

JCAA NEWSPAPER DECEMBER 2008

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on November 18th, 2008)

Remember New Monthly Meeting Room

"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:
Tuesday, November 25th, 2008
Starting at 7:30 PM
At The JCAA OFFICE
NEXT JCAA EXECUTIVE MEETING
Thursday, December 11th, 2008
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 732-446-6298 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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2008 OFFICERS

President	John Toth	732-6560139
1st V.P.		
2nd V.P.	Bruce Freeman	732-793-7871
Treasurer	Doug Tegeder	732-341-5674
Rec. Sec.	Tom Siciliano	609-296-3774
Cors. Sec.	Paul Turi	609-597-3193
Mem. Sec.	Bruce Smith	732-695-3431

Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

**November 25th JCAA General Meeting at
the JCAA Office**

**Brick is doing construction at its community
center and until its finish we will be holding the
JCAA General meetings at JCAA Office**

JCAA office building is located at 1201 Route 37 East in Toms River. The meeting room is on the lower level of this building. The JCAA office can be easily found by looking for a Saturn dealership on your right side while driving on Route 37 East. Make the right turn right after this dealership and the JCAA office is immediately on your left side. There are many ways to get to the JCAA office, but an easy way is to take the Garden State Parkway to the # 82 exit and drive east on Route 37 for about 2 to 3 miles.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 25th JCAA General Meeting
**December 9-11th MAFMC & ASMFC Gurney's
Inn Old Montauk Hwy**
December 11th JCAA Board Meeting
December 30th JCAA General Meeting
**January 8-11th Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's
Show**
**January 10th Salt Water Sportsman National
Seminar Series**
February 4-8th AC Boat Show
March 20-22nd Somerset Saltwater Expo

**Sportsperson of the Year
Dinner/Dance**
By Paul Turi

On Sunday, November 16th, JCAA held its annual Sportsperson-of-the-Year award dinner/dance at the beautiful Crystal Pt. Yacht Club in Pt. Pleasant. Our honored guest and speaker was Governor Jon Corzine. This was Governor Corzine's second visit to the JCAA dinner and we

were delighted to welcome him. He has shown his willingness to learn about New Jersey's anglers and our concerns. His attendance at 3 Governor's Tournaments shows his understanding of the importance of recreational angling, both quality of life and economic issues.

This year's honoree was Dr. Pat Donnelly. Pat was nominated for this award by the Manasquan Fishing Club and was elected by JCAA member clubs at our general membership meeting in October. On behalf of the JCAA and its member clubs, I would like to congratulate Dr. Pat Donnelly on being elected this year's sportsperson-of-the-year.

Pat has been a member of the Manasquan Fishing Club since 1983 and served as its President from 1987-1989. He also served as the MFC Tournament Chairman from 1989 - 2004. Pat has been a member of the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council since 2001 where he has chaired the Black Sea Bass, Tautog and Reef Committees. He was an advisor to the council from 1998 - 2001 and is a member of the TRAC Artificial Reef Committee.

He claims that his greatest accomplishment was the three years he spent getting the provision passed which allows anglers to use fluke belly as bait. That was a big step forward but Pat is far too modest. As chairman of the Artificial Reef Committee he has held numerous meetings with recreational and commercial fishermen in an effort to resolve the gear conflict with the pots that seem to be everywhere on the artificial reefs. In addition, he has been an advisor to the Tautog Committee from 1994-2005 and chaired the Advisory Panel from 1996-2001.

As a member of the NJ Marine Fisheries Council he has worked tirelessly with recreational anglers and commercial fishermen to try to reach a consensus to avoid conflicts. He has been on the horseshoe crab committee as it tried to resolve that issue.

His fishing exploits are also numerous. He is an avid bottom fisherman and loves his Sea Bass and Blackfish. He also manages to get offshore for Tuna a few times a year. He has won the Point Pleasant Elks Fluke Tournament and Clarks Fish & Fiesta Fluke Tournament. In addition, he is a two-time winner of the JCAA Fluke Tournament out of Manasquan Inlet.

As a member of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association he served as Vice President in 1999 and 2000. He also chaired the JCAA Reef, Tautog and

Habitat committees. He has been the Fluke Tournament Award Ceremony MC and the JCAA Dinner Dance MC for the past few years. Pat and his wife Deanna live in Brick with their three children. His dental practice is in Manasquan.

Commissioner Lisa Jackson has been a regular attendee at our dinner. However, Lisa was tapped by President-Elect Barack Obama to be on his environmental and energy transition team and is busy in Washington. We're thrilled to have someone of Lisa's caliber representing our issues and concerns on the transition team.

JCAA's Youth Education Committee presented this year's Youth Education Award to Paul Harris. Paul is a member of the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, a member of Berkeley Striper Club and delegate to United Mobile Sportfisherman (UMS) Association for the Berkeley Striper Club.

