JCAA NEWSPAPER JANUARY 2016

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION* (Published on December 21st, 2015)

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

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, December 29th, 2015 <u>Starting at 7:30 PM</u> <u>At Jersey Coast Shark Anglers</u> <u>NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING</u> Thursday, January 14th, 2016 Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC. 1594 Lakewood Road (Rt. 9), Victoria Plaza Ste. 13 Toms River, NJ 08755 Phone 732-506-6565 Fax 732-506-6975

JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi

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

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JCAA General Membership Meetings are for club representatives and invited guests only. These meetings are not open to the general public. If you would like to attend as a guest, call the President at 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.

2015 OFFICERS

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|--|---------------|--------------|
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| Tournament Dir. | Paul Turi | 609-660-2126 |
| Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page | | |

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 29th JCAA General Meeting Jan, 7th-10th Garden State Outdoor Sports Show Jan 14th JCAA Board Meeting January 26th JCAA General Meeting February 2nd-4th ASMFC Winter Meeting February 3rd-7th Atlantic City Boat Show February 11th JCAA Board Meeting February 20th Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series February 23rd JCAA General Meeting March 18th-20th Saltwater Expo

2016 High Roller Raffle

The JCAA High Roller Raffle for 2016 is now ready! Below is a list of this year's 8 prizes. We have special prices on the tickets this year. The price options for tickets are:

- \$2.00 Each
- 3 for \$5.00
- 7 for \$10.00

The tickets will be available at our booths at the following shows:

- Jan, 7th 10th Garden State Outdoor Sports Show
- February 3rd-7th Atlantic City Boat Show
- March 18th 20 Saltwater Expo

You can also call the office and we will mail you tickets. Drawing Date - **May 31st**, 2016 at 7:30 PM at the JCAA office located at 1594 Lakewood Rd., Ste. 13, Toms River, NJ 08755.

- You do not have to be present to win
- 8 chances to win a great package

Support JCAA - Only \$2.00 a Ticket

- 7'6" Century I-SS 905 spinning rod/Canyon DJR 3500 reel \$590 Donated by Century Rods and Canyon Reels
- \$500 Gift Certificate from Fisherman's Headquarters
 \$500 Donated by Fisherman's Headquarters
- 3. Tony Maja Wire Line Rod/ Canyon Signature Series trolling reel \$499 Donated by Tony Maja and Canyon Reels
- 7' Seeker BCSW 708-7S spinning rod/Canyon Salt 5000 reel \$394 Donated by Grumpys Tackle and Canyon Reels
- 5. Underwater Green Fishing Light \$359 Donated by Underwater Green Fishing Lights
- 6. 12' Tica UEHA936502S surf rod/Tica Abyss &TL5000R spinning reel \$310 Donated by Tica
- 5'6" Profile Tuna Stopper TS 520L conventional rod & Shimano Triton TLD 25 \$280 Donated by Profile and Shimano
- 7' Tica WISA70H1 conventional rod/Tica Caiman GT200 reel \$225 Donated by Tica

Total Value: \$3157

Show Time 2016

By Mark Taylor

Jersey Coast Anglers Association will be at the following shows in 2016:

- Garden State Outdoor Sports Show at the NJ Convention Center in Edison on January 7^{th-}10th
- Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar on February 20th
- Atlantic City Boat Show February 3rd to 7th
- The Saltwater Fishing Expo in Somerset on March 18th to 20th

We are coming to the end of 2015 and I hope everyone had great year. It's time to start thinking of things we need to do before the start of the 2016 season. Some of us may be winterizing the boat, going through all the rods, reels and tackle boxes by inspecting everything and making a list to see what needs to be replaced or repaired. Once you have that list together then you start thinking which show am I going to get the best bargains at. By going to the shows you have the best chances of getting what you need from the best manufactures and vendors that attend these shows. So mark the dates in your calendar of each of the shows so you don't miss them. While you are at the shows stop by and say hello to the volunteers at the JCAA Booth. Don't forget to pick up your High Roller Raffle tickets for a chance on some very nice prizes. If your club is a member of JCAA or you just want to get involved with JCAA here is how. To become a volunteer at one of the shows with JCAA, please contact me at <u>mtsport64@aol.com</u>. I will answer every email that is sent to me. I am looking forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the shows. Here is something about each of the shows:

Garden State Outdoor Sports Show: at the NJ Convention Center in Edison on Jan 7^{th} to 10^{th} . Go to <u>www.gsoss.com</u> to see more about the show.

Garden State Deer Classic: The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's "Garden State Deer Classic" has been part of this sportsman's show since 1999. This statewide competition is open to all New Jersey Deer hunters and is one of the most prestigious contests in the state. The classic draws more exceptional displays each year with several awards given out on Sunday, January 10th at 2:30 pm to the most outstanding entries. The Deer Classic is jointly sponsored by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, United Bowhunters of New Jersey, New Jersey Outdoor Alliance Conservation Foundation and the Garden state Outdoor Sportsmen's Show.

Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series 2016: in the Atlantic City Area on February 20th at the Linwood Country Club, 500 Shore Road, Linwood, New Jersey 08221. Go to <u>this link</u> to see the details about this George Poveromo seminar or read the article elsewhere in the newspaper.

Atlantic City Boat Show: February 3^{rd} to $7^{th.}$ Go to this link to see more about the boat show. There will be a lot of great boats on display to tour. At the show they have seminars and a lot of vendors. So if you are in a mood to buy a new boat this is the place to be. This show will take you a whole day to see everything. Hope to see you there.

The Saltwater Fishing Expo: in Somerset on March 18^{th} to $20^{\text{th.}}$ Go to <u>www.sportshows.com</u> to see much more about this show. Over the past eleven years this show has grown to become the fishing destination that

kicks off the New Jersey and Tri-State coastline's saltwater fishing season. It's where avid anglers congregate to plot out their season and buy the gear they've been dreaming about all winter. With many of the major tackle manufacturers here to answer all your questions and local tackle retailers available to fill your orders, this is truly one stop shopping. Meet face to face with guides and charters, compare and buy saltwater fishing boats and kayaks, and learn the latest techniques from local experts. Whether your saltwater fishing passion is surf casting, inshore or offshore all are well represented through large and small manufacturers based up and down the east coast. Mark your calendars now and don't miss the 11th Annual Saltwater Fishing Expo in Somerset, NJ.

