

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

Follow us on Facebook

October 2024

U.S. FIRST CLASS MAIL POSTAGE PAID TOMS RIVER NJ PERMIT NO. 48

FIRST CLASS MAIL
DATED MATERIAL

# JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner

November 10<sup>th</sup> • Captain's Inn



### Jersey Coast Shark Anglers

**2024 Tournament Schedule** 

Kids Fishing Fever - July 20 Flukin' Fiesta - August 17 Striper Fever - November 2-9

For information go to www.jcsa.org

# Forked River Tuna Club 2024 Tournament Schedule

War at the Shore Meeting - March 17 Fishing and Hunting Flea Market - April 6 Bi-Club Fluke Tournament - July 27 Tuna Tournament - August 24, 25 Tournament Rain Date - August 31, Sept. 1

**Mark Your Calendar** 

#### \$500+ JCAA SPONSORS

#### Full Business Card AD

Chuck Santoro

Fisherman Headquarters

Fish Hawks

Forked River Tuna Club

Greater Point Pleasant Charter Boat Association

Hi-Mar Striper Club

Janice and Joe Blaze

Jersey Coast Shark Anglers

#### \$100+ JCAA SPONSORS

Bayshore Anglers Assoc., P.O. Box, 94, Middletown, NJ

Berkeley Striper Club

Betty & Nick's Bait & Tackle, Seaside Park, NJ, (732) 793-2708

Jon Brunetti, Lakewood, NJ

Delaware River Shad Fishermens Assn., Allentown, PA, www.drsfa.org

Harold Dill, Bricktown, NJ

Bill Dolan, Waretown, NJ

Len Fantasia, Wave Dancer, Atlantic Highlands, NJ

Fins on Feathers Charters, Capt. Frank Tenore, (973) 763-2876

Fishin' Physicians

Bruce Freeman, Lavallette, NJ

John J. Gilchrist Architect PC Montvale, NJ

Mark Goehring, Indian Mills, NJ

In Memory of Betty Henze, Lafayette Hill, PA

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

Capt. Frank Tenore, Fins on Feathers Charters

Leonardo State Marina

Manasquan River Marlin & Tuna Club

Manasquan Fishing Club

Ocean Beach Volunteer Fire Co. 3

On Behalf of William "Bronco" Bell

Paul Olsen, Lanoka Harbor, NJ

Raymond Onofrio, Voorhees, NJ

Joseph Palumbo, West Orange, NJ

Todd Piasecki, Little Falls, NJ

Michael Revesz, SW-Life Science Lab Equipment, (877) 737-3211

Russell Samano, Millville, NJ

Richard Savacool, Lavallette, NJ

Paul Shafer, Bethel, CT

George S. Smith Jr., Morganville, NJ

Phil Simon, Skillman, NJ

South West Science, Roebling, NJ

Sunshine Organization

Village Harbour Fishing Club, Manahawkin, NJ

In Memory of Bruce Wagner

West Orange Anglers, West Orange, NJ, (793) 669-6799



#### A Saltwater Anglers Club

New Members Welcome

www.FISHHAWKSNJ.com

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

#### \$250+ JCAA SPONSORS

#### Half Business Card AD

Beach Haven Charter Fishing Association

Bi-State Shad Fishing Contest, eric@shadfishingcontest.com, (610) 762-0440

New Jersey Beach Buggy Association

Raritan Bay Anglers Club

Paul Shafer, Bethel, CT

#### \$50 JCAA Sponsors

Asbury Park Fishing Club, Asbury Park, NJ 732-988-0121

Association of Surf Angling Clubs, www.asaconline.org

Barnegat Fishin' Hole, www.BarnegatFishinHole.com

Howard Beeferman, Monroe, NJ

Belmar Fishing Club, P.O. Box 38, Belmar 07719

Michael Blonske, Morrisville, PA

Bradley Beach Surf Casters, Neptune, NJ

Vito F. Cardinale, Red Bank, NJ

Michael Colucci, Brick, NJ

Jim Davis, Port Monmouth, NJ

Daniel DeChurch, Moorestown, NJ

David Dowd, Orange, NJ

William M. Feinberg, Ocean City, NJ

Exton Window Cleaning & Exton Building Maintenance, Exton, PA

Fortescue Captains & Boat Owners Assn, NJ

F.U.B Divers, Neptune, NJ

Dr. Joel Gelbman

The Geld Family, Elkins Park, PA

Jean A. Hasslinger, In Memory of Ed Anderson

Lagoon View Yacht Club, Waretown, NJ, lagoonviewyachtclub.org

Bob Lick, Cheyenne, WY

In Memory of Joe Kunz, Donated by David Strom & Laura

Greenwald Bruce Halstater, Norwood, NJ

Michele A. Kohler

James Krauss, Atlantic Highlands

Richard Lippo, Mount Laurel, NJ

Wilson L. Mathis, Barrington, NJ

Randy Minix, Gibbstown, NJ

Picatinny 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

Louis Schott, Galloway Twp

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



#### New Jersey Beach Buggy Association

PO Box 511, Seaside Park, NJ 08752 Buggy Membership Info: Ken Hollins 732-814-7021 www.NJBBA.org

