REGULATIONS

New Jersey Marine Fish Identification



REGULATIONS

Application
STRIPED BASS BONUS
FISH PROGRAM

Date		
Name		
Last	First	Middle Initial
Address		
Number and Street		
City		State
Zip Code	_County	
*Social Security #		

Telephone, Day_

**E-mail

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife Striped Bass Bonus Fish Program P.O. Box 418, Port Republic, NJ 08241

*Required for processing application

**To receive special NJ Fish and Wildlife notices

You must enclose a self-addressed, stamped #10 business sized envelope for each applicant to receive two fish possession cards

Applications and log sheets are available on our website at www.njfishandwildlife.com

DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE USE ONLY

Possession Cards #'s Issued_

Duplicate Check_

Date Mailed to Applicant_

Initials

CONSERVE WILDLIFE LICENSE PLATES Support Endangered and Nongame Species



Since 1972 the Endangered and Nongame Species Program (ENSP) works to protect and restore New Jersey's endangered and threatened wildlife. You can help the program through the Income Tax Check-off

and/or through the Conserve Wildlife license plate. These attractive \$50 license plates let everyone know you believe in conservation, and 80% of your tax deductible payment goes directly to the ENSP. Personalized Wildlife Plates are also available for \$100. Previously available by mail only, motorist may now purchase the plates in person at DMV offices regardless of their current expiration date. Plates can also be purchased from car dealers when buying or leasing a new car.

Terrapin Excluders and Biodegradable Panels Are Required on Chesapeake-Style Crab Pots



Users of non-collapsible, Chesapeake-style crab pots should be aware that all pots set in any body of water less than 150 feet wide at mean low tide or in any manmade lagoon MUST include diamondback terrapin excluder devices. In addition, all non-collapsible, Chesapeake-style crab pots set in any body of water MUST include biodegradable panels. These crab pot modifications will help reduce the unintentional drowning of terrapins and allow for escapement of these and other species in the event that pots are lost or abandoned. Terrapin excluder devices must be no larger than two inches high by six inches wide and securely fastened inside each funnel entrance. Biodegradable panels must measure at least six and one-half inches wide by five inches high and be located in the upper section of the crab pot. The panel must be constructed of, or fastened to the pot with wood lath, cotton, hemp, sisal or jute twine not greater than 3/16'' diameter, or non-stainless steel, uncoated ferrous metal not greater than 3/32'' diameter. The door or a side of the pot may serve as the biodegradable panel ONLY if it is fastened to the pot with any of the material specified above. Crabbers should be aware that ALL non-collapsible, Chesapeake-style crab pots MUST be licensed and marked with the gear identification number of the owner. For crab pot license information and regulations, see the regulations on page 16 and license agents on page 19.

NJ Division of Fish and		neries Administration	
Non-Commer	rcial Crab Pot/Trot	Line License	
license is required for the recreational u ummary of Marine Fish and Shellfish ww.njfishandwildlife.com APPLICATI	Regulations. This Applicat		
AME:			_ [
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TATE:	ZIP:		_
HONE:			_
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YE COLOR:	HAIR:	SEX:	_
IGNATURE:			_

DATE:

s

S

Please make check or money order payable to: NJ Fish & Wildlife. Completed applications may be sent to any of the following offices:

NJ F&W - Crab Pot Lic.: PO Box 418, Port Republic, NJ 08241 • 609-748-2021 NJ F&W - Crab Pot Lic.: PO Box 432, Port Norris, NJ 08349 • 856-785-0730 NJ F&W - Crab Pot Lic.: PO Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400 • 609-292-2965

REGULATIONS

Releasing Hooked Fish

All fish which are undersize, not intended for consumption or not being maintained for mounting or educational purposes should be released immediately to the wild.

Anglers should be aware that any fish which is intentionally killed shall become part of the anglers daily possession limit. It is illegal to throw back a dead fish in order to keep a larger fish to remain within the creel limit or to throw back a "trash fish" which was intentionally killed.

Proper handling and releasing techniques to reduce hook and release mortality include:

- Land your fish as quickly as possible. Fighting a fish to exhaustion increases hook and release mortality.
- Keep the fish to be released in the water as much as possible.
- Minimize physical injury. Do not place fingers or implements in the gills and do not allow fish to flop around on deck.

