

JCAA NEWSPAPER DECEMBER 2019

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on November 25th, 2019)

Monthly Meeting at Jersey Coast Shark Anglers, 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick "WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, November 26th, 2019

Starting at 7:30 PM

385 Herbertsville Rd, Brick

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, December 12th, 2019

Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

1594 Lakewood Road (Rt. 9), Victoria Plaza Ste. 13

Toms River, NJ 08755

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

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 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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2019 OFFICERS

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| President | Mark Taylor | 732-245-9445 |
| 1st V.P. | John Toth | 732-656-0139 |
| 2nd V.P. | Bill Browne | 732-504-9344 |
| Treasurer | Doug Tegeder | 732-575-2661 |
| Rec. Sec. | | |
| Cors. Sec. | Paul Turi | 609-709-9215 |
| Mem. Sec. | Kyren Dooley | 609-713-7712 |
| Tournament Dir. | Paul Turi | 609-709-9215 |
| Committee and Chairpersons listed on last page | | |

IMPORTANT DATES

November 26th JCAA General Meeting
December 9th-12th Joint ASMFC/MAFMC Meeting
December 12th JCAA Board Meeting
December 17th JCAA General Meeting
January 9th JCAA Board meeting
January 28th JCAA General Meeting
February 8th Salt Water Sportsman Seminar Series
February 13th JCAA Board Meeting
February 25th JCAA General Meeting
February 26th-March 1st Atlantic City Boat Show
March 13th-15th Saltwater Expo

President's Report

By Mark Taylor

IMPORTANT - December Meeting Change

It is important to mark your December calendar for the meeting change of date (Dec. 17th). As I mentioned in last month's newsletter this change is due to the December holidays falling on a Tuesday. I will need a head count by the November meeting of who is planning on attending the December 17th meeting so the food can be ordered. If you can make the November meeting please give me a call 732-245-9445. If you can, email me if you are attending at mtsport64@aol.com and put in the subject "JCAA December Meeting."

Volunteers and Nominations for 2020 JCAA Officers

If there is a quorum at the December 17th meeting, the clubs will be voting on the leadership of JCAA for 2020. If you ever thought of becoming more involved in JCAA or becoming a JCAA officer, now is the time. We are looking for people to step up for all positions. Please contact me before the December meeting if you or a member of your club is interested. Don't be one of those fishermen that is misinformed and spreads incomplete information. Yes, there is a lot of information out there to digest, but learning how to

access the most current and accurate information is key. You can do this by becoming more involved, and you will learn a lot more of the fisheries management process. You can be more involved as a volunteer for JCAA too, just let me know.

Sportsperson of the Year Dinner

The 2019 JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner was held on November 10th at a new location, Martell's Water's Edge in Bayville. It was well attended by some of the clubs and members of others. Thanks to those who attended this outstanding event which was coordinated by a great group of people under the guidance of the Co-Chairmen Paul Turi and Dan Miller. The day of the event was run by Paul Haertel and his group of amazing people; they know who they are. I would like to thank Congressman Frank Pallone and an aide from Congressman Andy Kim's office. Congratulations to all the recipients of their awards which is well deserved. Looking forward to next year's dinner and so should you if it was missed.

I would also like to congratulate Don and Al Marantz for receiving the JCAA Lifetime Achievement Award. They have been crucial members of JCAA since the beginning. They both worked hard on youth education programs, wounded warrior programs and all the JCAA events. As veterans, they brought their teamwork skills to JCAA. We couldn't do this work without them.

Show Time

The time is fast approaching for clubs having fishing flea markets and the big shows. I will be putting a list together of volunteers to work for JCAA, so please contact me if you can help out. I will have the signup sheets at the next meeting. JCAA will be having a booth at the following:

- 2020 National Seminar Series featuring George Poveromo February 8th in Atlantic City
- Atlantic City Boat Show February 26th – March 1st 2020
- Saltwater Fishing Expo March 15th – 17th 2020

JCAA had a table at some clubs fishing flea markets last year but as of the time I am writing this article we have not committed to any. If your club is having one and would like to have JCAA there contact me at mtsport64@aol.com and put in the subject "Club Fishing Flea Market."

Jersey Coast Anglers Association will always be there for you, but we need more people to get involved to help protect the future of our fisheries. There is power in numbers.

The next JCAA General Meeting is December 17th at 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick NJ, 08724.

Fisheries Management & Legislative

By Tom Fote

Striped Bass Update

There was a major shift at the Striped Bass Board Meeting. We realized that by using a slot fish without conservation equivalency would put undue hardship on some of the states. New Hampshire would have an 88% reduction, New Jersey would have an over 40% reduction and Massachusetts would also have an over 40% reduction. The Striped Bass Board did pass the slot limit but allowed the states to take an 18% reduction on the 2017 catch figures. This will give us a broader set of options. As I pointed out before, that slot limit was the worst management tool for protecting the 2011 and 2015 year classes. It would do just the opposite of what we did when we rebuilt the stock by not directing any fishing on the 82 year class until 95% of the females had spawned at least once. I am hoping New Jersey implements an option that will spread the catch over many year classes.

