



# Secretary's Office

Roger Tellier



The Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association (RISAA) Board of Directors meets monthly. In order to keep all members apprised of Board business I will report here when appropriate. It is important to note that not all business will be reported here since there are often issues dealing with individual members and privacy will always be protected. Also, some Board business that doesn't result in any action won't be printed.

## Board of Directors Meeting Report: February 19, 2019

- The meeting began with a presentation by RIDEM Fisheries staff on the 2018 Rhode Island Recreational Fishing License Program Report. Marine Fisheries Chief **Jason McNamee**, and staff **John Lake** and **Chris Parkins**, made the presentation which described the 2018 results and proposals for 2019.

(This report will be printed in the April RISAA news magazine)

- Next the Board received a presentation by Junior Member **Nathan Tellier**, a senior at North Kingstown HS, who has completed his "senior project" by creating a calendar with photos of Narragansett Bay. The calendar will sell for \$10 and the profits are being donated to the RISAA Foundation.

- Approved a request by the South Kingstown Parks Director for RISAA members to help with their annual Kids Fisher Derby to be held on June 6. RISAA members have helped with this event for the past several years.

- Reviewed a preliminary aquaculture lease application that would create a 10 acre lease to grow sugar kelp during the winter. This would be placed south of Napatree Point Barrier Beach. The gear would be placed in the site from November 1 to June 15.

The Board voted to send a letter of objection since this is

an area heavily fished by recreational anglers for spring/fall striped bass and fall bonito and false albacore, and the gear would remove this area for fishing. The Board's letter suggested that the gear be operational only between Nov. 15 to April 15, and if so, would no longer interfere with recreational fishing.

- Steve Medeiros reported that three member fishing trips had been arranged for Squid, Fluke and Parent/Child. The Board then voted to arrange another full day Tautog trip in October and to publicize it in the news magazine.

- David Michel agreed to begin the process of contacting all affiliated clubs to verify their current officers and contact information.

**Members are reminded that a vote will take place at the March 25, 2019 Quarterly Meeting for proposed changes to the RISAA By-Laws.**

The By-Laws, clearly showing all proposed changes, is available to view online at the RISAA web site at [www.risaa.org/bylaws\\_v8.pdf](http://www.risaa.org/bylaws_v8.pdf)

Questions on the proposed changes or the meeting report may be directed to me at [tellier@risaa.org](mailto:tellier@risaa.org)



## Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries



### Status Quo Measures for 2019 Recreational Black Sea Bass Fishery Approved

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Management Board approved status quo measures for the 2019 black sea bass recreational fishery (see Table 1). This action is based on the recommendations of its Technical Committee, which found that status quo measures are not likely to exceed the coastwide recreational harvest limit for 2019.

Based on the most recent most stock assessment, the stock is estimated to be above the

biomass target and not experiencing overfishing.

The Board also approved proposals from Virginia and North

Carolina to participate in the February 2019 recreational fishery specified by NOAA Fisheries. The season will be open from February 1-28, 2019 with a 12.5 inch minimum size limit and 15 fish possession limit. To account for any harvest in February, Virginia and North Carolina will adjust their management measures later in the season, if necessary. Recreational anglers should verify regulations with their respective states.

Table 1. 2019 Black Sea Bass Recreational Management Measures

State	Minimum Size	Possession Limit	Open Season
ME	13"	10 fish	May 19–Sep 21; Oct 18–Dec 31
NH	13"	10 fish	Jan 1–Dec 31
MA	15"	5 fish	May 19–Sep 12
RI	15"	3 fish	Jun 24–Aug 31
		7 fish	Sep 1–Dec 31
CT	Private/Shore Authorized Party/Charter	15"	5 fish
		15"	5 fish
		15"	7 fish
NY	15"	3 fish	Jun 23–Aug 31
		7 fish	Sep 1–Dec 31
NJ	12.5"	10 fish	May 15–Jun 22
	12.5"	2 fish	Jul 1–Aug 31
	12.5"	10 fish	Oct 8–Oct 31
	13"	15 fish	Nov 1–Dec 31
DE, MD, VA, & NC (North of Cape Hatteras)	12.5"	15 fish	May 15–Dec 31