



RHODE ISLAND
SALTWATER
ANGLERS
Foundation



P.O. Box 1465, Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

401-826-2121

FAX: 401-826-3546

2013 Southern New England Recreational Fishing Symposium
April 2, 2013 • Radisson Airport Hotel, Warwick, RI

COMPLETE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS' RESPONSES TO TOPICS

The participants at each table gave their suggestions on each topic being discussed. All responses were recorded. Each table's most important response was presented in the Symposium Final Report. All of the other responses are listed here and most are worthy of consideration in the future.

Topic 1 - Accessing the Shore

Table 1

- A main issue is parking at the access points.
- We would like clearly defined laws.
- Have a badge that clearly identifies that Angler is a shoreline keeper that can be available at Narragansett Bay tackle shops.

Table 2

- There is a need for parking at the access points along with bike locks
- Access for people who do not have any.
- Education on access point locations.
- Increase pier facilities (Jamestown Bridge)
- Educate and distribute license at point of fishing
- Large signage for the RISSA Adopt a Spot
- New fishing guides will help with access.
- Include a policy that would allow a car to travel on the beach
- Pass one access law for all access points in the Rhode Island area.
- Private developments that have it as a requirement that needs to be published.

Table 3

- We fear there is a decline in the maintenance of public access, there are concerns about beach erosion and climate change that will affect liability issues.
- We also feel that there is a need for more laws that will have an effect on the community regulations for recreational fishing.
- There should also be a courtesy use that maintains the aesthetic value of area for shoreline keepers.
- Another issue is limited parking.

Table 4

- Improve parking near public access points in a strategic way, along with improving the existing boat ramp access.
- Acquire and develop additional fishing access sites which include improvements such as bathroom facilities.
- It would be helpful to address the potential of climate change to impact the public access site.

Table 5

- How ROW's are physically defined and designated in the real world?
- Public education programs on ROW, allowing the public to understand how they can benefit.
- There are hidden ROW's with removed signs that need to be fixed.
- Parking at ROW's is another concern.
- A need for the Piping Plovers cohabitation plans
- A concern is the federal endangered species
- Create a liaison between state and federal laws to balance the public access concerns.
- Show the communities that the opportunities for shore access can help benefit the local economy.

Table 6

- Weekapaug Breechway access, is this a public structure?
- Parking issues related to ROW access.
- Lists of state designated and local access to the shore.
- The lateral access is separated by rock points that are underwater and high tide but exposed at low tide. Taxpayers funded piers, to having fishing access.
- New developments such as the need to protect property and access the issues include in the deed.

Table 7

- The town's awareness of fisherman's access & parking permits including local restrictions is a main concern.
- There is a lack of public education about access point's website.
- Is it possible to have state permits rather than different town permits?
- Is it possible to educate the local DEM Police on the legal access points?
- Could the fees from fishing permits be used to gain ROW?

Table 8

- RISAA should have input on the new development of the access points.
- Parking at the access points are a continuous problem.

Table 9

- Seek clarification of Ibbison vs. RI Constitution
- Improved awareness and signage of the access points would be good.
- What should someone do who wants to legally exercise their rights to do to protect those rights? (avoid harassment)

Table 10

- We would like public access to the data base.
- Legally prepared for winning at setting up a case law.
- Identify and formalize access points for all to know.
- Participate in a badge process for funding.
- We would like to see more than 2 spots for access point parking; it should be set back from the access point but not so far that you could walk to without distress.
- Pass out a card to RISSA members that state your rights to access the points. This card could be kept in your wallet if you are ever stopped and questioned.

Table 11

- RISAA should be able to work with the town and CRMC to find a parking solution.
- Clearing and maintenance managing over 200 right of ways, the town municipalities should work together to clear and maintain the areas.
- There could be conflict resolution by providing trash cans, line recycling at each location.
- We would like to see outreach sessions with neighborhoods.
- Have a mediator to help to find a happy medium with issues like parking and limited liability.
- Create outreach programs to shore fishers that are outside RISSA membership for issues such as cultural diversity and language diversity.
- Adopt an Access point to improve and expand to include maintenance education and parking mediation.

Table 12

- Identify prime fishing locations by doing the following:
 - o Develop a map or list of these locations and make the lists publicly accessible.
 - o Create clear signage for these locations.
- If there is no access to certain locations then RISAA or other organizations could establish easements or legal access.
- Have RISSA bring forward a case to confront and resolve the issues between the state constitution and IBSEN case.

Topic 2 - Climate Change**Table 1**

- Create better reef structures and habitat.
- Reduce the water intake in the power plants.
- A need for more education on effects of fertilization.

Table 2

- The allocation and geographic area should be common data to help improve the recreational and commercial fishing.
- We would like to see a flexible policy between state and federal regulations.

