



RHODE ISLAND **SALTWATER** *Anglers*

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Recreational Anglers

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Saltwater Fishing
Show™ Memories**

PLUS:

**Catching Weakfish
With John Skinner**



RISAA member
John Malloy with
nice Sea Bass.

PLUS: **MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS**

ISSUE: 298 • April/May 2024

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APRIL

29 Seminar: Jigging, Popping & Chunking for Tuna with Captain Connor MacLeod

Special RISAA Tournaments:

June 28 – July 7
Fluke Tournament

July 19 – 28
Juniors Tournament
Prizes awarded to our juniors based on the most species caught

August 9 - 18
Bluefish Tournament

October 11 - 20
Tautog Tournament

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**RECREATIONAL FISHING
IS WORTH
\$419 MILLION
TO THE RHODE ISLAND
ECONOMY AND OVER
4,000 JOBS!**

The Official Magazine of the
Rhode Island Saltwater
Anglers Association
Published Monthly
RISAA
PO BOX 1467
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It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

While this phrase is most commonly associated with wintertime, or more recently through advertising it has become associated with “back to school” sales, I think this is arguably the most wonderful time of the year. We have spent months stocking up on the latest and greatest lures, plugs, and plastics, watched videos and read books, magazines, listened to podcasts, and the season is finally here.

It's that magical, almost twilight period of time, where we have all of our past experiences, new knowledge from research, and upgraded gear, all primed and ready to go with the entire season in front of us to look forward to.

So how will you spend your season this year? Will you be hitting your tried and true regular spots, will you be trying some new areas, or maybe a little of both? Maybe this is the year you book a charter trip with some friends, catch stripers from shore, or finally make that trip to pursue tuna. As saltwater anglers our season lies before us with adventures and stories that we will talk about for years to come. All we have to do is get out there and make it happen.

Along with our own personal angling goals, we should always remember to share our knowledge and skills with others. Our youth fishing camp will be returning during the last week of June. We are always looking for volunteers to help pass along our years of experience with the next generation of great saltwater anglers.

Advocacy is another great way to show your support for the saltwater angling community. There are a number of issues that we are currently facing that may potentially adversely affect habitat, bait fish sustainability, and shore access. We all have a vested interest in ensuring that generations to come have a chance to enjoy the experiences that we will have and share with each other on the water this year.

Feel free to contact me for ways that you can get involved with helping others become better anglers or advocating for sustainable marine fisheries regulations and habitat management.

Now get out there and make this the best season you have ever had!

Scott TRAVERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



RI SALTWATER ANGLERS ASSOCIATION
Legislative Committee

Reported by: Richard **Hittinger**, CHAIRMAN

WATCHING OUT FOR ANGLERS' RIGHTS FOR MANY YEARS

One of the mottos of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association is that we are “The Voice of Southern New England Fishermen”. In this article I will try to give some examples of the MANY times over the years that RISAA and our Board have stepped forward and spoken up for the rights of saltwater anglers. We spend considerable effort monitoring actions by Cities and Towns, State government, regional Fisheries Councils, and Federal government that may affect how all anglers access the water and the fish today and into the future. Please understand that the examples that I give below are only a sample of all of the letters, testimony, phone calls, meetings and emails from RISAA on these many important issues. These topics range from potential impacts from Offshore Wind Energy (OWE) development to blocking shore access points to leasing areas of the Bay for aquaculture farms to setting of fishing regulations and beyond.

Since RISAA's founding we have been protecting shore access by working with RI Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) and anyone else to keep paths to the shore open. Around 2007 RISAA entered into our first Adopt-An-Access agreement with CRMC and we started visiting these adopted spots to educate anglers how to be good neighbors to the nearby homeowners, an activity that continues today at many locations around Rhode Island. Then in 2010 RISAA entered into our first Adopt-a-Ramp agreement with RIDEM with a similar idea that we would help keep an eye on specific boat ramps throughout the State. Between these 2 programs RISAA has adopted ROWs and boat ramps in Middletown at Tuckerman Ave; in Narragansett at Pettaquamscutt Ave.; in Barrington at Daunis Ave.; on Block Island at Cooneymus Rd.; and in other areas. We continue to also follow legislation that can either block or keep open access to the waterfront. During the 2023 legislative session RISAA leadership provided testimony in support of both the House and Senate bills that are now law. It is clear now that the public has access to the waterfront up to 10 feet shoreside of the weed line. This is a major improvement over the previous definition that was not practical because it required a land surveyor to determine.

In 2012 RISAA joined with the RI Attorney General's office to prepare and present a legal case to prevent residents along Atlantic Avenue from blocking access to portions of Misquamicut Beach. RISAA hired a Registered Land Surveyor and worked with Assistant Attorney General Rubin to put together a case in an effort to protect access to this important beach for all of the public. Although this case did not provide any meaningful results, it did lead to the 2023 legislation that defined where access is allowed.



Over the years RISAA has reviewed literally hundreds of aquaculture lease applications. Every time there is a “Preliminary Determination” issued by CRMC we receive a copy of the application and the RISAA Board reviews it to determine if we believe that there is a potential for negative impact to the recreational fishing community. In most cases we do not object however there have been a few cases where RISAA objections have been a key part of why aquaculture leases were not immediately issued. For example, one application was for an area just off Hope Island where anglers fish for tautog. We were able to prevent CRMC from issuing that application. In addition, we have objected to expansion of a lease in Potters Pond and that application is still not permitted by CRMC. Another application where RISAA has objected is for an area just outside Seapowet Marsh in Tiverton. This lease proposal is placed in shallow water in the outflow from the marsh where many anglers wade and fish or kayak and fish. RISAA continues to follow and object to this area being used for commercial development because of all of the shoreside infrastructure that has been built and because of the value of this area to fishing and other forms of recreation.

As long ago as 2002 to 2003 RISAA was key to drafting and passage of The Freedom to Fish Act which was signed into law by then Governor Carcieri. We continue to be proactive with

(Continued on page 8)



THE WELCOME COMMITTEE

Dawn Filliatreault Wood, CHAIR

Welcome NEW Members!

Congratulations to Thaxter Tewksbury who has been a member since 2022 and just became a Lifetime Member!

