

JCAA NEWSPAPER MAY 2014

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on April 21st, 2014)

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

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, April 29th, 2014

Starting at 7:30 PM

AT JERSEY COAST SHARK ANGLERS

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 8th, 2014

Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

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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 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

High Roller Raffle

The JCAA High Roller Raffle for 2014 is now ready! Below is a list of this year's prizes. For 2014 we have added a 9th prize to the raffle donated by Oliso, Inc. Oliso, makers of vacuum food sealers, was kind enough to donate 4 machines to JCAA for use in our fluke tournament, our sportsperson of the year dinner, the Saltwater Sportsman Show raffle and our High Roller Raffle. The drawing will be held on **May 27th, 2014** at the JCAA offices located at 1201 Rt. 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River. JCAA will be selling tickets at our booth at the shows listed below or call the office and we will send you a book.

You do not have to be present to win

9 chances to win a great package

Support JCAA

Only \$2.00 a Ticket

1. Fin-Nor Sportfisher FSSU 5950RS Rod & Avet HX 2 Speed Reel, Value **\$580** *Donated by Fin-Nor & JCAA*
2. Lamiglas XTC 704 Travel Rod & Penn 975 International Reel, Value **\$560** *Donated by Penn & Lamiglas*
3. \$500 Gift Certificate to Fisherman's Headquarters, Value **\$500** *Donated by Fisherman's Headquarters*
4. 2 Cans of Interlux Micron CF Pain, Value **\$440** *Donated by Interlux*
5. 2 Cans of Interlux Micron CF Paint, Value **\$440** *Donated by Interlux*
6. Yukon 50qt. Cold Locker Cooler, Value **\$330** *Donated by Igloo/Yukon*
7. Shakespeare Ugly Stik SP1166 1MH 6' 6" Rod & Penn Battle BTL 4000 Reel, Value **\$160** *Donated by Penn & Shakespeare*
8. Shakespeare Ugly Stik SP1166 1MH 6' 6" Rod & Penn Battle BTL 4000 Reel, Value **\$160** *Donated by Penn & Shakespeare*
9. Oliso, Inc. Vacuum Food Sealer, Value **\$150** *Donated by Oliso, Inc.*

Total Value \$3,320

IMPORTANT DATES

April 29th JCAA General Meeting
May 8th JCAA Board Meeting
May 12th-15th ASMFC Meeting Week
May 18th Governor's Surfing Tournament
May 27th JCAA General Meeting
August 2nd JCAA Fluke Tournament

23rd Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament *By Paul Smith*

Sunday May 18, 2014

The Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament (GSFT) will take place in Island Beach State Park (IBSP), NJ on May 18, 2014. This event is one of the most popular surf fishing contests for the individual angler on the East Coast. It is sponsored by Jersey Coast Anglers Association, New Jersey State Federation Of Sportsmen's Clubs, NJ Beach Buggy Association, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, NJ Division of Parks and NJDEP.

This year's GSFT will be the first to be held in the spring. Declining numbers of good sized fish caught in the last few tournaments created the need to change from the traditional date in early October. The most important part in planning this tournament is always to provide the most enjoyable day of surf fishing possible for the participating anglers.

Mail-in Registration Fee

- Ages 18 & older - \$15
- Ages 13-17 - \$5.00
- Children 12 & under are **FREE!** Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult, and are still required to register

Day of Tournament Registration Fee - Registration opens at 5:00 am on Sunday at Pavilion #1.

- Ages 18 and older: \$20
- 13-17 - \$5.00
- Children 12 & under are **FREE!**

Schedule

6:30 a.m.-1:00p.m	Fishing
1:30 p.m.-2:00p.m	Raffle Drawing
2:00 p.m.	Awards Ceremony

Special arrangements are available for handicapped anglers. Balloon tire equipped beach wheelchairs are available for anglers with disabilities. Volunteers will be needed to assist anglers with special needs who fish on tournament day. To volunteer, or to make arrangements for a handicapped angler, please contact Greg Kucharewski at gkucharews@aol.com.

We need your help, so please sign up to be a judge in the tournament. Each judge will receive a special issue Governor's Cup Surf Fishing Tournament judge's hat. In addition, a stipend is available to help offset the cost of fuel burned while judging on the beach. Also, the IBSP beach pass is not required for judge's 4x4 vehicles during the hours of the tournament. Please contact Mark Pantle at pantlesr@yahoo.com for more information.

Special tournament t-shirts and hats will be available for sale inside the pavilion area after 10:00 am on tournament day. Don't forget to get your t-shirt and hat with this year's new design!

There will be a raffle drawing for registered anglers in the tournament. Participants in the drawing must be present at the award ceremonies to qualify to win.

The Tournament Committee granted funds to help operate the beginner and advanced surf fishing instructional clinics at Island Beach State Park last year. These clinics are available to the general public for a small fee. This program has been very successful at introducing the sport of surf fishing to several hundred new anglers. New surf anglers spend a morning learning the basics of equipment, tackle, bait varieties, casting, fish identification, knots, and "reading the beach". After a break, all go to the beach for several hours of actual surf fishing with personal instruction by members of the park staff and volunteer experienced surf anglers.

In the fall of 2014 the first Advanced Surf Fishing Clinics were also held in IBSP. They were well attended by anglers who had taken part in the beginner's clinics and wished to learn more about surf fishing.

Difficult economic times have eliminated state funding for many worthy programs that are of

interest to New Jersey's salt water anglers. These clinics are an example of the type of programs that are now only made possible as the result of the participation by so many anglers at each Governor's Tournament.

For more information about the Surf Clinic Series please contact the Island Beach Park office at (732) 793-0506.

In 2014 the Tournament Committee plans to support this year's Surf Fishing Clinic Series and also grant funds to purchase several new beach accessible wheel chairs to replace some of the well-worn units now in use at IBSP.

We hope you are planning to fish in the GSFT this year. If not, why not volunteer to help on the day of the tournament. Help is always needed at the registration desk, with sales of tournament hats and t-shirts, assisting anglers with special needs, and judging. Please contact Frank Dara at fdar9@aol.com.

President's Report

By Paul Haertel

It has been another busy month for the JCAA. There are lots of important issues going on as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter. I can't be personally involved with every issue but, again, thankfully other board members are all sharing the workload. We finally have our fluke and sea bass regulations set. We also changed the date of our fluke tournament to Saturday, 8/2/14. We will have our awards ceremony on Wednesday, 8/6/14 at the Holiday Inn on Rt. 72 in Manahawkin. It is a nice facility that will be offering rooms at a discounted rate for all of our entrants. There is a restaurant, indoor swimming pool and an exercise room on the premises. It is just a few minutes from the GSP and there is easy access to the beaches of LBI and other attractions such as the Barnegat Lighthouse and Fantasy Island.