President's Report By Paul Haertel

My term as President will end as of 12/31/15. There were a lot of controversial issues that occurred during my two year term such as a change in the striper regulations, forced regionalization for fluke, jetty notching, beach replenishment, mining of our offshore lumps, bunker battles and more. These issues required a lot of my time but still it was a pleasure to serve our fine organization. I would like to thank everyone involved with JCAA for their support.

Our next general meeting will be held on 12/29 and we will once again be having a dinner buffet that will begin at 7PM. This is for all of the club representatives so please do not bring any guests to this meeting. We will also hold our election for new officers at this meeting. At this point we really need someone to step up to be President and we also need a recording secretary. Please consider running for one of the positions.

The MRIP numbers for Wave 5 (September - October) recently came out. The numbers continue to show that our state, as well as our region (Connecticut, New Jersey and New York), along with most of the east coast, significantly underfished their quotas for fluke. As reported previously, this should offset the mandated 29% cut in the coastwide quota for next year and result in similar regulations as we had in 2015 for 2016.

I only glanced at the MRIP numbers for sea bass but I am cautiously optimistic that our regulations won't become any more restrictive for 2016. Hopefully, they will be relaxed somewhat but I have not studied the numbers enough to determine if that is a possibility. I do know that the recreational harvest limit (RHL) has been increased from 2.33 million pounds in 2015 to 2.88 million pounds for 2016. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

There has been a truly magnificent run of stripers along our coast this fall. Earlier today (12/17)there was one of the best bass blitzes in over 40 years at Island Beach State Park. Blitzes have also been occurring from Sandy Hook to Cape May on a regular basis as well. Recently there has been a tremendous amount of bait including herring as well as adult and peanut bunker right in the surf. Apparently, this has kept the migrating stripers in close to the beach rather than migrating offshore as many of them did in recent years. Earlier this year there were quite a few avid striper fishermen who would have us believe that our striper population was in free-fall. Where did all these bass come from? It seems to me that our striper stocks are healthier than we thought though they are significantly under their peak period of abundance. Regardless, though, please keep only what you need and use care in releasing the rest.

Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and fish-filled New Year to all!

Saltwater Sportsman National Seminar Series Returns to Linwood

February 20th

The Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series will bring its 2016 New Jersey presentation to the Linwood Country Club (500 Shore Road, Linwood) on Saturday, February 20. The host of the 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. presentation will be **George Poveromo** – of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on the NBC Sports Network, and Contributing Editor for Salt Water Sportsman, with **Nick Honachefsky** serving in the co-host position, a noted writer, author, TV personality and New Jersey fishing authority. The Tour is being presented by Bass Pro Shops.

Joining **Poveromo** and **Honachefsky** in Linwood will be: **Crazy Alberto Knie** - Innovative authority on fishing the Northeast who excels at

catching trophy striped bass, fluke and tautog; Captain Steve Purul - Noted Barnegat-based striped bass, fluke, and wreck fishing authority with Reel Fantasea Fishing Charters; Captain Corey Solomon – Margate-based authority on fishing southern Jersey's back bays and noted offshore pro; Gina Lawrenson - Renowned bottom fishing authority with the fabled Barnegat Light drift boat Carolyn Ann III; Captain Mike McConlogue -Premier authority on fishing the canyons off New Jersey with Tuna-Tic Sportfishing; Captain Al Crudele III - Veteran south Jersey wreck and offshore fishing authority with Bayhound Charters; Captain Darren Dorris - Noted offshore and canyon pro who specializes in sharks, wahoo, bluefin and big eye tunas with Salty Lady Sportfishing; Captain David Wicker - King mackerel tournament pro who also excels at near shore bottom fishing and marine electronics, and Captain Jimmy Price -Carolina-based Legendary Southport, North authority on catching trophy flounder!

Courses for the February 20 presentation will focus on: Trophy stripers on ultra-light tackle; Livelining for trophy stripers; Top trolling tactics for stripers; Chunking for bluefish; Bluefish on surface lures; Inshore wire-line techniques; Jetty tactics; How to catch more and bigger fluke; Targeting trophy fluke; Top southern tactics for jumbo fluke; Secrets of fishing the Cape May Rips; Trophy drum in Delaware Bay; Secrets of fishing Delaware Bay; Top tactics for big blackfish; Catching blackfish by the score; Jigging for blackfish; No-nonsense weakfish tactics; How and where to locate weakfish; Variety fishing in and around inlets; How to locate and fish productive bottom (blackfish, sea bass, spot and fluke); Back-bay stripers; Can't-miss tunatrolling patterns; Chunking for tunas; Live-baiting for tunas; Advanced methods for bluefin and vellowfin tuna; Cutting edge lure-trolling tactics; Subsurface offshore trolling; Cutting edge spreader bar and dredge tactics; Secrets for catching more inshore tuna; Reading water temperature charts; Targeting trophy Makos; Basic and advanced sharking techniques; Offshore kite fishing for sharks and tuna; Specialized tactics that take more big-eye tuna; How to troll up more wahoo and white marlin!

Such a deal! - The Seminar Series kicks off at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by 3:00 p.m. Long considered the best bargain in sportfishing, a Seminar Series ticket is only \$ 55.00. The ticket price covers five hours of instruction from the best pros in the business, a course textbook, a one-year subscription or extension to Salt Water Sportsman, one Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecast Analysis, bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, bottle of Star tron fuel treatment, bottle of Star brite Xtreme Clean, bottle of Corrosion Block, a \$ 10.00 Bass Pro Shops discount card (off any purchase of \$ 75.00 or more), and chances to win thousands of dollars worth of door prizes! The Grand Prize at the conclusion of the Jersey seminar is a Florida Keys fishing trip! The Super Grand Prize, to be awarded two weeks after the conclusion of the 2016 series, is a new Mako Pro Skiff 17 cc!