JANUARY

James Babbitt - Hope Valley, RI
 Pete Blanpied - West Kingston, RI
 Philip Chorman - Waltham, MA
 Robert Francis - Portsmouth, RI
 Paul Harris - Charlestown, RI
 Steven Juchnik - Warwick, RI
 Dave Leandro - Brooklyn, CT
 Brad Luongo - Ipswich, MA
 Jack McMath - Barrington, RI
 Edward Porter Jr. - West Warwick, RI
 Ryan Sansoucy - Woodstock, CT
 Quentin Small - North Dighton, MA
 John Soetbeer - Narragansett, RI
 Mike Traiforos - Marlborough, MA
 Todd Treonze - Newport, RI
 Ernie Young - Bradford, RI

FEBRUARY

Mark Lucas - East Hartford, CT
 Scott Moran - Wakefield, RI
 Eric Lorentzen - Hull, MA
 Clarence Suthers - North Kingstown, RI
 Taylor Small (Junior) - North Dighton, MA
 Lena Small (Junior) - North Dighton, MA
 Keagan Fogarty (Junior) - Westerly, RI
 Caden Fogarty (Junior) - Westerly, RI
 John Pope - Portsmouth, RI
 Robert Babat - North Kingstown, RI
 John Kalooski - Jamestown, RI
 Richard Sullivan - Smithfield, RI
 Joe Pechie - Warwick, RI

MARCH

William Ward - Cumberland, RI
 Joe Gaudreau - Narragansett, RI
 Michael Kilmartin - Wakefield, RI
 Hyun Kim - Wakefield, RI
 Lyle Kim (Junior) - Wakefield, RI
 Luna Kim (Junior) - Wakefield, RI
 Michael Tourville - Charlestown, RI
 James Maturo - Hamden, CT
 Dennis Hayes - West Boylston, MA

Chappy Nem - Cranston, RI
 Princeton Nem (Junior) - Cranston, RI
 Howard Dulude - Coventry, RI
 Ed O'Brien - Westminister, MA
 Ned Burgwyn - Westerly, RI
 Brian Condon - Cranston, RI
 Cordell Golson - Warren, RI
 Bryan Achee - Warwick, RI
 Dennis Chmielecki - Lisbon, CT
 Ryan Drumm - Coventry, RI
 Doug Lacombe - Hope Valley, RI
 Marc Lambert - Blackstone, MA
 Keith McPhee - North Attleboro, MA
 Miles McPhee (Junior) - North Attleboro, MA
 Peter Reynolds - Tiverton, RI
 John Stanchfield - Swampscot, MA
 Scott St.Jen - Foster, RI
 William Toivonen - Gales Ferry, CT
 Aila Toivonen (Junior) - Gales Ferry, CT
 Robert Rinaldi - Pawtucket, RI
 Barry Spencer - Bristol, RI
 John Pettersen - Old Lyme, CT
 Joe Linggi - Stafford, VA
 Paula Medeiros - East Providence, RI
 Kevin Fineout - Cumberland, RI
 Paul Novicki - Hamden, CT
 Francisco Ferreira - Cranston, RI
 Michael Mathews - West Springfield, MA
 Frank McGovern - Charlestown, RI
 Thomas Brown - New Shoreham, RI
 Mark Bennet - West Greenwich, RI
 Jonathan Feinstein - Bristol, RI
 Larry DeYoung - Uxbridge, MA
 Mark Bennett - West Greenwich, RI
 Charles Whipple - Little Compton, RI
 John Mcmurry - Taunton, MA
 Stewart Pucci - Westerly, RI
 James Zito - Warren, RI
 Norman Hardacker - Brooklyn, CT
 Glen Skalubinski - Cranston, RI
 Lumenia Leandro - Brooklyn, CT
 Mathew Imbornone - Phoenix, AZ
 Ron Catudal - Tiverton, RI

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.

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COOKING YOUR CATCH

By: Paula Smalec

BAKED WEAKFISH FILLETS

This healthy recipe can be prepared with any type of white fish fillets. Just be sure to adjust the baking time according to the thickness of the fillets. The fish is done cooking if it flakes when you pierce it with a fork and twist gently. It will also lose its translucent appearance and become more opaque. You can substitute dried dill for the fresh dill in the recipe but reduce the amount significantly to approximately one tablespoon.

Ingredients:

- 2 weakfish fillets (4 oz. each)
- handful of cherry tomatoes, sliced in half.
- ¼ cup chopped fresh baby dill (or 1 tbsp. dried)
- ¼ cup chopped green onions
- salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon olive oil (or spray oil)
- small lemon, sliced thin.
- lemon wedges or lemon juice (optional)



Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

Rinse weakfish fillets and pat dry with paper towels.

Brush baking dish with olive oil (or use spray oil). Place fillets into the dish and season with salt and pepper. Scatter cherry tomatoes around the fish. Evenly distribute the dill and green onions onto the fillets and arrange the lemon slices on top.

Bake in the preheated oven for 15 - 18 minutes or until done.

Transfer fish to plates. Spoon tomatoes and pan juices over top of fillets.

Season with salt and pepper to taste. Sprinkle lemon juice on top for additional flavor, if desired.

Recipe is adapted from <https://thetopmeal.com/oven-baked-weakfish-recipe/#mv-creation-139-jtr>

RETURN 'EM RIGHT



By: Tommy Cody

In 2024 we expect the tight slot (28-31 inches) to be the rule for stripers. In addition, we will see an increase in the minimum size for fluke and scup, thus anglers will be releasing a lot of undersized fish this season. Member Tommy Cody offers some pointers from a recent NOAA sponsored program called Return 'Em Right---ed.

“Go get bigger!” It is something many anglers say as they release a fish, but how you toss that fish back has a big impact on whether that fish will indeed live to grow or not. Whether it is a schoolie, a doormat fluke, or a trophy tautog, anglers can increase the chances of post release survival by following some commonsense practices. Recently, NOAA partnered with new project, Return 'Em Right, to develop a fact sheet for anglers targeting reef fish in the Gulf of Mexico. Although the group's guidance is tailored to anglers fishing the Gulf's deep-water reefs, the principles detailed in their fact sheet will help Rhode Island anglers protect the fish they release as well.

Anglers' preparations for proper catch and release practices should begin before they even leave the dock. Return 'Em Right encourages anglers to plan ahead and make sure all anglers on the boat know the regulations for their target species as well as likely by-catch. Before a trip, anglers should also make sure they have the appropriate tackle for their target species. Using the right hook size in particular allows anglers to avoid unwanted species or undersized fish. Hooking a good fish is exciting and while light tackle makes for an even more thrilling fight, anglers should make sure they use rods and reels that are capable of landing fish in a timely manner. Lactic acid builds up in a fish the longer it fights, think of the burning sensation in your muscles after a strenuous work out. Excessive lactic acid buildup can negatively impact a fish's chance of survival. Furthermore, inappropriately light tackle leads to more breakoffs and excessive gear left in fish and on the ocean floor. Breakoffs are inevitable, but using non-stainless-steel hooks will allow hooks to naturally rust out of a fish's mouth over time. Even if it is not already mandated by regulations, anglers should use non-offset circle hooks when appropriate. Circle hooks reduce the chance of gut hooking a fish. If a fish is hooked deep, do

not attempt to yank the hook out. Instead, cut the line as close to the hook as possible.