Fighting for Beach Access & Conservation Since 1954



#### Manasquan Fishing Club

PO Box 513, Manasquan, NJ 08736

Meetings held first Friday of the month at 7:30pm Manasquan Woman's Club, 62 Main Street www.manasquanfishingclub.com

### JCAA NEWSPAPER OCTOBER 2024

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION* (Published on September 24th, 2024)

#### "WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

#### JCAA REGULAR MEETING

October 29th, 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, October 10<sup>th</sup>

## 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.

Anyone wishing to reproduce any part of this newsletter has the permission of the JCAA and the authors. Wherever possible, please credit the JCAA Newsletter as your information source.

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.

#### 2023 OFFICERS

avas of fielding		
President	Mark Taylor	732-245-9445
1 <sup>st</sup> V.P.	Greg Kucharewski	732-429-9637
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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**

September 24<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting October 10<sup>th</sup> JCAA Board Meeting October 29<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting November 10<sup>th</sup> JCAA Awards Dinner November 14<sup>th</sup> JCAA Board Meeting November 26<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting

### Sportsperson-of-the-Year Dinner Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup>

By Karen Noe

Save the date! Our Sportsperson of the Year Dinner is going to be held on Sunday evening November 10th. Once again, the dinner will be held at the Captain's Inn located at 304 E Lacey Rd., Forked River, NJ. This is a dinner you don't want to miss, just ask anyone who attended the last two years what they thought of it. It's going to be a great event again this year. Cocktail hour with hand-passed Hors d'oeuvres will begin at 5 PM with bacon wrapped scallops, mini crab cakes, coconut shrimp, and Philly cheese sticks. A cheese and cracker platter along with bruschetta and toasts will be placed at each table. That will be followed by a sit-down dinner beginning with penne ala vodka sauce and a salad. Then you will have your choice of 4 Entrees, prime rib, chicken cordon bleu, Chilean sea bass with pesto or a broiled seafood combo. All entrees will come with potatoes and vegetables. Finally, dessert will consist of Tartufo & mini pastries. Coffee, tea and soda are also included and there will be a cash bar.

Our Sportsperson of the Year will be voted on at our general membership meeting on 9/24. Thus far, we only have one nominee, **Vito Cardinale** who was nominated by the Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club. However, additional nominations may be made from the floor at our meeting.

**Ken Hollins** will receive our Youth Education Award. This award is done a little differently, as the recipient is chosen by our Youth Education Committee. Ken was nominated by the New Jersey Beach Buggy

Association. Ken has been a longtime member of both the NJBBA and the Berkeley Striper Club.

As always, we will have gift and silent auctions along with a 50/50. We will have a lot of really nice prizes including some for the ladies. We are requesting that our member clubs and individuals donate something for our raffle and/or our silent auction, or perhaps a bottle for our basket of cheer. To make a donation, please contact Don Marantz (908) 347-1434. Tickets are \$100 per person or \$900 for a table of ten. Mickey Sherri and John Toth will be handling the ticket sales as well as the seating arrangements this year. Call Mickey at (732) 421-6668 or John at (732) 656-0139.

#### Vito Cardinale Nomination for Sportsperson of the Year

Newark Bait & Fly Casting Fishing Club would like to proudly nominate Mr. Vito Cardinale for the Sportsperson of the Year Award for his commitment and dedication to help veterans, active-duty military, and children with special needs.

Vito hosts his annual "Kids Wish'n to go Fish'n" and "Vets Play Hooke" event at his Lake Julianna property, and this year we had over 600 attendees. Everything is free to the children and vets. Mr. Cardinale, his family and friends pay for all the food and drink for the day and he and his workers do all the work.

Vito is an accomplished businessman, and it was his generous donation that funded the construction of a hospital in Freehold, NJ providing care and treatment for patients with multiple sclerosis.

Vito, and I quote, "I am building what will become a world-renowned brain research center with leading neurologists on site who are already on board to work to find a cure for MS, ALS & Parkinson's neurological disorders.

He has also committed to having a room for vets with PTSD.

Vito has received numerous awards and as a sportsman that gives back to the community as

he has, he deserves the prestigious JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Award.

#### **President's Report**

By Mark Taylor

JCAA is resuming the General Membership Meeting starting on September 24th at 7:30pm. We will continue having the hybrid meetings. The in-person meeting will be held at 385 Herbertsville Rd., Brick, NJ 08724 (Jersey Coast Shark Anglers Building). The invite for the zoom part will be sent to all club representatives. I would like to thank JCSA for the use of their building. The dates for the meeting for the remainer of the year are October 29th and November 26th. The December meeting will need to be rescheduled due to the date falling on December 31st. I am sure everyone has New Year Eve Plans and do not want to attend JCAA Meeting. I will work on a new date for the December meeting and will keep you all informed if there is a change.

