

JCAA NEWSPAPER MAY 2007

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on April 17th, 2007)

Remember New Monthly Meeting Room

"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, April 24th, 2007

Starting at 7:30 PM

Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd

NEXT JCAA EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday, May 10th, 2007

Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

1201 Route 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River, NJ 08753

Phone 732-506-6565 Fax 732-506-6975

JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote

JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi

This publication is printed and mailed one week prior to each regular monthly meeting of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association. One of the prime goals of JCAA is to get accurate information into public hands as soon as possible.

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**JCAA General Membership Meetings are for club representatives and invited guests only. These meetings are not open to the general public. If you would like to attend as a guest, call the President at 732-446-6298 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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2007 OFFICERS

President	John Toth	732-446-6298
1st V.P.		
2nd V.P.	Bruce Freeman	732-793-7871
Treasurer	Doug Tegeder	732-341-5674
Rec. Sec.	Tom Siciliano	609-296-3774
Cors. Sec.	Paul Turi	609-597-3193
Mem. Sec.	Mike Tutela	732-281-8942

Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

JCAA HIGH ROLLER RAFFLE

The Raffle winners will be drawn at the upcoming meeting on April 24, 2007. We need to get all you tickets in. This is your last chance to get a ticket for this year's raffle. They are still available at the office.

We have put together a terrific selection of rods and reels for one raffle with eight prizes. This is a major fundraiser for the JCAA. The 8 prizes are listed below with a value of almost \$3,000. Tickets will be two dollars each and Club Representatives can get books of tickets to sell by attending a JCAA meeting. When your club representative brings them to your club, please help with your purchase. Without your continued support we cannot function as an organization in protecting the marine resource and angler's rights. Shimano provided reels at a special price to JCAA. Profile, Folsom, and Quarow donated the rods and High Seas and Sufix donated line. Hummingbird donated the radio and Fisherman's Headquarters the shopping spree.

1. Shimano Tiagra TI-30WLRSA Reel with a Quarow 20-50 STD rod Value \$730
2. Fisherman's Headquarters, Ship Bottom, NJ donated a \$500.00 Shopping Spree Fishermansheadquarters.com / 609-494-5739 Value \$500
3. Shimano TLD 30 Reel with Sufix line & Profile GL5630 Stand up Rod Value \$430
4. Penn 955 International Reel with Sufix line & Penn ISW817C66XF Rod Value \$320
5. Penn 320 GT2 Reel with Hi Seas line & Tsunami TSTBC 701MH Rod Value \$220
6. Shimano Baitrunner 4500B Reel with Sufix line & Tsunami TSTSS 1102XH Rod Value \$220
7. Abu Garcia 7000C3 Reel with Sufix line & a Berkley IM7 Graphite Rod Value \$210
8. Hummingbird Fixed Mount White VHF Radio 255 SW Donated by Hummingbird Value \$150

Meetings And Other Dates

April 24 JCAA General Meeting

May 3 NJ Marine Fisheries Council meeting

May 7 - 10: ASMFC Spring Meeting Week, 901 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia; (800) 333-3333.

May 10 JCAA Board Meeting

May 15 NMFS Recreational Statistics Meeting DC

May 23 NOAA 2007 NOAA Stakeholder Forum DC

June 9 JCAA Fluke Tournament

June 12 - 14: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Embassy Suites, 1700 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, Virginia; 757-827-8200.

June 15 JCAA Fluke Tournament Awards

Ceremony

June 26 JCAA General Meeting

JCAA's 13th Annual 2007 Fluke Tournament

Bigger and Better Port Prizes for 2007

By Phil Celmer

Mark your calendar for June 9th (fishing) and June 15th (ceremony). This year's tournament promises to be the best tournament in Jersey Coast's 26 year history: super port prizes - 120 of them, and a fun time for you and your crew while you help JCAA maintain its ability to fight for your fishing rights. This tournament, in its thirteenth year, is one of the largest fishing events in the country.

The Jersey Coast Fluke Tournament is a unique concept that will again have twelve ports with each one having its own mini-tournament with its own set of **10 prizes for 2007**. The fantastic **Trump Marina Hotel Casino** donates **\$10,000**, **JCAA** **\$3,400** and **Fisherman's Headquarters** in **LBI** donates **\$1,000** to sponsor the first place prizes of **\$1,200 cash** for each port. Our second place sponsor, **Boater's World**, has a generous second place prize of a \$750 gift certificate good in all **Boater's World** stores. Third prize is a **Raymarine DS5000X T/M Digital High Definition Fish Finder**. We are especially pleased that **Shimano Fishing** will be a new major port sponsor this year providing a rod and reel at each port as well as combos for door prizes at the Awards Ceremony. Additional major port sponsors include: Sunglasses by **Maui Jim Sunglasses**, \$400 gift certificates from **Mini Kota**, tackle from **American Fishing Wire/Hi-Seas**, luggage sets from **Canyon Gear International** and

fishing equipment from **New Jersey Angler and Nor'east Saltwater Magazines**.