Once anglers bring their fish to the surface, utilizing the right landing tools has a big impact on a fish's survival as well. Lip grips, dehookers and knotless nets all minimize handling time and help anglers quickly get fish back in the water. Knotless nets reduce handling and preserve fish's protective coatings and dehookers efficiently remove hooks with minimum damage to the fish's mouth. When thinking about how long to keep a fish out of the water after a fight, think about how long you can hold your breath after strenuous exercise. Planning is key if you would like to take a picture of a fish before releasing it. Have a camera ready before you remove the fish from the water, use wet hands or wet gloves, avoid putting hands in the fish's gills, and support the body horizontally. Fish, big fish in particular, use a lot of energy during a fight and often need to be revived before release. Lip grips are great tools for holding fish in current and allowing them to recover.

Fully recovering after a fight is critical for fish that need to avoid predators, and while fish like striped bass and bluefish may seem like they are at the top of the food chain, New England anglers are increasingly encountering seals and sharks that either take fish while they are on the line or immediately after release. When predators are in the area, anglers should move spots frequently to avoid attracting attention. If predators are following you after short moves, as frustrating as it may be, making a bigger move is the best option.

Whether it is predation, a hook inadvertently snagging in a fish's gills or the unfortunate gut hook, release mortality is inevitable. But, as responsible stewards of the resources we enjoy, it is imperative anglers do everything they can to reduce release mortality. Rarely are the practices unduly time consuming or expensive and can make the difference between a released fish dying or thriving and growing.

Tommy Cody is a RISAA member who lives in Tiverton and enjoys fly fishing for stripers and other gamefish in the nearby Sakonnet. He is also a member of the magazine volunteer group.

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legislative actions such as the Blue Claw Crab Bill that has been passed on the floor of the House and is currently working its way through the Senate. This Bill will remove the law which currently bans fishing for Blue Crabs at night. As RISAA pointed out, there is no reason for a law such as this when RIDEM can make these determinations with existing staff and surrounding states allow night crab fishing.

When there was discussion about the possibility of wind turbines coming to Rhode Island waters in 2010 RISAA volunteered to help URI write the nation's first ocean planning tool, the Ocean Special Area Management Plan (OSAMP). With help reviewing from other RISAA Board members I served on the committee to write the OSAMP Chapter on Fisheries. We made sure that recreational fishing interests were included in the ocean protections that were outlined for all fishing interests. In 2013 RISAA actively reviewed plans for construction of the nation's first offshore wind farm; the Block Island Wind Farm, consisting of 5 turbines just SE of Block Island with cables running into Block Island and north to Narragansett, RI. RISAA pushed from the first drafting of the OSAMP for slow progress with studies before, during and after construction to assure that all potential impacts to recreational fishing were known. In a letter that RISAA sent to the Federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) dated August 1, 2018 we pointed out the "rod & reel fishery for giant bluefin tuna in the exact area of lease blocks 6965, 6966, and 6967" but still, development and permitting of OWE projects has been allowed to occur in these areas without evaluation of potential impacts on this rod & reel fishery.

As it became clear in 2019 that OWE projects were targeted for construction on and around the area of Critical Habitat known as Cox Ledge, RISAA became more active reviewing and commenting on these issues. I became a full member of the Fisheries Advisory Board (FAB) taking over for RISAA member Bill Sosnicki who served as FAB member for the previous few years. In a letter dated March 23, 2020 to Orsted, developer of the proposed South Fork Wind Farm, RISAA stated "We previously commented that we believe construction of monopile bases is not preferred when compared to the 4-legged structures used in the BIWF project" and we gave our reasons stating that they have a greater impact during construction and provide a much inferior source of habitat. We also asked for specific design improvements but never even received a reply to that letter. Again in 2020 RISAA sent a letter of concern, this time to BOEM, with specific comments and concerns. Among the many concerns that we voiced concerns that the developers should "compensate the recreational fishing sector for any impacts." And impacts "should be mitigated by the creation of artificial reefs or other strategies such as further habitat enhancement..." But again, we have no idea if any of our concerns were heard because we never received a reply and our concerns were not included in the Final Environmental Impact Study (FEIS) to our knowledge.

In a letter dated February 17, 2021, RISAA provided 4 pages

of specific comments on the Draft EIS for South Fork Wind. We reviewed this document carefully because of the proposed location, right on Cox Ledge. This letter included direct criticisms, including "First, the DEIS fails to even consider impacts to private recreational fishing." Also, we commented that "Table 3.4.2-3... lists likely injury to finfish greater than 2 grams in size out to a radius of 39,265 feet from each monopile during installation. This is a diameter of 12.9 NM. In no way could this be construed as "a negligible to minor adverse effect." Even so, we did not receive any reply from these 4 pages of detailed comments. Other similar letters were sent to RI CRMC with no apparent impact on permit conditions or project designs.

In an open letter dated January 9, 2023, again to BOEM and copied to our Federal delegation as well as other State and local leaders RISAA asked that the export cables from the proposed Mayflower Wind project (now South Coast Wind) should be required to land as close to the turbines as possible and thereby avoid disturbance of the Sakonnet River. The letter stated, "The uncertainty and risk of damage by the installation of high-powered electrical transmission cables in the Sakonnet River ecosystem is a violation of Rhode Island's Public Trust Doctrine." And "There is no reason for Rhode Island to risk habitat, fishing opportunities, and the existing commercial value of the Sakonnet when there is a land-based alternative that eliminates risk in Rhode Island's waters and removes and violation of Rhode Island's Constitution."

Of course, RISAA is a part of the annual discussion with RIDEM regarding establishing recreational fishing regulations for the coming season. We find that RIDEM is normally forced to work within requirements given to them by the regional fishery management councils but there are often decisions that can be made locally regarding fishing seasons, bag limits, and minimum size limits while still working within the requirements of the regional councils. Among other improvements, RISAA has helped to open the season for black sea bass earlier, we crafted the regulation protecting breeder tautog so that anglers can only take one tautog per day over 21".

In this brief column I have attempted to give a quick idea of the level of activity of the RISAA Board and the Legislative Committee striving to protect the rights of all anglers today and preserve the fishery for tomorrow's anglers as well. We have been at the Statehouse to testify on several Bills over the last few weeks, we will be there this week and we will be there several more times before the end of this legislative session. If you have any questions or issues that you would like to discuss please email me at hittinger@risaa.org.

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 May 23 at 6:30 PM via Zoom.



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- Ocean State Tackle - Providence, RI
- Pete's Bait & Tackle - Woonsocket, RI
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THREE FREE TRIPS TO BE WON AT APRIL AND MAY MEETINGS

By: Hal Gibson, Charter Committee Chair

We will be offering 3 free Charters during the April and May meetings:

APRIL 29, 2024

This is a two man Charter aboard No Fluke Charters with Captain Dave Monti. You will be fishing Sea Bass, Fluke, Striper or Blue Fish in Narragansett Bay. The Charter will leave from the Ponaug Marina in Apponaug (Warwick). The time is TBD but in June After Sea bass opens.

The next charter is a fly and or light tackle trip for two lucky anglers in Late May/early June with Capt. Rene LeTourneau and On the Rocks Charters. This trip will also leave from the Newport area and the lower east bay. This trip departs at 6:00 AM.