- Carefully remove hooks using a dehooker or needle-nose pliers.
- Cut the line and leave the hook in fish that have been gut hooked.
- Use only plain hooks, not stainless, so they will rust away quickly if they must be left in the fish.
- Should removal of the fish from the water be necessary, handle the fish carefully using wet cotton gloves or similar material to minimize loss of the protective slime on the fish.
- Try to revive lethargic fish prior to release.
- Use circle hooks (not offset) for any fish which will bite and run, such as striped bass, weakfish or sea bass. Studies on striped bass have shown that hook and release mortality can be reduced by 90 percent or more by using circle hooks as compared to conventional "J" hooks.







FISHERIES PROGRAMS

New Jersey Coastal Management Program

What is the New Jersey Coast?

- Ecological Riches
- Economic Opportunity
- Quality of Life

Crowded summer beaches...hauling the nets after a day's catch...waterfront walkways opening dense urban landscapes to the expanse of the Hudson River...huge container ships transferring goods to rail and roadway...shore birds feeding on mud flats edging acres of salt marsh...boardwalks and amusements bustling with residents and visitors...

What's your view of the coast?

The New Jersey coast boasts everything from

the world-class commercial port of New York-New Jersey in the north to natural areas of global

significance in the south on the Cape May Peninsula and Delaware Bay, and every kind of waterfront in between. In addition to the ocean and bay shore areas, the New Jersey coast includes all tidal waterways, bays and



estuaries and adjacent land areas throughout the state. Nowhere are environmental features and economic vitality more inextricably linked than in our state's coastal region.

Natural Resources

- Over 300,000 acres of tidal wetlands provide breeding and nursery habitat for finfish and shellfish, and act as natural flood and pollution control features.
- There is no place in America with more osprey, peregrine falcon, merlin, coopers hawks and sharp shin hawks than Cape May Point. 1.5 million shorebirds utilize this area as a migratory stop-over before crossing the great open-water expanse of Delaware Bay.
- More than 50 species of fish and shellfish are commercially and recreationally harvested in New Jersey.
- Bays, rivers and 127 miles of ocean coastline provide recreational opportunities for the enjoyment of New Jersey residents and visitors alike.

Economic Contribution

- Tourism in New Jersey coastal communities is a \$16 billion industry, employing hundreds of thousands of people. Eco-tourism based on wildlife observation and exploring natural areas has grown substantially in the last decade.
- Annual commercial landings of finfish and shellfish are over 182 million

pounds with an approximate dockside value of \$100 million. Recreational fishing, clamming and crabbing also contribute to this important industry.

• The Port of New York-New Jersey is the largest container port on the East Coast, providing 193,000 direct and indirect jobs and handling almost 18 million tons of cargo per year.

Balancing Interests/Managing Impacts

- New Jersey is the fifth smallest state in the nation, and yet is the most densely populated. We continue to grow at a rapid rate, with significant residential development occurring in the southern coastal counties and redevelopment of urban coastal areas taking place throughout the state.
- New development impacts the character of the coastal environment and has the potential to increase non-point sources of pollution to marine waters, reduce natural forest areas and open space, increase traffic on coastal roadways, and restrict public access to the waterfront.
- Some of the most sensitive coastal systems are also the most heavily used recreational resources in the state.
- Contaminants from stormwater runoff can cause closure of beaches and shellfish beds.
- The heavily developed ocean shoreline is vulnerable to hazards including flooding, erosion, and coastal storms,



with increasing numbers of people and property at risk.

• Erosion and runoff send sediment into coastal waterways and harbors, which then require dredging to provide safe navigation.

Federal-State Coastal Zone Management Partnership

The Federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 provided an opportunity for New Jersey to develop a comprehensive plan to address growth management and resource protection issues in the coastal area. In response to the CZMA, New Jersey developed and gained federal approval of the New Jersey Coastal Management Program (NJCMP), which addresses this complex coastal ecosystem as a whole, integrating goals and standards for protection/enhancement of natural resources, for appropriate land use and development and for public access to and use of coastal resources.