This year JCAA will be giving away over \$110,000 in cash & prizes. Each contest is held at one of the twelve ports from Jersey City in the north to Fortescue in the south with each port serving as its own weigh station. **Your crew, with up to six anglers, will compete for 10 prizes at the port you select.**

All participants are automatically eligible for the Grand Prize; a model 1801 center console **Century Boat** with a 4 stroke **Yamaha** outboard on a **LoadRite** trailer complete with a **Fisher** made canvas cover. This fantastic fishing package will be awarded to a lucky angler after the huge door-prize drawing at **Trump Marina Hotel Casino** in Atlantic City the following Friday, June 15th. Entry forms are available at www.jcaa.org as well as links to our great sponsors and the latest JCAA news.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By John Toth

Our fisheries are managed by various councils and all too often there are not enough voices on these councils to represent the interests of recreational anglers. I remember Tom Fote, our Legislative Chairperson, asking members of one of these councils if any of them have ever fished and not one of them raised their hands! Yet these same types of people are making the rules that we have to follow on fish size, limits and seasons!

Well, we have an opportunity to change that. Mr. Bruce Freeman retired from NJ's Division of Fish & Wildlife Service to serve on JCAA's Science and Research Center. As you read from the following letter I wrote to President Bush urging him and his staff to appoint Bruce to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, you can see that he has the necessary qualifications to represent us very well.

I have personally known Bruce for many years and I can attest that he is extremely knowledgeable on all aspects of fishing and he is a man of integrity and one that we can trust to support our interests well on this important Council.

I strongly urge you to write a similar letter to President Bush, your Senator and Congressman supporting Bruce Freeman's nomination to the Mid-

Atlantic Marine Fishery Management Council. This is a very good and rare opportunity to get a person on a management council who has the qualifications and the background we need to get some right decisions made. Your letter can be as long as mine, or even short as you like. Use my information in any manner to suit your needs, but please write. Spelling errors are OK!

The letters to Senators Lautenberg and Menendez and our congressional delegation are very similar to the letter written to President Bush and they can be accessed through the JCAA's website (<http://www.jcaa.org>). We will also have their contact information on our web page

JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION
Working For the Saltwater Resource & Marine Anglers

Dear Mr. President:

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) is a state wide organization representing 75 fishing clubs in New Jersey. JCAA recommends that you direct Dr. William Hogarth, Assistant Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service and Commerce Secretary, Carlos Gutierrez to appoint Mr. Bruce Freeman to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC).

This year there are several at-large seats up for consideration on the MAFMC. The process to fill these vacancies requires the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection forwarding a list of nominees to our governor for review. Governor Corzine has recognized the outstanding qualifications of Mr. Bruce Freeman and has forwarded his nomination for a seat on the MAFMC to the National Marine Fisheries Service, who the JCAA strongly supports.

Mr. Freeman recently retired from the Division of Fish and Wildlife after more than 25 years of service to our state. During most of this time, he represented the Division Director on the MAFMC. He has done an admirable job working to protect our nation's and states' marine resources, while always representing New Jersey's interests. His many years of service have allowed him to understand the very complex procedures of the MAFMC. He is also very familiar with all of the Council members, a distinguishing characteristic that made him effective while serving on the Council.

Since retiring, Mr. Freeman has volunteered his time on the Executive Board of the Jersey Coast

Anglers Association and he serves as Chairman of our Science and Research Committee. His continued involvement in marine fisheries, conservation, fishery management, and especially his past experience on the Mid-Atlantic Council makes him an exceptional candidate to once again represent New Jersey. Because of these outstanding attributes, the Jersey Coast Anglers Association requests that you support Mr. Freeman appointment to the MAFMC.

Thank you for your continued support for the fishing constituents of our country!

Respectfully,
John Toth
President JCAA

cc.

DR. William Hogarth

Assistant Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service

1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Md. 20910

Carlos M. Gutierrez

Office of the Secretary

Mailstop 61

U.S. Department of Commerce

14th & Constitution Ave. NW

Washington DC 20230

Fluke Tournament

Our exciting Fluke Tournament is fast approaching on June 9th with all kinds of prizes and gala at the Trump Marina Casino in Atlantic City. See further details in this newsletter. We can use help with pulling this tournament together. Help is needed to send out materials to applicants, taking their info and even staffing the weigh stations at the 12 ports. Anybody interested should contact Fluke Tournament Director, Phil Celmer, at the JCAA Office (732) 506-6565.

