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APRIL 27 & 28 9am - 4pm

2019 Tournament Schedule

Shark Tournament - July 6 & 7

Billy Carr Striper Shoutout

Boat & Surf

Sept 6-8



White Chinner Challenge

Oct 12 - Dec 7

Full Time Hours Start April 28

Open DAILY 6am - 5pm

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401-783-7766

SALTWATER LICENSE (from page 24)

7. Public Education, Information and Outreach (\$10,000)

The Division plans to continue the annual one-page water resistant regulation abstract and the *Rhode Island Saltwater Recreational Fishing Magazine*, fund the Youth Fishing Camp conducted by the R.I. Saltwater Anglers Association and purchase new field interviewer uniforms.

Although compliance with the license program has been generally good, it is clear that a number of recreational fishermen and spear fishers remain unaware of the program, not only in terms of the need to obtain a license, but also with regards to the purpose of the program and the benefits it provides to the recreational fishing community. Since the primary purpose of the license program is to develop a comprehensive database of contact information for all recreational fishermen, it makes sense to continue making a modest investment in public outreach.

During 2016, 2017 and 2018 the Division participated in the **RI Saltwater Anglers Association's Youth Fishing Camp**. Prior to 2016 there were no dedicated saltwater fishing community based instructional programs in RI. This camp for 50 children not only taught attendees about fishing techniques, but also taught about fishing regulations, ecology and sustainable practices.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been established with RISAA to conduct the camp which will accommodate 50 children between the ages of 7 and 12. The camp will be planned, coordinated and implemented by a camp coordinator. The base location for the camp will be Rocky Point State Park, Warwick, RI and will also involve children fishing on boats launched at local marinas for two days of the camp. Vessel captains will be provided by RISAA.

The proposed outreach budget would spend \$10,000 of saltwater fishing license funds to leverage an additional \$30,000 in USFWS Sportfish funding resulting in \$40,000 used for outreach and education pertaining to the recreational saltwater fishing license.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2020

There is cautious optimism that the increased revenue generated in FY2016-FY2018 from saltwater recreational licenses will hold steady into the future, as such the Division is looking into other programs to enhance recreational fishing opportunities in the state. One such program mentioned above is to place artificial reefs adjacent to state fishing piers.

The Division is also planning the design and purchase of a new research vessel that would be used to survey sportfish species and to conduct a Black Sea Bass pot survey in 2020 (among other activities). The saltwater license fees will be used to match federal funding for this purpose.