New Jersey had long recognized and taken action to protect the values of our coastal resources by the time the state joined the federal Coastal Zone Management Program in 1978. The NJCMP brought together several existing laws and agencies, and integrated them through a set of over-arching policies to guide implementation. The framework for the NJCMP is established by Coastal Areas Facilities Review Act, the Wetlands Act of 1970, the Waterfront Development Law, the Public Trust Doctrine for access to and use of state-owned tidelands, and the regulatory activities of the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (formerly the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission).

The regulatory authority of the NJCMP has evolved over the years through amendments to the Coastal Zone Management rules (N.J.A.C. 7:7E) and the Coastal Permit Program rules (N.J.A.C. 7:7). In addition, the non-regulatory Coastal Non-Point Pollution Control Program recently developed as required by CZMA is being integrated into the NJCMP.

Original New Jersey Coastal Management Program Goals

These eight basic coastal goals were established in 1980 to reflect the objectives of the New Jersey Coastal Management Program in land and

(continued on page 26)

Houseboat Rextals SEVEN POINTS MARINA 118 MILES OF SHORELINE RAYSTOWN LAKE, PA SWIM CRUISE DIVE DISCOVER FISH. TAN

Located in the beautiful mts. of South Central PA Relax... aboard one of our fully equipped rental houseboats.

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FISHERIES PROGRAMS

New Jersey Coastal Management Program

(continued from page 24)

water decision-making throughout the coastal zone at that time. As part of an ongoing assessment of the coastal program, the Office of Coastal Planning is evaluating these goals to determine if they remain relevant, if/how they should be modified, and if these goals should still be a priority of the NJCMP.

- 1. Protect and enhance the coastal ecosystem
- 2. Concentrate the pattern of coastal development and encourage the preservation of open space
- Evaluate each site individually to determine the acceptability of proposed development
- 4. Protect the health, safety and welfare of people who reside, work and visit the coastal zone
- 5. Promote public access to the waterfront through protection and creation of meaningful access points and linear walkways
- 6. Maintain and enhance active port and industrial facilities
- 7. Maintain and upgrade existing energy facilities and site facilities in a manner consistent with the Coastal Zone Management rules
- 8. Encourage residential, commercial, and recreational mixed-use redevelopment of the developed waterfront

Once these goals are refined to reflect the future direction of the NJCMP, the Office of Coastal Planning anticipates the development of a results based management approach to coastal zone management. This will involve identifying appropriate indicators to measure environmental quality and assess progress toward achieving established goals. The Office of Coastal Planning invites all stakeholders to actively participate in developing this new framework for the NJCMP.

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NJ Department of Environmental Protection Bradley M. Campbell, *Commissioner*

Office of Coastal Planning P.O. Box 418 401 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08625 Phone: 609-292-2662 • Fax: 609-292-4608 czupdate@dep.state.nj.us

Coastal Planning Staff:

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This is the second in a series of Coastal Program Fact Sheets to be issued periodically during the program assessment process by the Office of Coastal Planning.

This project is funded by NOAA CZM Grant NA07020124.



Sportfish Restoration Program

You probably don't have to be told what *fishing* means to you. You know how much you value time spent in the great outdoors, time with family and friends on the water, the thrill of battling a trophy.

But, you may not realize how much *you* mean to fishing. You see, your dollars go directly to help make fishing and boating better in the United States. Without the support of anglers and boaters, there would be a lot less opportunity to enjoy these activities.

And it's as simple as filling your boat with gas, buying your child a new rod, or stocking up on lures before your next trip. You support the Sport Fish Restoration Program through the tax you pay on recreational fishing equipment and boat fuel. Simply by purchasing the things you need for fishing, you are contributing to a partnership which has created one of the most successful conservation programs in the world; a program which has restored fisheries, improved habitat and created fishing and boating access.

Manufacturers pay the tax on the equipment before you purchase it, so you may not have realized your important role in these programs. The bottom line is, every time you buy fishing tackle or boating equipment, you are—in essence—improving fishing and boating.

New Jersey anglers can be proud of the contribution they make to the enhancement and conservation of both our own and the nation's sportfish populations.

For more information go to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration page at: <http://fa.r9.fws.gov/sfr/fasfr.html#A>.

