Regulations Implemented to Reduce Female Harvest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Maryland</th>
<th>Virginia</th>
<th>Potomac River</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2008 | -restricted participation in the fall female fishery to only those watermen with history in this portion of the fishery since 2004.  
- Those participants permitted to harvest females during the fall were given daily bushel limits based on their harvest history. Bushel limits ranged from 5 to 50 per day.  
- Close to female harvest on Oct. 23 (Formerly Dec. 15)  
- Banned recreational harvest of female crabs. | -Close to female harvest on Oct. 27 (Formerly Nov. 30)  
- Close winter dredge fishery  
- Abolish recreational crab license allowing 5 pots per license  
- Require 2 additional crab pot escape rings (cull rings)  
- Require cull rings to be open at all times.  
- Increase the peeler size limit to 3.25 inches until July 15 and to 3.5 inches thereafter. | -Daily bushel limits on females beginning Sept. 1, 2008. 2 bushels/day above St. Clements Island and 11 bushels per day below St. Clements Island.  
- Season to female harvest Oct 22 (Formerly Nov 30). |
| 2009 | -replaced limited access to fall female fishery with daily bushel limits spanning the entire crabbing season.  
- Implemented periodic closures to commercial female harvest.  
Closures: June 1 – Jun 15, Sept. 26 – Oct. 4, season close to female harvest November 10.  
Daily bushel limits range from 2 to 45 depending on date and license type. | Closed season on the taking and possession of female crabs from November 21 through November 30  
Closed the 2009/10 winter dredge season  
Maintained cull ring, minimum peeler size limits adopted in 2008 | -Season close to female harvest Oct 22  
- No daily limit on female harvest |