

MINUTES

SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SMAC) MEETING

April 25, 2018

Members Present

Lake Cowart
John DeMaria
J. C. Hudgins

Members Present

Dan Dise
Kevin Wade
Jackie Shannon

VMRC/VIMS Staff

Andrew Button
Ben Stagg
Robert O' Reilly
Vernon Rowe
Vas Dunston
Missy Southworth
Jamie Hogge
MPO Nathan Clark
MPO Patrick Turpin

and others.

Wayne France, Chairman, was not present. Andrew Button, Head Conservation and Replenishment, acting Chairman, opened the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

Andrew Button, Head Conservation and Replenishment, discussed and explained the two (2) letters that were received in regards to allowing a Hand Scrape on board vessels while transiting over a sanctuary, Wreck Shoals sanctuary particularly. One letter requested a special permit for boats to transit over a sanctuary with a Hand Scrape on board and the other was against the idea of the permitting of transit of vessels across the Wreck Shoal sanctuary.

Staff's recommendation was for S.M.A.C. members to discuss permit conditions, if a permit option was agreed upon.

After much discussion, the Committee concluded that regulation (4VAC20-650-30-B) should remain as written with **no** special permit to transit over Wreck Shoals sanctuary with a Hand Scrape on board a vessel. The vote was 5-0-1 with an abstention from Committee Member Dan Dise. Committee member John DeMaria advised that he was in favor of a previous SMAC vote to allow vessels to transit Sanctuaries if dredge or scrape gear were disabled and the vessel indicated this by a visual display such as an "orange basket" hung from the mast.

Andrew Button also gave an update on the 2017/2018 James River Seed Harvest Quota which consisted of approximately 48,323 bushels harvested in 2017 and approximately 64, 162 bushels harvested in 2018. The approximate amount of James River Seed Harvested in 2017/2018 was 112,485 bushels. The amount is approximate pending further data from Mandatory Reporting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p. m..