On 3/31/14, JCAA legislative Representative Tom Fote was in Washington, DC where he met with the staffs of Congressman Frank Pallone, Senator Robert Menendez and Senator Cory Booker. They discussed the Army Corp of Engineer proposals for jetty notching and sand mining of the lumps off NJ for beach replenishment. Tom explained why the JCAA has opposed both of the

issues for many years. He also pointed out that this was not the first time the destruction of the lumps for sand mining had been proposed. Many years ago it was proposed to sand mine these lumps by glass makers for clean sand for glass making. At that time the JCAA, COA and ALO worked hard to make sure it did not happen. Tom also pointed out the serious impacts the ACOE plan would have on the marine environment recreational fishing. He also pointed out the impact that seismic blasting off Barnegat Inlet would have on fish and marine mammals. They also discussed the small amount of money that was given to NJ from the 75 million dollars in Fisheries Disaster Funds. Further, Tom explained how NJ was treated unfairly by the ASMFC and forced into a summer flounder regionalization plan. Tom reported that the meetings were very productive, that these legislative offices are working hard to help us with these issues.

On 4/4/14 Tom was on NBC channel 4 News in NY and 10 in Philadelphia talking about the seismic blasting. These are just some of the things that Tom has recently done on behalf of our recreational anglers. We all owe Tom a great deal of gratitude.

On 4/16/14 I represented the JCAA at a private meeting regarding the proposed beach replenishment and jetty notching for the Elberon to Loch Arbor area. This meeting was organized by Congressman Frank Pallone. Also present were representatives from the Army Corp. of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Protection. The American Littoral Society, Asbury Park Fishing Club, Shark River Surf Anglers, Surf Riders and the RFA were amongst the groups represented at this meeting. In fact, the RFA was primarily responsible for getting this meeting scheduled. Thanks to the RFA for helping with this important matter and kudos to Congressman Pallone! It was great to see all the groups working together towards a common goal.

All of the user groups present opposed the plan but though the ACOE representatives listened attentively, they seemed intent on replenishing the beaches. They further explained that this was being done at the requests of the majority of municipalities in that area.

However, at the urging of Congressman Pallone there seemed to be some room for compromise regarding the notching of the jetties. The ACOE representatives agreed to consider

leaving at least three of the longer jetties intact. The subject of accessibility was also broached and two new access areas are expected to be developed.

Additional meetings may be held in the future to discuss this matter further.

Just a reminder, you need register or renew your NJ saltwater recreational registration for 2014. To renew go to [this link](#). Then scroll down and click on "Access current year". Enter requested info. Click on your ID number. Click on renew

In case you were not previously registered you may also complete your initial registration at this same link. The registry is free and there is an explanation as to who needs to register in the web site.

20th Annual Fluke Tournament

By Paul Turi, Tournament Director

Well, it is that time of year again when we are preparing for our annual fluke tournament. This year the JCAA 20th Annual Fluke Tournament will be held on Saturday, August 2nd and the awards presentations will be held on Wednesday, August 6th at the **Holiday Inn** on Rte. 72 in Manahawkin.

Originally, we announced the tournament as being held on August 23rd, but we were thrown a curve ball by the Golden Nugget Hotel who at the very last minute withdrew as being a sponsor for the tournament this year. This is the first time in over 15 years we will not have our awards presentation in AC.

Last year, we moved the tournament from June to August and since the Golden Nugget did not want us there before Labor Day to have our awards presentations, we had to have the awards ceremony in September after Labor Day. So this year since we are not having the awards presentations in Atlantic City, it was decided to move the tournament date to August 2nd. August 2nd was selected because fishing is better for fluke at that time and it would not interfere with any of our member clubs' tournaments.

After looking at a number of facilities to hold the awards presentations, it was decided that the Holiday Inn on Rte. 72 in Manahawkin was the most suitable location. It is a beautiful facility with a beautiful ballroom that can accommodate the number of people we feel will be coming the night of

the presentations. Outside the ballroom is a connecting patio with chairs and tables where guests can relax and have a drink or something to eat while waiting for the presentations to start. There will be a bar either inside the ballroom or just off the ballroom. There is also a 165 seat restaurant just off the ballroom also where guests can come early and have dinner. There are also 115 rooms for anyone wanting to stay over. There is also an inside pool and exercise room. LBI and all that it has to offer is just a short 5 or 10 minute ride over the bridge. Atlantic City is a 45 minute ride from the hotel for anyone who might want to hop on over to AC after the presentations.

I can't say enough about the management at the Holiday Inn. They are bending over backwards for JCAA to make the event an enjoyable and successful experience for all. Management has agreed to give tournament attendees a discount on their room rate. Rooms will be \$149 and management suggests anyone wanting to stay over at their hotel make reservations at least 30 days in advance. They have also agreed to give attendees some sort of discount on dinner for those who desire to eat in their restaurant either before or after the presentations. They suggest also that dinner reservations be made in advance.

Okay, what else is new for this year? Well, this year the Grand Prize will be a 14' Starcraft boat, motor and trailer. The boat is being donated by **RJ Marine Service in Cape May**. The motor is being donated by **Yamaha** and the trailer is being donated by **Sea Lion Trailers**. The total package is valued at around \$9,000. We can't thank Jeff at **RJ Marine Service** enough for his generosity for donating the boat this year. In addition to donating the boat, **RJ Marine Service** has agreed to also be the port sponsor for Cape May and is putting up the \$1,200 1st place prize money.

Also new for this year will be an optional cash category. The entry fee for the tournament is \$120. If you desire to enter the optional cash category the entry fee for that is \$60. 2/3 will go to the winner and 1/3 will go to JCAA.

This year there will be 9 ports with 10 prizes at each port. The other 9 prizes have yet to be determined. The ports this year are Jersey City, Sandy Hook, Shark River, Manasquan River, Barnegat Bay, Long Beach Island, Great Bay, Ocean City & Cape May. Due to lack of participation, we have eliminated Fortesque this year.

This year the Jersey City port is being sponsored by **Liberty Landing Marina** who will be providing the \$1,200 1st place prize to the winner of that port. **Hoffman's Marina** in Brielle will be providing the \$1,200 1st place prize to the winner at the Manasquan River port. **South Harbor Marina** in Waretown will be providing the \$1,200 1st place prize to the winner of the Barnegat Bay port. **Fisherman's Headquarters** in Ship Bottom, as always, will be providing the \$1,200 1st place prize for the winner of Port LBI. And, lastly, again, as mentioned earlier, **RJ Marine Service** in Cape May will be providing the 1st place prize money to the winner of the Cape May port. JCAA will be providing the \$1,200 1st place prize for the remaining four ports. Many thanks to these establishments for their generosity and support.

We have some new major sponsors this year. A major sponsor puts up a considerable amount of money, product or advertisement. Returning as sponsors this year are **West Marine, Costa Sunglasses and Interlux Paint**. A couple of old time sponsors have returned this year. **Fisherman Magazine** and **Yamaha Motors** are back on board this year as major sponsors. And also, as mentioned earlier, **RJ Marine Service** in Cape May is a new sponsor to our tournament this year. Also **Canyon Reels**, who sponsored a port last year, has decided this year to be a major sponsor and is giving us a considerable amount of beautiful reels to use as port prizes. Last year **Canyon Reels** was very generous to JCAA and this year they are being even more generous.

