

JCAA NEWSPAPER DECEMBER 2012

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on November 21st, 2012)

Monthly Meeting at Jersey Coast Shark Anglers, 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick
"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, November 27th, 2012

Starting at 7:30 PM

At 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 13th, 2012

Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

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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 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

IMPORTANT DATES

2012 Dates

November 27th JCAA General Meeting at the Jersey Coast Shark Anglers Clubhouse

December 13th JCAA Board Meeting

December 18th JCAA General Meeting at Jersey Coast Shark Anglers Clubhouse

2013 Dates

January 5th Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series at Golden Nugget AC

January 10th JCAA Board Meeting

January 10th-13th Garden State Sportsmen Show

January 29th JCAA General Meeting

February 6th-10th Atlantic City International Power Boat Show

March 15th-17th Saltwater Expo

April 14th Sportsperson-of-the-year Dinner

August 24th JCAA 19TH Annual JCAA Fluke Tournament

September 6th JCAA Fluke Tournament Awards Ceremony at Golden Nugget AC

President's Report

By Joseph Puntasecca

Hurricane Sandy forever changed the landscape of the Jersey Shore. We all have memories of vacations, growing up, or growing old at the shore. Some of us made it through with only a scratch while others lost everything they had. But we all are pulling together and helping one another through the first tough couple of weeks since the storm passed. We will continue to help each other as the rebuilding process will take quite a bit of time I am sure. One thing that hasn't changed is the JCAA's commitment to fight for the recreational angler. While many are trying to piece their lives back together we are working to ensure the access

and infrastructure you previously enjoyed will be there when things finally get back to normal.

If you can't fish because your marina, favorite fishing access point, or dock has been damaged by the storm, please email Chris Zeman. He will be writing NOAA and the Mid-Atlantic Council to obtain federal disaster aid for the recreational fishing industry and is looking for the help of NJ's recreational anglers. Chris is looking for specific details of the infrastructure damage that has occurred. Please e-mail Chris at chrisze@optonline.net with details of how your fishing efforts are affected by Hurricane Sandy with one or two paragraphs, include location or locations and a couple of pictures. And put 'Sandy's fishing related damage' in the subject and also include your name and hometown.

Menhaden

The JCAA submitted public comment on Draft Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden this past month. The public comment submitted can be found at the end of my column.

Sportsperson-of-the-Year

I am pleased to announce our Sportsperson-of-the-Year is Tim Burden! Unfortunately, we had to postpone our Sportsperson-of-the-Year Dinner due to Hurricane Sandy. The new date for the dinner is April 14th, 2013.

REMINDERS

- FEMA is operating out of the Brick Civic Plaza. Our November and December general meetings will be at the Jersey Coast Shark Anglers, 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick.
- The December General Meeting will be on December 18th.

Mike Waine 11/11/2012
ASMFC
1050 N. Highland Leeds Rd., Suite 200 A-N
Arlington, VA 22201

Mike Waine,

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association is pleased that the ASMF has established a goal to manage menhaden in a manner that is biologically, economically, socially and ecologically sound while protecting the resource and those who benefit from

it. We trust that the ASMFC is serious about attaining this goal and respectfully request that our comments be given serious consideration.

In 2010 a Peer Review Panel noted in their stock assessment that the menhaden population abundance had declined steadily and has been low since the last peak in the early 1980's. Therefore the panel recommended action that would provide greater protection for the spawning stock biomass. We are pleased that the ASMFC took some action to correct this problem and that a new stock assessment update was completed this past July. The update showed that overfishing is occurring. We are very concerned about this because menhaden are a most important forage base and are needed to sustain predatory fishes such as bluefish, fluke, striped bass and weakfish.

The JCAA urges the ASMFC to maximize the number of menhaden in all of our waters as soon as possible by reducing the harvest level. We favor a 50% reduction in landings, consistent reporting by commercial fishermen, and an allocation that supports the small bait harvesters. More specifically we favor the following options:

2.5 BIOLOGICAL REFERENCE POINTS

Option B: The fecundity-based overfished definition is a target of SSB30%MSP and a threshold of SSB15%MSP.

2.6.2 Stock Rebuilding and F Reduction Schedules

Option B: The Board shall take action to reduce the current F to at least the target F30%MSP in a time frame that shall be no longer than 3 years.

3.6.1.2 Quota Monitoring

We are opposed to Option A but due to many of our members being devastated by Hurricane Sandy we were unable to devote the time necessary to choose an option.

3.6.2.1 Biological Data

Option B. The TC will review and recommend the targeted number of ten fish samples to be collected by state, and based on the TC's recommendation the Board may select specific biological monitoring requirements for Amendment 2.

3.6.2.2 Adult Survey Index

Option B. Require all states with stationary gears that encounter menhaden collect catch and effort data (e.g., pounds landed, number of nets fished, number of days fished per net) for potential development of a CPUE index of adults across the

range of Atlantic menhaden. Additional biological data would be required including age and length samples to determine the selectivity of those fisheries.