I attended the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council to explain the actions we took at ASMFC. I hoped that information would help them come up with options that would help everyone. Most of the comments were favorable. There was one catch and release guide from Atlantic City who fishes the back bays. He shared how many striped bass he and his clients caught and released in the summer when the water is hot, the air temperature is even hotter and the hook and release mortality can be as high as 40%. His statements supported the way he fishes without acknowledging the value of other anglers and the way they participated in the fishery. He totally ignored the hook and release mortality and was critical of the circle hooks that would reduce that mortality. I normally would not point out an individual but the level of arrogance was hard to ignore. He attacked every member of the Council, stating no one knew anything about fisheries management or about fish.

He brought out a picture of a striped bass, challenging the Council as he said they had not seen a fish in a long time. I was on the NJMFC in 1988, volunteering my time. There are some members who were serving then who continue to serve, volunteering many hours for all those years. I have the greatest respect for those who spend their time on councils, trying to do what is best for the resource and all the communities that depend on it. Each of us is required to do the research and learn from those who have a history with the issues. It is necessary for each of us to put ourselves in the shoes of our fellow anglers and view each issue as broadly as possible.

Letter to Sectary of Commerce

November 22, 2019

The Honorable Wilbur Ross
Secretary of Commerce
United States Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue, Northwest
Washington, DC 20230

When the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission voted to issue a non-compliance order to Virginia, there was some comparison to the New Jersey issue. When the ASMFC voted New Jersey out of compliance, you did support that action. These issues are completely opposite. New Jersey was not asking for more fish or a softening of the regulations. We were just asking to implement a reduction with a size fish that would have less impact on our recreational fishing industry. After your ruling, New Jersey worked with the National Marine Fisheries Service to implement regulations that were actually more restrictive than those implemented by other states. We took a larger reduction than necessary under the plan but it met the needs of New Jersey's recreational industry.

By contrast, in Virginia, one company, under new foreign ownership, has decided to flaunt a cap that was required in the Chesapeake Bay area. I am not going to rehash the eight pages of information sent to you by Robert Beal, executive director of ASMFC. The Governor of Virginia supports the implementation of the cap. This company, through its lobbying efforts, has been able to hold up the bill to bring Virginia into compliance in the Legislature. The company has shown great arrogance by writing a

letter informing ASMFC that it would ignore the cap and fish in a way that was most convenient to them. The cap implemented in the Chesapeake Bay in no way prevented this company from landing its total quota which is almost 83% of the fishery. But it required them to harvest the quota in other areas, not just the Chesapeake Bay.

I am asking you to issue a non-compliance to the Commonwealth of Virginia to force Cooke INC to comply with the Chesapeake Bay cap. Cooke does not seem to care about the hundreds of thousands of recreational anglers and the industries that depend on them or the commercial fisheries that depend on stocks that depend on menhaden for forage. They are just not acting as good neighbors. In the next few years, ASMFC will be implementing eco-system management for our fisheries. Menhaden will be the most important species as we move forward. We cannot have one foreign owned company completely ignore ASMFC's decisions. Even the representatives on the commission from Virginia voted for the non-compliance.

I first became the Governor's Appointee to ASMFC in 1991. I have been attending Commission meetings since 1986. I helped pass the Atlantic Coast Conservation Act to give ASMFC the power to manage fisheries. I would not have volunteered 35 years of my life if I did not believe in the mission of ASMFC. I think ASMFC is the best fisheries management group in place at this time and I am looking for your support for their decisions.

Sincerely,
Thomas P. Fote
NJ Governor's Appointee to ASMFC
22 Cruiser Court
Toms River, NJ 08753
732-270-9102

History of NOAA

Roy Miller is presently the ASMFC Governor's Appointee from Delaware but was formerly the Delaware Fish & Wildlife representative to the ASMFC. He is also a past recipient of the David Hart Award. Roy was reading my article from last month's JCAA Newspaper where I discussed the forming of NOAA and sent me an email that he had found a site that went into the whole background and thankfully shared it with me so I could correct some of what I said in last month's article. I always want to

correct when I make an error, so I went to the site below and read the article. I learned a lot that I did not know, so I want to share this article with you. I always believe that it helps to know the history of how we got to where we are today. This is a long article, so this issue contains only part 1. Part 2 will be in next month's JCAA Newspaper. If you can't wait, go to the website at [this link](#).

A Century of Conservation (Part 1)

*Part of the History of NOAA Fisheries
in the Northeast*

By John A. Guinan and Ralph E. Curtis, 1971

The National Marine Fisheries Service has existed only since October 3, 1970, but the federal fishery agency celebrated its "de facto" centennial on February 9, 1971, and will continue the observance throughout the calendar year.

