

2018 RHODE ISLAND RECREATIONAL

# Saltwater Fishing

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Rhode Island Division of Marine Fisheries  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management



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Spring 2018

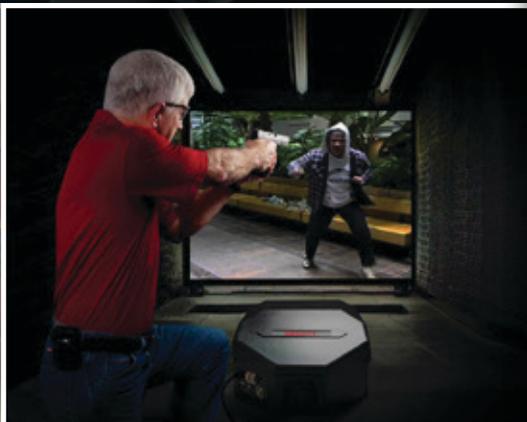
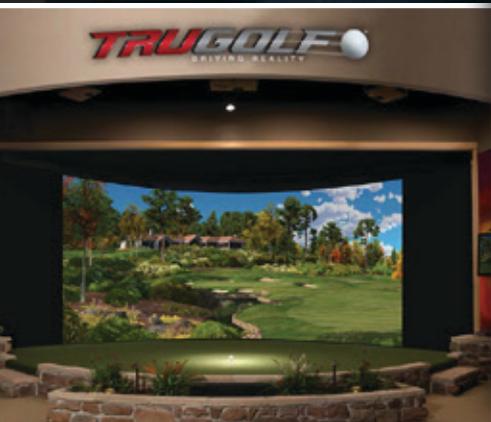


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# Saltwater Fishing



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**Cover Photo Courtesy:**  
Stuff It Charters



Photo courtesy of Sean Moreschi

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# Welcome Letter



On behalf of Governor Raimondo, I am pleased to introduce the sixth annual Rhode Island Saltwater Recreational Fishing Guide. The Ocean State offers some of the best saltwater recreational fishing around. Whether you fish the waters of Narragansett Bay or the coastal waters stretching from the south shore out to Block Island and beyond, anglers in Rhode Island have many fantastic opportunities to enjoy the diversity and abundance of our local catch.

As part of a larger network of recreational opportunities in the state, fishing plays an important role in connecting people with nature, promoting health, attracting tourism, and supporting a treasured tradition for Rhode Island families. According to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, there are approximately 175,000 recreational anglers (age 16+) in Rhode Island. And recreational fishing contributes more than \$130 million to the economy each year. People love to fish in the Ocean State!

This guide is written for both novice and seasoned anglers. I hope you will find it filled with useful information on our efforts to provide superior recreational fishing opportunities in Rhode Island as well as with helpful guidance on fishing regulations. In these pages, you will learn about new habitat restoration initiatives, menhaden, aquatic resource education programs, climate change, marine mammal strandings, and much more. Local businesses that provide fishing-related services and supplies are also featured.

This is your publication, funded by contributions from saltwater anglers, including the federal Sportfish Restoration Program and the Rhode Island Recreational Saltwater License Program. Thanks to your support, our Marine Fisheries Division carries out a range of programs and activities supporting the interests of recreational fishermen. We monitor and conserve our local fish stocks. We work closely with recreational fishing organizations on initiatives like our special shore program for scup. And we continue to engage in outreach and education programs, such as this guide.

Getting people to and on the water is a core part of our mission at DEM. And we invest heavily in improving boating and fishing access to ensure anglers can easily reach their favorite spots on the water or along the shore. This past fall, we celebrated with Federal partners the completion of repair work to the Camp Cronin jetty and breakwater, a popular fishing area in Narragansett. Also, last year saw a major upgrade to the boat ramp at Goddard Memorial State Park – a popular access point in west Narragansett Bay. Improvements include a new, extra-wide precast concrete boat ramp with an adjacent, ADA-compliant floating dock. And we anticipate construction of a new fishing pier at Rocky Point State Park to begin this summer.

DEM works in close partnership with the RI Saltwater Anglers Association (RISAA) to promote recreational fishing and introduce the sport to young Rhode Islanders through a popular fishing camp at Rocky Point State Park. The RISAA Foundation sponsored the first camp in 2016, teaching 50 children how to safely fish from boat and shore, some for the first time. Now in its third year, the camp takes place this summer from June 26 – 28. Little is more thrilling than casting a line and reeling in that first fish - especially on our beautiful Narragansett Bay. Kudos to RISAA for bringing this camp to Rocky Point and inspiring both a love of fishing and for this park in our children. It is through efforts like this that we forge the next generation of environmental stewards.

Beyond the fun it brings, saltwater fishing is a great way to enjoy fresh, delicious seafood. From bluefish to scup to our beloved summer flounder, Rhode Island is well known for the wealth of seafood harvested year-round from our waters. But ultimately, whether you fish for fun or food, the common denominator is that you are part of a time-honored tradition made possible by Rhode Island's amazing marine life. And we are committed to expanding this special opportunity to explore the briny wonders of our state and to providing a sustainable future for our precious marine resources.

I hope this guide enhances your recreational fishing experiences. Be safe, respect the great outdoors and each other, and enjoy the magic of fishing in beautiful Rhode Island. Most importantly, HAVE FUN!

  
Janet Coit  
Director



Williamstown, MA | Birmingham, AL

## About This Guide

This high-quality guide is offered to you by the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife Marine Fisheries Section through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

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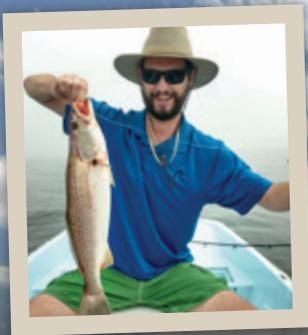
Jon Gulley, Dane Fay, John Corey, Evelyn Haddad, Chris Sobolowski



This guide is also available online at  
**eRegulations.com**

# Notable Catches

If you would like to share your notable catches with us and have the chance to see them in next year's fishing guide, please send pictures and information to [RISaltwaterGuide@dem.ri.gov](mailto:RISaltwaterGuide@dem.ri.gov)



**Kevin Hasiotis**

Hooked this beautiful weakfish in the fog during his first trip saltwater fishing around Jamestown



**Jude & Jackson Roch**

Jude wrestled this trophy striped bass to the boat, while brother Jackson was the "net man" with Grandma Ann at the wheel



**Robert Malouin**

Showing off this pair of stripers caught by the boat while fishing Rhode Island waters



**Matt Beal**

Showing the younger generation how it's done by landing this 50lb striped bass fishing at night



**John Iacobbo**

Jigged up this healthy tautog during a fall fishing trip in Rhode Island Sound.



**Aiden Beltrami**

Lifted this monster 3.75 lb black sea bass from the bottom in RI waters



**Chris Parkins**

Caught this speedy false albacore during an early morning fishing trip in the fall



**Barbara Audino**

Showing off a healthy striper she wrestled to the boat while fishing in RI waters



**Paul Brousseau**

Tangled with this 10lb doormat fluke while bottom fishing in Rhode Island this past summer.



**Cassandra Moreschi**

Caught this jumbo black seabass while bottom fishing the south shore

Background photo courtesy of Nathan Andrews.

# General Information

## Our Mission..

The Division of Marine Fisheries mission is to ensure that the freshwater, marine, and wildlife resources of the State of Rhode Island will be conserved and managed for equitable and sustainable use. The Division is divided into three separate sections: Marine Fisheries, Freshwater Fisheries, and Wildlife Management.

The Marine Fisheries section conducts research and monitoring of marine species to support the effective management of finfish, crustaceans, and shellfish of commercial and recreational importance. Some of the programs and projects that the Division is responsible for to support the proper management of marine species are resource assessment surveys including the Division of Marine Fisheries trawl survey and the Narragansett Bay and Coastal Pond Seine Surveys, as well as shellfish relaying and transplants, sea and port sampling, stock assessment modeling work, and aquaculture and dredging project permit reviews. The Division is also responsible for developing and maintaining a wide array of regulations on marine species including setting seasons, size limits, harvest methods and equipment, and daily possession limits.

The Division provides information and outreach materials, including press releases, brochures, website, fact sheets, and this fishing guide to convey regulations and marine related topics to the regulated community and general public.

The Division also works closely and collaboratively with the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council (RIMFC) to advise the DEM Director on a multitude of marine related matters.

### Debris Decomposition Timeline

Glass bottle	1 million years
Monofilament fishing line	600 years
Plastic beverage bottle	450 years
Disposable diaper	450 years
Foamed plastic buoy	80 years
Aluminum can	80-100 years
Nylon fabric	50 years
Plastic bag	10-20 years
Cigarette filter	1-5 years
Untreated plywood	1-3 years
Cotton rope	1 year
Orange peel	2-5 weeks

If you have any questions about this guide or Rhode Island's marine recreational fisheries, please contact:

**John Lake**  
Principal Marine Biologist  
3 Fort Wetherill Rd.  
Jamestown, RI 02835  
(401) 423-1942  
RISaltwaterGuide@dem.ri.gov



Marine Fisheries Laboratory located in Fort Wetherill, Jamestown, RI



## Rhode Island Environmental Police – Division of Law Enforcement

### F. Dean Hoxsie, Chief

The mission of the Environmental Police is to protect our natural resources and ensure compliance with all environmental conservation laws through law enforcement and education.

The history of the Environmental Police dates back to 1842 when the first game wardens were appointed to the Commission of Shellfisheries.

Today, Environmental Police Officers are sworn law enforcement officers who are responsible for patrolling and enforcing all laws, rules and regulations pertaining to the state's fish, wildlife, boating safety and marine resources as well as all criminal and motor vehicle laws within the state parks and management areas. Officers patrol over 60,000 acres of state land, 92 salt and freshwater boat launching and fishing areas, 300 miles of rivers and streams, and 417 miles of coastline. They are also cross-deputized with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. During their patrols, they educate the public on the protection of our natural resources and provide safety for the public while enjoying Rhode Island's outdoors.

**To report violations, please call:  
(401) 222-3070**

## Log your catch, try our new data collection app!

Download the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife VOLUNTARY recreational on-line angler logbook or download the SAFIS mobile application for iOS, Droid, or Windows. Just follow the link on the [www.saltwater.ri.gov](http://www.saltwater.ri.gov) page to sign up and get started. Party/Charter boat captains using the app can increase their tautog bag limit. Email [john.lake@dem.ri.gov](mailto:john.lake@dem.ri.gov) for details.



Photo courtesy of Patrick Brown

# Recreational Saltwater Fishing License

## What Rhode Island Anglers Need to Know

In order to fish recreationally in Rhode Island marine waters, and in offshore federal waters, anglers and spearfishers must have a RI Recreational Saltwater Fishing License, OR a Federal Registration, OR a license from a reciprocal state.



### Overview

The Marine Recreational Information Program, or MRIP, is a comprehensive new nationwide data collection and reporting system being implemented by NOAA Fisheries. All RI license information, as well as that collected by NMFS and other states, will be incorporated into a national registry of recreational anglers, enabling the new MRIP program to readily survey current fishermen and more accurately assess recreational catch and effort data. That information will lead to improved state-based assessments and more fair, accurate, and effective management programs for Rhode Island's marine recreational fisheries.

### Reciprocal States

Rhode Island residents may use their RI Recreational Saltwater Fishing License to fish in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Maine.

Saltwater Recreational Fishing License holders from New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Maine need not obtain a RI Saltwater Recreational Fishing License if they possess a valid license from one of the states listed above.