MAY 27, 2024

This Charter is an “old stand by” that has always produced fun and fish. This is Teezer Charter and for two anglers in Mid July with Captain Eric Thomas and will be either an AM or PM light tackle Striper and Blues trip off Newport. The charter will depart from Fort Adams, Newport, RI.

How do you get a chance at a trip? Come to our monthly meetings and sign up at the Charter Trip Table at the back of the room. We will give you a form with that night’s trips listed on it. The form will list the available trips, the boat and the Captain, the type and location of the trip, and the time and date. Fill out the form listing your preference for each trip.

During the seminar we will draw the winners (and a list of alternates) and announce them at the end of the meeting. If you are a winner, we will give you a list of your fellow trip members and more details of the trip.



The only cost to you will be the customary tip to the Captain and/or Mate of 20% of what the trip would normally cost if you had chartered the trip privately. One member of each trip will be designated as the “group leader”, and they will be responsible to keep in contact with the Captain and be the liaison between him and the other group members. The group leader will also be responsible for taking some pictures and to write a story for the RISAA Magazine about the trip.

Remember, to win one of these trips you must be a RISAA member “in good standing” (dues must be paid up to date), and you have to be present at the end of the meeting. So if you haven’t joined yet, there is an application form in this magazine, or just come to the monthly meeting and sign up for membership and then for the free charter trip drawing. You can also join online at: www.risaa.org.

2024 Charter Trip Committee: Hal Gibson, Rene Blanchette, Peter Obiso and Sue Lema. 🐟

2024 New England Saltwater Fishing Show™ Memories

This year marked the twentieth show in our association’s history and what a great one it was! The weather was good enough that transportation wasn’t a problem but not so nice that people would be distracted by outdoor activities. We had enthusiastic crowds each day and judging by the crowded aisles and stuffed shopping bags, attendees were in the mood to shop and stock up for the coming season.

The RISAA membership booth featured a raffle for three rods made and donated by Crafty One in Portsmouth, RI. While they were all impressive, the one that caught most people’s eye was the Armed Forces Commemorative. For the second straight year, this beautiful rod was won by a veteran—Jim Coffin of Fairhaven MA—who was thrilled with his good fortune. Another big winner at the show was Luiz Santos who won the door prize which was a trip with Big Game Sportfishing Charters. The RISAA merchandise booth was a big hit all weekend as Kathy and Bob Marco were busy taking care of customers with RISAA-themed apparel.



Lea and Michelle of Wicked Tuna.

The seminar area was busy all three days with a broad variety of speakers and topics. There were seminars on offshore topics such as Brian Bacon speaking on jigging and chunking for bluefin tuna. We also had inshore seminars from RISAA’s own Dave Monti (How to catch larger fluke) and Dustin Stevens (Tog fishing from a kayak). We even had one unscheduled presentation when Captain Michelle Bancewicz and Mate Lea Pinaud of the show “Wicked Tuna” agreed to give an impromptu talk about how they got started in tuna fishing and eventually ended up on the show.


Scott Travers, Executive Director said; “We could have never done this without the volunteers. From set-up to break-down, we had one hundred and twenty RISAA member volunteers helping”. Kudos to the Show Committee and all the volunteers who made this show a success for all. Travers and President Dawn Filiatreault Wood heard from a lot of exhibitors who were thrilled with the show. According to Travers, a significant number reserved their 2025 booths before leaving.

See you all next year in Providence! 🐟



Kathy and Bob Marco at the merchandise booth.

We noticed a lot of people walking around carrying mysterious, long, slender tubes with a flared end. Turns out that this was something called “The Hook Tunnel” which attaches to a standard rod and keeps your sabiki rig from getting tangled or sticking you with those tiny hooks. When you are done catching bait, you remove it from the rod and stow it. Another novel product was the “Ghost Drag” which attaches to the rod and clamps the line in free spool mode so a predator can take the bait and run with it. Their motto is “Why low drag when you can have no drag?” These and other inventions demonstrate the constant innovation in the tackle industry and anglers’ desire to improve their odds of catching a fish. Seeing new tackle and accessories is one of the main draws of our show.



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JIGGING, POPPING & CHUNKING FOR TUNA

with Captain Connor MacLeod

Captain Connor is the owner/operator of Tall Tailz Charters based out of Newport RI. He has a deep passion for the sport and is constantly trying to progress his skill set. Starting as a kid in the freshwater, he then progressed to wetsuit fishing Newport's rocky coast and eventually became a full time inshore and offshore guide. His primary vessel, "Tall Tailz" is a 31 JC, down east style boat. He specializes in jig/pop and chunking tuna, primarily on spinning gear. He's been featured in "On the Water" and "The Fisherman" magazines.

Captain Connor will discuss key strategies to targeting and landing more tuna on the jig and chunk bite. This seminar will focus primarily on tuna fishing on the 30 fathom curve. He will go over some of his favorite rigging methods for each covering preferred gear, jig styles and colors, techniques, and tips. He will go over how to decide where to fish, when to move and when to switch strategies all together. The goal of this seminar is to give the audience some specific knowledge to build their confidence on their next mid-shore tuna trip.



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.

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Our new mailing address is
RISAA - PO BOX 1467, Coventry, RI 02816

For Association business such as membership, Fishing Show, and advertising contact Scott Travers at
Travers@risaa.org or 401-826-2121

To submit photos or content for the monthly magazine
Fred DeFinis at definis@risaa.org

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) 826-2121

MEMBER PHOTOS



Bob Maietta with a strper caught at a secret location.



Member Tom Houde with a holdover.



Wayne Berardi with a nice albie.

Attention Members... Have Your Photo on the Cover of Our Magazine!



Let's have more cover photos from members like you!

Some requirements and tips:

Make it interesting. A photo of you or your buddy standing facing the camera holding a fish is generally not that interesting. Try a different angle, dramatic lighting, action or some other technique that makes your photo stand out from the ordinary. For some great hints, watch the seminar by Eddy Stahowiak on the RISAA website.

Proper Orientation. To fit the magazine cover, your photo needs to be in vertical format or what is often called "portrait" format on your printer.

Be conscious of composition. When taking the photo, be aware of what is in the frame. You don't want a rod or net sticking out of the top of someone's head or a bunch of clutter in the background.

Watch the light. Some shadow and contrast help make a nice photo but you don't want areas that are washed out by the light or shadows so dark that you lose detail.

We need reasonable resolution. Cover photos need to be 240 dpi. If the resolution is poor the photo will not reproduce in the large format of our cover.

Submit your photos to the editor. definis@risaa.org
Please include a description of the photo.