On February 9, 1871, President Grant signed a bill recognizing a national interest in fisheries conservation by creating the independent Office of Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, also sometimes known as the Fish Commission. The bill authorized the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint a Commissioner from among the civil officers or employees of the Government. The Commissioner would receive no additional salary, but the sum of \$5,000 was appropriated for a study of "the decrease of the food fishes of the seacoasts and lakes of the United States, and to suggest remedial measures." Because fish were an important source of food, the fisheries were the first renewable resource to receive public attention in our nation.

Spencer Fullerton Baird, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, wrote to Congress in January 1871, calling attention to the problem of depletion of food fishes of the seacoasts and lakes of the United States and offering suggestions for remedial measures.

A Joint Resolution proposing a study of the problem had a difficult time in the House. according to debate reported in the Congressional Globe, predecessor of the Congressional Record. Committee Chairman Henry Laurens Dawes, Republican of Massachusetts, described the terms of the Resolution, but Rep. Farnsworth, Republican of Illinois, sought to kill it with ridicule. The Congressional Globe for January

18, 1871, reports: "The Resolution was read and the opposition reserved all points of order whereupon Chairman Dawes read the letter from Mr. Baird and added his own testimony to the need for scientific investigation. " The record, as reported in the Congressional Globe, indicated that other scientists involved also would serve without additional salary, and would be recruited from among personnel of the Smithsonian.

Following the presentation by Chairman Dawes, there was the following dialogue:

Mr. Farnsworth: Add to your resolution a direction to inquire in reference to grasshoppers and potato-bugs.

Mr. Dawes: My friend from Illinois may think this is a subject of no importance whatever; but I assure him that along the coasts of New Jersey and New York, and all up our coast to the British possessions, this is a matter of vital importance.

Mr. Farnsworth: So is the inquiry in reference to the potato bug.

After further discussion, Mr. Farnsworth stated that he objected to the matter. And so the Resolution was deferred. Five days later, on January 23. Chairman Dawes again asked for unanimous consent to introduce the same resolution for immediate action. This time it was opposed by Congressman Benjamin of Missouri, who is listed in the Biographical Directory of the American Congress as a "Radical Republican."

After considerable discussion in which Mr. Farnsworth again joined, a vote was taken and it was decided in the affirmative --yea's 137, nay's 47, not voting 54. This was the beginning of what we now know as the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Shortly after the affirmative vote, the President appointed Professor Baird as the first Commissioner. Headquarters were promptly established at Woods Hole, Mass., where he soon began studies of striped bass, blue fish, and other species. In the century that followed, the little village on Cape Cod became a world-famous oceanographic and marine research center.

Commissioner Baird supervised construction of the first federal fishery research laboratory at Woods Hole in 1885. The old building was replaced with a modern structure in 1960, and it is now one of the most

modern biological research laboratories operated by NMFS.

Although the new Commissioner's primary interest was in biological research, his horizons in fisheries were surprisingly broad for the period. In 1872, with support from the American Fish Culturists Association, he established a marine hatchery at Woods Hole for artificial propagation of fish. When the cod fishermen of New England were unable to obtain herring for bait, he introduced Norwegian cod gillnets and taught the use of net preservatives. With Baird's encouragement, one of his associates was the first to identify the adverse effects of bacterial action on salt cod and to develop control procedures for bacterial discoloration. In 1879, Baird arranged for his staff to work with the Census Office on the first comprehensive statistical survey of the U.S. fishing industry.

After Commissioner Baird's death in 1887, his multidiscipline approach to fisheries was largely discarded. For many years thereafter, fish culture was foremost in the federal fishery program, although time demonstrated that this was an oversimplified solution to the complex problem of maintaining high fishery yields. The original act establishing the office of Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, was amended on January 20, 1888, to authorize a salary of \$5,000 per year for the Commissioner. The amendment required that he not hold any other office or employment.

The Fish Commission and the Office of the Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries continued as an independent establishment of the federal government from its inception until July 1, 1903, when it was placed in the newly created Department of Commerce and Labor. The same legislation transferred from the Department of the Treasury to the Department of Commerce and Labor, jurisdiction, supervision, and control over the fur seal, salmon, and other fisheries of the Territory of Alaska. The federal fishery agency was also renamed the Bureau of Fisheries.

The Act of March 4, 1913, split the Department of Commerce and Labor into two separate departments, and the Bureau of Fisheries remained in the Department of Commerce until July 1, 1939. Then the 1939 Reorganization Plan No. II transferred the Bureau of Fisheries to the Department of the Interior. The same Reorganization Plan transferred the Bureau of Biological Survey from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior.

Another reorganization followed shortly. On June 30, 1940, Reorganization Plan No. III consolidated the Bureau of Fisheries and the Bureau of Biological Survey into a new agency to be known as the Fish and Wildlife Service in the Department of the Interior.

