### **JCAA NEWSPAPER MID-SUMMER 2008**

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION* (Published on August 25th, 2008)

## Remember New Monthly Meeting Room "WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

#### **JCAA REGULAR MEETING:**

Tuesday, September 30th, 2008 Starting at 7:30 PM

Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd
NEXT JCAA EXECUTIVE MEETING

Thursday, September 11th, 2008 Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

## OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

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#### JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi

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

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JCAA General Membership Meetings are for club representatives and invited guests only. These meetings are not open to the general public. If you would like to attend as a guest, call the President at 732-446-6298 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.

#### **2008 OFFICERS**

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Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

NO JCAA General meetings in July and August September 4<sup>th</sup> NJ Marine Fisheries Council Mtg September 9<sup>th</sup> NJ Fish & Game Council Mtg September 11<sup>th</sup> JCAA Board Meeting September30<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting October 5<sup>th</sup> Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament

#### 17<sup>th</sup> Annual October 5<sup>th</sup> 2008 NJ GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

By: Paul Smith, Tournament Committee

The Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament (GSFT) is held at Island Beach State Park, NJ on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Approximately 1,000 anglers of all ages annually enter this tournament. This event is one of the most popular surf fishing contests for the individual angler on the East Coast. It is sponsored by the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, New Jersey State Federation Of Sportsmen's Clubs, NJ Beach Buggy Association, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, NJ Division of Parks and NJDEP.

For the last sixteen years, anglers from New Jersey, and several neighboring states, have started the fall fishing season by competing in the Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament. Winners in many categories are presented prizes by various dignitaries, including the Governor of New Jersey, as part of ceremonies following the Tournament.

The angler catching the longest eligible fish of the day is awarded the prestigious Governor's Cup. The Cup has each year's winner engraved upon it and is on view in the lobby of the Island Beach State Park administration building. There is a real possibility that any one of the competing anglers may be fortunate enough to capture the Governor's Cup. There have been men, women and one youth win the Cup over the years, but never a repeat

winner. This shows that it really is possible for anyone to win! You may enter this year's Tournament by picking up an official entry form at your favorite bait and tackle store or by visiting the New Jersey Fish & Wildlife website: <a href="https://www.njfishandwildlife.com">www.njfishandwildlife.com</a>

Registration Fees: \_Ages 18 & over - \$10 for early entry if postmarked by Sept. 14 (\$15.00 fee on Tournament Day) \$5.00 – Ages 13-17 Children 12 & under are FREE!

## Same day registration will begin at 5:00 am at Pavilion #1.

#### Schedule

6:30 a.m.-1:00p.m Fishing

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

Special arrangements are made for handicapped anglers. Balloon tire equipped beach wheelchairs are available for anglers disabilities. Volunteers will be needed to assist anglers with special needs who fish on tournament day. To volunteer, or to make arrangements for a handicapped angler, please contact Greg Kucharewski at 732-840-9197.

Tournament hats and t-shirts will be on sale in Pavilion #1 on Tournament day! There will be a limited number of these t-shirts and hats with a special Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament design. Don't forget to stop at the Pavilion, after fishing, to purchase your hat and shirt!

Various sporting organizations, state agencies and Tournament supporters will have exhibits at the Pavilion throughout the tournament day. There are also fishing and environmental exhibits and demonstrations presented at the Pavilion on Tournament day

By popular request, C.T.'s BAR-B-QUE will be back this year for your food and beverage purchases!

The goals of the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament are to:

- Improve access to public fishing areas
- Enhance public recreational facilities that provide fishing opportunities.
- Support the protection of marine and shore area ecosystems.
- Support activities, special events and programs that will further public appreciation and

- understanding of marine angling and shore area ecosystems.
- Promote public educational, interpretive and research opportunities concerning marine and shore area ecosystems.

Funds generated from past events have been used to purchase specialized wheelchairs that provide the disabled and elderly with beach access and toward the construction of an 800-foot long access ramp for saltwater anglers. Fishing equipment has been provided for the Outdoor Woman program, Surf fishing Clinic series in IBSP, as well as for various youth educational projects. Educational displays of various types in the park's Interpretive Center, on several self-guided trails, and equipment for the Barnegat Bay Kayak Tour and Environmental Education Enhancement Program were partially funded with Tournament proceeds. Island Beach State Park also received funds from the GSFT to the first mobile purchase automatic defibrillator used in the New Jersey Park system.

The Governor's Cup Surf Fishing Tournament committee is looking for judges. We need your help so please sign-up to be a judge in the tournament. Each judge will receive a special issue Governor's Cup Surf Fishing Tournament ball cap with "judge" embroidered across the back. In addition, this year a stipend is available to help offset the cost of fuel burned while on the beach judging. Also, the IBSP beach pass is not required for judges during the tournament. Anyone interested, please contact me at RBthePirate@verizon.net or 609-685-6403. Thanks in advance, Eric Paulson President New Jersey Beach Buggy Association

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By John Toth

Summer means vacation time, but the JCAA has not been resting in protecting the rights of all anglers fishing in New Jersey. We have been involved in a number of activities that have direct and indirect impact on our fisheries with the most important one being fluke. There are other issues affecting our fisheries and they are also detailed in this newsletter. Let me start off with the fluke issue.

#### Fluke

We are all disgusted with the lousy information that has guided fishery managers to impose ruinous regulations on our recreational industry. Instead of just griping and complaining about it, the JCAA led the way in requesting a totally independent review of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) fluke stock assessment that the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission uses to determine our fluke quotas. JCAA and Garden State Seafood have provided funding to the Partnership for Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Science Inc. to send Dr. Eric Powell, Emerson Hasbrouck, and Dr Ken Able to the meetings for the summer flounder benchmark assessment in Woods Hole. JCAA also paid Bruce Freeman's expenses to attend these meetings. Bruce volunteered his time. The JCAA spent approximately \$15,000 toward this effort.