4.2.1 Total Allowable Catch

Option B. Harvest will be restricted through the use of a TAC. (If selected see Sections 4.2.1.1 through 4.2.1.7).

4.2.1.1 TAC Specification

Option A. 85% Close the season when 85% of the TAC has been taken to allow for incomplete or late reports at the time of the season closure.

4.2.1.2 TAC Setting Method

Again due to the hurricane we were unable to discuss whether we preferred **Option A** or **Option B** However we favor:

Sub-option A.5. Multiplier = 0.50, means a 50% reduction from the recent 3 year average

Our second choice is

Sub-option B.5. Multiplier = 0.50, means a 50% reduction from the recent 5 year average

4.2.1.3 TAC Allocation

Option C. Menhaden commercial TAC to be managed on a state-by-state basis.

Sub-option C.2 Menhaden coastal TAC to be allocated by fishery and state-by state.

We also support whichever option that most heavily favors the bait suppliers but did not have time to discuss the specific options again due to the hurricane.

Allocation Revisit Provision

Option A: 3 years from Amendment 2 implementation

4.2.1.4 Quota Transfers

Option A: No transfer of regional or state quotas

4.2.1.5 Quota Rollover

Option A: Quotas may not be rolled over

4.2.1.6 Quota Payback

Option B: 100% Payback of Quota Overages

Any overage of a TAC is subtracted from that specific TAC the subsequent fishing year. This would apply to a coastwide TAC or any allocated portion of that TAC by fishery (bait and reduction), region, or state. Overage determination is based on final allocations (including overages after transferred quota if applicable)

4.2.1.7 Bycatch Allowance

Option A: No bycatch allowance when the fishing season is closed

4.2.1.8 TAC Set Aside for Small Scale Fisheries

Option B. A specific percentage or poundage of the TAC may be set aside for small scale traditional fisheries. The set aside amount will be determined by the Board during annual specifications, and is subject to a technical analysis of the fishery receiving a set aside. This option would only be available if adequate monitoring exists in the fishery receiving the set aside.

4.2.1.9 TAC Set Aside for Episodic Events

Option A. No quota set aside option for episodic events

4.2.2 Atlantic Menhaden Chesapeake Bay Fishery Harvest Cap

Option C: Adjust the CB cap as it relates to any quota management approach selected.

4.5.3 De minimis Fishery Guidelines

Option B. Define *de minimis* for States without a Reduction Fishery. If Option B is selected, the Board must select both the Criteria for *De Minimis* Consideration (Section 4.5.3.1) and the plan requirements if *de minimis* is granted (Section 4.5.3.2).

Option 1. To be eligible for *de minimis* consideration in the bait fishery, a state must prove that its commercial bait landings in the most recent two years for which data are available did not exceed 1% of the coastwide bait landings.

4.5.3.2 Plan Requirements if De Minimis Status is Granted

Option 3: *De minimis* criteria exempts a state from biological monitoring (e.g., age data), but the state must adhere to timely quota monitoring requirements (as specified in Section 3.1) and may not exceed their allocated quota. If the fishery is closed for any reason, *de minimis* states must close their fisheries as well.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Puntasecca
JCAA President

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Thomas Fote

Sandy

I was looking forward to the fall fishing season. That was before October 29th. Like many of you, Hurricane Sandy changed our plans for this fall

and the upcoming years. In my estimation the impact on the recreational fishing industry in New Jersey will last for many years. We have no idea yet what the long-term fallout will be. In the short term, people have lost boats, access to the beach and just the time to go fishing. But that's the short term. We will need to wait to determine the long-term impact. Which businesses that were already struggling will survive Sandy?

Chris Zeman, member of the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council, was immediately calling for disaster relief for the recreational industry. He and others reached out to Governor Christie, senators and congressmen to call on the Secretary of Commerce to declare New Jersey's fishing industry, both commercial and recreational, a disaster. The Governor, Senators Lautenberg and Menendez and Congressman Pallone have already reached out to the Secretary of Commerce. One of the fastest actions I have seen is the approval of this disaster declaration and the subsequent funding by the Secretary of Commerce.

I recognize much of this money will be spent to resolve short-term problems. I am hoping the decision-makers will also realize that the impact on recreational fishing will exceed the impact on the commercial sector. Commercial fishermen will get their boats out to sea again. Many tackle stores are located on barrier islands that have no current public access. The infrastructure that supports recreational fishing including the marinas has been devastated.

In speaking to my congressional delegation, I have indicated we also need to spend some money looking at the impacts on Raritan Bay, Barnegat Bay, and the other estuaries where the tidal surge has a tremendous impact on these nursery areas. Maybe we should be funding some research on the impacts on summer flounder, black sea bass and tautog. Previous hurricanes in other areas have caused ecological changes that have taken years to reverse. We have no BP to fund a clean-up. We need for the Federal and State government to fund this research and recovery.