An organizational status quo was maintained for about 16 years. In 1956, the name was changed to United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The new organization consisted of two separate agencies, each with the status of a federal bureau the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Public Access

By George Browne, JCAA Access Chairman

We are working on helping shape the new public access regulations. One of the first things we need to have is a clear-cut definition of what is public access and the requirements for providing that access. This baseline is built on existing laws, regulations that were proposed before the Christie administration, court cases, the Federal agreements, the State and towns signed for beach replenishment money, and input from the coalition members. If we can get DEP to agree to these requirements, it will be a major victory to improving access for all users.

The following is a synopsis of what the beach access coalition considers to be the baseline requirements that define adequate public access. We have a more comprehensive definition that we will be presenting to DEP. This is the skinny version.

Baseline Requirements for Public Access

Public access is defined to include visual and physical access to, and use of, tidal waters and adjacent shorelines, including but not limited to:

- Perpendicular access from upland areas to tidal waters and adjacent shorelines
- Parallel access along the shoreline
- Well-marked and well-maintained perpendicular access locations every half mile
- The necessary support amenities including, but not limited to, public parking and restrooms

Access is to be open to the public and usable twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Access may not be unreasonably withheld, except for exigent circumstances such as fires, rescues, police actions, etc.

When a State of Emergency is declared by the Governor and, it limits public access, any limitations are to be lifted when the emergency has been terminated or the Governor's declaration of a State of Emergency expires.

Activities such as surfing, fishing, diving, walking, sitting on the beach, etc. may not be restricted unless it creates a clear danger to other beach users or first responders.

People using the public access locations when or where lifeguards are not present do so at their own risk.

DEP shall remove physical and institutional impediments to public access.

No fees or badge to be required for activities such as fishing, surfing, diving (but not using the beach such as setting up a blanket on the sand).

Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series Ready for Atlantic City

Series Presented by Bass Pro Shops

Ticket sales have been brisk for the February 8, Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series at Resort Casino Hotel, in Atlantic City.

Hosting the 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. event will be **George Poveromo**, Host of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on the Discovery Channel. Nick Honachefsky will serve as co-host, a noted writer, author, TV personality and New Jersey fishing authority. Joining Poveromo and Honachefsky in Atlantic City will be:

- **Captain Rich Wilkowski** - Renowned monster blackfish, sea bass and Golden tilefish pro, and offshore fishing expert aboard the Point Pleasant Beach-based, Jersey Hooker!
- **Captain Joe Cunningham** - Noted Sea Isle City-based authority on trolling for trophy stripers and tunas, and offshore jigging and deep-dropping, with Relentless Fishing!
- **Captain Ray Lopez** - Innovative specialist at trolling for trophy stripers, and offshore fishing

authority with the Forked River-based, Miss Liane Sportfishing!

- **Captain Liane Lopez** - Authority on fishing New Jersey's inshore and offshore waters, and captain aboard the boat releasing the most white marlin during the 50th Annual White Marlin Invitational tournament!
- **Ryan Degraw** - Manasquan-based trophy striped bass pro and specialist at jigging, trolling and chunking for tunas!
- **Captain Tom Daffin** - Premier Cape May-based trophy striped bass, fluke, wreck and offshore fishing authority with Fishin' Fever Sportfishing!
- **Dante Soriente** - Noted Beach Haven-based authority on catching trophy class blackfish and jig-fishing the Jersey coast!
- **Scott Newhall** - Absecon-based authority on fishing New Jersey's back bays, inlets and beaches for striped bass and trophy fluke, with Time Out Charters!
- **Captain David Wicker** - Noted specialist at using marine electronics to locate and catch more fish!
- **Captain Alan Wenzel** - South Florida-based authority on offshore live-baiting and trolling as well as conventional- and deep-drop bottom-fishing!

"The National Seminar Series has become the nation's longest-running and most popular educational course on recreational marine angling tactics and techniques," says Poveromo. "This is year number 33 for the tour and the backbone to its success has always been the vast amount of cutting edge and pertinent how-to information on catching more and bigger game fish within the waters of the respective Seminar Series stop. This information is explained in great detail by some of the very best saltwater anglers, and each session is backed by elaborate visuals that include video bytes, technical- and action-oriented images and on-stage demonstrations. One can't help but to walk away from the seminar with numerous new tricks and techniques, regardless of their experience level".

Courses for the February 8, seminar will focus on striped bass, trophy fluke tactics, secrets to fishing the back bays, deep jigging tactics, wreck fishing; blackfish, sea bass, chumming, kite fishing for sharks

and tunas, cutting edge trolling tactics for wahoo and tunas, how to find and fish near shore and offshore surface temperature breaks, and much, much more.

The Seminar Series kicks off at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by 3:00 p.m. with a one-hour break at noon. Considered to be the best bargain in sportfishing, a seminar series ticket is only \$55.00.

The ticket price covers five hours of instruction from the best pros in the business, a course textbook, a one-year subscription or extension to Salt Water Sportsman, one Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecast Analysis, bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, bottle of Star tron fuel treatment, bottle of Corrosion Block, a \$10.00 discount card off any purchase of \$75.00 or more from Bass Pro Shops and chances to win thousands of dollars' worth in door prizes! The grand prize at the conclusion of the New Jersey seminar is a Florida Keys fishing trip with one of several premier guides. The super grand prize, to be awarded two weeks after the conclusion of the 2020 series, is a new Mako Pro Skiff 17 cc!

