

# JCAA NEWSPAPER JULY 2011

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*  
(Published on June 21st, 2011)

**Monthly Meeting Room Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd**  
**"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"**

## **JCAA REGULAR MEETING:**

**Tuesday, June 28th, 2011**

**Starting at 7:30 PM**

**At Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd**

## **NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, July 14th, 2011**

**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) 929-2591 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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## **2011 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Eileen Smith	732-899-2681
<b>1<sup>st</sup> V.P.</b>	Joe Puntasecca	908-913-0551
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<b>Mem. Sec.</b>	Bruce Smith	732-695-3431
<b>Tournament Dir.</b>	Tim Burden	732-279-3177

**Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page**

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**June 28<sup>th</sup>** JCAA General Meeting

**July 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>** ICAST

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** JCAA Board Meeting

**July 20<sup>th</sup>** Joint NJMFC & NJF&G Council Meeting

**July 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>** SSC Meeting to set ABC recommendations for Bluefish, Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass for 2012

**August 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>** ASMFC Summer Meeting Week  
Crowne Plaza, Old Town Alexandria, 901 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia, (703) 683-6000

**August 11<sup>th</sup>** JCAA Board Meeting

**August 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>** Joint ASMFC & Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Sheraton Suites, 422 Delaware Avenue, Wilmington Delaware, (302) 654-8300

**September 8<sup>th</sup>** JCAA Board Meeting

**September 27<sup>th</sup>** JCAA General Meeting after the summer

**November 13<sup>th</sup>** JCAA Dinner

## **JCAA 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Fluke Tournament**

**Port Prize Winners**

**June 11, 2011**

*By Tim Burden*

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual JCAA Tournament took place on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Everyone reported having a terrific time. The Tournament had 463 boats competing in 10 ports. This was the lowest number of entries which means the participating boats had the best chance ever to win a port prize. We were competing against the greatest early striped bass season ever. The 12 port prizes are listed below.

The largest fish weighed in was 10 lbs at Shark River and was caught by Allan Mann Sr. Shark River did not have a fish weighing less than 6 lbs that qualified for a port prize. You can find a

comparison of total fish weighed in 2010 vs 2011 and the port prize winners in the charts at the end of this article.

In 2010 it was hard to get a fish over 5 lbs and a number of 3 lb fish won prizes in the south. This year the smallest fish was 2.42 lbs and there were 38 fish over 5lbs. Four ports did not have a fish over 5lbs. As you can see, the total weight of summer flounder that qualified for port prizes in 2011 was 557.49 pounds. It will be interesting to see the JCAA survey returns to discover what the throwback ratio was and how many keepers were actually caught. Anglers will have an opportunity to give JCAA feedback about how the tournament is organized and also to suggest any changes that might enhance their experience. Surveys will be mailed to current and past participants, so anglers can tell us how to improve this tournament.

This annual tournament provides funds to help the Jersey Coast Anglers Association continue its fight to protect the marine resource, fund summer flounder research and fight for the rights of recreational anglers. JCAA deals with many issues. Currently we continue the fight to get the pots off the reefs and to guarantee public access.

### Jersey Coast Anglers Association 17<sup>th</sup> Annual 2011 Port Prize List

**First Place:** Cash \$1,200

**Second Place:** Penn Battle BTL5000 spinning reel with an Uglystik SPL11661M rod & a Penn Battle BTL 4000 spinning reel with an Uglystik SPL11661MH rod with 2 spool of Spiderwire Stealth braid and 5 packages Gulp bait

**Third Place:** West Marine \$300 Gift Card

**Fourth Place:** Costa Sunglasses and accessories

**Fifth Place:** Minn Kota Trolling Motor

**Sixth Place:** Penn Battle BTL 5000 spinning reel with an Uglystik SPL11661MH rod with 2 spool of Spiderwire Stealth braid and 5 packages Gulp bait

**Seventh Place:** Penn Combo GT2 level line reel and Uglystik rod with spool of Spiderwire Stealth braid and 5 packages Gulp bait

**Eighth Place:** Humminbird PiranhaMAX 190C Fishfinder

**Ninth Place:** Gallon of Interlux Micron CSG bottom paint

**Tenth Place:** Nor'east Magazine Shimano Torium 20 conventional salt water reel

**Eleventh Place:** Two Uglystik rods models SPL 1161661M and SPL 1161661MH with a spool of Spiderwire Stealth braid and 2 packages Gulp bait

**Twelfth Place:** Canyon Gear International Gift Package and two night stay at the Golden Nugget

### 2010 & 2011 Weight Comparisons

(Weight for First 12 spots)

Port Name	2010 Total Weight	2011 Total Weight
Jersey City	50.02	68.15
Sandy Hook	74.20	59.40
Shark River Inlet	55.63	85.50
Manasquan River	55.70	63.60
Barnegat Bay	44.80	45.81
Long Beach Island	44.42	44.16
Great Bay	45.36	56.80
Ocean City	49.88	45.79
Cape May	52.42	48.14
Fortescue	49.78	40.29
Totals	<b>522.21</b>	<b>557.64</b>