The NMFS uses a number of factors (mortality, stock recruitment, etc) to determine our quotas and it is referred to as modeling. It is these models and the information that goes into them that we wanted to be reviewed. Several meetings were held in Woods Hole, Mass. with the final one in June and JCAA's Bruce Freeman and Save Our Flounder's Dr. Maunder attended these meetings. Prior to this new fluke stock assessment, there was talk about drastically cutting back our fluke quota and even having a moratorium on it. The bottom line to all of this is that the fluke stock analysis that came out of Woods Hole, Mass. recommended that our fluke quota for 2009 be increased to 19.02 million pounds from the current 15.77 million pound quota in effect for 2008! While the 19.02 million pounds was reduced to 18.45 million pounds, as I will explain below, it is still good news for all of us! More is better and there is a strong argument that we should have had a higher quota. However, if we did not challenge the NMFS on how they determine fluke stocks and their resulting quota, you can bet the farm that we would have ended up with a lower quota! We will not know what this higher quota means in terms of fish bag limits, size or season until the latter part of this year when there is a determination of how well we observed the fluke quota for this year. I do not want to go into the technical data used in fluke stock assessment that was done by our scientists. I will leave that up to Bruce Freeman and he covers that in his report that is also in this newsletter.

#### Fluke/Sea Bass August 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting

This was a joint meeting held by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) to set 2009 quotas for fluke, sea bass and bluefish. I attended the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting along with Bruce Freeman and Rob Winkel from the NJ Federation that covered both fluke and sea bass.

The meeting on fluke focused on the data used to determine the new quota for 2009. We sat through tedious discussions and questions on the fluke data that was presented and I just want to give you a "fly on the wall perspective" on the proceedings of this meeting. In spite of the charts and graphs depicting fluke stocks through power point presentations, nobody at this meeting had complete confidence in the figures that were shown to us. There was so much time spent questioning the reliability of the data, I personally thought how they could call this the familiar phrase "best science available"! In fact, Captain Jim Ruhle of North Carolina finally exploded and said that these management councils "Need a Reality Check" since they under and overestimate everything! Of course, nobody challenged his comments since they know he is right.

One of the representatives commented that the management councils need information from the recreational community so that they could have better information on fluke stocks. I testified that the JCAA runs an annual fluke tournament and that we pay to have a detailed analysis on that day's fishing results. Granted it is only for one day, but it is a good snapshot of a day's fluke fishing. Also, boat captains must keep a log of their fishing and this info could be helpful. Nobody asked for the JCAA fluke report. Our help was extended to them, but there were no takers!

When the motion was made that we should have 19.02 million pounds for our 2009 fluke quota, that was recommended from the Woods Hole study group, several council members started to vote for it. When it came to Pat Kurkel's turn, who represents the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), she voted no and said that the 19.02 lbs. was too liberal and she recommended 17.87 million lbs. as a more conservative quota. Incredibly, as soon as she came out with this number most of the council members voted for it. I turned to Bruce Freeman and said that we are going to lose this one and get a lower number! However, eventually a compromise was

reached to go mid-way between the 19.02 lbs and 17.87lbs and the proposal for the 18.45million lbs. was raised and passed. While there was disappointment that we did not get 19.02 million lbs. and even a higher limit, the fact remains that we did not go backward and get a lesser quota. If we did not challenge their numbers, who knows where we would end up. Given the past performance of NMFS, MAMFC and ASMFC my bet is that we would have a lower quota.

#### **Sea Bass**

While we have some information on fluke stocks (and faulty at best), we have little to no reliable information on sea bass stocks. The lack of valid scientific information on seas bass stocks was voiced over and over again by almost everyone at the meeting. Astonishingly, the council members voted to reduce our sea bass quota about 45 %! While we harvest about 3 million pounds a year, the new overall limit of 1.173 pounds set for 2009 is less than the 2.152 lbs allowed in 2008 and 2.552lbs in 2007. Nobody spoke up at this meeting that sea bass is overfished or the stocks are in serious trouble because they do not have the data to support this allegation. However, this again demonstrates that facts are not needed by our fishery management experts to make their decisions. They make their decisions on "the best science available"! Tony Bogan strongly testified against this recommendation as well as myself and that the JCAA could not support this unnecessary cutback. Captain Willie Egerter (Dauntless) also testified that dogfish are decimating all fish stocks, especially sea bass, and that the council members must do something about this serious problem that they created by protecting the dogfish. His testimony was greeted by stone silence. We will know what this quota reduction means in terms of bag limits and season around November. It does not look pretty for 2009.

#### **Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament**

On a more positive note, the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament will be held on October  $5^{th}$ . Paul Smith is our Manager for this tournament and he has a detailed article on it in this newsletter. So mark your calendar now for the October  $5^{th}$  tournament.

#### **JCAA Dinner Dance**

The JCAA will have its annual dinner dance on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Crystal Point Yacht Club.

November is not too far away, so mark your calendar also for this fun-filled event and to rub elbows with your fishing buddies. More details will follow in our future newsletters.

#### Sportsperson of the Year

It is time to start thinking who your club should nominate for this prestigious award. The person you nominate should have done something special to promote the sport we love. This person will be honored at our JCAA Dinner Dance.

#### **New JCAA Operations Manager**

We are looking to hire a new Operations Manager who will take over the many functions that the JCAA is involved in including our annual fluke tournament. We have been talking about this new position at our meetings for quite some time and we are now very close to issuing a job announcement for it.

#### Reminder

September 30<sup>th</sup> is our next General Meeting. Please also mark your calendar to remember this date. Enjoy your summer and good fishing!

## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT & LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Thomas Fote

## Summer Flounder, Black Seabass and Scup

Bruce Freeman and I have included our thoughts on the MAFMC Science and Statistical Committee and Monitoring Committee meetings in the press release below. I could not attend the joint meeting of MAFMC and ASMFC when they voted on the quotas for summer flounder, black sea bass and scup for 2009. John Toth and Bruce Freeman were there and briefed me on the meeting.

I was very disappointed that the NMFS Northeast Regional Director Pat Kurkel opposed 19.02 million pounds for summer flounder that was approved by the SSC and the Monitoring Committee. She knows the 19.02 represents significant conservation and significant probability of maintaining the goals of the plan. It can only appear that NMFS remains hell bent on destroying the recreational fishery for summer flounder. For many years NMFS personnel, both on and off the record, have stated that limiting recreational fishing

is one of NMFS' goals. What better way to accomplish this goal than to make people so disgusted with the limits that they give up fishing altogether and find other pursuits. They have already driven party boats, tackle stores and charter boats out of business and chased away hundreds of thousands of anglers. This may be the only success they can claim!