CATCHING WEAKFISH (SQUETEAGUE) WITH JOHN SKINNER

By: Fred DeFinis

THE FISHERY

Cynoscion is a genus of marine ray-finned fishes belonging to the family Sciaenidae, the drums and croakers. These fishes are found off the coasts of North and South America in the western Atlantic and eastern Pacific Oceans. In New York and Connecticut, the common name is weakfish, while in Rhode Island they are referred to as squeteague. In New Jersey and south they are often called sea trout or gray sea trout. Their abundance or lack thereof seems to be cyclical. Once common in Long Island Sound, they were scarce for many years but seem to be making a comeback. In Skinner's local waters of Eastern Long Island, the last five years have produced an uptick in numbers but the fish are smaller. Likewise, Rhode Island has experienced a resurgence in the number of fish but the fish are smaller. According to Skinner, no one is quite sure why the larger fish seem to be scarce. He also said that the fish head to the continental shelf in winter where large numbers are eaten by dolphins which may affect the natural cycle. RISAA Secretary Sue Lema told me that when she had a commercial license she partially earned the down payment on her first house by catching and selling large—eight pounds and up—squeteague.



WHAT TO BRING

Skinner recommends a seven foot, medium rod with a 3000 series reel spooled with fifteen pound braid. He notes that some anglers go lighter given that many of the fish today are fourteen to twenty-four inches in most locales. He likes a two ounce diamond jig with a 3/0 Gamakatsu hook as a teaser. He tips the hook with a dark-colored Gulp or strip of squid. In one of his many experiments with underwater video Skinner discovered that there is little to



Most members are familiar with John Skinner through his books, videos or YouTube presentations. John combines nearly sixty years of fishing experience with an inquisitive and analytical mind and is constantly experimenting with colors, sizes, scents, presentation and a host of factors to see what works best. Often, his results are surprising. John agreed to share his experience and tips for catching weakfish with RISAA members.—ed.

no light at the depths he was finding fish—sometimes fifty feet down. This led him to experiment with coloring the diamond jigs. Surprisingly, he found that a shiny chrome jig performed the worst, while glow-in-the-dark paint was best followed by black. Another rig he suggests is a one-and-a-half ounce bucktail with Gulp again coupled with the teaser. Both Skinner and Sue Lema note that they have also had great success with the Mann Jelly Worm in dark purple rigged on a light jig head. The Mann Jelly Worm is primarily a freshwater bait but seems to get the attention of weakfish. If you are able to fish at night, drifting a sandworm with very little weight (e.g. a split shot) will often produce a strike as will a red fin plug.



WHEN AND WHERE TO GO

The best fishing is generally in May and June. For that reason, the weakfish is often overlooked as anglers are excited to go after migrating stripers. As with many gamefish, night provides the best fishing but there are plenty during the day too. In Rhode Island, Greenwich Bay is considered the “hot spot” for squeteague. Fish can be found in the shallow waters around Chepiwanoxet and Sally Rock as well as further up into the cove. Generally, you will be fishing in water less than ten feet deep. For south coast anglers, squeteague can sometimes be found in the Great Salt Pond and near the mouth of the Narrow River. In the Sakonnet, squeteague may be found on the west shore in the area of Glen Manor and Black Point.

In Long Island Sound, there is good fishing on the sandbars around New Haven or in the Norwalk Islands, especially in May. As the water warms, the fish move out into the middle of the Sound. When the water is warmer Max Finch at Fisherman's World in Norwalk suggests trying buoy 28-C at Cable and Anchor Reef.

One of the prime areas for weakfish is in the “fishtail” area of eastern Long Island, especially Peconic Bay. This is John Skinner's primary fishing area and he targets the fish in deeper water, often as deep as fifty feet. Weakfish have a very large swim bladder for their size so they mark well on fish-finders. Most of the time they will be near the bottom so if you see a collection of good marks close to the bottom, you may have found a school of weakfish.

TIPS AND TECHNIQUES

As mentioned earlier, you might get weakfish drifting worms or casting plugs at night but in the daytime, Skinner suggests

“hugging the bottom”. Drop your rig to the bottom where you are marking fish and give it a gentle upwards sweep. You don't need a jerky or violent motion—just a gentle up and down letting the rig drop to the bottom after each upwards sweep. If the fish are not biting aggressively, another technique is dropping the rig to the bottom and retrieving it upwards with VERY SLOW turns of the crank. This slow, upwards travel will often induce the fish to strike.

When you have one on, you will know it! The weakfish is anything but weak when it comes to fighting. It shakes its head rapidly, similar to the motion you feel from a fluke. The action is distinctly different from that of a striper or a blue. The fish has a reputation for having a tender mouth that can tear so most anglers are very careful when landing them, lest they tear the hook loose. Generally, the name “weakfish” comes from this perception. Skinner calls this “Nonsense” and says he doesn't understand how the fish got that reputation as he has often swung them over the side of the boat without a net. The membrane around the jaw is soft and prone to tearing so perhaps that is the origin of the weakfish moniker.

If you choose to keep the fish, it is easy to filet and has a soft white flesh. The limit in NY, CT, MA & RI is one fish per angler, sixteen inch minimum. When handling the fish, remember that they have teeth! 🐟

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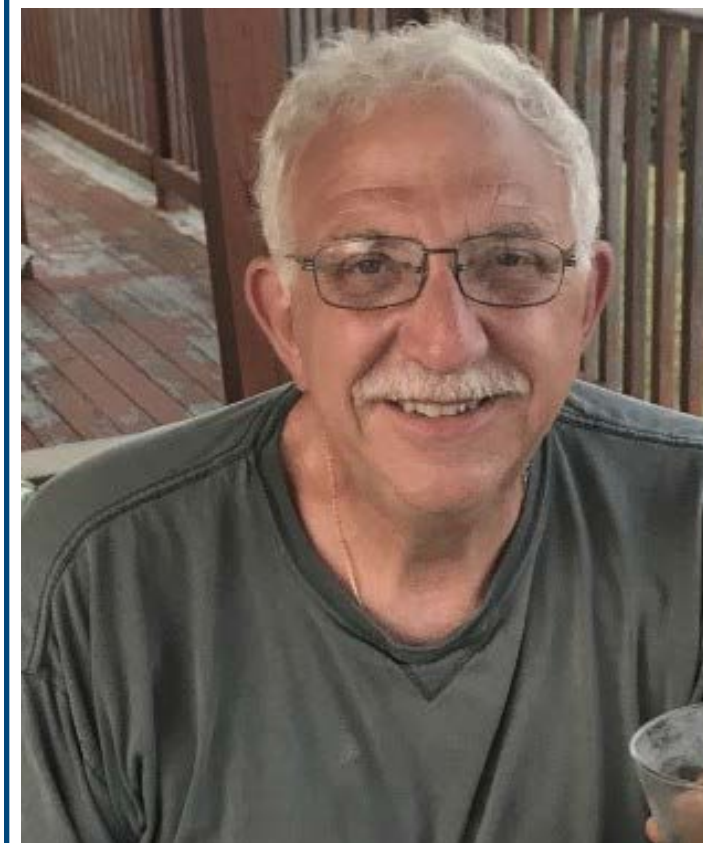
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RISAA KAYAK COMMITTEE SUMMARY 2024 OUTINGS

