semi-autonomous agency, but its work and policies are tied in very closely with the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs of Maryland and the Commission of Fisheries of Virginia. The purpose of the Commission is the establishment and maintenance of a program of conservation and improvement of the seafood resources of the Potomac River.

The Commission consists of six members, three from each state. The members from Maryland are all members of the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs, whose terms of office on the Commission corresponds with their terms of office on the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs. The Governor fills any vacancies which may occur. The Chairmanship of the Commissions alternates annually between Maryland and Virginia.

The Commission is financed by appropriations from each state, together with income and license sales available. The fisheries departments of both states supply the law enforcement for the Commission on the Potomac River (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., Art. 66C, sec. 261A).

In 1964 and 1965, both the Maryland and Virginia legislatures concurred in approving legislation and giving the Commission the authority to regulate and license the dredging of soft shell clams.

Each State annually appropriates \$50,000 to the work of the Commission. In addition, the Commission receives the proceeds from the sale of crab, oyster, fish and clam (all commercial) licenses and twenty cents per bushel oyster inspection tax.

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