Please refer to pages 22 and 25 for information on lobster, shellfish, and other recreational licenses.

## Recreational Saltwater Fishing License

License Type	Fee
RI residents (annually)	\$7.00
Non-residents (annually)	\$10.00
7-Day license	\$5.00

- Available online at: [www.saltwater.ri.gov](http://www.saltwater.ri.gov)
- Also available from certain bait & tackle shops. A list of vendors can be found on the recreational license webpage.
- Applies in all RI waters, all offshore federal waters, and in all neighboring state waters for finfish and squid.
- Free for RI residents over 65 and for active military stationed in RI.
- No license needed for children under 16, nor for anglers on party & charter boats. See website for additional exemptions.

## Dive Flag Awareness

SCUBA, skin-diving and snorkeling are all common activities in Rhode Island waters. When participating in any of these activities participants must display a flag warning boaters of their presence under water. Divers and boaters are required to follow the regulations below to ensure a safe and fun time above and below the water.

- Boaters must maintain a safe distance of 50 feet from a dive flag, unless the dive flag is in a place that obstructs navigation
- A warning flag shall be placed on a buoy at a place of the diver's submergence. The flag shall be red in color and at least twelve by twelve inches (12" x 12") with a white stripe running from the diagonal corners and the stripe one quarter (1/4) as wide as the flag.
- If not placed on a buoy, a warning flag shall be conspicuously flown upon a vessel which the diver is then using in the area. This flag shall meet the description above, however, it shall be at least eighteen by eighteen inches (18" x 18").
- The flag must only be flown during diving activity and should be taken down during transit
- No person shall use a dive flag in an area that obstructs navigation
- Divers should ascend slowly and cautiously, ensuring that they are within the 50 foot safety zone around the flag



# Rhode Island's Progressive Menhaden Management Program

Jason McNamee and Nicole Lengyel Costa, RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries

**Atlantic menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus*) are small filter feeding fish that migrate into Narragansett Bay, RI in the spring and fall each year.**

The first pulse of adult menhaden can typically be seen in early to mid-May as they migrate north from their over-wintering grounds in the mid-Atlantic. Menhaden (also known as pogies or bunker) form dense, tightly packed schools that are often visible on the water surface. It is common to see these dense schools appear more donut shaped as predators such as striped bass and bluefish feeding on menhaden, break through the school from underneath. Menhaden not only provide forage for recreationally important species such as striped bass and bluefish, but they also serve an important role as filter feeders that consume plankton, making them an important link in the coastal ecosystem.

Along the Atlantic coast, menhaden are considered a single stock (or population) and are not considered overfished (meaning the population size is at a level that will promote sustainability) nor is the population experiencing overfishing (meaning the removals from the population by fishing is at a sustainable level) (ASMFC, 2017a). These two metrics taken together imply that the current stock status of the menhaden population is good. Anecdotal evidence in Rhode Island (RI) would also indicate that the population has grown and that fish are reaching older ages, as our local waters have seen large schools of menhaden in the spring and summer beginning back in 2007. Past research has indicated that older larger fish are the fish that end up in the northern reaches of the menhaden population's range (Ahrenholz et al., 1987), including areas such as Narragansett Bay, therefore increases in the amount of menhaden entering RI waters could be viewed as an indicator of good stock status.

Typically, the first pulse of menhaden enters Narragansett Bay in May during their northerly migration and resides in the Bay for a couple of weeks to a couple of months. During the summer months, they will leave the Bay and continue their migration where they can be found as far north as Maine. In the late summer/early fall, they begin their southerly migration and will enter the Bay again in August/September. The fall is when a large amount of juvenile menhaden or "peanut bunker" can also be found in the Bay.

The stock is currently managed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) under Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic Menhaden (ASMFC, 2017b). Amendment 3 was adopted by the menhaden management board in November of 2017 and is being implemented in 2018. Under Amendment 3, RI has received a commercial quota allocation increase. The state had previously received 0.02% of the total allowable catch (TAC) of menhaden. As of 2018, the state will be receiving 0.52% of the TAC. This equates to a RI commercial quota of 2,441,831 lbs. Additionally, Amendment 3 maintained the episodic events set-aside program. This program takes 1% of the annual TAC and sets it aside for the northern states (Maine through New York) to use in the event that any of these states have exhausted their commercial quota but have an unusually large presence of menhaden in state waters. RI has opted into this program each year since it was first implemented in 2013. Despite the requirements of Amendment 3 and the increase in the commercial quota in our state, RI will maintain its current Narragansett Bay management program in 2018.

Historically, menhaden have been commercially harvested in two fisheries, bait and reduction. The largest of the two, the reduction fishery, is operated out of Reedville, VA. Virginia currently has the largest allocation among the coastal states of the commercial menhaden Total Al-

lowable Catch (TAC) at 78.66%. Fish harvested in the reduction fishery are harvested whole and "reduced" to produce fish meal and fish oil, including the dietary supplement fish oil pills that are taken as a source of Omega-3 fatty acids. The bait fishery harvests whole fish to supply bait to other commercially and recreationally important fisheries such as the striped bass fishery and the commercial lobster fishery.

The menhaden fishery in RI waters, more specifically in Narragansett Bay, can be a dynamic one. On the recreational side of things, sport fishermen capture menhaden for use as fresh bait when pursuing larger sport fish. They are commonly caught by "snagging", where a weighted hook is reeled through a school of menhaden at high speed in an effort to snag and harvest a menhaden, or by the use of cast nets, small circular nets that are thrown into a school of menhaden and then quickly hauled back, encircling and capturing a number of fish at a time. The commercial fishery consists of a number of different gear types including gillnets, floating fish traps, and small-scale purse seine operations.

Menhaden's arrival in Narragansett Bay is coincident with the time of year that has the most fishing activity in the Bay. This leads to user group conflicts as recreational and commercial entities are all competing for the same resource. As a result of these conflicts, which have occurred historically in Narragansett Bay, RI has developed its own management program for menhaden in Narragansett Bay that supplements the requirements found in Amendment 3. The Narragansett Bay Menhaden Management Program uses a variety of management measures including, a daily possession limit, weekend and holiday closures for purse seines, other gear restrictions, and a harvest cap to help assuage user conflicts in the Bay and ensure that a portion of the menhaden resource remains in the Bay for ecological services, such as forage for predatory fish. A depletion model for open systems was developed for the Bay (Gibson 2007). This model uses spotter pilot biomass estimates, sentinel



Schools of menhaden seen in September 2015 during aerial survey in Narragansett Bay. There were an estimated 1800 schools of menhaden totaling over 6 million pounds during this period of time.

## Rhode Island Game Fish Award Program

Annually, RIDEM-Division of Fish & Wildlife recognizes anglers who have caught freshwater and saltwater game fish of notable size. Game Fish Awards are presented to anglers for each species of game fish caught that meet the minimum size requirements listed below. Only one award will be presented to an angler for each species per year. State Record Game Fish Awards are presented to the angler whose game fish catch is the largest to date of a species, as determined by Division records. To receive an award, an angler must catch a qualifying fish by rod and reel, tie-up or hand-line by legal means in Rhode Island waters. To apply for a Game Fish Award or State Record Game Fish Award, an angler must bring his or her legally-caught fish to an official weigh-in station, such as a bait and tackle shop, sporting goods store or grocery fish department. The fish must be identified, measured, and weighed on a digital scale. The station operator will fill out a Game Fish Award Application and sign it. If keeping a fish, legal sizes must be adhered to in all cases. Game Fish Awards and State Record Game Fish Awards are mailed out in the spring of the following year the fish are caught. Send completed applications for verification and processing to:

**RIDEM - Fish & Wildlife**  
277 Great Neck Rd.  
West Kingston, RI 02892

Applications can be obtained on the DEM website. For questions on the Game Fish Award Program, write to the address above or call (401) 789-0281.

## Qualifying Weights/Lengths

(Except First Fish Awards)

Saltwater		Freshwater	
Species	Weight/Length	Species	Weight/Length
Striped Bass	50 lbs	Smallmouth Bass	4 lbs
Black Sea Bass	3 lbs	Largemouth Bass	6 lbs
Bluefish	18 lbs	Bluegill	9 in
Bonito	10 lbs	Pumpkinseed	8 in
Cod	20 lbs	Black Crappie	12 in
Winter Flounder	2 lbs	Yellow Perch	12 in
Summer Flounder	8 lbs	White Perch	15 in
King Mackerel	3 lbs	White Catfish	4 lbs
Mackerel	1 lb	Chain Pickerel	4 lbs
Yellowfin Tuna	125 lbs	Northern Pike	10 lbs
Pollack	15 lbs	Brook Trout	2 lbs
Scup	2½ lbs	Brown Trout	3 lbs
Hickory Shad	5 lbs	Rainbow Trout	3 lbs
Blue Shark	80 lbs	Brown Bullhead	13 in
Mako Shark	150 lbs		
Swordfish	200 lbs		
Squeteague	8 lbs		
Tautog	10 lbs		
Bluefin Tuna	450 lbs		
White Marlin	70 lbs		

fishery observations, and fishery landings information to determine the estimated biomass (pounds) of menhaden in the Bay at a given time. The commercial fishery does not open until there is at least 2 million pounds of menhaden present in the Bay and a minimum threshold of 1.5 million pounds of menhaden must remain in the Bay at all times for ecological services. Once the fishery is opened, the allowable commercial harvest, or harvest cap, is 50% of the estimated biomass above the minimum threshold. If at any time the biomass is estimated to have fallen below the threshold, or if the harvest cap is reached, the fishery closes in the Menhaden Management Area, which roughly encompasses Narragansett Bay in its entirety. Biomass estimates are determined by a trained, contracted spotter pilot 1-2 times per week or as needed. Funding for this program is currently supplied by the US Fish and Wildlife Services Sportfish Restoration Fund.

This progressive and complex management system was developed to stem some of the conflict that occurs each year in Narragansett Bay. Variations of this program have been in place since 2008 with varying levels of success, and the program has evolved over time to one that seems to be working relatively well. The hope is that keeping this system in place with the new requirements that come along with Amendment 3 will keep us on the right path in Narragansett Bay and can provide protection for an important fishery resource along with providing opportunities for fishermen of all persuasions in our great state.

For more information on Atlantic menhaden or the Narragansett Bay Menhaden Management Program, please contact the RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries at 401-423-1923.

### References:

- Ahrenholz, D.W., W.R. Nelson, and S.P. Epperly. 1987. Population characteristics of Atlantic menhaden, *Brevoortia tyrannus*. *Fishery Bulletin* 85:569-600.
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC). 2017. Atlantic Menhaden Stock Assessment Update. ASMFC, Arlington, VA. 182p.
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- Gibson, M. 2007. Estimating seasonal menhaden abundance in Narragansett Bay from purse seine catches, spotter pilot data, and sentinel fishery observations. Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Division of Marine Fisheries, Jamestown, RI.



# Rhode Island Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS) Program Today

By John Lake, RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries and Michael Bucko, ASMFC APAIS Biologist

Rhode Island’s recreational catch and effort data is collected via our participation in the NOAA Fisheries Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP). Effort data used in MRIP is collected via the Fishing Effort Survey (FES) and employs a mailer sent to people who have purchased a recreational saltwater fishing license. The RI Division of Marine Fisheries is proud to be starting our third year of sampling for the Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS) which is the other portion of MRIP which collects fishing data related to recreational catch. In 2016, all of the states on the Atlantic coast including, Rhode Island, started to conduct APAIS as an agent of NOAA Fisheries. Prior to that some states conducted the survey with their own staff while others made use of a federally appointed contractor. States which conduct the survey themselves were achieving better results relative to state’s using the contractor option. Now that we have two years under our belt we are starting to see these improvements in our data quality thanks to the hard work and dedication of our field interview staff.