At the conclusion of the seminar, an After Seminar Party will be held inside the Bass Pro Shops in Atlantic City. Beginning at 4:00 p.m. and concluding at 6:00 p.m., seminar participants and a guest of their choice can enjoy socializing with many of the seminar faculty, Poveromo included. There will be complimentary food, soft drinks and music. A cash bar will be on hand.

How to Register - To pay with Visa, MasterCard and American Express, call (800) 448-7360, or register on-line, visit: www.nationalseminarseries.com.

About Salt Water Sportsman's National Seminar Series - In its 33rd year, the Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series is the nation's longest running and most popular educational seminar on recreational marine angling. Featuring George Poveromo, SWS's Editor-At-Large, and Host of "George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing" on the Discovery Channel, Poveromo will take the stage at each location, along with teams comprised of Salt Water Sportsman editors, nationally-recognized anglers and some of the region's top guides. Their job: Cover in explicit detail the how-tos and where-tos of catching the most popular game fish within a specific Seminar Series region, along with the latest rigging and fishing techniques.

Gov. Murphy & V.P Al Gore Announce that NJ will More than Double its Offshore Wind Power Commitment

*Capt. Paul Eidman, Board member & Forage
Fish Committee Chairman*

*Coalition of Diverse Leaders Applauds Governor
Murphy's Bold Offshore Wind Announcement,
Executive Order More than Doubles State
Commitment*

JERSEY CITY, NJ (November 19, 2019)– Today, Governor Phil Murphy took a major step forward for clean energy in New Jersey by signing an [Executive Order](#) to more than double the state's offshore wind commitment. Joined by former Vice President Al Gore, Governor Murphy increased the state's offshore wind goal to 7,500 by 2035 - enough to power over 3 million Garden State homes and create thousands of jobs.

Today announcement builds on New Jersey's recent progress in [awarding it's first, and the nation's largest, offshore wind project](#) contract earlier this summer and sends a clear signal to the offshore wind investment community that New Jersey has a long term, large scale commitment to build a local offshore wind industry.

New Jersey's conservation, business, labor, faith, community and fishing leaders applauded today's major step forward for offshore wind power: Capt. **Paul Eidman**, owner of Reel Therapy & NJ Representative for Anglers for Offshore Wind Power, commented as follows:

"Anyone who has fished off of New Jersey's shores has seen new and different fish ranges due to warming waters in recent years. Not only will responsibly developed offshore wind power help reduce the pollution causing climate change, the turbines will serve as artificial reefs that attract sought after gamefish. As long as recreational anglers have guaranteed fishing access, a seat at the table to discuss development plans, and a commitment to monitoring impacts to fish, we should all be excited about this new commitment to a clean energy opportunity that will improve our fishing and our environment."

DEP Establishes Environmental Resources Working Group to Achieve Offshore Wind Energy Goals for NJ

State of NJ DEP Press Release, 11/20/2019

TRENTON— As part of Governor Murphy's newly expanded goal of reaching 7,500 megawatts of offshore wind generation by 2035, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will lead a newly established working group of fishing and conservation groups to provide guidance to the Administration's overall strategy and approach to achieving its offshore wind goals, New Jersey DEP Commissioner Catherine McCabe announced today.

The New Jersey Environmental Resources Offshore Wind Working Group will draw representatives from commercial and recreational fishing industries, conservation organizations, maritime industry, and fisheries councils. The Working Group will ensure that interested parties have a seat at the table with government officials to help shape the Murphy Administration's offshore wind strategy and implementation.

Representatives from state and federal governments will serve in an ex officio capacity.

The establishment of the Working Group recognizes that engagement is critical to the success of the Murphy Administration's clean energy, economic development and natural resource preservation goals. This working group will build on the ongoing stakeholder engagement that both DEP and the Board of Public Utilities have conducted during the development of the Administration's offshore wind strategic plan and solicitation process.

"Offshore wind development is critical to achieving our statewide goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2050, and it is important that all interested parties have a voice in that process," said Commissioner McCabe. "By working together with the fishing industry and conservation community in reaching this goal, we can effectively combat the harmful effects of sea-level rise and climate change while preserving critical aspects of our economy and natural resources."

"NJBPU is pleased to work with DEP and Working Group members on this effort in furtherance of Governor Murphy's offshore wind goals and clean energy agenda," said Joseph L. Fiordaliso, President of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. "New

Jersey continues to lead when it comes to offshore wind development, and ongoing engagement with all sectors is critical to our success when it comes to fighting climate change."

