



Official News Magazine Of the
RHODE ISLAND

SALTWATER ANGLERS

Association



www.RISAA.org

MAY, 2021 - • Issue 268

401-826-2121

Representing Over 7,500 Recreational Anglers

RI Recreational Saltwater Fishing License Annual Report Released



Shows number of license sold, fees collected, funds spent and proposed new expenditures to improve fishing opportunities

In 2020, the total number of recreational saltwater **fishing licenses was 57,732** - an increase of 8,995 over 2019! Some of this may be attributed to covid which brought families closer together and the safety of outdoor fishing. This increase has been noted nationwide.



In addition, **net revenue was \$264,131**, up by over \$45,000 over 2019.

This data was presented by RIDEM staff to the RISAA Board of Directors and Legislative Committee in a joint online meeting last month. DEM has made this

presentation every year to RISAA since the saltwater fishing license was established in 2010. **(to page 30)**

9 Year Old Junior Member **Nick Duda**

with a 7.6 lb tautog that he caught on a green crab while fishing with his dad Eric on Sept. 25



Recreational fishing is worth \$412 MILLION to the Rhode Island economy and over 4,000 jobs!

Fishing nets 5 million new & returning anglers in 2020!

Fifty-five million Americans age 6+ went fishing in 2020 according to preliminary data from the Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation’s (RBFF) *2021 Special Report on Fishing*.

These 5 million new and returning anglers, who are younger, more diverse and live in urban areas, represent 10% growth in fishing participation in 2020.

In addition to overall participation gains, RBFF saw substantial gains in key segments for growth including youth, women and diverse audiences.



“Fishing, like all other outdoor activities, clearly benefited from the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the skillful execution of marketing campaigns pre-COVID has allowed fishing and boating to rise to the top of the consideration set for consumers looking for outdoor activities,” said RBFF Senior Vice President of Marketing & Communications, Stephanie Vatalaro. “2020 was the perfect storm for fishing participation, and consumer sentiment is prime for continued growth in 2021.”