### Here are the Port Winners for 2011

#### 1. Jersey City

Place	Name	Hometown	Entry Number	Weight	Length
1 <sup>st</sup>	Dennis Giro	Ridgefield, NJ	290	8.25	27.25
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Andre Luis	North Arlington, NJ	243	7.18	26.87
3 <sup>rd</sup>	George Steininge	Freeport, NY	251	6.75	26.00
4 <sup>th</sup>	Robert McCarter	Hillsborough, NJ	450	5.93	25.00
5 <sup>th</sup>	Steven Melish	Hicksville, NJ	220	5.68	24.50
6 <sup>th</sup>	Sal Gaetani	Bayonne, NJ	353	5.56	23.87
7 <sup>th</sup>	Harvey Karp	Kearny, NJ	286	5.25	23.00
8 <sup>th</sup>	Adelino Pires	Harrison, NJ	212	5.00	23.50

9 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Kelly	Secaucus, NJ	433	4.81	23.25		Toohey				
10 <sup>th</sup>	Thomas Murphy	Bayonne, NJ	301	4.62	22.50	2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Aspromonti	Manasquan, NJ	336	6.10	24.00
11 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Breidt	Lake Hopatcong, NJ	391	4.62	22.50	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bobby Lugin	Robbinsville, NJ	416	6.05	24.50
12 <sup>th</sup>	Ron Shock Jr.	Dumont, NJ	346	4.50	22.75	4 <sup>th</sup>	Bob Angelini	Hamilton, NJ	257	5.85	23.75

5 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Sakers	Brick, NJ	296	5.70	24.00
6 <sup>th</sup>	Stanley Czekay	Brick, NJ	222	5.70	23.75
7 <sup>th</sup>	James Waiter	Brick, NJ	415	5.45	23.00
8 <sup>th</sup>	Don E. Parr	Brick, NJ	344	5.00	23.00
9 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Rusnack	New Brunswick, NJ	183	4.95	22.50
10 <sup>th</sup>	Sam Forman	Hightstown, NJ	323	4.50	23.00
11 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Spinella	Boonton, NJ	459	3.85	21.50
12 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Materia	Brick, NJ	56	3.70	21.50

## 2. Sandy Hook

	Name	Hometown	Entry Number	Weight	Length
1 <sup>st</sup>	Michael Wells	Point Pleasant, NJ	332	7.80	28.00
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Charles Parker	Oceanport, NJ	390	6.60	25.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Robert Henn	Old Bridge, NJ	263	6.00	24.00
4 <sup>th</sup>	John DeVito	Bloomfield, NJ	29	5.20	24.00
5 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Cameron	North Haledon, NJ	90	5.00	24.00
6 <sup>th</sup>	Kristen Capalbo	Dumont, NJ	379	4.80	24.00
7 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Haller	Butler, NJ	316	4.40	23.00
8 <sup>th</sup>	Pedro Olivera	Elizabeth, NJ	354	4.20	23.00
9 <sup>th</sup>	Anthony Bruno	South Hackensack, NJ	224	4.00	22.00
10 <sup>th</sup>	Glenn Davis	Wayside, NJ	319	4.00	22.00
11 <sup>th</sup>	Ted Tyburczy	Linden, NJ	473	3.80	21.50
12 <sup>th</sup>	Bruce Smith	Ocean, NJ	12	3.60	21.00
				59.40	281.50

## 5. Barnegat Bay

	Name	Hometown	Entry Number	Weight	Length
1 <sup>st</sup>	Roger Stanwood	Toms River, NJ	246	6.30	26.00
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Don Hillegass Jr	Barnegat, NJ	208	5.40	24.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lorenzo Hillman	Forked River, NJ	57	5.30	23.50
4 <sup>th</sup>	Greg Apai	Trenton, NJ	234	4.27	23.50
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ronald Juzefyk	Colonia, NJ	403	4.05	22.00
6 <sup>th</sup>	John Kostick Jr.	Lakewood, NJ	158	3.90	21.75
7 <sup>th</sup>	John Howell	Forked River, NJ	375	3.40	21.00
8 <sup>th</sup>	Richard Greger	Waretown, NJ	361	2.80	20.50
9 <sup>th</sup>	Walter Pilipiak	Manahawkin, NJ	118	2.80	19.00
10 <sup>th</sup>	Raymond Rolak	Forked River, NJ	406	2.60	19.75
11 <sup>th</sup>	Fred Stowman	Forked River, NJ	204	2.57	20.50
12 <sup>th</sup>	Phil Celmer	Flemington, NJ	1	2.42	19.00