On a personal note, the damage I sustained is not comparable with the damage some friends and members of Jersey Coast have sustained. But I will talk about the reason I actually moved to New Jersey. Ray Bukowski, manager at Island Beach State Park, invited me to tour the park before a meeting with other stakeholders. I took some pictures and will, when time allows, post them on the

JCAA Facebook page. There are areas with devastating damage and other areas that appear to have had little damage. For example, the handicapped walkway at area 7 is gone. The blueprints for this walkway were funded by the second Governor's Tournament. Governor Whitman loved the project for the access it provided to so many who could not enjoy the beach otherwise and was able to secure the funding. The walkway was also extended to Tices Shoal to allow boaters access to the beach. The bayside walkway is intact. There is much debris and exposed buried debris that will make driving on the beach hazardous. Governor Christie and the DEP Commissioner are discussing when limited access will be available. The limited access to the towns on the barrier island will be a factor in developing any plan. The one thing I know for sure is that Island Beach State Park will recover and we will once again enjoy one of New Jersey's great treasures.

**The ASMFC and the Mid-Atlantic Council
Upcoming Joint Meeting and Separate
Menhaden Board Meeting**
Baltimore, December 10-14, 2102

The ASMFC Menhaden Board meeting will be December 14th at the Baltimore MD Best Western Plus Hotel and Conference Center. The Menhaden Board is currently schedule to meet from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

MAFMC Meeting
Baltimore, December 10-13, 2102

The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's December 2012 meeting to be held at Pier V Hotel, 711 Eastern Ave., Baltimore, MD 21202, phone 410-539-2000. Below is the meeting agenda. **Note:** For online access to the meeting, register at [this link](#). Once registered you will receive an email confirming your registration with the information you need to join the Webinar.

Monday, December 10
9:00 - 5:00 pm

Visioning and Strategic Planning Working Group

- Discuss next steps for completing the draft strategic plan

- Finalize Science and Data and Ecosystems goal sequences
- Review top themes from the Visioning Project
- Discuss Objectives, Strategies, and Tactics for one strategic goal

Tuesday, December 11

9:00 - 5:00 pm

Visioning and Strategic Planning Working Group

- Review outcomes from Day 1
- Discuss Objectives, Strategies, and Tactics for two to three strategic goals (continued from Day 1)

Wednesday, December 12

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Executive Committee

- Ricks E Savage Award
- Identify 2013 Council priorities

9:00 a.m. Council convenes

9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Business Session

- Approve October minutes
- Address any outstanding actions from October 2012 meeting

Liaison Reports

- New England Council (November 13-15, 2012)
- South Atlantic Council (December 3-7, 2012)

Organizational Reports

- NMFS Regional Administrator
- NMFS NEFSC Director
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- Federal Enforcement (NMFS and U.S. Coast Guard)
- ASMFC Director

Executive Director's Report - Chris Moore

Science Report - Rich Seagraves

- Review and approve 5-year Research Plan

Committee Reports

- Executive Committee
- SSC

11:30 - 12:00 p.m.

Amendment 5 to the Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan - Shark Rebuilding/ Management Measures - Peter Cooper (NMFS)

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish

- Framework 8 - second meeting
- Present Amendment 15 scoping results and get confirmation on scope of
- Amendment for FMAT
- Update on January 15-17, 2013 Squid Management Workshop

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Special Management Zone (SMZ)

Alternatives

- Discuss management alternatives to include in public hearing document

3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Black Sea Bass Issues

- Discuss 2012 overages in the recreational fishery
- Review accountability measures and black sea bass data

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Listening Session

- Hurricane Sandy and its impact on Mid-Atlantic fisheries

Thursday, December 13

9:00 a.m. Demersal Committee Meeting as a Committee of the Whole with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Finalize Summer Flounder 2013 Recreational Management Measures with Board

- Review and discuss Monitoring Committee and Advisory Panel recommendations on summer flounder recreational management measures
- Develop and approve management measures for 2013 summer flounder recreational fishery

10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Finalize Scup 2013 Recreational Management Measures with Board

- Review and discuss Monitoring Committee and Advisory Panel recommendations on scup recreational management measures
- Develop and approve management measures for 2013 scup recreational fishery

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Finalize Black Sea Bass 2013

Recreational Management Measures with Board

- Review and discuss Monitoring Committee and Advisory Panel recommendations on black sea bass recreational management measures
- Develop and approve management measures for 2013 black sea bass recreational fishery
- Update on Amendment 17 to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP
- ASMFC Addendum to enable State-by-State Black Sea Bass Recreational Management Measures

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Continuing and New Business

Secretary of Commerce Declares Fisheries Disaster for New York and New Jersey in the Aftermath of Sandy

NOAA, November 16, 2102

As part of the Administration's focus on providing those affected by Sandy with all available federal support, Acting Secretary of Commerce Rebecca Blank today announced the determination of a fishery resource disaster to help coastal communities in New Jersey and New York.