Apr 27	Sat	10:00 AM	Goddard Park State Park Boat Ramp	1095 Ives Road, East Greenwich 02818	Meet and Greet/Weakfish	Kraig Ruth
May 11	Sat	8:00 AM	Walker Farm 100 acre cove, Barrington	509 County Road, Barrington 02806	Bass	Warren Prell
May 18	Sat	5:00 PM	Goddard Park State Park Beach	1095 Ives Road, East Greenwich 02818	Weakfish	Tom Houde
May 20	Mon	5:00 PM	Narrows Fishing Area, Bristol	148 Narrows Road, Bristol 02809	Bass, Weakfish, Tautog	Harry Livingston
May 25	Sat	4:00 PM	Grassy Point Ninegret Park	Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge Charlestown RI 02813	Bass	Don Goodroe
May 28	Tues	5:00 PM	Point Judith Pond, South Kingstown	214 Salt Pond Rd, South Kingstown 02879	Bass	Jeffrey Richard
June 4	Tues	5:00 PM	Passeonquis Cove	Gaspee Pont Dr, Warwick 02888	Bass	Tom Houde
June 8	Sat	5:30 AM	Narrow River, South Kingstown	Sprague Bridge, South Kingstown 02879	Bass	Kirk Kamien
June 12	Wed	5:00 PM	Newport Harbor, Newport	80 Fort Adams Drive, Newport 02840	Bass on Sand Eels	Kraig Ruth
Jun 19	Wed	6:00 PM	Weaver Cove, Portsmouth	Burma Road, Portsmouth 02871	Bass/Blues	Kraig Ruth
July 6	Sat	5:00 AM	King's Beach, Newport	Ocean Avenue, Newport 02840	Bass	Tom Houde
July 20	Sat	6:00 AM	URI Bay Campus, Narragansett	South Ferry Road, Narragansett 02882	Bottom fishing	Kirk Kamien
Aug 24	Sat	8:00 AM	Camp Cronin, Narragansett	Ocean Road, Narragansett 02882	Albies/Bass/Tautog	Don Goodroe
Aug 31	Sat	5:30 AM	King's Beach, Newport	Ocean Avenue, Newport 02840	Bass/Blues	Charlie Reilly
Sept 28	Sat	8:00 AM	Fogland Beach, Tiverton	12 Point View Drive, Tiverton 02878	Bass/Tautog	Kraig Ruth
Oct 12	Sat	9:00 AM	Battery Park (Newport Bridge), Newport	Washington Street, Newport 02840	Tautog/Bass	Charlie Reilly
Oct 19	Sat	6:00 AM	Goddard Park State Park Boat Ramp	1095 Ives Road, East Greenwich 02818	Bass	Don Goodroe



IN MEMORIAM Giacomo "Jack" Guarnaccia

RISAA Mourns the passing of Member Giacomo "Jack" Guarnaccia. Jack was a RISAA member since 2013. Living in Connecticut, he was an active RISAA member volunteering every year at the NE Saltwater Fishing Show and attending the monthly seminars when he could. On the months he could not attend he enjoyed watching the videos of the seminars from the RISAA website. Jack once won the RISAA Annual Tournament for the largest fluke and enjoyed fishing from his boat, a 25 foot Regulator, sailing out of Point Judith with his grandsons Mac and Alex, Son Anthony, Daughter Elizabeth, or his friends. Jack was an avid boater, fisherman, and supporter of clean oceans. Many of Jack's family and friends made donations to the RISAA Foundation in his memory. (see Foundation page).

RISAA FLY FISHING COMMITTEE 2024 OUTINGS

APRIL

- 4 Spring Meeting at Gregg's North Kingstown 6:30 PM
- 27 Narrow River Cleanup

MAY

- 8 Narrow River 11:30 AM Leader PHIL HALFORD
- 16 Ninigret Pond 4:30 PM
- 21 Greenwich Bay (specific location(s) TBD) 5:30 PM
Leader DON GOODROE

JUNE

- 6, 11, (13) BOSTON HARBOR OUTINGS — Rick Hamel has very generously offered to lead 2 outings of 6 anglers each to fish the islands in Boston Harbor. The outings will leave from Hull, MA. The 6th is at 6:30 AM; the 11th is at 10:45; and the 13th is a Weather Date, in case one of the first two have to be cancelled. These are FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED EVENTS. Sign up by email to hamel.pj@gmail.com. If you sign up but cannot go, please let Rick know ASAP, so that the next person in line can take your spot.

- 19 Chepiwanoxet 5:00 PM Leader DON GOODROE
- 25 King's Park/Fort Adams 7:30 PM Leader PHIL HALFORD

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Narrow River 3:00 PM
- 12 Quonny 4:00 PM Leader JIM JAQUES
- 26 Colt State Park 4:30 PM

OCTOBER

- 3 Bristol Narrows 10:00 AM Leader JOHN EDWARDS
- 15 Narrow River 10:00 AM
- 24 Charlestown 1:00 PM

NOVEMBER

- 5 ANNUAL MEETING Gregg's North Kingstown 6:30
- 6 Narrow River 1:00 PM Leader JOHN EDWARDS

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2024 Member Survey on Potential Threats to Recreational Fishing

BACKGROUND

One of the main reasons members join RISAA is to add their voice in conservation and issues affecting recreational fishing. Like any large group, our membership represents a broad array of backgrounds, experiences, and opinions. It is important that those representing the Association through its Board of Directors and Legislative Committee understand the opinions and priorities of the membership. The Association can't be steered by those who speak out the most but must heed all voices. Thus, we launched this year's member survey to understand members' awareness and attitudes towards certain trends that could be construed as harmful to recreational fishing. It should be obvious that awareness and attitudes can be shaped by where and how each member fishes.

We had 341 responses which is our largest participation ever, providing a margin of error of 4.5 percent plus/minus or better at a 95% confidence level.

Our participants included anglers from all modes of fishing* with the most common being:

Boat inshore	69 %*
Shore	49 %*
Boat offshore	38 %*

We also had good representation among kayak, charter, and head-boat anglers. A whopping seventy percent fish at least once a week and most of the remainder fish two to three times a month so we have a sample of serious anglers.

It is interesting to note that responses were fairly consistent across all modes of fishing as though members were thinking about our pastime as a whole, not just their particular situation or interest.