45.81 260.50

## 3. Shark River Inlet

	Name	Hometown	Entry Number	Weight	Length
1 <sup>st</sup>	Allan Mann Sr.	Sellersville, PA	173	10	27.12
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Art Coakley	Wall, NJ	53	9.5	26.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Greg Heiser	Millford, NJ	80	7.25	24.50
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ed Carr	Wall, NJ	11	7	24.50
5 <sup>th</sup>	George Mizsak	Hamilton, NJ	388	7	24.00
6 <sup>th</sup>	John Gregus III	Woodbridge, NJ	428	6.75	23.50
7 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Szcz	Mercerville, NJ	462	6.5	24.00
8 <sup>th</sup>	William Grill	Deal, NJ	122	6.5	24.00
9 <sup>th</sup>	David Buchinski	Franklin Park, NJ	21	6.50	23.50
10 <sup>th</sup>	David Temple	North Hanover, NJ	50	6.25	23.50
11 <sup>th</sup>	Rich Palaez	Belmar, NJ	271	6.25	22.50
12 <sup>th</sup>	John Poplawski	Neptune, NJ	197	6.00	23.00
				85.50	217.50

## 4. Manasquan River

	Name	Hometown	Entry Number	Weight	Length
1 <sup>st</sup>	Shane	Neptune, NJ	192	6.75	25.50

## 6. Long Beach Island

	Name	Hometown	Entry Number	Weight	Length
1 <sup>st</sup>	Mike Murdza	Waretown, NJ	326	4.86	23.75
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Antony Scholl	Philadelphia, PA	210	4.40	23.00
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ed Cherry	Waretown, NJ	437	4.24	22.50
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ranger Rand	Secaucus, NJ	228	4.24	22.25
5 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Schell	Barnegat, NJ	127	3.88	21.75
6 <sup>th</sup>	Ron Rand	Secaucus, NJ	242	3.70	21.00
7 <sup>th</sup>	Mark Luker	Browns Mills, NJ	389	3.66	22.25
8 <sup>th</sup>	Brian Cognigni	Burlington, NJ	209	3.40	21.00
9 <sup>th</sup>	Brian Czarnik	Philadelphia, PA	135	3.28	21.25
10 <sup>th</sup>	John Maffia	Mystic Island, NJ	282	2.94	20.25
11 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Haluska	Forked River, NJ	172	2.92	20.00



On behalf of the JCAA, I would like to thank all of our JCAA supporters for helping to make the Tournament and Awards Ceremony successful, rewarding, and fun for everyone participating. A big THANK YOU to our Major Sponsors for their generous contributions. The following Major Sponsors provided a total of one hundred twenty port prizes for the ten ports and dozens more in door prizes.

**Golden Nugget Casino**  
**West Marine Stores**  
**Berkley Gulp**  
**Spiderwire**  
**Penn Reels**  
**Minn Kota Motors**  
**UglyStik**  
**Interlux Yacht Paint**  
**Costa Premium Sunglasses**  
**Humminbird Fishfinders**  
**Canyon Gear Outfitters**  
**Nor'East Saltwater**

Thank You to **Fisherman's Headquarters** (Long Beach Island), **Gateway Marina & Yacht Sales** (Highlands/Sandy Hook), and **Liberty Landing Marina** (Jersey City) for their \$1,200 1<sup>st</sup> Place Prize donations. (The JCAA provided all other 1<sup>st</sup> Place Port Prizes)

The JCAA would also like to thank the following Door Prize Sponsors for their donations:

**Pure Fishing**  
**www.finsfishing.com**  
**Pro Fish**  
**F J Neil Surf Bags**  
**Fisherman's Den, Belmar**  
**Fisherman's Headquarters**  
**Lamiglass**  
**Costa**  
**Ocean Explorer**  
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**Strike King Lures**  
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**Tackle Buddy**  
**Flying Fisherman**  
**Frabil Nets**  
**Capt. Cal**

**AA Worms**  
**Meltzer's, Garfield**  
**Ken Eagle Fishing Mounts & Trophies**  
**ASA / Eastern Fishing and Outdoor Exposition**

We encourage everyone to support these sponsors by purchasing their products or services whenever possible.

And special thanks to the entire JCAA Executive Board, the Fluke Tournament Committee members, the many volunteers (including their spouses), and friends that graciously gave their time and guidance to help make the Tournament as successful as it was.

## **President's Report**

*By Eileen Smith*

The June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will be our last meeting until the fall so it is important that your club representative attend. This is going to be a busy summer as far as fisheries issues and it is important for you and your club members to keep informed and take action when necessary. In order to help you keep up on what is happened on fisheries issues it is important for you to go to [www.jcaa.org](http://www.jcaa.org) and sign up for the JCAA alerts. We have a new system in place which will make it easier to reach out to you by email.

Over the summer, your club should be considering who they would like to nominate for JCAA Sportsperson of the year. We will be accepting nominations for that award at any time from JCAA Clubs in good standing. Remember our dinner is November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Is your club in good standing at JCAA? Some clubs have not paid their 2011 JCAA dues. Please get your dues in. We also need an update list of officers and who is the club representative. Please contact Bruce Smith 732-695-3431 if you have any questions on your dues.