Under Section 308(d) of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act and Section 315 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Commerce Secretary can declare a fishery resource disaster and a catastrophic regional fishery disaster, respectively, which allows Congress to appropriate federal relief funds for assistance to alleviate harm resulting from a natural disaster. If money is appropriated, Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will work closely with members of Congress and the governors of impacted states to develop financial assistance plans to help coastal communities and the fishing industry. While this determination will focus on coastal communities in New Jersey and New York, NOAA will continue to work with other states in the region to determine if similar assistance is needed.

"We are taking action because of the storm's devastating impact on the people who live and work in coastal communities that were hit hard by Sandy. Many of these hardworking Americans depend on a robust fishing industry to support their families and local economies," said Acting Secretary Blank. "This disaster declaration is part of a coordinated federal effort to help the region rebuild. The Obama Administration is committed to bringing all available resources to bear to support state and local partners as well as affected communities as recovery continues."

Although the extent of the damage to local commercial and recreational fisheries and coastal infrastructure is not yet known, the cascading economic and social impacts of a storm of this magnitude will likely be extensive. In 2010 alone, New Jersey and New York commercial fisheries landed almost 190 million pounds of fish, valued at more than \$210 million dollars. In the same year, New Jersey and New York recreational fishermen

took more than 10 million trips and caught a total of nearly five million fish.

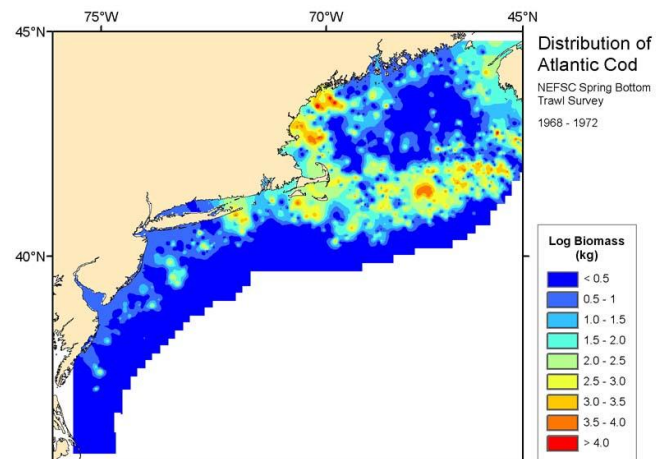
"Communities along the East Coast were ravaged by Sandy's impacts, including the fishing industry, especially in New York and New Jersey. Fishing is the lifeblood of many coastal communities, providing jobs and recreational opportunities for millions and contributing to the food security of the nation," said Dr. Jane Lubchenco, administrator, NOAA. "This disaster declaration is the first step in supporting these industries and communities up and down the East Coast as they continue recovery efforts."

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and our other social media channels.

Sea Surface Temperatures Reach Record Highs on Northeast Continental Shelf Changing Cod Distribution Observed as Ecosystem Warms Bottom to Top

NOAA, September 18, 2102

During the first six months of 2012, sea surface temperatures in the Northeast Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem were the highest ever recorded, according to the latest Ecosystem Advisory issued by NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC). Above-average temperatures were found in all parts of the ecosystem, from the ocean bottom to the sea surface and across the region, and the above average temperatures extended beyond the shelf break front to the Gulf Stream.



NEFSC Ecosystem Assessment Program

The annual 2012 spring plankton bloom was intense, started earlier and lasted longer than average. This has implications for marine life from the smallest creatures to the largest marine mammals like whales. Atlantic cod continued to shift northeastward from its historic distribution center.

The Northeast US Continental Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) extends from the Gulf of Maine to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. The NEFSC has monitored this ecosystem with comprehensive sampling programs from 1977 onward; prior to 1977, this ecosystem was also monitored by the NEFSC through a series of separate but coordinated programs dating back decades.

"A pronounced warming event occurred on the Northeast Shelf this spring, and this will have a profound impact throughout the ecosystem," said Kevin Friedland, a scientist in the NEFSC's Ecosystem Assessment Program. "Changes in ocean temperatures and the timing of the spring plankton bloom could affect the biological clocks of many marine species, which spawn at specific times of the year based on environmental cues like water temperature."

Friedland said the average sea surface temperature (SST) exceeded 10.5 degrees C (51°F) during the first half of 2012, exceeding the previous record high in 1951. Average SST has typically been lower than 9 degrees C (48°F) over the past three decades. Sea surface temperature in the region is based on both contemporary satellite remote-sensing data and long-term ship-board measurements, with historical SST conditions based on ship-board measurements dating back to 1854.