JCAA Activities

Just what did your JCAA staff and volunteers do with their time during March/April? The following is an incomplete list of activities, but it provides a brief snapshot of some of the many meetings that JCAA volunteer, Tom Fote, attended to represent our clubs and to interact with people who shape the future course of our fisheries. It does not cover all of the work many of our other JCAA volunteers did like pulling the Fluke Tournament

together, ordering shirts, contacting vendors and other meetings concerning artificial reefs, NJ Marine Fisheries Council, NMFS Highly Migratory Species, funding for open space, etc. I particularly enjoyed going to the Outdoor Writers Workshop on March 29th that was co-sponsored by the JCAA and the NJ Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. It provided Tom Fote, Bruce Freeman and I the opportunity to rub elbows with sportswriters. We continue to need their help in getting our message across to the public. It also provided an opportunity for both Tom Fote and I to discuss your important issues and concerns with the staff of the Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Tom Fote Schedule

- March 20** Barnegat Bay Estuary Program (BBEP)
- March 20** Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County Dinner
- March 21** Marine Fish Conservation Network (MFCN) Meeting in DC and Congressional visits
- March 22** Marine Fish Conservation Network (MFCN) Meeting in DC
- March 23** Congressional visits in DC
- March 27** BBEP Search Committee Meeting
- March 27** JCAA General Meeting
- March 28** NJMFC Reef Committee meeting
- March 29** Outdoor Writers meeting
- March 29** DEP Global Warming meeting
- March 30** Looked at new equipment for JCAA in North Jersey
- April 4** Festival Committee of the BBEP
- April 4** MFCN Conference Call
- April 7** Pequest for Opening Day
- April 10** BBEP Special Meeting
- April 11** MFCN EXCOM Conference Call
- April 12** Meeting on Fluke Tournament Survey
- April 12** JCAA Board Meeting
- April 14** NJEF Summit
- April 16** 10 am BBEP Conference Call
- April 16** 1pm DEP Meeting in Trenton on the Economic Value of Natural Resources
- April 16** 7pm BBEP
- April 17** BBEP Search Committee
- April 18** Congressional Conference Call
- April 20** International Game Fish Dinner
- April 27** Metropolitan Outdoor Press Association Dinner

BAN POTS FROM ARTIFICIAL REEFS GO TO

<http://www.njreefrescue.com/>

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT & LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Thomas Fote

SUMMER FLOUNDER

I must sound like a broken record because I seem to say the same thing month after month. I am still waiting to hear about the outside peer review. I am hoping to get some answers at the ASMFC meeting in May. I will also be visiting the Hill to talk with Congressmen and Senators about summer flounder and many other subjects. I have enclosed an agenda for the ASMFC meeting and I plan to attend all four days of meetings.

COORDINATING MEETINGS

When you look at the important dates included in this newspaper, you can see that ASMFC is meeting May 7 – 10, NMFS has a meeting on recreational statistics on May 15 and NOAA has a meeting on May 23. Many of these meetings bring the same participants into the Washington, DC area. I am only traveling from New Jersey but some people have much longer trips. When you have a full day of meetings you add a travel day before and after. Only NMFS reimburses the general public attendees for travel expenses. NMFS, NOAA and ASMFC should try to coordinate meetings into a reasonable chunk of days and stop asking us to return to Washington, DC every week for a day or two. In addition to the travel expense, it eats up all of our time. Since some of the volunteers lose a work day for every meeting and travel day, this becomes prohibitive.

GLOBAL WARMING

It looks as though the world is finally paying attention to global warming. We have discovered that the human population is having a major effect on the world's climate. Even if we stop or severely curtail the activities that are causing global warming tomorrow, the global warming would continue for many years. The world 20 – 30 years from now will be different. The question is how different. It is not only important that we all contribute to stopping the increase in global warming but that we work together to plan for the inevitable consequences for what we have already done. In looking at commercial and recreational fishing, we can anticipate shifts in marine populations in terms of

what fish exist and where we can find them. The dramatic changes in our wetlands will affect everything from reproduction to population. Our parents and their parents always thought they would leave the world better for their children. We are in the predicament of trying to mitigate the negative inheritance of our children and their children.

In traveling the country and speaking with different age groups, I find diverse understanding and opinions. The generation older than me believes that this country can fix anything. After all, we won World War II, cured many diseases and put a man on the moon. My generation (50 – 60 plus) has a cynicism that grew out of the 60's and 70's. We're not sure we trust anyone to fix anything. The so-called "Me" generation is busy making a living and raising a family. I'm putting my money on the young ones, both the young idealists who are involved in environmental causes and the school age future.

What I believe we need to do is give our young people the tools they need, set a good example and support them as they look for the solutions to these problems. There are more programs, both in schools and communities that foster the interest and provide the knowledge that our children will need. We need to find these programs and provide them with the monetary and personal support they need.

JCAA's youth education program "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" is helping in this effort. Although the program is designed around fishing, the real message is about stewardship of the environment. There is a bill floating around the NJ Legislature for several years that would staff this program at the state level. In the meantime, JCAA continues to support Hooked on Fishing at every opportunity. If you know of a program in your community that fosters environmental awareness for young people, let us know. We would like to acknowledge these programs and let our members know about them.

Earthday

Soon Earthday will be upon us again. Let's hope this year Earthday is more than photo opportunities and public announcements. Those of us who were around for the original Earthday need to recommit ourselves to something more than a picnic with entertainment. Our politicians need to provide real leadership everyday, not just make a speech on Earthday.

