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Representing
OVER 7,500
Recreational
Anglers

IN THIS ISSUE:

**KAYAK COMMITTEE
OFF TO A GREAT START**

AND **FISHING
THE RIPS**

Nice bluefish caught
off Fort Adams, Newport

PLUS:
2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

ISSUE: 291 • July 2023

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JULY

31 Seminar - Offshore Basics
Marc Lamson

31 **Member Meeting**
(to follow seminar)

AUGUST

4-13 Youth/Adult Tag Team
10 Day Tournament

28 Seminar - Bonito &
False Albacore

SEPTEMBER

30-Oct 9 Team Sea Bass
10 Day Tournament

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**FULL 2023 RISAA
FLY FISHING COMMITTEE
OUTING SCHEDULE**

See Page 27

**FULL 2023 RISAA
KAYAK COMMITTEE
OUTINGS**

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SURFCASTERS SCHEDULE

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**RECREATIONAL FISHING
IS WORTH**

\$419 MILLION

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ECONOMY AND OVER**

4,000 JOBS!

The Official Newsletter of the
Rhode Island Saltwater
Anglers Association

Published Monthly

RISAA, PO BOX 1467, Coventry, RI 02816



NEW CHAPTER

While the warm July weather is upon us and anglers, boaters, and all lovers of outdoor activities are engaged in the pursuits they love the most, we at RISAA have started a new chapter. I find myself stepping into the very large shoes of the Executive Director position for the Association. Rhode Island is a small state and everyone seems to know everyone but for those members who don't already know me, let me introduce myself, extend the invitation to attend a membership meeting, and meet me in person.

I moved to RI after graduating from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and have lived here long enough to have retired from a local police department during which time I spent many years as that community's harbor master. Following that, I joined the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) as a technical assistant to the Aquatic Resource Education and Hunter Education Programs. With the help of many great people, I helped to grow both programs with various offerings including reviving the library fishing rod lending program, creating the "flybrary" program where I traveled around the State teaching fly tying in libraries and offering fly fishing events, expanded the veteran, senior, and youth fishing programs. During that time, I also recorded various videos which can be found online as well as creating the first agency podcast.

While I remember as a youth going on many fishing trips out of Dartmouth with my dad and grandfather on my grandfather's boat to catch tautog it wasn't until I started working with the DFW that I really developed a deep passion for fishing, especially fly fishing in both saltwater and freshwater. There are few things that can compare to the sense of accomplishment when you have created a fly from various materials, learned how to cast effectively, found the right location and access to it, played the tide and the wind effectively, felt the strike, set the hook, and brought the fish in. It's like magic.

Our goals and challenges at RISAA are still the same today as they have been—to promote recreational fishing, protect our fish stocks so there are plenty of fish to catch, advocating for the rights of anglers, including shore access rights and protecting our precious shores and waterways from commercialization.

As the Executive Director it is my responsibility to sit at the helm of the organization, steer it, manage operations, and carry out its mission according to the direction of the Board of Directors. We are all here for you, the membership. So please reach out to me, let me know how we are doing, and how we can improve our association.

Scott TRAVERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Reported by: Richard **Hittinger**, CHAIRMAN

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

As I write this the RI General Assembly is still wrapping up the 2023 session, so I don't have final word on several Bills that we have been following. I can tell you that we had a few successes this year.

First, a very personal Bill for RISAA – the House passed H 5953 and the Senate passed S 439 both of which designate Black Point as the "Stephen J. Medeiros Fishing Area at Black Point". RISAA provided testimony on these bills and pushed to get them passed. This is a great tribute to RISAA Founder and leader for over 22 years, Steve Medeiros. This beautiful piece of Rhode Island will be improved with signage and other things to aid the general public to access the shore and fish from this beautiful location just north of Scarborough State Beach in Narragansett. If you haven't walked the trails here and taken in the sights of this rocky shoreline you should make it a point to go there and go for a walk even if you don't break out a fishing rod. Keep an eye out for a possible Signing Ceremony with Governor McKee when he signs this bill into law in the coming days and later this summer we plan to have some sort of ceremony honoring Steve at the site.

Second, a big step for more clearly defining public access – The House passed H 5174A unanimously and the Senate passed S 417A both of which clarify the shoreline access confusion that has existed since the late 1980s when the Supreme Court of RI accepted a definition of High Tide as the 18.6-year average height of high water. This made no sense and was impossible to define on any given site in RI without a costly detailed survey and then the location changed daily whenever sand or sediment moved. Especially since the right of access to the shoreline is a Constitutional right given to all Rhode Islanders, it is important to know where this access is allowed and not allowed. The newly approved bills that are now on the Governor's desk for signature allow public access up to 10 feet shoreside of the high tide line that is evident on the shore from weed left behind from previous high tide. This is a very important bill for RISAA members and we have been fighting for these rights for many years, including the battle that we fought years ago in Westerly for beach access along Atlantic Avenue. RISAA signed on a letter to Governor McKee indicating how important it is that he sign this into law. Hopefully by the time you receive this magazine this will be Law in RI.

The third major issue that we have been working on is how to reform the Coastal Resources Management Council so that it works better to protect the coastal environment of RI. We have been following and commenting on several bills including a major

bill in both the House and Senate that would replace the current CRMC with a State Department similar to RIDEM but with all of the current duties of CRMC. As it looks currently, a bill was passed in the House and Senate (H 5966A) which changes the appointment and reporting of the CRMC Executive Director from a responsibility of the Council to the responsibility of the Governor. This in effect makes the operation of CRMC including all of the CRMC staff a function of the Executive branch and takes it out of the hands of the Council since the CRMC staff reports to the Executive Director. I'm not sure how the remaining authority of the Council will be affected, but this is a positive change that will remove a Council that is politically appointed from direct oversight of the day-to-day workings of CRMC. This bill is also currently on the Governor's desk for signature.



UPDATE

A few members of the Legislative Committee, including myself, attended a webinar on June 21 titled "Where Have All the River Herring Gone in Southern New England?". The sponsor was the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) and the speaker was Kevin Job, a Fisheries Biologist with the Connecticut DEEP Fisheries Division's Diadromous Fish Restoration Program. He presented some very interesting facts regarding the known by-

(Continued on page 10)

THE WELCOME COMMITTEE

Dawn Filliatreault Wood, CHAIR



Welcome NEW Members!

Michael Sheridan - East Greenwich, RI
 Ralph Battista - Cranston, RI
 James Tollefson - Middletown, RI
 Chris Jenkins - North Kingstown, RI
 Randall Ayers - Warwick, RI
 Thomas DiBona - Dighton, MA
 Robert Peter Mogielnicki - Charlestown, RI
 Raymond R. Ludvigson - Millbury, MA
 Heather Low - Coventry, RI
 Bodie Phifer - Cohasset, MA
 Sameh Said - Portsmouth, RI

Henry Thacher - Wakefield, RI
 Jacob Wytas - Sandwich, MA
 Brendan Raftery - Narragansett, RI
 Marc Lavallee - Portsmouth, RI
 Paul Lavallee - Warwick, RI
 Steven Hardin - Johnston, RI
 Bill Macuga - Lancaster, MA
 Bill Macuga - Lancaster, MA
 Charles Woodman - Blackstone, MA
 Ezekiel Paul-Blanc - Lincoln, RI
 Vlad Paul-Blanc - Lincoln, RI*

**LIFE MEMBER*

The purpose of the Welcome Committee is to contact new members, welcome them to the Association and answer any questions they may have about RISAA and its activities.

MEMBER PHOTOS



RISAA member Walt Galloway with a nice fluke caught on Skipjack south of Block Island.

SEND US YOUR PICS!

If you have a memorable outing, send your member photos to the editor definis@risaa.org



Max Millette - 3 year old junior member.

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COOKING YOUR CATCH

By: Paula Smalec

BAKED BLUEFISH WITH POTATOES

Genoese Style

Source: *Cooking The Catch*, by Dave "Pops" Masch, An On the Water Publication

I have prepared this recipe with striped bass and it is just as tasty. I have never been successful in getting the potatoes as crispy as the recipe describes, but the thinner you slice them, the more likely they are to become crispy. Use a waxy potato rather than a starchy potato for best results.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 bluefish fillet, approx. 1 lb.
- ¾ - 1 lb. boiling potatoes, peeled and sliced 1/8" thick
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/2 tablespoon garlic, chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
- salt & freshly ground black pepper

DIRECTIONS:

Position an oven rack in the upper third of the oven. Preheat the oven to 450 degrees.

Peel the potatoes and slice them thin, no more than 1/8" thick. Rinse them and pat them dry with paper towels.

Place the potatoes into a small baking dish. Add half of each - oil, garlic, and parsley - along with a liberal amount of salt and pepper and mix everything together thoroughly.

Arrange the potato slices along the bottom and up the sides of the dish, overlapping them as little as possible.



Place the dish into the preheated oven. Bake until they are half done, 12-15 minutes.

Remove the dish from the oven and place the fish fillet, skin-side down, on top of the potatoes.

Stir together the other half of the oil, garlic, and parsley and spread it over the fish. Season the fish with salt and pepper and return the dish to the oven for 10 minutes.

Remove the dish from the oven and baste the fish and potatoes with any seasoned oil from the bottom of the dish. Loosen the potato slices from the side of the dish and return it to the oven for an additional 5 minutes.

Serve directly from the dish, making sure to scrape all of the crunchy bits of potatoes from the bottom and sides.

RISAA MAGAZINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

RISAA is looking for volunteers to help develop their magazine which publishes nine times a year. Writers, proof readers, advertising coordinators and associate editors are needed. Put in as much or as little time as you want. Will work with a motivated team of volunteers, staff and consultants that enhanced content and developed a new format last year that has made the magazine more popular than ever.

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or call Scott at: (401) 500-2634

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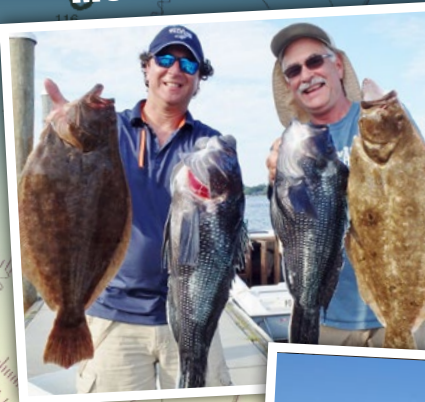
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MEMBER

KAYAK COMMITTEE OFF TO A GREAT START

By: Kraig Ruth, Kayak Committee Chairman

The kayak committee has had a busy Spring! We started the year off with our Meet and Greet at Goddard State Park in April. Several members were able to catch striped bass not far from the boat ramp before the meet and greet officially started. The meet and greet is a time for members to come together and set up their kayaks on the side of the parking lot and review each other's latest modifications. This is also a great time for people that are interested in becoming kayak anglers to take a look at some of the different models that are available and ask the owner some questions.

We followed in May with outings at Walker Farm in Barrington, Narrows Fishing Area in Bristol, and Point Judith Pond in South Kingstown. The fishing was not lights out at any of the spots but it was still a great time to get together and explore some of the most scenic places in Rhode Island. The early outings are a good time to make sure all of gear is functioning properly and modifications can be made to prepare for when the big fish arrive.



June has been off to a good start with the kayak anglers hitting the water in Newport Harbor, The Narrow River in Narragansett, and Weaver Cove in Portsmouth. The Newport Harbor outing did not disappoint the thirteen members that showed up on a beautiful, calm Wednesday night. Many fish were caught including a few slot sized striped bass and some gator bluefish.