*two responses allowed

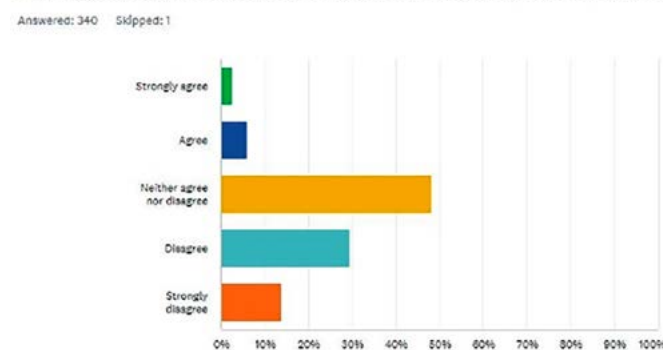
MEMBERS ARE THOUGHTFUL

One of the important takeaways from this survey is that our members don't want or expect to have exclusive use of our shores and waterways. They understand and accept that these are shared resources and that with changing times comes compromise. Only 30% disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement that "Times are changing and we all have to share the waterways". Where they seem to have issues is in where and how the "sharing" is to occur. Sixty-four percent agree that traditional uses of the oceans and waterways such as fishing, boating, etc. should take priority over newer uses. On the other hand, fewer than ten percent disagree.

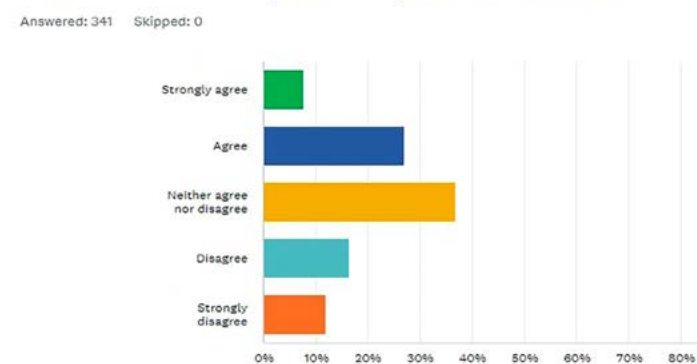
We then asked members whether they would be willing to give up some fishing access or habitat to support new industries such as aquaculture or cleaner sources of energy (i.e. OWE). In both cases, over sixty percent of the members said they would not.

Proponents of aquaculture and OWE maintain that these industries can be beneficial to fishing by providing improved fish habitat but it appears that members are not so certain about those proposed benefits. Their response is generally ambivalent on the issue of improved fish habitat via commercialization.

Fixed gear aquaculture installations provide improved fish habitat.



Wind turbine bases provide improved fish habitat.



SHORE ACCESS IS A MAJOR CONCERN

Even though the majority of our sample is made up of boat-based anglers, shore access is the most cited concern. Not only is it a current concern but members feel it will be a concern in the future and may get worse.

Personally affected by lack of shore access	47%
Could be personally affected in the future	68%
Angling community as a whole could be affected	88%

When we posed the statement "I am concerned that shore access may become more and more limited as property owners seek to

control who uses the shore near their homes" sixty-four percent answered "strongly agree" and another thirty percent answered "agree"—a total of 94% agreement. This certainly indicates a strong level of concern. Some representative comments:

"At the rate its going a surf fisherman will have difficulty in fishing the surf"

"Being 77 years old and having seen many changes in the state, shore access has always been a concern of many".

"There is typically strong and well financed resistance to parking access or improvements to public shore right ways from abutting and nearby property owners".

FIXED GEAR AQUACULTURE

While not quite as great a concern as shore access, members have significant concern about fixed gear aquaculture intruding on their fishing areas. Like other findings, this was consistent across all segments, not just shore or kayak anglers.

Personally affected by placement of fixed gear aquaculture	30%
Could be personally affected in the future	49%
Angling community as a whole could be affected	63%

As mentioned previously, anglers don't buy the argument that these installations improve fish habitat nor are they willing to lose access or habitat to support private industry. While the survey is anonymous, it appears that those fishing in our salt ponds and nearshore areas are the most concerned and affected. Some comments:

"After watching the permitting of aquaculture first-hand for 20+ years, I feel aquaculture can take away the use of the public waters of the state. In some cases, it completely restricts public use to the lease holder only".

"Fixed gear aquaculture is important but needs to be managed equitably for all stakeholders".

"Fixed gear aquaculture I believe should stay away from known recreational and commercial areas! The ocean is big enough to find other suitable areas"!.

OFFSHORE WIND TURBINES

While not the most important concern of members, this is the issue that stirred the most passion. Although many of the comments focused on the socio-political-economic merits of OWE, we are concerned with how they affect our mission ..to preserve and protect the rights, traditions and the future of recreational fishing in Rhode Island.

The level of concern regarding OWE installations closely mirrors that of aquaculture, within a percent or two.

Personally affected by placement of wind turbines	30%
Could be personally affected in the future	48%
Angling community as a whole could be affected	64%

“ Like any large group, our membership represents a broad array of backgrounds, experiences, and opinions. It is important that those representing the Association through its Board of Directors and Legislative Committee understand the opinions and priorities of the membership. ”

As with other concerns, anglers want more sensitivity to their needs when considering whether and where to site OWE installations. Some key statistics:

Offshore wind development should avoid areas of critical fish habitat such as Coxes Ledge. **Strongly agree 64%, Agree 18%.**

Policymakers should evaluate other ways to reduce CO2 emissions more completely before they push forward with industrialization of the nearshore ocean. **Strongly agree 45% Agree 34%**

The landing cable for South Coast Wind should travel over land as much as possible to avoid installation in the Sakonnet River. **Strongly agree 50% Agree 21%**

Climate change is an imminent threat and we should do whatever we can to limit it even if it means giving up some of our fishing grounds. **Strongly agree 11% Agree 18%**

As would be expected, members who fish offshore have greater concern than others regarding this issue but only about six to ten percentage points above the sample as a whole. We should also note that some members (although a minority) are not overly concerned with placement of turbines and feel that action(s) to combat climate change should take precedence. Some comments:

"There is more land mass to erect wind turbines on than using our oceans where the near and long term effects are not fully evident until the damage is done".

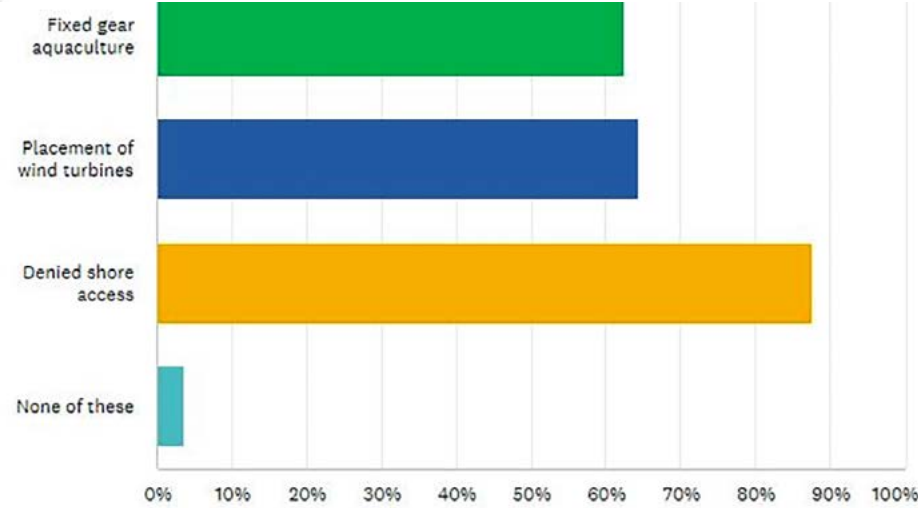
"Strongly opposed to the damage and potential long term damage to our waters and fishing habitat, that wind turbines are likely to cause".