The improvements in data quality stem from several factors. First and foremost is pride and integrity. Our RI based staff is dedicated to producing the best data possible for our RI based recreational fisheries. We wear uniforms with the Division logo and have made every effort to put a RI brand on the new look of the survey. The staff undergoes a rigorous training covering fish identification, effective interviewing techniques, and customer service. We are a friendly group if you see us out there feel free to say hello!

Behind the scenes we have vastly improved the statistics associated with RI fishing sites housed in the NOAA Fisheries site registry. The site registry houses the geographic locations and pressures of all of the sites where our field interviewers (FI) are directed to interview anglers. The pressure of any given site is the number of anglers that might fish

at the location for a period of time. The higher the pressure the more anglers we would expect to encounter at that location. The sites our FIs are sent to for interviews is drawn randomly, sites with high pressures are weighted accordingly and become drawn more frequently. Our staff has vastly improved this data and adjusts it regularly to reflect the fishing activity at all of our fishing locations. What does this mean to you and me? We are showing up at locations where people are fishing!

The proof is in the data generated by the survey. We have seen an improvement in efficiency, in the form of number of intercepts obtained for each assignment. An intercept is a completed interview taken from an angler fishing at that location. Figure 1 shows that in 2015, the federal contractor did 795 assignments which produced 1736 intercepts. In 2017, Rhode Island APAIS staff did 531 assignments which produced 3098 intercept samples. By obtaining more intercepts we increase the sample size of our data set, which results in better accuracy and precision in our data estimates. The amount of certainty we have in any given estimate of recreational catch and effort is measured by percent standard error (PSE). The lower the PSE the more confidence we have in the data estimates. Generally, PSE values of less than 40% are acceptable with less than 25% being desired. We have seen improvements in the PSE values for several recreationally important species in RI since 2015. Figure 2 shows the PSE values for black Sea bass, Scup, Summer Flounder (Fluke), and Striped bass. Scup, Fluke and Striper all have gone down below 25% and Black Sea Bass maintained its low value.

It is our intention to build on this success in 2018. We have hired more staff than previous years and look forward to beating the number of interviews obtained last year. We ask that you set aside 2-3 minutes of your time and participate in the survey if you encounter an FI. Better data leads to more abundant and healthy fisheries for future generations.

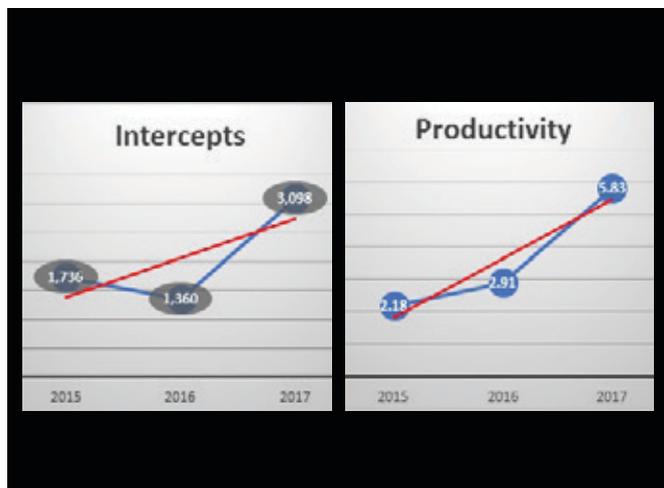


Figure 1. Intercepts and productivity 2015-2017

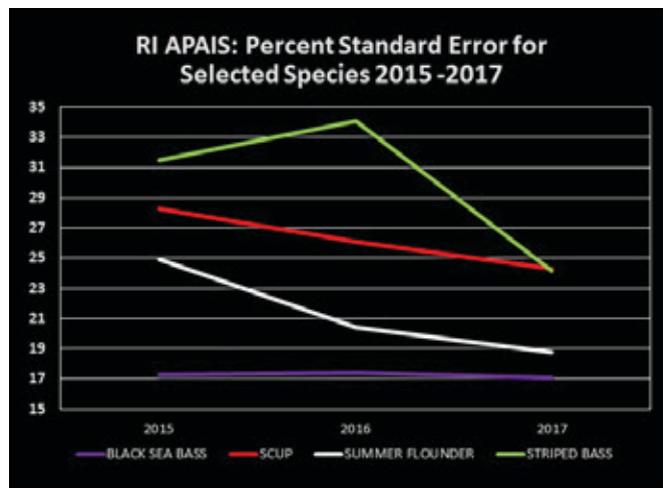


Figure 2. PSE values for black sea bass, scup, summer flounder and striped bass

# Fishing Knots

These and more fishing knots are available on waterproof plastic cards at [www.proknot.com](http://www.proknot.com)

Illustrations c 2011 John E Sherry

## Improved Clinch Knot

The improved clinch knot has become one of the most popular knots for tying terminal tackle connections. It is quick and easy to tie and is strong and reliable.

The knot can be difficult to tie in lines in excess of 30 lb test. Five+ turns around the standing line is generally recommended, four can be used in heavy line. This knot is not recommended with braided lines.



1. Thread end of the line through the eye of the hook, swivel or lure. Double back and make five or more turns around the standing line. Bring the end of the line through the first loop formed behind the eye, then through the big loop.



2. Wet knot and pull slightly on the tag end to draw up coils. Pull on the standing line to form knot with coils pressed neatly together.



3. Slide tight against eye and clip tag end.

## Rapala Knot

The Rapala knot is a popular method to tie a lure or fly to a line such that it can move freely and unimpeded by the knot.

1. Tie a loose overhand knot and feed the tag end through the eye and back through the overhand knot.



2. Make 3 turns around the standing line and bring tag end back through overhand knot.



3. Pass tag end through loop that is formed.

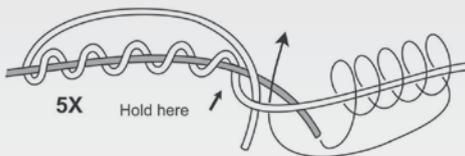


4. Moisten line. Pull on standing line while holding tag end to close knot. Pull on both tag and standing line to tighten knot down.



## Blood Knot

Use this knot to join sections of leader or line together. It works best with line of approximately equal diameter.



1. Overlap ends of lines to be joined. Twist one around the other making 5 turns. Bring tag end back between the two lines. Repeat with other end, wrapping in opposite direction the same number of turns.



2. Slowly pull lines or leaders in opposite directions. Turns will wrap and gather.

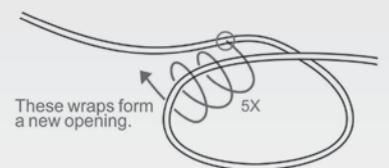


3. Pull tight and clip ends closely.

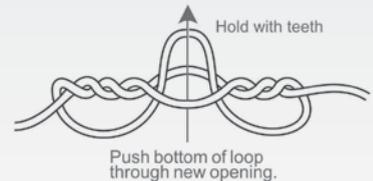
## Dropper Loop Knot

This knot forms a loop anywhere on a line. Hooks or other tackle can then be attached to the loop.

1. Form a loop in the line at the desired location. Pull line from one side of loop down and pass it through and around that side of loop. Make 5+ wraps around the loop, keeping a thumb or forefinger in the new opening which is formed.



2. Press bottom of original loop up through new opening and hold with teeth. Wet knot with saliva and pull both ends in opposite directions.



3. Pull ends of line firmly until coils tighten and loop stands out from line.



# Availability Chart

This chart shows the general availability of common finfish species in Rhode Island waters.  
 \* Please note that times of peak activity may vary due to water temperatures, prey availability, etc.

## Important Recreational Species Availability Chart

Species	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Black Sea Bass	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	POOR
Bluefish	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	POOR
Atlantic Cod	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD
False Albacore/ Bonito	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	POOR
Hickory Shad	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	POOR
Mackerel	POOR	POOR	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	POOR
Scup	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR
Squid	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR
Striped Bass	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	POOR
Tautog (Blackfish)	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	POOR	GOOD	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR
Winter Flounder	SEASON CLOSED	SEASON CLOSED	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD

POOR  GOOD  GREAT  SEASON CLOSED 

## How to Properly Measure a Fish

### Total Length Measurement

The **total length** is the maximum length of the fish, from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail. The best way to obtain this length is to push the fish's snout up against a vertical surface with the mouth closed and the fish laying along or on top of a tape measure. Measure to the tip of the tail or pinch the tail fin closed to determine the total length. **Do NOT use a flexible tape measure along the curve of the fish**, as this is not an accurate total length measurement. When measuring the total length of black sea bass, do NOT include the tendril on the caudal fin.



The Correct Way to Determine Total Length Measurement



The Incorrect Way to Determine Total Length Measurement

## ATTENTION: Striped Bass Fin Clipping Regulation

All striped bass recreationally harvested over 34 inches must have their right pectoral fin completely removed. Only remove the right pectoral fin of fish over 34 inches that you intend to take home, do not remove any fins of fish when practicing catch and release fishing. This regulation helps ensure that any fish captured during recreational harvest cannot be sold commercially in Rhode Island or Massachusetts. No dealer in Rhode Island or Massachusetts can purchase a striped bass with its right pectoral fin clipped. Please do your part and help prevent the illegal sale of striped bass caught while recreational fishing.



Photo Credit: Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries

The right pectoral fin should be removed as close to the body of the fish as possible.

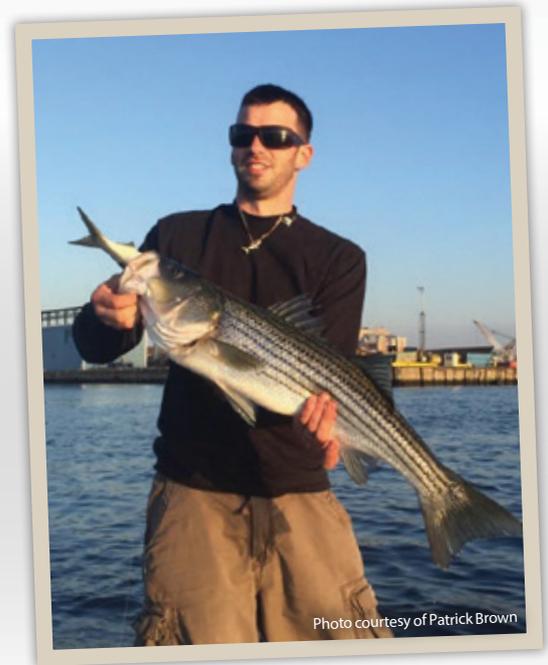


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# 2018 Recreational Regulations

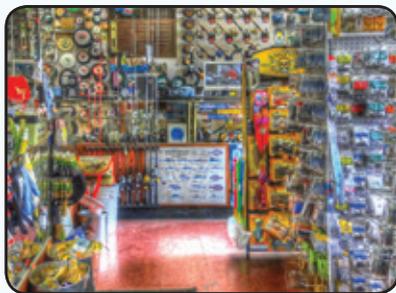
## 2018 Size, Season and Possession Limits

Species	Minimum Size	Open Season	Possession Limit
American Eel	9"	Open year round	25 eels/person/day or 50 eels/vsl/day for licensed party/charter vessels
Black Sea Bass	15"	July 3 - Aug. 31	3 fish/person/day
		Sept. 1 - Dec. 31	5 fish/person/day
Bluefish	No minimum	Open year round	15 fish/person/day
Cod	22"	Open year round	10 fish /person/day
Monkfish	17" whole fish 11" tail	Open year round	50 lbs of tails or 166 lbs whole/day
River Herring (alewives and blueback herring) & American Shad	Not applicable	CLOSED	Not applicable
Scup (shore and private / rental boat)	9"	May 1 - Dec. 31	30 fish/person/day
Scup (party & charter)	9"	May 1 - Aug. 31	30 fish/person/day
		Sept. 1 - Oct. 31	45 fish/person/day
		Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	30 fish/person/day
Striped Bass *	28"	Open year round	1 fish/person/day
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	19"	May 1 - Dec. 31	6 fish/person/day
Tautog (Blackfish) Max of 10 fish/ves/day during all periods, except licensed party / charter boats	16"	Apr. 1 - May 31	3 fish/person/day
		June 1 - July 31	CLOSED
		Aug. 1 - Oct. 14	3 fish/person/day
		Oct. 15 - Dec. 31	5 fish/person/day
Weakfish (Squeteague)	16"	Open year round	1 fish/person/day
Winter Flounder ** (Blackback)	12"	Mar. 1 - Dec. 31	2 fish/person/day

**Special Area Provisions:** While fishing from shore at India Point Park in Providence, Conimicut Park in Warwick, Stone Bridge in Tiverton, East and West walls in Narragansett, Rocky Point in Warwick, Fort Adams in Newport, or Fort Wetherill in Jamestown, anglers may possess up to 30 scup, 8 inches or greater in length, from May 1 through December 31.

