

STUFF IT CHARTERS (from page 31)

Stuff It Charters provides a great fishing experience for the novice and expert alike. Captain Joe had each of us on a fish and provided the right amount of coaching for us, as it was my first time chunking. For a great time on the water, I highly recommend Stuff It Charters. You won't be disappointed.



Mel Blake with a nighttime striper landed during the Stuff It Charters trip

REEL CAST CHARTERS (from page 32)

When the fishing is like this, time flies, and all too soon it was time to head back to the landing under the bridge. However, we did so with the satisfaction of a fun and successful trip that couldn't have been much better for our two lucky charter trip winners.

We would definitely recommend Reel Cast Charters to anyone. Thank you, Mike.



Mark Ouellette display a nice striper that he landed during the Reel Cast Charters trip in May.

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THE WATCH (from page 33)

Two bills in congress

There are two bills in congress, **H.R.200** in the House and **S.1520** in the Senate. Supporters of these bills aim to empower local fishers and managers by giving them more control of their fisheries allowing them to harvest more fish. The bills presently make the use of Allowable Catch Limits (ACLs) and/or rebuilding time times fuzzy or discretionary.

Many fishermen believe that setting Allowable Catch Limits (ACLs) and establishing time lines (ten years as a rule of thumb is present law) for a species to rebuild rather than letting it slide to take more fish is at the very heart of what has made the Magnuson-Stevens Act a success. Since 2000 over 44 fish stocks have been restored to health levels.

Charles Witek, fisheries policy author, said in a recent article (<http://conservefish.org/2018/06/21/s-1520-the-trojan-horse/>) "assuming that both bills are passed, S.1520 will be sent to conference with H.R.200, thus largely cutting the Senate, lately the more reasoned and deliberative body with respect to fisheries issues, out of the Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization debate. The entire intricate process of drafting a Senate bill, which could be shaped by a bipartisan process, the committee discussions and markup and the debate on the floor would all be lost. The terms of Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization would instead be decided by a handful of Senators and Representatives meeting together and largely out of the public eye."

At press time H.R.200 in schedule to come before the House, and S.1520 was denied a unanimous consent vote once already in the Senate.

Other than climate change and its impact on fish and habitat, action or no action on these bills is likely the most important issue before the fish and fishermen over the next decade or two.



*We didn't inherit the
Earth from our parents.
We're borrowing it
from our children.*