

## INTERSTATE AGENCIES

### ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

#### Commissioners from the State of Maryland:

William P. Jensen, *Tidewater Administration*; R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr., *State Senate*; August Berlitz, *Governor's appointee*.

*Executive Director*: Irwin M. Alperin

1717 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 387-5330

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is an outgrowth of the Eastern Conservation Conference begun in 1937. Seven states, including Maryland, drew up and ratified a compact in 1941. Maryland ratified the compact by Chapter 435, Acts of 1941. This compact, assented to by the U.S. Congress and signed by the President in 1942, is the legal basis of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, which today has a membership of fifteen Atlantic seaboard states. Each state is represented by three commissioners. One commissioner represents the state agency charged with conservation of fisheries resources. One is a legislator and a member of the Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation, and one is selected by the Governor.

Two of Maryland's representatives are from the Tidewater Administration and the Maryland Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation. Both serve *ex officio*. The third commissioner is appointed by the Governor for a three-year term.

The Commission advises only, aiding in the development of joint programs dealing with particular species of fish or bodies of water common to two or more states. These programs may result in uniform laws or varying but coordinated measures as the circumstances require. The Commission meets annually and in four regional groups: 1) the North Atlantic States, 2) the Middle Atlantic States, 3) the Chesapeake Bay Area, and 4) the South Atlantic States. In place of special committees, which in the past dealt with particular species, the Commission's 15th Annual Meeting created an overall scientific committee to digest scientific material and present condensed reports to the Commission. A similar committee was established to report on legal matters. The technical advice and research facilities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are available to the Commission and member states. Each participating state contributes to the support of the Com-

mission in proportion to the value of its marine fisheries catch as compared with the total Atlantic catch.

The Commission issues mimeographed minutes of annual, section, and committee meetings. Annual meeting minutes contain scientific appendices. The Commission also issues printed annual reports. All are on file in the office of the Department of Natural Resources (Code Natural Resources Article, secs. 4-301 through 4-305). The Commission also publishes and distributes the *Marine Resources Leaflet* series, including Atlantic Menhaden, Soft-Shell Clam, Southern Shrimp, American Lobster, Summer Flounder, American Shad, Striped Bass, Haddock, Atlantic Cod, Oyster, Marine Bait Worms, Spotted Seatrout, Hard Clam, and Hard Clam Supplement.

### CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

*Members from the Senate*: Joseph J. Long, Sr.; James C. Simpson.

*Members from the House of Delegates*: Catherine I. Riley, Elizabeth S. Smith.

*Vacancy, Secretary of Natural Resources*

*Citizen member*: Jack. F. Witten

Margaret Johnston, *Executive Director*

60 West Street  
Annapolis 21401

Telephone: 263-3420

The Chesapeake Bay Commission, based on a bi-state agreement between Maryland and Virginia, was created by Chapter 674, Acts of 1980. It resulted from recommendations included in the final report of the Chesapeake Bay Legislative Commission, which indicated the need for improved coordination of Bay-wide management to meet the long-term needs of the people of both Maryland and Virginia.

The Commission helps the legislatures of Maryland and Virginia evaluate and respond to problems of mutual concern relating to the Chesapeake Bay. It encourages cooperative coordinated resource planning and action by the signatories and their agencies. Through recommendation to the respective legislatures, the Commission also provides, where appropriate, uniformity of legislative application.

The Commission consists of fourteen members, seven each from Maryland and Virginia. Five members from each state are members of the state legislature. Of the five Maryland legislature members, two are senators designated by the president of the Senate and three are delegates