\* All striped bass recreationally harvested that measure 34 inches or greater must have their right pectoral fin completely removed. Only remove the right pectoral fin of fish that you intend to take home, do not remove any fins when practicing catch and release.

\*\* The harvesting or possession of winter flounder is prohibited in Narragansett Bay north of the Colregs line (line from South Ferry Rd. in Narragansett to Fort Getty; Fort Wetherill to Fort Adams; and Sandy Pt. to High Hill Pt.), as well as in the Harbor of Refuge, Point Judith and Potter Pond.



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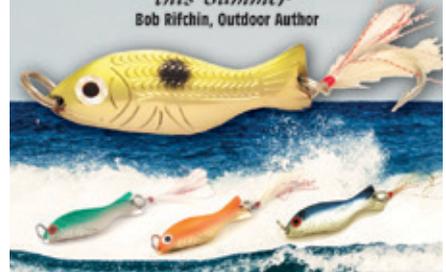
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# State Records

## Rhode Island Recreational State Records for Saltwater Species

Species	Weight	Length	Date	Location	Angler
<b>Black Sea Bass</b>	8 lbs., 7.25 oz.	26"	Oct. 1981	Block Island	K. McDuffie Pascoag, RI
<b>Striped Bass</b>	77 lbs. 6.4 oz.	52"	June 2011	Block Island	P. Vican East Greenwich, RI
<b>Bluefish</b>	26 lbs.	39"	Aug. 1981	---	D. Deziel Woonsocket, RI
<b>Bonito</b>	13 lbs.	---	Oct. 1995	Westerly	R. Gliottone Exeter, RI
<b>Cod</b>	71 lbs.	---	June 1965	---	M. Deciantis Warwick, RI
<b>Summer Flounder</b>	17 lbs., 8 oz.	---	1962	Narrow River	G. Farmer Warwick, RI
<b>Winter Flounder</b>	6 lbs., 7 oz.	23"	Aug. 1990	Galilee	A. Pearson Cranston, RI
<b>King Mackerel</b>	12 lbs., 3 oz.	40"	Aug. 2000	Pt. Judith Lighthouse	A. Camilleri Chester, CT
<b>Atlantic Mackerel</b>	OPEN	---	---	---	---
<b>Pollock</b>	28 lbs., 8 oz.	---	May 1995	---	A. Jacobs Lincoln, RI
<b>Scup</b>	5 lbs.	20 ¼"	Oct. 1990	Block Island	J. Yurwitz Block Island, RI
<b>American Shad</b>	6 lbs., 8 oz.	25"	Apr. 1985	Runnins River	W. Socha Warren, RI
<b>Hickory Shad</b>	2 lbs., 11 oz.	20"	Nov. 1989	Narrow River	M. Pickering Lincoln, RI
<b>Blue Shark</b>	431 lbs., 2 oz.	151"	Nov. 2006	Cox Ledge	G. Kross Fairfield, N.J
<b>Mako Shark</b>	718 lbs.	10' 6"	June 1993	S. Block Island	W. Alessi Boston, MA
<b>Swordfish</b>	314 lbs.	---	June 1964	---	W. Goodwin Warwick, RI
<b>Squeteague</b>	16 lbs. 8.72 oz.	36"	May 2007	Greenwich Bay	R. Moeller North Kingstown, RI
<b>Tautog</b>	21 lbs., 4 oz.	---	Nov. 1954	Jamestown	C.W. Sunquist
<b>Bluefin Tuna</b>	1142 lbs., 12 oz.	---	Sept. 1981	Block Island	J. Dempsey
<b>Yellowfin Tuna</b>	265 lbs.	6'	Oct. 1997	The Dip	R. Hughes Arlington, MA
<b>Tiger Shark</b>	597 lbs.	11' 6"	July 1990	S. of Block Island	M.P. Strout Auburn, MA
<b>White Marlin</b>	125 lbs.	8' ½"	Aug. 1987	S. of Block Island	J. Luty, Sr. Preston, CT

If you believe you've caught a new Rhode Island State Record, bring it to an official weigh-in station to be weighed and measured using a digital scale. State record catches are determined annually once all data are received for that year. A list of official weigh-in stations can be found on Fish & Wildlife's Webpage at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bnatres/fishwild/records.htm#stations>.

# Habitat Enhancement



## Improving juvenile fish populations by enhancing fish habitat – evaluating the use of oyster reefs as a tool to increase fish productivity

By Eric Schneider, RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries and William Helt, The Nature Conservancy



The life of a juvenile fish is challenging. To survive they need habitats that provide food, as well as places to escape from predators. Complex shellfish and oyster reefs, salt marshes, and seagrass beds provide important habitat-related requirements that many species of juvenile fish need to grow and survive. Overall, the quantity, quality, and arrangement of these habitats within a marine system greatly influence the productivity and resiliency of local fish populations.

Unfortunately, the form and function of these shallow water habitats can be impacted by dredging, hardening of shorelines, nutrient enrichment, reduced water quality, and impacts from fishing gear. Though many of these habitats have experienced losses over recent decades, oyster reefs have been hit particularly hard – experiencing a ~90% decline in Rhode Island (RI) compared to the mid-1900's (Griffin 2016). This decline coincides with decreases

in water quality and clarity, and reductions in important nursery habitats for juvenile fish. Considering that more than 70% of RI's recreationally and commercially important finfish spend part of their lives in shallow-water coastal habitats when they are young (Meng & Powell 1999), protecting and enhancing fish habitat is essential for the long-term sustainability of local fish populations.

In RI, complex shellfish reefs are largely formed by eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*), which are typically found in intertidal and shallow subtidal waters of the coastal lagoons and Narragansett Bay. Although oysters are best known as a delicacy, they also provide a number of "ecosystem services" such as improved water clarity and quality from nutrient uptake, sequestration, and filtration, and reduced resuspension of sediments. In addition to these indirect benefits, oyster reefs also provide direct benefits through refugia and

food for juvenile and adult fish. In fact, research has shown that oyster reefs may provide a higher diversity, quality, and availability of food for finfish of recreational and commercial importance compared to other marine habitats, such as unvegetated mud bottom (Harding and Mann 2001; Grabowski et al. 2005; Grabowski and Peterson 2007).

In light of their depleted population status and the under representation of this ecologically important habitat unit in the marine system, efforts to construct oyster reefs to enhance habitat for fish has increased in recent years along the East and Gulf Coasts. And some of this work is paying off. For example, studies in the Mid-Atlantic have shown that creating oyster reefs can increase the abundance, growth, and survival of juvenile finfish (e.g., Grabowski et al. 2005, Peterson et al. 2003, zu Emgassen et al. 2016), and work in the Gulf of Mexico found an increase in fish and invertebrate biomass



(e.g., Humphries and La Peyre 2015) on restored reefs compared to unenhanced habitats. Despite these successes, this approach has not yet been evaluated in a temperate region of the Northwest Atlantic. That is, until now.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM), Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) are partnering on a multi-year, research program in collaboration with researchers from Northeastern University to determine if oyster reef construction can be used to improve the productivity of structure orientated recreationally important juvenile fish such as black sea bass (*Centropristis striata*), tautog (*Tautoga onitis*), and scup (*Stenotomus chrysops*), as well as summer and winter flounder (*Paralichthys dentatus* and *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*, respectively) that prefer the soft-bottom habitat around the reef.

The general approach is to: (1) determine the appropriate locations to establish experimental fish habitat enhancement reefs, (2) conduct habitat and fish monitoring survey work, prior to enhancement activities, to establish a baseline for future comparisons, (3) carefully construct the fish habitat enhancement reefs and seed them with juvenile oysters, and (4) conduct post-enhancement surveys to determine if there are changes in fish productivity.

To date, DMF and TNC have conducted baseline monitoring, constructed 17 fish habitat enhancement reefs, and continue post-construction fish and oyster monitoring in Ninigret and Quonochontaug Pond. The final phase of this work is to extend this work into Pt Judith Pond in 2018. We plan to begin the baseline (preconstruction) fish monitoring this spring. Preliminary results look promising and we're optimistic that the fish habitat enhancement reefs created here in RI will provide a similar response as those in the Gulf of Mexico and the Mid-Atlantic. Stay tuned...

**For more information please contact:**

Eric Schneider, RI DEM, DFW at [Eric.Schneider@dem.ri.gov](mailto:Eric.Schneider@dem.ri.gov) or William Helt, TNC, at [william.helt@tnc.org](mailto:william.helt@tnc.org)

This work is funded through a partnership between the RI DEM, DMF and TNC, RI Chapter, and by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sportfish Restoration Grant Program. Collaborators from Northeastern University include Drs. Jon Grabowski and A. Randall Hughes.

**Literature Cited:**

Grabowski, JH, Hughes AR, Kimbro DL, and MA Dolan. 2005. How habitat setting influences restored oyster reef communities. *Ecology* 86, 1926-1935.

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Humphries AT and MK La Peyre. (2015). Oyster reef restoration supports increased nekton biomass and potential commercial fishery value. *PeerJ* 3:e1111; DOI 10.7717/peerj.1111.

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# How your recreational fishing may shift with a changing environment

By Conor McManus, RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries

**INCREASE IN CLIMATE VULNERABILITY**



The ocean has changed over time in several of its properties, including temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, carbonate chemistry, and circulation. While some of these oceanographic characteristics have naturally varied on decadal time scales, many of these changes have been linked to anthropogenic climate change. Altering the oceanographic environment also means changing the habitat for its residents, including marine fish and invertebrates. Species aim to reside within a set of the optimal environmental conditions that allow them to survive, grow, and reproduce. Thus, changes in the environment can influence where they are able to thrive. Further, species habitat requirements can vary over their life cycle; therefore, changes in the environment can have one type of effect on one life stage, but a different impact on others. Disrupting a species' life cycle at any given stage can influence the number surviving in future generations, or others even other species through their interactions in the ecosystem. With such environmental changes occurring, the question becomes: how will different marine resources, such as fish and invertebrate species, respond?