We had a smaller group attend the Narrow River outing. The three of us fished around the Sprague Bridge and up to the mouth of the river. We caught some schoolie stripers and enjoyed the view of a spectacular double rainbow!

We delayed the Weaver Cove outing a day due to bad weather and it was worth the wait. Ten of us got together on a Thursday evening and we had perfect fishing conditions with light wind and flat seas. The fish were there in abundance with frequent striper swirls on the surface. The fish were picky however and this was a case for trying to match the hatch with fish feeding on sand eels. The tube and worm crew caught some fish but the small soft plastics ruled the day with some memorable fish catches by a few of the members.



There are 2 new categories in the RISAA yearlong tournament so don't forget to enter your Black Sea Bass and Bluefish. The kayak committee still has a lot of outings planned for the rest of the year. If you are a RISAA member and want to join us, let me know by contacting me at ruth@risaa.org.

The kayak committee was formed to provide a forum for members to share their knowledge and expertise concerning kayaking and, in particular, the skills, techniques and safety considerations associated with fishing from a kayak, and to engage as a group in kayak-related activities. The Committee meets twice a year off the water, but its principal activity has been conducting outings, fishing from our kayaks at various locations throughout Rhode Island.

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catch of Blueback Herring and Alewives in the Atlantic Herring and Mackerel fisheries. Even with millions of dollars spent to improve passage by removing dams, improving fish ladders, and improving habitat, Blueback Herring are basically no longer returning to traditional runs in CT and Alewives are not rebounding as they should. As an example, Kevin pointed to a count of returning Bluebacks in 1993 equal to 632,000 dropped to only 570 fish in 2018. The major reason for this appears to be the by-catch in both the mid-water trawl fishery and the smaller dragger fishery.

The alarming fact about the management of by-catch is that even though the quota for harvesting Atlantic Herring was recently reduced dramatically, at the same time fisheries managers at the New England Fisheries Management Council (NEFMC) increased the allowable by-catch of river herring to the highest level ever. In 2018 the Atlantic Herring fleet was allowed to have a by-catch of river herring up to 2,300,000 fish and in most recent years they have exceed the allowable by-catch in waters off Southern New England. These numbers are outrageous to me when recreational anglers are not allowed to catch any herring in rivers and streams across all of Southern New England. I have attended and testified at many NEFMC hearings regarding herring management over the last 12 years and I guess I will be attending more in the near future. We need to use these facts to convince fisheries managers to do the right thing when it comes to conserving the forage fish that are at the base of the food chain that supports all gamefish, marine mammals, and birds such as osprey. 🦅

“ The alarming fact about the management of by-catch is that even though the quota for harvesting Atlantic Herring was recently reduced dramatically, at the same time fisheries managers at the New England Fisheries Management Council (NEFMC) increased the allowable by-catch of river herring to the highest level ever. ”


JOIN RISAA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

All RISAA members are welcome to join the RISAA Legislative Committee. If you are interested send an email to me at hittinger@risaa.org and we will send you the link (via email) to the next Legislative meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 24 at 6:30 PM via Zoom.

RECREATIONAL SALTWATER FISHING REGULATIONS

(Always look at your State's website for up-to-date regulations)

SPECIES	Rhode Island	Connecticut	Massachusetts	New York
American Eel (Party /Charter)	9" Min.: 25 Fish Max. 50 Fish Per Day	9" Min.: 25 Fish	9" Min.: 25 Fish	9" Min.: 25 Fish Max. 50 Fish Per Day
Black Sea Bass (Recreational) (Party /Charter)	16.5" Min. May 22 to Aug. 26 : 2 Fish Aug. 27 to Dec. 31: 3 fish June 18 to Aug. 31: 2 Fish Sept. 1 to Dec. 31: 6 Fish	16" Min. May 19 to June 23: 5 Fish July 8 to Dec.1: 5 Fish May 19 to Aug. 31: 5 Fish Sept. 1 to Dec. 31: 7 Fish	16.5" Min. May 20 to Sept. 7: 4 Fish	16" Min. PENDING
Bluefish (Party /Charter)	No Size Min.: 3 Fish No Closed Season No Size Min.: 5 Fish	No Size Min.: 3 Fish No Closed Season	No Size Min.: 3 Fish No Closed Season No Size Min.: 5 Fish	No Size Min.: 3 Fish No Closed Season No Size Min.: 5 Fish
Cod	23" Min. 28" Max.: 5 Fish Aug 1 to May 1	22" to 28" slot Aug. 1 to April 30: 5 Fish	22" Min. 28" Max.: 5 Fish No Closed Season South & East of Cape Cod Apr. 1 to Apr. 14: 1 Fish Sept. 1 to Sept. 30: 1 Fish	21" Min.: 10 Fish No Closed Season
Federal Waters - RI, CT, & MA - Aug. 1 to May 1: 5 fish - 22" to 28"				
Haddock	18" Min.: No Limit No Closed Season	18" Min.: No Limit No Closed Season	18" Min.: 15 Fish No Closed Season	18" Min.: No Limit No Closed Season
Pollock	19" Min.: No Limit No Closed Season	19" Min.: No Limit No Closed Season	19" Min.: No Limit No Closed Season	19" Min.: No Limit No Closed Season
Scup/Porgy (Recreational)	10.5" Min.: 30 fish May 1 to Dec. 31	10.5" Min.: 30 fish May 1 to Dec. 31	10.5" Min.: 30 fish May 1 to Dec. 31	Not Published Yet
Special Shore Designation (Party /Charter)	9.5" Min.: 30 fish May 1 to Dec. 31 10.5" Min. May 1 to Aug. 31: 30 Fish Sept. 1 to Oct. 31: 40 Fish Nov. 1 to Dec. 31: 30 Fish	9.5" Min.: 30 fish May 1 to Dec. 31 10.5" Min. May 1 to Aug. 31: 30 Fish Sept. 1 to Oct. 31: 40 Fish Nov. 1 to Dec. 31: 30 Fish	9.5" Min.: 30 fish May 1 to Dec. 31 10.5" Min. May 1 to June 30: 40 Fish July 1 to Dec. 31: 30 Fish	Not Published Yet
Striped Bass <i>In line Circle Hook only if using bait all NE States</i>	SLOT: 28" to under 31": 1 Fish No closed season	SLOT: 28" to under 31": 1 Fish No closed season	SLOT: 28" to under 31": 1 Fish No closed season	SLOT: 28" to under 35": 1 Fish No closed season <i>*NY has special regulations for Hudson River North of GWB</i>
Summer Flounder	18" Min. May 3 to Dec. 31: 4 Fish <i>At special shore areas in RI 2 of the 4 fluke may be 17"</i>	18.5" Min. May 1 to Oct. 9: 4 Fish <i>At special shore areas in CT fluke may be 17"</i>	16.5" Min. May 21 to Sept. 29: 5 Fish	18.5" Min. May 1 to Oct. 9: 4 Fish
Tautog (Recreational) <small>Visit your State's Federal Regulations website for Charter Regulations</small>	16" Min. <i>Only 1 Fish Over 21" per angler</i> Apr. 1 to May 31: 3 Fish June 1 to July 31: Closed Aug. 1 to Oct. 14: 3 Fish Oct. 15 to Dec. 31: 5 Fish <i>Max. Rec. Vessel Limit: 10 Fish</i>	16" Min. Apr. 1 to Apr. 30: 2 Fish May 1 to June 30: Closed July 1 to Aug. 31: 2 Fish Sept. 1 to Oct 9: Closed Oct. 10 to Nov. 28: 3 Fish	16" Min. Jan. 1 to Mar. 31 - Closed Apr. 1 to May 31: 3 Fish June 1 to July 31: 1 Fish Aug. 1 to Oct. 14: 3 Fish Oct. 15 to Dec. 31: 5 Fish	16" Min. Jan. 1 to Mar. 30 - Closed Apr. 1 to Apr. 30: 2 Fish May 1 to Oct. 10: Closed Oct. 11 to Oct. 9: 3 Fish (LI Sound) Oct. 15 to Dec. 22: 4 Fish (NY Bight)
Weakfish (Squeteague)	16" Min.: 1 Fish No Closed Season	16" Min.: 1 Fish No Closed Season	16" Min.: 1 Fish No Closed Season	16" Min.: 1 Fish No Closed Season
Winter Flounder	12" Min. Mar. 1 to Dec. 31: 2 Fish <i>RI Narragansett Bay Potter and Point Judith ponds and Harbor of Refuge are all closed to winter Flounder fishing</i>	12" Min. Apr. 1 to Dec. 31: 2 Fish	<i>North of Cape Cod:</i> 12" Min. - 8 Fish - No Close <i>South of Cape Cod:</i> 12" Min. - 2 Fish - Mar. 1 to Dec. 31	12" Min. Apr. 1 to Dec. 31: 2 Fish



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RECREATIONAL FISHING ECONOMICS IS ALL ABOUT THE DATA

NMFS holds first recreational fishing economic workshop in nine years

By: Captain Dave Monti

Why is fishing catch and effort data so important to recreational fishing economics?

First the obvious, we have the data and actual value of commercial fish catch to estimate the economic impact of commercial fishing, but we have relatively little data for recreational fishing. This lack of reliable data on the number of anglers fishing and what they catch has been challenging for the recreational fishing community.

Recreational fishing produces billions of dollars in impact on our economy each year. Developing tools that identify how many anglers are fishing, where they fish and what they are catching will help identify shifting stocks and other climate impacts as well as help determine economic impact.

The examples of recreational fishing economic data that we do have really highlight the importance of collecting this information. For example, a 2019 study commissioned by the McGraw Center for Conservation on striped bass from Maine to North Carolina found that the recreational striped bass fishery has a whopping \$7.7 billion dollar impact on GDP and supports 104,876 jobs.



Anglers with school bluefin tuna they caught close to shore. It was the first time they had fished for bluefin tuna. Climate change continues to put pressure on species arriving and those leaving an area.

community and offshore wind farm developers both have wanted science based data on who fishes in a wind farm lease area, what they catch and the economic impact of that data. The information just does not exist today.

And lastly, we need to account for the number of anglers fishing and what they catch because it dramatically impacts our ability to manage fish stocks and fisheries to abundance. Climate change impacts on shifting stocks make this more important than ever before. We need better fishing data to determine and measure the impacts of climate on fish, fisheries and fishing communities.

On April 25 and 26, 2023, NOAA ran a hybrid online/in-person National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Recreational Economic Constituent Workshop in Tampa, Florida to address these and other issues related to economics and recreational fishing.

WORKSHOP PURPOSE

Hats off to NOAA for holding the workshop. About sixty people participated in the two-day workshop including representatives from private angling, charter fishing, bait & tackle shops, NOAA scientists/economists, fish managers, as well as fishing industry association leaders.

The aim of the workshop was to enhance the understanding of how economics plays a role in management decisions and identify information gaps; explore how stakeholders can improve recreational fishing economic data collection; and identify tangible ways anglers can help collect data and share information in the future.

Here are some workshop highlights:

(Continued on page 14)



Peter Jenkins, chair of the American Saltwater Guides Association, said, "Growing fish to abundance makes great economic sense; more fish in the water for all of us to catch, eat and/or release."

"The findings in this study are significant as changes to striped bass management policies can have significant impacts on coastal and state economies," said Charles S. Potter Jr., President and CEO of the McGraw Center for Conservation Leadership. "Smart management plans depend in part on understanding how changes to the fishery can impact local commercial and recreation communities as well as the public at large."

Another need for economic data on recreational fishing is the development of offshore wind farms. The recreational fishing

FISH IN THE WATER ARE WORTH MORE THAN FISH DEAD ON THE DOCK

Highlights of the workshop included a brief presentation by Spud Woodward on angler perceptions on how recreational economic data needs to change and be enhanced.

