

*AGREEMENT BETWEEN*  
*THE VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION*  
*AND*  
*THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES*  
*AND*  
*THE POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION*

License reciprocity for recreational fishing in the tidal saltwaters of Virginia, the tidal waters of Maryland, and the tidal waters of the Potomac River under the jurisdiction of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland, and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission each require licenses for recreational fishing in their respective tidal waters or tidal saltwaters;

WHEREAS, Section 28.2 – 302.5 of the Code of Virginia authorizes the Commissioner of Marine Resources to determine license reciprocity for holders of valid recreational fishing licenses issued by another state or jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, Sections 4-205 and 4-745 of the Natural Resources Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland authorize the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources to enter into an agreement with the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission regarding reciprocal recreational fishing privileges in tidal waters under the jurisdiction of Maryland;

WHEREAS, the Potomac River Fisheries Commission is authorized to determine license reciprocity for holders of valid recreational fishing licenses issued by another jurisdiction, in accordance with Section 4, of Regulation VI, of that Commission;

WHEREAS, the tidal saltwaters of Virginia, the tidal waters of Maryland, and the tidal waters of the Potomac River are adjacent and share common boundaries;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Natural Resources Article §4-745 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Secretary of Natural Resources has published notice in the Maryland Register, his determination that requirements for recreational fishing licenses in the tidal saltwaters of Virginia and the tidal waters of the Potomac River are substantially similar to and reciprocal with the Chesapeake Bay and Coastal sport fishing license in Maryland;

WHEREAS, the recreational license requirements for fishing in the tidal saltwaters of Virginia and in the tidal waters of Maryland, and in the tidal waters of the Potomac River, are similar; now, therefore, be it resolved that the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland, and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission will honor valid recreational fishing licenses issued by any of these jurisdictions, for use in their respective waters, as follows:

**1. Licenses approved for reciprocity**

Virginia saltwater recreational fishing licenses with a Maryland/PRFC registration honored in Maryland tidal waters are:

- Individual annual license
- Individual temporary (10-day) license
- Private boat license
- Charter boat and head boat licenses (covers all persons fishing on boat and a registration is not needed)
- Lifetime saltwater Recreational Fishing License
- Special Lifetime recreational Fishing License for the permanently and totally disabled
- Special Combined (FW/SW) Sportfish License
- Rental boat license (covers all persons fishing on boat).

Maryland saltwater recreational fishing licenses with a Virginia registration honored in Virginia tidal saltwaters are:

- Annual resident Chesapeake Bay and Coastal sport fishing license
- Short-term (7-day) resident Chesapeake Bay and Coastal sport fishing license
- Annual nonresident Chesapeake Bay and Coast sport fishing license

- Short-term (7-day) nonresident Chesapeake Bay and Coastal sport fishing license
- Lifetime Chesapeake Bay and Coastal sport fishing license for former prisoners of war or 100% service connected disabled American veterans,
- Combination commercial/recreational (tidal fish license)
- Private boat license
- Consolidated senior sport fishing license.
- Charter boat and head boat licenses (covers all persons fishing on boat and a registration is not needed)

Potomac River Fisheries Commission recreational fishing licenses honored in Virginia tidal saltwaters:

- Individual annual license
- Private boat license (covers all persons fishing on boat with a VA registration)
- Charter boat license (covers all persons fishing on boat and a registration is not needed)

Potomac River Fisheries Commission recreational fishing licenses honored in Maryland tidal saltwaters:

- Individual annual license
- Private boat license (covers all persons with a Maryland/PRFC registration fishing on boat)
- Charter boat license (covers all persons fishing on boat and a registration is not needed)

Maryland and Virginia saltwater recreational fishing licenses and their registrations are honored in the tidal saltwaters of the Potomac River.

## **2. Reciprocity Conditions**

This agreement authorizes the holder of a valid saltwater or tidal water recreational fishing license issued by any one of these jurisdictions to fish in the tidal waters of all of these jurisdictions.

Reciprocity extends only to the specific licenses listed in paragraph 1 or 2 above. Other requirements of the individual jurisdictions for special permits, operator or guide licenses, etc., must be observed.

Persons entering the waters of these jurisdictions are subject to each jurisdiction's respective laws, rules, regulations, and amendments thereto. This includes such conservation measures as seasonal restrictions, catch limits, and restrictions on the sale of fish caught by noncommercial fishermen. A person found in violation of any of these measures by the respective jurisdiction may be subject to revocation of his license reciprocity privilege.

**3. Effective Date**

This agreement becomes effective on January 1, 2011.

**4. Amendment Provision**

This agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the jurisdictions at any time.

**5. Termination Provision**

This agreement shall remain in effect until ninety days from the date of written notice of discontinuance given by any jurisdiction to the others, or upon the effective date of repeal of underlying statutory authority.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the jurisdictions have caused this Agreement to be executed by the signatures of their authorized officers placed hereon.

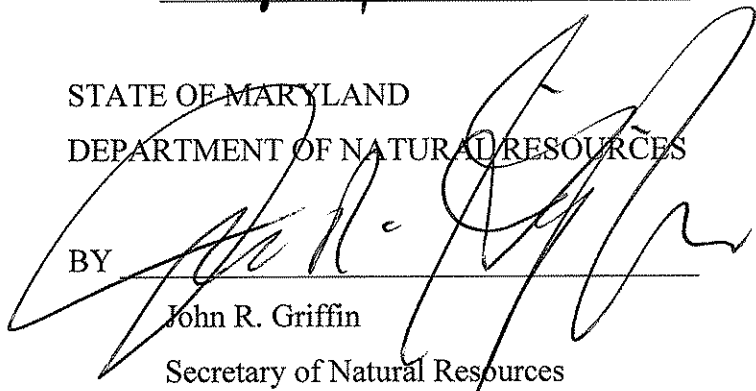
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

BY 

Doug Domenech.  
Secretary of Marine Resources

DATE 1/26/11

STATE OF MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BY 

John R. Griffin  
Secretary of Natural Resources

DATE December 21, 2010

POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION

BY 

Kyle Schick  
Chairman

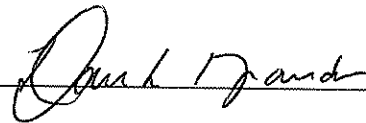
DATE 12-27-10

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

BY  12-21-10

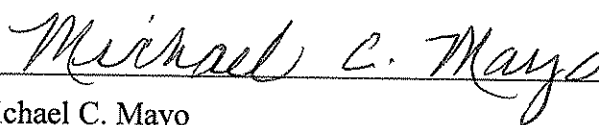
Rachel Eisenhauer  
Assistant Attorney General  
State of Maryland

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

BY 

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

David Grandis  
Assistant Attorney General  
Commonwealth of Virginia.

BY 

Michael C. Mayo  
Legal Officer  
Potomac River Fisheries Commission

Date 12-29-2010