## \_\_\_\_\_ 2015 RHODE ISLAND RECREATIONAL Saltwate ISAIAC

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Rhode Island Division of Fish & Wildlife - Marine Fisheries Section **Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management** 

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2015 RHODE ISLAND RECREATIONAL -Saltwater Fishing



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### Welcome Letter



On behalf of Governor Raimondo, I am pleased to introduce the third annual Rhode Island Saltwater Recreational Fishing Guide. The Ocean State offers some 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 fish on a diverse range of species.

This guide is for newcomers as well as seasoned anglers. It provides current recreational fishing regulations and covers a variety of fishing-related issues. You will find information about local fishing and boating access sites, commonly caught species, new data

reporting technology, how to cook your catch and much more. These pages feature the many local businesses that provide fishing-related services and supplies, such as party and charter boats, and bait and tackle shops.

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, the Department of Environmental Management's Marine Fisheries Section 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, like this guide.

Getting people to and on the water is a top priority. We dedicate a significant portion of our funds to improving boating and fishing access. And we work hard to build, manage and maintain the many ramps, piers and other access sites that enable fishermen to launch their boats or get to their favorite spots along the shore.

Last spring, we completed a major upgrade to the boat ramp at Galilee, one of the most popular access sites in Rhode Island. Check it out! The improvements include a new, doublelane, extra-wide precast concrete boat ramp with two adjacent rows of floating docks. Also, the fixed pier walkway was elevated and expanded to provide access to the pier and floats for boaters with disabilities. An article on this successful project is included in this guide. Next on our list? Goddard State Park Boat Ramp.

Saltwater fishing for striped bass, summer flounder, bluefish, scup and other species is so important to Rhode Island. In addition to being fun for people of all ages, fishing is a great way to obtain fresh and healthy seafood. Recreational fishing is also an important economic driver, generating an overall economic impact of some \$208 million, and supporting more than 1,000 jobs. We are committed to expanding this special opportunity to explore the salty wonders of our state and also to providing a sustainable future for our precious marine resources.

Whether you are a local or a visitor, whether you've been fishing your whole life or are new to the sport, whether you enjoy the solitude of casting from shore or camaraderie with family and friends aboard a boat, whether you fish for fun or for food – the common denominator is that you are part of a time-honored tradition made possible by Rhode Island's diverse and abundant marine life.

I hope this guide enhances your recreational fishing experiences. Be safe, respect the great outdoors, and enjoy the magic of fishing in beautiful Rhode Island. Most importantly, HAVE FUN. Hope to see you on the water!

Savet BA

Janet Coit Director





### **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.

J.F. Griffin is an award winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish & wildlife regulation books. J.F. Griffin supports RIDFW's staff in the design, layout and editing of the guides. They also manage the marketing and sales of advertising to appropriate businesses within the book.

The revenue generated through ad sales significantly lowers production costs and generates savings. These savings translate into additional funds for other important fisheries and habitat programs.

If you have any feedback or are interested in advertising, please contact us at 413.884.1001 or online at www.JFGriffin.com

Designers: Jon Gulley, Erin Murphy, Evelyn Haddad, Chris Sobolowski and Dane Fay

On the cover: Cody Bellavance holding up two Block Island doormat Fluke caught aboard the F/V Priority Too Photo Credit: Rick Bellavance



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## Notable atches

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



**Tom Hamilton** 

holding a beautiful black sea bass caught aboard the C-Devil II



Sean Ross holding a big striped bass caught off of Block Island while onboard

the Fin Deep



Christina Samaha with a nice summer striped bass caught on board the L'il Toot



Pat Brown with a nice big eye tuna caught in September near "fish tails"



Joe Scichilone

with a 62.6 pound striped bass caught on the Straight Shooter



### **Darin Thibeault**

with a 318 pound thresher shark caught while fishing on the F/V Ashley Ann



### **Brian Sessions**

holding a nice tautog he caught while fishing on the Priority Too with Capt. Rick Bellavance

### Andy Thompson, John Lake, Eric and Ella Hayward

with some tautog and a cod caught at Ragged Reef on board the F/V Fortitude



Dan Costa

holding two big stripers he caught while fishing on the F/V Bare Bones with Captain Steve.



### Dave DeCubellis

from Jim's Dock with a giant bluefin caught during the tuna heydays of Point Judith

## General Information

### Our Mission...

The Division of Fish and Wildlife's 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 Fish and Wildlife 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 bottle1	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

## Interested in trying out a new data collection system?

Log your catch on 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 page to sign up and get started. For more information, please refer to page 10.





### Rhode Island Environmental Police – Division of Law Enforcement

#### Steven H. Hall, 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

## 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 posses a valid license from on of the states listed above.

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

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### e federal waters, anglers and spearfishers ation, OR a license from a reciprocal state. 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

- 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.

### **Aquatic Resource Education Program (ARE)**

The ARE program is an outreach and education program dedicated to teaching Rhode Islanders of all ages about the immense marine and freshwater resources that we have in our state. Federally funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Services's Sportfish Restoration fund and the Wallop-Breaux Act, this program provides a variety of educational opportunities including basic courses in saltwater recreational fishing, fly fishing and fly tying, family programs such as the Family Fishing Day on Prudence Island, as well as more advanced fishing opportunities such as the Fly Fishing Express. Additionally, the program educates school groups using traveling tide-pools, marine ecology field trips, and by training teachers state-wide in a variety of curricula including Project WILD/WILD Aquatic, Growing Up WILD, Project WET and WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands. The ARE program also facilitates aquaculture programs using anadromous fish in the popular Salmon in the Classroom and providing hatchery tours of our State hatcheries. Other programs include a fishing rod loan program and the First Fish Award. Educational materials such as the Common Saltwater Fish of Rhode Island poster, fishing pamphlets, and coloring books are provided to the public free of charge. All ARE programs are equipped for people with special needs. For more information, contact the ARE Program, RIDEM-Fish & Wildlife, Education Office (401) 539-0037 or kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov. Check us out on Facebook under RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife's Outdoor Education page!