For Advertising Information and Rates —Call Becky Yurga at 609-924-0100



MARINE HEALTH ISSUES

Clean Vessel Act Program

S ewage discharged from recreational and commercial vessels contributes to the degradation of New Jersey's coastal water quality. Direct discharge of untreated waste into waters within three miles of shore is prohibited. New Jersey possesses 127 miles of Atlantic coastline and 1,792 miles of tidal shoreline. Waters bordering 17 of the 21 counties in New Jersey are tidally influenced resulting in 18 percent of the land area being classified as coastal by the Department of Environmental Protection's Coastal Zone Management Program.

The impacts of vessel-generated sewage discharges are of particular concern to our coastal enbayments, where marinas and other boating facilities are located because of the high concentration of boats, reduced tidal flushing capacity, and general proximity to sensitive shellfish areas. Vessels with holding tanks and portable toilets require accessible sewage pumpout facilities and dump stations.

The Clean Vessel Act (CVA), passed by Congress in 1992, allows New Jersey to address concerns related to vessel-generated sewage by providing funds for the construction and operation of pumpout stations and dump station facilities. Such facilities are helping to prevent boat sewage from degrading coastal water quality and leading to the closure of shellfish beds and swimming beaches.

Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit

Any vehicle used to transport or launch a vessel or water conveyance on the following WMAs must have affixed to the lower corner of the driver's side rear window a Boat Ramp Maintenance Permit or applicant's copy from a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license. Boat Ramp Maintenance Permits may be purchased for a fee of \$15.00 from division offices at the Pequest Trout Hatchery Natural Resource Education Center, Northern, Central and Southern Region, Nacote Creek, Bivalve, Tuckahoe. Lebanon and Trenton offices. Boat Ramp Maintenance Permits may also be purchased through the mail from N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton, N.J. 08625, Att: Boat Ramp Permit.

- 1. Round Valley Reservoir, Angler Access
- 2. Kingwood Access, Delaware River
- 3. Assunpink WMA, Assunpink Park
- 4. Assunpink WMA, Stone Tavern Lake
- 5. Assunpink WMA, Rising Sun Lake
- 6. Dennis Creek WMA, Dennis Creek
- 7. Tuckahoe WMA, Tuckahoe River
- 8. Mad Horse Creek WMA, Mad Horse Creek
- 9. Union Lake WMA, Union Lake
- 10. Menantico Ponds WMA, Menantico Ponds
- 11. Prospertown Lake WMA, Prospertown Lake



KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN USE PUMPOUTS To date, the Division of Fish and Wildlife has received 178 applications from marinas interested in receiving federal funds, administered through the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, to install a pumpout station and/or dump station. Approximately 172 marinas coastwide have completed construction and are providing sewage pumpout service to the recreational boating community. CVA participating marinas can charge a pumpout fee not to exceed \$5.

In 2002, three pumpout boats were also operational. The Circle of Life operates in the southern portion of Barnegat Bay (adjacent to Island Beach State Park), The Waste Watcher operates in Manahawkin Bay and Little Egg Harbor and the Royal Flush operates in the Navesink River, Shrewsbury River and portions of Sandy Hook Bay. During 2002, the three pumpout boats serviced 2,185 vessels and pumped 43,358 gallons of sewage, free of charge.

For information on the location of pumpout or dump stations in New Jersey waters or for marinas interested in participating in the program, contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Information and Education at 609-748-2056 or the Marine Trades Association at 732-206-1400. CVA can also be found on the Internet at the Division's web site at www.njfishandwildlife.com.

Report Marine, Shellfish and Finfish Violations To 609-748-2050

or 24 hr. DEP Hotline 877-WARNDEP

Violators of the fillet law are subject to \$30 per fish or \$300 to \$3,000

SEA RUN BROWN TROUT



The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife has stocked brown trout in the lower Manasquan River. Anglers are asked to report all catches of brown trout that exhibit characteristics of a sea run. These fish tend to develop a more silvery coloration, masking most of the body spots, after an extended time in salt water.

The future of this program depends on these fish being caught and reported.

Call Pequest State Fish Hatchery 908-637-4125 or

Lebanon Fisheries Laboratory 908-236-2118

WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION

