

## PENINSULA

Salt Water  
Sport  
Fisherman's  
Association

# CHUMLINE

NOVEMBER 2020

Supporting Hampton Roads Fisherman  
since 1957

The PSWSFA is a family-oriented fishing club established in 1957. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (March-Dec.) at 7:00pm. We will meet at Trinity United Methodist Church Nov/Dec 2020 (see below for address and protocols). The meetings are free and open to the public and are a great place to swap stories with other local fishermen, find new fishing partners and plan trips together. We have raffles with nice giveaways-donated by local businesses plus prizes we buy ourselves. Each month we have speakers sharing their experience on one of the local fisheries. Come join us and get to know some of the other fishermen in your local area. Directions are on the last page of the Chumline.

Greetings and welcome to November. Time is flying by so fast I feel like I'm in a time machine into the future. Getting old sucks.

**Our next couple of meetings will be at the Trinity United Methodist church in Poquoson. 1294 Poquoson Ave, Poquoson, VA. Just short of Messick Rd.**

### IMPORTANT!!!

To attend our meeting at Trinity church everyone will need to fill out a health related questionnaire which is accessible at <https://www.trinitypoquoson.org/worship-registration>.

Then click on the Health Form PDF link or the Word link.

Word may be better so you can fill it out inside of word BUT it was designed to be printed and filled out by hand so it is a bit persnickety.

email the completed form to: [office@trinitypoquoson.org](mailto:office@trinitypoquoson.org)

At least **TWO DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING.** (by Saturday)

**There is another option:** you can print the form, fill it out, and hand deliver it to Mr Rook (from the church).

**Note:** Questions 4C 5 and 6 should be yes. The church has assured us that all information on

the form will be kept confidential and will only be used in the event that contact tracing needs to be accomplished due to a covid 19 exposure.

Due to the current restrictions masks must be worn at all times while inside the facility and social distancing must be maintained.

Yes, we know it's a pain but it's their church and we need to follow their health protocols.

**Parking** is available across the street from the church or in the lot on Church Street.

Use the first set of doors you come to as you approach the church to gain entry into the gymnasiums which is where the meeting will take place.

I got a note from Tom Raffetto and I'm passing it along: Last month I spotted a dead sturgeon near Latimer Shoal and reported this sighting to the NOAA Fisheries Atlantic and Shortnose Sturgeon Recovery Center. They are actively seeking reports of sturgeon sightings - dead or alive. Reports sightings via phone at 1-844-STURG911 or via email [NOAA.Sturg911@NOAA.gov](mailto:NOAA.Sturg911@NOAA.gov). The center relies on "citizen scientists"

to help them learn more about this endangered species.

Striper fishing for me in the James the last three weeks of October and early November has been dismal. Only small fish 14-16" and very few of them. One drum a couple large mouth bass and a few Perch and that's it. A couple guys told me of a few nice Specks to 25" being caught while catfish and drum fishing with various baits. No stripers being caught though and the majority of red drum are under 18" with a few keeper Black Drum being taken home.

***Don't forget that we have one last tournament this year.***

**The Wilcox Bait and Tackle - Irv Fenton Rockfish Tournament** 1-31 December. See page 8 for additional information. We currently only have 3-4 people registered so you have a good chance of winning or at least being in the money if you enter. I'd enter but I don't have a boat.

There is no news again from Danny this month.

*Mike the Editor*

### 2020 Club Officers

**Danny Forehand**

President

**Milton Hudgins**

Vice President

**Rachel Nelson & Wally Veal**

Secretary

**Christina Grice**

Treasurer

**Charles Southall**

Corresponding Secretary

**Stan Simmerman**

Past President

### Board of Directors

Bill Tice

John Hunt Jr.

Ronnie Wilson

Gary Donaldson

Dave Boyce

Rick Wineman

Daily Vandergriff

Wally Veal

Johnny Boyd

David Agree

Steve Martin

Jerald Abraham

Wes Blow

Don Lancaster

Mike Frielingsdorf



**A**ttention all members: This is a reminder that all memberships will now expire on the last day of February of each year. Forms are available from Johnny Boyd (membership committee). At the December 2019 board meeting the board voted to increase the dues by \$10. As before, the \$40 is per individual or family. We haven't had a dues increase in pretty much forever and this will help the club pay for the increased cost of our meeting space as well as supporting events like the picnic, awards banquet, and fishing related events, organizations, and tournaments.

### **PSWSFA 2020 MEMBERSHIP**

**Dues: \$40 per year for entire family\***  
**(March through February - not prorated throughout the year)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Dependents Names and ages

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_ 5) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ 6) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Family must be living with you

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name/Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number in your membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form with a check (payable to PSWSFA) to:

PSWSFA  
P.O. Box 5194  
Newport News, VA 23605

Please check one of the following:

☐ Yes, please add my name to the club membership book  
☐ No, please do not publish my information



**October 28, 2020:** On October 27th, the Commission voted to extend the 2020 season for hard crab pots until December 19, 2020. All crab pots **MUST** be removed from the waters of Virginia prior to December 20th. It will be illegal to place, set, or leave hard crab pots in Virginia waters from December 20, 2020 to March 16, 2021. The season end date for peeler pots and all other crab gears remains October 31, 2020.

**October 19, 2020:** Recreational cobia anglers, VMRC is asking for public input through a survey to provide feedback on recreational cobia management options for 2021-2023. Virginia has exceeded its recreational cobia harvest quota over the last few years and must adhere to the regulations set forth by the ASMFC Fishery Management Plan for cobia. To keep the recreational fishery in compliance, Virginia must adjust management measures to achieve a 42% reduction to the recreational cobia fishery for the 2021-2023 seasons.

Unfortunately the survey was over 30 October.

## Virginia Beach Fishing

### Oct 26th

Speckled trout and puppy drum fishing is great just about everywhere. Some big reds continue to be caught in the Bay and along the coast.

There have been good numbers of king mackerel along the Virginia Beach oceanfront the past few days.

Large sheepshead continue to be caught on Bay structures.

Tog fishing is picking up in the Bay.

Coastal wrecks, like Triangles are producing sea bass, flounder, and a few red snapper.

Anglers fishing off the Virginia Beach fishing pier are picking up small spot, small black drum, small trout, roundhead and few puppy drum. The water temp is 65 degrees.

Surf anglers fishing near Sandbridge continue to land big reds from the beach. Frank Marble picked up his third last week.

Offshore swordfish catches have been very good.

### Last Month's Mystery Fish: The White Perch, duh!



Not really a perch, but a member of the temperate bass family along with white and striped bass. Averages 8 to 10 inches but reaches up to 2 lbs. Silver gray above, fading to silvery-white below with no longitudinal lines. Has a deep notch between spiny dorsal and soft-rayed dorsal. No teeth on tongue.

### Feeding Habits

Favored natural baits include mummichogs, mud minnows and other small fishes, insect larvae and grass shrimp. They are school fish throughout the seasons, tending to spend daylight hours in deep water, moving into the shallows at dusk to feed.

### Habitat

Brackish tidal rivers and streams and freshwater impoundments of formerly tidal waters. Can overpopulate quickly.

### Spawning Habits

Spawns March through early May, running up rivers to spawn over gravel and rocky areas where eggs are broadcast randomly. Lake-locked fish will spawn over similar areas in impoundments.

Trophy size White Perch, 1 lb, 4 oz or 13".



# DEL. OIL SPILL AFTERMATH REACHES MD. BEACHES

October 24, 2020

The oil spill that sent tar balls and oily debris onto 11 miles of Delaware beaches is prompting a huge cleanup effort, and on Wednesday morning we learned it has reached Ocean City, Maryland.

More than 100 crew members per day, from the Coast Guard, Delaware Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), and other partners, are working from the upper Delaware Bay to popular ocean beaches like Dewey, Rehoboth, Bethany, and now, Ocean City.

The scale of the cleanup has become significantly larger since the spill was first discovered last Monday. As of Tuesday evening, the amount of oily sand and debris removed from the coastline had reached 65 tons.

Concerns for wildlife are mounting, too, as 66 oiled birds have been identified so far. Tri-State Bird Rescue in Newark, Del. specializes in oil-stricken birds. The avian rescue was founded in 1976 after a series of five oil spills on the Delaware River, when thousands of animals died. According to its website, founder Lynne Frink “vowed to never let this tragedy happen again.”