At the joint meeting they also voted to greatly reduce the black sea bass quota. They know that there is no approved stock assessment for black sea bass or scup and we are not closer to having one than when I advocated for the stock assessment as the Governor's Appointee to ASMFC in 1992. What is even more disturbing is the fact that they are retiring NMFS former research vessel and bringing a new one on line. The information gathered by the original vessel is what NMFS uses to establish the present quotas since it is the "best science" they have available. They are currently trying to develop a mathematical model that will allow comparisons between the information gathered by both boats. One wonders why they bother since the information has been rejected for use in setting quotas for years. Some people might think I am being hard on NMFS and ASMFC but both of these groups knew we had problems with these stock assessments in the early 90's. Now in 2008 they have not spent the money or effort required to develop reliable stock assessment data. NMFS always has their fall-back position - the "best science available." That means we are stuck with lousy science again and again. We could joke about their failings except that their decisions have a negative impact on the lives of many of our citizens.

#### Offshore Drilling & LNG

Every individual and every industry has been touched by the escalating prices of natural gas and gasoline. Some of us remember the gas crisis of 1973 and we realized then that our reliance on foreign oil left us in a precarious position. I was driving about 25,000 miles a year in 1973 and remember the gas lines on odd and even days. Like everyone else, my memory is short and once the crisis passes, we all go back to our gas guzzling ways. With out forward-thinking leadership and some political bravery, nothing gets done. So here The promise of quick fixes is we are again. appealing and makes great sound bites for our politicians. What the public wants is a solution with no pain. What we need to remember is that every "solution" comes with a consequence and a shortsighted solution (off shore drilling and LNG) will only compound the pain later. discussions with my fellow anglers, all of us keep focusing on the price of gas. We forget about the consequences of oil spills on the environment. Remember some of the big tanker spills that still have a negative impact on our environment. There is no such thing as a foolproof oil rig in the ocean. JCAA's historical position has been opposed to off shore drilling on the east coast and the proposed LNG will only increase our LNG facilities. dependence on foreign natural gas from Russia, Iran and Venezuela. Do we want to be even more at their mercy?

We need to make a personal commitment for conservation. Every one of us can do something. JCAA bought a hybrid car to cut our gas We have more than doubled our consumption. personal gas mileage with the purchase of a hybrid. Some time this fall we will have solar panels on our home. I understand that everyone can't make these changes. But you can buy fluorescent light bulbs, schedule your driving efficiently, carpool whenever possible, and look for other energy saving options. Each action is small but the accumulated impact is We need to have a long-term enormous. commitment and stop looking for short-term solutions. We worry about leaving our children with accumulated national debt but just keep spending. The same is true with our energy debt. We need to find better and cleaner sources of energy. father's generation won the Second World War and my generation went to the moon. We can do this if we have the will and the leadership.

I have gathered several editorials, fact sheets and articles about off shore drilling. I have included two articles from NRDC since they focused on issues and not politics. Other articles are available via email or I have included the links to their webpages. Bruce Smith and I asked Clean Ocean Action to write an article about LNG. Clean Ocean Action has much more information available on their webpage. You can just Google off shore drilling and numerous articles are available.

http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/06/23/politics/uwire/main4204269.shtml

http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080818/NEWS01/808180342

http://features.csmonitor.com/politics/2008/08/17/congress-to-vote-on-drilling-ban/

http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci\_9664518? nclick check=1

http://www.northjersey.com/politics/If\_not\_oil\_shou ld\_we\_drill\_for\_natural\_gas\_off\_Jerseys\_shore\_.ht ml

http://www.surfrider.org/press\_releases.aspx?PR\_Id =247&gclid=COux8pbkl5UCFQIWFQodaVy9HQ

http://www.cleanoceanaction.org/index.php?id=636

#### **PUBLIC ACCESS**

JCAA was contacted by members of the Shark River Surf Anglers about public access at Takanassee Beach Club. We set up meetings with DEP Commissioner Lisa Jackson and worked with DEP personnel to find a solution that was acceptable. Thankfully the township, DEP and the developer worked together to accommodate the anglers' concerns. JCAA was pleased to help. The APP Article is below.

These access issues are increasing and the attacks on existing public access or trying to circumvent new public access are always there. JCAA is looking for a chairman for a northern public access committee to deal with these issues. Ray Marione has been our chairman for years but at 91 he says he wants to remain active on the committee but needs to be replaced as chairman. Please contact me or John Toth if you are interested. Senator Robert Smith and Assemblyman John McKeon held a joint meeting of the Senate Environmental and Assembly Environmental Committees in Toms River in August. Public access and LNG were the two topics. JCAA has gone on the record supporting the concerns expressed by the marinas about the new public access rules. But we are not in favor of exempting developers from meeting their mandated requirements. We are afraid that new legislation will be introduced supporting the developers and limiting our access along the Hudson River, ocean beaches and new condominium developments that have replaced marinas. We will keep you posted.

## GET POTS OFF THE ARTIFICIAL REEFS

#### JCAA Press Release 8/1/2008 5:50:28 PM

Subject MAFMC Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Monitoring Committee Meetings.

#### **Tom Fote Report**

Bruce Freeman and I attended the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Management Council Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Monitoring Committee Meetings. This SSC meeting represented the SSC's first opportunity to set the total allowable catch for scup, summer flounder, sea bass and bluefish. It was an interesting process to observe. Bruce and I were the only recreational people in the audience for the two days of meetings. There were also some commercial fishermen from Virginia and North Carolina and Greg DiDomenico from Garden Seafood Association in attendance for the SSC meeting. Because of the scheduling and the short notice, many members of the SSC were not in attendance. I had expected to see a more diverse group of SSC members, representing universities and the states. However, I was surprised to find that many of the SSC members are NMFS employees. These members were for the most part from other regions of the country but I am still concerned that they are part of the NMFS system. governments generally develop committees for monitoring that have at least the perception of independence and objectivity. We all know how important perception is to the acceptance of any decisions. I am not questioning the integrity of any of the committee members, I am just concerned about the public perception about the decisions they will make.

The benchmark assessment did accept a higher mortality rate than the plan is currently using. I want to point out some important information. In reviewing how the new stock assessment impacts on the fisheries management plan for summer flounder, I asked, "When we are fully recovered and we reach the new goal, what is the maximum sustainable yield we can harvest?" To my surprise, the answer was 28.2 million pounds. In 2005 the quota was as high as 30 million pounds. We still had stringent regulations in place in most of the states. Even with the new plan using the new mortality rates, we're never going to be allowed to harvest 30 million pounds under the current system. When I looked at some of the earlier recreational catch figures, we were as high as 12 million pounds in the mid 90's.