Fish and invertebrate responses to climate change are often linked to changes in their abundance and spatial distribution. These distribution shifts have been described as the populations' extents remaining within their optimal habitat. Scientists have documented these changes with geographical measures, including center of biomass shifts in latitude, depth, or distance from the coast. Climate and statistical models have been used to assess species abundance and distribution in relation to the environment, and project how populations may respond to future climate scenarios. In a more general and holistic approach, scientists recently conducted a vulnerability assessment to evaluate how northeast U.S. fish and invertebrate species may respond to climate change. The species covered in this assessment included those of significance to the ecosystem, supporting major commercial fisheries, and/or prominent recreationally-harvested species. Below provides a brief synopsis on what the team found for some of Rhode Island's more famous recreational fish and invertebrate species. These rankings are based on expert scientists reviewing the available

scientific literature, coupled with their expertise, to systematically score species' vulnerability to climate change. The scores presented are based on the best-available science and hypothesized relations between species and the environment. As such, there is uncertainty in these scores, and for many, further research is needed to refine or affirm the results.

**VERY HIGH VULNERABILITY**

*Bay Scallop, Quahog, Soft Clam, Striped Bass, Tautog, Winter Flounder*

Shellfish have been generally considered vulnerable to climate change due to reported negative effects of ocean acidification on mollusk larvae, and climate models projecting increases in ocean pH in future decades. However, the effect of ocean acidification for many shellfish species and at different life stages are poorly understood; thus, these results are subject to the limited research available and would benefit from additional work. Striped Bass abundance and distribution can be influenced by temperature, turbidity, and precipitation. Also, species that return to natal grounds, like Striped Bass, may be less adaptive and additionally vulnerable to climate change if their natal grounds become unsuitable. Tautog may also be vulnerable to climate change due to their mobility and population growth rate. Several scientific studies have shown the negative effects of climate change on Winter Flounder, primarily through increasing sea temperatures. Warming waters have been linked to increased predation at early-life stages and reduced recruitment, or number of fish at an age available to the fishery. Winter flounder also have spawning site fidelity, making them less adaptive to climate change than other species.

**HIGH VULNERABILITY**

*Black Sea Bass*

While Black Sea Bass are estimated to be vulnerable to climate change, the effects may be positive on the species. Black Sea Bass productivity may increase with higher recruitment, resulting from rising temperatures and greater spawning. Further, this species range will likely extend north with projected oceanographic changes at higher latitudes.

## MODERATE VULNERABILITY

*American Lobster, Atlantic Cod, Atlantic Menhaden, Scup, Summer Flounder*

Rhode Island recreationally-significant species with moderate vulnerability to climate change vary by those that may have a positive, negative, or neutral response to climate change. For American Lobster, increased ocean temperatures have been linked to decreases in the population's southern range, such as Rhode Island, but to increases in the population in the northern range, such as the Gulf of Maine. Several research studies have highlighted the negative physiological effects of warm temperatures that are increasingly common in the species' southern range. Warming waters and the positive impacts on prospective predator species also brings to question how lobsters in the southern range will respond to an increase in predators. Ocean acidification has been shown to have both negative and neutral effects on lobster mortality. Warming waters are also anticipated to have negative effects on Atlantic Cod populations through decreased productivity and recruitment, as well as shift the populations northward. Scup may be positively impacted by climate change, with warming waters providing a larger geographic area with their optimal temperature range. For Summer Flounder, the overall effects of climate are estimated to be moderate or neutral, given the major driver in the population has traditional been fishing pressure. While not a recreationally caught species,

Atlantic Menhaden are a common prey item for many of the recreationally targeted species in Rhode Island, such as Striped Bass and Bluefish. Climate change is anticipated to have some positive effects on Atlantic Menhaden, with increased temperatures resulting in more spawning and higher recruitment.

## LOW VULNERABILITY

### *Bluefish*

Bluefish will most likely be impacted by climate change through spawning, as the species spawns in waters of specific temperatures. While distribution may change with altered sea temperatures, Bluefish vulnerability to climate change is anticipated to be low.

From this work, it is clear that species vary in their vulnerability to climate change and may respond differently, with some appearing as "winners" and others "losers" to climate change. We can also see that location of reference for a given stock is important when understanding the positive and negative impacts, as occurs with American Lobster. For more information on the study design and detailed results, please see Hare et al. (2016).

Figure legend: Climate vulnerability assessments from Hare et al. (2016) for marine fish and invertebrate species caught by Rhode Islanders. Colors are used to demarcate very high (red), high (orange), moderate (yellow), and low (green) climate vulnerability.

## References:

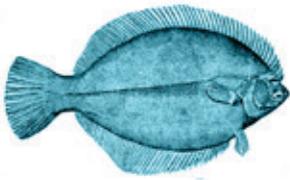
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# Commonly Caught Species

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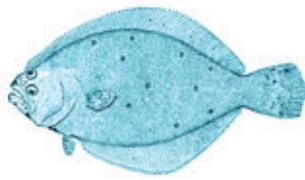
## Common Fish



### Winter flounder (Blackback)

**Scientific Name:** *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*

**Identification:** Nearly straight lateral line and blunt snout. Eyes on right side.



### Summer flounder (Fluke)

**Scientific Name:** *Paralichthys dentatus*

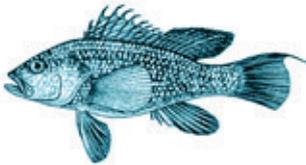
**Identification:** Eyes on left side. Large mouth with teeth.



### Tautog (Blackfish)

**Scientific Name:** *Tautoga onitis*

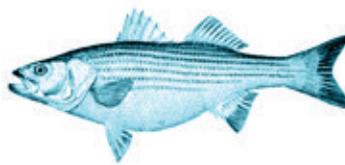
**Identification:** Highly arched head, blunt snout and thick lips.



### Black Sea Bass

**Scientific Name:** *Centropristis striata*

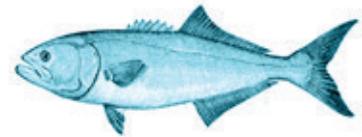
**Identification:** Gray, brown or blue-black. Rounded caudal fin.



### Striped Bass

**Scientific Name:** *Morone saxatilis*

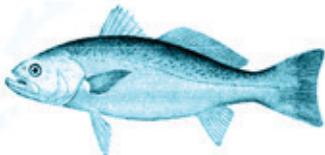
**Identification:** Grayish-green above, silvery on sides with distinct horizontal stripes.



### Bluefish

**Scientific Name:** *Pomatomus saltatrix*

**Identification:** Series of stout conical teeth, and first dorsal fin is much lower than the second with 7-9 dorsal spines.



### Weakfish (Squeteague)

**Scientific Name:** *Cynoscion regalis*

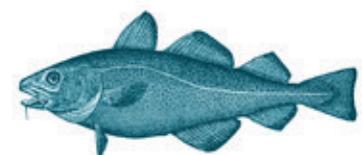
**Identification:** Long second dorsal fin, slender body and absent chin barbel.



### Scup (Porgy)

**Scientific Name:** *Stenotomus chrysops*

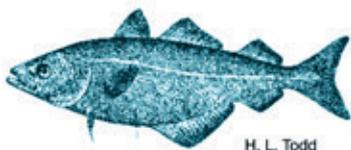
**Identification:** Silvery, iridescent. Concave dorsal profile, small teeth and lunate pointed tail.



### Atlantic cod

**Scientific Name:** *Gadus morhua*

**Identification:** Pale lateral line, chin barbel, large eyes, square tipped tail and spotted color pattern.



### Pollock

**Scientific Name:** *Pollachius virens*

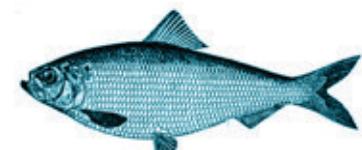
**Identification:** Forked tail, projecting lower jaw and greenish color without spots.



### American eel

**Scientific Name:** *Anguilla rostrata*

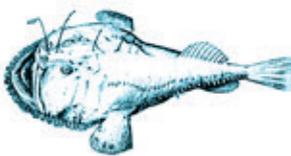
**Identification:** Dorsal fin begins far behind the pectoral fin, and the lower jaw projects beyond upper jaw.



### Alewife and Blueback Herring (River Herring)

**Scientific Name:** *Alosa pseudoharengus* and *Alosa aestivalis*

**Identification:** Deep body and spot located just behind the gill cover.



### Monkfish (Goosefish)

**Scientific Name:** *Lophius americanus*

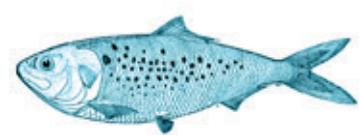
**Identification:** Depressed body and huge mouth.



### Spiny dogfish

**Scientific Name:** *Squalus acanthias*

**Identification:** Gray or brownish with large sharp dorsal spines.



### Atlantic menhaden

**Scientific Name:** *Brevoortia tyrannus*

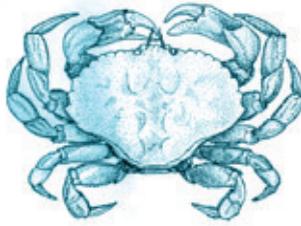
**Identification:** Large scaleless head nearly one third total body length.

## Common Invertebrates



### American Lobster

**Scientific Name:** *Homarus americanus*  
**Identification:** Greenish brown with blue patches near joints of appendages.



### Atlantic Rock Crab

**Scientific Name:** *Cancer irroratus*  
**Identification:** Beige or yellowish shell with numerous closely spaced purple-brown spots. Very common.



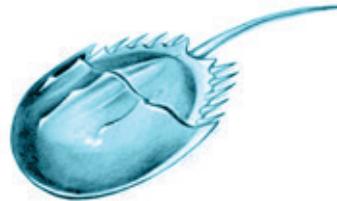
### Green Crab

**Scientific Name:** *Carcinus maenas*  
**Identification:** Usually dark green. Found under rocks and in intertidal zones. Very common.



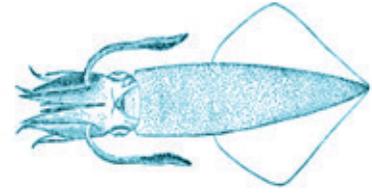
### Blue Crab

**Scientific Name:** *Callinectes sapidus*  
**Identification:** Blueish gray shell. Fingers of claws are bright blue in males and red in females.



### Horseshoe Crab

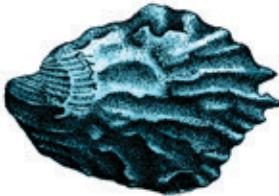
**Scientific Name:** *Limulus polyphemus*  
**Identification:** Olive green or brownish shell. Long spike-like tail.



### Atlantic Longfin Squid

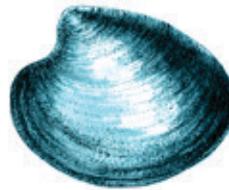
**Scientific Name:** *Loligo pealeii*  
**Identification:** White or translucent gray with tiny red or purple spots with expand and contract.

## Common Shellfish



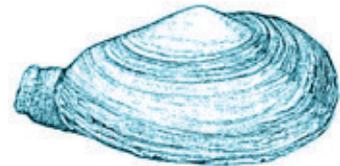
### Eastern Oyster

**Scientific Name:** *Crassostrea virginica*  
**Identification:** Grayish white, variable shape, found at or below low tide level.