"All new proposed development in the marine environment should be required to follow existing permitting requirements no matter how "important" policymakers think the new projects are".

"I think many false narratives about wind turbines are being pushed by pro fossil fuel companies who want to deny global warming".

Thinking about the recreational angling community as a whole, following could be a concern? Check all that apply

Answered: 339 Skipped: 2



AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS

Overall, fewer than half of the participants felt they had reasonable familiarity or knowledge of the proposed aquaculture lease at Sapowet, the Westerly parking controversy or the proposed cable in the Sakonnet. The exception was the OWE installation on Coxes Ledge. This could be because that issue has been in the news recently and/or self-sampling bias, i.e. people who have an opinion on that topic were more likely to take the survey. Those who consider themselves “familiar” or “well-informed” for each issue:

OWE at Coxes Ledge	60%
Sakonnet cable	44%
Westerly access issue	35%
Sapowet aquaculture	26%

Obviously, these could be heavily influenced by media coverage as well as where and how an angler fishes.

RISAA’S ROLE IN MEMBER CONCERNS

There is one area in which nearly all members agree—**97% agree** that when the members see a threat to recreational fishing, RISAA should get involved either through its Board of Directors or Legislative Committee. Conversely, **90% disagreed** with the position that RISAA should stay out of controversial issues. Several members mentioned that they were pleased to have the opportunity to weigh in on the survey and that the leadership was being guided by the membership.

I think you need a clear mandate of membership concerns before applying our resources to any issue.

I enjoyed your survey. Let’s stay level-headed and not contribute to hysteria around these issues.

As always, there are a few extreme comments on both ends of the spectrum but members are generally thoughtful and trying to seek a reasonable position. 🐟

Fred DeFinis is Second Vice President, Secretary of the Legislative Committee, Editor of the monthly magazine and unofficial survey-master. He can be reached at definis@risaa.org.

2024 College Scholarships Programs

We encourage the participation of every member by helping us to raise awareness of our scholarship program. Please let your family and friends know about this program and tell them to spread the word.



Scholarships Committee
David Michel, CHAIRMAN

Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association Member Scholarships

- Any RISAA member in good standing or their immediate family, specifically their children or stepchildren, grandchildren, brother or sister, or stepbrother or stepsister, who is currently a high school senior and will attend ANY college or university within one year, may apply for the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association Member Scholarship.
- The student does NOT have to pursue a marine science degree. Any degree program at any college is acceptable.
- \$600 scholarships are awarded.
- Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis.

Stephen J. Therrien Memorial Scholarship

The Stephen J. Therrien Memorial Scholarship is RISAA’s most prestigious merit-based award and recognizes students who show outstanding achievement and commitment. Therrien Scholarships are intellectually curious and have demonstrated passion, experiences, or achievements beyond the usual. They are, in other words, not just top students, but extraordinary people. All qualified candidates who apply for either the Rhode Island Saltwater Angler’s Foundation’s “Fisheries or Marine Sciences Scholarship” or the “Marine Sciences Continuing Education Scholarship” will be considered for this award. These are \$500 Scholarships.

Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers FOUNDATION AWARDS

Fisheries & Marine Sciences Scholarships

- Awarded to any Rhode Island high school senior who will be attending either the University of Rhode Island or Roger Williams University, in a Fisheries or Marine Sciences program within one year.
- Three \$500 Scholarships are awarded, and the recipient does not have to be connected with RISAA in any way.

Fisheries & Marine Sciences Continuing Education Scholarship

- Awarded to any student currently enrolled at either the University of Rhode Island or Roger Williams University, and entering his/her second year in a marine science program.
- \$500 Scholarships are awarded to the one student at each university.



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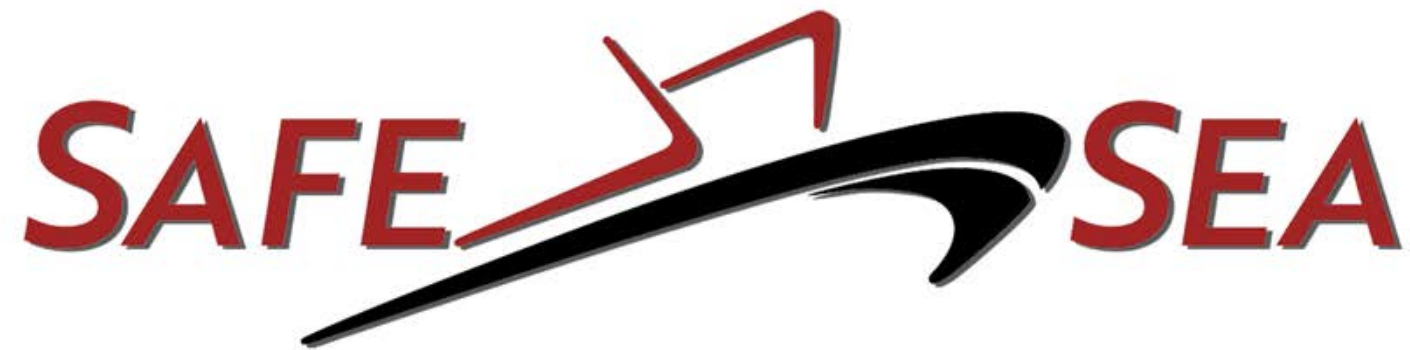
if you have a child who is a high school senior, or know someone who is eligible to apply, let them know about our scholarship programs. Applications and information is available:

- Email to michel@risaa.org
- Go to www.risaa.org and click on the “Scholarships” button
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*If you would like more information or would like to join a committee contact:
Scott Travers • Travers@risaa.org*

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Night-time Crabbing Legislation HALFWAY HOME

In the March issue we ran a story on RISAA-sponsored legislation to allow the night-time harvest of blue crabs which is currently prohibited by State law in Rhode Island. We are pleased to announce that House Bill 7440 introduced by Rep Jennifer Boylan had a hearing on February 29th and has already passed a full vote of the House.

We are waiting for Senator Matthew LaMountain's senate bill to be heard and voted upon but we are optimistic and hope to be able to report success on this legislation in the coming months. Stay tuned...



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.*

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Carl Tiska

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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

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:

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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: \$60/year

Multiple Years (save \$5/year): \$100 (2 yrs) \$165 (3 yrs) \$220 (4 yrs)

Senior (Age 65+): \$35/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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Coventry, RI 02816

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