For the most part that was on 14 inch fish. We are now going to harvest 1/3 the number of fish. They will be bigger fish, mainly females but that means the success rate for the average angler will be down considerably. It also means that the hook and release mortality will probably grow. The thing that is driving this whole system which is so unusual and is causing all the problems is that even with having a spawning stock biomass almost 5 times what it was in 1994, we have not increased recruitment based on available surveys. The bottom line is that as we have increased the spawning stock biomass we have not seen an increase in recruitment. This is totally outside of what we would normally and historically expect and should cause us to reexamine all of the factors that may be impacting on summer flounder. On a positive note, members of the benchmark stock assessment and the SSC have acknowledged that there is currently no reliable relationship between spawning stock biomass and recruitment. problem remains, what to do next. We need to fill the data gaps with new scientific, environmental and biological information. That new data will allow us to use the model to develop appropriate projects and ultimately appropriate quotas. My bachelors and masters degrees are not in biology but in business. In business school we learned that money spent developing reliable projections is money well spent. The only way to do reliable projections is to invest in the data.

The SSC and Monitoring Committee report on bluefish contained few changes. The biggest change is that the recreational projections are forecasting that we will maximize or exceed our There will be no transfer of unused quota. recreational quota to the commercial quota under recommendations. committees' The recommendations are status quo for scup but calls for a reduction in the sea bass fishery by 50%. I cannot tell you what those reductions will be if this proposal is accepted by the Council and ASMFC because we don't know yet what this year's recreational catch is.

The SSC has expressed the same frustration on sea bass and scup that Bruce and I have experienced since 1992. In 1992 the Council and Commission proposed fishery management plans for sea bass and scup and indicated we would have a stock assessment available. It is now 2008 and we still don't have a valid stock assessment for either species. The SSC recognizes that it is questionable

to base a plan and quotas without a valid stock assessment. I wish, with the passage of the new Federal Law, I could promise you that in the immediate future we would have a peer reviewed stock assessment. I am not confident that will happen.

Below is Bruce Freeman's report on Summer Flounder. A more detailed report will be available after the Council and Commission make their decisions next August 5 & 6.

## Bruce Freeman's Report on Summer Flounder

The Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) met July 31 to review recommendations of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's staff (Council) concerning the fishery quotas for fluke, bluefish, sea bass and scup for 2009. Recent additions to the Federal Fishery Law now require the SSC to review changes in annual quotas to make certain they are supported by the best scientific information. In addition, the Council must follow the recommendations of the SSC.

The SSC agreed with the recently completed assessment of the coastwide fluke stock that supports a change to the model used as well as change to a key variable used in the predictive fishery model. These changes, together with the most recent survey data, now indicate that the fluke stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring. This means that the fluke resource is more than 75% restored to its maximum sustainable level and at the existing catch rate, we should see a complete recovery of the fluke spawning stock to 151 million pounds by the fall of 2012. Federal Law requires the stock to be rebuilt no later than 2013.

The SSC recommended a total allowable catch level for the 2009 fishing year of 19 million pounds which is divided among recreational fishermen (7.6 million pounds) and commercial fishermen (11.4 millions pounds).

The 2008 coastwide recreational fishery has been held to about 6 million pounds because of concern that the fluke stock will not be fully restored over the next 4 years. The updated analysis and change in model variables now indicate the stock is more improved than previously indicated and that the recreational catch for 2009 could possibly be increased to 7.4 million pounds, a 19% increase, yet be fully restored by 2013.

# DON'T BE FOSSIL-FOOLED! LNG IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST "LNG" = EXPENSIVE, DIRTY, HARMFUL, UN-AMERICAN, FOREIGN FOSSIL FUEL By Clean Ocean Action

The race to industrialize the ocean has begun with three proposals to build ports off the coast of New Jersey and the south shore of Long Island, New York, to import another foreign fossil fuel – liquefied natural gas (LNG). Greedy companies, including Exxon and foreign energy conglomerates, are trying to corner the market and hypnotize citizens into believing this region needs LNG to meet energy needs and that it can lower prices. *Nothing can be farther from the truth*.

#### **LNG** is not in the public interest. **LNG** is:

- **harmful** to marine life, will **destroy** essential fishing grounds, such as the Mud Hole, Shrewsbury Rocks, Raritan Bay
- **not needed** domestic sources are vast and can meet needs for over 100 years
- Un-American LNG is from foreign sources, primarily from Russia and the Middle East. Supporting LNG will shift us from our American *energy independence* (97% of our natural gas currently used in the US is domestic) to *energy dependence*.
- **unsafe**, especially for navigation in this busy NY/NJ port region, and due to storms
- up to **twice the cost** of domestic natural gas
- up to 40% more polluting than domestic natural gas
- will block access to vast areas of ocean.

#### **Three LNG Ports Proposed:**

- Atlantic Sea Island Group, a group of private investors, seeks to build the world's first open ocean man-made island 19.5 miles east of Sea Bright called, "Safe Harbor."
- Excalibur (a new conglomerate) seeks to build "Liberty Natural Gas," a four turret buoys to receive LNG 15 miles off Asbury Park.
- 3) Exxon proposes "BlueOcean Energy," an experimental massive floating storage and re-gasification unit (FSRU) 20 miles off Manasquan Inlet.

## Offshore ports will harm marine environments, kill early stages of fish and marine life and threaten the coastal economy.

The three LNG ports will each have different, varying degrees of significant and profound effects. However, all of the facilities will cause:

- hundreds of acres of habitat to be destroyed for infrastructure – including prime fishing grounds;
- water pollution from wastewater, biocides, nitrogen, and possible spills;
- extensive air pollution, including CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxide (particularly bad for marine waters by adding nitrogen).

#### Big Seas, Big Trouble for Offshore LNG Ports

The mid-Atlantic can often turn turbulent and mean. Waves during nor easters, tropical storms, and hurricanes are giants and can easily destroy offshore infrastructure. We need only look to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, which destroyed 113 oil platforms and over 400 miles of pipelines.

