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JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION
c/o Info Age, 2201 Marconi Road, Wall, NJ 07719
Phone 732-506-6565 Fax 732-506-6975
Web Site <https://www.JCAA.org>
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February 2024

JCAA is Moving!

New Mailing Address:

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363 Cedar Lane Teaneck,
NJ 07666

sandel@otterstedt.com
www.otterstedt.com

Charles (Chuck) Santoro
Insurance Specialist

Jersey Coast Shark Anglers **2023 Tournament Schedule**

Bluefin Fever - June 3-4
Kids Fishing Fever - July 22
Thresher Fever - TBD
Fluke Tournament - TBD
Month-Long Fluke Tournament Veterans - TBD
Fall Striper Tournament - TBD

For information go to www.jcsa.org

Forked River Tuna Club **2023 Tournament Schedule**

White Perch Tournament - April 15
Sea Bass Tournament - May 20, 21
Ladies Catch of the Day - July 8
Tuna Tournament - July 15, 16
Fluke Tournament - August 12, 13

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Bill Dolan, Waretown, NJ
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In Memory of Tom Ortman. A great fisherman, a great guy!
In Memory of Randy Minix, Gibbstown, NJ
Hudson River Fisherman's Association, Cresskill, NJ
L Raymond Humphreys, Jr., Pennsville, NJ
Greg & Linda Jewell, Freehold
NJ Long Beach Island Fishing Club
Harvey Yenkinson, West Chester, PA
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On Behalf of William "Bronco" Bell
Paul Olsen, Lanoka Harbor, NJ
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Joseph Palumbo, West Orange, NJ
Todd Piasecki, Little Falls, NJ
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Belmar Fishing Club, P.O. Box 38, Belmar 07719
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Bradley Beach Surf Casters, Neptune, NJ
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Bruce Halstater, Norwood, NJ
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Picatunny Saltwater Sportsman Club
Point Pleasant Fishing Club, rmazz1428@gmail.com
Newark Bait & Flycasting Club
New Jersey Beach Buggy Association
Round Valley Trout Association, Lebanon, NJ
Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County
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Schuyler Tuna Fishing Club
Seaside Heights Fishing Club
Richard Secare, West New York, NJ
Shore Aquatic Club, Sea Girt, NJ
Silverton Fishing Club, Toms River, NJ
David Strom, Jr., West Orange, NJ
South Jersey Saltwater Anglers
Surf Kings Fishing Club
Douglas Vitale In Memory of Bruce Vitale
Women's Surf Fishing Club of NJ, www.wsfcnj.org



A Saltwater Anglers Club

New Members Welcome

Go to www.FISHHAWKS.NJ.com

Meetings are at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday of the month at the Lacey Elks, Forked River, NJ

	New Jersey Beach Buggy Association P. O. Box 511, Seaside Park, NJ 08752 BUGGY Membership Info: Ken Hollins 732-814-7021 www.NJBBA.org Fighting for Beach Access & Conservation Since 1954
	Raritan Bay Anglers Club PO Box 546 Perth Amboy, NJ 08862-0546 Membership Info: Don Beyer 908-494-0980 www.raritanbayanglersfishingclub.com

JCAA NEWSPAPER FEBRUARY 2024

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on January 28th, 2024)

"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING

January 30th, 2024, 7:30pm

Jersey Coast Shark Anglers Building

385 Herbertsville Rd, Brick, NJ 08724

or via Zoom, for link contact:

tothjohn@verizon.net or mtsport64@aol.com

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 8th

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

c/o Info Age, 2201 Marconi Road

Wall, NJ 07719

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

Publisher Tom Fote, Editor Paul Turi

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

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**JCAA General Membership Meetings are for club representatives and invited guests only. These meetings are not open to the general public. If you would like to attend as a guest, call the President at 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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2023 OFFICERS

President	Mark Taylor	732-245-9445
1st V.P.	Greg Kucharewski	732-429-9637
2nd V.P.	Don Marantz	908-347-1434
Treasurer	Doug Tegeder	732-575-2661
Rec. Sec.		
Cors. Sec.		
Mem. Sec.	John Toth	732-656-0139

Committee and Chairpersons listed on last page

IMPORTANT DATES

January 30th JCAA General Meeting & Elections

February 3rd George Poveromo's Saltwater

Sportsmen National Seminar Series

February 8th JCAA Board Meeting

February 27th JCAA General Meeting

February 28th–March 3rd Atlantic City Boat Show

March 14th JCAA Board Meeting

March 15th–17th Saltwater Expo

March 26th JCAA General Meeting

JCAA is Moving!

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association is moving. The JCAA's new office will be located within the grounds of the former US Army Camp Evans in Wall Township, New Jersey. The physical address of the office is 2203 Marconi Road, Building 9116, Wall Township. (Use 2300 Marconi Rd. to locate using Google Maps, Mapquest, etc.) The mailing address is:

Jersey Coast Anglers Association

c/o Info Age

2201 Marconi Road

Wall, NJ 07719

The office move was made necessary due to a proposed substantial increase in the cost of rent of the office at the Toms River location and the continuing lack of maintenance of the building and HVAC systems on the part of the owner.

The JCAA was very lucky to find this new location in a building on the grounds of the former US Army Base Camp Evans, at a monthly rent cost of less than half of what it was previously paying. US Army Camp Evans is a historic location where the US Army developed improved methods of radio communication, radar and other technologies, that went on to public use and we all now take for granted. The facility is managed by Info Age Science and History Museums for Wall Township. There are strict requirements

regarding the organizations which they can rent space to. As a registered Non-Profit Organization, the Jersey Coast Anglers Association meets these requirements. Part of these requirements also include a continuing youth educational requirement, which are part of JCAA's Mission Statement, and which many of the JCAA member clubs already fulfill. There are some additional educational requirements, but providing these should not be an obstacle. Info Age will make additional facilities on the grounds available for the JCAA's use, to help accomplish these requirements.

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association expresses its thanks to Info Age and its Executive Director, Michael Ruane and his staff, and Wall Township, for making this office available to the JCAA. The JCAA would also like to thank J.F. Kiely Construction Co. of Long Branch for donating the cost of their services to construct a natural gas service to the building, and New Jersey Natural Gas Company for their help in making this happen. We are currently working with Verizon for the establishment of telephone and internet service. We hope to be able to keep the same telephone and fax number, but this is subject to Verizon.