I would like to see all club representatives on or at the September 24th meeting. There are a lot of things that we will be going over. At this meeting, the club representatives will be voting on this year's JCAA Sportsperson of the Year. This needs to be done so the honor recipient is informed and JCAA has enough time for plaque to be made. As all of you who have attended past dinners and saw the fantastic plaque can attest, it takes time for it to be fabricated. Also, the JCAA Youth Education Award recipient will be honored. For more information about the award, read the article by Greg Kucharewski in this newsletter. Sportsperson of the Year Dinner is being held at the Captain's Inn in forked River on November 10th. They are more details in an article in this newsletter. I would like to see each club take a table to make this event a success.

Fall season is going to start changing the weather with colder temperatures, the green on the tree leaves will start changing, and fish migration will continue. Anglers will start getting their gear together for different species they enjoy fishing for. One thing that never sems to change is the difference of options on how to manage the fisheries. There are always fishery meetings going on all year long. We all as recreational anglers need to stay involved and those that are not needed to start. There was an important meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council and ASMFC Joint Meeting held on August

12th to 15th. You need to read the great informative article from Tom Fote in this newsletter.

At the new JCAA office in Wall Township. We had all the carpets cleaned and taken the next steps on organizing things. As life would go, we had few setbacks with the utilities. We are currently trying to work with Info Age and Wall Township to rectify the issues.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, I have received the contracts for next year's shows that JCAA would like to have a booth for. We need volunteers to work the booths. I am asking the clubs to ask their membership if anyone would volunteer their time. I am looking for individuals to volunteer 4-hour shifts for JCAA at the booth promoting JCAA which is your Association. By volunteering a shift, JCAA pays for your entry into the show for that day. These shows are important to be at, talk to individuals that fish our waters and keep them informed. Anyone that can volunteer please contact me at (732) 245-9445. The shows and dates are Atlantic City Boat Show February 26th-March 2nd and Saltwater Fishing Expo March 14th–16th. I would like to get the list of volunteers done early. JCAA is still looking for more individuals to get more involved with JCAA at all diverse levels. Let me know if you are interested, call me at 732-245-9445 or email to mtsport64@aol.com.

Get Involved, Voice Your Concerns, Unite as a Community & Protect the Future of Recreational Fishing.

**Important Information**: The next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for **October 29<sup>th</sup>** 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

#### **Council and NMFS Are at it Again**

I could not attend the webinar on the MidAtlantic Fisheries Management Council and ASMFC Joint Meeting. Some of the decisions were what we expected, staying at status quo for scup, summer flounder and bluefish even though we are not the problem. We are not stopping the summer flounder and bluefish from having good recruitment. Greatly

restricting our summer flounder catch has done nothing to increase recruitment and it may be having the opposite effect. What is affecting bluefish and summer flounder is environmental issues. Some of it is climate change, some habitat and some lack of forage species. Restricting the commercial and recreational catch does not change any of these factors.

It took 5 years for the Northwest Council to increase the catch on halibut to see if that would impact the recruitment. That is exactly what happened. This is what I talked about last month on the collapse of the snow crabs in Alaska. NMFS saw that snow crabs were in trouble and immediately shut it down. Just the opposite was needed because what was impacting the snow crab population was the loss of their diet due to warming water. Whatever food was left, they ate and then died of starvation. If NMFS and the Councils had allowed the harvest, there would have been more survivors. Instead, the whole stock collapsed.

Now let's look at scup and black seabass. NMFS and the MAFMC have been restricting the catch of both even though they are above the target and could handle an increase. The stock assessment models the SSC uses say there is a possibility of poor recruitment. Since scup is way above the target, they recommended status quo. Since black sea bass is only two times above the target, they recommended a 20% reduction. This confirms the misrepresentation that they have been perpetrating on both the commercial and recreational fishery for years. When they began putting many of these management measures in place, they said you will reap the rewards of these conservation measures. We have yet to see any rewards from scup and black seabass since they have been recovered for many years. Black seabass is a perfect example of a species that is increasing its stock because of climate change. We have seen an astronomical increase in black seabass in the northern region. It has increased its range all the way to New Hampshire and Maine, liking the warmer waters that have moved north. They have remained in the south as well but again as smaller fish as the larger fish move north. By putting in the size limit measures, we are restricting the southern states to smaller catches since there is less availability of larger fish. We are feeding the northern fisheries so they can have a higher size limit and still go over their quota.

As an ASMFC Commissioner until last year, I have been fighting this battle with ASMFC to not cave into the absurd rules set up by the MAFMC when they set up the SSC. Because of them, we are stuck

following whatever NMFS and the Council decides. I have been successful at times in getting ASMFC to vote on common sense not just blindly following the decisions made by number-crunchers. But NMFS threatens to close the EEZ for fishing on a particular species if we don't follow their rules both commercially and recreationally. Because these species are fished both in federal and state waters, any angler who fishes in federal waters will pay the price.