This affair is JCAA's second largest fundraiser, and as of this writing I can report that it was very successful. It should be noted that this event could not have taken place without the generosity of the many people and companies that donated the many different items which were auctioned off and given away as door prizes. I would be remiss if I did not mention each and every one of them because JCAA could not exist without their generosity and support.

The following is a listing of all our sponsors who donated prizes, and on behalf of JCAA, I would like to thank each and every one of them:

Chambliss marine, Forked River Tuna Club, NJ Angler Magazine, JCAA, Schneider's Restaurant, Golden Eagle, Miss Belmar, Capt. Cal, Ocean Explorer, Jersey Shore Florist, Fisherman's Den, Frank Tenore, Minn Kota, Hummingbird, Tom Siciliano, Eileen Smith, H & H Rods, Profish, S & K Fishing Specialist, Maui Jim, Flying Fisherman, Jonathan Paul Eyewear, LTD/Fitover Sunglasses, Tackle Direct, Loving Care, Boater's World, Shimano, Julian's Bait Co., Interlux, De-Fishing Soap, Lamiglas, F.J. Neil Co., Inc., Gene Larew Lures, Tru-Turn Inc, Burford Books, Innovative Textiles, Inc., Larry Cochran/RR Donnelly, Fisherman's Headquarters, Belvedere Plumbing, Bimini Bay Outfitters, Pels Bait & Tackle, Tom Fote.

Special thanks also to **Frank Richetti** for the terrific job he did this year as our Master of Ceremonies. I would also like to thank all the fishing

clubs that took a table. I would also like to thank the many individuals and organizations who also attended and who have shown their support of the JCAA.

Also, special thanks to Dan & Heather Miller who handled the ticket sales and Ed Cherry who helped me with the many donations that came in. I would also like to thank Don & Al Marantz, Tom Fote, Tom Siciliano, Rich Pasko, Phil Celmer and Bruce Smith.

I hope I have gotten everyone and every company and organization that participated to make this event a successful one this year. If anyone has fallen through the cracks and I have neglected to mention them, I apologize in advance. I have made every effort to keep accurate records, but, unfortunately, not everything gets into my hands the way I would like it to. Thank you, all.

Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series Returns To Atlantic City! January 10th 09

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
contact 1-800-448-7360

The Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series will kick off its 2009 Tour in Atlantic City on Saturday, January 10. Trump Marina Hotel & Casino will host the 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. presentation inside their Grand Cayman Ballroom. **George Poveromo** – Host of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on ESPN2, and Editor-At-Large for Salt Water Sportsman, will headline the program, along with **Gary Caputi** – Field Editor for Salt Water Sportsman.

Joining Poveromo and Caputi in Atlantic City will be **Capt. Tim Smith** - Noted skipper of the Bodacious who produced the 110-pound New Jersey state record black drum. Smith excels at catching trophy stripers, fluke, drum and tuna; **Capt. Trey Rhyne** - Noted expert at fishing the canyons off the mid Atlantic and Northeast, and owner of the Over Under Charters operation; **Captain Lou Grazioso** – Trophy striped bass authority and a specialist at catching jumbo fluke and weakfish. Grazioso also fishes in South Jersey for tuna; **Dan Sheeler** - Noted offshore trolling and chunking pro who specializes in catching dolphin, tuna, sharks, and marlin; **Captain John Grzymko** – Noted authority on catching fluke,

back bay stripers, weakfish, blackfish, sea bass and tuna; **Harry Vernon III** - Nationally-recognized authority on offshore trolling, live-baiting and jigging, and catching swordfish during the day. Vernon owns Capt. Harry's Fishing Supply in Miami; and **Captain Dave Showell** – Distinguished authority on fishing the back bays as well as catching trophy fluke and weakfish!

Courses for the January 10 presentation will focus on Trophy stripers on ultra-light tackle; Live-lining 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; 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 tuna-trolling patterns; Chunking for tunas; Live-baiting for tunas; Advanced methods for bluefin and yellowfin 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!

A ticket to the Seminar Series costs \$ 55.00, and includes: a New for 2009 comprehensive Textbook, a One-Year subscription or extension to Salt Water Sportsman Magazine, One Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecast Analysis (offshore tuna, dolphin and marlin only), a 16-ounce bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, One spool of Sufix fishing line, and a \$ 20.00 discount card to Capt. Harry's Fishing supply (based on a purchase of \$ 150.00 or more).