In some nearshore locations like Delaware and Chesapeake Bays in the Middle Atlantic Bight region, temperatures were more than 6 degrees C (11°F) above historical average at the surface and more than 5 degrees C (9°F) above average at the bottom. In deeper offshore waters to the north, bottom waters were 1 degree C (2°F) warmer in the eastern Gulf of Maine and greater than 2 degrees C (3.6°F) warmer in the western Gulf of Maine.

Ocean bottom temperature data cited in the advisory posted today came from a variety of sources, including eMOLT, a cooperative research program between the Northeast Fisheries Science Center and lobstermen who deploy temperature probes attached to lobster traps. While some of the temperature probes from the eMOLT program are

still in the water and have not yet been returned, those that have been returned indicate that bottom water temperatures in 2012 were the warmest since the eMOLT program began in 2001.

Atlantic cod distribution in the Gulf of Maine continues a northeasterly shift, with the spring 2012 data consistent with a response to ecosystem warming. Warming ocean temperatures and the resulting impact on the distribution of 36 fish stocks was reported by the Center in a 2009 study published in Marine Ecology Progress Series. That study analyzed annual NEFSC spring survey data from 1968 to 2007 and other information and found that about half of the 36 fish stocks studied in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean, many of them commercially valuable species, have been shifting northward over the past four decades, with some disappearing from US waters as they move farther offshore.

Friedland notes that although cod didn't shift as much as other species like hake in the 2009 study, the effects of warming water on ocean currents and other ocean circulation patterns could change that. "Cod distribution continues to be dynamic, with northerly shifts detected in the spring 2012 data, consistent with a response to ecosystem warming," Friedland said. "The big question is whether or not these changes will continue, or are they a short-term anomaly?"

Mike Fogarty, who heads the Ecosystem Assessment Program, says the abundance of cod and other finfish is controlled by a complex set of factors, and that increasing temperatures in the ecosystem make it essential to monitor the distribution of many species, some of them migratory and others not.

"A complex combination of factors influence ocean conditions, and it isn't always easy to understand the big picture when you are looking at one specific part of it at one specific point in time," Fogarty said, a comparison similar to not seeing the forest when looking at a single tree in it. "We now have information from a variety of sources collected over a long period of time on the ecosystem, and are continually adding more data to clarify specific details. The data clearly show a relationship between all of these factors."

The 2012 spring plankton bloom, one of the longest duration and most intense in recent history, started at the earliest date recorded since the ocean color remote sensing data series began in 1998. In

some locations, the spring bloom began in February, and was fully developed by March in all areas except Georges Bank, which had an average although variable spring bloom. The 2012 spring bloom in the Gulf of Maine began in early March, the earliest recorded bloom in that area.

"What this early start means for the Northeast Shelf ecosystem and its marine life is unknown," Fogarty said. "What is known is that things are changing, and we need to continue monitoring and adapting to these changes."

Intensive surveys of environmental conditions on the Northeast Shelf from Cape Hatteras, North Carolina to Nova Scotia were conducted from 1977 to 1987 as part of the Marine Resources Monitoring, Assessment & Prediction (MARMAP) program. The efforts continued at reduced levels through the 1990s and are ongoing today as part of the Center's Ecosystems Monitoring (EcoMon) program.

Plankton samples are collected six times a year in each of the four subareas of the Northeast Shelf: the Middle Atlantic Bight, Southern New England, Georges Bank, and the Gulf of Maine. EcoMon scientists also collect water samples and other oceanographic data about conditions during each season in each of the four areas to provide a long-term view of changing conditions on the Shelf.

Ecosystem advisories have been issued twice a year by the NEFSC's Ecosystems Assessment Program since 2006 as a way to routinely summarize overall conditions in the region. The reports show the effects of changing coastal and ocean temperatures on fisheries from Cape Hatteras to the Canadian border. The advisories provide a snapshot of the ecosystem for the fishery management councils and also a broad range of stakeholders from fishermen to researchers.

The Spring 2012 Ecosystem Advisory with supporting information is available online. To access, [click here](#).

STATEN ISLAND, NY — The nation's largest group of boaters, Boat Owner's Association of The United States (BoatUS), estimates that over 65,000 recreational boats were damaged or lost as a result of Hurricane Sandy. BoatUS also estimates that dollar damage to all recreational boats (only) is \$650 million, making the late October storm the single-largest industry loss since the Association began keeping track in 1966. A video of the BoatUS Catastrophe response team on the ground in New York and New Jersey can be found at <http://youtu.be/TGoCBe6ObpA>.