"Growing New Jersey's offshore wind economy is a rare opportunity to protect our environment while also fostering long-term, equitable economic growth and job creation," said New Jersey Economic Development Authority Chief Executive Officer Tim Sullivan. "The Environmental Resources Offshore Wind Working Group is a critical initiative that will ensure local communities and stakeholders have their voices heard throughout this process. The group has five objectives:

- Enhancing communication and coordination between fishing and conservation communities and state and federal agencies;
- Providing a platform for the fishing and conservation communities to have meaningful input to assist the state with its decision making as New Jersey moves forward with its clean energy goals;
- Sharing existing data, research and information sources with fishing and environmental groups;
- Providing information on current uses of proposed offshore wind areas in order to allow DEP and other agencies to better address, and potentially mitigate, any potential conflicts;
- Supporting scientific and technical research at state and regional levels to address issues related to offshore wind energy project planning, siting, construction, operation and monitoring.

Information about Working Group meetings will be published on the DEP's website.

Governor Murphy has made offshore wind energy development a key priority from the start of his administration, issuing [Executive Order No. 8](#) in January 2018. It directs the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities to fully implement the Offshore Wind Economic Development Act and establishes the 3,500-megawatt goal.

The Board of Public Utilities in June awarded the first 1,100 megawatts of offshore wind energy generation. In August 2019, Governor Murphy signed [Executive Order No. 79](#) establishing the Council for the Wind Innovation and New Development Institute, which will develop and implement a regional clearinghouse for education,

research, innovation and workforce training on offshore wind energy for New Jersey and the Northeastern United States.

Yesterday, Governor Murphy built upon those efforts by signing [Executive Order No. 92](#), which expanded the State's offshore wind goal to 7,500 megawatts by 2035.

To learn more about NJ's clean energy efforts including offshore wind energy, visit [this link](#). Follow the DEP on Twitter [@NewJerseyDEP](#).

ASMFC Presents Thomas Fote with Prestigious Captain David H. Hart Award

ASMFC Press Release, 10/31/2019

New Castle, NH – The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission presented Thomas P. Fote, New Jersey's Governor Appointee to the Commission, the Captain David H. Hart Award, its highest annual award, at the Commission's 78th Annual Meeting in New Castle. Mr. Fote has admirably served the State of New Jersey and the Commission since 1991 when he replaced Captain David Hart as New Jersey's Governor Appointee to the Commission.



From Left: ASMFC Chair Jim Gilmore, Hart Award Recipient Thomas Fote and ASMFC Executive Director Bob Beal

Mr. Fote's longstanding service to marine conservation and management is notable. His history is one of dedicated volunteerism on a continuous basis. After volunteering to serve in Vietnam, Mr. Fote was medically retired from the US Army as an Army Captain in 1970. Upon his return, Tom began to carve out a critical spot for himself in the world of marine conservation through diligent study, hard work, the willingness to ask penetrating questions, and engagement into a wide spectrum of conservation and

fisheries management roles, all as a full time volunteer. In the process, he has become a knowledgeable and staunch fishery advocate, acting locally on behalf of his fellow New Jersey anglers, while also considering the needs of other states.

A strong proponent of habitat protection and enhancement, Mr. Fote recognizes the critical role healthy habitat plays in fisheries management. As the founding member and first chair of the Habitat Committee, was instrumental in the development of the Commission's Habitat Program. Throughout his life, he's become increasingly active in environmental issues and has been a powerful voice in opposition to those who would degrade the marine environment. Having seen firsthand the devastation of "Agent Orange" in Vietnam, Mr. Fote found that this same Agent Orange had been made in New Jersey and dumped into Newark Bay. Mr. Fote worked with numerous conservation agencies to rid New Jersey's waters of a whole spectrum of contaminants.

With his service to the Commission dating back to 1991, Mr. Fote's has become the onsite "functional historian" for the Commission. His long range perspective puts difficult decisions into context and brings clarity to confusing dilemmas. Understanding how important it is to bring new members up to speed so they can quickly and constructively engage in the Commission process, Mr. Fote goes out of his way to help new Commissioners understand the complexities of the organization and how to work through the sometimes confusing maze of options.

Mr. Fote firmly believes in the inherent strength of partnerships and collaboration. He frequently communicates with others to develop a compromise and/or coalition for the common good. His extensive knowledge, reputation, and impassioned viewpoint are key catalysts in bringing divergent groups together for a common cause. This is exemplified through his work as a volunteer with numerous organizations including the New Jersey Environmental Federation and the New Jersey Coast Anglers Association. Throughout his life, Mr. Fote has demonstrated that a conservation ethic and spirit of volunteerism can be lifelong passions. Atlantic coast fisheries management is better because of his involvement.

The Commission instituted the Hart Award in 1991 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding efforts to improve Atlantic coast marine fisheries. The Hart Award is named for one of the

Commission's longest serving members, who dedicated himself to the advancement and protection of marine fishery resources, Captain David H. Hart, from the State of New Jersey.