The names of all attendees of the Atlantic City seminar will be entered into the Grand Prize drawing to win an incredible bonefishing excursion to the Bimini Sands Resort and Marina. The drawing will be held at the conclusion of the seminar that day, and one lucky person will win the trip for two! In addition, the names of all attendees from the 2009 Seminar Series Tour will be entered into the drawing for the Super Grand Prize - a brand new Mako

18LTS Light Tackle Skiff! The drawing for the boat will take place one week after the completion of the final seminar on the tour, and one lucky winner will take home the boat!

To order tickets by phone with a major credit card, call 1-800-448-7360. For more information – visit: www.nationalseminarseries.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By John Toth

Operational Manager Update

Several of our Board members met on November 6th to review the many resumes (about 50) we received from our ads for the Operational Manager that were placed in the Asbury Park Press, the NY Times, the Star Ledger and the Fisherman Magazine. We have narrowed our search down to 12 candidates. I have sent emails to them requesting references and a writing sample that they would create for our annual fluke tournament since writing skills are essential for this position. Our board members have reviewed these documents on November 11th and we have determined whom we will invite for our interview process scheduled around November 22nd.

Elections

We are still looking for members to serve as President and First Vice President. You will not be alone in these positions since we have dedicated board members who work as a team to assist you in fulfilling our agenda for recreational anglers who fish in New Jersey. I know that many of us are busy with our families, work and other obligations. However, you can help to make a difference! You can call me at (732) 656-0139 or email me at tothjohn@verizon.net if you have any questions about these positions.

JCAA Sportsperson of the Year

This prestigious award goes to Dr. Pat Donnelly from the Manasquan Fishing Club. After careful consideration of other candidates at the JCAA October 28th General Meeting, the representatives voted in favor of Pat Donnelly. In addition to his many contributions to the recreational community, Pat has volunteered so much of his time to serve on the NJ Marine Fisheries Council and he

also chaired the Black Sea Bass, Tautog and the contentious Reef Committee. We will honor Pat at our November 16th Dinner Dance. **Congratulations, Dr. Pat Donnelly!**

NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife

I was invited to an October 23rd meeting hosted by the Division of Fish & Wildlife to discuss the staffing and money problems that this Division is facing and the problems that lie ahead if these issues are not addressed. I, and Tom Fote, represented the JCAA, and about 15 other organizations were also invited such as the Littoral Society, Reef Rescue, The NJ Outdoor Alliance and others. The big problem the Division is facing is the hiring freeze that was imposed on it since 2004. Since that time, the Division has lost 50 staff members that have not been replaced. More staff and many with a wealth of knowledge and experience are looking to retire. Lifting of the hiring freeze can only come through the Governor and legislators. To help us better reach the ears of our legislators, I recommended that the Division prepare a report (white paper) that details what the priorities of the Division are, how much staff does it need to accomplish its goals and how much money is also needed for their projects. Armed with this information, we will be in better shape to contact our legislators on behalf of the Division. David Chanda, Director, indicated that my recommendation is a good one and that his staff will be working on the document in question.

Al Ristori

The Star-Ledger is facing difficult financial pressures and as part of their cost-saving measures, this paper has limited Al Ristori's column to only one day and that day is Friday. Al Ristori gives us the latest scoop on what is happening on the water and we hate to see Al's column reduced to only one day. I wrote the following letter to the Star-Ledger staff on JCAA letterhead to support Al and you can also support Al by writing to Mr. Bergeron to the Star-Ledger at 1 Star-Ledger Plaza, Newark NJ 07102-1200. If you prefer, you can call Mr. Bergeron at (973) 392-4023 or FAX at (973) 392-5845. His email address is tbergeron@starledger.com. My letter follows:

Dear Mr. Bergeron,

I have been told by my many of my fishing friends that Al Ristori's column in the Star Ledger has been reduced to only the Friday edition of your

newspaper. This is very disappointing news to our recreational fishing community and we all hope that you may reconsider your decision to reduce Al's column to only one day.

New Jersey has very many saltwater anglers, estimated to be over one million, simply because of its large coastline. We look to the Star Ledger to read Al's column since he gives us the latest news on what is happening on the fishing scene such as which lures are working the best and what type of fish are biting. This information can only come from a person like Al who is regularly on the water or through his many contacts with his fishing associates. Al's columns also cover the important fishing regulations that are having a big impact on the fishing industry. In short, Al is a very respected figure in the fishing community and we look forward to his columns in the Star Ledger to provide us with the latest and best available information on the sport we anglers all love. If his column is restricted to only one day, we cannot get the best information from Al that we all know that he can deliver.

There are not many newspapers like yours that provide such good fishing information and I know that many anglers buy the Star Ledger just to read Al's column. I also know that the Star Ledger is having difficult times like other newspapers. However, we do wish that you would reconsider your decision in regard to Al Ristori since he not only provides us with the fishing information we are looking for, but his columns also sells many of your papers. This is a win/win situation for all of us!