Value Of New Jersey's Natural Resources

I will be attending meetings at NJ DEP after the publication of this newspaper. One meeting will be on land use and the other on the value of NJ's natural resources. In the past politicians have responded to our issues because we could prove there was economic value in recreational fishing. Hopefully, this new publication by DEP will make the same point. Proving the economic value of New Jersey's natural resources, particularly open space and clean water, will move our politicians to making long needed decisions about funding and priorities. I don't blame the politicians for their obsession with economic consequences. That is what the public seems to demand.

In comparing New Jersey to other states, it is clear that our DEP is focused on making good decisions rather than ones that are only politically expedient. They deserve our support and congratulations whenever they resist the temptation to make political points and do the right thing. When they find economic reasons to support those decisions, it is even better. That gives us a way to help sell these programs to our legislators. I also have to say that in our State Legislature and our Congressional delegation, our representatives are leaders in making environmental policy and supporting all of our efforts. They are head and shoulders above those working in many other states. In New Jersey you are required to be green no matter what your party affiliation.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Spring Meeting May 7 - 10, 2007 Radisson Hotel Old Town Alexandria, Virginia

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Please note: The preliminary agenda is subject to change.

Monday, May 7, 2007

1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Atlantic Herring Section
1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Management & Science Committee
2:45 - 5:45 p.m. ACCSP Coordinating Council

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Law Enforcement Committee
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Management & Science Committee
8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Tautog Management Board
9:45 - 11:15 a.m. Weakfish Management Board
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. American Eel Management Board
1:45 - 5:00 p.m. American Lobster Management Board
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Awards Reception

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

8:00 - 11:00 a.m. Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Management Board
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Atlantic Menhaden Management Board
1:30 - 4:00 p.m. ISFMP Policy Board
4:15 - 6:15 p.m. South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board

Thursday, May 10, 2007

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Executive Committee
8:45 - 9:45 a.m. Horseshoe Crab Management Board
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks Management Board
12:30 - 12:45 p.m. Buffet Lunch for Commissioners and Proxies
1:00 - 1:30 p.m. ISFMP Policy Board
1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Business Session

2007 STRIPED BASS BONUS PERMITS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Press Release

(07/15) TRENTON - Anglers interested in participating in New Jersey's popular Striped Bass Bonus program can now get permits faster and easier through a new service available on the Department of Environmental Protection's Web site, DEP Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson announced today.

"We've simplified our bonus-permitting process this season so striped bass enthusiasts can spend more time on the water enjoying what no other state on the East Coast offers: an opportunity to catch and keep a third striper," Commissioner Jackson said.

For a \$2 processing fee, an angler can complete an online application and immediately print a bonus permit at home or from any computer with Internet access.

Under current striped-bass recreational size limits set by the New Jersey Legislature, anglers can harvest daily two fish at 28 inches or greater. With a bonus permit, anglers can keep daily a third striper at 28 inches or greater.

After using the online permit, an angler can simply return to the DEP's Web site to report the harvest of the bonus fish and then become eligible to receive another bonus permit.

In addition to helping anglers get their bonus permits right away, the electronic system provides real-time monitoring of the bonus program quota, enabling the DEP's Fish and Wildlife biologists to devote more time toward collecting and analyzing harvest data for striped bass and other species.

During this season, party and charter-boat bonus permits will continue to be distributed by mail until the Web service can process multiple permits. Individual anglers can also choose to get bonus permits by mail.

In the Atlantic Ocean, up to three miles from shore, striped bass can be caught year round; farther than three miles from shore, the waters are closed to striped-bass fishing. In all other marine waters, the striper season runs from March 1 to Dec. 31. In the Delaware River and its tributaries - from the Route 1 bridge in Trenton to the Salem River - the season is open from March 1-31 and from June 1 to Dec. 31.

Also, this year the Division of Fish and Wildlife will introduce an online Striped Bass Bonus Program Volunteer Angler Survey.

For more details on New Jersey's striped bass bonus program, including online and mail-in bonus permit applications, and harvest reporting, visit www.njfishandwildlife.com/bonusbass.htm.

National Marine Fisheries Service to fix survey methods

Posted by the Asbury Park Press on

02/18/07

John Geiser

The National Marine Fisheries Service is moving ahead with its plans to improve recreational fishery survey methods, and anglers applaud the effort — if it is done right.

Almost everyone, including NMFS and those who participated in a peer review, agreed that the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey was broken. The plan envisions a national registry of saltwater anglers — not a saltwater license — that some believe will yield a lot of meaningful data. The idea is to count anglers and interview some of them. Skeptics believe that the results will not differ a great deal from those compiled by MRFSS. There may be more dockside surveys and more phone calls to anglers, but the data will be the same unless the plan goes a lot further.