Kudos to all these companies and establishments who have put up money, product and advertisement to help make this year's tournament a success. I can't emphasize enough the importance to our members and readers to support these companies who support JCAA and what JCAA does on behalf of the recreational fishermen in New Jersey. JCAA could not exist without their generosity. They help JCAA and JCAA in turn helps the recreational fisherman. There are a lot of volunteers who put in a lot of time and effort going to meetings and also speaking with politicians on behalf of the recreational angler. Tom Fote himself puts about 180 days on the road on your behalf. Other volunteers are attending meetings locally and around the state. JCAA does not pay them but we do reimburse them for their out-of-pocket expenses. Plus we have offices in Toms River to maintain. All

of this is paid for by our fundraisers such as our annual fluke tournament. So help JCAA help you the recreational fisherman by registering for our annual tournament.

So, mark your calendar for August 2nd and August 6th and let's have a good time fishing!

2014 Fluke and Sea Bass Regulations Set

By Paul Haertel

At the NJMFC meeting on 4/3/2014 the council voted unanimously in favor of the following regulations for fluke and sea bass.

- **Fluke** - 5 fish, 18" size limit, season 5/23 - 9/27
- **Sea bass** - 12½" size limit, 15 fish bag limit from 5/19 - 6/30, 3 fish bag limit, from 7/1 - 8/31, 15 fish bag limit from 9/11 - 9/6 and a 15 fish bag limit from 10/18 - 12/31

Additionally, a presentation about a special pilot program that would allow 2 fluke at 16" to be kept by shore-based anglers at Island Beach State Park was made. This program could possibly be expanded further next year. JCAA, NJBBA and NJSFSC all supported the concept but also requested that it be expanded to include a couple other areas particularly in southern New Jersey this year as well.

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Thomas Fote

Earth Day

Earth Day celebrations are not what they used to be. Twenty years ago, every organization would have a project or press conference on a specific environmental issue. Some things have gotten better in the last 20 years. But many things are the same or worse. New environmental issues have come to our attention. Below are three articles dealing with water quality. These articles discuss the impact of things we add to our water. All you need to do is pay attention to the news about what is

happening in California and you see that water quantity is another huge issue. I was at a meeting where we discussed issues on the west coast. I reminded everyone that we are having the same problems on the east coast but these issues are not getting the same press. We are restricting the amount of water flowing into our bays, estuaries and rivers on the east coast. Just look at the Chesapeake Bay, Hudson River and Delaware River. Barnegat Bay is an easy example. The amount of water we pull from the aquifer for drinking water and home use does not go back into the aquifer but directly into the ocean. It is important as citizens and parents to do something on Earth Day. Make sure our children are involved. They are the Earth's future.

Summer Flounder

Regionalization is here for 2014. What I really should say is forced regionalization is here for New Jersey and no other state. When Massachusetts and Rhode Island couldn't agree on the regulations, they were allowed to form their own regions. Nobody can give me a justifiable reason why New Jersey can't form our own region. Even though we have the largest portion of the quota, we were not allowed our own region. The impact will be substantial in North Jersey but every more devastating to the recreational fishing industry in South Jersey.

John Bullard did not take into consideration the fact that Delaware will fish at 16 inches with a 365 day season and South Jersey will be at 18 inches and a 128 day season. This will have a huge economic impact as more anglers fish in Delaware. Due to the boundaries in Delaware Bay, many anglers in New Jersey who fish in Delaware Bay have to buy Delaware fishing licenses. Yet they will be subject to New Jersey regulations. I estimate there will be an economic impact of tens of millions of dollars to the recreational fishing industry in Cape May. The Greater Atlantic Regional Office and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service completely ignored South Jersey anglers when they supported the regionalization with New York.

People are saying New Jersey is in better shape because we are in the region for 2014 but that is not necessarily so. If the unused portion of the summer flounder quota was divided proportionally, we would have been much better off. I had the opportunity to meet with New Jersey's Congressional delegation on March 31 to discuss

summer flounder and other issues. Our Congressional delegation is supporting a voluntary regionalization, not a mandatory one.

Jetty Notching

In my meeting on March 31st with the offices of Senator Menendez and Senator Booker and Congressman Pallone, I discussed beach replenishment and how that will impact the recreational fishing community. I discussed how the notching of jetties will cut off access that anglers have used for over 100 years. There were no studies done on the jetties that were notched previously to determine if the Army Corp of Engineers' approach was appropriate. I was invited to a meeting in Congressman Pallone's office on April 16th but due to my schedule, Paul Haertel attended to represent Jersey Coast. His report is in the President's column.

Sand Mining

The other problem I discussed with our congressional representatives was the proposal for sand mining and flattening the lumps. JCAA has fought this battle numerous times back as far as the late 80's. JCAA, American Littoral Society and Clean Ocean Action have worked together to stop this in the past and will do so again. It is important that you contact New Jersey DEP and the Governor's Office to register your objections. We need for Governor Christie and the DEP to publicly oppose sand mining on lumps. My understanding is that the DEP has not signed off on the permit. If my memory is correct, Governor Christie can veto the plans of the Army Corp of Engineers.

Ken Warchal from the Manasquan Marlin and Tuna Club first brought this to my attention and also pointed out the places in the document that I should look at. His remarks and the link to the document is below. If you have any problems send me an email and I will send you the PDF file.

Tom

Area B is the lump between the Axel Carlson and the beach. F2 is Manasquan Ridge. Here are some key points and the link for this proposal:

The current initial sand quantity required is estimated at 9,865,000 cubic yards, which is a reduction from the original plan quantity of 10,689,000 cubic yards. Periodic nourishment was

increased from 961,000 cubic yards to 1,364,000 cubic yards, and is scheduled to occur every 4 years.

p.1 of interior cover

For initial construction, material would be taken from the sand borrow areas identified as areas A, B, D, and E. Sand for periodic nourishment would be obtained from these four offshore borrow areas and potentially one that is currently being studied known as F2.

This Draft EA is being forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region II, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), and all other known interested parties for comment.

The sand sources proposed in USACE (2002), Borrow Area A and Borrow Area B, were determined to be suitable based on their material grain sizes and lower impacts to fisheries resources.

Borrow Area B is located about 1.75 miles offshore of Mantoloking, NJ. This area is approximately 360 acres in size and contains approximately 7.5 million cubic yards of suitable beach fill material with a maximum disturbance depth of approximately -81 feet NAVD.

As discussed in the Feasibility report, the Corps is also pursuing the use of Borrow area F2 as another potential source of sand for future periodic nourishments for the project area. Borrow area F2 is located about 4.6 miles offshore of Mantoloking and is approximately 1700 acres in size.