Sincerely,

John J. Toth

President, Jersey Coast Anglers Association

Donations to the JCAA

The end of the year is rapidly approaching and in addition to the holidays, people also think of tax saving strategies. You can lower your taxes by donating to the JCAA since it is a non-profit entity and your contribution is tax deductible. Your contribution will be utilized to support and protect the rights of all anglers who fish in New Jersey. Please call the JCAA office at (732) 506-6565 if you have any questions in regard to your contribution. I can be reached at (732) 656-0139 Thank You!

Upcoming Winter Shows

The following shows will be here before you know it and we will need volunteers to staff it. You do not have to stay at the show for an entire day.

Usually, you work several hours and we always have others at the booth so that you can take a restroom break and also have time to see the show. As a volunteer, you do NOT pay to get into the show. The show schedule follows:

January 8-11 - Garden State Outdoor Sportsman Show

January 10th - Saltwater Sportsman National Seminar

February 4-8 - AC Boat Show

March 20-22 - Somerset Saltwater Expo

JCAA's Mark Taylor coordinates the shows for us and he can be reached at (732) 929-2591. His email is MTSPORT46@aol.com.

Sunday Bow Hunting Bill (1669)

This bill is strongly supported by the NJ Outdoor Alliance (JCAA is a member) and it allows bow hunting on Sunday on lands that are privately owned and on Wildlife Management Areas. The NJ Outdoor Alliance has worked hard to get this bill moving and now the animal right activists are calling legislators to kill it. Please call the following legislators in the Assembly and tell them you support this bill. We have a lot of hunters in the JCAA and I know you would want this bill to pass. Anglers and hunters have to stick together since there is strength in numbers!

DeCroce (973) 984-0922

Doug Fisher - (856) 455- 1011

John Amedro (609) 677-8266

Herb Conway (856) 461-3997

Marcai Karrow (908) 782-5127

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT & LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Thomas Fote

Federal Registry and Saltwater Fishing License

The final rules on the saltwater registry should be released from Office of Management and Budget at the end of November. It will be interesting to see what is actually in the rules. JCAA has been asked to participate in discussions with other groups on the saltwater registry. My feeling is

that we should wait until the final rule package is published. I asked Gordon Colvin or Forbes Darby if they would come up and brief JCAA and other groups about the final rule but they cannot do that until it is cleared for publication. When Gordon Colvin or Forbes Darby agrees to come and brief JCAA on the final rule, JCAA will set up a place and time for that briefing and 2 representatives from each club will be invited. We will also open this meeting to other interested organizations. Please send me a list of club representatives for this meeting with their email addresses. At least one of these representatives should commit to serving on the JCAA saltwater registry committee which will develop our policy. I will contact them when a date is scheduled. I anticipate the first meeting will not take place until later in January.

The reason I am recommending we wait until the rule is posted is so we know who is being exempted and how they are going to handle anglers who fish in the Delaware River for shad, river herring and striped bass who already have a fresh water license. This will determine who needs to be registered and the number involved. We know that party and charter boat patrons and children under 16 will be exempted and if you have a saltwater license in another state you will not be required to register in NJ since you are only required to register once. But I do not know at this time what the final rule is.

After JCAA receives a briefing, we will set up a committee of all the interested club representatives to develop a position that will be voted on at a JCAA General Meeting. Some of our member clubs have asked that we explore the funding for the Bureau of Marine Fisheries of the Division of Fish and Wildlife as part of this discussion. JCAA's only position at this time is that we support a Federal registry. That registry includes no charge. The Magnusson/Stevens Reauthorization allows NMFS to charge for the registry after 2011. NMFS cannot charge before 2011. We need to have something in place in New Jersey by 2011 to make sure that we're not paying a fee to the Federal government. At this time, JCAA does not have a position on how this will be accomplished. That is why we need to continue the process to develop a position that is agreed to by our member clubs. Until JCAA develops a position, there is no use sending representatives to meetings to speak for JCAA. I encourage individual clubs to send representatives to any meetings to listen to and understand other

opinions. I am hoping this will be a collaborative process that brings groups together to make important decisions.

You can get information on this issue from the NOAA webpage, <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/mrip/index.html>. We will also be posting documents and briefing materials on the JCAA webpage as they become available. I will send you information by email if you request it.

There is ample time for JCAA to study this issue and develop a position since we do not have to have anything in place until January of 2011. I hope JCAA will have a position voted on by the summer of 2009. Until that time, the only position JCAA has is our historical position in opposition to a saltwater fishing license.

