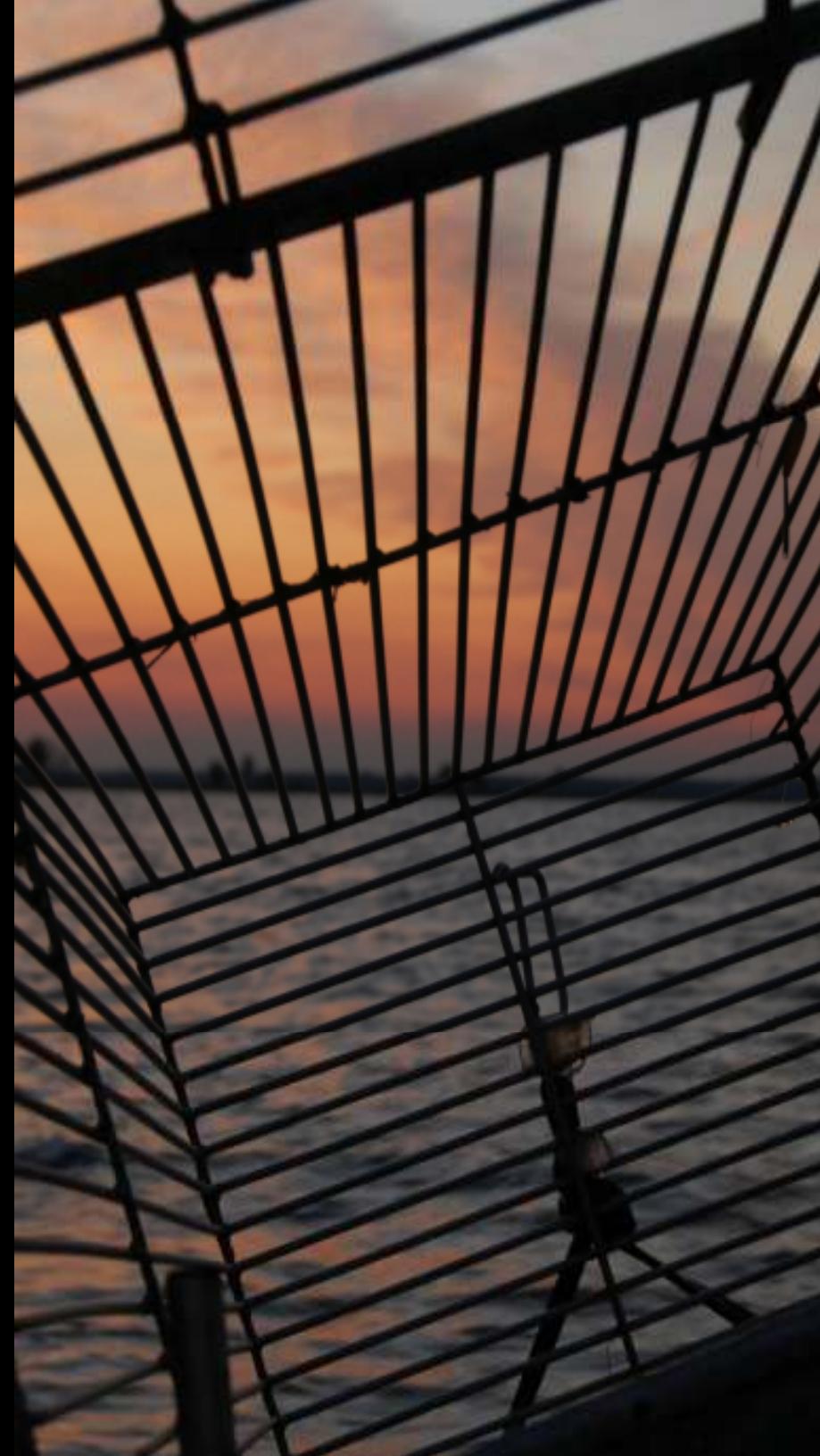


Maryland Blue Crab  
Industry Design Team

Electronic Reporting and  
Monitoring Pilot Project

July - November 2012



# Maryland Blue Crab Industry Design Team

- Industry-led effort
- Long-term management improvements to the commercial blue crab fishery
- Collaborative, co-management process



# Industry Design Team

sign and recommend a management system that is ***developed by the industry*** to support healthy businesses, healthy communities and a healthy crab stock for generations to come.

ommending a system that will meet Maryland Department of Natural Resources ***Management Principles*** as well as ***industry-defined vision and goals*** for the fishery. The top ***challenges and priorities*** in the crab industry today

## BLUE CRAB DESIGN TEAM ADOPTED VISION AND GOALS

**1** Healthy blue crab fishery

**Goal:** Increased accountability for managers and industry

**2** Watermen can make money

**Goal:** Better market and more stable prices

**Goal:** Differentiate the Maryland crab from other products

**3** Industry is unified and well-coordinated

**Goal:** Better coordination with managers

**Goal:** Promote full-time watermen

ability to collaborate well with managers, scientists and coordinate with industry.

Public image is misconstrued by media.

Ability to proactively defend and strengthen the commercial fishing industry.

Ability to attract young watermen.

Ability to make thoughtful business decisions due to changing regulations.

**Current system does not provide accurate harvest accountability to managers.**

lack of control over crab prices throughout the season.

Increasing crab costs.

lack of control over crab supply from other states/countries into Maryland.

# Accountability Pilot

daily electronic harvest  
reporting

daily electronic dealer  
reporting

ail program

ockside spot checks

ntral database



## Design Team: Conduct a pilot project incorporating:

1. Daily, electronic harvest reporting
2. Daily, electronic dealer reporting
3. Hail Program
4. Spot Check

## Requirements: Each participant in pilot has to:

### If crabber:

1. Submit daily, independent harvest report
2. Participate in Hail Program
3. Be subject to spot checks

### If crab buyer:

1. Submit daily buyer report at trip level
2. Be subject to spot checks

## Technologies: Participant chooses to use one:

- Call Service using phone
- Texting using phone
- Mobile App
- Web-based system:
  - Smart Phone
  - Tablet
  - Computer

## Who: A mix of crabbers and crab buyers covering all types of harvesting styles and business models in Maryland.



# Diverse Industry Participation

Participants  
Fishers and Dealers  
Gear Types  
Crab Types  
Tidal Counties: 17 counties  
Business Models





# Schedule

- March: Design Team RFP Process
- March-May: Finalize Contracts
- May-July: System Design and Testing
- Mid-July: Pilot Project Launch
- July-November: Pilot Implementation
- December: Evaluation

# Outcomes

- Test and evaluate operational capability of technology platforms on the water
- Evaluate efficiencies of electronic reporting and monitoring
- Identify cost of accountability measures
- Utilize industry expertise in management process
- Demonstrate co-management in practice