## LNG is far more polluting than domestic natural gas.

LNG can be up to 40% more polluting than natural gas; the increase is caused by the excessive energy needs that LNG requires during its lifecycle. The process is dirty and requires the cooling of natural gas to -259° F, loading it into tanker ships, transporting it thousands of miles (often using ships burning bunker fuel), and then re-heating it to gas. Some argue that the gas used to generate LNG would otherwise be flared off. This is a red-herring issue and flaring is increasing despite growing LNG exports.

## LNG at Sea--Unsafe and Not Secure and No Access by locals.

There will be large exclusion zones proposed that will reduce or eliminate public access because LNG tankers and facilities are security risks and vulnerable to attack. In this regard, it may seem wise to place them offshore. However, the U.S. Coast Guard is already spread thin and is unable to adequately police existing facilities. The ports are also in the pathway of the NY/NJ Harbor, raising navigational issues. Security consultants also raise serious concerns regarding the LNG tanker ships being hijacked by unfriendly governments.

### The U.S. is independent thanks to domestic natural gas, which can meet future needs for 100 years.

Importantly, these, along with other domestic sources, currently supply 97% of the U.S. need—providing a reliable, secure, cheaper, and independent source of energy. Unlike oil, the nation is awash in domestic natural gas, and is the number two producer in the world. Recent industry sources predict supplies could last 120 years. As the country continues to grow and consumption increases, federal sources predict that the rates are slowing, thanks to conservation and efficiency.

### LNG is also expensive—often as much as twice current domestic rates.

As with any commodity, price is dependent upon supply and demand. Though natural gas prices here have risen, they are still far less when compared to the global market for LNG. Others pay up to twice that of the U.S. and the loyalty of the LNG supply is to the dollar. The country willing to pay the most gets the most gas. The global bidding war is constant.

#### LNG is Un-American and from Foreign Sources.

The vast majority, over two-thirds, of LNG is from sources in Russia and the Middle East, both unstable, and dictatorial about energy control. While is it is true that one proposal seeks to bring LNG from Trinidad and Tobago, the source is from offshore drilling and is causing harm to their waterways. Moreover, the long-term supply there is uncertain and once diminished, would cause suppliers to switch to other major sources, such as Russia and the Middle East.

Worst Case Scenario, if we need LNG, there is already a glut of existing LNG import capacity. The current U.S. import capacity of LNG, which can supply the east coast, stands at nearly 20 billion cubic feet per day. The most the entire U.S. imported was a little over two billion cubic feet per day. Most ports are twiddling their thumbs waiting for their LNG ships to come in. Indeed, the U.S. government estimates that by 2030, the import of LNG at existing ports will be 50% of their potential capacity. Clearly, new LNG import facilities are unwarranted and unjustifiable.

#### Why the Gas Rush to the Jersey Shore?

Then, why would corporations seek to build these terminals? It could be speculation, another the

proverbial foot-in-the-door, or to enter and corner the large NJ/NY market. Whatever the reason, it would not be in the public interest and would redirect limited resources and investments.

#### LNG will shift us from Energy Independence to Energy Dependence -- a policy that is antithetical to the national call for Energy Independence.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the U.S. became dependent on foreign oil to drive our cars and heat our homes. The consequences are now painfully evident. In stark contrast, today, we are 97% self-reliant with domestic sources of natural gas that can be sustained up to 100 years or more. *If* we open our doors to LNG it will only serve to increase another dependency and addiction—only this time it will be power plants for electricity and many of our home heating and cooking needs. *If* we are lured into LNG, other governments, primarily Russia and the Middle East, will control our energy supply.

Shifting to a foreign dependency for fossil fuels is not a wise energy policy decision; in fact, it is antithetical to the national call for Energy Independence. As today's energy needs prove, been there done that, let's not be fooled again.

#### Many Coastal States have said, NO:

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (CA), Governor Rell (CT), and Governor Paterson (NY) all rejected LNG facilities off their coasts. Governor Corzine will have the up or down vote on these NJ Shore proposals.

## JCAA Protects the Fisheries and Rejects the Proposals:

Jersey Coast Anglers Association has been essential to the campaign to oppose and stop these LNG facilities. Campaign groups meet monthly.

### Take action <u>right now</u> to stop the LNG ports and the industrialization of the ocean:

- 1. Sign the petition at <a href="http://www.thepetitionsite.com/petition/689151878">http://www.thepetitionsite.com/petition/689151878</a>. Citizens of all ages can sign.
- 2. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper, using the information above as talking points.
- 3. *Learn more* about "Insanity Island," Exxon's "Floater," and the "Liberty" project at www.cleanoceanaction.org.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, AUGUST 20, 2008 PRESS CONTACT, TINA BERGER 202/289-6400

Summer Flounder Board Approves Initiation of Addendum to Explore Use of Maximum Size Limits as a Potential Management Tool to Develop Slot Limits & Trophy Fishery

Alexandria, VA – The Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass has approved initiation of an addendum to explore the addition of maximum size limits as a potential management tool for the summer flounder recreational fishery. Maximum size limits may provide managers with a wider range of recreational management tools (for example, slot limits or trophy fish) as the stock continues to rebuild.

The Board action is taken in response to a preliminary review by the Summer Flounder Technical Committee on the use of slot limits in the recreational fishery. Given that the effectiveness of state-specific slot limits could not be evaluated due to the limited length frequency data at the state level, the Technical Committee recommended that slot limits should only be considered on a coastwide basis. The Technical Committee also cautioned that seasons and size limits associated with slot limits are likely to be more restrictive than current regulations given the greater availability of fish that could fall within the slot limit.

The Board directed the Technical Committee to determine whether the available data could be used to develop regional slot limits. The first draft of the addendum will be developed for Board review at the Commission Annual Meeting this October in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

For more information, please contact Toni Kerns, Senior Fisheries Management Plan Coordinator for Management, at (202)289-6400 or tkerns@asmfc.org.

#### Changes expected in fence around exbeach club Asbury Park Press August 18, 2008 By Carol Gorga Williams

People passing by the former Takanassee Beach Club may notice changes in the next few days to a fence erected several months ago in an effort to restrict vandalism and unauthorized access to the site.

While the fence might have had limited success in that regard, it was much more effective in angering local fishermen and some surfers who found the fence gate padlocked.

