PROPOSED RULEMAKING

FISH AND BOAT COMMISSION

[58 PA. CODE CHS. 71 AND 73] Extension of Public Comment Period

The Fish and Boat Commission (Commission) published a notice of proposed rulemaking at 31 Pa.B. 3412 (June 30, 2001) seeking public comments for 30 days regarding proposed amendments to Chapters 71 and 73 (relating to propagation and introduction of fish into Commonwealth waters; and transportation of live fish into this Commonwealth). The Commission did not receive any written public comments regarding the proposed rulemaking. However, the Department of Agriculture's Aquaculture Advisory Committee (Committee) discussed the proposed rulemaking on several occasions and members of the Committee recommended changes to the proposed amendments relating to closed system propagation.

Based upon the Committee's recommendations, the Commission staff will be recommending that the Commission consider additional changes to the provision on Closed System Propagation (58 Pa. Code § 71.3). The text of the proposed additional changes is available from the Commission or on the Commission's website at www.fish.state.pa.us.

The Commission will consider the proposed changes on final rulemaking at its meeting on January 26, 2002. Accordingly, the Commission is extending the public comment period on the proposed amendments until January 15, 2002. The Commission is inviting additional comments on the Closed System Propagation both as proposed at 31 Pa.B. 3412 and with the Committee's recommended changes.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, objections or suggestions about the proposed amendments to the Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P. O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, until January 15, 2002. Comments submitted by facsimile will not be accepted. Comments also may be submitted electronically at ra-pfbcregs@state.pa.us. A subject heading of the proposal and a return name and address must be included in each transmission. In addition, all electronic comments must be contained in the text of the transmission, not in an attachment. If an acknowledgment of electronic comments is not received by the sender within 2 working days, the comments should be retransmitted to ensure receipt.

PETER A. COLANGELO, Executive Director

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