The awards ceremony for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Fluke tournament was packed with winners from twelfth place to first place and from every port on the east coast of New Jersey. The Golden Nugget was full of energy that filled the stage area with winners collecting poles, reels and numerous other prizes. The youngest was 10 and many dads and grandparents too. I would like to thank all the fishermen who supported this fundraiser and the

many port captains for taking the day to weigh in all the fish.

Next is the Governor's surf fishing tournament on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011. This is a one-day family fun that is held on Island Beach State Park. The BBQ pit is coming back, early bird give-away and great t-shirts to remember the event. You can find more information for this event on the JCAA web site soon.

Did you forget to pick up and get your 30<sup>th</sup> JCAA Anniversary t- shirt? We have one in your size. You can see it and get an order form for this and fluke tournament shirt on the JCAA web page.

## **Fisheries Management & Legislative Report**

*By Thomas Fote*

### **Delaware Beats New Jersey to the Punch: Removes Fish Pots from their Reefs in Federal Waters**

Delaware is ahead in New Jersey by removing fish pots from the reefs in state waters. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, Delaware petitioned the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Management Council to create special management zones around their reefs in federal waters. These special management zones would not allow for fish pots within 300 feet of the artificial reefs. This is a process that has just begun but the first vote was almost unanimous in favor with only New Jersey's commercial representative abstaining. Our legislation or regulations when implemented will require DEP to also petition the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Management Council to create the same special management zones around our artificial reefs in federal waters. Remember, only 2.5 of New Jersey's artificial reefs are in state waters. The pots off the reef bill or the DEP regulations will only deal with those 2.5 reefs.

### **Progress on HOFNOD Bill**

S106 establishes Hooked on Fishing-Not on Drugs Program in the DEP and appropriates \$200,000 there from the Drug Enforcement and Demand Reduction Fund. This legislation is now passed by the Senate. It moved from the Assembly Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee and is now waiting for a vote in the Assembly Budget

Committee and the full Assembly. The corresponding bill in the Assembly is A228. You need to contact members of the Assembly Budget Committee and Speaker Sheila Oliver and ask for a speed vote. JCAA, NJOA and the NJSFSC will be meeting with legislators to help move the Hooked on Fishing-Not on Drugs bill through the legislature and make sure it gets posted and voted in the appropriate committees. JCAA will keep you posted.

### **Further Complications for the Artificial Reef Bill**

The status of the artificial reef program is the commercial pots are still on the reefs. The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife cannot use Wallop-Breaux funding because the commercial pots deny recreational access to the reefs. The legislation to remove the pots has passed the Senate and is being held up in the Assembly. Assemblyman Albano invited the RFA, Garden State Seafood and NJOA to a meeting in Trenton to find a compromise that will allow the Division of Fish and Wildlife to fund the artificial reef program while still allowing fish pots on the artificial reefs. JCAA sees this as another delaying tactic. We have always been clear that the only way to resolve the issue and make any legislation enforceable is to totally remove the pots from the artificial reefs. That is the only position that JCAA, the NJOA, Reef Rescue and NJ State Federation of Sportsmens Club and our member organizations have ever taken. For 6 years other interests have been looking for a compromise that would allow the pots to continue on the reefs. We have been steadfast in our refusal to consider any compromise that does not totally remove the pots from the artificial reefs. This is what our members have voted on and I don't imagine their vote will ever change. Assemblyman Albano understands how to satisfy the US Fish and Wildlife Service and return the use of Wallop-Breaux money. All he needs to do is to move the existing legislation that has already passed the Senate to the Assembly for a vote. As of June 20<sup>th</sup> this legislation is co-sponsored by 24 of his fellow Assemblymen, both Democrats and Republicans. He and Speaker Oliver need to listen to the 24 co-sponsors and get this bill to the Assembly floor for a vote. You need to contact Assemblyman Albano and Speaker Oliver immediately. See the information below in the NJOA report listing the co-sponsors and telling you how to contact them through NJOA web page. You

need to contact the Assembly members who are not co-sponsors. Again, see below.

Please contact Assemblyman Albano, particularly if you are in his district and ask him to post the bill. Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver has the power to tell Assemblyman Nelson Albano to post the bill in the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee for a vote. Please contact her and let her know that you want her to tell Assemblyman Nelson Albano to post this bill for a vote in his committee or move the bill to another committee. Then we want Speaker Oliver to post it for a full vote in the Assembly. Tell her that the Senate has shown the way and we will be judging the Assembly on its action on this bill. This bill contains no compromise and should not be amended. There are currently 21 co-sponsors for the present bill in the Assembly. Below is a letter that JCAA is sending to Speaker Oliver and all New Jersey Assemblymen/women. It is crucial that you write Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver and your own Assemblymen/women immediately. All Assemblymen/women need to hear from everyone. Please use the letter below to Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver and the cover letter to your assemblymen/women as a guide in creating your own letter.