"We are all reeling from the huge impact this storm has had on communities and people's lives," said BoatUS AVP Public Affairs Scott Croft. "We've never seen anything like it. The scope of the damage to boats is unprecedented, affecting large areas from the Atlantic seaboard as far inland as the Great Lakes, with the majority of damage in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. The combination of boats stored ashore at low elevations and record high surge levels caused hundreds, if not thousands, of boats to float away into neighborhoods, parks and marshes. The tri-state coastline left no place for the surge to go, but up. While some boats that stayed in the slips did fine, other boats tied to floating docks simply lifted off too-short pilings and floated away — still tied to the dock. Some vessels never made it out of their slip and rest on the bottom."

The BoatUS Catastrophe Response Team reports that the marine community has rallied to gain the upper hand on the recovery process. "If there is a story to tell, it's about how the boating industry got together immediately after the storm to help each other out and get boats back in their place," said BoatUS Catastrophe Team Member Jack Hornor. While some New Jersey barrier islands continue to restrict access delaying boat recovery efforts, some marinas, boat clubs and yards have recovered their customers' boats and put them back on blocks to undergo damage assessments. Many boating facilities, especially those on New Jersey's coast, Staten Island and western Long Island, sustained significant damage to infrastructure such as docks, workshops, clubhouses and equipment, which will likely have an impact on the 2013 boating season.

BoatUS estimates over 32,000 boats were damaged in NY, followed by New Jersey's 25,000, Connecticut's 2,500 and 6,000 remaining in various states. Dollar damage to recreational boats (only) in New York is estimated at \$324 million, followed by

**Boat Owners Association of the US:
Hurricane Sandy Damages Over 65,000
Recreational Boats**

Press Release, November, 14 2012
Contact: D. Scott Croft, 703-461-2864

**Over \$650 Million in Estimated Losses to
Boats Makes Storm Single Largest Disaster for
Recreational Boats on Record**

\$242 million in New Jersey and \$23 million in Connecticut. Previously, in the 2005 storm season, Hurricane Wilma and Katrina damage was estimated at over \$700 million combined.

As with any storm, the BoatUS Marine Insurance Program will be investigating hurricane damage prevention measures taken by boaters and possible new solutions, but one early indication is that boats tied-up to protected floating docks with tall pilings had the best chance of survival with Sandy. “However, you can’t base a hurricane preparation plan on one storm. While storm surge was the biggest factor here, wind and rain can be major factors in the next one. Hindsight is only good if you look at the bigger picture,” said BoatUS Director of Technical Services Bob Adriance.

One new factor that is affecting post-hurricane boat recovery efforts? Snow. BoatUS reports there is some concern in the industry that storm damaged vessels may not be winterized in time with the arrival of colder weather.

Rewarding Research – Winter Flounder Tracking Project Update

Rutgers University researchers are asking anglers and commercial fishermen to keep an eye out for tagged winter flounder. Archival tags returned to the address listed on the tag will net fishermen a \$200 reward.

Dr. Kenneth Able, Dr. Thomas Grothues, and graduate student Kaycee Coleman from the Rutgers’ Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, recently boarded a local trawler to capture and tag winter flounder on the Continental Shelf in the area known as The Mudhole. The research team tagged 51 winter flounder with archival (data storage) tags and 126 streamer tags and another 12 winter flounder with acoustic tags.

One week later, the team returned to locate the tagged fish with a hydrophone. Two fish were located, but the remaining fish had dispersed. Locating the fish with the acoustic tags helps to confirm survival of the tagging process and track movement of the winter flounder. More information on returning tags and the project please can be found at coseenow.net/ru-fish-tracking.

This research project is funded in part by the New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium. To learn more about the project and its objectives, visit [this link](#).

Comments on Amendment 2 for Atlantic Menhaden

By John Toth

On November 1st, I attended a meeting hosted by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission in Galloway Township to receive public comment on Draft Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden. This meeting was not well attended due to Hurricane Sandy and its aftermath. I thought that it would be canceled, but it was held to receive public comment so that the Commission could stay on schedule for its December meeting to review all of the public comments and make its recommendations for the menhaden fishery.

I indicated to the Commission members that the following comments were discussed at the JCAA Board’s October 11th meeting, but they were **NOT approved** by the JCAA’s membership since the JCAA’s October 29th General Membership meeting had to be canceled due to Hurricane Sandy. Accordingly, I indicated that the following comments were **only the JCAA’s Board’s sentiments** on menhaden that it discussed at its October 11th meeting. I felt quite odd about saying anything that our club membership did not officially approve. But, I wanted to make some contribution to the public comment period and not sit idly by and say nothing on this important issue. However, I also belong to the Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County and the following comments were approved by my club so I read them as my testimony to the Commission members.

1. The ASMFC should reduce the commercial harvest of menhaden by 50%
2. Small bait harvesters of menhaden should be protected by assigning most of the menhaden quota reduction to the large commercial industry.
3. A new target of 30% MSP (maximum spawning potential) must be reached within three years.
4. Consistent reporting of menhaden catches in both the industrial fishery and small bait fishery must be instituted.