A rocking good time! - As an added bonus, attendees of the New Jersey seminar are entitled to attend the After Seminar Party at the Bass Pro Shops in Atlantic City. A special area will be set aside for the 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. party. Seminar attendees must show their Seminar Series name badge to gain entry, and are entitled to bring one additional guest regardless if they attended the seminar. Complimentary food, refreshments and live music will be provided. George Poveromo and several other faculty members will be present at the party.

How to register - Get your tickets now, as the New Jersey seminar sold out last year. To pay with Visa, MasterCard and American Express, call (800) 448-7360, or register on-line, visit: www.nationalseminarseries.com

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Thomas Fote

Summer Founder Joint Meeting

The last few years I have been unable to attend the December Joint Meeting of ASMFC and the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council. My proxy Chris Zeman attended for me. This year I attended myself and knew I was going to be disheartened as usual. Since last October I have written many articles on the summer flounder situation. I will not rehash that information. Please read the articles for 2015 for January, February, March, September and December including the additional articles by John Toth and Paul Haertel. In particular, I want you to read the articles from October and November, 2014. Those articles provide the graphs and information about the loss of angling trips and boats in the mid-atlantic region. If you need those articles, just email me.

New Jersey is more than 40% under the target set for 2015. Because we are the biggest player along the coast on summer flounder, our undercatch is bailing out the rest of the coast so there will not be any reductions required for 2016. Think about this statement. Some are celebrating the fact that New Jersey's regulations failed to allow our anglers to come close to the target for 2015.

- 1. What did this cost New Jersey's economy, tackle stores, marinas, party boats, and the ancillary businesses that depend on recreational fishing?
- 2. What did this cost the individual angler? It caused frustration because there were few successful summer flounder trips. It caused anglers to cancel summer flounder trips because they were tired of the catch and release requirements. It confirmed their lack of trust for any summer flounder information distributed by NMFS. This frustration and anger is also causing some conscientious anglers to disregard the regulations.
- 3. What did this create for the summer flounder stock? Because anglers are forced to cull through many summer flounder to get a keeper, we are increasing the hook and release mortality. Summer flounder was never meant to have a high hook and release mortality. Summer flounder anglers intend to catch for dinner, not for catch and release.

When I get New Jersey's recreational trip numbers, summer flounder trip numbers and boat registrations, I will revisit the discussion about the impact on New Jersey's economy.

Summer Flounder Draft Amendment

At the joint meeting, the ASMFC Summer Flounder, Black Sea Bass and Scup Board decided to write an amendment to deal with the summer flounder issue in Delaware Bay which will be published and have public hearings before the February ASMFC meeting. The press release is not available at this time but the minutes and webinar are available on the ASMFC webpage. In summary, the amendment will make New Jersey a separate region that will require us to have the same regulations as New York and Connecticut everywhere except Delaware Bay. New Jersey, New York and Connecticut will have an 18 inch size limit, a 5 fish bag limit and a 128 day season. Delaware Bay will have a 17 inch size limit, 4 fish bag limit and a 128 day season. This is not the same as Delaware since they will have a smaller size limit and no closed season. If the last wave of figures for 2015 are as predicted, the coast will be status quo and our catch will be well below the 29% reduction already required for 2016. Since we are not using some of these fish to bail out the coast, we were able to allow this change in Delaware Bay without penalizing any other state. Is this a perfect solution? No. But it is the only amendment that we could get in place for 2016. It will give some relief to the anglers who fish in Delaware Bay. I am asking for 2 public hearings in New Jersey, North and South.

Note: Just as we were going to print the hearing information was made available. See article just below this one.

States Schedule Public Hearings on Draft Addendum XXVII

Addendum Seeks Input on Regional Management Options for 2016 Summer Flounder and Black Sea Recreational Fisheries

Arlington, VA - The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Management Board approved Draft Addendum XXVII for public comment at the Joint Commission/Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council meeting in Annapolis, Maryland earlier this month. Draft Addendum XXVII proposes regional management approaches for the 2016 summer flounder and black sea bass recreational fisheries. The Atlantic coast states of Massachusetts through Virginia have scheduled public hearings to gather public comment. The details of those hearings follow:

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

January 14, 2016 at 4:30 PM Massachusetts Maritime Academy 101 Academy Drive Buzzards Bay, MA 02532 Contact: Nichola Meserve at 617.626.1531

Rhode Island Division of Fish & Wildlife

January 6, 2016 at 6 PM University of Rhode Island, Corliss Auditorium South Ferry Road Narragansett, Rhode Island Contact: Jason McNamee at 401.423.1943

Connecticut Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection

January 5, 2016 at 7 PM Marine Headquarters Boating Education Center, Building 3 333 Ferry Road Old Lyme, Connecticut Contact: David Simpson at 860.434.6043

New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

January 7, 2016 at 6 PM Bureau of Marine Resources 205 North Belle Mead Road, Suite 1 East Setauket, New York Contact: Steve Heins at 631.444.0436

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

January 7, 2016 at 6:30 PM Stafford Township Municipal Building 260 East Bay Avenue Manahawkin, New Jersey Contact: Tom Baum at 609.748.2020

Delaware Dept. of Natural Resources & Environmental Control and Maryland Department of Natural Resources

January 12, 2016 at 6 PM DNREC Lewes Building (at the Lewes Boat Ramp) 901 Pilottown Road Lewes, Delaware Contacts: John Clark (DE) at 302.739.9914 and Mike Luisi (MD) at 410.260.8341

Virginia Marine Resources Commission

January 12, 2016 at 6 PM 2600 Washington Avenue 4th Floor Conference Room Newport News, Virginia Contact: Rob O'Reilly at 757.247.2248

Draft Addendum XXVII was initiated to consider extending use of regional management approaches for the 2016 recreational summer flounder fishery, including an option that would allow for a Delaware Bay specific region. The Draft Addendum also includes options for extending use of ad-hoc regional management approaches for black sea bass recreational fisheries in 2016 and 2017. In the event the options in Draft Addendum XXVII are not approved for management, the Board extended the current summer flounder regional management approach for use in 2016.