Mr. Woodward, a retired Georgia Department of Natural Resources employee, member of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, said, "We manage fisheries to maximum sustainable yield (MSY); however, this practice does not work for the recreational fishing community as many anglers practice catch & release, and the fish released are not properly being accounted for."

Participants shared that the potential of catching fish is what drives recreational fishing, so a fish released back into the water for other anglers to catch is worth a lot more than a fish caught and killed.

Peter Jenkins, owner of the Saltwater Edge outfitters in Middletown, RI and chairman of the board of the American Saltwater Guides Association, advocates for abundant fisheries. Jenkins said in an interview, "Access to abundant fisheries is critical to our business and directly relates to economics. The idea is to grow fish to abundance so there are more of them in the water for all of us to catch, eat and/or release."

Future economic data collected and analyzed should identify

GPS data are available

4,235 observations with 67 unique IDs on the Gulf between 7/30/2021 and 8/1/2021 (TIFT_2021)

GPS data from 67 Gulf anglers tallied 4,235 observations on a three day weekend. The chart demonstrates what is possible when using smartphone GPS data.



GPS data are available

One selected device with 382 observed points

One device, one angler with 382 observed GPS data points.



the value of fish caught and released as this is not presently being reflected.

CLIMATE IMPACTS ON FISHERIES

At the 2022 University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography Baird Symposium on climate impacts on recreational fishing, anglers shared the climate impacts they were seeing on the water.

One key learning shared by anglers was that warm water has brought robust bait profiles into the Northeast, including squid, silversides, all types of herring and mackerel, Atlantic menhaden and peanut bunker, sand eels, etc. Anglers said they were here before but not in this abundance all at the same time. Warm water has brought abundant bait, which in turn is attracting an abundance of warm water fish, as cold water fish such as winter flounder and American lobster leave the area.

Fish in greater abundance today include scup, black sea bass, sea robins, as well as pelagic and exotic warm water fish such as cobia, mahi and tuna. Striped bass are prolonging their stay, while large pelagic fish and a variety of whales and sharks have also been closer to shore than ever before.

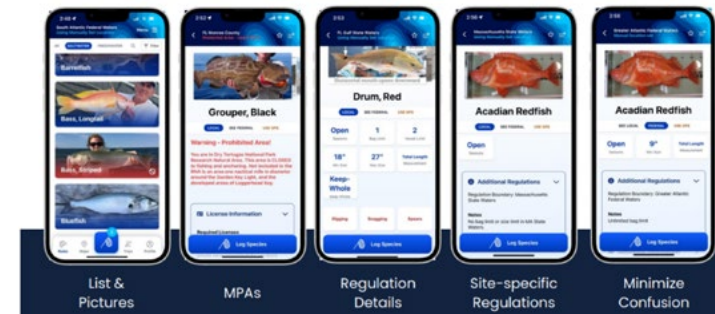


Albrey Arrington said, "Fish Rules and Fishbrain create a pot of gold of data that can be used to identify where anglers fish and what they are catching."

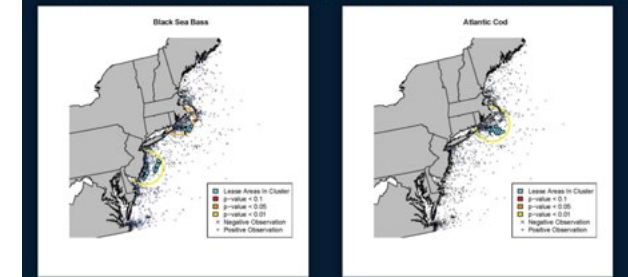
Last year on one day, September 11, anglers caught more than 24 giant bluefin tuna – from 400 to 700 pounds each – one to three miles off Narragansett and Newport, RI beaches. Dolphin pods of 200 to 300, were in the mouth of Narragansett Bay, during the summers of 2020, 2021 and 2022, which anglers had not seen at this frequency in great numbers before. In March 2023, a small pod was in Mt. Hope Bay on the Massachusetts/Rhode Island line. Sharks are being caught close to shore too. All of this was attributed to the warm water and enhanced bait profiles that attracted fish to come close to shore.

For the past two years anglers who never targeted school bluefin tuna ran out and purchased tuna fishing gear and often caught fish on their first outing. The impact of anglers catching tuna in new geographic areas could have detrimental impacts on the health of the fishery. It may also have a positive impact on the

Fish Rules App



Wind Lease Area Results: Black Sea Bass & Atlantic Cod



Fish Rules data (and eventually Fishbrain data) will be able to be used to identify what species anglers are targeting and where they are fishing. Like these charts on black sea bass and cod in a wind farm lease area.

local economy where the fish traveled to and a negative impact on the geographic place the fish left.

It's important to make sure we have new economic data that reflects current situations as new fisheries are emerging and old ones are leaving due to climate change. This type of activity is happening in many places throughout the coastal United States.

HOW NEW DATA SOURCES ARE WORKING TO ENHANCE ECONOMICS

Richard Woodward of Texas A & M University shared how GPS smartphone data is being used to identify where anglers fish and how often.

Woodward said at the workshop, "What I mean by electronic data is granular data gathered in real time about angler behavior and choices. I am focusing on data gathered using a smartphone. It could be in the form of survey on a smartphone (iSnapper), data gathered passively while using an app (FishVerify), or location data gathered without specific angler interaction or complete knowledge." You can see sample smartphone data plots on anglers in the Gulf of Mexico from Woodward's presentation.

In another recreational fishing electronic data study, Scott Steinback from NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Albrey Arrington of Fish Rules and Fishbrain, which are both smartphone software applications for anglers, shared how social media data on recreational fishing is being used to identify what anglers catch and where.

The aim of the study was to use Fish Rules georeferenced search data to understand the spatial distribution of private recreational fishing for area management, marine spatial planning, offshore

wind energy and offshore aquaculture development.

The study scanned for clusters of species regulation views in Fish Rules, then assessed the relations between the Fish Rules clusters and known fishing locations obtained from for-hire logbook data, and then compared the species cluster against wind lease areas.

The study of 11 cluster areas and eight species suggests that Fish Rules can be used to identify species-specific fishing locations and in 26 wind lease areas identified in the Northeast, all but four overlap the Fish Rules clusters to some degree.

The study did not reveal the actual number of anglers fishing in lease areas, exactly what they caught nor the economic value of the catch, but this is a very good start with some good next steps in place to expand the concept. You can see the Steinbeck/Arrington presentation here.

Albrey Arrington said, "Fish Rules and Fishbrain create a pot of gold of data that can be used to identify where anglers fish and what they are catching."



Spud Woodward, member of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, said managing maximum sustainable yield does not work for catch & release fisheries.

IMMEDIATE APPLICATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

New electronic data gathering methods are important to continue to explore. As we engage in new efforts, however, we need to consider how the data supplements or complements the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) data we presently use to estimate recreational fishing catch and effort. There needs to be a glidepath, a short term and long-term strategy to supplement existing data and/or to eventually transition to new methods.

Doug Lipton, NOAA's chief economist for NMFS said, "I believe electronic data and gathering methods discussed at the workshop can help identify climate impacts on recreational fishing as well as who fishes in offshore wind farm areas."

I agree, we need new methods like electronic data gathering by anglers to get a real time assessment of climate impacts on fish stocks. I believe that recreational fishing and offshore wind developers would welcome and benefit from scientific data on who fishes in a wind farm lease area, what they catch and the economic value of the catch activity.

A Workshop report is expected to soon be posted on NOAA's website. The Workshop agenda and presentations can be found at National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Recreational Economic Constituent Workshop.

RISAA ANNOUNCES OUR 2023 STEPHEN MEDEIROS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following children and grandchildren of our members were awarded \$600 Stephen Medeiros Memorial Scholarships in support of their college endeavors.



Reid Beland

Member: Reid Beland, Self
College: Northeastern University

Reid is passionate about fishing. In fact, he is an active member of RISAA and volunteered at our fishing show. As the founder of Reid's Rhody Rigs he is an angling entrepreneur as well as a register manager at Quaker Lane Bait and Tackle. A competitive athlete, he played on his school's

varsity sailing and golf teams. His commitment to community service is truly commendable. Whether it's volunteering as a researcher with RIDEM Fish and Wildlife, assisting in the school library, or volunteering as an Altar Server at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Reid consistently demonstrates a selfless dedication to improving the lives of others. He will be attending Northeastern University in the fall to study Chemical Engineering/Biochemistry.



Zachary Lerner

Member: Thomas Lerner, father
College: University of Rhode Island

Zachary's journey in the field of robotics has been nothing short of remarkable. For the past four years he served tirelessly as the captain and coding team leader for the Chariho Robotics Team. A

four-year varsity athlete, he has represented Chariho as a tennis player, competing in the State finals after enjoying an undefeated season. His commitment to community service is exemplary. He has volunteered his time over the past three years serving as a 3D Printing Coordinator and Support Technician for his school, where his technical expertise and support were invaluable in providing assistance to school staff and maintaining a network of printers. Through troubleshooting, building, and maintenance, Zachary's

contributions ensured the smooth operation of these essential resources. Even while juggling various commitments, this recipient works year-round as a front desk employee at the YMCA, managing a vast database of members and providing exceptional customer service. He is looking forward to beginning his major in Computer Science at University of Rhode Island.



Faith Meade

Member: Donald Goebel, grandfather
College: Vermont State University

Faith understands that academic excellence requires dedication, perseverance, and a thirst for knowledge. She has been a member of the National Honor Society (NHS) for two years. She has demonstrated exceptional

proficiency in foreign languages, earning a place in the National Foreign Language Society (NFLS) for two consecutive years. A true scholar-athlete, she captained the varsity soccer team as a senior and has received both the Most Improved Player award as well as the Coach's Award. Similarly, she led the varsity basketball team as captain, taking them to this year's state championship, while being named to the All-Class Second Team in 2023, as well as the All-Division First Team. Additionally, Faith actively engaged in student council activities, and participated in various community service initiatives, such as the West Bay Beach/Graveyard clean-up programs. She is looking forward to majoring in Health and Sports Psychology at Vermont State University.

Congrats To All Our Scholarship Winners



Alexandra Taylor

Member: Peter Obiso, Grandfather
College: University of Connecticut Biology

Alexandra grew up on an organic vegetable farm where she became fascinated by the relationship between

plants and allopathic and alternative medicine. Her passion for agriculture led her to co-found the Future Farmers of America club at her high school, a platform that has provided opportunities for students to explore the world of farming and sustainability. She has developed entrepreneurial skills by growing, harvesting, and selling fruits, vegetables, and even pumpkins. Her dedication extends to working with animals, teaching young children the importance of interacting with these creatures and fostering a love for nature. She has given generously of her time making cards for children in hospitals and working with the state of Connecticut to build wood duck nesting boxes, contributing to the preservation of our environment. A superb soccer player, she was recruited for youth national team training camps and she received all-state recognition as a junior. In a first for RISAA, Alexandra is also a certified Reiki practitioner. She will be taking her first steps towards her career as a biology major at the University of Connecticut this fall.



Victoria Thomas

Member: Eric Thomas, Father
College: Louisiana State University
Biological sciences premed

Tori is a superb academician, having been named to her school's honor roll for the past four years and earned AP Score Distinctions, demonstrating exceptional aptitude and mastery of rigorous college-level coursework. An outstanding

athlete, she has achieved success both as the captain of the varsity volleyball team and as a member of the lacrosse team, earning numerous victories and championships. This recipient has demonstrated her commitment to community service through her work with Portsmouth Pop Warner Football. Highly respected for her leadership, she was the recipient of Portsmouth High School's Stuart Booth Memorial Spirit Award, in part for her leadership of her school's biomedical club. She plans to major in biological sciences at Louisiana State University as her first step to becoming a physician. 🇺🇸



SUPPORT LOCAL BAIT SHOPS THAT SUPPORT RISAA!