5. Initiate these recommendations to protect menhaden in an early timeline, preferably starting in 2013.

As expected, a commercial representative indicated that the menhaden stocks were not in any trouble so no action should be taken at all and remain with the status quo.

A small bait harvester for menhaden in NJ's waters was very concerned that reducing the commercial harvest of menhaden would be a serious financial hardship for him. We do not want to "throw the baby out with the bath water." As you can see from the above comment, I indicated that some allowances should be considered for the small bait harvesters of menhaden.

We should receive some input on where we are going with the menhaden issue in the near future.

staff and they also volunteer their time and money to continually make the JCAA a better organization.

Your club became a member of the JCAA (including our Associate Members) out of your love for fishing and because you see this organization as a way to protect the rights of all anglers who fish in New Jersey's waters. The more our membership grows, the more power the JCAA will have in making its case to legislators and government organizations to protect your recreational fishing rights. We value your membership and **Thank You** for your continued support over the years and during some challenging times.

This year is rapidly coming to a close. If you think your club has not paid its 2012 dues, please check with your club's treasurer to see if the check for the dues has been sent out.

If there are problems with the JCAA sending newsletters to the wrong addresses or to the wrong club members, please let me know so that corrections can be made. I can be reached at (732) 656-0139 or at tothjohn@verizon.net

As always, **Thank You** for your continued support!

JCAA Elections

By Mark Taylor

With this year coming to an end it is that time of year again, JCAA elections of officers for 2013. If you are interested in becoming a JCAA officer you need to contact Mark Taylor at 732-245-9445 or the JCAA Office. We are looking for dedicated individuals to get more involved. Jersey Coast Angler's Association is your organization and to make it better we need more people to get involved in different areas. There are a lot of areas that we need people for, such as committees, volunteers for the shows and officer positions. So if you want to help make Jersey Coast better, then contact me. Let's make 2013 even better than all the other years and it starts with you. Elections will be held at the December meeting if there is a quorum.

My Report

By Thomas Siciliano

Great Bay Marina where I keep my boat was devastated by the storm. The floating dock that I was on was destroyed. It had a capacity of about 40 boats. It is gone. The boats that were taken out of the water were also damaged. About 30 boats ended up in a pile in the northeast corner of the marina. Waves were breaking in the parking lot. The fuel dock was totally destroyed along with the 30 slips on that dock. It will be a major undertaking to restore this great little marina to its pre storm condition. The owners, Tom and Anna Paxton, live on the premises and luckily the building was not totally destroyed but it did sustain major damage. The loss of business at this time of year when Tom and Anna usually cater to the bass fishermen with bait and fuel will be great. He also has a restaurant on premises where they serve a great breakfast and lunch. That will not be operational for quite a while.

Shelter Cove Marina suffered a similar fate as did other marinas on South Green Street. There were three marinas on Great Bay Boulevard that

Membership Report

By John Toth

The strength of any organization lies squarely on the shoulders of its members. The JCAA has been blessed with the many thousands of you who have given of your time and money to help the JCAA accomplish the work it has done over the many years of the JCAA's existence. The JCAA's Board is also a core of dedicated people who with the exception of the Office Manager are not paid

were completely destroyed. They were Captain Mike's, Cape Horn and Rand's. They may not rebuild.

Scott's Bait and Tackle was flooded and has not been open since the storm.

Osborne Island, Mystic Island and Tuckerton Beach saw hundreds of homes flooded and many condemned or destroyed.

It will be a long time before Tuckerton and Little Egg Harbor are back to normal.

SHOW TIME

By Mark Taylor

With another good year coming to an end, fishermen are getting their last shot at some last minute fishing before winterizing their boat. Then a cooled winter season starts and we all start to winterize our tackle and start thinking of what we need to get for the start of the new fishing season. A few great places to get those supplies are the local tackle stores and the upcoming shows. JCAA will have a booth at a few of the shows before the fishing season starts. So stop by and talk to the volunteers that are manning the booth and get the latest JCAA Newsletter and take a chance on the High Roller Raffle and help support JCAA. By attending the shows and visiting all the booths, talking with tackle manufactures, vendors is a great way to help support all those people that make up the sport you love. Without all those people working together we will not be able to enjoy this sport in the future. Hope to see you all at the Shows. JCAA is looking for volunteers to work the booths. So if you are interested please contact Mark Taylor at mtsport64@aol.com. JCAA is committed to the following ones so far:

- **Saltwater Sportsman National Seminar Series** on January 5th
- **Garden State Sportsmen Show** on January 12th-15th
- **Atlantic City Boat Show** on February 6th-10th
- **NJ's Salt Water Sportsman Expo** on March 15th-17th

If you have already volunteered please send me an email so I don't miss anyone.