2014, In the Board approved Addendum XXV to shift away from traditional use of state-by-state harvest targets under conservation equivalency to use of an alternative regional strategy for managing summer flounder recreational fisheries. Based on its success in keeping recreational harvest within the RHL and providing greater regulatory consistency among neighboring states, this strategy was extended for use in 2015. State-by-state harvest previously utilized under conservation targets equivalency created difficulties for some states as overages occurred due largely to state shares and limits not reflecting local summer flounder abundance and its availability to recreational fishermen. In 2014 and 2015 management regions were the following: 1) Massachusetts; 2) Rhode Island; 3) Connecticut-New Jersey; 4) Delaware-Virginia; and 5) North Carolina.

The Draft Addendum also proposes two options for the 2016 black sea bass recreational fishery (1) coastwide measures or (2) the continued use of management measures by northern (Massachusetts -New Jersey) and southern regions (Delaware - North Carolina). The regional management approach has been used since 2011 and offers advantages over coastwide regulations by addressing geographic differences in the stock (size, abundance and while maintaining seasonality) the consistent application of management measures by neighboring states.

Fishermen and other interested groups are encouraged to provide input on Draft Addendum XXVII either by attending state public hearings or providing written comment. The Draft Addendum is available at this link and can also be accessed on the Commission website (www.asmfc.org) under Public Input. Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 PM (EST) on January 21, 2016 and should be forwarded to Kirby Rootes-Murdy, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, Virginia 22201; 703.842.0741 (fax) or at krootes-murdy@asmfc.org (Subject line: Draft Addendum XXVII). For more information, please Kirby contact Rootes-Murdy at krootesmurdy@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740.

Catch Shares versus Sharing Catch

By Stephen J. Hall, David J. Mills, and Neil L. Andrew, 11/24/2015

(*link* at cfooduw.org)

Lee van der Voo considers catch shares in the US to be, "one of the coolest vehicles environmental policy has seen in decades," because they reduce fishing effort, diminish incentives to fish in dangerous weather, can boost the value of seafood, and most importantly, were designed to keep fishing rights with the fishermen and their communities. However this last attribute has not worked for most catch share programs and increasingly these rights are bought by large investment firms and offshore companies that find loopholes in the looselyregulated catch share laws and regulations.

Van der Voo fears that over the long term catch shares will increase costs, fishermen will earn less because of higher rental payments owed to, "people in suits," that own the fishing rights. Consumers would then pay more in this scenario while a handful of investors would become rich.

Atlantic coast clam fisheries are the first example of this cycle: Bumble Bee Foods which has exclusive rights to almost 25% of America's clams, was recently acquired by Lion Capital, a British equity firm. The Alaskan crab fisheries have also experienced a disconnect in recent years between fishing rights ownership and the people actually harvesting the resource.

Proponents of catch shares need to, "acknowledge that it's an investment vehicle too, and the fish councils that manage it lack resources and political savvy to keep fishing rights in the US and in the hands of fishermen."

Comment by Stephen J. Hall, David J. Mills & Neil L. Andrew

In the context of US fisheries, the term "catch shares" refers to a system in which the government grants fishing rights (quotas) to individuals or companies on a de facto permanent basis and establishes a market for buying, leasing or selling those rights. In other parts of the world, this same approach is referred to as Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs), or Transferable Fishing Concessions (TFCs). For ensuring the sustainability of fish stocks, catch shares in the US are, "one of the coolest vehicles environmental policy has seen in decades." Yet while the potential of catch shares to reduce fishing mortality to sustainable levels is clear, the long term benefits for fishers and fishing communities are much less so. Van der Voo describes how catch shares in the US clam fishery have accumulated in the hands of a few wealthy investors and offshore companies. Clearly, it is an issue that deserves much greater attention.

Lessons from Experience

The potential pitfalls of catch shares and other schemes to allocate private property rights in fisheries have not escaped scholars. For example, Benediktsson and Karlsdóttir (2011) describes how the ITQ system in Iceland saw 50% of quota in the hands of 10 companies by 2007, a result that arguably contributed to the country's financial crisis. Analyses of events in Denmark and Chile point to similar concentrations of quota with marked negative impacts on traditional fishing communities. In Chile, an estimated 68% of people working in the fisheries sector had to share 10% of the quota with the remaining 90% was owned by just four companies.

Rights-based fisheries (RBF), the concept that environmental and economic objectives in fisheries are best served by introducing private property rights, has been a dominating proposition over the last two decades. Zealous promotion of RBF (e.g. Neher et al. 1989, Cunnigham et al, 2009), and experiences such as those described above, has led to equally zealous rebuttal, largely on the grounds of social justice, particularly for small-scale fishers.

In South Africa, that rebuttal ultimately took the form of class action to challenge the prevailing system. Based on ITQs, this system was intended to reduce poverty by creating small-scale fishing enterprises that generated wealth for fisher households. Unfortunately, it was a system that saw 90% of the country's 50,000 small scale fishers lose their rights. As Isaacs (2011) notes:

This system failed as many new entrants were allocated unviable fishing rights, most of them were vulnerable, many sold their rights to established companies, and some fell deeper into poverty. At local community level, the wealthbased approach of allocating small quotas to many rights holders resulted in the community elite (teachers, artisans, shop-owners and local councilors) capturing the rights. Many bona fide fishers with limited literacy and numeracy skills were unable to comply with all the formal requirement of the rights allocation process.