RISAA is lucky to have such great local bait and tackle shops that support us and our members. When making purchases please keep them in mind as without them many of our club activities would struggle to take place and they are a integral part of RI recreational fishing.

OUR SUPPORTERS INCLUDE:

- Black Hall Outfitters - Old Lyme & Westbrook, CT
- Bristol Bait & Tackle - Bristol, RI
- Breachway Bait & Tackle - Charlestown, RI
- Crafty One Customs - Portsmouth, RI
- Fin & Feather - North Kingstown, RI
- Frances Fleet - Galilee, RI
- Lucky Bait & Tackle - Warren, RI
- Maridee Bait & Tackle - Narragansett, RI
- Ocean State Tackle - Providence, RI
- Pete's Bait & Tackle - Woonsocket, RI
- Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle - North Kingstown, RI
- Quonnie Bait & Tackle - Charlestown, RI
- Riverside Marine Bait & Tackle - Tiverton, RI
- Saltwater Edge - Middletown, RI
- Sams' Bait & Tackle - Middletown, RI
- Snug Harbor - Wakefield, RI
- Tackle Box - Warwick, RI
- Weakapaug Bait & Tackle - Westerly, RI

FISHING RIPS FROM SHORE & BOAT

By: Captain Ken Cooper

If you happen to save your copies of the RISAA Newsletter/Magazine, you will see that I last wrote about fishing rips in the May 2021 issue. That article focused on fishing from a boat, and so in this article I will also address fishing rips from shore. There are some well-established and well-known rips accessible from shore in our local and nearby waters, including Wasque Point on Martha's Vineyard, Brant Point on Nantucket, Montauk Point on Long Island, North Rip on Block Island, Napatree Point in Westerly, Rhode Island and Sandy Hook in New Jersey, just to name a few. Depending on conditions, as discussed below, there are numerous other rips that that hold fish and beg to be explored.

Rips are typically formed where water carried by current meets a substantial obstruction. The obstruction might be a large mass of moraine deposited on the sea floor by the glacier that receded thousands of years ago, a permanent or seasonal sand bar, or a man-made structure such as a jetty or breakwater. The diverted water is sped up and often churned up as it flows over or around the obstruction. From above the water's surface, the rip is usually evidenced by something like a boundary line (the ripline) that separates the relatively flat water upcurrent of the obstruction from the burbling water downcurrent of the obstruction.

Current flow is essential to forming a rip. The size of the rip depends on six factors:

- Nature of the obstruction; a small sand bar versus a miles long shoal.
- Water depth; the deeper the obstruction, the less prominent the rip.
- Stage of the tide; no current at slack tide likely means no visible ripline.
- Intensity of the current flow; peak tidal flow generally means a bigger rip.

- Wind direction; wind against tide will produce a bigger, rougher rip.
- Wind intensity; a high wind in the same direction as the current flow tends to flatten the sea and make even a powerful rip less evident.

Predators such as striped bass and bluefish generally feed when there is moving water. Current flow concentrates the baitfish that are more scattered in slack water. When the concentration of prey encounters the burbling water of a rip, they become easy pickings for bass and blues (as well as false albacore and Atlantic bonito). Fishing may become difficult or virtually impossible, however, when the flow is extreme. And so prime time to fish a rip is typically between the extremes of slack and peak current flows; enough current to form a well-defined ripline, but not so much as to prevent the predators from seeing or otherwise detecting your offered lure or bait. (Extreme current might also bring excessive weed, rendering fishing frustrating if not impossible.)

“Most of the time, the predators will be holding or patrolling at the upcurrent base of the structure...”

Whether from shore or boat, the standard method of fishing a rip is to cast upcurrent of the ripline, allow your lure or fly to sink, and then begin your retrieve so that the offering swims across the face of the rip; that is, parallel to the ripline. Most of the time, the predators will be holding or patrolling at the upcurrent base of the structure, positioned to quickly dart out and grab prey caught up in the rip. Occasionally, bass and blues (or albies and bonito, in season) will be seen busting on bait in the flat water ahead of the rip. And sometimes they will be feeding well back in the rip. So, stay alert to look for signs of fish actively feeding or birds dipping and diving on bait pushed to the surface by predators.



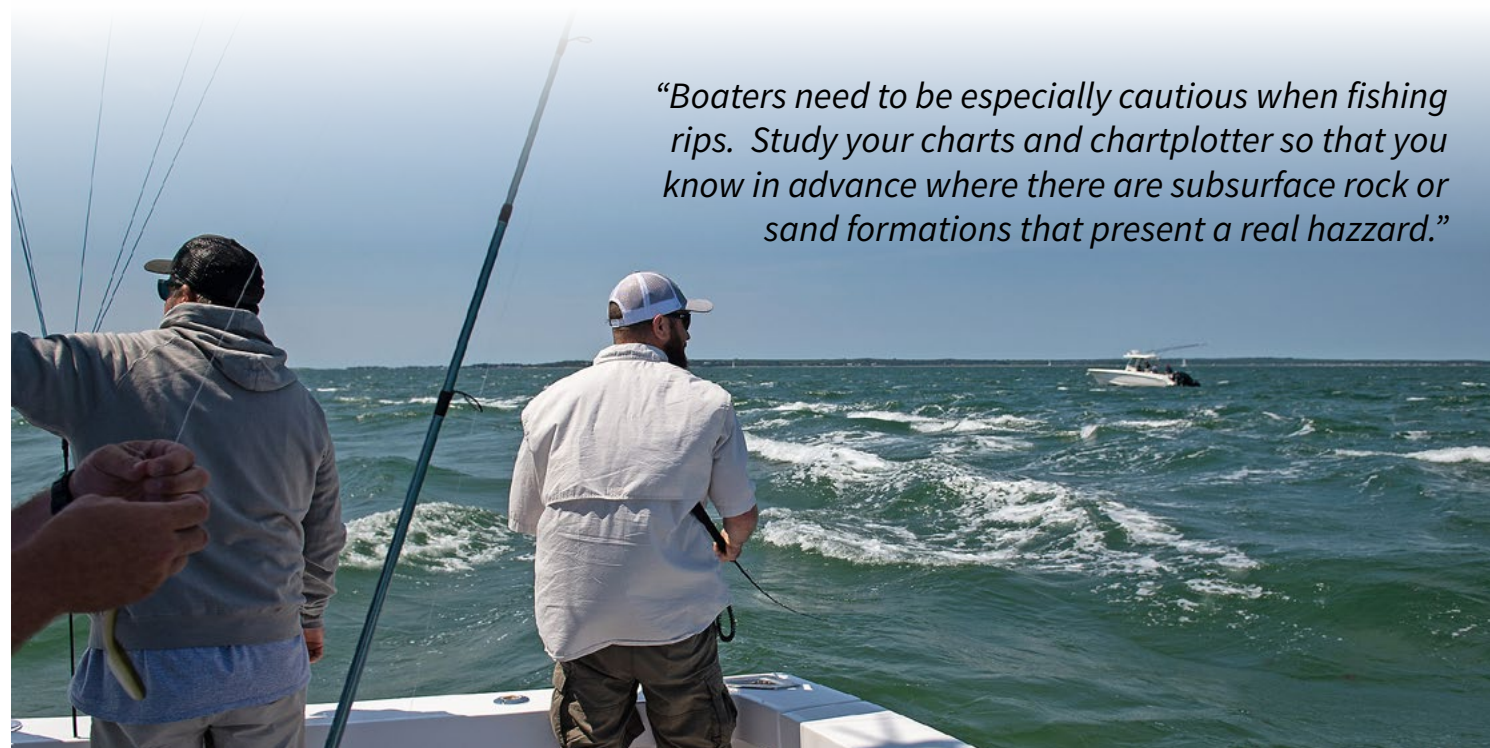
The ends of the rock walls that border breachways (inlets) present a somewhat unique situation because current is typically flowing in two directions at once. There is the outbound flow from the breachway (or the inbound flow into the breachway) as well as the cross current formed by the ocean's ebb or flood tide that

runs perpendicular to the breachway flow. Fishermen tend to favor the outflow from the breachway, and when that flow is bent by the cross current of the open sea, they will typically allow their lures to drift with the current until intercepted by a predator or until the lure slides out of the flow before they begin to retrieve. At popular breachways, this technique is carried out by surfcasters casting in rotation to avoid tangling lines and to afford each angler a fair shot at catching.

Choice of lure or fly depends on what is the bait *du jour*. In May, June and July, squid as well as herring, mackerel and even adult bunker (menhaden) may be present. Later in the season, spearing, silversides, sandeels and peanut bunker (juvenile menhaden) likely predominate. “Matching the hatch” with artificials similar in size and color to the primary prey is always a good idea. You might do better by going up in size to be sure that your offering gets noticed.

Boaters need to be especially cautious when fishing rips. Study your charts and chartplotter so that you know in advance where there are subsurface rock or sand formations that present a real hazzard. Lobstermen often place traps near the obstructions that form rips. Not infrequently the buoys marking those traps are underwater and virtually invisible when the current flow is strong, increasing the risk of snagging the trap line with your motor's propeller. Take time in the calm water ahead of the ripline to study the area and note the potential dangers. Fighting a strong fish often necessitates drifting back into the rip, and that can be treacherous if the boat or the helmsman is not up to handling rough water, or if the fisherman is not sufficiently stable and agile to maintain his footing on a boat that's being tossed about. Plan ahead, look around before you start fishing, and at all times use sound, conservative judgment.

“Boaters need to be especially cautious when fishing rips. Study your charts and chartplotter so that you know in advance where there are subsurface rock or sand formations that present a real hazzard.”



UPCOMING SEMINAR

LIVE! Back at the ELKS LODGE
60 Clyde Street, West Warwick, RI



JULY 31 @ 7 PM

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO OFFSHORE FISHING TUNA & MAHI *With Marc Lamson*



Have you been seeing pictures of the Tuna and Mahi that everyone seems to be catching, but are trying to figure out if, where, when and how? Come join a fellow angler who can give you what you need to get started without so much information that your head hurts and leave with the info and confidence you need to have a successful trip and enjoy your own Tuna Poke at the dock...

Marc Lamson spent his childhood summers at the Southern NJ Shore at Sea Isle City, NJ. Summer jobs and free time were spent

boating and fishing between catching blue claw crabs in the back bay to Tuna and Mahi at the Wilmington and Baltimore Canyons. He lives on Narrow River with his wife and 2 boys but has only been fishing offshore in Rhode Island for the last 5 years. He is excited to share what he's learned in a fun, interactive session. Bring your questions.

We will cover:

- What do you need before you leave the dock
- Where to find them
- How to hook them
- How to put them in the boat

SPECIAL NOTICE!

This is an in person seminar at the West Warwick Elks Lodge, 60 Clyde Street, West Warwick, RI. We plan to have food available at 5:30 p.m. as in the past and plan to tape the seminar for members who were not able to attend.

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RISAA MAGAZINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

RISAA is looking for volunteers to help develop their magazine which publishes nine times a year. Writers, proof readers, advertising coordinators and associate editors are needed. Put in as much or as little time as you want. Will work with a motivated team of volunteers, staff and consultants that enhanced content and developed a new format last year that has made the magazine more popular than ever.