Tri-State staffs a professional 24-hour oil spill response management team. DNREC says Tri-State is playing “a key role in the cleanup coalition, investigating reports of wildlife impacted by oil and treating captured sea gulls and other wildlife that has been oiled in the water.”

Meanwhile, The Delaware Bay and River Cooperative, a non-profit funded by industry in the event of an oil spill, has dispatched an oil skimming vessel to remove oily debris seen afloat in the water. A special oil-sensing drone is being used to identify pollution. It has a polarized long-wave infrared sensor to find oil-based products.

“We continue to mobilize our expert resources as the tides spread oil from the beaches back into the water and back on the beach,” said DNREC Secretary Shawn Garvin. “We are combing the beaches and, shovel by shovel, removing the tar balls and contaminated sand.”

The Coast Guard says the ongoing effects all stem from the original oil spill, and do not believe there is an ongoing or undiscovered patch of oil out in the bay or ocean. They haven’t ruled out any possible sources. They’re still waiting for the Marine Safety Laboratory to analyze samples for a petroleum fingerprint to help determine the source. If one is found, the responsible party would have to reimburse the federal government for the cleanup.

An information advisory was extended from Delaware Bay beaches to include ocean beaches down to the Inlet. Lewes, Dewey, and Bethany closed their beaches, and notices have been posted in the neighborhoods and at beach access points in Rehoboth Beach warning people and pets not to go near the oil globs.

“Our crews and technology are yielding positive results,” said USCG Lt. Cmdr. Fredrick Pugh, federal incident commander for the response. “We’re seeing a lot of this pollutant coming off of our beaches by the ton and that feels like a high level of productivity, but we’re not letting up. These communities need [their] beaches back.”

DNREC and USCG “strongly advise the public not to handle any oily product found or attempt to assist affected wildlife along the shore, but to report these findings to [DNREC’s environmental hotline](#) at 800-662-8802 so the situations can be addressed by hazmat-trained professionals.”

-Meg Walburn Viviano



Cleanup crews remove oily debris from Slaughter Beach, Del. as part of the Broad-Kill 2020 oil spill response. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Isaac

*Continued on Page 5*

## 2020 CHESAPEAKE BAY DEAD ZONE NEAR HISTORIC LOWS

October 29, 2020

There is strikingly good news this year about the Bay's oxygen-deficient "dead zone," both in the Maryland and Virginia portions of the Bay.

In Maryland, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reports the second-smallest dead zone seen since monitoring began in 1985. In Virginia, it was smaller than 80 percent of dead zones reported in the 35 previous years, according to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS).

The "dead zone" refers to anoxic (no oxygen) and hypoxic (little oxygen) areas in the water, which stem from nutrient-rich runoff, where marine life struggles to survive. This year's dead zone started later and ended earlier than it has in the past several years. Additionally, no anoxic areas were noted in the mainstem of the Bay this year.

In the June 2020 dead zone forecast, the Chesapeake Bay Program and its research partners predicted a slightly smaller than average dead zone this year due to reduced spring rainfall and thus, reduced runoff from the watershed. They were right, and the Bay did even better than the prediction thanks to the addition of unseasonably cool temperatures we saw in May and September.

In addition to this year's favorable weather conditions, the Chesapeake Bay Program also credits the ongoing pollution reduction efforts in Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C. with continuing to reduce the size of the dead zone.

"The amount of hypoxia is a key indicator of Bay health. After two years of extremely high flows and greater than average hypoxia, it is encouraging to see improved oxygen conditions in our bottom waters providing suitable habitat for fish, crabs and oysters. It is Maryland's goal, along with our Chesapeake Bay Program partners, to reduce nutrients and sediments entering the Bay to levels that support good water quality for our iconic Bay species," says Bruce Michael, DNR Director of Resource Assessment Service.



Strategies put in place to reduce nutrients and sediment in the Bay are working, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation says now is not the time to let up. In a statement, CBF Director of Science Beth McGee says:

Low oxygen levels can force striped bass from the cool bottom waters they prefer. © D. Malmquist/VIMS.

