

ministration. The Assistant Secretary also oversees the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission.

#### CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA COMMISSION

John C. North II, *Chairperson*  
Sarah J. Taylor, Ph.D., *Executive Director*

West Garrett Place, Suite 320  
275 West St.  
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 974-2426

The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission was created in 1984 (Chapter 794, Acts of 1984). The Commission monitors a 1,000-foot shoreline strip around the Bay and its tributaries. This planning area is critical to the survival of the Bay's tidal waters, fish, wildlife, and plant habitats.

The Commission regulates undeveloped land use along the Bay's shores and tributaries and may intervene in local governments' development plans if it determines the Bay may be endangered. Periodically, the Commission meets with the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas.

With Senate advice and consent, the Governor appoints the Commission's twenty-seven members to four-year terms. They include seven ex officio, voting members or their designees. The Governor names the chairperson with Senate advice and consent (Code Natural Resources Article, secs. 8-1801 through 8-1816).

---

#### TIDEWATER ADMINISTRATION

---

Dr. Paul O. Massicot, *Director*

Tawes State Office Building, C-2  
580 Taylor Ave.  
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 974-2926

Origins of the Tidewater Administration trace to 19th century legislation to safeguard clams, oysters, and fish. In this century, many duties stem from the Department of Tidewater Fisheries formed in 1941 (Chapter 508, Acts of 1941). The Department was reorganized as the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs in 1964 (Chapter 82, Acts of 1964). In 1972, the Department merged with the Fish and Wildlife Administration to form the Fisheries Administration (Chapter 348, Acts of 1972). Duties of the Fisheries Administration were assigned to the Tidal Fisheries Division in 1979, when the Division joined with the Coastal Zone Management Program, and Waterway Improvement to form the Tidewater Administration (Chapter 601, Acts of 1979). Reorganized in 1988, the Administration oversees the work of four divisions: Fisheries; Coastal and Watershed Resources; Chesapeake Bay Research and Monitoring; and Power Plant and Environmental Review.

#### TIDAL FISHERIES DIVISION

W. Peter Jensen, *Director*  
(410) 974-3558

The Tidal Fisheries Division traces its origin to the Commissioners of Fisheries formed in 1874 (Chapter 150, Acts of 1874). In 1916, functions of the Commissioners of Fisheries were assigned to the Conservation Commission, which oversaw fish hatcheries (Chapter 682, Acts of 1916). The Conservation Department assumed fisheries duties in 1935 and was replaced in 1939 by the Department of Game and Inland Fish (Chapter 354, Acts of 1939). The Department was superseded in 1941 by the Department of Tidewater Fisheries, which became the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs in 1964 (Chapter 508, Acts of 1941). That Department, in turn, was replaced by the Fish and Wildlife Administration in 1970 and the Fisheries Administration in 1972 (Chapter 252, Acts of 1970; Chapter 348, Acts of 1972). In 1979, the Fisheries Administration was reformed as the Tidal Fisheries Division of the Tidewater Administration. By 1984, the Division was renamed the Fisheries Division and, in 1993, it resumed the name, Tidal Fisheries Division. The Division preserves, enhances, develops, and oversees use of fishery resources in Maryland.

The Division's *Fishery Management Program* plants oyster shells for propagation, transplants seed oysters on public oyster bars, and monitors blue crab movement to gauge fluctuations in annual harvest. The Program studies young fish annually to determine reproductive success; monitors anadromous fish reproduction and harvests; and supports striped bass hatcheries for research and restoration. The Program also issues permits for aquaculture and scientific collections of fish and shellfish, investigates disease and parasite infestations, develops and analyzes statistics for management decisions, and formulates management plans. The Division strives to provide maximum opportunities for public fishing within existing habitat while preserving and enhancing natural resources within the State (Code Natural Resources Article, secs. 4-101 through 4-1209).

The Division is served by several advisory committees including the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission, and the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission.

#### SPORT FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMISSION

Dr. James Gilford, *Chairperson*, 1993

Contact: W. Peter Jensen (410) 974-3558

The Commission advises the Department on sport fishing matters. The Commission consists of nine members appointed to four-year terms (Code Natural Resources Article, secs. 1-102, 4-204).