Contact Scott Travers at: Travers@risaa.org
or call Scott at: (401) 500-2634

RISAA BANQUET AUCTION TRIP

By: Bob Murray

The RISAA Annual Banquet was re-instituted in 2023 with a fantastic gathering at the Quonset Officer's Club on February 18. The evening began with cocktails, socializing, and multiple outrageous exaggerations of piscatorial adventures and accomplishments. This was followed by a wonderful dinner and dessert.

Rounding out the night were awards and fund-raising activities including several raffles and auctions. The final auction was for an all-day bottom fishing trip aboard the SKIPJACK hosted by Capt. Rich Hittinger and Bob Murray. The winning bidder, member Wayne Berardi generously donated \$850 to RISAA.

Wayne and three of his fishing buddies appeared at Point View Marina in South Kingstown bright and early at 6:30 am on June 9 for their trip. Initially Wayne indicated that his crew was looking forward to bottom fishing Block Island for whatever was biting. However, after scouting the Island the day before, Rich and Bob suggested a change in plans to either target stripers on eels at Block Island or to work our way east to look for better bottom fishing action than what was going on at the Island.

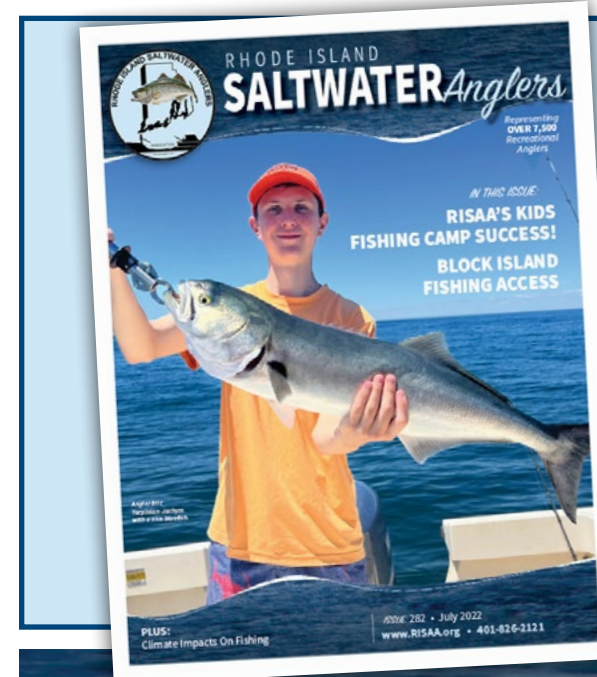
Upon leaving the West Gap at Pt. Judith, we found acres of small bluefish and schoolie bass underneath working birds at several different locations. Spinning tackle came out with a variety spoons,



metal and plastics, but despite marking lots of fish on the fishfinder, we were unable to entice a bite as the fish were feasting on tiny sand eels and we could not "match the hatch". After giving it a good 1/2 hour, the decision was made to continue on to the east.

Several stops at promising areas south of Newport and working gradually to the area south of Sakonnet Light produced a few short cod, small black seabass and scup. The weather was beautiful, but there was only a very light wind and fairly weak tides (the next day was the third quarter moon) making our drifts very slow. Rich and Bob constantly changed colors, rigs and baits, but were only producing a few widely scattered bites. Talk about pressure to produce!!

With the slow drifts the decision was made around noontime to switch over to power drifting with two deadsticks and two jiggling rods. This was just the ticket. Seabass and scup began steadily coming over the rail and everyone got in on the action with more than 40 fish landed. We decided to extend the day given the slow start and finally headed back sometime after 3:00 pm. During the hour-long ride back to the marina Wayne's buddies made it clear that they hoped he would "spring" for another trip next year as a great time was had by all. Everyone was pleased with a bag of fresh fillets to take home.



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WADING FROM SHORE FOR SALTWATER FISHING SUCCESS

By: Scott Travers

Now is the time to hit the water if you are looking for some great saltwater fishing action. If you are like many of us you might not have your own boat or it might not be in the water right now. While you consider fishing from shore you might be thinking “if only I could get that cast out a little further”. If only there was a solution. Welcome to the wonderful world of wading. I am sure you have seen anglers along the shoreline standing in the water anywhere from ankle to chest deep reaching out further than the competition who are land-locked and unable to reach out those last few critical feet necessary to reach the fish. Wading from shore can absolutely make all the difference in the size and number of fish you are catching.

WADING GEAR

When wading you can use all the same gear you would be using when surf casting or fly fishing so there is no need to purchase a new specialty rod or reel. As we approach mid-summer and both the air and water temperatures warm up, adventurous and thrifty souls can take to the water with minimal investment. Minimalist gear would include sturdy, over the ankle footwear that you would not be upset about losing or destroying. Even the best footwear seems to have a shorter serviceable life once you use it



in a saltwater environment. This is important to protect you from a multitude of hazards including crabs, barnacles, broken glass, etc. Even the sandiest areas have something lying on the bottom that could be a potential hazard. My first “wet wading” boots were a pair of old work boots that lasted an additional several years as they became my saltwater wading and quohogging boots of choice. Another item you should have would be a wading staff. This can be as inexpensive as a stick you find on the beach. Just make sure it is sturdy enough for you to lean on if necessary. The further you go into the water the less visibility you have of the bottom and having something you can probe with and check for hazards can save you a lot of trouble. Even if I can see the bottom I still use my wading staff/stick to continually check the bottom conditions. There are areas such as the kayak launch at Ninigret where you can go from solid bottom to knee deep muck in an instant. So please use your staff/stick with every step. I have used many sticks I have found in the past and sometimes still rely on them when my expensive Simms wading staff somehow didn't make it into the truck. I find it useful to tie one end to a belt loop or other part of my clothing so it doesn't float away on me while I am fishing.

Once you “get your feet wet” and start wading there are some other items that will make your wading experiences more enjoyable. First and foremost are waders. They come in a few different varieties. There are two types of waders in terms of footwear. One type comes with neoprene sock type “booties” that are meant to go with wading boots that are purchased separately. These are called stockingfoot waders. The other type comes with boots that are integral to the waders. These are called bootfoot waders. There are advantages and disadvantages to each type. Both types start out around \$100.00 for basic models. Another difference between waders is the materials they are made of. Some waders are made from neoprene which makes them perfect for cold weather fishing however they can be excessively warm for certain times of the year. Other types of waders are made from a trilaminate material that keeps the angler dry but offers very little insulation from warm or cold temperatures. While the neoprene versions are more durable, the trilaminate versions can be used



in a wider range of conditions by either adding or removing insulating layers of clothing worn underneath them.

SAFETY TIPS

Regardless of the wader type you own it is very important to make sure you wear a belt that goes around your waist outside of the waders whenever you go into the water. In the event of a trip or fall in the water a belt helps prevent the waders from filling with water and turning a minor problem into a more serious situation. In the event of a trip or fall in the water while wearing waders if you are unable to right yourself quickly you should immediately raise your feet off the bottom, trapping air in the legs of the waders, and paddle backwards to the shore or more shallow water using the air in your waders as floatation.

As with any angling I would always recommend some type of sun protection for both your skin and your eyes. When it comes to eye protection we all know that polarized lenses help us to see into the water making it easier for us to see the fish as well as the bottom so that we can access and move in the water safely. Other considerations regardless of angling method would be accessing and knowing the latest weather forecast as well as both times and heights of high and low tides. The weather can decide whether we go fishing or stay home. Follow the forecast on a regular basis to stay on top of any potential inclement weather. The same is true regarding tidal information. There are several areas along that coast that we might be able to walk out to at low tide but at certain high tides those same areas could potentially be deeper than we can safely fish from.

PLACES TO GO WADING

While the Narrow River can be crowded, you can also find some wading access if you park at the Southern parking area at Sprague Bridge, walk South (left) out of the parking area for approximately 500 feet and you will come to walking access into a marshy area. If you walk through that area you can also access the Narrow River away from the crowd that fishes in the area immediately around Sprague Bridge. There are plenty of great areas to wade into the water and you can walk out to the mouth of the river. There is plenty of space for wading, casting, fly casting, and finding your own secret spot. Strippers and Shad are the target fish for me in this location.

Also Warwick's Rocky Point is a popular place for anglers to fish from the shore. I have found success there wading into the water just North of the new fishing pier, again, to get away from the crowds. Plenty of land-locked anglers won't be able to get out as far as you will be able to. There is ample parking at this location however access to the shoreline can be a hike in your wading gear so just keep that in mind. Like everywhere else, the fishing is best in the places that other people are too lazy to access. You can find fluke, scup, black sea bass, stripers, and bluefish in this area so it is a great place to go to for many reasons.

On the Sakonnet River there is great access in Tiverton off Seapowet Avenue. There is a parking area and easy access to the water that is great if you have limited mobility or don't want to walk too far. The beach access is extensive and not a lot of people



hit that spot so you can get a lot of exploring in as well. Another great access spot in Tiverton is Fogland Point where there is a public access point off Fogland Road. Parking is limited but the shoreline is also extensive there and access is super easy. The combination of limited parking and extensive areas to investigate make this a great spot especially during weekdays. Both of these spots are great for stripers and scup.

A FEW FINAL THOUGHTS

When accessing shoreline areas always be aware of local ordinances, private property, and rights of way to legally and ethically access your fishing spots. Also be sure to choose areas with bottom types that you are physically capable of traversing. We are all getting older and perhaps a little less mobile. Be honest in evaluating your abilities and the area you want to fish to ensure the best possible fishing experience you can have. Be careful to carry at least one headlight and spare batteries if you plan to be out during dark or near dark times. One friend of mine also recommends carrying a compass in his waders so he can find his way to shore if visibility shuts down and he is caught in the water when fog rolls in. Just remember to check your bearing on the way into the water and remember to add or subtract 180 degrees, or hold the compass by the opposite end, before you head back to shore.

If you are new to wading it can certainly be a great way to fish your favorite spots from a new perspective and increase your versatility as an angler. You can get into it with very little investment and by taking shorter trips to familiar spots initially you can build up your skills before venturing into new areas. It's all about safely enjoying our time on the water, improving our skills, and increasing our ability to catch the fish we are after. 🐟

A SALUTE TO OUR INDEPENDENT TACKLE SHOPS

By: Fred DeFinis

In a world in which we can order a ride, a meal or flat screen TV with the push of a few buttons, what is the role of the traditional, independent tackle shop? Fortunately for RISAA members and anglers everywhere, our tackle shops are still a firm part of the fishing landscape. They are part of the angling DNA.

For RISAA Members

Our tackle shops provide much of the financial support for the magazine you are reading through their monthly advertising. Flip the pages and see how many shops advertise with us on an ongoing basis. They also contribute content for the magazine either by supplying articles or being interviewed by the magazine writers for articles. For members who participate in our many tournaments, we have a whopping sixteen official weigh-in locations from western Long Island Sound to near the Massachusetts border. Without their cooperation it would be impossible to host the tournaments. Many of these retailers also rent booth space at our New England Saltwater Fishing Show™ which helps fund many club functions. Lastly, many provide merchandise donations or discounts that help with our fundraising. This generosity often goes under the radar but it is very real and much appreciated.

For the Angling Public

The local tackle store is more than just a place to buy bait and tackle. It is where you find out what's biting locally, what lures and baits the local sharpies are using and the best times and places to fish. Are the stripers biting on chunks of menhaden or hitting tube and worm or those big flutter spoons so popular now? What color jigs are the fluke hitting? Have the Black Sea Bass moved in-shore yet? The answers to all these questions and dozens more are found at your local tackle shop.