In 2007, the courts granted an order requiring the government to develop a new small-scale fishing policy. This new policy was endorsed in 2012. Instead of being based on the principles of individual property rights, the focus was on collective rights granted to communities.

As with the US clam fishery, these examples suggest that, even when measures are put in place to try and avoid unwanted social impacts and retain an equitable distribution of benefits, catch share (rights based) schemes often fail to maintain social justice and the livelihoods of small-scale fishers and fishing communities.

A Confused Debate

Setting a total allowable catch and allocating rights can certainly be an effective way of ensuring the sustainability of a stock, provided that the level is appropriate, ongoing monitoring processes are well designed and there is compliance. Arguably, it is for this reason that many NGOs have convinced philanthropic investors of the merits of this approach. In the last decade, fisheries improvement projects in both the developed and the developing world have become big business; establishing "catch shares" is often a key selling point.

What is not always clear, however, is the extent to which these NGOs, in promoting "catch shares" are also advocating the allocation of private property rights in a market-based system. The language that distinguishes between this strict definition of "catch shares" and other approaches for 'sharing the catch' (which, of course, all systems must ultimately do) is terribly blurred.

Exploring this idea, Macinko (2014) argues that a tool (pre-assigned catch, i.e., catch shares) is being confused with an ideology (the sellable, but simplistic notion that private ownership promotes stewardship). several social movements, for example, feared the now defunct Global Partnership for Oceans' (GPOs) use of terms such as "community rights" reflected "a new euphemism and language strategy in pursuit of more private and individual access rights regimes."

A more generous interpretation of the GPO terminology is that, after an early period of

advocacy, the pitfalls of "catch shares" with respect to social outcomes were recognized and other ways of sharing the catch were acknowledged. The same interpretation can also be applied to NGOs currently involved in fisheries improvement projects around the world. The proof of that generosity will lie in the approaches that are adopted for inclusion of smallscale fishers. What should those approaches be?

Finding Solutions

Because of the widely differing social, economic and ecological settings in which fisheries occur, there is no single best approach for sharing the catch. Deciding how to make the most of an near shore canoe fishery that spans 500 miles of remote coast and serves both local consumers and a regional trade for dried fish is quite different from deciding how to manage a lake fishery that shows natural boom and bust cycles of fish productivity and meets the needs of a wide range of part time fishers, many of whom migrate to the region for the boom periods. Compare these two examples with the simpler challenges posed by a large-scale offshore fishery with relatively few boats, all of which land in one of a few ports to provide inexpensive fish for urban markets.

It is this diversity of context that led Jentoft et al. (2011) to argue for a "dexterity principle" when searching for solutions. The key to fostering dexterity is to focus first on how the management approach is decided and who participates. To this end, we offer two suggestions from Hall et al. 2013:

- 1. Promote and support mechanisms that devolve responsibility for management and decision making to levels where incentives for fisheries to meet broader societal objectives are highest. This means putting inclusion, participation and democratic governance at the heart of fisheries governance. One must recognize, however, that when literacy, empowerment, agency and engagement are weak among key constituencies, the prospects for achieving sound and durable reform are poor. In these cases, parallel efforts may be needed to build the requisite capacities and competencies among stakeholders before fisheries reforms are attempted.
- 2. Give primacy to effective and inclusive stakeholder dialogue over the goals of any fisheries reform and implementation policies. Effective dialogue will be especially important

when identifying fisher food security and livelihood concerns such as maintaining fishing options to cope with periodic food shortage or economic downturn. Giving voice to those whose wellbeing is most affected will help ensure that such benefits are not lost in a reform process.

While we share the view that "catch shares" are an important and proven tool in conserving fish stocks, they are not universally appropriate. In deciding on their usefulness in any given context, the broader objectives of the fishery need to be considered from diverse perspectives, along with pragmatic issues of implementation. Some of the more breathless advocacy for catch shares conflates their potential environmental benefits with the societal consequences of different forms of implementation. In doing so, it also sidelines the most important voices for designing and sustaining effective and equitable governance – fishers and their communities.

Stephen Hall was Director of World Fish from 2004 until November 2015. You can contact him here or find him on twitter here.

Neil Andrew is Regional Director for East Asia & Pacific and a Principle Scientist at WorldFish. David Mills is a Senior Scientist at WorldFish.

Sand Mining New Jersey's Historic Marine Fishing Grounds

A report on actions taken by the NJMFC By Sergio Radossi, 11/15/2015)

If you click on <u>this link</u>, you will find a chart showing where the top NJ/NY fishing areas were 100 years ago. I'm sure you will not be surprised to find that you could use this chart to go fishing today; it listed the same areas we still use. However this may not be the case in the future.

Sand mining is currently underway to protect the New Jersey coast from future storm damage. No one disputes that this is an important project, it is. However the sand mining being performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is targeting, damaging and severely altering New Jersey's shoals and lumps which are a habitat for our fisheries.

Last year, I asked my fellow NJ Marine Fisheries Council members to approve sending a letter to the Corps of Engineers "strongly recommending that these efforts (sand mining) begin focusing on mining sand outside prime fish habitat". This letter was sent on July 8, 2014. On August 26, 2014, Paul B. Owen, Colonel, U.S. Army, Commander, replied citing that the practice of dredging shoals or bathymetric high spots for beach replenishment was discontinued in 1997, The Colonel also cited use of best practices and that "analysis showed that the benthic populations (in) these borrow areas recovered within 12-18 months depending on when the dredging was completed", Ref; Benthic populations include crabs, lobster and flounder. No mention was made regarding the restoration of the damaged or altered shoals and lumps.

At the November 12, 2015 meeting of the NJ Marine Fisheries Council, I proposed that the council send a follow up letter requesting that the Corps of Engineers implement a mitigation plan to restore the damage and alterations to N.J.'s shoals/lumps designated as important fisheries areas. I also proposed that the Council restate its position that while it supports efforts to protect the N.J. Shore from future natural disasters, sand for beach replenishment must be taken from areas other than those areas designated as important N.J.'s fisheries.