"We're encouraging states to figure out new ways to reach pollution reduction goals, including by adding more natural filters to the landscape such as trees, grass pastures, and wetlands. Doing so will increase the resiliency of the Bay and help it handle the influx of nitrogen and phosphorus pollution."

CBF points out that the overall trend of improvement suggests the Bay is "responding to pollution reduction efforts by starting to help itself."

A 2018 University of Maryland paper show that as the dead zone grows smaller, bio-chemical changes take place that leave less fuel for algae and oxygen-consuming bacteria.

-Meg Walburn Viviano





# FISH TALES



**Barclay Shepard with Sheephead**



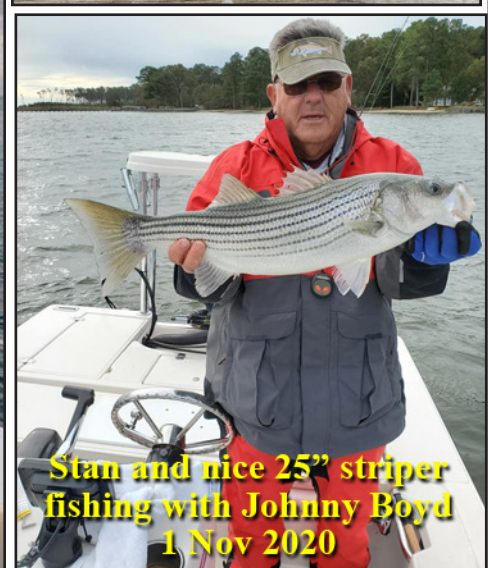
**Glenn Shepard with Tautog 16 Oct 2020**



**John Sr. Paull and John Jr. and friends on the Tunahunt.**



**Fishing with the Savas**



**Stan and nice 25" striper fishing with Johnny Boyd 1 Nov 2020**



**More fish on Ken's boat**





# Monthly Tournament List September 2020

**Cobia** - Grayson Shield - 46" (Youth)

**Croaker** - Grayson Shield - 9 1/2" (Youth)

**Flounder** - Grayson Shield 22" (Youth)

**Sea Bass** - Grayson Shield 11.5" (Youth)

## Sheepshead

Grayson Shield - 18" (Youth)

Wally Veal - 18.5 and 17.75

## Speckled Trout

Stan Simmerman - Speckled Trout - 24.25 (CIT)

## Spot

David Shield - 9.25"

Grayson Shield - 9" (Youth)

Clair Hillard - 9"

Chelsea Shield - 9" (Youth)

Christiano Strickland - 8.75" (Youth)

Wally Veal - 8.25

**Tautog** - Grayson Shield (youth) 16"

**Trigger Fish** - Wally Veal 19.25"

## Whiting

Chauntea Shield 14"

Chelsea Shield 12.5 (Youth)

Monthly Tournament Contenders	
Species	Min Size
Albacore Tuna	35"
Amberjack	40"
Bigeye Tuna	40"
Black Drum	40"
Blackbelly Rosefish	14"
Blackfin Tuna	45"
Bluefin Tuna	45"
Bluefish	25"
Blueline Tilefish	20"
Blue Marlin	Release
Channel Bass	40"
Cobia	40"
Croaker	16"
Dolphin	35"
False Albacore	25"
Flounder	22"
Golden Tilefish	30"
Gray Trout	24"
Grouper	16"
Jack Crevalle	36"
King Mackerel	35"
Pompano	12"
Sailfish	Release
Sea Bass	15"
Shark	60"
Sheepshead	15"
Snapper	12"
Spadefish	18"
Spanish Mackerel	20"
Spearfish	Release
Speckled Trout	21"
Spot	8"
Striped Bass	36"
Swordfish	Release
Tarpon	Release
Tautog	18"
Triggerfish	15"
Wahoo	40"
White Marlin	Release
Whiting (Roundhead)	14"
Yellowfin Tuna	35"

Since we haven't been holding regular meetings during the pandemic please send your entries to Milton by the 3rd Tuesday of the month by 7:00pm either as an email or snail mail to the address' on the left. Please direct any questions to Milton.

MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO:

MR. MILTON HUDGINS

1894 KATIE LANE

HAYES, VA 23072

(e-mail: [judygee03@gmail.com](mailto:judygee03@gmail.com))

## Deadline for turning in your 2020 entry forms:

Month of Entry	Deadline (RegMtg)	Month	Deadline (Reg Mtg)
January	21 Feb	July	18 Aug
February	18 Mar	August	15 Sep
March	21 Apr	September	20 Oct
April	19 May	October	17 Nov
May	16 Jun	November	15 Dec
June	21 Jul	December	by Brd Mtg 12 Jan 21



# PSWSFA 2020 TOURNAMENTS



## 2020 PSWSFA TOURNAMENTS

Download "Official Entry Form" at  
<https://www.pswsfa.com/MonthlyEntry.pdf>



## FOR ALL TOURNAMENTS

You must register prior to fishing and use the official monthly form filled out by an official weigh station with time, date and weight of fish, & weight master's signature to verify catch. All Club Tournaments will have Awards for the first 3 places.

Questions Contact: Tournament Director Rick Wineman: [rick@getanetsportfishing.com](mailto:rick@getanetsportfishing.com) or 757-268-1539.

### CLUB TOURNAMENTS

For Club Members: \$20 entry fee for each individual tournament or  
 \$60 if you sign up for all tournaments at one time

#### Bishop's Triple Threat Tournament

Cobia – Channel Bass – Black Drum

"Combined total number of inches"

April 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Leave from any port, no weigh in (length total of 3 fish)

Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. Aug. 11, 2020

See Rules below for Catch and Release fish totals. (Witness or photo)

#### Don Forman

Club Cobia Tournament  
 sponsored by Bishop Fishing Supply

August 1-31, 2020

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Leave from any port

Must Receive Completed Form no later than  
 the Board Mtg. Sept. 8, 2020

#### Grafton Fishing Supply Club Spot Tournament

September 19-20, 2020

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Weigh in: 2:00pm Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at Dare Marina

All entries will be weighed using the same scale

followed by the **Annual Club Picnic and Awards Ceremony** for the Spot  
 and Youth & Ladies Croaker / Spanish Mackerel Tournaments

Spot Tournament - Two categories with 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners:

"ADULT ENTRIES" and "YOUTH ENTRIES"

(Anglers for the Spot Tournament must be present to win)

RSVP by Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> if you are coming to the Annual Club Picnic to the  
 Tournament Director

#### Wilcox Bait and Tackle Irv Fenton Rockfish Tournament

December 1-31, 2020

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Must Receive Completed Form no later than  
 the Board Mtg. Jan. 12, 2021

Winner will be heaviest legal fish. If tied for  
 weight then whoever catches their fish earliest  
 wins. See rules on page 9.

MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO: MR. MILTON HUDGINS, 1894 KATIE LANE, HAYES, VA 23072 (e-mail: [judygee03@gmail.com](mailto:judygee03@gmail.com))

#### Youth and Ladies Croaker/Spanish Mackerel Tournament

July 1-31, 2020

Free Tournament for Lady and Youth members/Guests

(Do not need to register to participate)

Must Receive Completed Entry Forms no later than the Board Mtg. August 11, 2020

Awards will be given at the **Annual Club Picnic on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at Dare Marina**

(Anglers for the Youth & Ladies Tournament are not required to be present to win)

RSVP by Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> if you are coming to the Annual Club Picnic to the Tournament Director

Continued on Pg 9



## 2020 PSWSFA Tournaments Rules

### ALL Club Tournaments (Except as noted on previous page):

- Entry Fees: \$20 for member & \$30 for non-member. Youth and Ladies croaker/flounder tourney is free.
- You must register before fishing by e-mailing Rick Wineman: [rick@getanetsportfishing.com](mailto:rick@getanetsportfishing.com) or call 757-268-1539.
- Leaving a message will be sufficient to register, give all anglers names (specify club members and club guest), and also give a phone number.
- Guest(s) must fish with at least one member on boat/shore/pier/kayak
- Use a club "Official Entry Form" and weigh in fish at any Va. Saltwater Tournament official weigh station. Record the weight of fish, date and time caught and have the weigh master sign the form to verify catch. If two identical fish are caught on the same day, the earlier fish wins. That is why time is so important. Triple Threat entries require witness or photo since this is a length total tourney.
- All pertinent PSWSFA bylaws apply