Bruce Smith, president of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, reported that the organization has written the NMFS fishery statistic division commenting on the service's 44-page draft report on evaluation and improvement of survey methods. "There are major issues that need to be addressed immediately," Smith said. Most importantly, the JCAA feels that MRFSS must be more efficient and inclusive of all anglers. "NMFS should consider

incomplete trip sampling by roving interviewers," he pointed out. "For example, during the fall shore fishery for striped bass, it would greatly improve your sampling by walking the ocean beach as opposed to waiting at a walkway for anglers to leave the beach."

Smith added that there is a need to interview anglers at night during the summer in the mid-Atlantic region as many anglers come off the beach by 5 a.m. as well as determining possible differences between trips beginning and ending within a 24-hour period. Further, he stressed that the surveyors should better identify sampling sites, and be flexible. In the past, sites were picked at the beginning of the year. Anglers know that participation changes as the fishery changes during the season.

The JCAA also feels that the survey should attempt to understand non-response from anglers who will not cooperate because of frustration over more and ever-changing regulations or simply fear of being in violation of one or more of the numerous regulations.

Smith also explained the need for MRFSS to involve angler organizations in the process through conference calls or meetings with these groups before, during and at the end of the season.

The difficulties presently existing with the large pelagic survey are spelled out by Smith: Missing many landing locations in the master list; private boats docking at private docks not being sampled; only sampling between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m.; and continuing problems with curved versus straight-line measurement of large pelagic fish.

One of the most perplexing of problems for recreational fishermen, especially for those who are concerned about a saltwater fishing license as the cure-all for data collection, is the use of for-hire information. Party and charter boatmen are required to fill out trip reports each time they fish, but those reports are stored in a warehouse, and not used. The best statistical data available goes unused and ignored. The data from this source in the inshore fishery is actually so valuable, that some persons feel it cannot be improved upon by random sampling from private boaters.

The claim that the boatmen will falsify reports to somehow further their interests is a stretch since few persons can envision how NMFS might react to landings reports: too high, cut back; too low, not using the quota, give it to the commercial sector.

An example might be seen in the canyon fishing data of years back when New Jersey researcher Bill Figley interviewed, sampled and recorded landings in the state for several years. The data was the best on the East Coast, bar none. It had no bias, there was no axe to grind, and it came from fishermen. NMFS would have no part of it, and rejected it in favor of presumptions and guesses by its own staff.

It turned out that the yellowfin tuna landings were too high. The data did not fit the service's belief or plan. They wanted to make the recreational fishery look insignificant.

The JCAA, and others, are concerned about NMFS's use of obviously bad MRFSS data, i.e., the fluke landings during a hurricane some years ago; and there is a lack of trust that must be addressed with a more open, responsible system.

NMFS needs a hatchery

Mark your calendar for the 2007 NOAA Stakeholder Forum!
Save the Date: May 23, 2007

Please join us on May 23rd to discuss some of the nation's most urgent environmental challenges, network with colleagues and NOAA executive leadership, get the inside information on NOAA's current strategic direction, and help shape NOAA's strategic priorities.

At this event, NOAA will be interested in understanding your organization's views on NOAA's response and contribution towards:

Societal demands for climate information services;

Research and technological challenges to improving extreme weather forecasting and prediction;

Decision support services for hazard resilient communities, commerce, and transportation; and Ecosystem-based management in an era of increasing pressure on ocean and coastal resources.

NOAA uses your input to identify and understand external trends and determine how to best respond through NOAA's premier environmental science, technology, and information services. Don't miss this opportunity to influence NOAA's decision-makers on the top environmental issues of our day!

Details

Date & Time

May 23, 2007, 8:00am – 4:30pm EDT

Location

Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport
2799 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202
Toll Free: 1-800-233-1234

Tel: +1 703 418 1234 Fax: +1 703 418 1289

Please ask for the "NOAA Room Block" for a reduced rate

Registration

Register online at:

<http://noaaregistration.fedworx.org/>

More information and agenda to follow – April 13, 2007

NMFS Fisheries Statistics Division will be hosting the Fourth Annual Recreational Fisheries Constituent Review Meeting on Tuesday May 15th in Silver Spring, Maryland.

At this point in the planning stage we are soliciting ideas from our constituents and state partners for items to include on this year's agenda.

Possible agenda items include:

An overview of 2006 Marine Recreational Information Program

Review of 2006 catch and effort estimates
Presentation of Recreational Fisheries

website revisions

Updates on Review and Re-design of the Marine Recreational Information Program

Question and Answer sessions on 2006 Program and plans for the future

Please let me know if you have any suggestions regarding what data should be presented in the overview, which species should be used for the case study, the best approach for reviewing data, or any other items you would like to see on the agenda.

Please email your suggestions/comments to me no later than April 20th as we would like to finalize the agenda by then.

Also feel free to call if you have any questions or would like to discuss the meeting further (301-713-2328, ext. 208)

Thanks

Tom Sminkey, Ph.D.