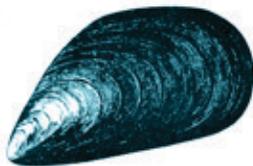
### Northern Quahaug (Hard Shell Clam)

**Scientific Name:** *Mercenaria mercenaria*  
**Identification:** Shell ranges from light gray to black. Found in shallow water.



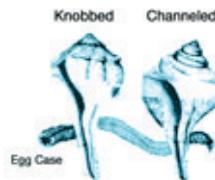
### Soft Shell Clam (steamer)

**Scientific Name:** *Mya arenaria*  
**Identification:** Chalky white shell. Lives deeply burrowed in sediment. Common in intertidal zone and shallow water.



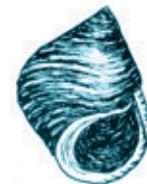
### Blue Mussel

**Scientific Name:** *Mytilus edulis*  
**Identification:** Blue or blue-black. Common in beds near low tide and attaches to rocks and shells with fibers.



### Channeled & Knobbed Whelk

**Scientific Name:** *Busycotypus canaliculatus* & *Busycon carica*.  
**Identification:** Grooved or knobbed beige or yellowish gray shell. Often covered with a hairy outer shell layer. Distinctive egg case.



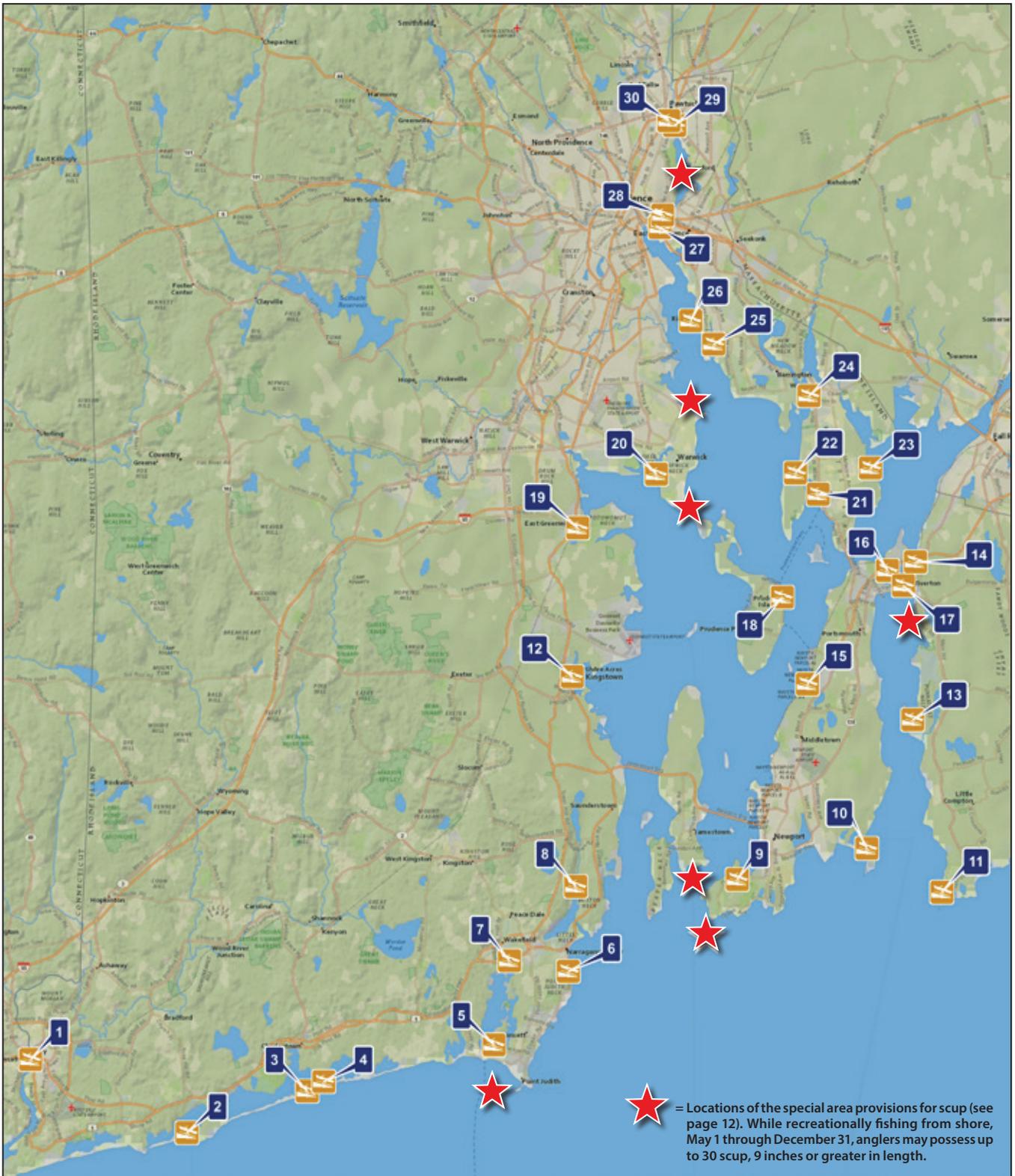
### Common Periwinkle

**Scientific Name:** *Littorina littorea*  
**Identification:** Usually brown, black or gray shell, sometimes will white spiral lines. Most common periwinkle in the rocky intertidal zone.

# Access Sites

Please see below for a map of saltwater boating access sites throughout Rhode Island. The sites are State-owned and currently in usable condition. A list of these locations with brief descriptions is found on page 21. More boating access sites, such as town-owned ramps, and additional information can be found on the Marine Fisheries website at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bnatres/fishwild/boatInch.htm#salt>.

When utilizing these boating access sites, please be respectful of other users and properly dispose of all trash and waste.



Town	Site #	Name	Description	Depth at MLW
<b>Westerly</b>	1	Main Street	Main St., concrete slab ramp	4 ft.
<b>Charlestown</b>	2	Quonochontaug Breachway	Off West Beach Rd., concrete plank ramp	3 ft.
	3	Charlestown Breachway	West end of Charlestown Beach Rd., linked concrete slabs	3 ft.
	4	Charlestown	Off of Charlestown Beach Rd. Natural Shoreline, gravel base	N/A
<b>Narragansett</b>	5	Galilee	Corner of Galilee Rd., and Great Island Rd., southeast side of Great Island Bridge. Linked concrete planks - double ramp	4 ft.
	6	Monahan's Dock	East Side of Ocean Rd., at South Pier Rd., concrete - steep drop	3 - 4 ft.
<b>South Kingstown</b>	7	Narrow River	Off Middlebridge Rd. on Pollock Ave., concrete planks	3 ft.
	8	Marina Park	Route 1., concrete slabs	N/A
<b>Newport</b>	9	Fort Adams	Off Harriston Ave.	3 ft.
<b>Middletown</b>	10	Third Beach	Concrete ramp. Parking fee when beach is open	N/A
<b>Little Compton</b>	11	Sakonnet Point	Sakonnet Point Rd. (Rt. 77). North side of Town Landing Rd., linked concrete planks	2 ft.
<b>North Kingstown</b>	12	Wilson Park	East end of Intrepid Dr., off Post Rd., Rt. 1, near fire station. Linked concrete plank - moderately steep	3 ft.
<b>Tiverton</b>	13	Fogland	End of Fogland Rd., at High Hill Rd. Linked concrete planks	N/A
	14	Sakonnet River Bridge	Underneath new Sakonnet bridge., off Riverside Dr. concrete planks, strong currents	N/A
<b>Portsmouth</b>	15	Weaver Cove	On Burma Rd. South of Melville complex. Concrete slabs	4 ft.
	16	Gull Cove	Accessed via turnoff from RI 138 E/24 E. Linked concrete planks	2 ft.
	17	Stone Bridge	Off Rte. 138 at junction of Park Ave and Point Rd., at Teddy's Beach	3 ft.
<b>Prudence Island</b>	18	Homestead	On Prudence Island, off Narragansett Ave., north of Prudence Variety	N/A
<b>East Greenwich</b>	19	Greenwich Cove	Pole #6, Crompton Ave. Concrete slab	N/A
<b>Warwick</b>	19	Goddard	Goddard State Park	N/A
	20	Oakland Beach	Warwick Cove. Oakland Beach Ave. Take last left. East side of Oakland Beach. Concrete ramp	<4 ft.
<b>Bristol</b>	21	Independence Park	At the foot of Church St., off of Rt. 114. Linked concrete slab	N/A
	22	Colt State Park	Off of Hope St. (Rt. 114), concrete ramp	4 ft.
	23	Annawanscutt	Annawanscutt Dr., off Metacom Ave. (Rt. 136), past Veteran's Home. Linked concrete planks	>2 ft.
<b>Warren</b>	24	Warren	West side of Water St., at Wheaton St., cement slab	N/A
<b>Barrington</b>	25	Haines Park	On Bullock's Cove, off Metropolitan Park Dr. concrete slab	4 ft.
<b>East Providence</b>	26	Sabin Point	Off Bulluck's Point Ave. Hard packed Sand	N/A
	27	Bold Point	Off Veteran's Memorial Pkwy., via Mauran Ave. at the end of Pier Rd. Concrete slab	4 ft.
<b>Providence</b>	28	Gano Park	End of of East Transit St. Concrete slab	N/A
<b>Pawtucket</b>	29	Festival Pier	End of Tim Healey Way, off of School St. (Rt. 114). Concrete slab	N/A
	30	Pawtucket	East side of Taft St., just south of Rt. 95 bridge. Linked concrete planks	N/A

\* Please note that some boating access sites may require a permit or fee for parking and/or use.

N/A= Information not available

# Lobster/Crab Regulations

## Recreational Lobster License

- Available to Rhode Island residents only
- Allows for personal use only (not for sale)



Types of licenses available:

Lobster	
Non-Commercial Pot License	\$40.00 yr
Non-Commercial Diver License	\$40.00 yr

Licenses can be obtained through the Office of Boat Registration and Licensing located at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908 or online at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bpoladm/manserv/hfb/boating/commfish.htm>

- All lobsters must be measured IMMEDIATELY.
- Those measuring less than 3-3/8" carapace length must be returned immediately to the water from which taken.
- The POSSESSION of egg-bearing or v-notched lobsters is prohibited.
- Mandatory v-notching of all egg-bearing females in LCMA 2 (includes all RI state waters).
- No person shall raise or unduly disturb any lobster pot or trap within the territorial waters of this State between the hours of one (1) hour after sundown and one (1) hour before sunrise.
- Recreational possession limit for licensed residents:
  - » Pots – 5 pots/recreational license
  - » Divers – 8 lobsters/day

## Blue Crabs

- State Residents Only – no license needed



- All Blue Crabs measuring less than 5" spike to spike shall be returned to the water immediately.
- No person shall possess, take, or attempt to take more than 25 blue crabs from any of the waters in this state except when taking by crab net, dip net, scoop net, hand line or trot line.
- Harvesting of blue crabs is prohibited between sunset and sunrise.
- The POSSESSION of egg-bearing crabs is prohibited.

**\*\*This is only a brief summary of the RI Division of Fish and Wildlife's regulations. For more information or to view the actual regulations please visit RIDFW's website at: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/topics/mftopics.htm>\*\***

## Life Jackets; Wear Them!

- Always remember to wear a life jacket.
- Make sure your life jacket is U.S.C.G. approved.
- Take the time to ensure a proper fit.
- Life jackets meant for adults do not work for children.
- Children under 13 years old must wear a life jacket.



