



New Jersey

# Fish & Wildlife

D I G E S T

## 2008 Freshwater Fishing Issue

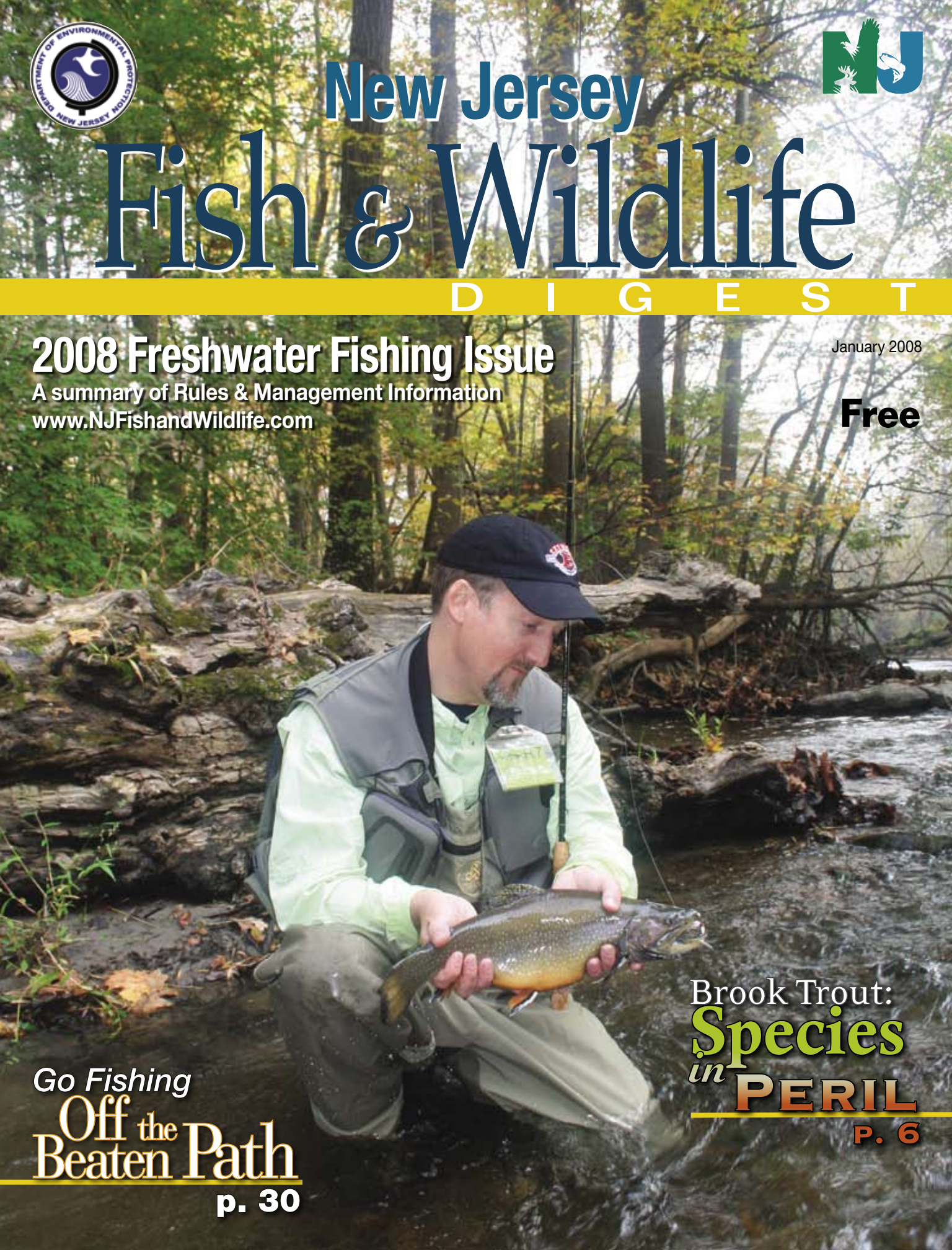
A summary of Rules & Management Information  
[www.NJFishandWildlife.com](http://www.NJFishandWildlife.com)

January 2008

**Free**

Go Fishing  
*Off the*  
**Beaten Path**  
p. 30

Brook Trout:  
**Species**  
*in* **PERIL**  
P. 6



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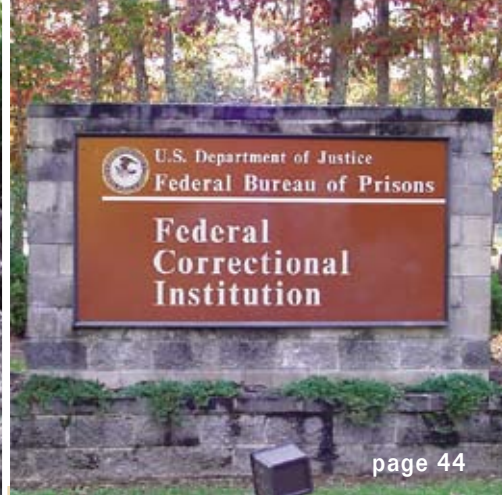


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*enlarged format* for the  
visually impaired.**

**Write to:**  
**New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Large Format Freshwater Fishing Digest**  
**P.O. Box 400 • Trenton, NJ 08625-0400**

## Hotlines

### **Trout Stocking Spring / Fall / Winter (609) 633-6765**

The computerized message is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week seasonally, or visit our Web site: [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com).

### **Shad Run (610) 954-0577 or (610) 954-0578**

In April, the Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association provides a message on the shad run in the Delaware 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Information on river conditions and the status of the shad run is offered. Call in late evening or early morning to avoid a busy signal.

### **Environmental Alert (877) WARNDP**

Contact this 24-hour hotline to report a fish kill, illegal waterbody drawdown, pollution or other environmental offense.