Legislative and Fisheries Management Agenda

The New Jersey Legislature is back in session. There are many bills that need to be moved through the NJ Legislature in the next few months. The Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs bill was passed by the Assembly. We still need the Senate Appropriations Committee to hear this bill before it can be posted for vote by the full Senate. We have been told by Senator Sweeney and Senator Buono that they will post this bill as soon as their committee completes its work on the economic stimulus package. The Pots Off the Reef Bill has made no progress in the Assembly. It passed the Senate and the Assembly remains the roadblock as it was during the last session. We must keep reminding Assembly Speaker Roberts that this bill is of great importance to the recreational fishing industry and the recreational anglers of New Jersey.

The elections are over! We will have a new Congress and a new President. New Jersey's new Congressmen are Leonard Lance and John Adler. Both of these men have terrific environmental records and we are counting on their support in Washington, DC. The Lame Duck session can produce scary results at both the Federal and State level and we need to keep an eye on what is happening in Washington, DC. Because of the huge economic crisis, I don't anticipate action on other legislation.

With a new Congress there will be many changes. Congressman Saxton and Congressman Gilchrest will not longer advocate for us on the

Fisheries Subcommittee. We need to work with their replacements. A year ago I hoped this new Congress would address the shortfalls in funding for fisheries management. With the current economic crisis, I am afraid funding won't get better and may get worse. At both the State and Federal level, we are shortchanging funding for the needed science. Without good science there is no confidence in the management plans and how they are implemented. Poor science pits various user groups and advocates against one another. A coalition of all interested parties will be necessary to make progress on this issue. We need all the advocates from the commercial, recreational and environmental communities to speak with a single voice on increased funding. Bad science creates bad fisheries management plans!

VOTE NO on S.1921

JCAA testified against bill S.1921 sponsored by Senators Ciesla and Van Drew. This bill would restrict fishing and public access under the guise of national security. The American Littoral Society put together the alert that I have included below. I have also included an editorial from the Star Ledger and an article from the Bergen Record. This bill passed the Assembly and needs to be stopped in the Senate. We have been talking to Senator Smith, chairman of the Environmental Committee, and we hope he will not post this bill.

American Littoral Society + Change to Win + Edison Wetlands Association + Greenfaith + Hackensack Riverkeeper + ILA Local 1588 + International Brotherhood of Teamsters + Ironbound Community Corporation + LIUNA + NJ Environmental Federation + NJ Environmental Justice Alliance + NJ United Nations Association Globalization Project + NJ Work Environment Council + St. James Social Services Center + NY/NJ Baykeeper + Raritan Riverkeeper + SEIU 32 BJ + UFCW Local 1360 + UFCW Region 1 + West Essex County CLC

VOTE NO on S.1921

Undermining Urban Waterfront Public Access

NJ residents have long been denied access to the waterfront in urban communities.

This bill would make sure that this practice continues by prohibiting the Department of Environmental Protection from requiring public access to tidal waterfront areas at existing transportation, port military, industrial, and energy

facilities or requiring the facilities to provide off-site access should there be overriding safety concerns that make the site inappropriate for public access.

Significant portions of New Jersey's northern and urban coastline are occupied by tank farms and other industrial facilities. S1921 would extinguish any chance of giving our urban residents a way to the water, as well as bolster meager parkland assets through walkways, access ramps and fishing piers.

The bill would severely restrict the ability of citizens to monitor pollution along our urban waterways. Fishing access throughout the state, often provided through requirements placed on transportation projects, would become a thing of the past.

The bill argues this is necessary for national security purposes, however, the US Coast Guard already has established security zones around nuclear power plants, all commercial waterfront facilities, liquidified hazardous gas facilities and coast guard vessels and stations.

Further, the bill prohibits DEP from implementing existing regulations which require a "replacement" public access facility where site considerations related to safety do make public access inappropriate.

The bill goes far beyond what is necessary to protect facilities where national security issues are legitimately at hand.

- The bill does not limit the prohibition on DEP's requirements to situations where homeland and national security statutes preclude public access – it applies to all existing military, industrial, energy or port facilities – even if public access could be safely provided to urban waterways and there is no security issue;
- The bill is really intended to get business and industry out of contributing to providing public access to historically inaccessible waters – this is clear because the bill also prohibits DEP from requiring offsite access as an alternative.
- Lastly, the bill is unneeded since the DEP has proposed regulations that would specifically address homeland security concerns – while not letting business off the hook to contribute to providing public access as a consequence of coastal development.

Getting the public to the water in urban parts of the state is a pressing need. In many places, this access can be safely accommodated on industrial waterfronts. The Legislature should not abandon this need by prohibiting the use of a reasonable, workable tool like the DEP public access regulations.

Star Ledger Editorial
Economic argument will do
Monday, September 29, 2008

Lawmakers love to cloak a bill in the mantle of homeland security. It sounds much better to present a measure to block public access to prime waterfront land as a safeguard against terrorism rather than a money-saving sop to industry.