I was surprised when I read the summary and saw that the Commission was not suggesting a 20% decrease in black seabass. This is over the objections of NMFS and MAFMC because they say they can't be flexible. It will be interesting to see what happens at the upcoming meeting in December.

I have spent a great deal of time on MAFAC discussing how we have climate resilient fisheries. We ask how we can compensate for the fact that we reduce the catch on certain stocks and increase the stocks that are more resilient. But as usual, it is a one-way street. Restrict, restrict! Never increase.

## JCAA NEEDS YOUR CLUB TO BE INVOLVED IF WE ARE GOING TO MOVE FORWARD!

I have been pointing out that JCAA needs the clubs to step up if we want to have a viable organization. JCAA doesn't belong to the board. JCAA belongs to the member clubs. When I first got involved with JCAA, I watched JCAA take action against Dupont and close the 110-mile dump site. Len Belcaro through JCAA and the Thousand Fathoms Club and COD led the fight on all types of ocean dumping. We experienced dumping of wood, garbage and chemicals. We formed alliances with environmental groups like the American Littoral Society, Clean Ocean Action and NJ's commercial fishermen to stop the Port Authority from dumping Agent Orange into the ocean. We also fought against sand mining and drilling offshore in NJ. We were able to accomplish these things because we had a strong membership that was willing to do the work. We also had committees like HMS that were very influential with management for shark and tuna. We had an access committee which fought to keep beaches open, the walkway along the Hudson. Through our members we fought for access throughout NJ. JCAA also succeeded in making striped bass a no sale fish in NJ because of the work of the clubs attending meetings and contacting legislators. We had over 900 participants at a single striped bass hearing to keep the EEZ closed. This was after the fire Marshall closed the meeting in Toms River because we were over the 250

people limit. We estimate there were over 700 trying to participate. At the last hearing we asked people to stay home so there were only 350 in attendance. Because of NJ's and JCAA's work the EEZ has remained closed to both commercial and recreational fishing and is a sanctuary for striped bass. Our first real battle was about Menhaden. We were able to get the reduction boats out of state waters.

The first JCAA meeting I attended, Joe Melillo as president of JCAA was leading the battle to throw the reduction boats out of NJ. We had a strong Menhaden committee that led that battle along with RFA finally got them out of NJ state waters.

The reason we were able to accomplish this much is because we were young, full of energy and willing to work hard. That is not JCAA right now. At 77 I am the fifth youngest board member. youngest board member is 60. JCAA is not a club. It is an association, and it belongs to the member clubs. The process for JCAA is a member club will bring a problem to JCAA. We ask that club to spearhead the planning and the execution. This spread the tasks among many clubs and many members. working on projects did not need to be board members or even leadership in their clubs. They just needed to be interested in doing the work. Participation by member clubs has dwindled significantly and we are unable to take on new battles without the input and the work of each club. If you don't want to see JCAA disappear in the next few years, you need to step up and get involved. Our leadership is aging out and we need younger members to replace us. You need to make sure your club representative attends the general meetings and shares that information with all club members. You can request to attend the general meeting even if you are not a club rep. Committee members do not need to be board members or club reps. Just find a species or an issue you are interested in and reach out to us. If you have any questions, call or email me or any board member.

# ASMFC's 82nd Annual Meeting to be held October 21-24

Press Release, September 7, 2024

Please find below the meeting details and public comment guidelines for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's 82nd Annual Meeting, which will be held October 21-24, 2024 at The Westin Annapolis, 100 Westgate Circle, Annapolis, Maryland

This will be a hybrid meeting to allow for remote participation by Commissioners and interested stakeholders in all meetings. The Law Enforcement Committee, Habitat Committee and Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committee will have unique webinar links that will be available as part of the individual committee materials. The preliminary agenda can be found at this link. Materials will be available at the same website link on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### The Results of August 12-15, 2024 Joint Meeting of ASMFC & MAFMC

To see all the information and the recordings for this meeting go to <u>August 2024 Council Meeting — Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.</u>

# Black Sea Bass 2025 Specifications set at Joint Meeting of ASMFC &MAFMC

The Council and Board received a presentation on the 2024 Black Sea Bass Management Track Stock Assessment and associated projections for 2025. The Council and Board acknowledged that many improvements have been made to the stock assessment in recent years. However, they also expressed concern that the projections are predicting a sharp decline in biomass in the future, necessitating a 20% reduction in the acceptable biological catch (ABC) for 2025, despite generally consistent increases in biomass for the past several years. They also noted that projections based on the previous assessment model for several prior specifications cycles consistently predicted similarly sharp declines in biomass which were not realized according to the 2024 Management Track Assessment. Concerns were expressed about the negative socioeconomic impacts of a 20% decrease in the ABC, increases in discards, and compliance with more restrictive measures. With biomass currently more than double the target level and overfishing not occurring, it is challenging to communicate the conservation need for a 20% reduction in the ABC. The management track assessment will be updated next year, with plans already underway to thoroughly evaluate the projection methodology and make revisions as appropriate. These updates will be used to inform the 2026-2027 catch and landings limits.