The members of several JCAA member clubs have and are continuing to donate their time and labor to make this office move happen. There will be some additional improvements to the building that are planned in the future, and further assistance will be required and greatly appreciated. A "Grand Opening" and open house will be planned. To visit the building site, go onto Marconi Road and look for the big satellite dish (which is open to the public at certain times). The new JCAA office is the pale green building immediately to the south.

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association looks forward to a long relationship with Info Age, the facility manager, and Wall Township. This new office will allow JCAA to continue to serve & protect the rights of the recreational angler in New Jersey and enhance this pursuit in every way possible.

President's Report

By Mark Taylor

Hope everyone had a great start to 2024. With a new year so does the start of a new chapter of everyone's lives. A new chapter is different for everyone. The new chapter for JCAA starts with

moving out of our current office in Toms River and moving to our new office location in Wall. As I am drafting this article we are working on the details and making the arrangements for the move. Please bear with us as we go through this process. Once everything is finalized the new address and any contact information will be released. It will be posted on our website; Facebook page and an email will be sent to all club representatives.

All the club representatives know that there is no December General Membership Meeting. So, there was no election held. The election of 2024 Jersey Coast Anglers Association is planned to be held on January 30th General Membership Meeting. There are still positions available if you are willing to step up and fill them. We need motivated individuals to get more involved. If you are interested, please contact me at mtsport64@aol.com or 732-245-9445.

The shows that JCAA will have a booth at is coming up fast. I am still working on the volunteer list for the events /shows that JCAA will have a booth or a table. The upcoming shows that JCAA will have a booth at in 2024 are Atlantic City Boat Show February 28th to March 3rd and Saltwater Fishing Expo March 15th to 17th. I have received some volunteers but still need more to fill in open time slots at both shows. It is particularly important that JCAA is present at these shows and other events to talk to people and inform them who is JCAA and about also what is happening in fisheries. We always staff our booth with volunteers. If you are interested in being one of those volunteers let me know. I put the volunteer work list together and always I try to split the day into two shifts with three volunteers on each shift. I would need to have your name, date, shift, email, and cell if you plan on volunteering. You can contact me by phone, text, email or at one of the JCAA Meetings. I was hoping to have all the time slots filled by now, but there are still time slots that need volunteers to step up. I will be sending out a copy of the work lists so you can choose where you or someone from your club can volunteer to all the club representatives. At these shows we also sell raffle tickets for the High Roller Raffle. This raffle is one of our fundraisers, we need your support.

JCAA will also have a table at the 37th Annual Saltwater National Seminar Series featuring George Poveromo at Resorts Casino Hotel Ocean Ballroom on Saturday February 3rd, starting at 9AM. This is a day filled with many "how to" and information on catching fish both inshore as well as offshore, well worth the \$65. This is a seminar not to miss. You can reserve

your seat via email at nationalseminarseries.com or by calling (954) 755-6898. Visit the JCAA table, say hello to Don and take a few chances on a raffle of some really nice items.

The fishing flea markets are in full swing, many of them are run by local fishing clubs. Look for those dates on social media and support them. I have always found great deals on things and met a lot of people that enjoy fishing. Many of the local tackle shops also have great sales going on now. Please support them because they are there for you throughout the year and support you.

Get Involved, unite as a community so the future of recreational fishing as we know it will not be gone.

Important Information: The next meeting is scheduled for February 27th at 7:30pm and will be held in person at 385 Herbertsville Rd., Brick, NJ 08724. (Hybrid Meeting)

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Tom Fote

JCAA Office Moves!

I want to personally thank all the JCAA Board members who worked so hard to make the move a reality. I was not available to help but I know the move was in good hands. A special thanks to Don Marantz for finding this new site.

JCAA Newspaper Archives

If you want to learn history about JCAA from 2000 to the present, visit the JCAA webpage and go to the newspaper archives. There is a wealth of information about the history of striped bass, summer flounder, offshore drilling and many environmental issues. In the future we will work to make this treasure trove easier to search. For now, everything is there. In my own files I have newspapers that go back to 1995.

JCAA Wrongly Accused About Opposing Subway Cars

Last month John Toth wrote an article encouraging former members of the RFA to join JCAA in many upcoming battles. The article stated that we were sorry to see the RFA go out of business and complimented

the organization on the areas where we worked together. I thought it was a good article and I found it difficult to understand what Jimmy Donofrio posted on his webpage. He accused JCAA of working with Cindy Zipf to stop New Jersey from using subway cars to build an artificial reef. That is absolutely not true. It is the exact opposite of what happened. After many years of working with Cindy, Derry Bennett and Clean Ocean Action on many issues including burning of wood pilings off the New Jersey coast, ocean dumping of Agent Orange and other chemicals at the mud dump and the impact of offshore drilling, we went to war in 2005 over Clean Ocean Actions opposition to the subway cars and their use of misleading information in their opposition. I don't know what motivated his post but clearly he knows what he wrote is not true. I have included Al Ristori's article from 2005 if you need a refresher on what actually happened. This issue was not resolved until Governor Corzine had Lisa Jackson, head of DEP at the time, meet with JCAA and Clean Ocean Action and move to approve the subway cars. She approved the original Red Birds because there were studies that showed they would last for at least 17 years. JCAA committed to only using cars that would last a minimum of 10 years. That was why New Jersey did not take any of the cars included in the second release. When other states used these cars, they literally collapsed on one another when they were put in the water. I have also included Lisa Jackson's letter and [this link](#) to a 2007 JCAA article on this topic. The link will provide you with multiple articles from different reporters about this issue. In general, I find it is not a good idea to engage in the back and forth that goes on about some issues. However, when lies are told about actions JCAA has taken, it is time to step up and tell the truth.