### **First Fish Award Program**

First Fish Awards are available for children catching their first fish. To receive an award, an angler must have caught a qualifying fish by rod and reel, tie-up or hand-line by legal means in Rhode Island. First Fish Awards can be processed with information on the child's catch with-out official weigh-in station verification. If keeping a fish, legal sizes must be adhered to. Applications can be downloaded using this link: http://www.dem.ri.gov/topics/fwtopics.htm. First Fish Awards are sent as soon as possible. Please send completed applications to:

#### ARE Program

RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife 1B Camp E-Hun-Tee Place Exeter, RI 02882



For more information about the First Fish Award program, please contact Kimberly Sullivan at:

kimberly.sullivan@dem.ri.gov or (401) 539-0037



### Article: RIDFW Coastal Pond Juvenile Fish Survey

## Assessing the Fish Communities of Rhode Island's Coastal Ponds



#### By John Lake, Principal Marine Biologist, RIDFW

Tucked in behind the beaches stretching along Rhode Island's south shore lies some of the state's most beautiful inland marine waters; the coastal ponds. Technically lagoons, and locally called salt ponds, these water bodies are typically formed by barrier beaches with a connection to the ocean via an inlet. In Rhode Island, the salt ponds are popular outdoor recreational destinations which support a wide range of activities including swimming, fishing, clamming, birding and boating. But it's not just humans who inhabit the salt ponds; they are diverse ecosystems that provide habitat to a wide range of marine organisms. Many fish species call the coastal ponds home, baitfish live in the ponds year round and younger fish use them as a nursery during the warmer months. The shallow ponds offer a refuge from predators these fish would encounter more frequently in open water. The salt ponds are typically warmer than the ocean and can occasionally become a temporary home for wayward tropical fish that get trapped in the Gulf Stream and wind up in Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife (RIDFW) considers these ponds critical fish habitat and monitors the fish populations in the salt ponds annually with the Coastal Pond Juvenile Finfish Survey. This survey is funded by RI saltwater recreational license funds matched with US Fish and Wildlife Service Sportfish Restoration grant money.

The RIDFW Coastal Pond Juvenile Finfish Survey has been collecting data on fish populations in the salt ponds since 1993. The survey takes place between the months of May and October annually. Survey data is used to forecast recruitment in relation to the spawning stock biomass of winter flounder and other recreationally important species. Currently the ponds being sampled are Winnipaug, Quononchontaug, Ninigret, Point Judith Pond, Potter's, Green Hill, Little Narragansett Bay, and the Narrow River. The fish are collected with a 16 foot aluminum boat deploying a beach seine 130 ft. long, 5.5 ft deep with <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" mesh. The seine is set in a semi-circle, along the shoreline and hauled toward the beach by hand. All animals collected are identified to species, measured, and enumerated. Every effort is made to return the fish to the ponds alive. Water quality parameters temperature, salinity and dissolved oxygen, are measured at each station using an electronic sampling device.

A wide variety of fish and invertebrate species are encountered while sampling the ponds. Most of the fish caught in the seine are small between one to five inches. Baitfish species such as killifishes, mummichogs, herrings, and silversides are common in the ponds and likely prey items for other species of fish. Juvenile fish such as tautog, scup, black sea bass, bluefish and winter flounder inhabit the salt ponds as during the summer months. In act some juvenile fish such as winter flounder will return to the same ponds they hatched in to spawn and lay eggs in as adults. Tropical and subtropical visitors such as permit, pompano, puffers, snappers, groupers, and scad begin to show up in the ponds during the late summer. Many types of crabs and shrimp are also found in the ponds shifting through the sand and mud. Beware the blue crab can be a little feisty!





The data collected by sampling these fish is used to create indices of abundance by measuring catch per unit effort, in this case the number of fish per seine haul. These indices are useful for stock assessment and help determine the year class strength of resident species. This is not the only use for this type of data, its utility ranges from the small scale for evaluating proposed projects at specific locations on the ponds to the large scale by providing more comprehensive data for the creation of a state wide climate change plan. As the survey continues onward in time it continues to be a great long term data set very valuable for documenting annual and seasonal variations in the salt ponds. Long term datasets such as this are of great importance to the continuity of fisheries management because they provide comprehensive data on species assemblages, diversity and their associated habitats in the salt ponds. It is thus paramount that these types of projects continue into the future.

#### For more information about the RIDW Coastal Pond Survey please contact:

John Lake — Fort Wetherill Marine Fisheries Lab, Jamestown, RI 02835 Phone: (401) 423-1942 email: john.lake@dem.ri.gov

Top: Young of the year winter flounder, blue crab, juvenile blue runner Bottom: Setting the seine in Ninigret Pond

otos courtesy Chris Deacutis, Pat Brown, and Chris Mortime

### **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 guestions on the Game Fish Award Program, write to the address above or call (401) 789-0281.