Statistician (Biology) Fisheries Statistics Division

Phone: (301) 713-2328 x208 FAX: (301) 713-4137

E-mail: Tom.Sminkey@noaa.gov

LAB ANALYSIS UNCOVERS CARCINOGENIC CONTAMINANTS IN POPULAR BRAND OF OMEGA-3 FISH OIL TABLETS

Greenpeace News Release

Banned Chemicals - DDT, Dieldrin and PCBs - Found in OmegaPure Brand Supplements

WASHINGTON – An independent laboratory analysis released today has identified high levels of three toxic chemicals in the popular brand of Omega-3 fish oil nutritional supplements known as OmegaPure.

These contaminants include DDT, Dieldrin and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) which have all been identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as 'probable' carcinogens and have been banned in the United States. The contaminants were also found in the fish oil and meal used in pet food and animal feed as nutritional supplements. OmegaPure is produced by Houston-based Omega Protein, Inc., which is the largest producer of fish oil in the United States.

"Consumers have a right to know that the products they buy to supposedly improve their health could actually be putting them at risk," said John Hocevar, Greenpeace Oceans Specialist. "Omega Protein's products should either be cleaned-up or pulled off the market. In the meantime, consumers seeking the benefits of Omega-3 oils should consider safer sources such as flaxseed oil or algae-derived sources of Omega-3s."

The Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) laboratories – an executive agency and research body within the government of the United Kingdom - performed the analysis for the Greenpeace Research Laboratories located at the University of Exeter.

The demand for Omega-3-fortified products has increased over the years following reports that consumption of the fish oils may reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke. These benefits appear to be driving the development of a new market for Omega-3 enriched products including orange juice, yogurt, butter and peanut butter among others.

"These newest findings point to the need for the White House to let the Food and Drug Administration finalize regulations setting manufacturing standards for dietary supplements," said Bruce Silverglade, legal director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI). "The White

House Office of Management and Budget has effectively prevented the FDA from finalizing these rules, known as ‘Good Manufacturing Practices,’ for more than five years.”

Over the past several years, fishermen and conservation organizations have expressed serious concern that the vast scale of Omega’s operations may be taking food away from striped bass, seabirds, and whales.

“We first became concerned about Omega Protein after watching them do everything they could to avoid regulation of their fisheries,” added Hocevar. “Not only does the company lack concern for the impacts of their fishing practices on the environment but there is a similar lack of concern for the contents of the supplements they sell.”

Full results of the study, video news release, and more in depth analysis are available at: <http://usaphoto.greenpeace.org/OmegaPureContamination/>

Contact: John Hocevar, (512) 454-6140; (522) 577-3868 (cell) 906-B Grand Central Ave Lavallette, NJ 08735, www.savebarnegatbay.org

Clean Water Act Must Be Used to
Protect Barnegat Bay
By William deCamp Jr. 732-830-3600
Save Barnegat Bay

March, 2007

Close to the heart of Barnegat Bay, nestled along its western shoreline, near marshes and waterfront homes and crossing beneath Route 9, lies one of New Jersey’s strangest artifacts: the only river in the world that flows backward.

The rush of water landward up the Forked River has nothing to do with the lunar pull upon the tides. It is pulled rather by the force of greed through a channel of political expediency, and it is literally sucking the life out of Barnegat Bay.

Each and every day, the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station pulls *1.4 billion gallons* of Barnegat Bay water into its “once-through” cooling system. The water is sucked up the Forked River and spat out – superheated and greatly depleted of living organisms – into Oyster Creek.

Many persons remain unaware of this carnage – and indeed unaware of the very presence of the oldest nuclear plant in America – on account of a single fact: while other energy producing plants use highly visible cooling towers to minimize the

volume and environmental impact of their cooling systems, Oyster Creek does not.

This negligence results in at least five kinds of ecological damage to Barnegat Bay:

– *Massive destruction of biomass.* Shellfish larvae, fish eggs, plankton, and microorganisms of many kinds suffer high mortality as they are strained out of the water at the intake (“impingement”) or as they are superheated inside the plant (“entrainment”). Billions of fish and aquatic organisms are killed.

– *Thermal pollution.* The water in the Oyster Creek discharge canal is extremely warm – up to 110 degrees Fahrenheit – which alters the natural character of Barnegat Bay. A looming question is whether this extreme artificial warmth is contributing to the prevalence of stinging sea nettle jellyfish, *Chrysaora quinquecirrha*, currently one of the most severe environmental problems of Barnegat Bay.

– *Destruction of endangered sea turtles.* Critically endangered Kemps Ridley, Atlantic Green, and Loggerhead turtles are killed each year as they are attracted to the warm water and then sucked toward death on the cooling system intake. The number of Diamondback Terrapins lost is not known.

– *Large fish kills* occur in the winter when the plant temporarily shuts down for maintenance or mishap. Hundreds of fish attracted to the artificial warmth of Oyster Creek’s outflow suffer fatal shock from the sudden onset of cold water.

