



120 SPEER ROAD, SUITE 1
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND 21620
PHONE: 410-810-1381
FAX: 410-810-1383
www.delmarvafisheries.org

March 5, 2018

Honorable Mark J. Belton, Secretary
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Tawes State Office Building
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
mark.belton@maryland.gov

Re: Extending Oyster Season

Dear Secretary Belton:

On behalf of its members, the Delmarva Fisheries Association respectfully requests that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources considers extending the current oyster season by two weeks. It anticipates minimal participation by the oysterman of Maryland as many are preparing for crabbing, recovering from injuries sustained over the winter, or have transitioned to net fishing. For those that do participate, this extension would help mitigate the loss of income suffered during the recent four weeks of deep freeze that prevented many working watermen and waterwomen from plying their trade.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Capt. Robert Newberry
Chairman

cc: Bill Anderson, Assistant Secretary