### **Qualifying Weights/Lengths**

(Except First Fish Awards)

Saltwate	r	Freshwater		
Species	Weight/ Length	Species	Weight/ Length	
Striped Bass	50 lbs	Smallmouth	4 lbs	
Black Sea Bass	3 lbs	Bass	- 103	
Bluefish	18 lbs	Largemouth	6 lbs	
Bonito	10 lbs	Bass	0 1.00	
Cod	20 lbs	Bluegill	9 in	
Winter Flounder	2 lbs	Pumpkinseed	8 in	
Summer Flounder	8 lbs	Black Crappie	12 in	
King Mackerel	3 lbs	Yellow Perch	12 in	
Mackerel	1 lb	White Perch	15 in	
Yellowfin Tuna	125 lbs	White Catfish	4 lbs	
Pollack	15 lbs	white Cathsh	4 105	
Scup	21/2 lbs	Chain Pickerel	4 lbs	
Hickory Shad	5 lbs	Northern Pike	10 lbs	
Blue Shark	80 lbs		10 1.00	
Mako Shark	150 lbs	Brook Trout	2 lbs	
Swordfish	200 lbs	Brown Trout	3 lbs	
Squeteague	8 lbs			
Tautog	10 lbs	Rainbow Trout	3 lbs	
Bluefin Tuna	450 lbs	Brown	13 in	
White Marlin	70 lbs	Bullhead	13 11	

### Article: Public Access

## Galilee Boat Ramp

By Lauren Farley RIDEM, Division of Planning and Development



The Galilee boat ramp is an ideal location to start a day of recreation out on the water. It offers convenient boating access to both Point Judith pond and the ocean. Thanks to RIDEM and The Nature Conservancy the old ramp is new again operating at higher capacity.

In July 2014, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management opened the reconstructed Galilee Boat Ramp in Narragansett, one of Rhode Island's most popular boat ramps. Its location near the mouth of Point Judith Pond and Rhode Island Sound makes this an ideal spot to launch both recreational and commercial fishing boats. It is a vital element of the thriving port area. Joining DEM Director Janet Coit for the ribbon cutting event was Governor Lincoln Chafee, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Senator Jack Reed , Congressman Jim Langevin as well as other federal and local officials.

Improvements made at the Great Island Road facility include a new, double-lane, 60-foot wide pre-cast concrete boat ramp with two adjacent rows of floating docks. The project also included the elevation and expansion of an existing fixed pier walkway to provide access to the pier and floats for boaters with disabilities. Projects that will accommodate persons with mobility impairment is a priority during the design process. The new double-lane system with added floats greatly increased the efficiency and ease of use at the facility. Wait time for users of the ramp has been greatly reduced.

The original boat ramp at this site was developed as part of the Galilee North Basin Development project in the late 1980s, and a second launching lane was later installed in the early 1990s. Both had reached the end of their useful life and the new and upgraded ramp was a welcome improvement for fishing access in the state.

This is the second project credited to a successful new partnership between DEM and The Nature Conservancy that works to create and improve public access sites for fishing, boating, and hunting throughout Rhode Island. The team, comprised of members of both organizations, meet and collaborate frequently to prioritize, plan and design infrastructure that encourages Rhode Islanders and visitors to enjoy the state's abundant natural resources.

The boat ramp was designed by DEM Planning and Development staff, and the contractor for the \$723,814 project was Narragansett Dock Works of Narragansett. DEM received 75 percent of funding for the project from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration Program, matched with \$100,000 of RI saltwater recreational license funds and the value of state-owned land. Look out in 2015 for our next ramp improvement at Sakonnet Point!



## Fishing Knots

### These and more fishing knots are available on waterproof plastic cards at 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.



- 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.
- Slide tight against eye and clip tag end.



### **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.

- 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.
- 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.



### Article: SAFIS – Mobile

### SAFIS-M

## RI Party & Charter Boat Captains Can Report With Tablet Technology

By Ann McElhatton, ACCSP

Recognizing the value of tablet computers as a user-friendly reporting option, the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) and the Rhode Island Party and Charter Boat Association began collaborating with the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) in August 2013 to develop an application that would run on this affordable and readily available hardware. The ACCSP was the ideal organization to assist in launching this pilot project since the new application became a mobile extension of the existing eTRIPS application within the Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS).

A group of approximately 15 commercial and for-hire captains worked alongside DFW and ACCSP staff to design a harvester-friendly trip reporting tool that is functional on the various versions (e.g., Apple, Droid, Windows) of handheld devices. The tool is also flexible enough to handle entry of for-hire and commercial trips, since often captains have dual permits. Piloting the project in Rhode Island has also determined that data collected from the handheld device can be successfully and correctly submitted into the eTRIPS application of SAFIS. Rick Bellavance, Captain of Priority Too and President of the Rhode Island Party and Charter Boat Association, describes the innovate ability to report on a handheld device by stating, "ACCSP's new mobile reporting applica-

FLOUNDER, SUMMER (FLUKE)

tion for eTRIPS will revolutionize the way fishermen provide fisheriesdependent data. The software, designed with extensive input from active and experienced fishermen, is easy to use and saves time. It's the latest tool available to improve data quality and timeliness - a goal of fishermen everywhere."