– *Biocides* such as chlorine are allowed to be released into Oyster Creek and Barnegat Bay at levels known to be lethal to striped bass, bunker, and other species.

All these problems have a simple, sane solution. The plant’s archaic “once through” cooling system can be replaced with a much lower volume “closed loop” system of cooling towers, a routine solution during the twentieth century and no less of a necessity in the twenty-first. This step would reduce mortality by 95%.

The most frustrating aspect of Oyster Creek’s elementary failure to protect the waters of Barnegat Bay is that installation of a closed loop cooling system is already required by the Clean Water Act. This fact was recently reaffirmed for another plant by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

This gives Governor Corzine and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection the

option, and perhaps the obligation, to require a “once through” cooling system with towers under Oyster Creek’s pending permit renewal under the Clean Water Act.

The expense of building cooling towers should be well within the financial means of Oyster Creek’s operator, Amergen, since it could be amortized over the life of the plant.

At a time when the Barnegat Bay ecosystem is greatly overstressed by other intractable problems – such as over development and eutrophication caused by excess nutrients from runoff and air pollution deposition – the single act of requiring cooling towers at Oyster Creek would achieve and immediate, salutary and progressive ecological result. The Governor would do well to seize this opportunity.

Interested citizens may remind Governor Corzine of the requirements of the Clean Water Act by phoning him at 609-292-6000, writing him at The State House, Trenton, NJ 08625, and emailing him from his website [topic: natural resources, clean water].

Ask Governor Corzine to enforce the Clean Water Act by requiring a closed loop cooling system at Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. Barnegat Bay deserves no less. Let’s get the Forked River flowing seaward again.

William deCamp Jr. is Chairman of the Board of Directors of Save Barnegat Bay, www.savebarnegatbay.org.

Barnegat Bay Festival June 3

The 10th Anniversary Barnegat Bay Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (rain or shine) on Sunday, June 3rd, 2007, at the beautiful waterfront Wanamaker Complex, in Island Heights, New Jersey (right next to Toms River, NJ).

This event is sponsored by the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program with support from our partners, Ocean County College, and the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Join the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program in celebrating their 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY (and the 20-year anniversary of the National Estuary Program www.nationalestuaries.org) at the 10th annual Barnegat Bay Festival. Enjoy an entire day of Free Family Fun. Participate in fish printing, face

painting, seedling planting and so much more. Environmental groups from the area will be there to answer any questions you may have regarding the environmentally responsible ways that you can enjoy and protect the beautiful Barnegat Bay and its watershed. Join us for an all-day music festival, decoy carving and casting demonstrations, and free pontoon boat tours. Artisans and crafters will be selling custom fishing rods, jewelry, marine art, photography, and more. So pack up the family and spend the day celebrating the nationally recognized BARNEGAT BAY at the Wanamaker Complex in Island Heights, New Jersey. Please visit our website at www.bbep.org or call 732-255-0472 for more information.

Sample of the events already scheduled for the festival:

Get dazzlingly decorated with a free airbrush tattoo by Dana Endresen.

* Jenkinson’s Aquarium will be helping create an ocean life craft for children of all ages.

Stop by the Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science booth to build a crab out of sea shells.

Visit the Ocean County Freeholders Public Affairs booth to make your own Watershed Willy, the storm drain mascot of the Barnegat Bay watershed! While you’re there, take a spin of the Tourism Wheel and win a prize.

Cattus Island Park naturalists will help you make an animal and leaf rubbing to add to your Nature art collection.

The Forest Resource Education Center will be giving out “tree cookies” and seedlings to start you on your way toward your spring planting.

* Make your own seal mask with the Marine Mammal Stranding Center.

The staff and volunteers from the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve will once again offer kids an opportunity to try the ancient art of fish printing.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will have a “touchy-feely” box containing items that should and should not be in the water. Can you figure out the difference?

Keep your eyes peeled for Sparkles the Robot Trashcan Man, who will be wandering around the festival reminding you kids to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Visit the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium table and build yourself a horseshoe crab

hat to keep the sun out of your eyes. Visit the GIANT mosquito at the Ocean County Mosquito Commission's table and learn how to avoid those bites this summer.

Get up close and personal with local seashore inhabitants with a visit to the Atlantic City Aquarium Touch Tank.

YOUTH EDUCATION *BY GREG KUCHARAWSKI*

RECREATIONAL BOATING AND FISHING FOUNDATION

The RBFF is pleased to announce the launch of the new and improved takemefishing.org web site, featuring the web's largest database of fishing and boating spots. Search from more than 10,000 locations in all 50 states. If you don't find your favorite fishing hole or boating spot, be sure to add it. Do the same for marinas, boat ramps, charter services, fishing and boating supply stores and boat rental companies. And pass this on to your members and customers! Together with your help, takemefishing.org will serve as the best all around fishing and boating resource with "How to" and "Where to" information for local communities across the country.