Several locations within or near the project area are classified as Prime Fishing Areas (NJAC 7:7E-3.4) by NJDEP (Figure 9). One of these features lies within Borrow Area B and one lies within Borrow Area F2 (The Manasquan Ridge). These areas were originally delineated by Long and Figley (1984) in a publication titled New Jersey's Recreational and Commercial Ocean Fishing Grounds.

[Link: Draft Manasquan EA DEC](#)

Ken

Seismic Blasting

Under the guise of researching climate change 60 million years ago, Rutgers and Texas A & M are proposing seismic testing 15 miles east of Barnegat Inlet. They must think anglers and our Legislature are stupid. We all know if you are doing work to study rock formations you are actually looking for oil and gas. Every legislator I talked to recognizes this ruse. I am working with legislators to craft legislation that will address this issue, sand mining and summer flounder. I will keep you posted. There is a press release below from COA.

National Marine Fisheries Service Recreational Summit

I attended the Recreational Summit in Alexandria on April 1 & 2. I was the only person from New Jersey in attendance. There was a good dialogue among the participants who represented recreational anglers from the United States, the Caribbean and Samoa. I have attended many of NMFS Summits and this was the best. One of the most interesting comments was from the Greater Atlantic Regional Office Director, John Bullard. He pointed out the failure of the recreational community in his region. He feels that the recreational community has not clearly communicated the value of the recreational summer flounder fishery to Congress and State Legislatures. He discussed the amount of money spent on the ground fish fishery that is valued at 60 million dollars. The recreational summer flounder fishery is, by NMFS estimates, worth 240 million dollars. Even though the value of summer flounder is 4 times that of the ground fish fishery, an outrageous amount (over 100 million in the last 10 years) was spent on ground fish. The recent example was 30 million dollars in fisheries disaster allocated for ground fish and nothing for summer flounder. He is correct. As a community, we are doing a poor job of communicating the economic value of summer flounder. See the release from NMFS about the Summit below. More details to follow. JCAA will continue to monitor NMFS response to the recommendations.

JCAA 20th Annual Fluke Tournament August 2, 2014

ASMFC Week

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Spring Meeting May 12-15, 2014
Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town Alexandria, Virginia
Preliminary Agenda

Monday, May 12th

10:00-11:30am - Atlantic Herring Section
11:45am-12:45pm - American Eel Management Board
1:45-3:45pm - American Eel Management Board (continued)
4:00-5:00pm - Spiny Dogfish Management Board

Tuesday, May 13th

8:00-Noon - Commissioner Workshop on Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization
1:00-5:30pm - Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board
1:00-5:00pm - Law Enforcement Committee
6:30-8:00pm - Annual Awards of Excellence Reception

Wednesday, May 14th

8:00-9:30am - South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board
8:30am-Noon - Law Enforcement Committee (continued)
9:45am-12:15pm - Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board
12:15-1:45pm - Legislators/Governors' Appointees Luncheon
12:15-1:45pm - Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) Executive Committee
2:00-5:00pm - Commissioner Workshop on the Marine Recreational Information Program

Thursday, May 15th

8:00-9:30am - Executive Committee
9:45am-12:45pm - Atlantic Menhaden Management Board
12:45-1:15pm - Lunch for Commissioners and Proxies
1:15-2:15pm - ACCSP Coordinating Council
2:15-2:45pm - Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board (if needed)
2:45-3:15pm - Business Session (if needed)

What Happened at the Rec Fishing Summit?

By Russell Dunn, NOAA Fisheries, 4/7/2014

As you may have heard by now, the big - but far from only - news from last week's Recreational Saltwater Fishing Summit was that NOAA Fisheries will develop a national recreational saltwater fishing policy to broadly guide Agency actions and better integrate recreational fishing with our mission.

The Summit brought together 100 leaders from the saltwater recreational fishing community and NOAA staff to assess our recent progress, identify future directions, and further strengthen the relationship between NOAA and the recreational saltwater fishing community.

What Was Talked About?

Allocation, Magnuson Act re-authorization, science communication, and conservation were among the many issues discussed. Increased collaboration and accountability emerged as underlying themes.

Find out what attendees had to say by checking out the video blog from the event.

What's Next?

NOAA Fisheries held the first saltwater recreational fishing summit in 2010. We used the results from the summit to develop of a National Action Agenda. Having made substantial progress on the original commitments, we will use input gathered from this year's summit to update this important planning document, which will serve as a roadmap for Agency actions through 2019.

A summary of the 2014 national summit discussions will be available in early summer. In the meantime, we will be working with our advisory bodies, regional offices and science centers, and constituents to scope out the National Recreational Fishing Policy document and build a new national Action Agenda to be released later in 2014.

Russell Dunn
National Policy Advisor for Recreational Fisheries
NOAA Fisheries
Russell.Dunn@noaa.gov
(727) 551-5740

Ocean Area off Barnegat Bay Targeted for Seismic Blast Testing this June Marine Life at Risk Many Questions Unanswered

For Immediate Release, 3/25/2014

Contacts: Tom Fote, JCAA (732) 598-7669
Jennifer Cubias, Clean Ocean Action (732) 872-0111

Groups Request Extension to 30-day Comment Period and Public Hearing

Sandy Hook, NJ – Targeting the National Marine Fisheries Service’s (NMFS) proposed authorization permitting marine mammal “takes” during an oceanic seismic study 15 miles off Barnegat Bay this June, Clean Ocean Action (COA) and partner groups today requested a 60-day extension to the comment period and a public hearing in order to question the need for the study as well as NMFS’s decision to authorize harassment. The authorization allows over 25 marine mammal species, six of which are endangered, to be subjected to noise created from seismic airguns and three other acoustic blast technologies, all with known potential to harm marine life.

The study, conducted by Columbia University’s Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (L-DEO) and National Science Foundation (NSF), in collaboration with the University of Texas and Rutgers University, proposes seismic testing of ocean sediment to expand scientific understanding of historical changes in sea level rise. COA, along with over 20 businesses, organizations and tribal groups requested the extension to the public comment period to evaluate research deficiencies and data gaps in the NMFS authorization. The proposed area of study off Barnegat Bay will directly blast 240 square miles and cause reverberations for miles further.

“COA has been fighting seismic testing for nearly 30 years because it can seriously harm marine life,” said Cindy Zipf, Executive Director of Clean Ocean Action. “We were shocked to see this authorization and find it seriously flawed. While we support scientific research, there are many questions about the need for this study, especially in light of the grave risk to marine life in such a large area,” she added.

“Squid and summer flounder are very important fisheries and this is a key habitat area for

them. It has been documented that marine life is impacted by seismic testing,” said Captain Jim Lovgren, Director at the Fisherman’s Dock Cooperative, Point Pleasant and fourth generation commercial fisherman. “What is the point of this study compared to the risks involved,” asked Lovgren.

For example, the multibeam echosounder (MBES), one of four sound producing technologies proposed for use in this study, has been implicated in a massive stranding of 100 melon-headed whales off Madagascar. A scientific panel investigation of the mass stranding determined the use of MBES was the most likely trigger. The investigation report concluded that future assessments and regulatory decisions should consider potential marine mammal behavioral responses from the use of similar MBES systems.