This new mobile eTRIPS application removes some uncertainty resulting from recall errors that can occur when completing a log at the end of a fishing trip. Additional data such as vessel position and speed can be logged automatically through this application while lengths and dispositions of the catch can be key entered by captains as it comes aboard. This handheld application will increase data accuracy and make data available immediately to fisheries managers improving their ability to respond to changes in the fishery in a more timely way. John Lake, Principal Biologist with the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Marine Fisheries, is enthusiastic for the launch of the mobile application of eTRIPS as a management tool because he recognizes that there will be more flexibility in the management of the party and charter boat sector in state waters (0-3 miles from shore). He explains, "Every year, it's a delicate balance to create realistic recreational regulations on species for party and charter boat operators that are not also too liberal for general recreational anglers. Essentially, DFW would like to be able to establish different size and bag limits that are appropriate for the two recreational sectors. It's been done in the past, in fact with tautog and scup. However, we've run into the issue of not having good data from the party and charter boat operators to document what they are catching. For instance, the for-hire survey data is a good first step, but increasingly management would like to see more of a census approach for the party and charter boat sector. This type of trip level data collected from the mobile application greatly aids in the accounting of catch and analysis of how the regulations are working. DFW has been using this approach, with SAFIS eLogbook, for the popular tautog season on party and charter boats with good results." He also added that "From a stock assessment point of view, DFW is optimistic that the discard data generated from the new mobile application would fill a gap for party and charter boat discard data which is currently not collected. And lastly, captains would like more efficiency in data reporting and the ability to report online as opposed to paper. Most of the party and charter boat captains in Rhode Island have federal vessel trip requirements. Everyone sees the mobile application as a good first step to allowing them to report that data online, meet federal requirements, as well as giving DFW more

timely access to the data. Overall, better data, better decisions."





### What is SAFIS?

The Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS) is a real-time, web-based reporting system for landings on the Atlantic coast. It has been used to collect over 56 million landings records since first being implemented by Rhode Island in February 2003. Currently, SAFIS has four applications available to dealers, harvesters, or anglers. Each of these applications function independently, but are kept in the same database and share ACCSP-compliant standards and codes. The applications include:

- 1. ELECTRONIC DEALER REPORTING (eDR): eDR is a web-based application that allows dealers to enter an electronic dealer report. Fields that must be entered for a completed report include fisherman, port, date landed, time landed, date purchased, vessel number, species, disposition, gear, quantity, and price.
- 2. SINGLE TRIP TICKET DEALER REPORTING (e-1Ticket): e-1Ticket is a web-based application providing the ability to collect trip/effort/catch data and simultaneously create a dealer report.
- 3. ELECTRONIC TRIP REPORTING (eTRIPS): eTRIPS is a web-based application that compiles catch and effort data from fishermen. Trip reports, or log books in some fisheries, provide catch and effort data from a permitted fishing entity (fishermen or a vessel) or a single vessel. Trips may be categorized as commercial or party/charter.
- 4. VOLUNTARY RECREATIONAL LOGBOOKS (eLogbook): eLogbook is a web-based application that collects data from private recreational anglers on a voluntary basis. eLogbook formulates summaries of information on all species caught by the angler. This valuable tool is a way to provide narrow strategies for any given set of conditions and is a more efficient way for anglers to take a look at the past and save the daily entries.



For more information about SAFIS, please visit: http://www.accsp.org/safis.htm





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11

### 2015 Recreational Regulations

### 2015 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	14"	July 2 - Aug. 31	1 fish/person/day
Black Sea Bass		Sept. 1 - Dec 31	7 fish/person/day
Bluefish	No minimum	Open year round	15 fish/person/day
Cod	22"	Open year round	10 fish /person/day
River Herring (alewives and blueback herring) & American Shad	Not applicable	CLOSED	Not applicable
Scup (shore and private / rental boat)	10"	May 1 - Dec. 31	30 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 at Fort Wetherill in Jamestown, anglers may possess up to 30 scup, 9 inches or greater in length, from May 1 through December 31.

		May 1 - Aug. 31	30 fish/person/day				
Scup (party & charter)	10"	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)	18"	May 1 - Dec. 31	8 fish/person/day				
		Apr. 15 - May 31	3 fish/person/day				
Tautog (Blackfish)	16"	June 1 - July 31	Closed				
Max of 10 fish/ves/day during all periods,except licensed party / charter boats	10	Aug 1 - Oct. 17	3 fish/person/day				
auning an periods, except neersed party / enancer boats		Oct. 18 - Dec. 15	6 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				
······································							

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



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## State **Records**

### Rhode Island State Records for Saltwater Species

Species	Weight	Length	Date	Location	Angler
Black Sea Bass	8 lbs., 7.25 oz.	26"	Oct. 1981	Block Island	K. McDuffie Pascoag, RI
Striped Bass	77 lbs. 6.4 oz.	52"	June 2011 Block Island		P. Vican East Greenwich, RI
Bluefish	26 lbs.	39"	Aug. 1981		D. Deziel Woonsocket, RI
Bonito	13 lbs.		Oct. 1995	Westerly	R. Gliottone Exeter, RI
Cod	71 lbs.		June 1965		M. Deciantis Warwick, RI
Summer Flounder	17 lbs., 8 oz.		1962	Narrow River	G. Farmer Warwick, RI
Winter Flounder	6 lbs., 7 oz.	23"	Aug. 1990	Galilee	A. Pearson Cranston, RI
King Mackerel	12 lbs., 3 oz.	40"	Aug. 2000	Pt. Judith Lighthouse	A. Camilleri Chester, CT
Atlantic Mackerel	OPEN				
Pollock	28 lbs., 8 oz.		May 1995		A. Jacobs Lincoln, RI
Scup	5 lbs.	20 1⁄4"	Oct. 1990	Block Island	J. Yurwitz Block Island, RI
American Shad	6 lbs., 8 oz.	25"	Apr. 1985	Runnins River	W. Socha Warren, RI
Hickory Shad	2 lbs., 11 oz.	20"	Nov. 1989	Narrow River	M. Pickering Lincoln, RI
Blue Shark	431 lbs., 2 oz.	151"	Nov. 2006	Cox Ledge	G. Kross Fairfield, N.J
Mako Shark	718 lbs.	10' 6"	June 1993	S. Block Island	W. Alessi Boston, MA
Swordfish	314 lbs.		June 1964		W. Goodwin Warwick, RI
Squeteague	16 lbs. 8.72 oz.	36"	May 2007	Greenwich Bay	R. Moeller North Kingstown, RI
Tautog	21 lbs., 4 oz.		Nov. 1954	Jamestown	C.W. Sunquist
Bluefin Tuna	1142 lbs., 12 oz.		Sept. 1981	Block Island	J. Dempsey
Yellowfin Tuna	265 lbs.	6′	Oct. 1997	The Dip	R. Hughes Arlington, MA
Tiger Shark	597 lbs.	11' 6"	July 1990	S. of Block Island	M.P. Strout Auburn, MA
White Marlin	125 lbs.	8' 1⁄2"	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.