To register or ask questions, e-mail Rick Wineman, Tournament Director at [rick@getanetsportfishing.com](mailto:rick@getanetsportfishing.com) or call Rick @ 757-268-1539

**MEASURING INSTRUCTIONS:** With the fish lying on a flat surface, measure in quarter inch increments, from the tip of the mouth to the tip of the tail with the fish in a natural position and the mouth closed. *Please note the flounder is an example only.*



## Tournament Results

The **2020 PSWSFA Triple Threat Tournament** sponsored by Bishop Fishing Supply ran from April 1, 2020 through July 31, 2020. The annual winner is based on the combined total number of inches of a Red Drum, Black Drum and Cobia.

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Wally Veal – 102" – 53.5" Red Drum and 48.5" Cobia. First Place Gift Certificate from Bishop Fishing Supply and \$24 from PSWSFA.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Rick Wineman – 94.5" – 53.5" Red Drum and 41" Cobia

The **2020 PSWSFA Youth and Ladies Croaker / Spanish Mackerel Tournament** ran from July 1 – 31, 2020. This annual free tournament is open to ladies and youth PSWSFA members and guests.

### Ladies (Spanish Mackerel)

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Chauntea Shield – 1.69 lb / 19" Spanish Mackerel caught at York Spit (\$100 from PSWSFA)

### Youth (Spanish Mackerel)

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Chelsea Shield – 2.72 lb / 22.5" Spanish Mackerel caught at York Spit (\$100 from PSWSFA)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Grayson Shield – 1.68 lb / 18" Spanish Mackerel caught at York Spit (\$40 from PSWSFA)

The **2020 PSWSFA Spot Tournament** sponsored by Grafton Fishing Supply ran from September 19th thru the 20th. This annual tournament is a weight tournament with two categories and 1st – 3rd place winners for "Adult Entries" and "Youth Entries". Overall winner goes to the heaviest fish.

### Spot (Adult)

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Chauntea Shield – 0.64 lb Overall Winner (\$64 from PSWSFA) + Gift from sponsor Grafton Fishing Supply

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – David Shield – 0.61 lb (\$48 from PSWSFA)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** – Wally Veal – 0.30 lb (\$24 from PSWSFA)

### Spot (Youth)

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Grayson Shield – 0.59 lb (\$64 from PSWSFA)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Chelsea Shield – 0.58 lb (\$48 from PSWSFA)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** – Cristiano Strickland – 0.35 lb (\$24 from PSWSFA)



## Fishing Around the World

### Saltwater Fishing in Maine

It's a daily ritual seen up and down the Maine coast. Anglers shoulder heavy fishing rods and reels, hoist coolers and coats, and trudge down beaches and rock spits to the water's edge. There, they heave poppers and spinners and radiant flies and chunks of bait across the surf line towards the fish they hope await them.

### Surf Casting

Surf casting - fishing from beaches, rocks, and piers - is popular throughout coastal Maine. It's also one of the easiest ways for visitors to check out saltwater fishing in the state. Surf casters reel in species including tasty mackerel, hard-fighting striped bass



and toothy bluefish. Check out The Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) for more information. DMR oversees saltwater fishing, provides saltwater fishing regulations, recommends places for you to try your luck, shows you the sorts of fish you might hook, and explains whether you need to register to fish.

### On The Boat

Want more excitement? Try a charter. Boats sail from harbors throughout coastal Maine and can steer you to some of the best saltwater fishing in Maine. Some captains use specialized skiffs that prowl tidal zones for stripers as well as zip offshore. Others use bigger boats that head primarily into deeper water. There, you can try for smaller game fish as well as hunt for big boys - Bluefish, Mako and Thresher Sharks and Bluefin Tuna. Charters often provide everything. And experienced captains don't just lead you to the good spots. They'll also help you choose the right bait and tackle. Maybe, they'll even offer you advice on that shaky cast. Contact the Maine Association of Charter Boat Captains for more information.

According to the Maine Department of Marine Resources, anglers are only allowed to keep one striped bass per day, and that fish must be between 28 and 35 inches long. The use of circle hooks is required when fishing for stripers with bait.