To find the appropriate addresses, go to <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>. You can find the names and addresses of your legislators. You can also check their votes on important legislation. JCAA, Reef Rescue and other member organizations will keep you posted. For more information go to Pots off the Reefs at <http://www.njreefrescue.com/> or at [jcaa.org](http://jcaa.org) newspaper archives.

### **Letter to Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver**

Dear Speaker Sheila Oliver:

JCAA is writing to request your support for Assembly Bill A1152/S221 which prohibits the use of traps on artificial reefs. This legislation has 22 co-sponsors in the Assembly. You need to tell Assemblyman Nelson Albano to post this bill for a vote in his committee or move the bill to another committee. Then we want you to post it for a full vote in the Assembly. We will not accept any compromises or amendments to this bill. This bill was passed by the full Senate on Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> by a vote of 31 yes and 4 no. Now is the time for the Assembly to pass this legislation. JCAA

wants this legislation passed before you leave for summer recess. JCAA and the fishing clubs throughout New Jersey will be watching your actions on this matter and we will be judging you and the Assembly on its action or inaction. Our members and 800,000 New Jersey anglers are in support of this issue. Your action will matter to us in the upcoming election.

New Jersey's artificial reef system is one of the nation's most successful reef building programs. Though it occupied just 0.3 percent of the sea floor off New Jersey's coast, a 2000 study by the state's Division of Fish and Wildlife revealed that 20 percent of New Jersey's recreationally landed fish come from the state's 15 reefs. As more and more severe fisheries restrictions are placed on the more than 800,000 New Jersey anglers and the more than 500,000 out-of-state anglers who fish New Jersey's waters, the reef sites have become even more important to the state's recreational anglers. In the case of summer flounder, aka fluke, the reefs are the best opportunity for most recreational anglers who target fluke to catch one that meets the new minimum size of 18 inches.

This fishing effort provides a tremendous trickle-down economic effect in both shore and inland communities, as these anglers support marinas, boat liveries, bait and tackle stores, fuel stations, restaurants, convenience stores, sporting goods stores, toll highways, hotels/motels, real estate rentals, etc. These considerations add \$4 billion to New Jersey's economy, \$150,000 in sales taxes, and provide for 37,000 jobs.

At issue here is the very legality of the use of traps on the artificial reef sites. According to the state-approved 2005 Artificial Reef Plan, the intent of the reef sites is for "hook-and-line" angling activities. Continuing to allow fixed gear on the reefs is in complete disregard for this Department of Environmental Protection-approved measure.

Furthermore, the continually increasing use of fixed gear for commercial fishing purposes on New Jersey's reef system may directly violate federal law. For more than 20 years, the administration of the reef program has been funded by Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish (Wallop-Breaux) Restoration Funds. These funds are derived from an excise tax on recreational fishing purchases, and as a "user pay, user benefit" program, federal law requires that these funds be used to benefit recreational fisheries. Under 50 CRF 80.14 and the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Assistance Toolkit, Part 521, Section 2.9 lists ineligible activities for the use of these funds, with paragraph C specifically disallowing their use for *“Providing services or property of material value to individuals or groups for commercial purposes or to benefit such individuals or groups.”* Violation of these rules is subject to repayment of funds.

The majority of states that have artificial reef programs, including New York, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, have identified traps as incompatible with their reef programs and no longer allow traps on their reefs. Furthermore, this action has been supported federally by classifying reefs in federal waters for a number of those states as Special Management Zones (SMZs), restricting the use of traps on those sites.

The issues are clear and the precedent has been set: Traps are not compatible with the purpose or the laws governing New Jersey’s artificial reefs. JCAA looks forward to your support in enforcing this mandate and voting for Bill S221 and A1152. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative chairman, Tom Fote, at 732-270-9102 or tfote@jcaa.org.

Sincerely,  
YOUR NAME

**Letter to your Assemblyman/woman**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ (Your Assemblyman or woman):

We are asking for your support for and to co-sponsor A1152 without amendments. The attached letter to Assembly Speaker Oliver states the reasons this bill is crucial to the recreational fishing community. We are asking you to let Speaker Oliver know that you support this legislation and want it voted on in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee or moved to another committee. Then you want Speaker Oliver to post it for a vote by the entire Assembly. We are asking you to also contact Assemblyman Albano, Chairman of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to request his immediate action to post this bill. Jersey Coast Anglers Association, our member clubs and the 800,000 recreational anglers want this legislation passed before the summer recess. Since the Senate has passed this bill in three sessions and the Assembly has refused to post this bill for a vote, we clearly know that the problem is in the Assembly.

We will be watching and hold you accountable for your action or inaction.