The proposal was approved. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow council members for supporting actions to protect N.J.'s resources, habitat and fisherpersons.

A letter will be prepared by the NJ Bureau of Marine Fisheries and be sent to the NJDEP Division of Land Use Management, the Corp of Engineers and appropriate federal agencies, Governor Christie, our representatives in Congress and other interested parties.

Closing comments; Environmental mitigation (mitigation banking) is used by the U.S. Government to offset adverse impacts, damage and alterations to existing historic or natural resources such as streams, wetlands, endangered species, etc. N.J.'s shoals/lumps are historic fisheries areas. I am told that they were formed during the last ice age and once destroyed are gone forever (or until the net ice age). As an important marine environment they are certainly a natural resource.

The use of low height reef material (concrete pipe, rubble, etc.) could be used to stabilize and initiate the natural buildup of sand to bring the said shoals/lumps back to their original profiles. This is environmental mitigation or environmental banking.

We protect and restore trout streams, wetlands and woodland habitat. We should all remember that our marine environment is as least as important as any of the above. It's just harder to see.

Garden State Seafood Assoc. Fisheries Workshop Report By John Toth

On December 11th, the Garden State Seafood Association hosted a Fisheries Workshop and members of the recreational community were invited to attend it. It was an all-day meeting and I, along with JCAA members Bill Figley (Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club) and Ron Nachmann (South Jersey Saltwater Anglers Club) attended it. There were about 50 people in attendance and they were from the NJ DEP, Rutgers, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and other organizations that have deep ties to the fishing industry, both commercial and recreational. Greg DiDomenico, Executive Director of the Garden State Seafood Association, chaired this meeting and he did a great job in moving the meeting along and keeping us on schedule. There were so many issues discussed and I cannot begin to put all of it in this column. If I did it would be too long and you would not read it anyway. So, I will cover just a few major points that may be of interest to you.

The first speaker was Rick Robins, Chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Council (MAMFC). He went quickly through the process of the factors that go into the development of our quotas. It is complicated and at times, quite frankly, I had trouble following it with the different terminologies used in the fishing industry. When he was done, the floor was open to questions.

I said that while I do not want to be disrespectful, I said, "We do not have any confidence in the numbers MAMFC comes out with." I said, "NOBODY believes your numbers!" They are so bad that I refuse to even try to explain them to my Bergen County fishing club. While I did not have specific numbers on hand at this meeting, I said that how did we catch more fluke during the time period of Sandy when boats were destroyed and missing. How are we catching more fluke when boat registrations are down so bad that our legislature just recently reduced the taxes on boat sales to spur more people to buy boats! And how did you come up with a 45% reduction for our fluke quota in 2016 and that we are supposed to be so happy that you are spreading this pain over several years? Are your numbers so wrong that instead of a more reasonable 5 % or 10% reduction in our quota you come out with a whacky 45% reduction! The livelihood of businesses are on the line while we are trying to play by the rules Jeff Reichle, President of Lund's of your quotas. Fisheries, said that he agreed with me and also said, "We do not need more data but the right data." I don't think Mr. Robins expected these comments, but I could not sit still and let this pass without saying anything. Mr. Robins responded with something like, "We will try harder."

Pat Sullivan, Associate Professor from Cornell University working with the Save Our Summer Flounder staff (SSFFF), and Eleanor Bochenek from Rutgers and representing the Science Center for Marine Fisheries (SCeMFIS.org), reported on their efforts to develop a model that can give a much better picture of the stocks of summer flounder. This model will include sex of both male and females, length of fish and discard information. All of this information is to give us a better picture of fluke stocks that we don't currently have that can be useful in making a case against the reductions we are currently facing. Dr. Sullivan reported his new model is not expected to be in place for 2016, but hopefully in the near future.

John Manderson from NMFS and Josh Kohut from Rutgers talked about the difficulty in getting the right data to develop a good picture of fishery stocks and the time it takes to decipher what they see and what fishing managers use to develop our fishing regulations. They also pointed out that climate change is altering their information with fish on the move from their traditional grounds and moving northward.

Attending this Workshop was a Dr. Kevin Chu, Assistant Regional Administrator for Constituent Engagement, and he said that he has heard this lack of confidence statement a number of times and asked how this situation can be improved. While the obvious answer is to "get the right data," I said that I have attended many management meetings and the groups running them like the MAMFC and others ask for public comment, but in most cases **never look** at the person making the comments and don't even make a **Thank You** comment at the end of the comments. This lack of engagement gives the person making comments that his comments are worthless, decisions have already been made and the managers running these meetings know everything and we know nothing. Mr. Chu thanked me for this information and said he would pass it to John Bullard, Director of NMFS. Hopefully, we will at least see some changes in how meetings are conducted.

NJ Outdoor Alliance Report By John Toth

On behalf of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, I attended a November 11, 2015 meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), and I also chaired this meeting in the capacity of Acting CF-President. The following issues were discussed.

Wharton State Park - the closing of the roadways in this park by the NJ DEP without public input raised a lot of ruckus with the anglers and hunters who discovered their access roadways closed to their fishing and hunting grounds. The NJOA has been involved with this issue and has been working with NJ's DEP to resolve this. NJOA staff will accompany DEP staff in checking which roadways they want to close. NJOA staff is familiar with the needs of people who use this park and will try to accommodate their hunting and fishing needs.

Artificial Reefs - A new artificial reef will be built by the Manasquan inlet for recreational use. DEP Deputy Commissioner Robert Bernazian plans to go to the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fishery Council (MAMFC) on December 10th in Annapolis, Maryland and make a case that the 13 artificial reefs in federal waters should be classified as Special Management Zones (SMZ's) and for use by recreational anglers. (This issue was not discussed in detail at the MAMFC's December meeting and will come up on the MAMFC's agenda at a later date.