- Education on fishing changes within the ecosystem.

Table 3

- The changing species composition needs to be discussed and the anglers need to be flexible.
- Disentangling mortality effects and looking at the climate change verses the management effects in managing foreign species.
- A lot of uncertainty and unknowns associated with the climate change, a good idea is to move to an ecosystem approach to help change the situation for the better.

Table 4

- Advocate for adjustments to target quotas, commensurate with the increase or decrease in local populations.
- Address public access & habitat issues relative to sea level rise. An example is the create access through permitting and considering habitat planning initiatives.
- Promote realignment of federal and state council systems through the redesign of MSA.

Table 5

- Create interest in so called “trashed” fish which are more abundant in these areas.
- Promote interest through tournament targets with the abundant “trash fish”.
- Keep watch on newly populous fish to avoid overfishing.
- Create an interest in so called “exotic” southern fish like Spot, Kyno fish ect...

Table 6

- Concerning climate change, take into account the new species.
- Require spawning conditions to then be taken into consideration for management decisions.
- Request the scientific community to continue to look into climate change and how it could impact future fisheries.

Table 7

- Getting the facts out of why these changes are coming about regarding availability of species.
- The agley bloom is caused by over fertilization and we need to educate the public about the bloom.
- There needs to be a general awareness of what species are now available.
- There should be a possibility of restock for species that may decline over a certain period of time.

Table 8

- They should work closely with the scientific community to identify species that can be saved.

Table 9

- Different is not bad, we should embrace and promote the climate change to come up with new findings.
- Promote awareness of the benefits of new species.

Table 10

- Manage new fisheries from the beginning and manage all fish stocks in real time.
- Should also manage the complete ecosystems not just specific species.

Table 11

- Nothing can be done about the impending change itself, we must keep getting involved with ensuring lateral access.
- Maintain involvement to ensure equity in fisheries management with shifting species composition.
- We need to be aware of scientific information on how climate change affects species.

Table 12

- As climate changes it is important to protect vulnerable species and reduce pressure such as a reduction in quota.
- Be aware of and monitor the PH changes and ocean acidification that comes along with climate change, as increasing PH could drastically affect individual species or even whole ecosystems.
- Anticipate and plan for species composition changes that are expected to occur.

Topic 3- The challenge of managing recreational fishing**Table 1**

- Improve habitats and breed estuaries, while also improving pollution controls and sewer systems.
- Remove fish traps for fish travel during the breeding season, along with gill nets from the shore line.
- Improve fish ways for herrings, shad & eels.
- Thin out the amount of geese in the area.

Table 2

- Protection of the decreasing budget, commercial may take bigger level of funding than recreation. We need to protect recreational management from commercial programs.
- Accountability measures needs to be based on the uncertainty in the data.

Table 3 – did not report/participate**Table 4**

- Advocate for stable regulations year to year.
- Advocate for regionally or similar regulations throughout.
- Advocate for council representation in line with stock distributions.
- Educate the fishing public on reasons for management changes and reasons for manage options selections.
- Determine ways to obtain a non-biased opinion from the anglers on preferred management options.

Table 5

- Move towards catch data from all license holders required to renew license with reason as to why data in being collected.
- RISAA could be a gathering point for the fishermen who catch data from members and affiliated clubs.
- Combat ignorance of certain anglers pertaining to fishing regulations.
- The state by state regulations switch to the standard regional regulations.

Table 6

- Increase enforcement!
- More equitable consideration for shore bound anglers in local marine fisheries regulations.

Table 7

- Be sure that there is adequate representation for RISAA at various meetings and proceedings, of the different entities involved in issues impacting the recreational fishing industry.

Table 8

- Better data collection is needed.
- There needs to be more salt water recreational fishing managed like it is with fresh water.
- There is a need for more tools for fishery managers. (ex: slot limits)

Table 9

- Create pathways to communication with under –represented groups. (i.e. apps, surveys and abstracts available in various languages)
- We need to find creative ways of increasing enforcement of fisheries laws.

Table 10

- The representation on management needs to be fair.
- We need to increase the focus on release mortality improvement.
- Larger stock on management panels.

Table 11

- Why is recreational fishery underrepresented in the council?
- Get politics out of fishing, science- based and management for common ground.
- Need better enforcement on regulations.
- More reporting needed and more research needed to act on research because there is no data that is definitive.

Table 12

- Possibly enhance current MRIP sampling by including email or other modules to increase responses to send emails throughout the year.
- Look into a more regulations over longer periods of time. Such as striped bass – 28" at 2 fish per person. RISAA and other organizations could try to push for this with management
- Look into other sampling methods other than MRIP, currently has too much data delay.