

## Consent Form

### Consent Form

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this process. This study aims to generate an understanding of stakeholder values to help inform aquaculture policy decision making in Maryland. Your inclusion in the study involves responding to a survey (about 5 minutes long) and participating in a 2.5-hour online workshop.

Please respond to this survey as a representative of your agency or institution, to the best of your ability.

We will protect your identity by removing all personally identifiable information and storing data on password protected computers of the principal investigators.

Your identity will not be revealed in any publications, unless you provide explicit permission to be quoted or named. Researchers involved in the project or post-project efforts will have the ability to access data collected after personal information has been removed. Participating in this research is completely voluntary. There are no risks or direct benefits of participating in this process. You may skip survey questions if desired and drop out of the process at any time without penalty.

If you decide to participate now, there is no penalty if you decide to stop participating later. If you decide to stop participating, if you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or if you need to report an injury related to the research, please contact me at [mmunkacsy@umces.edu](mailto:mmunkacsy@umces.edu) or my advisor, Dr. Lisa Wainger, at [wainger@umces.edu](mailto:wainger@umces.edu). If you have questions about your rights as a research participant or wish to report a research-related injury, please contact the University of Maryland at [irb@umd.edu](mailto:irb@umd.edu). For more information regarding participant rights, please visit: <https://research.umd.edu/irb-research-participants>.

This research has been reviewed according to the University of Maryland, College Park IRB procedures for research involving human subjects. Your consent indicates that you are at least 18 years of age; you have read this information; your questions have been answered to your satisfaction and you voluntarily agree to participate in this research

study. By filling your name in the box below, you are consenting to participate in this research.

## **Background**

### **Background Information**

Many government policies intend to protect what society finds valuable, but values are often in competition with each other. This study is exploring tradeoffs that arise from alternative oyster aquaculture leasing policies in the Chesapeake Bay's shallow waters.

Oysters are of interest because they help restore water quality and aquatic habitat, while also providing rural economic opportunities. However, aquaculture activities have the potential to interfere with some recreational, aesthetic, and habitat values.

We aim to quantify some of the tradeoffs of alternative aquaculture policies, in order to support management decisions. This survey will ask you to assign weights to factors that could be influenced by aquaculture policy. The weight should reflect the degree of importance that each factor should have in determining policy.

Participating in this survey will inform conversations held during our workshop. More information will be offered during the workshop and conversation and re-evaluation will be encouraged in future steps.

### **Ranking Question**

#### **Q1**

What should be the order of importance for the following benefits when determining shallow water use policies for Maryland's Chesapeake Bay?

Please drag and drop each benefit in descending order of rank (#1 benefit at the top, etc).

Riparian property value protection

Growth potential of the oyster aquaculture industry

Safe boating access to the Bay

Growth potential of wild oyster industry

Conservation of sensitive species and their habitat

## Slider scale question

### Q2

The effects included below represent potential spatial conflicts among users and policy tradeoffs in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay shallow waters.

Imagine you are working on a team of policymakers trying to decide what oyster aquaculture leasing policy should look like for the next 20 years in Maryland. You are given 100 points and the list of potential outcomes provided below.

However many points you award each outcome will determine how strongly the final policy favors that outcome. Drag each slider to represent how many of your 100 points each outcome should receive.

	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	Not Applicable	
Conservation of sensitive species and their habitat												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Riparian property value protection												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of the oyster aquaculture industry												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of wild oyster industry												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Safe boating access to the Bay												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Not  
Applicable

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Conservation of sensitive species and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Riparian property value protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of the oyster aquaculture industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of wild oyster industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Safe boating access to the Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Conservation of sensitive species and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Riparian property value protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of the oyster aquaculture industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of wild oyster industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Safe boating access to the Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Conservation of sensitive species and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Riparian property value protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of the oyster aquaculture industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Growth potential of wild oyster industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	Not Applicable
Safe boating access to the Bay												<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>
Conservation of sensitive species and their habitat												<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>
Riparian property value protection												<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>
Growth potential of the oyster aquaculture industry												<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>
Growth potential of wild oyster industry												<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>
Safe boating access to the Bay												<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>

### Likert Question

#### Q3

When determining policy to manage shallow water Chesapeake Bay conflicts in Maryland, how important is it to include representatives for \* in the process?

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Riparian homeowners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreational boaters and other recreational water-users	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The wild oyster harvest industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People concerned with the ecological health of the Bay	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The average Marylander/Indirect users of the Bay	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The oyster aquaculture industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