But a break for industry is precisely the goal behind A2954 and its companion bill in the state Senate. And Sen. Jeff Van Drew (D-Cape May) and other sponsors should be straightforward enough to say so. Especially since their economic argument is legitimate and their security concerns are not.

The waterfront bill says two things. First, to bolster security it would exempt properties with industrial facilities, power plants or other critical infrastructure from a general rule requiring waterfront property owners to give the public a way to get to the water.

Sounds good except there already are plenty of exemptions for vulnerable properties. State and federal rules have long recognized that beachgoers can't be traipsing across the Oyster Creek nuclear complex to dip their toes in the Atlantic.

It is the second part of the waterfront bill that reveals the real story. This part would undermine a 2007 state regulation that says if access cannot be allowed on a property, the owner must help to provide for it elsewhere. A property owner can end up paying thousands of dollars to comply.

Van Drew points out that businesses in New Jersey are already struggling to keep operating, hammered by the usual high costs here as well as by the national economic downturn. Van Drew says now is not the time to hit firms with yet another fee.

There is merit to this argument, enough so that it would be appropriate for lawmakers to craft a relief mechanism that would reduce or spread out the payment requirements. A reasonable compromise should be found that would make the cost less burdensome for industry while still providing resources to advance the public's ability to enjoy the state's waters, shorelines and riverbanks.

But there is no need for legislators to pretend the debate is about security. The public understands times are tough for employers as well as workers. Voters want a way to get to the shore during their time off. But they also want work.

Bill may reduce public's access to waterfront
The Record Friday, November 7, 2008
BY SCOTT FALLON

A bill working its way through the state Legislature would limit the number of businesses that have to provide new public access to the waterfront, drawing the ire of environmentalists who say it goes too far.

Owners of facilities like chemical factories, commercial ports and power plants would be able to bypass state environmental regulations that call for them to build walkways and public spaces if they are redeveloping their property.

The bill, S-1921, focuses on facilities that could be targeted by terrorists. But the legislation has less to do with security and more to do with alleviating an additional cost for businesses, sponsors of the bill said Thursday.

"The last issue to promulgate is assessing a fee unique to N.J. businesses," said Sen. Jeff Van Drew, D-Cape May, vice chairman of the Senate Environment Committee. "We cannot further distress businesses in this state. Another fee is ill-timed and dangerous."

The bill, which has bipartisan support, was passed overwhelmingly by the Assembly in late September and is now before the Senate Environment Committee.

Environmental advocacy groups said they support having tight security at facilities. But they believe the legislation simply allows large businesses to skirt their obligation to the public.

"We're not asking businesses to provide hard hats and orange vests and allow someone to walk through their plant to get to the river," said Bill Sheehan, executive director of the Hackensack Riverkeeper. "They have a responsibility to provide access somewhere else. I'm sick and tired of hearing people say it's a homeland security issue for someone to go to the water's edge and read a book or drop a fishing line."

DEP regulations require offsite waterfront improvement if a business wants a permit to build on the waterfront or make repairs on anything from a dock to bulkheads.

The regulations "may be good public policy, but the costs associated with it are sometimes sufficient to destroy the business that is looking to improve

itself," said Sen. Andrew Ciesla, R-Brick, who is also a member of the Environment Committee.

About two dozen environmental groups and labor unions are opposed to the bill. They listed 10 waterfront recreation projects that would have never been built had the bill passed, including three on the Hudson River: a parking and observation deck in Jersey City, a fishing area in Weehawken and a portion of the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway in Bayonne.

December 9 – 11 MAFMC & ASMFC

The agenda for the upcoming joint meeting has not been published at time we printed and I do not know what dates the joint meeting will take place/. Go to for scheduling updates go to <http://www.mafmc.org/mid-atlantic/mafmc.htm>.

The meeting is scheduled to take place at the Gurney's Inn in Montauk. This meeting will develop recreational measures for summer flounder, scup and black sea bass.

Research Set-Asides: The Growing Problem

There were errors in the research set-aside article in last month's JCAA Newspaper. The corrected article is included below.

The Councils and the ASMFC were looking for ways to fund research that is outside the box. They wanted a system in place where recreational and commercial fishermen and universities could fund important research that could not be funded otherwise. They came up with the idea of a research set-aside. This would take up to 3% of the fisheries quota and use those fish for scientific research. This helped fund the side-by-side trawl surveys, gear modification, some recreational statistics and many other projects. This was a success in funding projects typically unfunded that would benefit the fishing community. As usual, the bureaucracy at NMFS has corrupted the system. When they can't get funds to do the research required by their Federal mandate, they are seeing the set-aside funds as easy pickings. They are doing NEAMAP using these funds and that was not the original intent of the program. NEAMAP stands for Northeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (NEAMAP). Remember, this 3% comes from the recreational and commercial quota. We give up millions of pounds of fish so that this research can be done. We should not be using our quota to support work already mandated for NMFS. Redirecting that money for

their pet projects is obscene. I am calling on the Federal Councils and ASMFC to refuse to do set-asides until this problem is corrected. This is another example of why commercial and recreational fishermen have absolutely no trust in NMFS and the states in the way they handle things like this. This only reaffirms the concern about the funds that will be generated by a saltwater license. Good intentions don't hold up against NMFS and the states' continued money grabs.