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## Article: Fisheries Research

## A State Partnership for the Benefit of RI's Marine Resources

By Jason McNamee, Supervising Marine Biologist, RIDFW

#### What is the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Institute (RIMFI)?

On May 5th of 2014, a new marine fisheries focused state partnership was rolled out to the public. The Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Institute (RIMFI) was created as a partnership between the University of Rhode Island, the RI Department of Environmental Management's (RIDEM) Division of Fish and Wildlife - Marine Fisheries Section (DFW), and the RI fishing community. The partnership was developed to focus existing state assets and expertise on the multidisciplinary field of marine fisheries. Through cooperative partnerships with the RIDEM, URI, and the fishing community, the RIMFI enhances the State's ability to positively affect marine fisheries research and management.

#### What's unique about the RIMFI?

The idea behind the RIMFI is to accomplish tractable research relevant to RI's marine fisheries interests through a rigorous and holistic approach. A unique aspect of this initiative is that the fishing community is a critical partner in driving the agenda and participating in the research projects. The RI fishing community is diverse, and the RIMFI will seek to bolster research on issues important for the whole community, recreational and commercial alike, and will seek to find a balance between these interests in the state with the projects that are undertaken. When taken all together the overarching mission of the RIMFI will be to promote sustainable fisheries by providing the timely and relevant information needed to protect, conserve, and manage RI's marine

and coastal resources by accounting for the scientific, economic, legal, and social aspects that are pervasive through most marine fisheries problems.

#### What's the structure of the RIMFI?

The structure of the RIMFI links the DFW, URI, and the fishing community together to enhance their collective influence and effect on marine fisheries research, which can have effects both in RI and along the East Coast. The RIMFI has a Coordinating Commission consisting of two appointed officials from RIDEM and two from URI. Each organization will also appoint one co-chair to help manage the logistics of the institute. The Commission is scheduled to convene 3 times a year (currently set as a January, May, and September



Left: A female post spawn winter flounder. Below: A juvenile lobster caught in a vent less lobster trap



2015 Rhode Island Saltwater Regulation Guide





schedule) to review existing projects, to discuss workload issues, and future research initiatives and opportunities. The meeting locations will rotate, using space at the URI main campus, the URI Narragansett Bay Campus, and the DFW marine lab in Jamestown. As the initiative begins to develop projects, it is hoped that additional symposia can be developed by the RIMFI to review and vet current complex topics of interest.

### Why do we need the RIMFI and will it work?

The development of the RIMFI formalizes the concept of creating an organization which allows for increased access by the fishing community to their state researchers and an ability to help drive the agenda towards the most relevant and important research topics for the state's fishing community. In addition, it creates a recognizable name that can be used consistently through time, creating a track record, which is important when seeking out competitive research funding. This formal collaboration allows both the University and RI DEM to pursue funding opportunities that neither entity could likely obtain independently.

There is reason to believe the initiative can be successful given past collaborative endeavors in the state such as the lobster shell disease project, the shellfish disease survey, habitat and resource mapping of Narragansett Bay, collaborative studies on species of mutual interest (mantis shrimp, winter flounder), and the ventless lobster pot survey. In addition to these past collaborations, a number of new initiatives have been developed such as the RI Sea Grant initiative that focused on shellfish, during which the DFW and URI developed three separate projects.

#### Have you initiated any projects?

The collaborative has just gotten underway, but the RIMFI has already embarked on two important projects. A proposal was submitted to RI Sea Grant to do some contemporary research on winter flounder in Narragansett Bay. This project came forward as a priority for recreational fishermen in the state, and the recreational community is an important partner in the proposed project. In addition to important research on winter flounder, the RIMFI will also be putting forward a proposal to do fundamental biological research on Jonah crabs. This came forward as a priority from our commercial industry, and as the Atlantic Coast begins to embark on management of this developing fishery, underlying science will become a critical piece of information needed to make this management successful. And the partnership with commercial Jonah crab fishermen for this project will be essential.

It is hoped that this collaboration will continue and grow in the coming years, and will become an important piece of our marine fisheries infrastructure in RI. Marine resources are critically important to the "Ocean State", and this collaboration recognizes this importance and seeks to bring the full resources at the state's disposal to researching and answering the most critical questions we have about our marine environment.

#### How can I get involved?

The easiest way to get involved is to attend one of the three meetings held each year. The meeting announcements are posted via University and RI Marine Fisheries Listserves. Anyone can sign up to receive informational notices via RI Marine Fisheries Listserve, which is administered by the RI DEM DFW. A link can be found at the bottom of the DFW webpage (http:// www.dem.ri.gov/topics/mftopics.htm). A website for the RIMFI is in the works, but until then more information is available by contacting the DFW at 401-423-1923.







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## TIPS TO REDUCE CATCH-AND-RELEASE MORTALITY Barotrauma!