# Equipment Regulations

## Escape Vents (Lobster, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Pots)

Minimum size	Lobster	Scup	Black Sea Bass
Rectangular	2" x 5-3/4"	2-1/4" x 5-3/4"	1-3/8" x 5-3/4"
Square	None	2-1/4" x 2-1/4"	2" X 2"
Two Circular	2-5/8" diameter	3.1" diameter	2.5" diameter

## Diving Baskets

Bar Spacing	1" x 2-1/2" minimum
Bag	2" minimum

## Spacing Requirements for Tongs and Bullrakes

Tooth Spacing	1" minimum
Head Construction	1" x 2-1/2" minimum

## Bay Scallop Regulations:

Bay Scallops may only be harvested using dip nets from the second Saturday of November until sunrise the first day of December. Other appropriate methods, such as snorkeling, diving, or dredges, may be used from December 1st until December 31st. For additional information and restrictions, please visit [http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimf\\_shell.pdf](http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimf_shell.pdf).

## Scuba

Shellfishing using SCUBA gear is prohibited in Point Judith, Ninigret, Green Hill Pond, Quonochontaug Pond, Charlestown Pond and Potter Pond.

## Gill Nets, Otter Trawling, Seines, Etc.

Please contact RIDFW to request area specific regulations.



## Beach Seines, Recreational Bait Nets

Marine species may lawfully be taken for personal use provided that all existing minimum size and possession limit restrictions for the species possessed are adhered to. Also, a limit of 2 quarts per person is allowed for all unregulated marine species. Nets being used cannot exceed four (4) feet in depth and 20 feet in length.

## Marking of Traps

The owner of every trap, pot, or other stationary contrivance used for the taking of marine fish, shellfish, crustaceans, or other invertebrates being fished in the waters of this state, and the owner of any trap or pot for catching, or cars or other contrivance for keeping lobsters shall mark each such trap, pot, or contrivance, together with the buoy which is attached thereto, with the name or names of the owners thereof or the person or persons using the same, and the license number or numbers of such person or persons. Each such lobster or crab pot buoy shall display that person's stated color scheme, and this color scheme shall also be displayed on the boat used by that person in tending that gear. The use of floating line within eight feet of the surface is prohibited.

Pole  Bait  Lures

**LICENSE?**

**Buy Your RI Saltwater Fishing License Online.**

[www.saltwater.ri.gov](http://www.saltwater.ri.gov)



Department of Environmental Management

## TECHNIQUES

# How to handle shellfish with love



Shellfish are one of Nature's most perfect foods – healthful, nutritious and delicious. However, if shellfish are not kept cold they can cause illness (like many other raw foods). These tips ensure that the shellfish you serve are as perfect and healthful as Nature intended



### Harvesting Shellfish

Before you set out to “dig your own” there are basic guidelines to follow. The first is to dig in approved waters. The RI Dept. of Environmental Management regulates and manages shellfish growing areas. They monitor water quality for conditions such as bacterial/viral loads and “red tide.” To ensure you are harvesting from approved waters you can check the maps and descriptions at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/maps/mapfile/shellfish.pdf> and get updates on closures on the DEM hotline at 401-222-2900. The wild harvest of oysters is prohibited from May 16 – Sept 14 annually.



### Transporting Shellfish

Make sure your shellfish stay cold on the trip home. The optimal temperature to preserve flavor and safety is 35° to 45° F. Here are a few options:

- Keep shellfish on ice, not in water, and in the shade for the trip home.
- Using a cooler with ice or cold packs is the best choice.



### Storing Shellfish

Fresh shellfish can last for several days if properly stored in your refrigerator below 45° F. Freezing shellfish will kill them, and they should not be held in melted ice water. Make sure they are not contaminated by other foods that might drip on them. Allowing shellfish to warm up can allow bacteria to grow, increasing the risk of illness.



### Cooking Shellfish

Make sure there are no dead or gaping shellfish, live shellfish will close tightly when tapped. Shellfish should smell fresh - like an ocean breeze. Avoid raw or undercooked shellfish if you are immune compromised\*, but fully cooking will eliminate bacteria.

\* The elderly, as well as those individuals who suffer from liver disease, diabetes, HIV, or are taking medications that suppress their immune system, can be at risk for serious illness from bacteria that may be associated with raw or undercooked poultry, eggs, hamburger and shellfish (especially in summer). Ask your doctor if you are not sure.



**For more information**  
about shellfish safety issues visit the following websites:  
[www.ECSGA.org/safety](http://www.ECSGA.org/safety) or [www.safeoysters.org](http://www.safeoysters.org)



# Shellfish Regulations

## Shellfishing is prohibited statewide between sunset and sunrise.

**Oysters** – The season is open from September 15 to May 15 (inclusive).

**Scallops** – The season opens sunrise the first Saturday in November and closes at sunset on December 31.

Consult “Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Regulations: Shellfish” of the Marine Fisheries Statutes and Regulations for specific shellfishing regulations. <http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimftoc.htm>

### Resident Recreational Shellfishing – No License Required

Any resident of this State may, without a license, take quahogs, soft-shelled clams, mussels, surf clams, oysters (in season), and bay scallops (in season). Harvested shellfish may not be sold or offered for sale. (See below for possession limits in Shellfish Management Areas and Non-Management Areas).

### Non-Resident Recreational Shellfishing – Licensed Individuals Only

Holders of a non-resident shellfishing license may take quahogs, soft-shelled clams, mussels, surf clams, oysters (in season). (See below for possession limits in Shellfish Management Areas and Non-Management Areas). There is no taking of lobsters, blue crabs, or bay scallops by non-residents.

### Non-Resident Property Owners

A nonresident landowner who owns residential real estate in Rhode Island assessed for taxation at a value of not less than thirty thousand dollars may, with proof of property ownership, obtain an annual, non-commercial, non-resident shellfish license for a fee of twenty-five dollars. This license holds the same restrictions and allowable daily catch limits as a licensed non-resident.

### Shellfish Management Areas:

Potter, Point Judith, Ninigret (Charlestown), Quonochontaug, and Winnapaug (Brightman) Ponds, Greenwich Bay, Bristol Harbor, Potowomut (Areas A, B and C), and Bissel Cove, Kickemuit River, High Banks, Mill Gut, Jenny’s Creek (closed until further notice). Additionally, certain Shellfish Management Areas, have limited fishing days and seasonal requirements for commercial harvest.

Area specific regulations may apply. Consult “Part IV Shellfish” of the Marine Fisheries Statutes and Regulations at [http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimf\\_shell.pdf](http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimf_shell.pdf)

### Shellfishing Areas with Harvest Restrictions Due to Water Quality:

Certain areas are subject to permanent, seasonal, and rainfall-induced shellfishing closures. Consult <http://www.dem.ri.gov/maps/mapfile/shellfish.pdf> for current maps and regulations or contact the Division of Water Resources at

(401) 222-3961. For current rainfall-induced closure restrictions call (401) 222-2900. Please be responsible; be aware of all harvesting restrictions.

### Spawner Sanctuaries and Shellfishing Moratoria:

Certain waters of the state are permanently closed to shellfishing, allowing maintenance, restoration, and enhancement wild broodstock. Areas include portions of Winnapaug Pond, Quonochontaug Pond, Ninigret Pond, Potter Pond, Potowomut, and Jenny’s Creek in its entirety. Consult “Part IV Shellfish” of the Marine Fisheries Statutes and Regulations: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/rimf4.pdf>

### Minimum Sizes for Shellfish:

- Quahog = 1 inch hinge width
- Soft-Shelled Clam\* = 2 inches
- Oyster\* = 3 inches
- Bay Scallop = No seed possession
- Surf Clam\* = 5 inches
- Channeled or Knobbed Whelks = 3 inches width or 5 3/8 inches length

\* Measured in a straight line parallel to the long axis of the animal.

### Daily Possession Limits for Quahogs, Soft-Shell Clams, Surf Clams, Mussels, and Oysters (Bay Scallops Excluded) in:

#### Shellfish Management Areas

Resident (no sale) = 1 peck each per person  
Licensed Non-Resident (no sale) = ½ peck each per person

#### Non-Management Areas

Resident (no sale) = 1/2 bushel each per person  
Licensed Non-Resident (no sale) = 1 peck each per person

### Dry Measure Equivalents

- 1 peck = 2 gallons
- ½ peck = 1 gallon
- 1 bushel = 8 gallons
- ½ bushel = 4 gallons

### Whelks

1/2 bushel per person  
1 bushel per vessel max  
Residents only

The your most up-to-date regulations online.

[eregulations.com](http://eregulations.com)

The advertisement features a laptop and a smartphone displaying the website interface. To the right is a brochure titled "2018 RHODE ISLAND RECREATIONAL Saltwater Fishing" with the slogan "Feel the Bite!" and an image of a fisherman holding a large fish. The website logo "eregulations.com" is at the bottom left of the ad.

# Marine Mammal Strandings in Rhode Island

By Scott Olszewski, Supervisory Marine Biologist RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries

Every year, prevailing winds and currents strand large whale carcasses that have died at sea on the Rhode Island shoreline. When this occurs, beachgoers and fishermen are usually the first persons to discover the carcass. When this uncommon event occurs, these first responders are usually directed to the closest authorized Marine Mammal Animal Response Team (ART) to report their findings, which in our region is the Mystic Aquarium. The ART, a dedicated group of marine scientists and volunteers, will generally make the trip from Mystic to the last known position of the animal. The ART will first contact the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) Division of Marine Fisheries, which supports a staff member assigned to marine mammal protection. ART and Division staff will first identify the species and conduct a visual inspection for any obvious external wounds or injuries, then the real work, necropsy examination and disposal of the carcass, begins. Whether the animal ends up on a sandy beach or a rocky section of coast, a number of assets and resources must be tapped into to make the removal and/or burial be a success. Most large whale species found in the Northwest Atlantic can range from 10 to upwards of 70 tons. Terrain, weather, and accessibility to the stranding location by heavy equipment can make the removal process extremely challeng-

ing and, at times, dangerous. If it is determined that the deceased animal possesses no direct threat to human health, navigation, or recreational activities, it may simply be left to be reclaimed by nature through the slow process of decomposition. In most cases however, the carcass will represent some degree of hazard and must therefore be removed and/or buried on site. Although marine mammals are protected by federal law, in these cases the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) relies heavily on the state of stranding to acquire the resources needed to assure proper removal. Prior to removal, the ART will conduct some level of necropsy based on species of conservation concern and potential cause of death. When this work is completed, staff from various RIDEM Divisions, including the Divisions of Law Enforcement, Parks and Recreation and Marine Fisheries, along with local town departments, are assembled and a disposal plan is developed. Removal or burial, either on or off-site, depends on many factors including location, public accessibility, and the likelihood of tampering and/or re-emergence. Necessary equipment is determined, often including heavy equipment, and at-sea vessels. Personnel work as a team to efficiently and expeditiously develop and execute the plan, while fighting the clock of decomposition and carefully accommodating public intrigue and

a truly unique educational opportunity. The entire operation can be a costly and time-consuming event.

Marine mammal conservation and management is working to reduce large whale mortalities caused by human impacts and restore large whale populations to historic levels; this is proving to be a long process due to the slow rate of reproduction and success of these animals. With the commercialization of the world's oceans and with more and more users vying to occupy and use the same places, large whales must compete for habitats that in many cases overlap with many human activities. RIDEM is playing an active role to help protect and conserve Atlantic large whales for future generations.

As a final note, RIDEM would like to remind boaters during the spring, summer and fall seasons that a number of different species of whales are frequenting Rhode Island waters. As migrations and natural feeding behavior occurs in our area, NOAA Fisheries and RIDEM urge boaters to remember whale watching and viewing guidelines. The marine mammal viewing guidelines are intended to keep whales safe, and help boaters avoid accidentally violating the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, and can be found at the following link.