Sincerely,  
YOUR NAME

**Artificial Reefs Part 2:  
The Governor and DEP**

At this time, we need for Governor Christie to become involved in the artificial reef program. During the campaign, the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance hosted a meeting with candidate Christie. At that time we asked for his support for removing the pots from the artificial reefs. He made a commitment to us to resolve this issue and protect the funding for the reefs. Governor Christie will either sign the legislation if it ever reaches his desk or he has the power to create an executive order that will remove the pots. There are a block of regulations that were developed by DEP in 2007. None of these regulations have been implemented. The Governor could finally request the implementation of all of these regulations including the ones that would get the pots off the reefs. The former Governor and Commissioner supported removing the pots. It is now up to Governor Christie and Commissioner Martin to make their commitment a reality. The Governor has options. We don’t care which option he chooses as long as the pots are removed from the reefs. We have the most powerful Governor in the nation. Time for action! Governor Christie does not need to wait for the Assembly. Please contact the Governor’s Office and ask for his immediate action to remove the pots off the reefs and insure the Wallop-Breaux funding will be available for the artificial reefs.

**New Public Access Proposal by DEP**

The public hearings on the proposed changes to public access are completed. The coalition that JCAA joined is still working to change some of the proposed rules. DEP will be meeting with the coalition to discuss what changes we could support. We will keep you posted. If action is needed we will send an alert. If you do not receive our alerts, please go to our webpage and subscribe. JCAA will be sending more alerts to keep you informed of actions you can take. See the article in the June newspaper or go to our webpage.



## **Upcoming Important August Meetings**

In August I will be attending the ASMFC Summer Meeting Week, August 1 – 4, in Alexandria, VA and the Joint ASMFC & Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting, August 16 – 18. At the ASMFC Summer Meeting Week we will be looking at addendums for striped bass and other species. The agenda for the August meeting has not been posted. I also know at the Joint Meeting we will be setting the specifications for summer flounder, scup, bluefish and black sea bass. This will follow a Scientific and Statistical Committee meeting on these species July 27 and 28. Bruce Freeman will be attending that meeting for JCAA. We will not be publishing a newspaper before those meetings. We send an alert with the meeting agendas and addendums when available. You need to go to [www.jcaa.org](http://www.jcaa.org) to receive these alerts. You can also keep track at both the ASMFC and MAMFC websites which you can reach from the JCAA webpage under links. I know it is fishing season but you need to pay attention to the information as it becomes available. The way to do this is to sign up for JCAA alerts.

## **Senate Letter on NMFS Funding**

Here is a letter that Senator Menendez circulated to other senators on the NMFS budget request that provide for improved data collection, catch monitoring, and stock assessment science. JCAA wishes to thank the Senator for being in the lead on this important issue. The only way we are going to see proper management of the marine resource is with necessary funding. If we had the better science we would have larger quotas on scup, black sea bass and many on species.

**United States Senate  
Washington DC 20510  
June 17, 2011**

Chairwoman Barbara Mikulski  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice  
Science and Related Agencies  
144 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Kay Bailey Hutchinson  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice

Science and Related Agencies  
144 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Mikulski and Ranking Member Hutchinson:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2012 budget for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), we write to express our support of core activities in the NMFS budget request that provide for improved data collection, catch monitoring, and stock assessment science. These core capacities are critical to successful management of fishery resources and to the coastal economies dependent upon them. In light of NOAA's Catch Share Policy, funding to support reliable, up-to-date fisheries science and catch monitoring is now a greater priority than ever before.

According to NOAA, in 2008 U.S. commercial fishermen earned over \$4.4 billion for their catch, generated \$104 billion in sales impacts, generated \$45 billion in income impacts, and supported approximately 1.5 million jobs. Furthermore, an estimated 12 million recreational saltwater anglers across the U.S. spent \$4.9 billion on fishing trips and \$18 billion on durable fishing-related equipment, contributing \$59 billion in sales to the U.S. economy, generating \$27 billion in value-added impacts, and supporting 384,000 jobs.

Improved NMFS capabilities in data collection, catch monitoring, and stock assessment science are needed to secure, for future generations, these economic benefits that fishermen provide. Accurate, real-time catch monitoring and stock assessment information will be imperative as managers respond to a dynamic ecosystem. In an era of strained relations between NMFS and the fishing industry, cooperative research is key to obtaining industry involvement and trust in fisheries science. Through this lens, we view the following activities within the NMFS budget as fundamental to conducting ecologically and economically sustainable management of our nation's fisheries:

Cooperative Research. Funding of cooperative research programs is crucial to ensure the involvement of commercial and recreational fishermen in the collection and application of fisheries data. Fishermen's expertise and experience

should be sought in all phases of research work, including priority setting, project development, inquiry and evaluation. Whenever possible, cooperative research funding should be responsive to timely management needs.

**Expand Annual Stock Assessments.** Funding in support of more frequent and precise assessments of a greater number of fish stocks is essential to successful implementation of annual catch limits in all U.S. fisheries based on the best available science.

**Fisheries Statistics.** Funding for fisheries statistics will enable necessary improvements in data management systems. For example, the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) will accelerate the transition away from the Marine Recreational Fishery Statistical Survey and enable NMFS to more effectively manage recreational fisheries by improving the precision, timeliness, and completeness of recreational fishing data.