When selecting a new rig, buying local is the way to go. See how the rod grip fits your hand, how the rod flexes and how it feels. You can also feel how the combination of rod and reel feel for your particular style of fishing. When you have selected your combo, your tackle shop will make sure your line is spooled correctly, so important with today's braided lines. When you leave the shop, you'll have confidence in your gear.

When you break a rod tip or need a guide replaced, where do you go? To your local tackle shop of course. I have an old Fenwick rod that belonged to my dad and my shop often replaces guides for me. The owner jokes that I spend more on guides than I would on a new rod but he understands that the rod has value beyond dollars and cents and he does the repairs cheerfully. This is called "service".

No discussion of tackle shops would be complete without



a word on bait. Not all shops offer this, but for those who do it makes for an even longer day. Bait and tackle stores typically open early—five or six am most days and the staff has to get there even earlier to prep things. There is no app that is going to hand you a dozen live eels or a gallon of green crabs at six am so thank the women and men who get up early so you can chase the fish. Bait has become expensive in the past few years but that is not because your shop is trying to gouge you. The truth is that there are fewer people willing to go out and dig worms or trap bait so the cruel law of supply and demand hits us in the wallet. Don't complain—you are lucky to be going fishing.

Headwinds for Independent Tackle Shops

Like all independent retailers, tackle shops face intense competition from big box retailers and on-line outlets. These mega-retailers have huge purchasing power and low overhead in relation to their volume, resulting in downward pressure on prices. In some cases, the local shop can't compete. At the same time, you can't make a living selling just worms and crabs.

No one owes another a living but if your favorite tackle shop has worked hard to service your needs and earn your trust, reward them with your purchases. Sometimes this might cost a few dollars more but it's in everyone's interest for anglers to have local options. Please don't be the guy who goes to the local shop to find a \$4.99 bail roller for grandpa's 1967 Abu Garcia and then turns to the internet when it's time for a new \$400.00 reel.

More Than Fishing

As members of the community many of our shops are involved in efforts beyond tackle and bait. Some, like Saltwater Edge owner Peter Jenkins, are involved in conservation of our precious fish stocks. Elisa Cahill at Snug Harbor sponsors an annual "fishing derby" that gets kids and parents outdoors together for a morning of casual fishing fun. Crafty One Customs owner Ralph Craft sponsors the annual Rhode Island Tog Classic which generates thousands of dollars for families dealing with the complications that come with cancer. These are just a few examples of the many contributions our shops make—not just to fishing, but to our society. Remember that next time you are shopping for a rod or picking up a bucket of crabs. 🐟

The author has been a small business owner, lobbyist and mentor

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

BRINGING A NEW LOOK TO RISAA

No doubt longtime members have noticed a dramatic change in the look of this publication, from a self-published newsletter format to a professionally produced, four color magazine. The look you see is the work of member **Eddy Stahowiak**. Eddy grew up in Warwick, RI and primarily fished fresh water until his college years. He attended Rhode Island College where he studied graphic design. It was at that time that he developed an interest in saltwater fishing which led him to take a position at On The Water magazine where he did photography, design and layout for the magazine for six years.

He credits his time at On The Water for instilling a passion for saltwater fishing, which led him to fishing more species and going farther afield. His nickname there was "Lunchbreak Eddy" as he was always going fishing in the nearby waters on his lunch break.

Eddy has a great respect for RISAA and our role in promoting and protecting recreational fishing. He says the club "*Gets things done because of the size and passion of its membership*".

He knew that his talents and experience in graphic design could help our publication and presented some ideas and design concepts to the Board of Directors in mid-2022. The Board was impressed and Eddy began creating the magazine in its new format a month or so later.

His greatest challenge is producing the magazine in a timely manner as the content comes from an all-volunteer "staff".

Follow Eddy on Instagram

@EdStack99



Eventually, it all comes together in the publication you are holding. Eddy says his greatest satisfaction comes from the positive feedback from members who notice and appreciate the new look and feel of the magazine.

For an up close look at Eddy and what makes him tick, see his recent seminar: Photography & Fishing on the RISAA website. 🐟

This is the second in a series of articles highlighting some of the work done by our RISAA volunteers, often behind the scenes. None of our major events such as the Fishing Show would happen without dedicated volunteers. Likewise, there are dozens of other activities that take place out of public view that all combine to make RISAA the voice of the saltwater angler in Rhode Island and New England. Ed.

If you would like to learn more about the many volunteer opportunities at RISAA or you have a skill, talent or interest which can help the association, please contact Scott Travers travers@risaa.org

Join the Welcome Committee & Welcome New Members

Everyone has heard the expression "You don't get a second chance to make a first impression". How does RISAA make sure each new member has a good first impression and feels welcome and valued? There is a two-part process. First, the Executive Director sends out a welcome package with the person's membership card and other information to acquaint the new member with important club information.

Second, after the new member receives her/his package, a Welcome Committee member reaches out by phone to welcome the new member and answer any questions about the club or its procedures. The conversation may also include learning about the member and how he or she learned about RISAA. If the member is local and plans to attend some of the monthly meetings we tell them to let the check in person know they are a new member and that the check in person will get someone from the Welcome Committee or a member of the Board to show the new member around.

According to Welcome Committee Chair Dawn Wood the conversations vary. "*Sometimes, the person knows all about RISAA*

from a friend or relative and the call is quite brief. Other times a new member might have a question about how to enter a tournament or join one of our many committees. It's just nice to have that personal interaction with our new members."

Welcome Committee volunteers split up the calls so that each person makes just a few calls per month. 96% of members feel that RISAA has been a welcoming organization for them and 97% would not hesitate to recommend RISAA membership to a friend. Join the Welcome Committee and keep that spirit going!

To join or learn more, contact Welcome Committee Chair Dawn Wood wood@risaa.org.

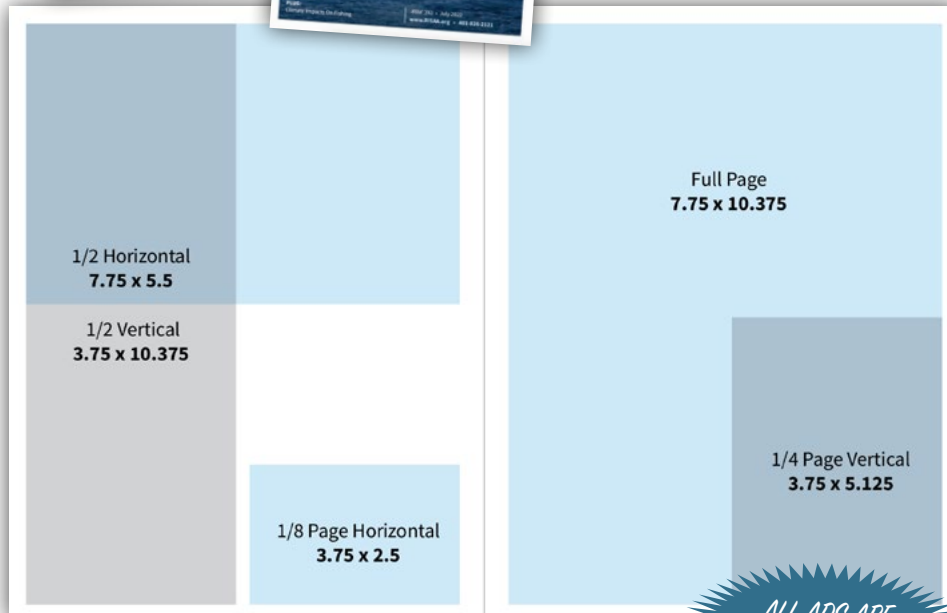


Dawn Wood

Advertise *with* RISAA

HELP YOUR BUSINESS, RISAA & THE FISH!

Below are the ad rates for **2023** as well as size specifications and other information. Contact RISAA at 401-826-2121 if you have further questions.



AD SIZE	NON-MEMBER	MEMBER
Full Page	\$470	\$360
1/2 Page	\$290	\$240
1/4 Page	\$195	\$150
1/8 Page	\$140	\$105

SAVE 5% 3+ Months / SAVE 10% 12 Months

AD DIMENSIONS

Full Page.....	7.75 x 10.375
1/2 Hor	7.75 x 5.5
1/2 Vert	3.75 x 10.375
1/4 Page	3.75 x 5.125
1/8 Page	3.75 x 2.5

ACCEPTED FILE FORMATS

JPG, PDF, TIFF, EPS

Need your ad built from scratch?
WE CAN HELP!

Complete & mail the form below and email your ad to:
Travers@risaa.org

ALL ADS ARE
FULL COLOR!



THANK YOU!

The Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Business Name _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ad Size Full Page 1/2 Page 1/4 Page 1/8 age

Length One Issue 3 Months 6 Months 1 Year

Payment Check Enclosed Send Bill Monthly Amount Enclosed _____

If you want to PAY BY CREDIT CARD, please call Greg Vespe directly at (401) 662-5573.

I am interested in participating in the New England Saltwater Fishing Show

I am interested in doing a seminar at a RISAA monthly meeting. **Topic:** _____

Ad Deadline: 15th of preceding month

ATTACH A
BUSINESS
CARD!

MAIL TO:
RISAA
P.O. Box 1467
Coventry, RI 02816



2023 RISAA FLY FISHING COMMITTEE OUTING SCHEDULE

(High tide times in parentheses)

JULY & AUGUST

Boat Outings

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Colt State Park - 12:30pm (12:30pm)
- 12 Quonny - 4pm (6:30pm)
- 22 Narrow River - 1:30pm (1:31pm)
- 26 Barrington Beach - 6pm (8:24pm)

OCTOBER

- 3 Blue Shutters - 9am (11:16am)
- 10 Narrow River - 5:30pm (5:55pm)
- 17 Bristol Narrows - 5pm (10:09pm)
- 24 Charlestown Breachway - 12:01pm (3:24pm)
- 27 Colt State Park - 5pm (7:15pm)

NOVEMBER

- 1 Narrow River - 10:30am (10:49am)
- 7 Charlestown Breachway - 12:01pm (2:19pm)
- 9 Annual Meeting Gregg's N. Kingstown - 6:30pm

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Capt. Rene Letourneau

401-359-3625

www.ontherockscharters.com



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508-548-4705

OnTheWater.com



ON THE WATER

YEARLONG TOURNAMENT

The Yearlong Tournament is a continuing tournament that runs from January 1 to December 15 each year. All RISAA members are eligible to participate, and there are no fees. Official Weight Slips are available at each monthly meeting and at all sanctioned bait shops. Only authorized weigh-in stations with certified digital scales may be used. Meeting or exceeding State minimal sizes required is eligible.



BLACK SEA BASS

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. Dr. Lawrence Audino 3.94 lbs.
2. Rick Black..... 2.62 lbs.
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. Hayes Jansen..... 2.56 lbs.
2. Bodie Phifer 1.94 lbs.
3. Flynn Jansen..... 1.90 lbs.

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

NEW KAYAK DIVISION

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



FALSE ALBACORE

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



BLUEFISH

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. Capt. Stephen Skenyon... 12.30 lbs.
2. John Migliori..... 8.36 lbs.
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. Fiona Yidiaris 11.06 lbs.
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

NEW KAYAK DIVISION

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



BONITO

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



FLUKE

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. Ronnie Tipple 10.67 lbs.
2. Dariusz Kolodziejczak 10.17 lbs.
3. Dr. Lawrence Audino 8.08 lbs.

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

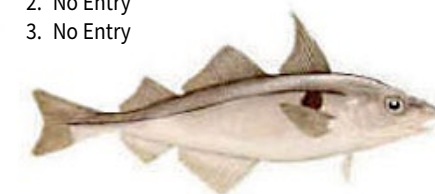
1. Flynn Jansen..... 2.82 lbs.
2. Bodie Phifer 2.74 lbs.
3. Tucker Jansen..... 2.50 lbs.

