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Position of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science on the Use of the "High-Roller Gill Net" in the Chesapeake Bay for the Taking of Bluefish and Weakfish

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POSITION OF THE
VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE
ON THE USE OF THE

"HIGH-ROLLER GILL NET"
IN THE
CHESAPEAKE BAY FOR THE
TAKING OF BLUEFISH AND WEAKFISH.

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out compete another segment of the industry, we support conservation through catch quotas, area closures, or general, industry-wide gear limitations.

The Code of Virginia defines various commercial fishing devices, except the gill net. A definition of a gill net (non-fixed location) should be developed. We suggest the following: "A gill net is here defined as any net that fishes by gilling or entangling a fish in its meshes. It is to be limited to a depth of 12 ft. from the surface and is to not contact the bottom where the depth at low water is less than 12 ft."

The objective of this definition and code change is to protect all stocks from overfishing regardless of the type or operation of gill net employed.

Approved:

Frank O. Perkins
Dean/Director

19 July 1982

Date