The state Department of Environmental Protection has said it did not have jurisdiction over the fence because it was erected too far from the water and dune line. The DEP does have jurisdiction over a state Coastal Area Facility Review Act permit granted Feb. 28 to Isaac Chera of Takanassee Developers LLC. That permit guarantees beach access prior to, during and after construction but only becomes operative after certain preconstruction activities take place on the 4.6-acre oceanfront site where Chera wants to build housing.

Chera ran into widespread opposition because the site contains three buildings dating to various eras of the U.S. Lifesaving Service, a precursor to the Coast Guard.

When the DEP approved the CAFRA permit, it ordered Chera to restore the buildings, although it gave him the option of moving some off-site. In the interim, Chera said people began entering the abandoned site, and he feared the historic structures might be vandalized. His concerns were echoed by Mayor Adam Schneider, who said he received telephone call complaints from residents of the adjacent Imperial House, saying trespassers were accessing the site.

Chera's fence, however, proved unpopular, and he promised to keep it open. In the interim, Councilman Brian A. Unger urged DEP to get involved, even without jurisdiction, to regulate access to the site.

Lawrence F. Jacobs, Chera's environmental attorney, has said that his client and the DEP had reached a voluntary agreement by which the existing fence will be locked in an open position while it is rerouted around the existing structures. Its relocation also will provide for five public parking spaces, according to the arrangement between the DEP and Chera.

An 8-foot-wide public access path between the street and the beach also will be provided, and Chera will be permitted to remove the beach lockers on the south side of the site.

"What we are really trying to do is work the public access in a way that benefits everybody and

protects the buildings and provides safety," said Jacobs.

"Good, good, good. At least they are doing it," said Dan Mancini, a Long Branch fisherman and one of the first people to object to the fence.

## Division gets pots off of the reef Friday, July 11, 2008 BY AL RISTORI Star-Ledger Staff

Dave Chanda, Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, had very good news for anglers at yesterday's Marine Fisheries Council meeting. Pat Donnelly of Point Pleasant called at press time to report Chanda has changed the Division's compromise proposal that would have left pots on the reefs half the year. Instead, the Division will administratively eliminate the pots from the artificial reefs that were built with federal Wallop-Breaux Funds that can be used only for sportfishing purposes and with donations from anglers and divers.

If not vetoed by the Council, that will eliminate the need to carry on a lengthy and expensive legislative battle to accomplish the same protection for the public that's being pushed off the reefs by strings of pots that fish 24 hours a day and make both drifting and anchoring difficult

## Sportsmen's rights must be protected Friday, July 11, 2008 BY J.B. KASPER OUTDOORS COLUMNIST

When I was growing up, the traditional outdoor sports of fishing and hunting were a big part of life in the Trenton area.

At one time there were six tackle shop-sporting goods stores in Trenton. Some of you might remember Beaver Sporting Goods on Hamilton Avenue, Ernie's Tackle Shop on Clinton Avenue, Capitol Sporting Goods on Olden Avenue, Zotto's Tackle Shop on Hamilton Avenue and Brunswick Sports and Hardware on Brunswick Avenue. That was back in the 1950s and 1960s, now only Brunswick Sports is left in the city and they have changed hands several times.

My point is this, times have changed and so have the people in the Trenton area and the Garden State in general. Trenton was surrounded by farms and two-lane roads back then and, let's face it, no one got carpal tunnel syndrome from playing video games.

Coming home from school and grabbing your shotgun and going hunting or your fishing rod and going fishing didn't even garner a look from most people. Try that today!

Then, the most you got from anyone was, "Good luck," or "Did you get anything?" No one ever thought the day would come when fishing and hunting would be under attack from animal rights groups, environmental zealots, politicians, anti-gun fanatics and other people who, for the most part, do not understand the outdoors.

Back then many of us belonged to clubs and other outdoor groups for the camaraderie and fun that went along with the outdoors. As most of you who read my columns know, I have always been a big advocate of the organized sportsmen. In today's world, when sportsmen are under attack from every corner, it's more important than ever for sportsmen to be organized. It's only through strength in numbers, and there are over close to a million hunters and fishermen in New Jersey, that the outdoor community, in particular fishermen and hunters, can have their voice heard. Think about it, a million sportsmen. That's a lot of votes.

Last year, legislation was introduced that would change the makeup of the Fish & Game Council, a council that has served the state in its present form for more than 50 years and has done a super job of balancing fish and wildlife with an evershrinking habitat in the most densely populated state in the union. The legislation would have put people on the council with no wildlife management experience or background, and, perhaps some people who are anti-sportsmen.

Fortunately, the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance was established. It is a grassroots coalition made up of 15 sportsmen's organizations that are looking out for sportsmen's rights in New Jersey. Anthony P. Mauro, the chairman of the group, told me the mission of NJOA is to serve as a grassroots coalition of outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen dedicated to the principles of wildlife conservation. It seeks to advance and defend hunting, fishing and trapping as the foundation of conservation methodology by guarding against legal and legislative assaults on hunting, fishing, and trapping. It will accomplish this goal by supporting those legislators, and working to advance legislation that meets with the organization's ideals and enriches our outdoor heritage.

The NJOA has hired Bill Pacrel III as a fulltime lobbyist in Trenton and is currently working on several projects that can make a big difference in life in the outdoors for sportsmen in New Jersey.

The first is a no brainer, "Hooked on Fishing not Drugs" that should be supported by the entire legislature. A popular program in many states, it uses fishing as a way of keeping kids away from drugs and in the outdoors. The second piece of legislation is a bill that would change the distance that bow hunters must be from a dwelling from 450 yards to 150 feet. The third bill is another piece of legislation -- "the right to hunt and fish" -- that is being adopted by more and more states to protect our traditional outdoor heritage.

The fourth bill is one that has plenty of support from every fishing organization and other outdoor groups in the state. Known as the "Reef Bill", it would make it illegal for commercial fishermen to place commercial fishing traps known as "pots" on the artificial reefs along the New Jersey coast. Sportsmen's money and work have built the artificial reefs along the coast as a habitat for fish and other marine life. In recent years, the commercial fishing industry has been putting more and more pressure on the reefs by surrounding them with traps and making them unfishable for recreational fishermen and divers as they were intended.