Good article on Maine Saltwater fishing can be found here:

<https://newenglandboating.com/how-to-fish-maine/>

Editor: When I had my boat near Kittery ME from 76-80 I somehow missed the stripers but got a lot of flounder and cod.

### So you think you know your Fish

Can you name this not so easy  
one?

Answer next month



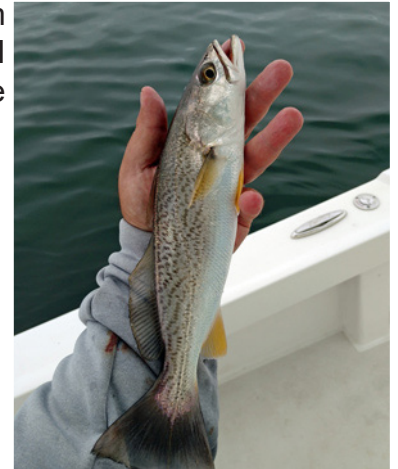


# NEWS OF ALL THINGS FISHING

## News from Ken Neill

October 25 at 7:31 AM ·

I spent the last couple of days wreck fishing inside the bay and trolling along the oceanfront. The nights, I fished from our dock. Sea bass were a problem at times but I did manage an impressive catch of oyster toads. Some were real drag pullers. I caught some other stuff: sheepshead, tautog, pufferfish, pigfish, pinfish, porgy, flounder, bluefish, king mackerel, red drum, perch, speckled trout, and gray trout. Nothing big...other than the toads. I did have a Mola mola hooked up briefly. I caught 3 tautog that already had tags in them...fish we had tagged a couple of weeks ago. I'm going to start naming those fish. There was a good amount of bait and I saw a number of whales, as many as a half-dozen at a time. It should be a good whale-watching season.



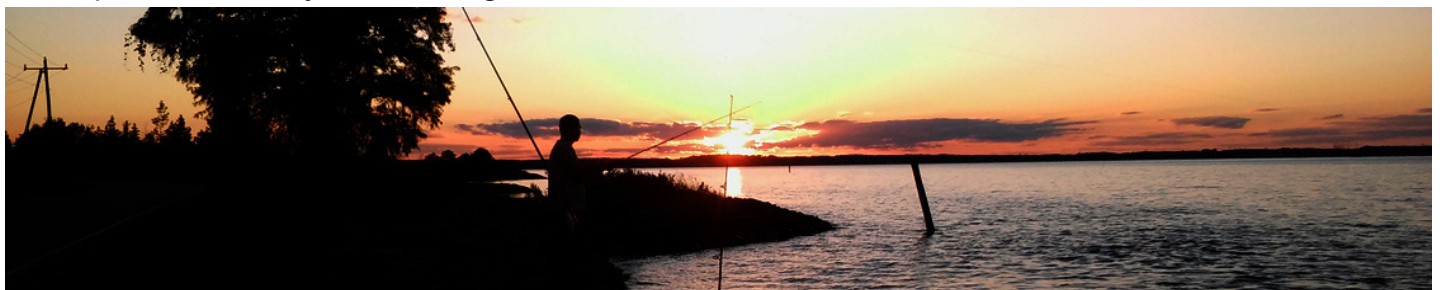
## World Record Striped Bass Certified by IGFA - Updated April 30, 2019

Greg Myerson's 37.1 kg (81 lb 14 oz) record striped bass (from 2011) was approved after the IGFA's Record Committee came to a consensus on the catch and its supporting documentation. Myerson's catch created a whirlwind of excitement in early August for striper anglers everywhere, but especially in the northeastern USA.

"After a 15 minute fight on my St. Croix rod and Quantum reel, I got the striped bass close enough to the boat for netting," Myerson shared in the testimony accompanying his world record application. "The fish was bigger than I thought. I slipped on eel slime and banged my ribs against the gunwhale of the boat. But it didn't matter. The monster fish was mine. At this point it was about 8 pm, I put the fish into the



hold and fished the rest of the tide. As I fished, I repeatedly peered into the hold and asked myself 'is this striper really that big?' The following morning, I brought the striped bass to Jack's Shoreline Bait and Tackle to be weighed. The fish measured 54 inches in length and tipped Jack's digital scale at 81.88 pounds. It really was that big."