By John Lake, Principal Marine Biologist, RIDFW

### Floaters around your boat? You can help save them by descending them back down!

Rhode Island marine anglers who fish the deeper water are often faced with looking over the side of the boat and seeing their released fish bobbing around on the top of the water like floating balloons. This is not only unsightly; it causes mortality of released fish, and can leave a bad wasteful impression in an anglers mind after an otherwise successful fishing trip.



Westcoast rockfish with barotrauma effects (pop eyes and protruding stomach)



Utility crate fish descending device



Inverted barbless hook with weight

Descending devices are conservation tools that can be used to return fish to deep water and alleviate the "balloon" trail behind your vessel. Descending devices not only get the fish off of the surface, they can increase survival of the deep water caught fish that anglers wish to return to the water. They are becoming more common in use on the West, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic Coasts, and could prove beneficial for some of our east coast fisheries, especially in the Mid-Atlantic Area, for black sea bass, tautog, and tilefish, all species that are typically caught in more the 60 feet of water.

When fish are brought up from deep water, they often suffer from barotrauma. Similar to the bends that scuba divers sometimes experience, barotrauma is the trauma caused by the expanding gases in the body from changes in barometric pressure as a body rises too rapidly to the surface. Fish with barotrauma effects, may look stiff and dead, have extended eyes (pop eyes), enlarged air bladder which results in the stomach forces out through the esophagus. Yes, that's the stomach, not the air bladder. People often mistake the protruding stomach for the air bladder and puncture it, which is very injurious to the fish.

Barotrauma effects restrict a fish from swimming back down when released at the surface. Thus, it leaves them floating helpless on the surface subject to pry by birds, other fish, or dangerous surface conditions such as warmer water than they are used to. Some fish may eventually work their way back down, but, needless to say, many of these thrown back, bloated surface floaters, will not survive. To deal with the floaters, some anglers will "vent" the fish. Venting is done by sticking a needle into the side of the fish to puncture its body cavity and release the expanded gases in it. In many cases venting will allow the fish to swim back down, and is a quick way to reduce floaters if you are catching lots of fish that you need to release quickly. However, venting can leave the fish subject to internal injuries, infections, and attraction of predators.

Descending devices, in some cases, are a better method than venting. These devices allow you to return a fish to the depth you caught it, without puncturing and causing more serious injury. Simply getting the fish down to the depth it was taken from allows water pressure to expel, or recompress, the expanded gases in their bodies as they are descended, and many fish reassume normal behavioral activities quite soon after their underwater release. Studies on west coast rockfish have demonstrated high survival rates for descended fish with some fish surviving the barotrauma effects of being caught from hundreds of feet below the surface.

Some descending devices are simple tools that can be made at home with inexpensive materials. One such device is a weight with an inverted barbless hook (facing down) so it can be jerked upwards out of the fish when it reaches the bottom. Another easily constructed device to descend fish down is a weighted utility "milk" crate with a long rope. These are also available for purchase at some tackle shops or marine supply stores.

Very importantly, anglers who descend fish must not forget proper fish handling at the surface. Removing hooks quickly if hooked in the lip or mouth, or by cutting the line if the fish has swallowed the hooked to deeply, handling the fish gently as possible, and getting it back into the water quickly, will greatly enhance the ability of all released fish to survive, especially the ones that have to contend with barotrauma effects. NOAA reports that 60 percent of the fish caught by marine anglers are released back to the water (that's 207 million fish in 2011). A common theme when requesting feedback from experienced anglers about their observations of the general fishing community is that the majority of anglers are not releasing fish correctly. Needless to say, greater conservation benefits would accrue to all or recreational fish stocks if more anglers would use proper fish release methods, and any efforts to reduce mortality by descending fish after poor surface handling would be less effective.

So, the next time you come across an old utility crate, consider putting some rope and weight on it, rig up your own inverted hook and weight release device, or take a look in a catalog for fish descending devices, and add them to your fishing gear. Try them out on your next deep water fishing trip. Most importantly, let the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries section and fisheries researchers know how useful and workable you find the devices. You then could consider yourself to be a Descender Pioneer for east coast conservation efforts to improve the release survival of deep water caught fish!

## 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	Мау	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Black Sea Bass												
Bluefish												
Cod												
False Albacore / Bonito												
Hickory Shad												
Mackerel												
Scup												
Squid												
Striped Bass												
<b>Summer Flounder</b> (Fluke)												
<b>Tautog</b> (Blackfish)												
Winter Flounder												
POOR	GOOD		GRE	AT	S	EASON C	LOSED					

### 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 Incorrect Way to Determine Total Length Measurement

### Commonly Caught Species

Illustrations by Roberta Calore, All rights reserved.

### **Common Fish**



Winter flounder (Blackback)

Scientific Name: Pseudopleuronectes americanus Identification: Nearly straight lateral line and blunt snout. Eyes on right side.



**Black Sea Bass** 

Scientific Name: Centropristis striata Identification: Gray, brown or blueblack. Rounded caudal fin.



Weakfish (Squeteague)

Scientific Name: Cynoscion regalis Identification: Long second dorsal fin, slender body and absent chin barbel.



### Pollock

**Scientific Name:** *Pollachius virens* **Identification:** Forked tail, projecting lower jaw and greenish color without spots.



### Summer flounder (Fluke)

Scientific Name: Paralichthys dentatus Identification: Eyes on left side. Large mouth with teeth.



**Striped Bass** 

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



### Scup (Porgy)

Scientific Name: Stenotomus chrysops Identification: Silvery, iridescent. Concave dorsal profile, small teeth and lunate pointed tail.



Tautog (Blackfish)

### 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.



#### Atlantic cod

Scientific Name: Gadus morhua Identification: Pale lateral line, chin barbel, large eyes, square tipped tail and spotted color pattern.