“Neither the NMFS proposed authorization nor the Environmental Assessment upon which the authorization is based discusses potential risks to marine life from multibeam echosounder use,” stated Cassandra Ornell, Staff Scientist at Clean Ocean Action.

The seismic study comes on the heels of decades-long environmental advocacy against and legislative refusal of seismic activities linked to offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean from New Jersey to Florida.

“The timing could not be worse,” said Tom Fote, Legislative Chair of the Jersey Coast Anglers. “Our community has had enough damage from Superstorm Sandy and everything else affecting our ocean: marine acidification, sea level rise, pollution pouring out from our bays in New Jersey. Over 220 dolphins washed up along our coasts last year; we don’t need something else that will lead to the killing of marine mammals and fish off the Jersey coast. This would be the perfect storm.”

There are several ways for community organizations and concerned citizens to get involved. Further details can be found at [Clean Ocean Action](#).

Fish Embryos Exposed to Oil from BP Spill Develop Deformities, a Study Finds

By Michael Wines, New York Times, 3/24/2014

Embryos of tuna and amberjack that were exposed to crude oil collected from the Deepwater Horizon spill developed heart and other deformities

that would probably kill some of the developing fish and shorten the lives of others, a new study by a team of marine scientists reported on Monday.

Their findings, published in the peer-reviewed Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, will figure in the final assessment of damages for the disaster that will be borne by BP, which operated the oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico when the disaster occurred.

An explosion and fire nearly four years ago spewed roughly 4.1 million barrels of oil into the gulf; another 800,000 barrels were contained before it could escape into the water. Remnants of the spill continue to wash up.

The new research, by 17 scientists from the United States and Australia, affirmed recent studies showing that components of crude oil deformed the embryos of herring, salmon and other fish.

The results focused on large predator fish that are also important catches for commercial fishermen. The scientists said their results most likely would apply to other big predators like swordfish and marlin, and even to humans, whose developing hearts are in many ways similar.

"It's important that in the 21st century, we've only just realized that one of the most common substances on the planet, petroleum, has a cardiotoxic impact on vertebrate hearts," said Barbara A. Block, a marine biologist at Stanford University and one of the study's authors.

A BP spokesman, Jason Ryan, said the study offered no evidence that the oil spill had reduced fish populations. "The oil concentrations used in these lab experiments were rarely seen in the gulf during or after the Deepwater Horizon accident," he said. "In addition, the authors themselves note that it is nearly impossible to determine the early-life impact to these species."

Mr. Ryan's statement was at odds with the study, which said that the concentrations of chemicals responsible for changes in the embryos during laboratory experiments were comparable to those in water samples collected during the spill.

Other research published last month in the journal Science concluded that the changes in heartbeats and development were linked to oil components called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Among other effects, that study said, the chemicals impede the process by which calcium ions in heart muscle prompt regular heartbeats.

Photographs in the latest study depicted what the study called nearly identical physical distortions in the hearts, body shape and eyes of yellowtail and bluefin tuna and amberjack embryos that were exposed to oil. The fishes' heartbeats also slowed and developed arrhythmia.

Bluefin, which were spawning in the area of the spill when it occurred, exhibited the full range of heart defects more often than the two other fish, the study said. The higher the concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, the more severe the deformities, it found. But at comparatively low concentrations, the scientists wrote, 50 percent or more of tuna still developed fluids around their hearts and yolk sacs. Those with the most fluid, "would not be expected to survive into the feeding stage."

Another author of the study, John P. Incardona, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Northwest Fisheries Science Center, said that even many embryos that seemed outwardly normal would most likely face problems later.

"Those fish in all likelihood would survive the immediate effect of oil exposure," he said, but could have abnormal heartbeats "that could reduce their aerobic performance — which in a fish means swimming." For fish like tuna that rely on speed to catch prey, that could lead to a shortened life span, he said.

Can Sewage Treatment Plants Protect Fish from the Chemicals in the Water?

By Mark Brush, Michigan Radio 91.7 FM,
1/16/2014

The USGS found that a third of all the male smallmouth bass they sampled had intersex traits.

So you know the saying, right? Stuff flows downhill? Myron Erickson knows a lot about that "stuff."

He heads up the sewage treatment plant that sits along the Grand River in Wyoming, Michigan (right next to Grand Rapids). The screening room is where they take out the "grit." Erickson calls them "knick knacks." "It's a small particle like sand, and also all things that come to us in sewage, like peas, and corn, and peanuts," says Erickson. These screenings get dumped in a landfill, but that's just a

start of what this treatment plant is designed to remove.

Settling ponds, specialized bacteria, and chemicals can take out all the stuff that might harm us – the viruses and bad bacteria that can make us sick. But there are a lot of other things that come into this treatment plant.

“We see Tylenol, you know, acetaminophen. We see ibuprofen. We see DEET, and human hormones, because a lot of people are on hormone therapies - mood-altering drugs, anticonvulsants, antibiotics - everything under the sun, you can find it in sewage,” Erickson says.

A treatment plant helping researchers

He knows this because he began testing for it at this sewage treatment plant six years ago. He’s rare. Most full-scale sewage treatment plants don’t or simply won’t test for this stuff.

But Erickson has been able to gather a lot of data – which is great for researchers such as Nancy Love at the University of Michigan.

Love studies how sewage treatment plants are dealing with tiny amounts of so-called “emerging contaminants.” “So very, very, very low concentrations, but it’s the active pharmaceutical ingredient that’s important,” says Love. “And down at the nanogram per liter level, there can still be active pharmaceutical reactions down at the organism level. Certainly by fish, we’ve seen that now.”

Scientists have established that fish can be feminized. Scientists know that fish are changed by certain hormones and other endocrine-disrupting chemicals.

The endocrine system controls how an animal grows and how it behaves. Researchers have found that a synthetic compound in birth control pills and other hormone drugs can feminize male fish.

They’ve witnessed this reaction in labs (here's a story we did back in 1998). And they’ve caught feminized male fish in the wild (the USGS found a lot of feminized smallmouth and largemouth bass throughout the U.S.).

Love says the good news is that sewage treatment plants might be able to tweak technologies already in use to address the problem.

“So the question is, ‘Can we do a little more to get significantly more removal, or conversion into a compound that is not a human risk or an ecological risk?’,” says Love.

Zeroing in on the right compounds

But first they need to identify the right chemicals to target. So before we spend money on controlling this stuff, Love says we need more research. Research that will help pinpoint which compounds are causing problems – and how big those problems are.

Cheryl Murphy and her team at Michigan State University are testing a compound found in birth control pills and hormone drugs. It’s a compound that has not been studied before.

“Are the fish able to uptake it into the gills and make it biologically active? We don’t know,” says Murphy. “And so if it becomes biologically active, that means it will induce yolk protein in the male fish.”

So, like other tests have found, this compound might cause boy fish to make eggs. That’s not normal.