Striped Bass the Never-Ending Tragedy

Below you will find my testimony to the Striped Bass Board which is different from my testimony on the addendum. That testimony was about reaffirming the need to include Delaware and Hudson Rivers as producing areas. I also included the history of how the Chesapeake Bay was able to use the 25% of the coastal migratory stock as though they produced the entire amount. See the testimony for an in-depth discussion. I have also included the Board meeting summary from ASMFC. Unlike most months, I included the motions and the individual votes taken. You should look through the motions for a bit of a surprise.

What the summary says is we will probably be status quo for the bonus tag program and the regular fishery. I fear with the new stock assessment next year, things will get even worse. After listening to discussions about errors that are showing up in the recreational surveys, we will not have any relief until possibly 2025.

ASMFC Atlantic Striped Bass Board Approves Addendum II

Establishes Measures to Continue Progress Towards Stock Rebuilding

ASMFC Press Release, January 25, 2024

Arlington, VA – The Commission’s Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board approved Addendum II to Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic Striped Bass. The Addendum modifies recreational and commercial measures to reduce fishing mortality in 2024, establishes an expedited response process to upcoming stock assessments, and addresses requirements for recreational filleting. Addendum II builds upon the 2023 emergency action by changing the measures in the FMP to reduce fishing mortality and support stock rebuilding. Addendum II measures will replace the emergency action measures upon its implementation by the states by May 1, 2024.

“First and foremost, thank you to the 2,000 members of the public who submitted public comments. The Board had difficult issues to discuss, and public comments were a crucial part of the deliberations,” said Board Chair Megan Ware from Maine. “The Board remains focused on rebuilding the stock by 2029. The upcoming 2024 stock assessment will be an important checkpoint on progress toward rebuilding.”

For the ocean recreational fishery, the Addendum implements a 28” to 31” slot limit, 1-fish bag limit, and maintains 2022 season dates for all fishery participants; this maintains the same ocean recreational measures adopted under the recent emergency action. For the Chesapeake Bay recreational fishery, the Addendum implements a 19” to 24” slot limit, 1-fish bag limit, and maintains 2022 season dates for all fishery participants. For the commercial fishery, the Addendum reduces commercial quotas by 7% in both the ocean and Chesapeake Bay.

To address concerns about recreational filleting allowances and compliance with recreational size limits, the Addendum establishes two requirements for states that authorize at-sea/shore-side filleting of striped bass: racks must be retained and possession limited to no more than two fillets per legal fish.

To enable an expedited management response to upcoming stock assessments prior to the 2029 rebuilding deadline, the Addendum establishes a mechanism allowing the Board to respond to a stock assessment via Board action if the stock is not projected to rebuild by 2029.

States must submit implementation plans by March 1, 2024 for Board review and approval, which will take place at a special Board meeting to be scheduled for later in March. All Addendum II measures must be implemented by May 1, 2024. volunteer.

Addendum II will be available in February on the Commission website at [this link](#) under Management Plans and FMP Reviews. For more information, please contact Emilie Franke, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at efranke@asmfc.org or 703.842.0740.

ASMFC Winter Meeting Summary

ASMFC Release

In addition to approving Addendum II, the Board met to consider a conservation equivalency (CE) proposal submitted by New Jersey under Addendum II, and to approve nominations to the Atlantic Striped Bass Advisory Panel.

New Jersey submitted a CE proposal to continue the state’s recreational Striped Bass Bonus Program (SBBP) under Addendum II. New Jersey has reallocated its commercial quota to the recreational SBBP through CE for the past several years. The SBBP is based on New Jersey’s existing commercial quota and is managed using that quota. Participants must apply to the SBBP and a tag system is used to ensure quota is not exceeded. New Jersey proposed to continue the quota reallocation, and outlined SBBP size limits and quota levels dependent on the measures selected under Addendum II. Based on the final Addendum II measures selected by the Board, New Jersey specified the SBBP would maintain the status quo SBBP size limit (24” to <28”) with a 7% quota reduction to

200,798 pounds. This proposal was unanimously approved by the Board.

Lastly, the Board approved Toby Lapinski representing Connecticut and Julie Evans representing New York to the Atlantic Striped Bass Advisory Panel.

For more information, please contact Emilie Franke, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at efranke@asmfc.org. [Click here](#) for ASMFC 2024 Winter Meeting page. For comprehensive list of motions and votes on Addendum II, visit [this link](#).

Commissioner Jackson Moves to Secure 600 Subway Cars for New Jersey's Artificial Reef Program

(Reprinted from October 2007)

JCAA received this memo from Commissioner Lisa Jackson to the Division of Fish and Wildlife directing their staff to amend the artificial reef permit to allow New Jersey to accept 600 subway cars from New York. Her memo is below. Commissioner Jackson chaired a meeting at the JCAA office to discuss this issue. In attendance were Deputy Commissioner Jay Watson, Director of Fish and Wildlife Dave Chandra and representatives from JCAA, RFA, COA, ALS, NJ Dive Council, and Reef Rescue. Commissioner Jackson promised an unbiased look at the science. She contended that these were different subway cars and a new review was required. This memo is a result of that review. It is refreshing to work with a Commissioner who puts science first and is not tied to previous decisions that were politically motivated. We will keep a watchful eye to make sure this process does not stall. The anglers of New Jersey are grateful to Commissioner Jackson for her foresight and her willingness to put science first.

JCAA Blasts Reef Opposition

*By Al Ristori, Star Ledger, March 13, 2005
(Reprinted from April 2005)*

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association is upset about a Jan. 17 letter from Clean Ocean Action to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The letter asks the engineers to reject the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection application for a permit for artificial reef

materials at 14 artificial reef sites and a proposed site along the coast of New Jersey.

Tom Fote, JCAA legislative director, is dismayed by COA executive director Cindy Zipf. She had reached out to that organization about patching up bad feelings relating to Zipf's success in denying the state's anglers and divers 250 subway cars for the reefs at no cost. In addition, the Division of Fish and Wildlife had to place 250 approved cars on deepwater reefs rather than on reefs accessible to small boat fishermen and most divers.

The Jan. 17 letter calls into question the use of approved materials such as concrete debris and ships for reefs because they "open the potential for introducing chemical compounds into the marine environment." Zipf also seeks elimination of ocean communication cables. Though a preliminary review of the application already determined that it would not affect species protected by the Endangered Species Act, the COA letter says "It has been reported that sea turtles become entangled in monofilament line that collects on some of the artificial reef material approved for New Jersey's program."