### **Operation Game Thief (800) 222-0456**

Call this number to anonymously report a fish or wildlife violation.

# Commissioner's Message



BY LISA P. JACKSON

New Jersey has a rich legacy of progressive environmental policies. Under Governor Jon S. Corzine's leadership, we are continuing to expand upon that progressive legacy. Governor Corzine recognizes that protecting water quality, providing healthy fish habitat and ensuring public access are key components in sustaining a desirable quality of life in the Garden State and are of particular concern to anglers.

Over the past few years, the Department of Environmental Protection has launched a number of major Clean Water Initiatives to protect our state's water resources and the fish - and the anglers - that depend on them. Through the Category One designation, an increasing number of streams are now afforded the state's highest level of water-quality protection. Category One designation limits development impacts and discharges of pollutants to these streams, rivers and lakes, ensuring no further degradation to waters that either support critical wildlife or feed into a drinking water source. This designation includes the requirement of a 300-foot buffer along these protected waterways. Protecting these high quality streams protects the fish that inhabit them.

Another Clean Water Initiative is the recent adoption of revised Stormwater Management Rules. These rules emphasize low impact building techniques that will prevent or minimize the impact of new development sites using both structural and non-structural techniques such as minimizing land disturbance, minimizing impervious cover, or

infiltration basins and vegetative filters.

In addition to these Clean Water Initiatives, another cornerstone in protecting our freshwater fisheries is to protect the waterways through land acquisition at both the state and local level. By purchasing watershed lands that surround waterways and saving them as open space, we not only protect the water resource but we also provide public access for anglers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

Preservation of open space through the Green Acres and Garden State Preservation Trust Fund is vital to protecting quality of life in our state. To date, New Jersey has permanently preserved over 1.3 million acres, but over 2 million acres, much of it with high natural resource value, remains unprotected and at risk.

On a closing note, I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Division of Fish and Wildlife on its recent Association of Conservation Information Awards for the *New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Digest*. For the second year in a row, the *Digest* has been recognized for its excellence. Many other fish and wildlife agencies seek to emulate the quality and success of the *Digest*. This cost-effective publication provides valuable information to the hunting and fishing public and is an invaluable outreach tool not only for the Department but also the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Congratulations to all the dedicated staff who contribute to produce the *Digest*!

**Lisa P. Jackson is Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.**

# Director's Message



BY DAVE CHANDA

There is exciting news to report for anglers, other outdoors enthusiasts and all Garden State residents. Thanks to your support, voters approved a constitutional amendment in 2006 which allows the dedication of a portion of the Corporate Business Tax (CBT) to fund maintenance and capital improvements at state parks

and wildlife management areas. With this stable source of funding, the Division of Fish and Wildlife now has the opportunity to expand how these areas can be used for public enjoyment. Coordinated efforts among the Department's Natural and Historic Resources sections have assured protection and added recreational opportunities as well as increased and enhanced access to New Jersey's fish and wildlife resources. These activities directly benefit anglers both in accessibility and watershed preservation.

A few examples of how this money is being used include:

- The Pequest Trout Hatchery water system will receive a new well this spring guaranteeing a clean, adequate water supply for years to come at New Jersey's only trout hatchery.

- A feasibility study to create a supplemental water supply is scheduled at the Hackettstown Hatchery. This project includes replacing some of the pipes carrying water from the current spring system that supplies the hatchery. Amazingly, these are the original water supply pipes from when the hatchery was constructed in 1912.
- Access to Penbryn Pond in Winslow Township, Camden County, will be greatly enhanced and the associated parking area expanded. The pond offers excellent warmwater fishing and anglers will be thrilled to note that recent sampling efforts indicate a thriving largemouth bass population with several specimens weighing more than five pounds. The pond was also the site of an artificial habitat project last spring.
- Floating docks will be constructed at the Round Valley Boat Ramp, Hunterdon County, to provide easier access to this trophy trout lake. In addition, restroom facilities will become handicapped accessible.

Other exciting news includes a state-of-the-art boat ramp and parking system on the Salem River/Canal within the Salem River WMA. This area is one of South Jersey's best largemouth bass waters. Working with DEP's Natural Resources Damages Program, a settlement from DuPont Corporation will fund the completion of this project, which is

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anticipated by late spring or early summer. Currently, public access to this waterway is severely limited. Boaters should be extremely impressed with this improvement.

In addition, significant acquisitions along the state's major trout streams in North Jersey are also underway through DEP's Green Acres Program. In 2008, anglers will see substantial additions to wildlife management areas along the Musconetcong River, Pohatcong Creek, South Branch of the Raritan River and Paulinskil River, along with expansions on many of the state's smaller trout stocked waters. Beyond the recreational benefits of added lands, these acquisitions help preserve water and habitat quality.

The Green Acres Program will also protect the entire southern shore of Harrisonville Lake in Salem County with the acquisition of a 200+-acre parcel added to the Harrisonville Lake WMA. Had this parcel been lost to threatening development, fishing quality on the lake would have been significantly degraded. The new acquisition will provide enhanced shoreline fishing opportunities.

Indeed, our agency is fortunate to have your support for these and many other natural resource-related improvement projects throughout the state. In some instances the wait for much-needed renovations has been very long, but I'm sure you will agree once all is completed, any inconveniences will have been well worth it.

**Dave Chanda is the Director  
of the Division of Fish & Wildlife.**



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**The Division of Fish and Wildlife is a professional, environmental organization dedicated to the protection, management and wise use of the state's fish and wildlife resources.**

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Cover Photo: Brook trout on the Pequest River by P. Jeremy Garnish

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**New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife**

**Our Mission**

To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

**Our Goals**

- To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
- To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
- To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

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