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES BY JOHN KOEGLER

Spiny Dogfish Update

Last month's HMS report covered the Spiny Dogfish plan and the report from the Spiny Dogfish forum. The forum reviewed the FMP and NMFS latest data. They discussed what must be done to sharply reduce all dogfish numbers.

The good news was that the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council approved landing 8 million pounds of Spiny Dogfish in 2009. New NMFS data received after the MAFMC meeting found 189,000 MT of female Spawning Stock Biomass during their latest survey. This far exceeded the plan's mandated plan target of 155,800 MT for SSB.

As a result of NMFS latest data, The Atlantic States Marine Fishery Commission approved a larger landing quota of 12,000,000 pounds for 2009. The problem is NMFS estimates that the total Spiny Dogfish population increases by 15,500 MT per year. The bad news is a 12,000,000 million pound landing quota will never reduce the current huge Spiny Dogfish out of control population!

Scientists estimate that Spiny Dogfish landings must increase to over 20 millions pounds per year to make any major difference in the dogfish over population. The current huge Spiny Dogfish numbers are considered an ecological disaster by all fishery scientists, except the conservation elite who desire to save even more of this ocean terror.

Will a solution to the dogfish problem require either changing Magnuson or exempting dogfish from its current management measures? In my opinion, there is no justification for having these voracious predators at OY levels. But this is what is currently mandated under Magnuson. Now what happens? Anyone have a good solution?

ICCAT

Thirty two years ago the US accepted ICCAT management measures. NMFS first action under ICCAT was to limit recreational anglers to 4 school Bluefin tuna per angler per trip. NMFS destroyed a billion dollar recreational fishery and created a new ten million dollar commercial fishery with their regulations. WOW, did that ever make sense. Now after 32 years anglers are supposed to be delighted with the great success of their ICCAT supported management choices? Why should we celebrate being limited to landing 1 school and 1 large school per boat trip? So much for trusting the feds to do what is honest and fair for the US recreationals.

US representatives will attend their 33rd yearly ICCAT meeting this month. The Europeans have yet to impose any Bluefin tuna regulations on their fishermen. The European Union reports they are going to get tough with ICCAT fishery regulations! Japan after 33 years of worthless words states it wants the European bluefin quota cut by 50%! Fifty Percent of what? The US as represented by NMFS has reduced the US permitted Bluefin quota for 32 years as they loudly proclaim they are leading by example! What worthless nonsense! The other ICCAT members have NEVER imposed ANY limits on their tuna fishermen. After 32 years do not expect anything that makes sense to come from their latest ICCAT meeting!

NMFS only solution has been to continually reduce the US Bluefin tuna quota for the next year. Will NMFS management accept reducing their salary every year for the last 32 years for doing a HORRIBLE JOB! US fishermen conserve and the rest of the world sells or eats our conserved ocean crossing tuna. WOW, is not NMFS management choices great.

It's Time To Be Happy?

Thanksgiving is upon us. Are none delighted with gasoline at under \$2.00 per gallon? The experts informed us last July that gasoline would never ever sell for less than \$ 4.00 per gallon. How many anglers would trade current gasoline prices for a stock market at 12,000?

Only 4 years ago our federal government solved your future energy needs by paying with your tax dollars for a vast new federal program to produce ethanol from corn. This production was to use up to 15% of the US corn supply to make auto fuel. New companies were created, plants were built and the federal government gave the companies pounds of

your cash for every gallon of ethanol they produced. Ethanol was added to your gasoline which sharply reduced your gas mileage. Unlike the seasonal addition of former terrible additives, ethanol is now added to your gas 12 months a year.

Boat owners are delighted as ethanol dissolves gum in their fuel tanks and transfers it into their engine. In addition, over time, ethanol absorbs water into boat fuel. It cost much more to maintain, more fuel filters, at less mileage per gallon. HORRAY for the fed's solutions.

Now the price of corn is three times its price of four years ago. All our meat costs much more, chicken, beef, pork. All our groceries cost much, much more! All the new ethanol companies that built new plants to produce ethanol for your petroleum free future are now bankrupt! Now we expect the feds to solve the financial mess they created. They exempted financial companies and banks from former tough federal guidelines! NEVER expect any government to solve ANY of your problems!