No evidence is cited, but that objection under the Endangered Species Act could lead to a prohibition of sportfishing on artificial reefs by the same anglers who have provided funds and volunteer manpower to build them with the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

The JCAA withdrew its longtime membership in COA after the effort to deny the state the benefits of 500 subway cars at no cost was started without consultation with the organization's members.

Their Jan. 17 letter went out with letterhead including such organizations as the United Boatmen, Asbury Park Fishing Club, Belmar Fishing Club, Central Jersey Anglers, Hi-Mar Striper Club, Hudson River Fishermen's Association, Jersey Coast Shark Anglers, Jersey Shore Captains Association, Marine Trades Association of New Jersey, N.J. Beach Buggy Association, N.J. Council of Dive Clubs, Raritan Bay Anglers, Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County, Shark River Surf Anglers, Sheepshead Bay Fishing Fleet Association and Shore Surf Club. It would be interesting to know how many of these organizations actually approved of Zipf's latest effort to cripple the artificial reef program in their names.

Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ), on the other hand, sent a letter to the Corps on Jan. 21 seeking approval of that permit and citing the "tremendous success" that program has been for the state's anglers and the \$1.5 billion industry they support. Pallone wrote,

"Unfortunately, beach replenishment, sand and gravel mining, and commercial dredging have robbed New Jersey's natural seafloor of many of the firm substrate features that attract certain types of fish. The reef program has been restored and created critical habitat for these fish species, replenishing stocks and providing additional fishing opportunities."

Pallone added: "Please recognize the value of the artificial reef program to New Jerseyans and to the continued viability of fish stocks off our coast. I respectfully request that you approve the permit application submitted by the Division of Fish and Wildlife."

Striped Bass Letter to the Striped Bass Board from JCAA & NJSFSC on Producing Area Status for Hudson and Delaware River

By Tom Fote



JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION
Working for the Saltwater Resource and
Marine Anglers

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

<https://www.icaa.org>



NEW JERSEY FEDERATION OF
SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS

Working for the Sportspersons of NJ
PO Box 10173, Trenton, NJ 08650
Phone 609-859-2648 Fax 609-859-2649

<https://www.njsfsc.org>

To ASMFC Commissioners,

The last Striped Bass Board meeting that I attended as a commissioner was the spring of 2023. We were putting together addendum II for public hearings. I requested that the commission recognize the other two producing areas and begin working with their contribution to the coastal migratory stocks. I could not get support to include that in the addendum. I'm here now representing JCAA and the NJ State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs requesting that the next addendum or amendment on striped bass deals with this issue and it should have been done now.

Most of the current board was not serving in the mid 90's, when we did all the preliminary work on striped bass and setting up quotas and who got what. There are

a few members who may have been on the technical committee back then but no one was on the board. Why is this so important? I think it is important to review the history of how we determined the Chesapeake Bay's ability to use the coastal migratory fish for their spring and winter fisheries. After consulting with some current members, I understand the way this is calculated may have changed under amendment 6. I used to attend all the striped bass technical committee meetings but I have not done so recently because of all the other commitments and time the ASMFC required of its commissioners. I did a check with two of the past members of the technical committee and they confirmed that this was the process but they were not sure of the percentage. As I have stated, I remember this as 25% of the coastal migratory stock.

When the commission was presenting the striped bass plan in the 90's, the Chesapeake Bay delegation made the case as to how to allocate the ocean striped bass fisheries based on 1990s information. The Bay delegation made the argument that the states that fish in ocean waters should get 75% of the quota of the migratory stock since the Striped Bass Technical Committee estimates mature striped bass spend 25% of their time in the producing areas, and the rest in the ocean. When the addendum was passed, it eliminated the Delaware and Hudson Rivers as producing areas, and the Chesapeake Bay producing areas were given the entire 25% for their use. This was based on the assumption that the Chesapeake Bay created most of the migratory striped bass. The Technical Committee agreed at that time and they allocated 25% of the coastal migratory quota be harvested by the producing areas. The Technical people for the Chesapeake Bay did the statistics and developed a model that allowed the Chesapeake region to recreationally harvest larger amounts of striped bass in the fall then were permitted under the harvest control model, based on the 25% of the coastal migratory stock. This was in addition to the quota they already had on harvesting pre-migratory striped bass for both commercial and recreational fishermen.

New York, New Jersey, and Delaware did not express their interest in using any of that 25% for their producing areas since they did not have the data needed to do that. It then became a moot point since over New Jersey's and Delaware's objections, the Delaware and Hudson Rivers were eliminated as producing areas and could not even tap into that 25%. Remember, that was

many years ago when we were estimating that at least 75% of the coastal migratory stocks were coming from the Chesapeake and only 25% from the other producing areas.

The Delaware River had just started recovering from the oxygen block from Camden and Philadelphia sewer systems. The stocks in the Delaware River have risen significantly. The Hudson River has always been a good producing area and has not seen the recruitment problems Chesapeake Bay is currently experiencing. Tagging studies in the last 10 years have shown that at least 40% of the coastal migratory stock during certain years is coming from areas other than the Chesapeake Bay. We can use DNA from the Hudson River stock to prove where certain fish come from. Because of the canal between Delaware and Maryland, there is a greater mixing of stocks in the two producing areas. If you contribute less, you should get less. Back then, we were allowing the Chesapeake Bay to get credit for 25% of the coastal migratory stock as if they were producing 100% of the coastal migratory stock.

Now that I understand that this may have changed under amendment 6, my first question becomes, how is this being determined now? What is the process by which they are allowed to harvest larger fish during certain times of the year? In their commercial fishery and the recreational fishery that targets smaller fish, it appears that there is double-dipping going on. Because they are harvesting a great number of small fish because they are considered a producing area, their total impact on the number of fish taken is greater than the entire coast. As you know, there is a great difference between harvesting an 18 – 28 inch fish and harvesting a fish along the coast in the commercial fishery that is a 28 inch or larger fish. In Massachusetts they are harvesting a 34 inch or larger fish. A million of fish in Massachusetts is a lot fewer fish than a million pounds of fish in Chesapeake Bay. As I pointed out in this document, in the past 10 – 12 years, the other producing areas are contributing 40% of the migratory stock. The quota for the Chesapeake Bay now leads to overharvesting the Chesapeake Bay spawning stock.