Nominations Sought for New Recreational Electronic Reporting Task Force

NOAA Fisheries News, 11/20/2019

NOAA Fisheries and the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) are pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the new Recreational Electronic Reporting Task Force. This Task Force will provide expert advice to MAFAC, and subsequently NOAA Fisheries Leadership, on the generation, delivery, and use of electronically reported data from private recreational anglers to assist NOAA Fisheries in fulfilling its mission activities. The information provided by the Task Force and MAFAC will assist NOAA Fisheries in fulfilling its central role in providing useable high quality, accurate data on recreational fisheries.

The Task Force will be comprised of approximately 10 individuals who demonstrate subject matter expertise and experience in one or more relevant fields including, but not limited to, sampling statistics, survey methodologies, citizen science, fishery stock assessment science, electronic monitoring or reporting, fisheries management, database development and/or management, mobile technology applications (apps), and marine recreational fishing.

It is not intended that all Task Force members be scientists or researchers, however, other members should have experience with issues related to the generation, delivery, and use of opt-in electronic data, public attitudes about participating in such programs, or similar ecological self-reporting data systems from which parallels can be drawn. At least one member of MAFAC will serve as a member of the Task Force.

All subject matter experts who meet the membership criteria outlined in the Federal Register Notice are invited to submit nomination materials, and self-nominations are acceptable. Membership is voluntary and, except for any potential reimbursable travel and related expenses, service is without pay. All details are in the Federal Register Notice that published today.

How to submit a nomination: Nominations should be addressed to Heidi Lovett and must be postmarked or have an email date stamp on or before January 21, 2020 (NMFS Office of Policy, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; or heidi.lovett@noaa.gov).

For more information please contact: Assistant Executive Director, MAFAC or 301-427-8034.

Jersey Coast Anglers Association Sportsperson-of-the-Year Dinner

By John Toth

All too often, people who do so many things to promote, enhance and protect the sport of salt water fishing are not recognized. The purpose of the annual Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) dinner is to recognize the contributions of these individuals who devote their time, energy and resources (often financial) to support salt water fishing, especially in New Jersey.

The people who have received this prestigious award vary and some of them include: U.S. Congressman Frank Pallone, Senator Joe Palaia, Al Ristori, George Howard (NJ Federation & former Director NJ Fish & Game), Bill Figley, Sergio Radossi, Pete Grimbilas, Chairman, NJ Outdoor Alliance and most recently John Tiedmann from Monmouth University who was honored for his dedication to protecting marine habitats, water quality and striped bass.

As you can see, these individuals come from varied backgrounds, but they all have commonality with their dedication to the sport of salt water fishing.

In case you don't know how they are selected to receive this prestigious award, the JCAA member clubs nominate their candidate for it. The names of the candidates and a summary of their achievements in regard to salt water fishing are printed in the monthly JCAA newsletter so that club members can review them and decide on who should receive this award. Each club has only one vote to cast in this special election that is held at the JCAA's October General membership meeting. At this meeting, the names of the candidates are read and nominated. A vote is taken in a secret ballot format and the candidate with the most votes receives the JCAA award.

This year's JCAA Sportsperson of the Year dinner was held at Martell's Water's Edge Restaurant in Bayville, NJ. Approximately 110 JCAA members and supporters were in attendance. The JCAA has held this dinner at the Crystal Point Yacht Club for many years, but we had to change the venue since the Crystal Point would not provide the JCAA with a reserved date for this function and a significant price increase. This was our first time at Martell's Water's Edge and it was a positive experience. However, we are still seeking comments from club members to determine if they are satisfied with it and want us to return.

Two individuals were honored at this dinner. **John Tiedmann** received the JCAA Sportsperson-of-the-Year award. John is the Assistant Dean at Monmouth University's School of Science and Director of the Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy Program. John's career has been dedicated to protecting marine habitats and water quality. John also works with Stripers Forever to protect striped bass and to restore the species. In addition to his work as a researcher, scientist and educator, John is an avid angler and has been recognized with appointments to various organizations such as the Advisory Committee to the NJ Sea Grant Consortium.

Liz Jackson, Program Coordinator of Hooked on-Fishing-Not-on-Drugs received JCAA's Youth Education Award. HOFNOD is a state sponsored program with a focus of getting more youths involved in fishing, especially from disadvantaged neighborhoods. Liz has done an exceptional job in managing this program to engage more youths to experience fishing and nature in general.

The JCAA and the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA) have worked to get funding for this program for a number of years, possibly ten. I made a presentation to the Senate Environmental Committee in Trenton a number of years ago to support HOFND and this committee approved it for eventual vote by our legislators. We are presently trying to increase funding for this worthwhile program and during the NJOA's caucus held in Trenton during December of 2018, I along with other NJOA members talked to a number of legislators to increase the funding for this program from \$200,000 to \$450,000. We anticipate that this increase in funding will be approved.

Congratulations to both John Tiedmann and Liz Jackson for receiving your awards! Your dedication to the sport salt water fishing is recognized by all of us and well deserved.

