

[REDACTED]

Subject: Docket # 2025-R-P-0017

Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 6:46:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Nick G [REDACTED]

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Nicholas G [REDACTED]. I am a drive-on beach permit holder and a long-time angler of the Delaware waters. I noticed there is a proposal to change the laws regarding launching kayaks and bait restrictions.

I would like to voice my opinion regarding both, as I am a very passionate land-based shark fisherman as well as a volunteer with the NOAA to help tag and release sharks.

I understand that, with the large increase of unprofessional fishing of endangered species, something has to happen. My proposal is to restrict the fishing to outside of standard peak hours even during the week, such as 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or longer, to promote only the more dedicated anglers being out during the less desirable hours. This will also restrict most of the state parks, as they are not open after dusk, which means you will be able to carefully monitor the activities at only a few locations.

I would also suggest that you mandate anyone targeting sharks have proper equipment that is presentable upon request of a game warden. This equipment should consist of working bolt cutters; if kayaking baits, a 50W or larger reel to ensure a quick turnaround and release time; and a hook removal tool if easy removal is not possible. Depending on who you ask, this list may vary, but from my experience these are some of the items that are crucial to making shark fishing safer for both the angler and the fish.

I feel that, as a regulation-following and rule-abiding angler, I should not be punished for others' misuse. There should be a middle ground that weeds out the folks who are irresponsible while keeping the dedicated rule followers who are out there for the thrill of the sport and their love of the wildlife. Rather than outright revoking the ability to do what I love completely, I am willing to take on extra regulations, as I do not have a problem following rules that allow me to keep the sport alive in the state of Delaware.

All in all, something has to give, but as long as it is not the ability to kayak from the beach or new bait restrictions, I do not have a problem with additional regulations. The current rules already weed out many people by not allowing propelled devices to put bait out. This leaves only manual devices, such as a kayak or board of some sort, and that is the same idea I feel you should aim for with the overall aspect of the sport, rather than completely revoking and ending the ability to do it altogether with the proposed actions.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,

Nicholas G 