There is a lack of research to confirm what is actually happening in the three major producing areas. Because of global warming, there may be other areas that should be considered as producing areas. For example, there might be other rivers along the coast that have become spawning areas. I want to reiterate again; it is the

spawning stock in the Chesapeake that is in trouble. We have dramatically reduced what the ocean states can harvest recreationally and commercially. We need to establish what the contribution is of each producing area and where the status of the young of the year is. I understand that all three of the producing areas had some of the lowest numbers in 2023 but unlike Chesapeake Bay, the Delaware and the Hudson Rivers have good years and bad years. There is no consistent downward trend in the Delaware and Hudson. It seems that the Chesapeake is experiencing more environmental issues. We need to do the cutbacks where they will mean the most and where the biggest problems are. The old way of operating by just restricting catch will not work with the pressures of global warming and other environmental issues. Instead of just blaming the coastal states, we need to take a close look at what is happening in all the producing areas and cut back on the harvest in the Chesapeake Bay.

Sincerely

Tom Fote

Release for Tomorrow

<@(((((>< <@(((((>< <@(((((><

Legislative Chairman JCAA

New Jersey State Federation of Sportsman's Clubs

22 Cruiser Court

Toms River NJ 08753

Phone: 732-270-9102

Cell: 732-598-7669

Email: tfote@jcaa.org

Empire Wind 1 A Fish Factory in the Making

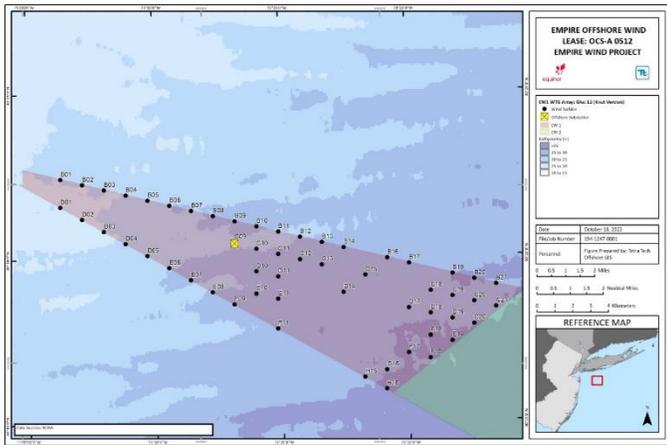
By Capt. Paul Eidman

Local boat-based fishermen from Northern New Jersey (Think Raritan Bay) and Western New York (Think Jamaica Bay) will soon have 54 new fishing hotspots to explore. Empire Wind 1 and Empire Wind 2 is a “pizza slice” shaped offshore wind lease area, located 13 miles south of Jones Beach, New York, and 19 miles east of Long Branch New Jersey. It is wedged between the shipping channels, with the tip near the infamous offshore hotspot known as the “Cholera Bank”.



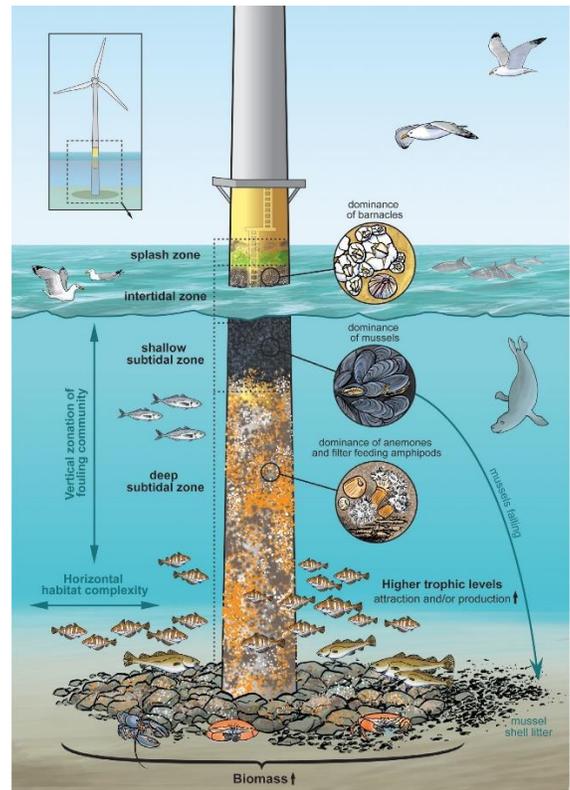
Figure 1-1. Map of the Project Area, including Export Cable routes

This project has been in the works for a while, since 2017, when the lease was awarded, and continues to move forward. Empire Wind 1 (EW1) was one of the first wind energy areas to enter the multi-year process in the Bight. It will be supported locally at the first New York-based “wind port” in South Brooklyn, transforming the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal (SBMT) into an offshore wind hub. The most recent news about Empire Wind 2 (EW2) is the cancellation of the Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificate (OREC), which does not mean that the EW2 project has been canceled, just a reset of the project and planning continues.



Empire Wind1, the first project, continues to move forward. The original plan for both project areas was to have about 140-170 turbines total, but after geophysical and geotechnical surveys, and consultations with commercial fishing and maritime stakeholders, the number of turbines for Empire Wind 1 has been reduced to 54, plus a single substation.

What does this mean for NJ/NY Bight boat-based anglers? The latest turbine layout shows 54 turbines and one substation, all of which will be open for fishing. Each turbine will create a new artificial reef, about 150 feet in diameter. Rocks, 8 to 12 inches each, are usually placed in a 90-foot diameter ring around the base of the 40-foot diameter monopile to prevent erosion. **The rock placement is contracted for 2025, so we can expect construction to start soon.** The wind farm will generate enough energy to power thousands of homes in New York and will connect to the grid at the Gowanus Substation in Brooklyn. In plain English, this stuff on the bottom and the monopile itself will create new habitat and current breaks that will turn each of these hotspots into a fish magnet!