The Council is bound by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) requirement to set catch limits which do not exceed the recommendations of its SSC. However, the Commission is not bound by this same law. Therefore, the Board voted to suspend the typical joint management process for the 2025 black sea bass specifications, allowing them to adopt different catch and landings limits than the Council. The Board then voted to maintain status quo catch and landing limits for 2025. The Council considered passing a similar motion; however, as this would violate the MSA, the Council ultimately passed a substitute motion to set the 2025 specifications based on the SSC's recommended 2025 ABC, using the same methods as prior years to calculate expected dead discards in each sector to derive the commercial quota and the recreational harvest limit. The values adopted by the Board and the Council are shown in the table below.

The specifications adopted by the Board are final. The specifications adopted by the Council must be reviewed and, if approved, implemented by NOAA Fisheries. If NOAA Fisheries approves and implements the specifications recommended by the Council for 2025, this would create disparities between the state and federal specifications. This would require all federal permit holders to be bound by more restrictive measures than those who are only subject to state measures (e.g., individuals fishing in state waters who do not also have federal permits). The NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Administrator indicated that the agency will use the proposed and final federal rulemaking process to consider what flexibilities are available to ensure alignment between the state and federal regulations consistent with the regulations.

The Council and Board adopted a 5% in-season commercial closure buffer for 2025, meaning the commercial fishery would close if 105% of the quota is projected to be landed prior to the end of the year. They made no changes to any other federal commercial management measures.

Landings limit	Approved by Board for 2025 millions of pounds	Approved by Council for 2025 millions of pounds
Commercial quota	6.00	4.78
Recreational harvest limit	6.27	4.46

#### **Summer Flounder 2025 Specifications Review**

The Council and Board recommended no changes to the <u>previously adopted</u> 2025 catch and landings limits for summer flounder. The 2025 limits are the same as those implemented for 2024, including a commercial quota of 8.79 million pounds and a recreational harvest limit of 6.35 million pounds. The Council and Board made no changes to the commercial management measures for summer flounder.

#### **Scup 2025 Specifications Review**

The Council and Board recommended minor changes to the previously adopted 2025 catch and landings limits for scup. Earlier this year, a small error was discovered in the projections used to set 2024-2025 specifications. Correcting the error resulted in a small increase in the projected ABC and overfishing limit (OFL) for 2025. After reviewing the revised ABC provided by the Council's SSC, the Council and Board adopted a revised commercial quota of 19.54 million pounds and a recreational harvest limit of 12.31 million pounds for 2025. These updates represent a minor increase, about 4%, compared to the limits previously approved for 2025. The Council and Board did not recommend any changes to commercial management measures for scup. The Council will forward its recommendations to NOAA Fisheries for final approval, while the Commission's actions for state waters are final.

#### **Bluefish 2025 Specifications Review**

The Council met jointly with the ASMFC's Bluefish Management Board (Bluefish Board) to review previously adopted 2025 specifications for bluefish. Bluefish are in the 3rd year of a 7-year rebuilding program. After considering available information on recent catches and fishery performance, the Council and Bluefish Board agreed that no changes are needed to the previously implemented specifications, which include a commercial quota of 3.03 million pounds and a recreational harvest limit of 15.7 million pounds. The Council and Board also made no changes to recreational bag limits (3 fish per day for private anglers and 5 fish per day for for-hire vessels).

#### Recreational Measures Setting Process Framework/Addenda

The Council and the Commission's Interstate Fishery Management Program Policy Board (Policy Board) reviewed progress on development of the Recreational Measures Setting Process Framework/Addenda, which considers changes to the process for setting recreational bag, size, and season limits for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, and bluefish. They

reviewed modifications to the draft range of alternatives recommended by the Fishery Management Action Team/Plan Development Team (FMAT/PDT) as well as a summary of a review by the SSC. The Council and Policy Board endorsed the FMAT/PDT recommendation to remove an alternative referred to as the "Biological Reference Point Approach" from further consideration due to its complexity. They also agreed that approaches based on recreational fishing mortality rate targets and options for revising the starting point for measures cannot be fully developed in the time remaining for completion of this action. However, these topics could be further developed through separate management actions if they remain priorities. They also agreed that the work group of Council members and Commissioners will work with the FMAT/PDT to develop language to clarify the role of the RHL in this management action. Prior to the next meeting of the Council and Policy Board in late October, the FMAT/PDT will complete development of the range of alternatives and will develop a draft addenda document for public hearings.

# Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) Update and Listening Session

The Council and Board received a presentation from Dr. Katherine Papacostas, MRIP Program Manager, regarding ongoing improvements to the program's Fishing Effort Survey (FES). These improvements center on re-ordering survey questions about how often people went fishing, as well as increased survey sampling, and are anticipated to result in revised catch data time series estimates in spring 2026, depending on favorable peer review in 2025 of changes being tested in 2024. Until then, NOAA Fisheries has advised that the existing MRIP data should continue to be used where they are currently to inform stock assessments and management. Council and Board members and other attendees also had an opportunity to provide input on a joint federal/state effort to re-envision the recreational fisheries data collection program. This initiative aims to transition to an improved recreational data collection partnership that better meets regional needs.

#### Recreational Measures Setting Process Framework/Addenda

The Council and the Commission's Interstate Fishery Management Program Policy Board (Policy Board) reviewed progress on development of the Recreational Measures Setting Process Framework/Addenda, which

considers changes to the process for setting recreational bag, size, and season limits for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, and bluefish. They reviewed modifications to the draft range of alternatives recommended by the Fishery Management Action Team/Plan Development Team (FMAT/PDT) as well as a summary of a review by the SSC. The Council and Policy Board endorsed the FMAT/PDT recommendation to remove an alternative referred to as the "Biological Reference Point Approach" from further consideration due to its complexity. They also agreed that approaches based on recreational fishing mortality rate targets and options for revising the starting point for measures cannot be fully developed in the time remaining for completion of this action. However, these topics could be further developed through separate management actions if they remain priorities. They also agreed that the work group of Council members and Commissioners will work with the FMAT/PDT to develop language to clarify the role of the RHL in this management action. Prior to the next meeting of the Council and Policy Board in late October, the FMAT/PDT will complete development of the range of alternatives and will develop a draft addenda document for public hearings.

#### **JCAA Membership Report**

By John Toth

We are moving into the fall season and a number of clubs still have not paid their JCAA membership dues and we are well into 2024. Please make your checks payable to the JCAA and mail them to the Camp Evans address. Send your dues to:

Jersey Coast Anglers Association c/o Info Age 2201 Marconi Road Wall Township, NJ 07719

I have received checks from these clubs as payment for their membership dues and sponsorships:

- Spring Lake Live Liners \$100
- Hi-Mar Striper Club \$500
- Raritan Bay \$50
- Manasquan Fishing Club \$300
- Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County \$100

- Sunrise Rod & Gun Club \$50
- Seaside Heights Fishing Club \$100
- Menhaden Defenders \$100
- Surf Kings \$50
- Newark Bait & Fly Casting \$100
- New Jersey Beach Buggy Assn. (NJBBA) \$300
- NJ Council of Diving Clubs \$50
- Hudson River Fishermen's Assn. (HRFA) \$100
- Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Assn. \$100
- Fish Hawks \$150
- Bradley Beach Surfcasters \$150
- Shore Surf Club \$50
- Forked River Tuna Club \$250
- Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club \$100
- Belmar Fishing Club \$50
- Bay Head Shores Fishing Club \$50
- Fun Under the Water \$100

I have also received sponsorships and purchase of JCAA raffle tickets from individuals and associations: Paul Shafer – \$200, Jon Brunetti – \$100, Bill Browne – \$100, L. Raymond Humpreys – \$135, Keith Kurek – \$10, Adam Pieseki – \$85, Michael Revesz – \$100, Barnegat Animal Clinic – \$60, Linda & Chris Jewell – \$210, Gene & Susan Geld – \$60, Fortesque Caption's Association – \$10, Paul Olsen – \$50, Joe Palumbo – \$500, Brian Dunn – \$20, Willis Frantz – \$25, and Joseph Bernadinelli – \$25.

If you are still interested in having a presentation to your club, please contact me at my email address or phone number mentioned below. 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 be on **September 24<sup>th</sup>**, **2024**, and it will be held as an in-person meeting at the Shark Anglers Building in Herbertsville and by ZOOM starting at 7:30 p.m. We have a lot on the agenda including nominations for JCAA's Sportsperson of the Year award.

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

### **Youth Education Report**

By Greg Kucharewski

#### 2024 JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD

This year, **Ken Hollins** was selected by the JCAA Youth Education Committee to receive the 2024 JCAA Youth Education Award. The following nomination was submitted by the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association:

I would like to nominate Ken Hollins as candidate for the 2024 JCAA Youth Education Award. Ken has been actively involved with youth education for over the past sixteen years as a member of the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association.

Ken was certified as a HOFNOD instructor early during the program's inception. He has chaired the NJBBA Youth Fishing Tournament for the past 6 years. This tourney includes mandatory educational stations. He has personally worked in the educational areas of knot tying, identification of marine life, identification of metals and lures, casting, procedure after catching a tagged fish and basically has done it all in a very proficient manner. Ken has been actively involved with NJBBA's National Hunting and Fishing Day which provides surf fishing opportunities to challenged children. For 16 years Ken was NJBBA's Membership Secretary and pushed for youth membership. He is currently head judge of The New Jersey Gov's Cup and is active with NJBBA's Veterans program.

