

## FISHING ETIQUETTE (from page 15)

Unfortunately some will stay put until the bite is off. So be it. That's the etiquette of the beach.

**Snag and snap.** An enjoyable day can quickly change if there is a constant snagging of lines, especially when a bite is on. When another angler is in close proximity and is hooked on to a fish, proper etiquette requires that you reel in your line and allow the fellow angler to land the fish without causing a tangle. You don't want to be the cause of the loss of a fish.

Proper etiquette also comes in handy when **choosing between lures and bucktails**. Anglers need to know their surroundings when making this selection. You need to understand how the current and the surf will impact the movement of the bait.

For example, if you are fishing underneath the Montauk Lighthouse and you notice others using bucktails, choose a bucktail. If you decide to use a plug or other kind of swimmer, you need to realize the plug will move at a different speed than the bucktails due to the currents that surround the light. This will result in constant tangles and problems with the other anglers.

My advice? Look around, if anglers are utilizing lures do not drop a piece of bait and sinker in the middle of another fisherman's cast. This would be a very bad idea.

**Showing etiquette is showing respect-** respect towards one another, towards the environment and towards conservation.

Moving forward we need to respect the regulations regarding the limits that are put in place. I am a big proponent of catch and release when it comes to striped bass and I encourage clients that I guide to catch and release as well. However, as long as a fish falls within the legal limits, I do not mind people keeping their catch. We all need to do our part to protect this resource for future generations.

If you see people not complying with the regulations please call your local authorities. An enjoyable relaxing day on the water should be just that, enjoyable. Enjoyable for everyone; whether you are an experienced angler or a novice going out for their first time. Live the Passion! Tight lines!

*Bernie Hoyt is from Aquebogue, Long Island. He is a NY Certified Fishing Guide specializing in surfcasting with over 30 years experience fishing the legendary waters of Long Island. He is well known for his informative seminars at saltwater shows up and down the Atlantic seaboard. He offers trips for all ages and skill levels throughout the outer beaches and inlets of Long Island, as well as the Cape Cod Canal, Cuttyhunk, and other Striper locations in the northeast. He is a long time member of the Long Island Beach Buggy Association and the Montauk Surfcasters Association.*



You can contact Bernie on Facebook through *Bernie Bass Surfcasting Services*, on Instagram @*Bernie\_bass* and through his website at [www.Berniebass.com](http://www.Berniebass.com)

## REC LICENSE REPORT (from page 36)

- \* Seapowet- habitat improvement work and relocation of parking area
- \* Deep Hole fishing area- grade parking lot and road
- \* Kings Beach Fishing access- install new signs and delivered gravel
- \* Black Point-replaced damaged signs
- \$9,110 was used for public education, information, and outreach, including production of the fifth annual Rhode Island Recreational Saltwater Fishing Guide (\$3,240), the one page laminated fishing abstract (\$1,233) and new kiosk at the Galilee charter boat dock (\$4,637).

### BUDGET FOR 2018

The 2018 budget is shown in table. It is anticipated that the restricted receipt account will receive another \$200,000 from 2018 license sales.

Among the categories shown, under the Boating/Fishing Access I, the plan will be to begin major renovations on the boat ramps at Charlestown Breachway and Quononochontaug.

Under Artificial Reef Support, DEM is planning to place an array of small reef balls off the front of the Rocky Point fishing pier being constructed this year.

The entire report can be viewed on the RI Saltwater Angler's web site: [www.risaa.org/info/2017\\_RecLicenseReport.pdf](http://www.risaa.org/info/2017_RecLicenseReport.pdf)

## REC SYMPOSIUM (from page 12)

"The ease of access and reputation for good fishing lures both residents and tourists to our shores every year," Coit continued. "The MSA has helped to fortify our fisheries by mandating a better understanding of our marine resources, rebuilding depleted fish stocks, and holding fishermen accountable for their catch. We look forward to working with RISAA and Rhode Island's congressional delegation to ensure that our federal laws support recreational fishing as we pursue sustainable management of our incredible marine resources."

The Magnuson-Stevens Act governs both commercial and recreational fishing in federal waters. However, **Dennis Nixon**, Symposium panel moderator, professor of Marine Affairs at URI and director of the Rhode Island Sea Grant Program said, "When the law was originally written recreational fishing did not occur often in federal waters but took place mostly in state waters. Since the law was written focusing on commercial fishing, it does need to better reflect the needs of recreational fishing today."

"We plan on documenting and prioritizing Symposium input and developing MSA and recreational fishing recommendations for Southern New England's U.S. Senate and House members," said Steve Medeiros, RISAA President.

The complete symposium report can be found online at [www.risaa.org](http://www.risaa.org).