Recreational fishermen can look forward to fishing at Empire Wind in late 2025/2026. Depending on the season, anglers will have the opportunity to catch many species that are native to this area, as well as some warmer water southern species that have been showing up more frequently in the past decade.

Here are some of the species (not all of which can be legally targeted*) that have been identified in this area in preliminary studies related to the Empire wind lease area:

Spring and winter (colder water):

- Black sea bass
- Striped bass*
- Scup (porgy)
- Atlantic cod
- Tautog (blackfish)
- Red hake

Summer and fall (warmer water):

- Summer flounder (fluke)
- Bluefish
- Weakfish
- False albacore (Albie)
- Atlantic bonito
- Sea robin
- Gray triggerfish
- Mahi mahi (common dolphinfish)

This area is also known for attracting highly migratory species that will swarm around the newly formed reef and monopiles themselves. Some of these species are:

- Bluefin
- Skipjack
- Yellowfin tuna
- Blue shark
- Common thresher
- Dusky*
- Sandbar*
- Sand tiger*
- Shortfin mako
- Tiger shark
- White shark*

Some of the bottom and forage species that are likely to occur in this area are:

- Winter skate
- Clearnose skate
- Little skate
- Longfin squid
- Several species of shad and river herring (alewife and blueback herring)
- Atlantic herring
- Atlantic butterfish
- Atlantic mackerel
- American eel
- Smooth and spiny dogfish

- Atlantic menhaden
- Jonah crab

The benefits of offshore wind turbines for marine life have been clearly demonstrated by the first seven prototype turbines (five at Block Island and two in Virginia) that have been installed in the United States. Mussels and other bottom-dwelling fauna quickly colonized the rocky bases, turning them into artificial reefs in just a few months. Forage and game fish and marine life of all kinds were attracted to the area almost immediately after construction. Even with the turbines spinning and the triple wound heavily insulated submarine cables buried 6 feet deep below the seabed, marine life is thriving!

The fishing around these new “energy reefs” has been fantastic and improving daily as the reefs mature. Our fishy crystal ball sees a bright future for fisherman at the Empire Wind farm and we can’t wait.

Capt. Paul Eidman is an NJ-based small business owner of Reel Therapy fishing charters and an advocate for fisheries conservation and habitat. He represents Anglers for Offshore Wind Power, a group that is speaking up for responsibly developed offshore wind power. AFOWP's key principles are Angler access, angler input, and science before, during, and after construction.

Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series Returns to Atlantic City

Series Presented by Bass Pro Shops & Mako Boats

After three years of televised seminars due to COVID, the Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series returns to the road in 2024 - and to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, February 3. Hosting the 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. event will be **George Poveromo**, Host of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on Discovery. **Nick Honachefsky**, a noted writer, author, TV personality and New Jersey fishing authority, will co-host. Joining Poveromo and Honachefsky in Atlantic City will be:

- **Matt Upton** – Renowned authority on how to use ocean-circulation features and water surface temperature breaks to catch more fish, with Rof's Fishing Forecasting Analysis!

- **Captain Kyle Chudzinski** - Noted deep-dropping specialist for trophy class Golden tilefish and cod, and an accomplished trophy fluke and seabass pro!
- **Captain Mike Villanova** - Renowned Waretown-based specialist at catching tautog, striped bass and fluke, with No Limits Sportfishing!
- **Captain Tom Frey** - Noted authority on fishing New Jersey's offshore waters for tunas, marlin and swordfish, aboard the Dialed In!
- **Sloane Endick** – Authority on fishing the jetties and surf for fluke, tautog, and striped bass!
- **Captain Tom Daffin** – Premier trophy striped bass, fluke, wreck and offshore fishing authority, with Fishin' Fever Sportfishing!
- **Captain Steve Purul** - Barnegat Light-based pro specializing in fishing the back bays and inshore waters for striped bass, fluke and weakfish and coastal waters for tautog, seabass and tuna, with Reel Fantasea Charters!
- **Harry Vernon III** – Premier South Florida-based offshore trolling, live-baiting and bottom fishing pro!
- **Captain Al Crudele III** - Veteran South Jersey light-tackle fishing specialist, with Bayhound Charters!
- **Captain Alan Wenzel** - South Florida-based authority on deep-drop bottom-fishing and offshore trolling!

"The National Seminar Series has become the nation's longest running and most popular educational course on recreational marine angling tactics and techniques," says Poveromo. "This is year number 37 for the tour. The backbone to its success has always been the vast amount of cutting edge and pertinent how-to information on catching more and bigger game fish within the waters of the respective Seminar Series stop. This information is explained in great detail by some of the very best saltwater anglers, and each session is backed by elaborate visuals that include video bytes, technical- and action-oriented images and on-stage demonstrations. One can't help but to walk away from the seminar with numerous new tricks and techniques, regardless of their experience level".

Courses for the February 3 seminar will encompass the how-tos and where-tos of catching the regions inshore, near shore and offshore saltwater game fish. The Seminar Series kicks off at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by 3:00 p.m., with a one-hour break at noon. Considered to be the best bargain in sportfishing, a seminar series ticket is only \$65.00.

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, Star Brite boat care products, bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, a \$10.00 discount card off any purchase of \$75.00 or more from Bass Pro Shops and chances to win thousands of dollars' worth in door prizes! The grand prize at the conclusion of the New Jersey seminar is a Florida Keys fishing trip with one of several premier Florida Keys guides. The super grand prize, to be awarded two weeks after the conclusion of the 2024 series, is a new Mako Pro Skiff 17 cc!

At the conclusion of the seminar, an After Seminar Party will be held inside the Bass Pro Shops in Atlantic City. Beginning at 4:00 p.m. and concluding at 7:00 p.m., seminar participants and a guest of their choice can enjoy socializing with many of the seminar faculty, Poveromo included. There will be complimentary food, soft drinks and music. A cash bar will be on hand.

How to Register – To register, purchase tickets, or learn more about the seminar, please visit the site at www.nationalseminarseries.com.

About the Salt Water Sportsman's National Seminar Series:

In its 37th year, the Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series is the nation's longest running and most popular educational seminar on recreational marine angling. Featuring George Poveromo, SWS's Editor-At-Large, and Host of "George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing" on the Discovery Channel, Poveromo will take the stage at each location, along with teams comprised of Salt Water Sportsman editors, nationally-recognized anglers and some of the region's top guides. Their job: Cover in explicit detail the how-tos and where-tos of catching the most popular game fish within a specific Seminar Series region, along with the latest rigging and fishing techniques.