A good amount of the money used to build the reefs has come from federal grants, such as the "aid to restoration of fisheries." This money comes with the stipulation that the reefs be used for recreational fishing and diving. The state could face the loss of these monies because the reefs are not being used for their intended purpose. The bill currently sits in committee being held up by legislators who refuse to release it for a vote. Sportsmen need to back the NJOA on this bill and start calling their legislators to demand that the bill not only be released, but be voted into law.

The NJOA deserves and needs the support of sportsmen, both financially and manpower-wise. It's a full-time job to defend sportsmen's rights.

So roll up your sleeves and join the NJOA; it's only \$25, a small price to pay for the defense of your outdoor rights. You can find out more about the NJOA at their website at njoutdooralliance.org

## Natural Recourse Defense Council <u>Issues: Oil & Energy</u> The True and False of Oil Drilling

President Bush and the oil companies would have you believe that we can drill our way to lower gas prices. Is it fact or damaging fiction?

With gas prices soaring, oil companies and their allies in the Bush administration are pushing to exploit America's wildlands and protected coastal regions -- all in the name of short-term relief at the pump. On July 14, 2008, President Bush lifted an executive ban on offshore drilling that was put in place by his father 18 years ago, claiming it would bring down gas prices. But the president and his buddies aren't playing straight with the American people. Sinking oil rigs into the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the Outer Continental Shelf and the American West won't alleviate the pain we're feeling right now, or help solve the nation's energy problems in the future.

Still, a lot of arguments are floating around, and sometimes it's hard to separate fact from fiction. Here's a guide to what's real, and what's fantasy.

Drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and on the Outer Continental Shelf could help lower gas prices quickly.

#### **FALSE**

It would take almost a decade before significant oil production could occur in either place, and even then it would have a marginal impact. Drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, for example, would only shave 4 cents off a gallon of gas by 2026, or \$23 per year for the average driver, assuming that other conditions affecting gas prices remain the same. And that's at maximum benefit! Likewise, it would take many years for the oil from new offshore wells to go into production, and even at peak, the additional supply wouldn't reduce energy prices significantly. These numbers are all according to the U.S. government's own estimates. A June 2008 Congressional report makes it clear: "The argument that more drilling means lower gasoline prices ... there is simply no correlation between the two."

America could have plenty of oil and stop importing so much fuel from foreign countries if we were allowed to drill for it in our own backyards.

#### **FALSE**

Americans burn through 20 million barrels of oil a day -- accounting for 25 percent of the world's total consumption -- but government estimates show that

we only have 2 percent of the world's oil reserves. As an example of how little difference drilling would make, say that we did open the Arctic Refuge for exploitation. It would take an estimated 50 years to drain the whole thing dry. During that time, the oil fields would likely produce less fuel than what our country now consumes in just six months. With so little of the world's oil supply and such high demand, even if we allowed drilling everywhere that the oil companies want to -- from the Arctic refuge to the American West to protected offshore areas -- there's still no way we could quench America's thirst for oil. We must embrace other solutions.

If we can't get the oil we need out of the Arctic Refuge, there's no good reason not to look for it offshore, as President Bush is urging.

#### **FALSE**

Congress first banned drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf in 1982, and for good reason: Offshore drilling is an enormously wasteful and dangerous means of energy production. Between 1981 and 2005, 187 large oil spills on the continental shelf dumped more than 2,100 gallons each into the Gulf of Mexico. Hurricanes Rita and Katrina alone resulted in 125 spills, totaling 685,000 gallons. Offshore drilling is also associated with air pollution and land degradation, and with seismic activity that has been shown to have profound, even fatal, effects on marine mammals. The ban was affirmed by executive orders signed by the first President Bush in 1990 and extended by President Clinton in 1998. Even the current President Bush supported the ban until the summer of 2008, when soaring gas prices exposed the failure of his oil-centric energy policy.

Billions of barrels of oil are just waiting to be tapped from oil shale in the American West and would help reduce prices at the pump right away.

#### **FALSE**

Along with efforts to drill offshore and in the Arctic Refuge, Big Oil is pushing federal agencies to turn over publicly owned wildlands in the American West for oil shale development. Oil shale is a rock found in precious wildlife habitat and undeveloped open spaces running through Wyoming, Utah and Colorado. It produces liquid petroleum when heated to extreme temperatures. Industry allies in Congress and the Bush administration propose rushing development of commercial oil shale production in the Western states, but this won't provide relief for consumers. It will take almost a decade or more before essential research on potential technologies is

completed and we know what their impact would be. But it would be even longer before significant production of oil shale could occur, assuming that a viable technology is developed. What's more, because oil shale will be far more costly to produce than conventional fuel, commercial oil shale development is not likely to reduce gas prices. But most significantly, the environmental impact of oil shale production would further deplete the West's scarce water resources, threaten precious wildlife habitat, increase air pollution and generate toxic waste from the conversion process. The costs to Western communities would be enormous.

The oil companies already have plenty of places where they could be drilling for oil other than the Arctic Refuge and the Outer Continental Shelf.

#### **TRUE**

It might be hard to believe, considering how much they're clamoring to drill on public lands, but oil companies already have plenty of resources available to them that they're not using. Between 1999 and 2007, the number of drilling permits issued for development of public lands increased by 361 percent, according to a June 2008 Congressional report called "The Truth About America's Energy: Big Oil Stockpiles Supplies and Pockets Profits." In the last four years, the Bureau of Land Management has issued 10,000 more permits than have been used. That means the oil and gas companies are actually stockpiling extra permits, and that these companies hold leases to nearly 68 million acres that are not in production. Oil companies haven't run out of land, as they're claiming -- they just want unfettered access to protected natural areas, and they're using the current crisis to try to get it.

We've heard all of these arguments for increased drilling before.

#### TRUE

In 2001, after the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, some members of Congress called for immediate action to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling. But even in that time of crisis and fear, cooler heads prevailed and Americans rejected the idea. They realized that the problem isn't just how much oil we import from foreign sources, it's how much we use overall. The first Bush administration acknowledged this fact in 1991 with a National Energy Strategy that said: "Popular opinion aside, our vulnerability to price shocks is not determined by how much oil we import." The No. 1 factor in our vulnerability,

according to the Bush administration itself: "How oil dependent our economy is."

We could have solved this problem a long time ago if we had just taken action.