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 purplebrown 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.

### **Common Shellfish**



**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.



### **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**

Distinctive egg case.

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



### **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/boatlnch.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
Westerly	1	Main Street	Main St., concrete slab ramp	4 ft.
	2	Quonochontaug Breachway	Off West Beach Rd., concrete plank ramp	3 ft.
Charlestown	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
Narragansett	5	Galilee	Corner of Galilee Rd. and Great Island Rd., southeast side of Great Island Bridge. Linked concrete planks — double ramp	4 ft.
	7	Monahan's Dock	East side of Ocean Rd., at South Pier Rd., concrete — steep drop	3 - 4 ft.
South Kingstown	o INdriow River		Off Pettaquamscutt Rd., between Middle Bridge Rd. and Bridgetown Rd. , concrete planks.	3 ft.
	8	Marina Park	Route 1., concrete slabs	N/A
Newport	9	Fort Adams	Off Harriston Ave.	3 ft.
Middletown	10	Third Beach	Concrete ramp. Parking fee when beach is open	N/A
Little Compton	11	Sakonnet Point	Sakonnet Point Rd. (Rt. 77). North side of Town Landing Rd., linked concrete planks	2 ft.
North Kingstown	12	Wilson Park	East end of Intrepid Dr., off Post Rd., Rt. 1, near fire station. Linked concrete plank — moderately steep	3 ft.
	13	Weaver Cove	On Burma Road. South of Melville complex	4 ft.
Portsmouth	16	Gull Cove	Rte. 138. Linked concrete planks	2 ft.
	17	Stone Bridge	Off Rt. 138 at junction of Park Ave and Point Rd., at Teddy's Beach	3 ft.
Tiverton	14	Fogland	End of Fogland Rd., at High Hill Rd. Linked concrete planks	
Prudence Island	15	Homestead	On Prudence Island, off Narragansett Ave., north of Prudence Variety	
East Greenwich	18	Greenwich Cove	Pole #6, Crompton Ave.	N/A
	19	Independence Park	At the foot of Church St., off of Rt.114	N/A
Bristol	21	Colt State Park	Off of Hope St. (Rt. 114), concrete ramp	
	22	Annawanscutt	Annawanscutt Dr., off Metacom Ave. (Rt. 136), past Veteran's Home. Linked concrete planks	>2 ft.
Warren	24	Warren	West side of Water St., at Wheaton St., cement slab	N/A
	20	Oakland Beach	Warwick Cove. Oakland Beach Ave. Take last left. East Side of Oakland Beach. Concrete ramp	<4 ft.
Warwick	23	Conimicut Point	Northeast end of Shawomet Ave., off Symonds Ave. Linked concrete ramp	<2 ft.
	25	Gaspee Point	Passeonkquis Cove. Southwest end of Gaspee Point Dr., off Narragansett Pkwy. Concrete and asphalt ramp	2 ft.
Barrington	26	Haines Park	On Bullock's Cove, off Metropolitan Park Dr. Concrete slab	4 ft.
barnington	27	Barrington	Off of Rt. 114 North. Cement Slab	N/A
	27	Sabin Point Park	Off Bullock's Point Ave. Hard packed sand	N/A
East Providence	30	Bold Point	Off Veteran's Memorial Pkwy., via Mauran Ave. at the end of Pier Rd. Concrete slab	4 ft.
Providence	29	Collier Park	Concrete Slab	N/A
	31	Old State Pier	End of Tim Healey Way, off of School St. (Rt. 114). Concrete slab	N/A
Pawtucket	32	Pawtucket	East Side of Taft St., just south or 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)



### **Blue Crabs**

 State Residents Only – no license needed

#### 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
- 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.

### 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.





Department of Environmental Management

## Safe Shellfish Handling

## 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/shellfsh.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 or 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 shall 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, nonresident 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 Transplant Bed, 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

### 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/ shellfsh.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 5.38 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

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### Article: Habitat Conservation

ATLANTIC COASTAL FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

## Protecting Eelgrass Using Conservation Moorings: A Pilot Project

ELANTIC COASTAL

By Christopher Powell, Roger Williams University, Vice-Chair of the Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership

Eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) is an extremely valuable spawning and nursery habitat for a variety of fish and invertebrate species. Much of the seafood we enjoy spends some portion of its life in an eelgrass bed. Unfortunately, today the acreage of eelgrass in Rhode Island marine waters is only a fraction of historic levels. A 2013 report indicated that Rhode Island has approximately 1300 total acres of eelgrass, with Narragansett Bay having only about 504 acres. Over the years efforts have been made to restore eelgrass habitat in Rhode Island and regulations have been promulgated to protect this valuable resource.

One area of concern is the impact of existing mooring fields on eelgrass beds. When located in eelgrass, traditional mooring systems create a halo (loss of eelgrass) around the mooring anchor or block caused by the sweep of the chain along the bottom with shifting winds and tides.

In an effort to reduce this impact the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) provided grants to fund the retrofitting traditional mooring systems with conservation mooring technology.

The Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership, an organization of member states from Maine to Florida, received a \$20,000 grant to retrofit traditional mooring systems with conservation moorings. Conanicut Island located in lower Narragansett Bay with almost 60 acres of healthy eelgrass and a number of moorings impacting this valuable habitat was selected for the conservation mooring project.

The Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership is partnering with the Rhode Island Division of Fish & Wildlife, Town of Jamestown Conservation Commission, Clarks Boat Yard, Conanicut Marine Services, Inc., Jamestown Boat Yard and the Aquidneck Mooring Company to protect fish habitat around Conanicut Island. Four traditional boat mooring systems will be replaced this spring with alternative conservation moorings. These moorings will be monitored this summer to evaluate the recovery of eelgrass habitat to the impacted area. The increase in eelgrass will not only benefit the fish and invertebrate communities, it will benefit all who enjoy this wonderful resource, Narragansett Bay.