JCAA Membership Report

By John Toth

The JCAA is in the process of moving from its Lakewood office to Camp Evans in NJ. Because of this move, we cannot mail the forms for dues payments since our computers have been disconnected. We do not know when they will be up and running to send our dues invoices to you as we usually do. Until then, I would appreciate your sending your club dues, sponsorships, and Associate Memberships payments to me at my home address at:

John Toth
24 Kings Mill Road,
Monroe Twp. NJ 08831

Make your checks for payment to JCAA.

- Club dues are still at \$50.
- Sponsorships are:
 - \$50
 - \$100
 - \$250
 - \$500

Your sponsorships will be recorded on the cover page of our monthly JCAA newsletter. Clubs who give JCAA sponsorships of \$250 or \$500 get to have an ad in our newsletter.

Mark Taylor and I have been invited to give a Power Point presentation about the JCAA to the Sunrise Rod & Gun club on April 5th, 2024.

If you are still interested in having a presentation to your club, please contact me at my address mentioned above. To schedule a presentation, I need to know the date, time, and address of your club meeting and a contact person to coordinate with. I have been contacting clubs to schedule a presentation and I would appreciate your getting back to me at your earliest convenience.

Our next JCAA General Membership meeting will be on January 30th, 2024, and it will be an in-person meeting at the Shark Anglers Building in Herbertsville and by ZOOM starting at 7:30 p.m.

I can be contacted at tothjohn@verizon.net or at (732) 656-0139 if you have any questions.

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

NBFCC KID'S FISHING WORKSHOP

Members of the Newark Bait and Fly-Casting Club will host their annual kid's fishing night at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located in Union, NJ. The seminar is scheduled for 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at the Kenilworth VFW and it's always a lot of fun for the youngsters. Children and their families are welcome to come and enjoy a night of fun-fishing activities and refreshments. The children that attend the fishing program always enjoy working with the membership of this club because they are devoted to teaching the joys of fishing. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee will provide prizes for this worthwhile event. Lis Jackson, NJ HOFNOD Coordinator is the guest speaker for the evening. If you would like to become a certified NJ HOFNOD instructor, please contact Liz Jackson, NJ DEP Division of Fish & Wildlife, Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07683, (908) 637-4125 x122. Visit the NJ [HOFNOD website](#) to view a group near you.



FISHING WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN VETERANS AND ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY SPOUSES

The veterans' women and active-duty military spouses freshwater fishing workshop is not just about how to fish, but also about how to connect to other resources to gain knowledge about freshwater fishing opportunities in New Jersey. The workshop will be

conducted at Ponderosa Estate Farm, Lake Julianna Millstone Township. Karen Noe, JCAA Youth Education team member is organizing the workshop and is working on a date and time during the Spring of 2024. For more information about the workshop, contact Karen Noe at (732) 245-2751.

NJ HOFNOD TEAM LEADER TRAINING



TAKE A VETERAN FISHING VETERAN FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

We were contacted by the Hi-Mar Striper Club and Sandy Hook Bay Anglers. Both fishing clubs would like to support us by taking veterans out fishing. Karen Noe is working with club members that would like to support our Play HOOK-e from PTSD take a vet fishing. We will have more information in the next JCAA newsletter.

TSUNAMI ROD AND REELS

Keep in mind we have plenty of loaner rods and reels available for veterans and active-duty military families to utilize during the 2024 fishing season. The folks at Tsunami rods and reels were very generous in supporting our veteran family fishing programs. If you know a veteran looking to learn about freshwater and saltwater fishing and would like to borrow a rod and reel, please contact Karen Noe at the JCAA office or Don Marantz. If you know a veteran in need of a rod and reel and would like to learn about surf fishing, please contact Don Marantz at (908) 347-1434. We thank everyone at Tsunami Rods and Reels for their continued support.

DISABLED VETERAN FREE MOBILE SPORTFISHING PERMIT

We remind all eligible disabled veterans to apply for an IBSP 2024 Mobile Sportfishing Permit to drive on the beach. Veterans must provide the following: Form DD 214 Honorable Discharge, Valid NJ Driver License and Registration, Veterans ID Card proof of service-

connected disability. If you plan to fish on the beach you must [register](#) for a Free NJ Saltwater Recreational Registration Card. It is suggested new beach drivers take a beach safety driving course. NJBBA offers a beach driving course at [this link](#). For more information about permits and hours contact: Island Beach State Park, (732) 793-0506. Visit [VVA Chapter 12](#) for Play HOOK-e veteran news and discounts.

FISHING AND BOATING SHOWS

Be sure to visit the JCAA booth at upcoming fishing and boating shows. Stop by and meet our team. They can answer all your questions about saltwater fisheries management and pending regulations. You can also ask questions about upcoming JCAA used fishing merchandise that will be on sale during early April and May. Don't forget to support the high school fishing flea markets that help our youngsters learn about fishing.



NJ FISH AND WILDLIFE PROGRAMS

Sisters Afield: [Register here](#)

Pequest Trout Hatchery: [See Schedule](#)

- Friday Fly Tying Basics (3-Part Class) - Feb. 2, March 2, and April 5
- Make Your Own Fly-Fishing Leader - February 7
- Cold Weather Hiking Essentials - February 13
- Winter Hike - February 14

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- **Liberty Landing Marina** – www.libertylandingmarina.com
- **Pure Fishing** – www.purefishing.com
- **Sea Owl Sportfishing** – (see on FB)
- **South Harbor Marina** – 116 Oregon Ave, Waretown, NY (609) 693-3658

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- **Forked River Tuna Club** – www.forkedriversclub.com
- **Grumpy's B&T** – www.grumpystackle.com
- **Imperium Outfitters** – www.imperiumoutfitters.com
- **Jersey Coast Shark Anglers** – Brick, NJ (see on FB)
- **Key Harbor Marina** – www.keyharbormarine.com
- **Natural Balance** – www.thenbpowerbracelet.com
- **Palmarius Rods** – www.palmariusrods.com
- **Playing Hooky** – www.playinghookynj.com
- **Tackle World (Jigging World)** – www.tackleworld.com
- **Alan Robinson** – www.themapguy.com
- **Viking Eyewear** – vikingeyewear@gmail.com