#### **TRUE**

Not, however, in the way that the oil companies and their cronies would like you to think. For many years, national security and energy experts, including NRDC, have urged the president and Congress to adopt a farsighted national energy policy that would move the United States away from our reliance on fossil fuels. In 2001, for example, an NRDC report on overcoming U.S. oil dependence urged "reducing demand for gasoline with better gas mileage, cleaner fuels from America's farms, and faster deployment of hybrid and fuel cell technologies." Those are the same arguments that NRDC and many other experts had been making for years -- and are still making today. It's time for the president and Congress to listen.

Sadly, there really is no short-term solution to high gas prices.

#### **FALSE**

Thank goodness, this one's not true. Yes, we need to make major changes in America's energy policy, but there are ways that you can make up for the government's neglect by taking matters into your own hands. In fact, studies show that energy efficiency measures are a lot more effective, over both the short and long term, than increased drilling, and they're good for both the environment and your wallet. Simple steps such as keeping your car engine in top shape and your tires properly inflated will yield significant savings over the long term and help you begin saving money right now. A new NRDC analysis of cars currently on the road shows that by driving smarter, keeping vehicles maintained, and using transportation alternatives one day per week, the average driver could save about \$800 on gas per year. Find out how.

## NRDC Legislative Facts The Destructive Consequences of Offshore Drilling

Offshore drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) could do serious, irreparable damage to our oceans, coastal communities, and marine life. Some consequences of drilling in the OCS include:

### Damaging coastal lands, economies, and communities

Offshore oil and gas operations have detrimental effects onshore. These operations require roads, pipelines, and processing facilities to be built on America's beaches, wetlands, and coastal areas. Current drilling projects in the Outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf of Mexico have destroyed more wetlands than exist between New Jersey and Maine. These activities hurt local communities and damage economies that depend upon these resources for tourism, coastal recreation, and fishing.

#### **Endangering ocean health**

Offshore drilling and production create huge quantities of waste that contain toxic and radioactive pollutants, which can contaminate fish and marine life consumed by humans.

- Drilling muds and cuttings removed from wells contain toxic metals, including mercury, lead, and cadmium. Each well creates 180,000 gallons of this waste and most of it is dumped untreated into surrounding waters.
- Each well also discharges hundreds of thousands of gallons of "produced water." Studies of thisbyproduct have detected radium, an extremely radioactive material; toxic pollutants, such as benzene, arsenic, lead, radium, naphthalene, zinc, and toluene; and petroleum hydrocarbons in waters downcurrent of the discharge.

#### Polluting air and emitting greenhouse gases

Offshore wells emit air pollutants that are known carcinogens, cause respiratory problems, and aregreenhouse gases. For example:

- Emissions from drilling an average exploration well include 50 tons of nitrogen oxides (NOx), 13 tons of carbon monoxide, 6 tons of sulfur dioxide, and 5 tons of volatile organic compounds.
- Emissions from drilling an operational OCS platform include 50 tons of NOx, 11 tons of carbon monoxide, 8 tons of sulfur dioxide, and 38 tons of volatile organic hydrocarbons each year.

#### Seismic surveys harm wildlife

Seismic surveys can seriously affect gray whales, sperm whales, beaked whales and bowheads, and can injure fish at substantial distances. Fish are

particularly vulnerable to hearing loss that can significantly threaten their survival. Many fish, including salmon, which are endangered in portions of the United States, have swim bladders that can rupture when exposed to intense sounds like those emitted through these types of surveys.

#### Oil spills

There have been 187 large oil spills on the OCS, each emitting more than 2100 gallons into the Gulf of Mexico, between 1981 and 2005. As storms and hurricanes have intensified, the number of oil spills has increased. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita alone resulted in 125 spills of petroleum products from platforms, rigs, and pipelines on the OCS, totaling 685,000 gallons. Oil is toxic for most marine species and, according to the National Academy of Sciences, cleanup methods can only remove a small fraction of oil spilled in marine waters.

www.nrdc.org/policy July 2008
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For more information, please contact Roberta Elias at (202) 289-6868.

#### Jersey Coast Anglers Association Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

#### TAKE A DISABLED VETERAN FISHING

The JCAA Youth Education Committee and members of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 12, will assist disabled veterans that would like to fish at the Governor's 17th Annual Surf Fishing Tournament, Sunday, October 5, 2008. Special arrangements are made for handicapped anglers. Balloon tire equipped beach wheelchairs (capacity 250 lbs.) are available for anglers with disabilities. Volunteers will be needed to assist anglers with special needs who fish on tournament day. To volunteer or to make arrangements for a handicapped angler, please contact Greg Kucharewski at 732-785-9278.

#### **HELPING OUR MILITARY FAMILIES**

On August 25<sup>th</sup> the JCAA Youth Education Committee, Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 12), and volunteers from the US Army Garrison will conduct a "Casting for a Drug Free Fort Monmouth" program for children that attend the Youth Services summer camp.

#### GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

The JCAA Youth Education Committee is helping novice anglers at the Governor's 17th Annual Surf Fishing Tournament. This will require extra volunteer hours from member clubs in JCAA. If members in your fishing club would like to help others learn the joy of surf fishing, please phone 732-785-9278 or e-mail gkucharews@aol.com and place IBSP in the subject line. Help is needed to provide assistance for disabled anglers, youth anglers, and novice anglers. This is a fun day. Come out and share your surf fishing expertise and help cast a line of caring.

## OHIO NATIONAL YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Chairman traveled to the University of Toledo to support their National Youth Sports Program, NYSP, and Youth Fishing Program. Over 200 children participated in the University of Toledo's National Youth Sports Program and celebrated another successful summer recreation program. The Ohio Division of Fish and Game supported the program and supplied loaner fishing equipment for the NYSP "Hooked On Fishing Not On Drugs" portion of the program. The JCAA Youth Education Committee helped organize the land skills theory classes on campus and suggested campers form local fishing groups in their neighborhood. The Merickel-Farley Trout Club donated funds to purchase prizes for campers and their club members volunteered at Olander Park for the hands-on fishing program. Many campers caught their first fish and now have the fishing bug.

If you would like to help with our youth education efforts and offer some of your time to teach children the joy of fishing, please phone 732-785-9278 or email Gkucharews@aol.com.

JCAA SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR DINNER/DANCE NOVEMBER 16, 2008-CRYSTAL PT. YACHT CLUB

## We need the support of your club and its members

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

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

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

#### Join JCAA as an Associate Member

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

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