Biologists want to know more about what this might be doing to fish in the wild.

What's happening to fish populations?

Murphy says with the thousands and thousands of untested chemicals out there – coupled with all the different types of fish species – it can be hard to figure out what’s really going on.

She and other toxicologists are working to find out what these compounds, at the levels found in the environment, can do to fish on the molecular level. When they have that information, they can run computer simulations to attempt to figure out what might be happening to fish at the population level.

“The fish are like the sentinels because they’re immersed in it constantly, so they have nowhere to go,” says Murphy. “They just get everything.”

More work needs to be done to explore exactly which chemicals – or what mixture of chemicals - are changing fish – and to figure out how widespread this problem this is.

When we have a better handle on that information, wastewater treatment plant operators like Myron Erickson might be able to change some of their practices to take this stuff out of the water.

[\(Link\)](#)

Christie Administration's Preferred Remediation Option for the Lower Passaic River is Selected by Federal EPA

NJDEP Press Release, 4/11/2014

Plan Calls for Capping and Dredging, and Shipping Tainted Dredge Materials to a Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility

(14/P25) TRENTON - The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has chosen the Christie Administration's preferred remedy as its proposed remediation plan for the Lower Passaic River, a plan that could kick-start a long-overdue cleanup of a contaminated eight-mile section of this vital waterway that was once an economic engine for the state and nation, Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bob Martin announced today.

Governor Christie, in a 2012 letter to EPA which is being made public today as part of the EPA's review process, said New Jersey's preference is bank-to-bank capping of the river bed, with sufficient dredging to prevent additional flooding and to enable future navigational use of the lower 2.2 miles of the river. Dredged materials would be taken for off-site treatment and disposal at a hazardous waste landfill.

"My Administration has worked tirelessly to ensure that New Jersey's air, water, land and natural resources are protected for the public's benefit, while simultaneously facilitating economic growth and sustainability in all business sectors," Governor Christie stated in his letter. "The extreme level of contamination in sediments in the Lower Passaic River has long hindered our attainment of these objectives in that portion of the state. Not only will removal and stabilization of the uncontrolled sources substantially improve the environment, it will also spur economic growth and revitalization along the Passaic River and throughout Northern New Jersey. After 25 years of study, the time to act is now."

The EPA's announcement of the proposed remedy came after years of study by EPA and its contractors, as well as detailed peer review by the EPA's Contaminated Sediments Technical Advisory Group and its National Remedy Review Board, plus an independent team of modeling experts. A series of EPA public hearings on the proposed remedy will be held later this year.

The DEP has worked closely with and assisted the EPA in development of a Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) for the cleanup of the lower eight miles of the Passaic River. The goal of the state-preferred remedy is to reduce the ongoing threat to human health and the environment, while spurring economic growth and revitalization along the Passaic River and through northern New Jersey.

"Unfortunately, this environmental treasure was misused for several decades. It became a dumping ground for industrial toxins and pollutants," said Commissioner Martin. "But it does not have to remain impaired. It can be brought back to life and returned to its role as an important environmental and economic resource for North Jersey. We'd like to start the cleanup process as soon as possible to make that revival happen."

While, ideally, the state would prefer complete removal of all contaminated sediments, as stated in Governor Christie's letter, the state's position is that the bank-to-bank capping remedy will achieve virtually the same level of protection over time as the full dredging remedy.

In addition, for any dredge material generated while implementing the capping remedy, the Christie Administration's position is that the only viable option, for environmental and public health and safety reasons, is off-site disposal so that the contaminated sediment is permanently removed from the community and properly secured in an appropriate facility. That position was reiterated in a March 12, 2014 letter from Commissioner Martin to current EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy.

EPA will seek funding for the implementation of the preferred remedy, once a remedy has been formally approved, from the companies it deems responsible for the contamination.

The EPA evaluated several potential remedies: Alternative 1: No action. Alternative 2: Deep dredging of the entire eight miles. Alternative 3: Capping, with sufficient dredging of the entire eight miles to prevent additional flooding and allow navigation in the lower 2.2 miles. EPA later added and evaluated a fourth alternative, after the state had already made its preference known, for focused capping and dredging of select areas of the river bed, which the state did not support.

The state's choice of the third alternative is based on many factors, among them the belief that any remedial action for the Passaic River must:

A Cleanup Plan for a Toxic River

Editorial Board, New York Times, 4/15/2014

- Remove as much contaminated sediment as possible to reduce the ongoing threat to human health and the environment;
- Stop the uncontrolled release and movement of contaminated sediments into Newark Bay and other parts of the estuary;
- Be consistent with reasonable long-term future uses of the Passaic River and adjacent areas, particularly its use as a navigable waterway;
- Remove and treat contaminated sediments consistent with the state's preference for remedies which permanently and significantly reduce volume, toxicity and mobility of hazardous substances;
- Provide for management of the waste in a manner that will not add further burden to the surrounding communities' existing environmental issues;

The Passaic River was vital to America's industrial engine for more than 100 years, helping to bring thousands of jobs and economic prosperity to northern New Jersey and an emerging nation. Running through one of the most densely populated areas of the state, it also served as an important natural and recreational resource.

Its sediments are now filled with dioxins generated by production of Agent Orange at a Newark site, which now makes the Lower Passaic River one of the most contaminated rivers in the nation.

EPA previously has conducted two "hot spot" sediment removal efforts on the Lower Passaic River. In 2012, it targeted removal of 40,000 cubic yards of dioxin-contaminated adjacent to the Diamond Alkali Superfund site in the Ironbound section of Newark. In 2013, EPA required that responsible parties dredge the top 2 feet of dioxin-contaminated sediments in a half-mile of mudflats along the Passaic River in Lyndhurst and cap the remaining contamination.

To view Governor Christie's and Commissioner Martin's letters to the EPA, visit [this link](#).

To view the details of EPA's proposed remedy, and to view technical information regarding the need for the cleanup and different alternatives evaluated, visit [this link](#).

The inventory of pollutants at the bottom of the Passaic River, which meanders for 90 miles through northern New Jersey, is long and truly frightening. More than a century of industrial activity has deposited PCBs, pesticides and other contaminants into sediment that, in some places, is 15 feet deep. Among the worst of the poisons is dioxin, generated in part by a plant in Newark that produced Agent Orange and other deadly pesticides during the 1960s.

Now, after years of study, the Environmental Protection Agency has proposed a cleanup plan for a dangerously fetid eight-mile stretch from Belleville to Newark. This will be no small task. The agency calls it the largest cleanup in the 33-year history of the federal Superfund law, with a projected cost of \$1.7 billion that puts it in roughly the same range as General Electric's cleanup of the PCB's in the upper Hudson River.

The E.P.A.'s plan is ambitious, necessary, long overdue and definitely good news for those who believe that humans should again enjoy this once-thriving waterway. It also shows that Superfund, in which Congress has shown steadily declining interest, still matters when it comes to the long and difficult battle against industrial leftovers. The cleanup has bipartisan support in New Jersey, including from Gov. Chris Christie, a Republican, and Democratic members of Congress.