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



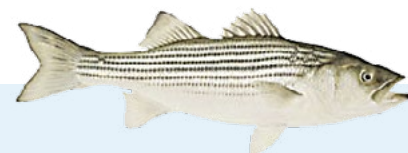
HADDOCK

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



STRIPED BASS

Because it has been determined by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council that Striped Bass are currently in "Overfished" status, the RISAA Tournaments Committee has removed striped bass as an eligible species for the 2023 Tournament Season.



MAHI MAHI

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



POLLOCK

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



TAUTOG

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. Rick Black..... 3.42 lbs.
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. John Migliori..... 8.75 lbs.
2. Normand Morrissette 8.60 lbs.
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



SCUP

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. Bill Hubert..... 2.10 lbs.
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

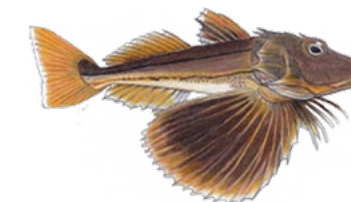
1. Tucker Jansen..... 1.68 lbs.
2. Flynn Jansen..... 1.52 lbs.
3. Bodie Phifer 1.16 lbs.

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. John Migliori..... 1.74 lbs.
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



SEA ROBIN

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. Flynn Jansen..... 1.30 lbs.
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. John Migliori..... 3.16 lbs.
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



GRAY TRIGGERFISH

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

SHORE DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



TUNA - BLUEFIN

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry



TUNA - YELLOWFIN

BOAT DIVISION - ADULT

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

BOAT DIVISION - JUNIOR

1. No Entry
2. No Entry
3. No Entry

ENTER YOUR CATCHES AT:
www.risaa.org/tournament-entry

MOST UP-TO-DATE STANDINGS:
risaa.org/tournament-standings

See Tournament Rule Changes
for 2023 on Page 30.

RISAA Fishing Tournament Update & Schedule For 2023

Consistent with last year any fish caught during any RISAA Tourments special or otherwise is eligible to be entered in the yearlong tourments as long as the angler is complying with all recreational fishing regulations at the time of the catch and is not being sold as part of a commercial hook and line catch.

YEARLONG INDIVIDUAL SPECIES CHANGES

- Remove cod (due to slot size regulations)
- Remove albacore (not enough being caught/entered)
- Make new trial species from last year (sea robin and triggerfish) permanent
- Added trial of two species for Kayak division (sea bass & bluefish)
- Make Legal size limit to retain each species of fish the minimal size needed to enter a fish (i.e. eliminate a second higher size requirement imposed by the club — if it's big enough to win, it's big enough to win.
- Continue with the new direct entry system on the web site launched in 2022.

CHANGES TO ANGLER OF THE YEAR

Begin new point system for every category. Winning 1st earns three points, placing 2nd earns two points and placing 3rd gains one point for each species per shore and boat division. The angler who accumulates the most points at the end of the season is the **Angler of the Year**. In event of a tie, the angler with the most first place fish wins. If still tied, the angler with the most 2 place fish wins.

Questions? Contact Scott Travers • Travers@risaa.org • 401-500-2634

TEAM TOURNAMENTS

RISAA will hold (three) 10 day tournaments for two person teams.

TEAM FLUKE: Beginning Friday, June 30th and ending 5 pm Sunday, July 9th. Final weigh-ins must take place July 9th.

(Total weight top four fish over the 10 days, plus top doormat prize)

YOUTH/ADULT TAG TEAM TOURNAMENT: Beginning August 4th and ending August 13th. Final weigh-ins must take place August 13th.

One RISAA Adult, one youth - team that tags and releases the most different species wins.

TEAM SEA BASS: Beginning Saturday, September 30th ending Monday, October 9th. Final weigh-ins must take place October 9th.

(Two RISAA anglers, total weight top four fish over the 10 days plus top knot head prize.)

Prizes to top 10 teams will be in the form of checks written out to the RISAA bait/tackle shop of their choice from RISAA with the payouts as follows: per team member - \$150 1st, \$125 2nd, \$100, 3rd, \$75 4th, \$50 5th, \$25 6th, \$20 7th, \$15 8th, \$10 9th & 10th. \$100 to team with largest sea bass.

Each team tournament has been scheduled to include two weekends and a holiday to allow maximum participation for all RISAA members. Signups will be via web site as trialed last year. Rules for the team tournament remain unchanged from last year with fish to be weighed in daily and all fish to be weighed prior to end of the tournament.

SURFCASTERS ACTIVITIES 2023

Surfcasters Committee Schedule of Events

The RISAA Surfcasters Committee offers a variety of outings ranging from fishing sandy beaches to rock jetties such as the West Wall.

Fishing from shore is a great way to see new places, make new friends and learn about new techniques and equipment. As with any form of angling, it's always more fun and safer to fish with others. To learn more about the RISAA Surfcasting Committee and outings, contact Chairman Ron Barnes barnes@risaa.org

July 1 @ Sunrise
Jamestown Path, Jamestown
Target Species: Striped Bass & Bluefish
High Tide: 6:43 AM
Notes: Fished first time last year.

July 12 @ 4:00 PM
Nulman Park or Camp Cronin, Point Judith, Narragansett
Target Species: Bass & Blues
Notes: Group picnic and fishing before/after. Parking down on road or Camp Cronin
High Tide: 4:40 PM

July 19 @ Sunrise
Cape Cod Canal
Target Species: Striped Bass & Bluefish
Current change @ 5:36 AM
Notes: Joe McCoy will provide further details.
May change to August depending on how the catch is.

July 27 @ First Light
West wall via Pier 3 parking lot, Jerusalem, Narragansett
Target Species: Fluke
High Tide: 2:53 AM
Notes: Get there early for parking, fish the drop

September 10 @ Sunrise
Black Point, Narragansett
Target Species: Bonito/albacore
High Tide: 5:17 AM
Notes: Studded boots are advised - get there early!

October 13 @ 6:00 PM
Narrow River to Napatree Point
Target Species: Striped Bass & Bluefish
Notes: Fall Surf Fishing Club Challenge

October 15 @ 7:00 AM
Andrea Hotel - Misquamicut
Notes: Breakfast

October 28 @ First Light
Charlestown Breachway
Target Species: Stripers
High Tide: 7:51 AM

December 11 @ 6:30 PM
Greggs Resturant, North Kingstown
Notes: Annual Surfcasters meeting

Additional outings may be announced from time to time. Suggestions are welcomed.

ALL OUTINGS SUBJECT TO COVID GUIDELINES AND WEATHER

RISAA KAYAK COMMITTEE SUMMARY 2023 OUTINGS

Date	Time	Location	Address	Target	Leader
July 8	5am	King's Beach, Newport	Ocean Avenue, Newport	Bass	Kraig Ruth
July 15	6:30am	Fort Wetherill, Jamestown	3 Fort Wetherill Rd, Jamestown	Bass/Fluke	Jeff Hall
July 29	6am	URI Bay Campus, Narragansett	South Ferry Road, Narragansett	Bottom fishing	Kirk Kamien
Aug 14	5pm	King's Beach, Newport	Ocean Avenue, Newport	Bass/Blues	Charlie Reilly
Sept 9	8am	Barrington Beach, Barrington	87 Bay Road, Barrington	Bass/Blues	Warren Prell
Sept 16	9am	Camp Cronin, Narragansett	Ocean Road, Narragansett	Albies/Bass/Tautog	Kirk Kamien
Sept 30	8am	Fogland Beach, Tiverton	12 Point View Drive, Tiverton	Bass/Tautog	Kraig Ruth
Oct 14	9am	Battery Park (Newport Bridge), Newport	Washington Street, Newport	Tautog/Bass	Charlie Reilly
Nov 13	6:30pm	Annual Meeting at Greggs North Kingstown	4120 Quaker Lane, North Kingstown	n/a	Kraig Ruth



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Light Tackle, Fly Fishing & Bottom Fishing

Striped Bass • Bluefish • False Albacore
Bonito • Summer Flounder
Tautog • Black Sea Bass

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DEM/ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE ARREST & CITATION LOG

***Arrest = Individual charged criminally with violations under the jurisdiction of the Rhode Island District or Superior Court or charged through Administrative Adjudication civil procedures by DEM**

***Any indication of an arrest does NOT mean the individual identified has been convicted of a crime.**

***All persons arrested are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.**



MAY 2023

LANDRY, Kenneth G., 47, of Cranston, RI for Exceeding Daily Limit of Tautog – Commercial

TENREIRO, Richard B., 55, of Charlestown, RI for Dealer Possession of Untagged Tautog and Dealer Possession of Undersized Tautog (Administrative Process)

RESENDE RODRIGUES, Filipe, 54, of Brockton, MA for Possession of undersized Tautog

SHENFELDER, Thomas, 32, of New London, CT for Landing Restricted Finfish Without Proper License (Administrative Process)

ZHANG, Zhi G., 53, of Quincy, MA for Possession of Undersized Tautog and Exceeding Daily Limit of Tautog

MIAO, Wei G., 68, of Brooklyn, NY for Exceeding Daily Limit of Tautog and Possession of Undersized Tautog

LI, Yaotang, 40, of Norwich, CT for Exceeding Daily Limit of Tautog and Possession of Undersized Tautog

JORDAN, James M., 59, of North Kingstown, RI for Exceeding Aggregate Possession Limit of Summer Flounder (Administrative Process)

TU, Chien V., 50, of Pawtucket, RI for Possession of Oversized Striped Bass and Exceeding Daily Limit of Striped Bass

The following is a breakdown of the citations issued for the period of: MAY 2023

*Individuals receiving citations have been civilly charged with violations under the jurisdiction of the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal.

VIOLATION CITATIONS ISSUED

State Property Violations	18
(Parking, Alcohol, Disorderly Conduct, Dumping/Littering, etc.)	
Motor Vehicle	23
Boating Violations	28
ATV Violations	0
Freshwater Fishing Violations	2
Saltwater Fishing Violations	10
CRMC Beach Violations	0
Hunting Violations.....	0
Total	81

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE THROUGH OUR DISPATCH CENTER: 2,725

WARNINGS ISSUED: Verbal or Written
Warnings issued to first-time offenders for a de minimis violation. Corrective action was taken at the scene and/or the occurrence was utilized as an educational opportunity in lieu of a summons. **TOTAL: 125**

Summer 2023 Fishing Gear Guide

By: Todd Corayer, The Fish Wrap Writer

Grundéns Shorebreak LS Crew Shirt

Quick dry sun protective fishing shirt.

Starting at \$69.99 - www.grundens.com

What I Love: Thumb holes, dries fast, hang loop, UPF30

From my experience on the water, Grundéns makes no bad gear. Their brand has been tested for decades to be durable and long-lasting.

With the new Shorebreak line, they have blended 85% recycled Polyester with 15% cotton to create a comfortable fishing shirt that dries quickly, feels right, and has those clever thumb holes to keep the sun away when backcasting. The Drirelease© cotton helps the shirt dry four times faster than regular cotton. It may seem insignificant, but I love the locker loop to hang it and the small pieces of colored trim. It's the details that make great gear.



Shorebreak shirts offer UPF 30 sun protection, Freshguard® Anti-Odor finish, and a fit you will love. This new Shorebreak is a welcomed addition to my wardrobe of tough, comfortable fishing gear.

Smelly Proof Reusable Storage Bags

Multi-use reusable plastic bags in a variety of sizes.