NEW FOR STAKEHOLDERS:

Utilize the new Take Me Fishing online ads to help promote the site. The ads, which are available for download on RBFF.org, will link your members or customers directly to takemefishing.org and allow them to search for places to boat and fish directly from your web site. Let's help populate this worthwhile fishing and boating resource.

STRIPED BASS BONUS PROGRAM

Striped bass bonus program permits can now be obtained online through the Division of Fish and Wildlife's license Web site. A DEP News Release regarding the program can be found at http://www.nj.gov/dep/newsrel/2007/07_0015.htm. Making the permits available online, as well as at license agents, makes the process faster and easier than in the past. Permits can still be obtained through the mail. For information on changes in the application and reporting process, as well as a link to the license site where permits can be obtained, visit the Striped Bass Bonus Program page at <http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/bonusbas.htm> on the Div. of Fish and Wildlife's Web site.

CUB SCOUTS AND FISHING

On Monday, April 16, 2007 the JCAA Youth Education Committee will teach Cub Scouts the basics of saltwater/freshwater fishing, boating safety, and local fishing opportunities in the Toms River area. The JCAA Youth Education Committee will supply prizes, HOFNOD materials, and terminal tackle to support this seminar.

JCAA JUNIOR ANGLER PROGRAM

On Tuesday, May 8, 2007 the JCAA Youth Education Committee will present a program about the JCAA Junior Angler program to the membership of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association. Some of the topics for the night will include: how to keep kids fishing, HOFNOD Certification, school fishing clubs, summer youth fishing tournaments and fishing safety. Come out and hear about the Anglers' Legacy "Take Me Fishing." It is a simple request to share your passion for fishing with someone new. That is the message of the Anglers' Legacy campaign: A clear and concise call to action for the nation's avid anglers to take someone fishing on their boat. What's special about the ask is that it is being supported by leading manufacturers, publishers, pro-staff and celebrities. This program will give avid anglers a chance to give something back to the sport they love and give all of us opportunities to help grow participation in recreational boating, fishing and stewardship. The Anglers' Legacy will: Focus national awareness on your efforts at the federal, state and grassroots level, help motivate new members, supporters and volunteers, provide a way to unify all our efforts to leave the shared legacy that is important to us all. And Anglers' Legacy is a terrific way for you to connect with one of your most active and vital resources – the avid angler. Accept their invitation to view the campaign – then take The Pledge and spread the word. Put the Anglers' Legacy campaign to work for you!

HOW TO CATCH A WHOPPER

Hey kids, don't forget to pick up a copy of the 2007 New Jersey Marine Digest and read the article "How to Catch a Whopper." Try your luck at catching a trophy fish and enter it in the New Jersey Skillful Angler Award Program. All the information is in the article, so go catch that fish of a lifetime. Remember to let us know when you enter your fish in the Skillful Angler Program.

We need the support of your club and its members

Your club should be a member of JCAA and make a difference for only \$50 a year. Your club will have a voice in all JCAA positions that affect your fishing future. Your club will receive up-to-date info on vital issues each month.

Club Membership Application

Date _____

Club Name: _____

President's Name: _____

Pres. Address: Street _____

City _____

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Ph. # _____

Fax # _____

Please make check \$50 payable to JCAA

JCAA SPONSORSHIP

The JCAA has four levels of sponsorship, \$50, \$100, \$250 & \$500.

Sponsors are recognized in our newspaper. For more information call JCAA at 732-506-6565. Become a JCAA sponsor and help our cause. As you can see by our newspaper many our member clubs are also JCAA sponsors, if your club is not contact us today to become one. With all the new battles we are engaged in we need to raise more funds in order to be effective. Become a sponsor now and help us to continue the fight.

Join JCAA as an Associate Member

Only \$25 per year! Support the Goals of JCAA and receive a subscription to JCAA NEWS that gives you the Most Up-To-Date News about Fisheries Management and Environmental Issues

JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPLICATION

Date _____ New ___ Renewal _____

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Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

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Check if you would rather receive newspaper by email instead of by regular mail. Yes ___

Ph. # _____

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COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS

Legislative	Tom Fote	732-270-9102 tfote@jcaa.org
Office Manager	Phil Celmer	609-693-3414 jcaa@jcaa.org
Access: (North)	Ray Marione	201-843-1711
Access: (South)	Robert DeLeonard	732-793-8080
Blackfish	Pat Donnelly	732-295-1755
Blue claw Crab	Jack Miktus	732-477-5184
Blue Fish	Al Marantz	732-280-2643
Habitat	Pat Donnelly	732-206-1407
Large Pelagic	John Koegler	610-687-2208
Menhaden	Len Fantasia	732-872-1862
Science & Research	Bruce Freeman	732-793-7871
Sponsorship	Frank Richetti	732-477-3120
Striped Bass	Ed Cherry	
edwardwc@verivon.net		
Webmaster	Phil V. Celmer	
philipc@highlandstech.net		
Youth Education	Greg Kucharewski	732-840-9197

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