If approved, after a 60-day public comment period, the project would involve bank-to-bank dredging to remove 4.3 million cubic yards of contaminated sediment, after which the river bed would be capped. The task would take at least five years, and - according to Judith Enck, the agency's regional administrator - it would mean excavating enough contaminated mud to fill New Jersey's MetLife Stadium, twice over.

Under the law, so-called responsible parties - companies that polluted the river - will be required to foot the bill. These include corporations like Honeywell International, Pfizer, Tiffany and others that either polluted the river themselves or acquired companies that did so in the past.

Needless to say, some of the companies are not pleased. One group of 67 companies calling themselves the Cooperating Parties Group has

complained that the federal plan would take decades, not five years, would disrupt commercial activity and deny public access to the river. The group's alternative plan is to clean "hot" spots along 17 miles of the river, a plan that E.P.A. finds insufficient to remedy the most polluted areas downstream.

Company representatives have also suggested a fish exchange — a program that would allow people to swap contaminated fish caught in the Passaic for healthy ones. (Catching crabs in parts of the lower river is prohibited, and people are warned not to eat the fish they catch.)

Instead of proposing such diversions as fish swaps, the cooperating companies should face up to their full responsibilities. Meanwhile, the E.P.A. should step up its efforts to identify other businesses that appear to be hiding from their duty to clean up the mess left by their predecessors. It is well past time to rehabilitate one of America's oldest industrial dumping grounds.

Sportsperson of the year

By Paul Turi

At our General Membership Meeting in January the membership voted to start accepting nominations for our sportsperson of the year in March and to have a vote at our General Membership Meeting in June. The reason for this is because we don't meet in July & August and we vote at the October meeting, which is very close to our honoring dinner date, it does not give our honoree too much time to contact family and friends who may want to be present at the dinner presentation. A lot of family and friends may be out of town and it does not leave much time to make travel plans. In addition to that, it does not leave us much time to order our plaques for our Sportsperson-of-the-Year honoree and the Youth Education Award honoree. This year it cost us double the amount of money to order our plaques because we had to pay an expedited fee. So all in all it seems to make sense to have the nomination and election process much earlier.

If you wish to nominate someone, please submit a bio of at least 250 words. Don't worry about typing and spelling, etc. When we have elected a nominee, if I need more or less words to make the bio fit in our brochure, I will work with the nominating club to accomplish this.

The dinner again this year will be held at the Crystal Pt. Yacht Club in Pt. Pleasant on Sunday, November 9th, 2014. Ticket prices are the same as last year, \$75 per head or \$600 for a table of 10.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the JCAA office or by email at pturi6@comcast.net.

Membership Report

By John Toth

Invoices for 2014 club membership dues have been sent out. Please make every effort to send in your club dues in a timely manner. Also, please take the time to completely fill out the Dues and Sponsorship form and the Club Survey form that we need to update our mailing list. Club dues are coming in and that makes my job a lot easier!

Thank you for sending in your 2014 dues - Sandy Hook Bay Anglers, Bay Head Shores Fishing Club, Association of Surf Angling Clubs, Women's Surf Fishing Club of NJ, Fish Hawks, Central Jersey Anglers, Central Jersey Trout Unlimited, Manasquan Fishing Club, Lake Ridge Fishing Club, Long Beach Island Fishing Club, Bradley Beach Surf Casters, Thousand Fathom Club of South Jersey, NJ Council of Diving Clubs, Shore Aquatic Club, Shore Surf Club, Picatinny Saltwater Sport Club, and Village Harbor Fishing Club. **Much appreciated!**

Also, any clubs, companies or individuals who have ads in our JCAA newsletter, please send in your payments to our address: JCAA, 1201 Route 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River, NJ 08753.

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 of the JCAA!

NJ Outdoor Alliance Report

By John Toth

On behalf of the JCAA, I attended the March 24th meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), and the following agenda items were discussed:

Sergio Radossi (representative to the NJ Marine Fishery Council) reported that he and Tom Fote met with Assemblywoman Caride who sponsored a bill to allow sale of out of state striped bass in New Jersey and the processing of striped bass in NJ. This sale of striped bass can certainly lead to undesired consequences for this fishery and she has agreed to withdraw her support of it. It is somewhat unclear why she initially decided to sponsor this type of legislation.

The NJOA reaffirmed its support of Pat Donnelly as a candidate for the NJ Marine Fishery Council due to his extensive experience with the fishing industry. The NJOA also supports Tom Fote's re-appointment to the Atlantic States Marine Fishery Commission (ASMFC).

Regionalization Issue – New Jersey is now in a region comprised of New York and Connecticut with all three states having the same size and bag limits for its fishery, with the exception that each state can determine when their seasons for their fishery starts and ends. There is a major concern that New York will exceed its fluke quota because its minimum size will drop to 18 inches to match NJ. This potential overfishing can have a very negative impact on how much fluke New Jersey anglers can catch in 2015. Consequently, the JCAA has written letters to our Governor and Legislators making them aware of the negative consequences on our state's fishing/tourism industry because of this regionalization approach. The NJOA will also write similar letters concerning the effects regionalization will have on our fishery. This regionalization approach has been approved for only a one-year term as an experiment by the ASMFC. At the end of its term, it will have to be re-authorized and there will be stiff opposition to it by our New Jersey representatives.

Beach replenishment and Notching of the Jetties – The Army Corps of Engineers is moving forward with an aggressive beach replenishment of sand and the building of dunes to protect our shores from future storms. However, in this beach replenishment effort there is a major concern that it will cover up prime breeding areas of fish with sand and interfere with the flume at Deal Lake that allows herring and shad to spawn in this lake. On March 21st over 200 anglers protested at the Deal Lake flume over this

issue. Another concern is the notching of jetties by the Army Corps of Engineers to allow for replenishment of sand at the beaches. There is a major concern that this notching will cause dangerous riptides and disrupt the fishing opportunities by the jetties. The comment period ended on March 25th and the NJOA will ask for an extension of this comment period so that it can reach out to the Army Corps of Engineers and individuals who are familiar to the effects of beach replenishment so that the NJOA can develop a comprehensive and effective response to the effects of this beach replenishment program.

Vision for Managing America's Saltwater Recreational Fisheries

Morris-Deal Commission Report

A Vision for Managing America's Saltwater Recreational Fisheries is a landmark report produced by the Commission on Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management that outlines a new paradigm for conserving marine fishing resources while producing the full range of saltwater recreational fishing's economic, social and conservation benefits.

The report outlines the nation's most important saltwater fisheries management issues and is intended to help guide federal policy decisions, particularly as Congress debates the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the law which governs the nation's marine fisheries.

The economic imprint of saltwater angling in the U.S. is considerable. Anglers contribute more than \$1.5 billion annually to fisheries habitat and conservation via excise taxes and license fees alone. In 2011, approximately 11 million Americans saltwater fished recreationally, spending \$27 billion in pursuit of their sport. That activity generated more than \$70 billion in economic output and sustained 450,000 jobs.

The Commission on Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management recommends that the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act include the following elements:

- A national policy for recreational fishing
- A revised approach to saltwater recreational fisheries management that promotes both conservation and access

- Allocation of marine fisheries for the greatest benefit to the nation
- Reasonable latitude in stock rebuilding timelines
- A process for cooperative management
- Managing for the forage base

The commission strongly believes that now is the time to begin this important, critical work. The commission's recommendations provide the steps needed to improve the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act in a manner that finally addresses the needs of the saltwater recreational fishing community. The commission recognizes the need for strengthening old and creating new partnerships to improve science, economic data and information sharing in fisheries management. The commission strongly advocates for the need to focus on habitat, water quality and environmental challenges that recreational anglers and all citizens will confront in the years ahead. In addition, federal and state fisheries management agencies should make it a priority to inform the public about anglers' contributions to conservation. Finally, saltwater anglers must continue to support and advocate for a strong conservation ethic within our community. Anglers were among the first to set the example as stewards of the outdoors. Anglers need to continue that legacy to assure a future for anglers today and for generations to come.

To get a copy of the report go to [this link](#).

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

NATIONAL FISHING & BOATING WEEK

NF&BW Free Fishing Days in New Jersey are Saturday & Sunday June 14 & 15, 2014. Residents and non-residents may fish the public waters of New Jersey without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations apply. For those anglers just starting out, the Division of Fish and Wildlife offers many programs and classes to advance from beginner to expert. The Pequest State Trout Hatchery in Oxford, Warren County offers free fishing programs. Pequest offers a Natural Resource Education Center with a variety of exhibits and displays on wildlife, a butterfly garden, picnic areas and hiking trails. There is also a handicapped-accessible fishing site along the Pequest River. Last year, the JCAA Youth Education Committee

coordinated fishing and aquatic education programs for the week-long celebration of National Fishing Week. This year we will be working with disadvantaged students in Monmouth County. Member clubs that wish to conduct a National Fishing Week program can phone 732-785-9278 and we will guide your organization through the process. Phone if you have questions and please record your event. Let the JCAA Youth Education Committee know how many National Fishing Week participants supported your program.

2014 JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD

The JCAA Youth Education Committee is accepting nominations for the 2014 Youth Education Award. It takes the support of many volunteers to bring successes to the fishing community but sometimes individuals and sport-fishing organizations go above and beyond to make the future of fishing better for our youngsters. Criteria: Promoting "Hooked On Fishing Not On Drugs (HOFNOD)," Certified HOFNOD instructors, number of fishing or aquatic education events, JCAA lending library usage, and creativity for promoting youth fishing events.

Please submit your nominations by October 15, 2014. Submit your nominations in writing at the JCAA monthly meeting or email the JCAA Youth Education Committee, vkucharews@jcaa.org

NB&FCC KIDS' DERBY REGISTRATION

The Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club's annual Kids Fishing Derby at Echo Lake Park in Mountainside, NJ is off to a great start. NB&FCC runs the derby for three weeks starting from April 12 and going through May 3, 2014. NB&FCC members worked the registration table and handed out gift bags until 2:00 P.M. Prizes for the derby will be awarded at the Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club's meeting on June 3, 2014 at 8:00 P.M. Below is a photo of the first day of the Kids Fishing Derby.

17th ANNUAL IGFA BANQUET

Members of the JCAA Youth Education Committee attended the International Game Fishing Association's annual banquet and auction. IGFA raises funds at the event to support their IGFA Junior Angler and Conservation Programs.

Over the past 16 years, over \$20,000.00 was raised for junior angling and conservation programs. During January 2014, once again, I had the opportunity to experience the IGFA Fishing Hall of

Fame in Dania Beach, FL. I also took time to chat with Jeff Mackin, Education Director, about how great it is to teach families to fish and how youngsters are inspired to become protectors of the environment at an early age. To learn more about IGFA education programs visit: www.igfa.org.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

On April 2, 2012 we visited Urban Promise High School Environmental Learning Community, Pennsauken, NJ to conduct a HOFNOD fly tying session for 33 - 10, 11, and 12th grade students. This would not be possible without the help of Brad Buzzi, President Atlantic Saltwater Flyrodders and Paul Novello, Vice President NJ Beach Buggy Association. When it comes to teaching students about fly tying these two professionals know how to teach students the basics of fly tying. Students learned the following: Anatomy of a Hook, Macroinvertebrates and Match the Hatch, Tools and Materials to tie a simple saltwater fly.

If you would like to help with our youth education efforts and offer some of your time to teach children the joy of fishing, please phone 732-785-9278 or e-mail gkucharews@jcaa.org.

FLY TIER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer fly tiers are needed to support a HOFNOD fly tying program at Chews Landing. The date is Thursday, June 19, 2014 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. We will need about five volunteers to help 15 – 20 youngsters tie flies. Volunteers will assist youngsters with adding natural and synthetic materials on a hook.

If you would like to help with our youth education efforts and offer some of your time to teach children the joy of fishing, please phone 732-785-9278 or e-mail gkucharews@jcaa.org.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

29TH ANNUAL HOOKED ON THE HUDSON

May 3, 2014, the Hudson River Fishermen's Association will host the 29th Annual Hooked on the Hudson, at Ross Dock, Palisades Interstate Park, Hudson Riverfront located immediately north of the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee, New Jersey. For detailed directions check njpalisades.org or go to the Hudson River Fishermen's Association's Web site www.hrfan.org.

BAY FISHING TOURNAMENT

The Fish Hawks Saltwater Angler's Club will kick off their 1st Annual Bay Fishing Tournament on August 1, 2014 and it will end on August 31, 2014. The tournament will have two divisions, adults and children (up to & including 17 years of age.) Entrance fee is very reasonable, \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for youngsters. All proceeds go to the Fish Hawks Youth Education & Training programs.

I suggest you get some fishing practice in before the 1st Annual Bay Fishing Tournament and learn as much as you can about Kingfish and Blowfish. The tournament is geared towards family fun fishing in the bay. Results will be posted weekly on the Fish Hawks' Web Site: www.fishhawksnj.com.

BRICK HIGH SCHOOL FISHING CLUB

Members of the Brick High School HOFNOD Fishing Club are doing a great job of organizing their club. During the past few months they learned about knot tying, angler ethics, lures, bait and terminal tackle, local fishing opportunities, fish biology, and species identification. They are gearing up for National Fishing and Boating Week and it should be interesting with what they decide to do.

GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

Get ready to FISH! Sunday, May 18th Island Beach State Park. This is always a fun surf fishing event for the entire family. Catch the biggest fish and your name will be inscribed on the Governor's Cup Trophy.

The JCAA Youth Education Committee will have a learning booth at the pavilion and provide a long distance casting demonstration on the beach. Please make sure you complete the NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry. For more information about the tournament, please phone 609-748-4347 or visit [this link](#).