Ken, as a member of the Berkley Striper Club, worked several years at the Berkley Striper Club Youth Day held at Sea Girt. With Berkley he was awarded the 2000 Angler of the Year and in 2008 was awarded the Bill Sculerati Award for sportsmanship and dedication to the club.

In summation, I believe Ken Hollins is a deserving candidate for the 2024 JCAA Youth Education Award. Gary Conk, Past NJBBA President.

Come join us at the JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner on Sunday, November 10, 2024, at the Captain's Inn, to celebrate and recognize a host of individuals that go above and beyond to make recreational fishing better for future generations. Please see more information about the dinner in this issue of the JCAA October Newspaper.

#### BRICK HIGH SCHOOL NJ HOFNOD

Tim Brennan, Brick High School Health and Physical Education teacher/NJ HOFNOD Instructor invites you to visit their fishing club <u>Facebook page</u>. Recently, students fished the Point Pleasant Canal and caught tog and sea bass, learned canoeing and kayaking, and went on boat fishing trips.



Students are encouraged to continue learning about aquatic education and practice fishing skills outside of school activities. The class is always willing to accept donations of working equipment and tackle. Feel free to email the class leader Tim Brennan at <a href="mailto:tbrennan@brickschools.org">tbrennan@brickschools.org</a>. Visit the NJ HOFNOD <a href="mailto:website">website</a> for program updates.

#### N.I FREE FISHING DAY

NJ's second <u>Free Freshwater Fishing Day</u> will be Saturday, **October 19, 2024**, when no license is required to fish regardless of age.

#### BECOME A HOFNOD INSTRUCTOR

This fall, think about becoming a HOFNOD instructor. NJ HOFNOD Team Leader Training is October 12-13, workshops are hosted by the DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife. It is well worth the time to learn creative aquatic activities to teach youngsters the importance of becoming environmental stewards. This workshop is a great learning experience. If you are interested in attending a workshop, please register <a href="here">here</a> or email Liz Jackson, NJ HOFNOD Coordinator Phone: (908) 637-4125 x122, email: <a href="mailto:liz.jackson@dep.state.nj.us">liz.jackson@dep.state.nj.us</a>.

# **ATTENTION ANGLERS**

# **Tagging Study**

Rutgers University is studying the migrations of summer flounder. If you catch a tagged fish, please report it by calling 856-391-7652.

### RECORD THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

- Tag ID #
- Date Caught
- Location Caught
   (Approximate Latitude & Longitude Preferred)
- Fish Length
- Water Depth
- Health and Condition of Fish

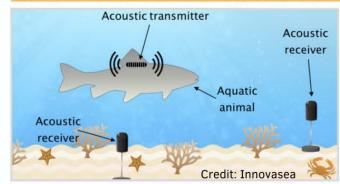
Any angler that reports a tagged fish will be entered into a raffle for awards.



### **Electronic Tags**

Some fish have surgically implanted acoustic transmitter tags and an external ORANGE anchor tag. Release of these fish is highly encouraged to allow long-term tracking.

#### **RUTGERS TAGGING RESEARCH 07982**



#### Questions?

Contact: Dr. Douglas Zemeckis

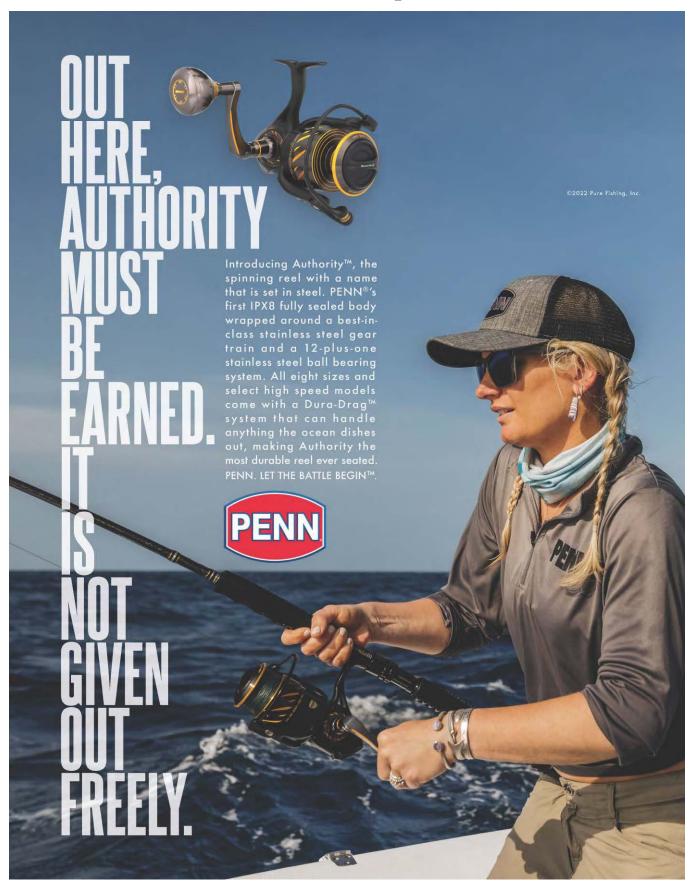
(zemeckis@njaes.rutgers.edu, 732-349-1152)