### Importance of eelgrass habitat

Eelgrass is an extremely valuable spawning and nursery habitat for a variety of fish and invertebrate species, including winter flounder, summer flounder, and bay scallop. It is also an important species at the bottom of the food chain. Eelgrass habitat has been declining throughout the Northeast due to poor water quality, increased turbidity and physical alterations such as dredging, filling, and boating related activities.



noto courtesy of Chris Pickerell, CCE



### What are conservation moorings?

A conservation mooring is a mooring system designed to avoid contact with the seafloor, thereby reducing physical damage to eelgrass. The system uses an elastic connection, akin to a bungee cord, to connect the surface buoy with the anchoring device. This eliminates any chain sweep that physically damages or eliminates the eelgrass. Depending on the seafloor, helical (i.e. screw-like) anchors may be used to replace traditional concrete mooring blocks. These significantly reduce the environmental footprint within the eelgrass habitat, and allow for eelgrass growth in the previously affected area.

### Impacts to eelgrass habitat from moorings

Eelgrass habitat is vulnerable to a number of boating related activities, including prop damage and the use of traditional chain moorings. When placed within or adjacent to eelgrass beds, traditional chain moorings can severely damage habitat through physical removal of the eelgrass shoots, causing a "haloing" effect. Additionally, disturbance to the seafloor by mooring chains suspends sediment, increasing turbidity which reduces water clarity. This diminishes the amount of light penetration critically important to eelgrass growth and survival.



STOP The Spread of Aquatic 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



2015 Rhode Island Saltwater Regulation Guide

## Article: Cooking the Catch

## CHEF'S CORNER New England Fish Tacos

By Pat Brown, RIDFW

Looking for recipe with a fresh take on your catch? Try out these fish tacos!











This is for those of you who venture off to the vast blue water arena that abuts our state's coastline. The recipe is quite versatile and can accommodate fish caught on rock piles near shore or offshore in the distant ocean canyons. Proper fishing practices are the best way to start. After a successful trip pay close attention to properly cleaning and icing your catch to reduce risk of ruining the meat or even worse allowing bacteria to grow. I tend to immediately bleed the fish once it hits the deck, and then try to pack in ice soon after. When time allows and after the pictures are taken for a keepsake, I set up my fillet station and start slicing. A clean sharp set of knives is a must alongside of a cutting board, and a bucket of saltwater to rinse and bags. Once the cutting is done, I repack the bags of fillets on ice in coolers and leave it until the boat is back at the dock. Nothing beats fresh fish, so we always cook some up in the days following, what remains gets vacuum sealed and stuffed in the freezer for later. Doing this reminds us of the seasons' past catches and gives a taste of the ocean's bounty during those colder months that we as fisherman often find ourselves day dreaming of screaming drags and bent rods. Below is a quick recipe that is one of my favorites:

Total Time: 45 min Yield: 4 servings

#### Ingredients:

- Fish: 2 filets (~1 lb) from white fleshed fish (Black Sea Bass, Fluke, Cod, Mahi, etc.)
- Tortillas or Taco shells which ever you prefer
- Blended shredded cheese
- Hot Sauce

#### Fish Seasoning:

- 1 Tbsp. Chili Powder
- 1/4 tsp. Garlic Powder
- 1/4 tsp. Onion Powder
- 1/4 tsp. Crushed Red Pepper Flakes
- 1/4 tsp. Dried Oregano
- 1/2 tsp. Paprika
- 1 1/2 tsp. Ground Cumin
- 1 tsp. Sea Salt
- 1 tsp. Black Pepper (optional)

#### Salsa:

- 1 Avocado- coarsely chopped
- 1 cup pineapple or more, coarsely chopped
- 2 Roma Tomatoes, seeded & coarsely chopped
- ½ Cucumber, skinned & diced
- 1 small sweet onion, diced
- 2-3 Celery Stalks, diced
- 1 jalapeño pepper, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 Tsp Brown Sugar
- Garnish with Fresh Cilantro

#### Directions:

Mix all Salsa ingredients first to let sit and marinate in the fridge while fish is being prepared. Debone Fillets, rinse and pat dry. Season to your liking with above seasoning ingredients (taco seasoning packets from the grocery store can also be used in place to save time). Heat non-stick pan on medium to high heat and add 1 Tablespoon of Cooking Oil. Lay fillets in pan and cook until turning white and flaking apart (usually about 5 min). I tend to add additional seasoning at this stage while using spatula to mince the fish while it cooks. Once cooked, remove from heat and set aside. Warm up Taco shells or Tortillas in oven. Lay out shells and tortillas on plates and divide fish and salsa evenly, then garnish with cheese, hot sauce, refried beans or whatever else you may prefer. Pairs well with white wine or craft beer of your liking, Enjoy!



## 2015 Tide Table – Newport, RI

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

 $\bullet$  = New Moon  $\bigcirc$  = Full Moon

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

### **Tidal Differences**

Providence, RI	Plus 13 minutes
Warwick, RI	Plus 13 minutes
Portsmouth, RI	Plus 8 minutes
Wickford, RI	Plus 3 minutes
Sakonnet Point, RI	Less 9 minutes

Narragansett, RI	Less 11 minutes
Point Judith, RI	Same as Tide Chart
Westerly, RI	Plus 41 minutes
Block Island, RI	Less 13 minutes

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Swimming Plug (Pradco Red Fin)



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