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association will be participating at the **30th Annual Garden State**

Outdoor Sports Show, January 10-13, 2013 at the NJ Convention & Exposition Center in Edison, NJ. Show management is proud to bring back the Garden State Deer Classic, Fly Casting Pond, World Famous Bass Tub, trout pond, expert seminars, and much more! Check out <http://www.GSOSS.com> to see what celebrity guests are coming and what else will be going on during the show! Be sure to buy tickets online for a \$5 discount (\$10) and your choice of complimentary magazine! Looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's shows! [Click here](#) for more info.

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

FISHING EQUIPMENT FOR KIDS

I fished just about every beach in NJ and walked every boardwalk including the boardwalk in Bay Head that was partially washed away during the 1962 storm. But I never witnessed the kind of destruction to my neighbor's homes and businesses throughout Superstorm Sandy's path and the recent nor'easter. It will take time to recover from combined weather phenomena that changed the lives of so many families. It's sad to see all the displaced residents that lost everything. My prayers go out to all first responders, volunteer workers, people that lost their loved ones, and families that worry about us from a distance.

The most important thing we can do is help storm victims recover and donate food and basic need items to get storm victims somewhat functional, but, as we recover and experience the rebuilding of the Jersey Shore during the winter months, I know it will be hard for families to purchase fishing equipment in the spring for their children, let alone themselves. If you know of a child that lost fishing equipment due to the storm, please contact the JCAA Youth Education Committee or help them directly.

Storm victims will need time to heal and we can assist by getting people back on the water to enjoy one of our greatest gifts, the recreational water resources of the Jersey Shore. If you would like to donate fishing equipment (small freshwater and back-bay rods and reels,) please contact Greg Kucharewski, 732-785-9278.

The JCAA family reaches out from many states, some as far away as California. I would like to personally thank everyone near and far for taking time to contact us to offer help and their caring phone calls. We also thank the Merickel-Farley Trout Club, Toledo, Ohio for offering their assistance/support.

EXPANDING HOFNOD IN NEW JERSEY

On November 14, 2012 we attended a meeting with the Division of Fish and Wildlife to discuss the expansion of HOFNOD in New Jersey. The Division of Fish and Wildlife is working on a plan to reintroduce HOFNOD to NJ Schools and Community Based Organizations. We will be working closely with the Division of Fish and Wildlife to assist with the plan and coordinate other stakeholders to be part of the NJ HOFNOD Working Group. We will have more information available as expanding HOFNOD in NJ develops.

FRESHWATER FISHERIES FORUM

The NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife will hold its next public forum to discuss freshwater fisheries culture, research, management and recreational angling in New Jersey on Saturday, December 1, at the Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery in Warren County. The forum will begin at 10:00 a.m. Another forum will be held February 23 in Batsto Village in Wharton State Forest in Burlington County.

Anglers are invited to share their views and recommendations for the future of freshwater fisheries research and management in New Jersey with staff biologists. Preliminary results of the recently completed trout angler telephone survey, as well as 2012 field sampling results, will be presented. Anglers are invited to ask questions and comment on any aspect of the division's fisheries management programs. By providing input, the public can help guide the development of all New Jersey's freshwater programs and the regulations that govern them

Pre-registration is not required but is appreciated, and will help ensure that all attendees can be accommodated. Individuals can pre-register by calling 908-236-2118 or by sending an e-mail to njfwfish@earthlink.net. Be sure to include name, address, phone number and the number of people attending.

SEND US YOUR EVENT INFORMATION

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee is asking JCAA member clubs/organizations for a listing of scheduled youth and family events that are going to be held by your club or organization during 2013. The purpose of this request is to alert other fishing clubs and organizations that would like to participate in your youth and family events. The JCAA Newspaper is a way to get the word out about what's happening in your club. Use this opportunity to inform others about events your fishing club/organization is doing to promote fishing. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee will support your event with "Hook On Fishing Not On Drugs" materials. Please contact Greg Kucharewski with your listing of youth and family events and don't forget the Sportsmen Shows, include your booth location, fishing club or organization that will attend. By providing this information your fishing club or organization can improve membership and increase consumer participation.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee will feature special youth education learning stations at upcoming sportsmen shows. Participating merchants at hunting and fishing expositions will offer special promotions at their booths for children that attend the Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Fishing Seminars. Parents are also welcome to attend.

The Brick Cub Scouts will attend a HOFNOD/Passport To Fishing and Boating session every month from December 2012 to June 2013. Cub Scout Pack # 47 will learn the following: Fish Biology, Where Fish Live, Presentation of Baits, Rods and Reels, Terminal Tackle, Knot Tying, Safety & Ethics, Hands-On Casting, Hooking and Fighting Fish, Handling and Releasing Fish, NJ Rules and Regulations, and Local Fishing Opportunities in Brick, NJ. After the seven-month sessions Cub Scouts will fish during National Fishing and Boating Week. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee will provide HOFNOD materials and loaner equipment for fishing.