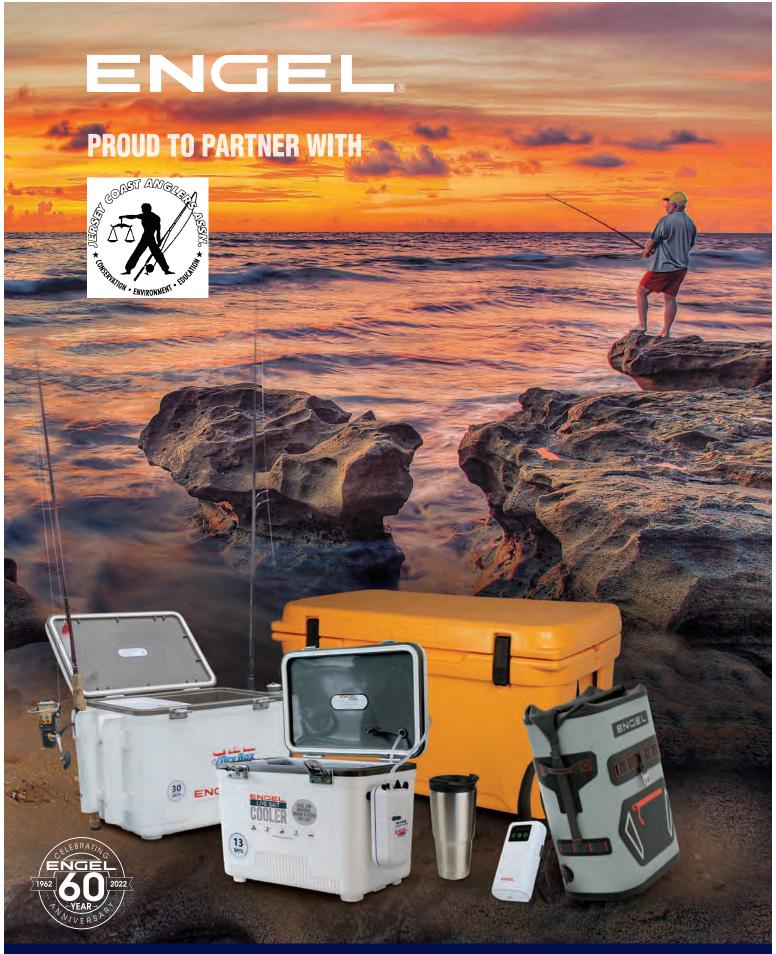
Contact: Chase Wunder

(chase.wunder@rutgers.edu, 443-553-1801)



### Fluke Tournament Sponsor





# 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 information on vital issues each month. Look for <u>club membership link</u> on the JCAA home page or complete application below.

#### **Club Membership Application**

President's	
Name:	
Pres. Address:	
Street	
City	
StateZip	
Ph. #	
Fax #	

#### **JCAA SPONSORSHIP**

# The JCAA has 4 levels of sponsorship \$50, \$100, \$250 & \$500

Dues paying clubs or individuals can also pro-vide additional help by becoming Sponsors. 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 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 <u>Subscribe</u> button on the JCAA home page or complete application below.

#### **JCAA Associate Member Application**

Date	New Renewal
Name	
	_Zip
Email	
If contributing, please	make check payable to JCAA

#### **COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS**

Legislative	Tom Fote	732-270-9102
Office Manager	Paul Turi	tfote@jcaa.org 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 Specie	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.

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of month 7:30 PM

VFW Post 2179 Port Monmouth Middletown Route 36 New Members Welcome



BO BOY 104 . MIDDI STOWN N. 187740

P. O. Box 126 Middletown, NJ 07748 www.Hi-Mar.com

Hi-Mar Striper Club 2024 Spring Striped Bass Tournament

> June 1, 2024 Captains Meeting May 31

> > Hi-mar.com for info



Boats fishing from Beach Haven and Tuckerton, NJ www.BeachHavenCharterFishing.com

#### Joe Palumbo

Member
Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County

American Legion Post # 170 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ

www.swabc.org



#### WE BUILD REEFS

with proceeds from the

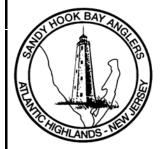
"Tuna Mania Tournament" June 10th 11th 12th & 13th

Call the Greater Point Pleasant Charter Boat Assoc. to become involved:

732-892-3666







42nd Annual 2-Day Fluke Tournament

July 13 & 14

sandyhookbayanglers.org

P.O. Box 513 Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716

Monthly Meetings: 2nd Friday of the month at the senior building in Atlantic Highlands

Compliments of Janice & Joe Blaze Brielle, NJ