Now back to where I started, The New England Fishery Management Council will soon create Ground Fish Plan #16. NEFMC has misled the nation for 30 years with worthless commercial management plans based on Fishing Days at Sea in place of quality commercial quota management controls. But during the entire 30 year process recreational anglers have paid and paid with less and less fish permitted per angler.

Will anyone bet me anglers do not get hit hard again in Ground Fish Plan # 16 for a problem recreational anglers did not cause?

JCAA Youth Education Report *By Greg Kucharewski*

2008 JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD

It takes the support of many volunteers to bring successes to the fishing community but sometimes individuals go above and beyond to make the future of fishing better for our youngsters. This year Paul Harris, New Jersey Beach Buggy Association (N.J.B.B.A) was selected by the JCAA Youth Education Committee to receive the 2008 JCAA Youth Education Award. He is a member of Berkeley Striper Club and delegate to United Mobile Sportfisherman (UMS) Association for the Berkeley Striper Club. Mr. Harris holds a seat on the board of directors for the N.J.B.B.A and has volunteered his

time to teach youngsters the joy of sport fishing for many years. Mr. Harris has helped teach fishing clinics during the summer at Island Beach State Park (I.B.S.P) for the past 5 years and is on the Hooked on Fishing Not On Drugs tournament committee. Over the years Mr. Harris has volunteered to teach Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts about fishing so they could earn their fishing merit badges. He has worked with NJ state agencies to promote beach access and environmental enhancements along the coast of New Jersey. Paul also volunteered his time for the following programs: Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament, Take a Disabled Veteran Fishing, Becoming an Outdoors Women Instructor, Coordinator for beach clean-ups at I.B.S.P, Promoter for Mobile Sport Fishing at Outdoor Events, Chairperson of Hunting and Fishing Day for special needs children, and assisted children and families with getting to the beach. He has given countless volunteer hours so children will have the opportunity to enjoy fishing in the future. On November 16th, the night of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association annual Sportsman-of-the-Year Awards Dinner/Dance, Paul Harris received the 2008 JCAA Youth Education Award.

CONTINUED REQUEST FOR LETTERS

Due to lack of funding issues this year, the youth fishing derby season that generally takes place during the months of May through September will be suspended due to budget short-falls and less staffing within the Division of Fish and Wildlife. This is a great disappointment to the many fishing clubs and organizations that depend on the support of the Division of Fish and Wildlife to assist with providing derbies and educational programs to New Jersey children and their families. We request letters be written to bring the Derby program back and give young anglers and their families the opportunity to experience the fun of participating in a fishing derby and learning about fish identification. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association will send a letter on behalf of its membership to reinstate the youth fishing derby for fiscal year 2009. Please address your letters to the JCAA, Youth Education Committee, 1201 Highway 37 East, Toms River, NJ 08753. The letters will be forwarded to the State Office of Information and Education supporting the reinstatement of the youth fishing derbies provided by the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

OUR WARFIGHTERS

The Warrior Casting Competition was held on November 2, 2008 in Tallil, Iraq for military and civilians that will promote the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation's Anglers' Legacy program. Participants will receive information about Anglers' Legacy which highlights the importance of sharing the legacy of boating and fishing with newcomers. Troops and civilians were encouraged to take the Anglers' Legacy Pledge, a promise to take at least one new person fishing each year. To learn more about the RBFF's Anglers' Legacy program visit www.rbff.org.

OUTDOOR SPORTSMEN SHOWS

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

NEWS FOR ANGLERS' LEGACY AMBASSADORS

The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation sent the following news out about "FISHINGTON." We want you to be among the first to know about an exciting new online community that allows you to connect with boaters and anglers from all over the country! It's Fishington - The Fishing & Boating Capital of the Internet - and we'd like to extend a special invitation for you to join. Being part of this community allows you to: Create a profile, Find and add friends, Create and join groups, Create and post comments on message boards, Add and organize photos and videos, and Save favorite hotspots from our interactive map tool. Everyone who joins will be invited to Take the Pledge and Ambassadors like yourself will receive an Anglers' Legacy "badge" on your profile. Fishington can be found in the "Community" section on Takemefishing.org or at Fishington.com. Anyone who is 18 years or older can join. With your help, Fishington will become the largest boating and fishing community on the Internet. So, create a profile TODAY! And encourage the newcomers you take fishing to do the same. Together, we can grow the boating and fishing community and help pass on the legacy to future generations.

We need the support of your club and its members

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

Club Membership Application

Date _____

Club Name: _____

President's Name: _____

Pres. Address: Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Ph. # _____

Fax # _____

Please make check \$50 payable to JCAA

JCAA SPONSORSHIP

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

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

Join JCAA as an Associate Member

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

JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPLICATION

Date _____ New ___ Renewal _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

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

Ph. # _____

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