Starting at \$5.99 - www.smellyproof.com/

What I Love: American Made, Self-Standing, Reusable, Durable



Before you scratch your head, wondering why we field-tested plastic bags, remember that we all use them. We stuff them with sandwiches, snacks, jig heads, phones, keys, plastic lures, smelly lures, trail mix, and terminal tackle. Unfortunately, we also typically throw them away.

"Five trillion plastic bags are produced worldwide annually. It

can take up to 1,000 years for a bag to disintegrate completely. Americans throw away 100 billion bags annually, that's the equivalent to dumping nearly 12 million barrels of crude oil!"

Smelly Proof called, I tested and I love them. They are sturdy and American-made. I really love that. Give them a wash before use with food then do that again when done. They are BPA-free and built with FDA-approved materials.

Smelly Proof Bags have a conservation-minded mission, which is important. Stand them up (since they're cleverly designed to do that), fill them then secure them with the Trilok™ zipper. Stuff them with plastics on jig heads, with snaps and swivels, separate 30# and 40# leaders, lay in some bubblegum RonZ's lures, and save a few for snacks that make you happy.

Smelly Proof Reusable Storage Bags are available in micro, mini, pocket, snack, sandwich, quart, gallon and two-gallon sizes. Choose from clear flat, clear flat heavy-duty, clear stand and fill (wicked handy for fish fillets), clear stand and fill heavy duty, and black flat.

iLive "Light Up" Bluetooth Wireless Waterproof Fabric Speaker with LED light

Starting at \$29.99 www.iliveelectronics.com

What I Love: Waterproof, light-weight, quality sound.

iLive "Light Up" speaker immediately delivered big sounds from a small space. To test it, I made the sacrifice, ignored a long list of chores, and worked in my garage shop, which is obvious branding for that space where I drink beer and dub around with lures. Trying to rock out while not attracting attention to my alternate plan, the Light Up "kicked it", as my young son would say. It's the right purchase for those moments when you want to have some music, without taking up space, with high-quality sounds, thanks to its ten-watt peak power output.

I took it to the North Maine Woods, where despite my love of total silence, I still require a few minutes of good ole' Grateful Dead. Up there, rains come fast so the IP67 rating means it's okay to submerge it to three



(Continued on page 34)

feet for up to thirty minutes or still rock out in a shower. Plus, it's dustproof, unlike my house.

The iLive really is a perfect size; at less than half a pound, it's like having a fun secret in your raincoat pocket.

The music is clear, crisp, and plenty loud. At 2.95" x 3.23" x 3.5", it's no Marshall stack, but it's tough and strong and will play for three hours at full volume. Tuck it in your pack, stow one in your center console, and balance one in the kayak when searching for largemouth. It's also a real treat to have a Bluetooth speaker in your pack for those moments when your son takes over with hip-hop and you just need some peace and Chuck Berry in your tent.

Muck Boot Woody Sport Ankle Boots

Starting at \$145
muckbootcompany.com



What I Love: Neoprene booty, tough rubber sole, comfortable.

We all know Muck Boots are solid. After revolutionizing the high rubber boot market, they continue to improve and perfect. I wanted to try something different, so I dug into their ankle boots. There are times when you don't need a knee-high boot: maybe you need a boot to water the garden, wash the boat, walk the dog, or haul in some kindling for that last spring cold spell.

The Woody Sport starts with a 5mm Neoprene bootie, lightweight EVA midsole, and tough rubber sole. And that Muck reputation. These boots are so comfortable you won't need an outdoor chore to wear them. Woody Sport seems to run a little big but that may be to accommodate different socks so you might want to drop down a size. After a few months of inside and out testing, they proved to be comfortable, and secure and there is no sole slip. As long as you keep your end of the arrangement and stay in shallow waters, then these are really fine boots and worth every penny.

Daiwa Saltist 2500

Starting at \$229.00 - www.daiwa.us

What I Love: Lightweight, great touch, smooth reel.

Based on my great success with the Saltist 4000 and 5000 MQ, I matched a 2500 series reel to my Rosie's Bait and Tackle American Beauty rod. There are many times, especially in shoulder seasons, when a lighter touch is the best touch when targeting stripers, smaller bluefish, or back sea bass. Saltist reels are so well designed and constructed that I had absolutely no concerns about purchasing another one.

They have Magasealed main shafts and line rollers and 8+1 corrosion-resistant ball bearings. The 2500's lightweight Air Rotor design and Air Bail® tubular stainless steel help keep its total weight to 9.5 ounces. The carbon ATD drag system ensures you'll have plenty of muscle if you hook into one a bit larger than you anticipated, which I wish happened to me more.



The 5.6:1 easily retrieves 33.2" per crank from a spool holding 170 yards of 20# braid. Even with its solid body construction, I still recommend a wash after each use. Daiwa has built a line of tested and trusted reels so they are worth a few minutes at the end of the day to keep them clean and salt-free.

My Saltist 2500 brought me out of a weary late Spring slump with a 25" striper hanging in a mooring field. With a well-made rod matched to a smooth-as-silk reel, I have full confidence in the Saltist line.

Shimano Sephia Clinch Flashboost Squid Jigs

Starting at \$10.50 - fish.shimano.com

What I Love: Reflective, great movement, weighted heads.

I swear there is magic inside their clear plastic packages. Even before I had the chance to fish them, they sat on my desk, shimmering and moving. The Flash Boost technology creates an unreal moving and highly reflective shine that's remarkable, even when they're still inside the packaging.



Shimano says it's all about micro springs. They create flash and movement to attract hunting squid. Squids are advantageous maters, better called aseasonal, meaning they are continuously reproducing. All that loving takes calories, which they get by consuming small hake, cod, eels, herring, striper, flounder and Bay anchovies. With that understanding and their attraction to night lights where prey might feed, Sephia Clinches have been designed to perfectly mimic prey. They have weighted heads to dive at specific speeds, which are listed on the front.

Double hooks are razor sharp and Shimano has again proven they can design true-life, built-to-last squid jigs.



WHO'S WHO

in the Rhode Island Saltwater's Anglers Association

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New England Saltwater Fishing Show™

www.nesaltwatershow.com

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Scott Travers • Travers@risaa.org

MAGAZINE DESIGN & LAYOUT: Eddy Stahowiak - LBEddy9@gmail.com

2023 FOUNDATION DONATIONS

Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Foundation

A non-profit, IRS recognized (501c3) charitable and community service foundation.
Contributions to the RISA Foundation are deductible on your federal income tax.



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MAKE A DONATION ONLINE: WWW.RISAA.ORG/THE-FOUNDATION

Or fill out the form below and mail to the RISA Foundation.



PLEASE PRINT

Any donation over \$10 will be sent a receipt that proves your contribution for tax purposes.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution to
The Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Foundation

THANK YOU!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is cash or check for: \$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

It's OK to Print My Name Please DO NOT Print My Name

Donation Made In The Name Of: _____

MAIL TO:
RISA Foundation
P.O. Box 1467
Coventry, RI 02816



The Rhode Island's Saltwater Anglers Association's Political Action Committee

One of the missions of RISAA is to represent the concerns of the recreational community on regulatory and legislative issues. That means that we have to deal with elected officials.

Fortunately, there area number of legislatures who have worked hard on our behalf and others who support RISAA's principles. We need to be sure those officials remain in office.

It is also important that legislatures understand who we are. If we don't advance our own causes, no one will do it for us.

By law, our Association can not contribute funds to any candidate, therefor we have established a **legal, incorporated and registered Political Action Committee** which CAN make contributions on our behalf. It has an independent treasurer and its own bank account.

Only donations specifically made to the RISAA PAC can be used. Under no circumstances can any membership dues money - or any other contributions made to the Association - be used for the PAC. It would be a violation of state election laws for any money from RISAA to be used for PAC purposes.

Also, all money received by the PAC must come from *individual donors*. *No contribution can be accepted from any organization or business interest.*

DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT!

To be effective, we must participate in the system.

2023 PAC DONORS TO DATE

GOLD (\$200+)

**Kenneth Cooper
Kenneth Mendez
Garth Fondo**

SILVER (\$100+)

**Carl Tiska
John Turchetti
Thomas Freeman**

BRONZE (\$50+)

Dale Hartman

With your help, we can continue to work within the political system to safeguard the rights and traditions of recreational fishing.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!



PLEASE PRINT

Donations ONLY accepted from individuals. No company or organization check can be accepted. (R.I. Law)

Political Action Committee

THANK YOU!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is cash or check for: \$10 \$25 \$100 Other \$ _____

(Make checks payable to **RISAA PAC**)

Sometimes RISAA acknowledges the names of contributors in our newsletter, do you prefer that:

Please DO NOT Print My Name It's OK to Print My Name:

MAIL TO:
RISAA PAC
P.O. Box 1467
Coventry, RI 02816



AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

The Rhode Island Saltwater Angler's Association (RISAA) believes in the sensible management of fisheries and the conservation and restoration of all marine resources. RISAA has accepted a leadership role in order to provide a unified voice to preserve and protect the rights, traditions and future of recreational angling. In order to achieve these goals, it is important for organizations who have the same goals to join together, uniting their voices and votes for the good of present and future generations of anglers. Therefore, RISAA is proud to be **AFFILIATED** with these respected organizations:



COALITION PARTNERS

In order to promote fisheries management and conservation on a regional, national and international scale, the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association has associated with these organizations:



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP



The Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association is a nonprofit Association established to provide a forum for saltwater anglers; to provide education to members concerning fishing techniques and overall enjoyment of fishing; to foster sportsmanship; to support marine conservation and the sound management of fisheries resources; and provide a unified voice to preserve and protect the rights, traditions and the future of recreational fishing.

Complete the form below and mail to: RISAA, P.O. Box 1467, Coventry, RI 02816 or REGISTER ONLINE at www.risaa.org/register to

RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP NEW MEMBERSHIP

First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date Of Birth _____ Phone # (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Put me on RISAA E-mail list: YES NO Thank You

Occupation _____ Employed At _____

Children (up to 17 yrs): _____

Register them as Junior Members (FREE). YES (Complete Below) NO Thank You

INFORMATION

Prefer to Fish From (check all that apply):

Rocks & Piers Charter Boats Party Boats Fly Fishing Surfcasting Other _____

Own Boat: Length: _____ ft Maker/Type: _____ Boat Name: _____ Docked at: _____

How did you hear about RISAA?

Friend Tackle Shop Facebook News Article RISAA Newsletter Fishing Show Web Site

Saw Advertisement at: Internet Magazine Newspaper TV Other _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

Regular Adult: \$50/year

Multiple Years (save \$5/year): \$90 (2 yrs) \$135 (3 yrs) \$180 (4 yrs)

Senior (Age 65+): \$25/year. Requires date of birth: _____

Life Member: \$500 (one time, single payment)

Student (College/Trade School): \$25/year (max .6 yrs). Requires copy of current student ID card

Junior Member: FREE (Up to 17 years. Requires parent membership or a RISAA sponsor)

Junior's Name: _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Junior's Name: _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

RISAA Sponsor (if parent not a member): _____ Relationship _____

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (Payable to: RISAA)

To pay by credit card, visit: www.risaa.org/regist

MAIL TO:

RISAA
PO BOX 1467
Coventry, RI 02816

Meetings: Held on the last Monday of each month at the West Warwick Elks in West Warwick, RI at 7:00 pm. (attendance not required)

Membership Benefits Include: Monthly Seminars • Fishing Tournaments • Fishing Trips • Monthly Newsletter • Discounts at Tackle Shops & Marine Dealers • Social Events • College Scholarships • Adds your voice to fisheries management and conservation issues.



RISAA

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