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

2019 JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD

Liz Jackson received the **2019 Youth Education Award** at the JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner located at Martell's Water's Edge, Bayville, NJ. Liz was nominated by the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen Clubs and selected by the JCAA Youth Education Committee. Liz also received a Certificate of Congressional Recognition by Jerome Townsend, Constituent Advocate for 3rd Congressional District Representative Andy Kim.

We appreciate all the hard work that Liz Jackson and her coworker Alanna Newmark do to teach our young people about NJ HOFNOD, conservation and protecting the environment. It's not an easy job to organize Group/Leader Training, Instructor Workshops and oversee NJ HOFNOD youth components in fourteen New Jersey counties.



From left to right: Don Marantz, John Tiedeman, Alanna Newmark, Liz Jackson, Al Marantz

Since 1986, many organizations and fishing clubs were promoters of HOFNOD and the biggest hurdle experienced was keeping the forward motion of program. Liz does an excellent job of guiding NJ HOFNOD to the next level and moving forward. During May 2019, bill S-3457 was introduced to increase the much-needed funding to sustain NJ HOFNOD into the future.

We see the benefit of a successful NJ HOFNOD program running smoothly, so let's keep it a priority to get kids involved in the outdoors and not fall victim to drugs and alcohol. Liz and all the NJ HOFNOD volunteers do an amazing job of working with youngsters and growing their programs. Hopefully, bill S-3457 will provide more funds to expand NJ HOFOD.

KIDS FISHING CONTEST

On Friday, November 15th, Dan Dunn, Sunshine Optimist Club President, invited JCAA Youth Education Committee to speak about how to conduct a successful youth fishing contest. Members were excited to learn how to run a successful freshwater fishing event at a local lake in Freehold for kids during the Spring of 2020. We discussed how to utilize materials from Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and Take Me Fishing materials. We explained to the membership about how to recruit experienced anglers that can help support their first youth fishing contest. Members of the JCAA Youth Education Committee will support their event by providing a fishing contest format, loaner rods/reels, printed materials and safety instruction sheets.

BRICK MEMORIAL STUDENTS SUPPORT PLAY HOOK-e GO FISHING

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 12 visited Brick Memorial High School two days after Veterans Day to speak about the Vietnam war and display four tables of artifacts from the war. Brick Memorial High School students from JROTC and NJ "Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs" high school fishing club had a chance to learn about the Vietnam war and hear a few fishing stories. As part of an effort to support veteran's students from the fishing club sold Play HOOK-e Go Fishing magnets and presented the funds to Ernie Diorio, VVA Chapter 12 Vice President. The membership of VVA Chapter 12 was honored to be recognized and are very proud of our young people that show support for our veterans. Dennis Beauregard, President VVA Shore Area Chapter 12 stated: "We were very impressed by how students recognized our service and cared enough to donate to our Play HOOK-e from PTSD program."

We look forward to working with Brick Memorial High School Fishing Club NJ HOFNOD again next year. VVA Chapter 12 Executive Board and members voted to offer a contribution of \$500 to Brick Memorial High School Fishing Club to promote their NJ Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs fishing program.

OPENING OF THE MANASQUAN INLET

Veterans and their guests are welcome to come view a 1931 film about The Opening of the Manasquan Inlet. We will meet on Thursday, December 12, 2019, 6:45pm at VFW Post 2226, 212 Norwood Ave., Oakhurst, NJ.

The program is geared towards Veterans struggling with PTSD & TBI but all Veterans and their families are welcome to attend. The goal is to connect veterans and their families to VA Service Offices/Outreach Centers, NJ Coastal Parks, Fishing Clubs, Veteran Organizations, and help Veteran men and women take time to heal by utilizing eco-therapy to limit PTSD symptoms.

Attendees will view a short film about how the Manasquan Inlet was redirected during 1931. We will also discuss how and where to fish along both sides of the inlet.

Refreshments, door prizes, and welcome bags for veterans and family members.

Greg K, Shore Surf Club President, Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Chair, and Member # 164 New Jersey Beach Buggy Association will be the speaker. To Register: Phone: 732-785-9278 or email gtkucharews@jcaa.org for more veteran fishing opportunities go to [this link](#).

NJ HOFNOD MI-JO PARTY BOAT TRIP

We thank Liz Jackson for inviting our Play HOOK-e veterans to fish on the Mi-Jo party boat out of Atlantic Highlands to fish with youngsters from the NJ HOFNOD program.

If you would like to become a certified NJ HOFNOD instructor, please contact Liz Jackson, NJ DEP Division of Fish & Wildlife, Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07683 908-637-4125 x122. Visit the NJ HOFNOD [website](#) to view a group near you.

YOUTH FISHING NEWS

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee is asking JCAA member clubs/organizations for a listing of scheduled youth and family events that are going to be held by your club or organization during 2020.

The purpose of this request is to alert other fishing clubs and organizations that would like to participate in your youth and family event. The JCAA Newspaper is a way to get the word out about what's happening in your club. Use this opportunity to inform others about events your fishing club/organization is doing to promote fishing. Show season is fast approaching, please let us know if your club will have a booth at a show and we will include it in our youth education report.