<https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected/mmp/viewing/approaching/index.html>



Photo courtesy NOAA



Photo courtesy Christin Khan/NOAA, NMFS Permit 18786-02

## Come Clam with Me

### SUMMARY OF THE WORKSHOPS IN 2017

By Kimberly Sullivan, RIDEM Fish and Wildlife

Three years ago, RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife's Aquatic Resource Education (ARE) program launched its first ever 'Come Clam with Me' workshop at North Kingstown Town Beach. Twenty-five participants gathered wearing water shoes, shorts, and bath suits expecting to simply learn how and where to find the elusive quahog. They were pleasantly surprised to come out of the workshop learning so much more from commercial quahogger, Jody King.

The 'Come Clam with Me' workshop originated six years ago as an outreach program to inform the public about the Rhode Island Shellfish Management Plan. The URI Coastal Resource Center, RI Sea Grant and commercial fisherman, Jody King, designed and implemented a hands on program where participants learned about Rhode Island's shellfish and their management, learned how to dig for quahogs, and even learned how to prepare them. The 'field to table' workshop technique proved to be a successful educational model and was transferred to the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife's ARE program in 2015. Over the past three years, the program has not only taught participants of safe and responsible shell fishing techniques but also has stressed the importance of shellfish to the health of marine ecosystems for the sustainability of sportfish.

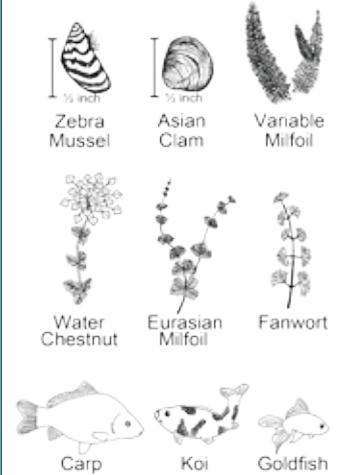
The 2017 'Come Clam with Me' season was an overwhelming success. Not only did the program increase in number, but it also became more accessible by inviting participants to Colt State Park and Rocky Point State Park along with North Kingstown Town Beach. During the summer of 2017, the ARE program offered six 'Come Clam with Me' workshops and aided in arranging two (2) clamming programs for the Great Outdoors Pursuit. Each of the six workshops capped registration off at 55 participants with an average of 45 participants actually attending. A total of 270 people attended the six 'Come Clam with Me' classes. In addition, at least 200 people attended the clamming programs in association with the Great Outdoors Pursuit. In all, over 470 people attended the classes and brought away folders of information on clamming, tides, saltwater regulations, and other information pertaining to the ARE program and other Division programs.

With such a successful year of quahogging, the ARE program is looking forward to the 2018 'Come Clam with Me' season. If you would like to be placed on our email list and learn about this and other educational programs, please contact Kimberly Sullivan at 401-539-0019 or [Kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov](mailto:Kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov).



## The Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species!

### Examples of Invasive Species:



## Attention Boaters: Inspect vessel carefully before & after use!

- Remove **ALL** weeds and plant fragments from water craft & trailer before & after use
- Drain boat & motor far from water; allow to dry before next use
- Clean off all waders, boots and gear after use in any waterbody
- Do not release bait of aquarium fish, shellfish or plants

### For more information contact:

RI Department of Environmental Management  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
(407) 789-0281 or (401) 789-7481

[www.dem.ri.gov](http://www.dem.ri.gov)



Photo courtesy RIDEM

# Party & Charter Boat Notable Catches

If you would like to share your notable catches with us and have the chance to see them in next year's fishing guide, please send pictures and information to [RISaltwaterGuide@dem.ri.gov](mailto:RISaltwaterGuide@dem.ri.gov)



## Seven B's Party Boat

Brian showing off a pair of healthy cod caught while fishing off Block Island



## Bare Bones Charters

Giving back to the veterans, putting them on some black sea bass during a donated bottom fishing trip in July



## Big Game Charters

Had no problem finding the bluefin tuna in 2017



## Mako II Charters

Hauled aboard this hefty striped bass while fishing in Block Island Sound



## Hooked On A Feeling Charters

Tangled with this trophy 18.9lb tautog while fishing Narragansett Bay



## Jackhammer Charters

Capt. Jack putting his customers on some doormat summer flounder for the dinner table



## Priority Too Charters

Had his customers hugging cow striped bass all season



## River Rebel Charters

Hooked into this 50lb bass while fishing the upper Narragansett Bay



## Stuff It Charters

Battled with this hefty mako shark to put some tasty steaks on their customers grill

Background photo courtesy of Nathan Andrews

# 2018 Tide Table – Newport, RI

High tide predictions between 6:00 AM and 7:00 PM (adjusted for daylight savings time)

● = New Moon ○ = Full Moon

	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. (2019)	Feb. (2019)	Mar. (2019)	Apr. (2019)
1	9:27 AM	10:27 AM	10:45 AM	11:39 AM	12:41 PM	1:16 PM	3:08 PM	2:49 PM	4:16 PM	5:32 PM	4:18 PM	6:02 AM
2	10:10 AM	11:12 AM	11:29 AM	12:24 PM	1:39 PM	2:21 PM	4:11 PM	3:46 PM	5:06 PM	6:17 PM	5:07 PM	6:45 AM
3	10:53 AM	11:59 AM	12:14 PM	1:14 PM	2:41 PM	3:27 PM	5:08 PM	4:40 PM	5:54 PM	6:40 AM ●	5:52 PM	7:26 AM
4	11:39 AM	12:48 PM	1:01 PM	2:09 PM	3:45 PM	4:30 PM	5:01 PM	5:29 PM	6:38 PM	7:21 AM	6:15 AM	8:06 AM
5	12:28 PM	1:40 PM	1:52 PM	3:07 PM	4:47 PM	5:28 PM	5:51 PM	6:15 PM	7:01 AM ●	8:01 AM	6:56 AM	8:45 AM ●
6	1:21 PM	2:34 PM	2:46 PM	4:07 PM	5:45 PM	6:21 PM	6:14 AM	6:39 AM	7:43 AM	8:39 AM	7:35 AM ●	9:23 AM
7	2:18 PM	3:27 PM	3:40 PM	5:06 PM	6:13 AM	6:47 AM	7:00 AM ●	7:22 AM ●	8:24 AM	9:18 AM	8:13 AM	10:02 AM
8	3:15 PM	4:18 PM	4:35 PM	6:02 PM	7:05 AM	7:35 AM ●	7:44 AM	8:04 AM	9:04 AM	9:57 AM	8:51 AM	10:43 AM
9	4:08 PM	5:08 PM	5:29 PM	6:30 AM	7:56 AM ●	8:22 AM	8:27 AM	8:46 AM	9:45 AM	10:36 AM	9:28 AM	11:27 AM
10	4:58 PM	5:57 PM	6:21 PM	7:23 AM	8:44 AM	9:08 AM	9:11 AM	9:28 AM	10:26 AM	11:18 AM	11:07 AM	12:18 PM
11	5:44 PM	6:21 AM	6:49 AM	8:15 AM ●	9:32 AM	9:53 AM	9:55 AM	10:12 AM	11:09 AM	12:06 PM	11:49 AM	1:16 PM
12	6:06 AM	7:11 AM	7:42 AM ●	9:06 AM	10:20 AM	10:39 AM	10:42 AM	10:57 AM	11:56 AM	1:02 PM	12:36 PM	2:21 PM
13	6:52 AM	8:01 AM ●	8:34 AM	9:57 AM	11:09 AM	11:26 AM	11:32	11:45 AM	12:46 PM	2:04 PM	1:33 PM	3:27 PM
14	7:38 AM	8:52 AM	9:26 AM	10:47 AM	11:59 AM	12:15 PM	12:25 PM	12:37 PM	1:42 PM	3:07 PM	2:38 PM	4:29 PM
15	8:24 AM ●	9:44 AM	10:19 AM	11:39 AM	12:51 PM	1:09 PM	1:22 PM	1:31 PM	2:40 PM	4:08 PM	3:45 PM	5:26 PM
16	9:12 AM	10:38 AM	11:12 AM	12:32 PM	1:47 PM	2:06 PM	2:18 PM	2:26 PM	3:37 PM	5:05 PM	4:48 PM	6:20 PM
17	10:02 AM	11:33 AM	12:06 PM	1:27 PM	2:46 PM	3:05 PM	3:12 PM	3:20 PM	4:33 PM	5:59 PM	5:46 PM	6:46 AM
18	10:54 AM	12:30 PM	1:03 PM	2:24 PM	3:44 PM	4:01 PM	4:02 PM	4:11 PM	5:26 PM	6:50 PM	6:40 PM	7:36 AM
19	11:50 AM	1:30 PM	2:00 PM	3:22 PM	4:39 PM	4:53 PM	4:48 PM	5:01 PM	6:18 PM	7:16 AM ○	7:07 AM	8:24 AM ○
20	12:49 PM	2:29 PM	2:57 PM	4:18 PM	5:28 PM	5:40 PM	5:33 PM	5:50 PM	6:44 AM	8:06 AM	7:57 AM ○	9:11 AM
21	1:51 PM	3:28 PM	3:54 PM	5:11 PM	6:14 PM	6:06 AM	6:17 PM	6:14 AM	7:34 AM ○	8:55 AM	8:46 AM	9:57 AM
22	2:53 PM	4:23 PM	4:48 PM	5:59 PM	6:38 AM	6:47 AM	6:40 AM	7:02 AM ○	8:25 AM	9:45 AM	9:34 AM	10:44 AM
23	3:53 PM	5:15 PM	5:38 PM	6:22 AM	7:19 AM	7:28 AM	7:23 AM ○	7:51 AM	9:15 AM	10:36 AM	10:22 AM	11:33 AM
24	4:49 PM	6:04 PM	6:01 AM	7:06 AM	7:59 AM ○	8:08 AM ○	8:09 AM	8:40 AM	10:07 AM	11:28 AM	11:10 AM	12:24 PM
25	5:41 PM	6:27 AM	6:47 AM	7:48 AM	8:38 AM	8:48 AM	8:57 AM	9:32 AM	11:00 AM	12:23 PM	12:00 PM	1:20 PM
26	6:05 AM	7:12 AM	7:31 AM	8:28 AM ○	9:17 AM	9:31 AM	9:48 AM	10:26 AM	11:55 AM	1:22 PM	12:53 PM	2:18 PM
27	6:52 AM	7:55 AM	8:14 AM ○	9:08 AM	9:57 AM	10:15 AM	10:42 AM	11:22 AM	12:53 PM	2:23 PM	1:51 PM	3:17 PM
28	7:37 AM	8:38 AM ○	8:56 AM	9:47 AM	10:38 AM	11:04 AM	11:41 AM	12:21 PM	1:53 PM	3:23 PM	2:51 PM	4:13 PM
29	8:20 AM ○	9:20 AM	9:36 AM	10:26 AM	11:25 AM	11:58 AM	12:43 PM	1:21 PM	2:53 PM		3:52 PM	5:03 PM
30	9:02 AM	10:03 AM	10:17 AM	11:07 AM	12:17 PM	12:58 PM	1:47 PM	2:22 PM	3:50 PM		4:48 PM	5:49 PM
31	9:44 AM		10:57 AM	11:51 AM		2:03 PM		3:21 PM	4:43 PM		5:38 PM	

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- Providence, RI.....Plus 13 minutes
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- Portsmouth, RI .....Plus 8 minutes
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