**Fisheries Observers.** Commercial fisheries observer programs must deliver cost-effective, unbiased fishery-dependent data used for stock assessments and quota monitoring. In addition to collecting reliable data, observer programs help to accurately assess by-catch, monitor fishery compliance with catch limits, and increase industry confidence in scientific information used to set catch limits. Funding for observers or other at sea monitoring (such as electronic monitoring) is especially important in catch share, or hard Total Allowable Catch, fisheries.

**Survey and Monitoring Projects:** Funding of fishery-independent survey and monitoring projects is complementary to stock assessment expansion and essential for developing and updating stock assessments for some of our nation's most important fisheries, including red snapper, bluefin tuna, groundfish, skate, bluefish, striped bass, and Alaskan pollock.

In the interest of our nation's hardworking fishermen, we must invest in the infrastructure necessary to support new management initiatives, find ways to help the industry bridge difficult times as we work to rebuild depleted stocks, and strive for a collaborative approach with the industry in all aspects of fisheries science and management.

Funding for these core fisheries programs is foundational for determining sustainable catch limits, for rebuilding fisheries to achieve their full economic potential, and for increasing fishing industry confidence in the science being used to make management decisions.

Thank you for considering our emphasis on the importance of these core activities.

Sincerely, Robert Menendez United States Senator	Olympia J. Snowe United States Senator
Barbara Boxer United States Senator	John Kerry United States Senator
Mark Begich United States Senator	Jeff Merkley United States Senator
Jack Reed United States Senator	Joseph Lieberman United States Senator
Kirsten Gillibrand United States Senator	Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senator
Maria Cantwell United States Senator	Jeanne Shaheen United States Senator
Charles Schumer United States Senator	Daniel Akaka United States Senator

## **New Jersey Outdoor Alliance Report** *By John Toth*

On behalf of the JCAA, I attended a May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the NJ Outdoor Alliance (NJOA) and the following issues were discussed: The NJOA usually has its meeting held on the last Monday of the month, but it was moved to May 23<sup>rd</sup> because of the upcoming Memorial Day Holiday.

First on the agenda was discussion of the caucus of legislators scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 24 legislators are expected to attend to hear issues that are of concern to hunters and anglers of our state. This caucus presents a good opportunity for anglers and hunters to buttonhole legislators moving through the corridors of the State Capitol buildings to present their issues to our legislators. While letters are important, the direct contact with legislators is very effective in getting our points across to them.

The HOFNOD bill has passed the Senate. Discussion centered on strategies to get it moved through the Assembly. This bill has been bounced back and forth through both houses of the legislature for a number of years and hopefully it will be passed this year.

Beach access generated considerable discussion since the DEP essentially is trying to have beach towns determine access for the public. Several public hearings on this draft bill have been held and Paul Harris and Tim Burden of the NJ Beach Buggy Association (NJBBA) gave a report on the testimony they gave at one of those hearings that was against this proposed bill. All comments on this draft bill is due on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and the NJOA will pursue trying to get an extension for the comment period. NJOA Board member Rob Winkle reported that comments need to be specific on the proposed 103 pages of the regulations and not of a general nature like the towns always block beach access for the public.

NJOA Board member Jerry Natale indicated that Mr. Frank Virgilio is the new president of the New Jersey Federation of Sportsmen's Club. Jerry also indicated that he has a good working relationship with the new president and that he will be supportive of NJOA initiatives.

The subject of Reef Rescue surfaced and Reef Rescue Chairman, Pete Grimbilas, indicated that there are a lot of rumors swirling around about a compromise solution that would allow the commercials to have their traps on the reefs for some time period. Pete stressed that NJOA members need to contact their legislators to support the Pots Off the Reef bill so that it can be first posted in Assemblyman Albano's Agricultural and Natural Resources Committee. Approximately 22 members of the Assembly have signed on as co-sponsors of this bill, including Assemblyman Albano who is holding up posting this bill in his committee. Pete reaffirmed that the NJOA will NOT support any compromise on this bill.

Discussion moved to an article in the Asbury Park Press written by Kirk Moore "Power struggle over reef donations." This article gave the impression that the NJOA is trying to run all donations that are involved in developing new artificial reefs. The NJOA is **NOT** in the artificial reef banking business. The NJOA has been involved with the DEP for about a year in developing a Memorandum of Understanding that would be a

**TEMPLATE** for organizations to fund an artificial reef so that this process could be expedited instead of being mired in confusing and overlapping zones of responsibilities in state government.

Next on the agenda were the excessive fines in NJ's free registry program. Board member Rob Winkle reported that NJ's registry was hastily prepared and sent to NMFS for approval by DEP Commissioner Robert Martin in the format of a "Commissioner's Administrative Order." Rob Winkle further reported that in his view this Order is not a legal regulation that any judge could use to levy a fine to an angler who is not registered in New Jersey. The current fines are excessive (\$300 - \$3,000) and Rob does not believe that any judge would fine an angler for these amounts with a free registry in force. Rob Winkle is a former NJ Marine Police Officer. It was also reported that the Division of Fish & Wildlife is looking to change these excessive fines.