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- **Betty and Nick's B&T** – www.betty-nicks.com
- **Bob's Bay Marina** – www.bobsbaymarina.com
- **Bob's Square Deal Hardware** – (see on FB)
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- **Captain Bill's Landing** – (see on FB)
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- **Pappy's Pride** – www.pappyspridefishing.com
- **Pell's Bait and Tackle** – Brick, NJ (see on FB)
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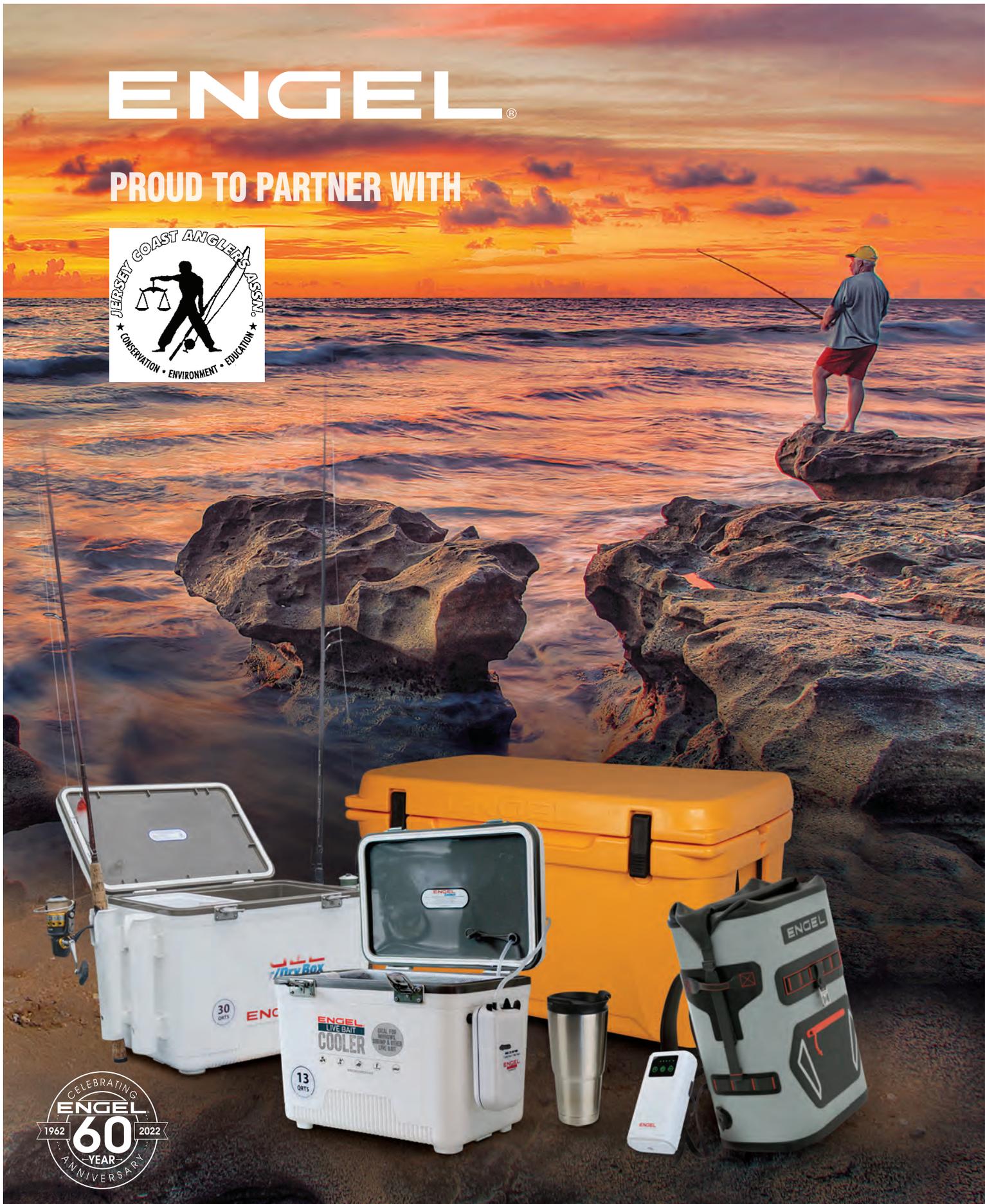
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Become a JCAA sponsor and help our cause. As you can see by our newspaper many of our member clubs are also JCAA sponsors. If your club is not contact us today to become one. With all the new battles we are engaged in, we need to raise more funds in order to be effective. Become a sponsor now and help us to continue the fight.

Individuals can join JCAA as an Associate Member

Membership is now free! Sign up as an Associate Member and receive monthly JCAA News that gives you the most up-to-date news about Fisheries Management and Environmental Issues. If you would like to support the goals of JCAA, please contribute if you are able. Look for the [Subscribe](#) button on the JCAA home page or complete application below.

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Name _____

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Office Manager	Paul Turi	732-506-6565 jcaa@jcaa.org
Access: (North)	George Browne	732-674-7060
Access: (South)	George Browne	732-674-7060
Blackfish	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Blue claw Crab	Bill Browne	732-504-9344
Blue Fish	Al Marantz	732-859-0020
Habitat	Paul Eidman	732-614-3373
Fluke	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Forage Fish	Paul Eidman	732-614-3373
Highly Migratory Species	Eric Engard	609-913-2281
Science & Research	Bruce Freeman	732-793-7871
Seabass	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Sponsorship	Frank Richetti	732-477-3120
Striped Bass	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Ways & Means	Don Marantz	908-347-1434
Webmaster	Phil V. Celmer	jcaa@jcaa.org
Youth Education	Greg Kucharewski	732-840-9197

If you would like to receive JCAA Email alerts email your Name, Club, if you belong to one, and your interest to tfote@jcaa.org or just go to the JCAA Web and subscribe from there.

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