## Juvenile striped bass abundance holds steady in Virginia waters

by Staff | October 20, 2020

Preliminary results from an ongoing long-term survey conducted by researchers at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science suggest another strong year class of young-of-year striped bass was produced in Virginia tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay in 2020. The 2020 year class represents the group of fish hatched this spring that will grow to fishable sizes in three to four years.

The VIMS Juvenile Striped Bass Seine Survey recorded a mean value of 13.89 fish per seine haul in the Virginia portion of the Chesapeake Bay. The 2020 value—which scientists call a recruitment index—is greater than the historic average of 7.77 fish per seine haul and represents the 8th consecutive year of average or above-average recruitment in Virginia waters. VIMS scientists caution, however, that the



Seining for Juvenile Stripers. Crew members Connor Morang (L) and Jordan Wheatley (R) seine for juvenile striped bass on the Rappahannock River. Jack Buchanan/VIMS.

2020 mean may not be directly comparable to the historic average. This is because 19% of hauls were not completed in 2020 due to Tropical Storm Isaias and precautions taken to protect researchers against COVID-19. Additionally, in another study, no difference was found between an alternative index for 2020 and the alternative historic average, suggesting an average year class was produced in 2020. Although there can be considerable variation in striped bass recruitment among years, the indices observed in recent years suggest that abundance of juvenile striped bass has been relatively stable.

Striped bass play an important role as a top predator in the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem and are a valuable resource for commercial and recreational anglers. Professor Mary Fabrizio, who directs the Juvenile Striped Bass Seine Survey at VIMS, notes that the economic and ecological value of striped bass lends significant interest to the year-to-year status of their population. “By estimating the relative number of young-of-year striped bass,” she says, “our survey provides an important measure of annual and long-term trends in the Bay’s striped bass population.”

The VIMS survey samples 18 index sites in the Rappahannock, York, and James River watersheds. Biologists sample each site 5 times from early July to early September, deploying a 100-foot seine net from the shore; in 2020, fewer sites were sampled. Each fish captured in the net is counted, measured, and returned to the river. These young striped bass usually measure between 1.5 and 4 inches. Survey scientists in Virginia measured 1,836 juvenile striped bass at these stations in 2020. VIMS has been conducting the survey annually since 1967 for the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC).

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) conducts a similar survey within Maryland’s portion of the Chesapeake Bay. In 2020, MDNR recorded a below-average year class. Differences between Maryland and Virginia indices are not uncommon. For example, in 2013, 2016, and 2019, MDNR recorded below-average year classes in Maryland, while VIMS recorded average year classes in Virginia. The causes of such differences vary annually and can be difficult to determine. Striped bass populations, however, are supported by strong year classes which can mitigate the impact of less productive years.

The striped bass population in Chesapeake Bay has rebounded from historic lows in the late 1970s and early 1980s after fishing bans were enacted in Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia in the mid- to late-1980s. Since then, the population increased to the point that striped bass in the Bay and elsewhere were considered recovered. In 2019, scientists determined that the striped bass population was overfished and that mortality due to fishing was higher than what the population can withstand in the long term. Monitoring of juvenile striped bass recruitment will continue next year to provide managers with crucial information to sustainably manage this important species.



## Directions to PSWSFA Meeting Location for Nov-Dec 2020

Trinity United Methodist Church  
1294 Poquoson Ave, Poquoson, VA 23662

From Rt 64 or Rt 17 in Yorktown turn East on Victory Blvd (Rt 171) towards Poquoson (Turns into Little Florida Rd when you cross over Wythe Creek Rd. then turns into Poquoson Ave.) If you pass Messick Rd you went too far. It's like going to Messick point boat ramp, but shorter. 6.6mi from Rt 17.



## WHAT'S UP NEXT & BEYOND



**16 November** - Meeting at 7pm See note on the left for address and directions. You **MUST** have sent in or bring a health questionnaire.



**21 December** - Meeting at 7pm Trinity Church You **MUST** have sent in or bring a health questionnaire.

If you know of any place that can hold up to 75 folks, we may consider 50, and doesn't cost the earth, please let Danny Forehand, our president, know about it ASAP at his email address below.

[fish4funtoday@gmail.com](mailto:fish4funtoday@gmail.com)


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