LNG - Glenn Arthur (Chairman NJ Council of Diving Clubs) reported that the company that was pushing LNG until Governor Cuomo vetoed it may still try again to have LNG in our waters. While unlikely that this will happen, Glenn has a special interest in following the progress of LNG. It is always good to have more eyes and ears on an issue that may again have an impact on out fisheries. Sand Mining - Serge Radossi, a member of the NJ Marine Fishery Council, reported that US Corps of Army Engineers is still taking sand for beach replenishment at locations that have been historically good fishing areas. The NJ Marine Fishery Council wants these areas restored to their original habitat, just like coal companies that conducted strip mining and then had to restore the affected areas to their original condition.

Paul Haertel reported that the JCAA contributed \$2,000 to the Science Center for Marine Fisheries that is working in conjunction with the Save Our Summer Flounder Fund (SSFFF) to create a new model that will give us a better picture of the stocks of summer flounder. The hope is that having this information will enable us to challenge the onerous quotas that have been placed upon us. It is expected that this new model will not be available until 2017. Consequently, we will have to live with the 29% reduction with our 2106 quota.

(The December 28th meeting of the NJOA has been canceled since so many of its members will be away for the holidays and engaged in many of its festivities).

Re: Artificial Reef Regulations By Ken Warchal

The regulation which restricts potting on the Axel Carlson and Sandy Hook Reefs has been in effect since November 2nd. As you know, it restricts potting to specifically defined areas known as "Full Access Zones." These are the only areas where pots may be deployed. The remainder of each reef is off limits. Unfortunately, there are many pots that have not been removed from the recreational fishing only zones. It may be that the potters are ignorant of the regulation or they are testing this new regulation. It behooves them to comply since the penalties for noncompliance are severe.

The regulation states that any person who deploys or tends to lobster, fish or conch pots outside the full access zones or between sunset and sunrise shall be subject to the following:

1. First offense: \$100 penalty and 30 day suspension of lobster, fish or conch pot license

2. Second offense: \$200 penalty and permanent revocation of lobster, fish or conch pot license

The pot line strings may contain no more than 20 pots. The pot lines must be marked with buoys or flags either individually or at the beginning and end of a string. Deployment or tending of gear not properly marked with a buoy or flag or setting of strings with more than 20 pots shall be subject to the following:

1. First offence: \$100 penalty and 30 day suspension of license

2. Second offense: \$200 penalty and 45 day suspension of license

3. Third offense: \$200 penalty and permanent revocation of license

There are provisions for forgiveness if the violator doesn't commit other violations in a subsequent 3 year time frame.

If you observe pots in the recreational fishing only zone, report them to NJ Fish and Wildlife Marine Enforcement at 609-748-2050. Take a photo of your GPS screen or jot down the lat/long position of the pots to document the location. If you see a potter tending to gear in the recreational fishing only areas, take a photo of the vessel and try to get its name. Again, report it to NJF&W Marine Enforcement. It's been a very long and difficult road to get this regulation enacted and now:

It's Time to get the Pots Off the Reefs

Go to the JCAA website for charts showing the lat/long numbers for the full access zones on both reefs. The sections outlined in red are the only areas where potting is permitted. Print out the charts and keep them on your boat for use as a quick reference.

Membership Report

By John Toth

Starting January 1, 2016, club memberships are due. JCAA's new Membership Chairman, Kyren Dooley will be in charge of collecting, recording and reminding clubs to pay their dues. Please give Kyren the support you have given me. Your cooperation is most appreciated!

The JCAA has moved to a new location and this new address follows: Jersey Coast Anglers Association

1594 Lakewood Road (Rte. 9) Suite 13 Toms River, NJ 08755

If there are problems with the JCAA sending newsletters to the wrong addresses or to the wrong club members, please let Kyren know so that corrections can be made. Kyren can be reached at (609) 713-7712 or at dools702@comcast.net

As always, **Thank You**, for your continued support of the JCAA!

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

TEN TIPS FOR ATTENDING BOATING & OUTDOOR SPORT SHOWS

This is the time to start looking for great fishing deals at upcoming boating and outdoor sport shows. Stop by the JCAA booth to learn what is new with the JCAA Fluke Tournament and ask about becoming a JCAA volunteer. Outdoor sport shows start in January and remember to support your local tackle dealer.

- **1.** Arrive early It's always best to beat the crowds, you'll be able to see everything before others and have plenty of time to go back to a vendor to make a deal.
- 2. Wear comfortable shoes I can't stress this enough, since you're likely to be on your feet for a good part of the day. Concrete floors are tough to walk and stand on without proper footwear. After working all week, you don't want your dogs barking and ruining your day. If you are with your family make sure they are comfortable. Strollers for small children are a must and they also help carry your stuff.
- **3.** Bring reusable shopping bags or a small cart It's always good idea to have reusable bags that can rest on your shoulder. Most merchants at the shows have small bags so bring a portable means to carry your purchases through the show.
- **4.** Don't be afraid to ask for a seller's best price Talk to the seller and get as much information as you can about the item. This is all part of the buying dance. Most of the time you can make your best deals at the end of the show. Make a reasonable offer and see if the seller will accept it.

- 5. And don't be afraid to walk away If the price isn't right or a seller isn't being responsive, don't be afraid to walk away. Nine times out of 10, they'll say "I can do better!" And if they don't, move on and enjoy shopping for other stuff. Remember they are in business. When haggling, please be polite.
- 6. Pack a lunch Eat healthy this will keep your energy up. Food courts and trucks usually offer fried food. If you're looking for an alternative to fried anything pack a lunch or look for healthy food choices at the show.
- 7. Most people forget to bring water Stay hydrated and save another few dollars that can be spent on outdoor gear.
- 8. Stay in touch with vendors If you find a vendor that carries a lot of items that you're interested in, grab their business card or contact information. If you ever regret walking away from that perfect find, you can reach out to them and it's likely that they'll be back at the show next year. Most vendors have websites but remember you will have shipping charges.
- **9.** Ask dealers about their products If you have no idea what you're buying, ask the vendor. Most of the time, vendors will be experts on what they're selling and can give you insight into their merchandise.
- **10.** Learning Opportunities Remember to stop at some of the organizations that can teach you about your sport. Many organization members have a lot of knowledge about boating, hunting, fishing, and the outdoors. Spend time talking at their booth, they will keep you well informed about your sport of choice and environmental issues.

NJ HOFNOD NEWS

There will be a NJ HOFNOD Team Leader gathering Saturday, February 27 at the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area (Jackson/Upper Freehold Twp.) from 9:30 to about 2:30. The goal of the gathering is to share/problem-solve and brainstorm programs progress priorities, on: the & success/challenges, promotional activities. purchasing issues, trips & statewide events, needs/wants, fundraising, and the like. All NJ HOFNOD Team Leaders are encouraged to attend.

NJ HOFNOD will host an Adventure Aquarium in Camden, New Jersey on February 12-13, 2016. NJ HOFNOD is offering fun trips for youth that participate in the program. If you are a NJ HOFNOD Group Leader and would like to attend, please contact Liz Jackson before January 15, 2016 for details. NJDEP Division of Fish & Wildlife, Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07683, 908-637-4125 x122. See link for more details.

ROD AND REEL DONATION

We received a donation of assorted fishing items from Carolyn Fabian. Carolyn gave us an assortment of freshwater and saltwater fishing equipment to support youth fishing and veteran fishing programs. The equipment was distributed to NJBBA's most recent youth based fishing activity being chaired by Paul Harris for students attending Toms River High Schools.

War veterans that attend Vietnam of America Chapter 12 Fishing Programs will also utilize some of the used fishing equipment.

We thank Carolyn for her kind donation. It will come in handy for our youth and veteran programs.

KEEP US INFORMED

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 2016.

The purpose of this request is to alert other fishing clubs and organizations that would like to participate in your youth and family event. 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 and include your booth location, fishing club or organization that will attend. By providing this information you're fishing club or organization can improve membership and increase consumer participation.

NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program / NJ Volunteer Angler Survey

Don't forget to register or re-register with the NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program for 2016. You can start re-registering now for 2016. You can register or renew your registration for 2015 by going to <u>this link</u>. If you do go fishing please consider filling out the NJ Volunteer Angler Survey to help the Bureau of Marine Fisheries better manage our resources by going to <u>this link</u>.

Please Support our Sponsors

Grand Prize Sponsors:

G3 Boat donated by:

- Salem Boat Exchange (<u>website</u>)
- Spring Garden Marina (website)
- Mercer Marine Supply (<u>website</u>)
- Mayberry Sales and Service (website)
- Yamaha (<u>website</u>)

Major Port Sponsors (\$2500 or more)

- Canyon Reels (<u>website</u>)
- Costa (<u>website</u>)
- Interlux (<u>website</u>)
- Underwater Green Fishing Lights (<u>website</u>)
- Tica (<u>website</u>)

First Place Port (\$1200 plus)

- Fisherman's Headquarters (website)
- RJ Marine Service (<u>website</u>)
- South Harbor Marina 116 Oregon Ave., Waretown, N.J. (609) 693-3658
- Hoffman's Marina (<u>website</u>)

Supporting Sponsors (\$200 plus)

- Daiwa (<u>website</u>)
- Century Rods (<u>website</u>)
- Grumpys Tackle (<u>website</u>)
- Marine Creations (<u>website</u>)
- Pure Fishing (<u>website</u>)

Raffle, Door Prize and Gift Auction Sponsors

- Al Gag's Custom Lures (<u>website</u>)
- Anchorman Wreck Anchors (website)
- A.O.K. Tackle (<u>website</u>)
- Backlash Sportfishing (<u>website</u>)
- Betty and Nick's Bait and Tackle (website)
- Big Rock Custom Lures (<u>website</u>)
- Black Label Plugs (<u>website</u>)
- Buzzard-wood Plugs (<u>email</u>)
- CCW Couches Cedar Works (email)
- Creekside Outfitters (<u>website</u>)
- Dave Arnold (search Whitepole on Facebook)
- Davis Lures (<u>email</u>)
- D. Mag (search Den Mag on Facebook)
- The Dock Outfitters (<u>website</u>)
- DT Lures (<u>email</u>)
- ESS Fabricating LLC (email)
- Fishermen Source (<u>website</u>)
- Fred Bogue (find us on Facebook)
- Gambler Deep Sea Fishing (<u>website</u>)
- Glitter Plugs by Ron Mucci (email)
- Home Port Charts (<u>website</u>)
- Hook R. Lures (<u>email</u>)
- Jetty Ghost Tackle (*phone:* (570) 267-4561)
- Johnny's Tackle (<u>website</u>)
- JP Plugs (<u>email</u>)
- Kevin's Lures (email)
- Key Harbor Marina (website)
- Land & Sea (<u>website</u>)
- Lemire's Plug Works (website)
- Linsider69 (<u>email</u>)
- Luna Custom Plugs (<u>email</u>)
- M Fisher Plugs (find us on Facebook)
- MX Plugs (<u>website</u>)
- Northbar Tackle (<u>website</u>)
- NTA Custom (<u>website</u>)
- Okiaya Rods and Reels (<u>website</u>)
- Old Mans's Tackle Box (website)
- PPW Lures (phone: Marko Parrino, 718-619-5148)
- Right Coast Wood Works (find us on Facebook)
- Runoff Lure Company (<u>website</u>)
- S&S Bucktails (<u>website</u>)
- John Skinner (<u>website</u>)
- Shu-fly Custom Rods and Lures (<u>website</u>)
- Slammer Tackle (find us on Facebook)
- Striper Bites (email)
- Surf Asylum (<u>email</u>)
- 24/7 Lures (<u>email</u>)
- Tinman Tackle (<u>email</u>)
- Tom Scibek Fishing Lures (<u>email</u>)
- Vertebrae Lures (<u>website</u>)
- Surfcaster Journal (<u>website</u>)