Jerry Natale closed the meeting by indicating that the NJOA is entering into an agreement with Viridian, a company that provides savings in electrical costs to consumers. NJOA clubs signing up with Viridian may receive payments of up to \$2 a month as well as the NJOA receiving this type payment for every club member that signs up with Viridian. More details to follow on this program.

## **NJOA Release**

24th Co-Sponsor signs on to Reef Bill!  
6/13/2011

The NJOA has been informed that Assemblywoman Charlotte Vandervalk, (R) District 39, has become the 24th Co-Sponsor of Bill A1152, which prohibits the use of certain fishing gear on artificial reefs.

Anthony P. Mauro, Chair, NJOA (CF), said, "Assemblywoman Vandervalk has joined a growing list of Sponsors and Co-Sponsors recognizing the importance of New Jersey's Reef Program to the hundreds-of-thousands of anglers in our state. Their support for removing commercial fixed gear from the reefs, and having funding restored to the Reef Program, is very encouraging to the fishing community. It's also recognition of the inherent unfairness of allowing industry to take over a public trust, which is solely paid for by excise taxes on purchases by recreational anglers, and earn a profit while restricting access to these very same anglers.

You wouldn't believe that such a scenario would be allowed to happen in America."

Captain Pete Grimбилas, President, NJOA CF said, "Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, New York and now Delaware have all taken the steps necessary to correct the injustice that was occurring on their reefs. They saw it as a moral issue, as well as a practical issue, and took action to correct it. It's a simple matter of right versus wrong. Why is it that one or two legislators and our DEP are having a problem with doing the right thing and removing the traps from the reefs?"

The NJOA (CF) suggests that people take a moment to thank Assembly representatives for recognizing that removing fixed gear (traps and pots) is the right thing to do.

The list that follows includes the Assembly members who are Primary Sponsors and Co-Sponsors of Bill A1152.

The NJOA (CF) suggests that people take a moment to thank Assembly representatives for recognizing that removing fixed gear (traps and pots) is the right thing to do.

The list that follows includes the Assembly members who are Primary Sponsors and Co-Sponsors of Bill A1152.

The goal is to have the majority of the assembly members become Sponsors and Co-Sponsors on the bill. The number to reach is 41.

### **Assembly Sponsors and Co-Sponsors:**

Rible, David P. as Primary Sponsor (R)  
Angelini, Mary Pat as Primary Sponsor (R)  
Albano, Nelson T. as Co-Sponsor (D)  
Wolfe, David W. as Co-Sponsor (R)  
Holzapfel, James W. as Co-Sponsor (R)  
Diegnan, Patrick J., Jr. as Co-Sponsor (D)  
McHose, Alison Littell as Co-Sponsor (R)  
Greenwald, Louis D. as Co-Sponsor (D)  
Rumana, Scott T. as Co-Sponsor (R)  
Amodeo, John F. as Co-Sponsor (R)  
Voss, Joan M. as Co-Sponsor (D)  
Wagner, Connie Co-Sponsor (D) \*  
DeAngelo, Wayne P. as Co-Sponsor (D) \*  
Casagrande, Caroline as Co-Sponsor (R) \*  
DiCicco, Domenick Jr as Co-Sponsor (R) \*  
O'Donnell, Jason as Co-Sponsor (D) \*  
Chiusano, Gary R. as Co-Sponsor (R) \*  
Handlin, Amy H. as Co-Sponsor (R)  
Giblin, Thomas P. as Co-Sponsor (D)

Peterson, Erik as Co-Sponsor (R) \*  
Jasey, Mila M. as Co-Sponsor (D)  
Biondi, Peter J. as Co-Sponsor (R)\*  
Lampitt, Pamela R. as Co-Sponsor (D)  
Vandervalk, Charlotte as Co-Sponsor (R)  
(\* signing on as a Co-Sponsor)

Let's get to 41 Sponsors and Co-Sponsors!  
You can contact your Assemblyperson and ask that they become a Co-Sponsor too - or thank them if they are already a Primary Sponsor or Co-Sponsor by taking the following steps:

1. Go to the following link and click on the town where you live.  
<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/districts/municipalities.asp>
2. Click on the District where you live.
3. Call the phone number next to your Assembly representatives (there are two).
4. Ask them to be a Co-Sponsor of Bill A1152 (Prohibits the use of certain fishing gear on artificial reefs). Let them know that you support Bill A1152.

It's that easy.

You can also write your legislator!

People can use the link that follows to send a prewritten letter requesting that bill A-1152 be heard in the Assembly, which allows for public access (hook and line, and spear fishing) to ocean reefs as intended by the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Act.  
<http://capwiz.com/njoutdooralliance/issues/alert/?alertid=36620501&PROCESS=Take+Action>

Anthony P. Mauro, Sr.  
Chair New Jersey Outdoor Alliance

# **Share Your Fun Take Someone New Fishing**