

## Plymouth County League of Sportsmen

### Marine Fisheries Report

Wankinquoah Rod & Gun Club  
92 Pine Street, Middleboro MA 02346

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

If any of you want to contact me re MDMF issues: [Ross.kessler@state.ma.us](mailto:Ross.kessler@state.ma.us)

### GENERAL NEWS

- We have a new MassWildlife commissioner, Ron Amidon who replaces George Peterson. George Peterson was recently awarded the Francis Sargent Conservation Award.

### PUBLIC ACCESS

- **Deer Island-** putting the final pieces together. Now all we need is money. There is a line item for the pier in a supplemental budget from the governor's office.
- **Wareham-** Deal Collapsed over buried tank on property. We are taking a wait and see approach on the property at this point. I would like to take time to extend a thank you to certain members of the PCL: Paul Johnson, Randy Parker, Bruce Westgate, and John Fabroski. Without you we may have stepped into an unknown liability.
- **Salem-** At a crossroads. Borings showed that pilings need to be 'socketed' in. This will add up to \$500K to the cost of the project. Exploring options. Initial budget was about \$1million. We are now approaching \$2million.
- **Fall River-** I'd like to slide in a Fall River pier (terminus of Remington St., next to bicentennial Park) while we figure out how we want to fund the Salem Willows project. I think the cost of this project would be <\$500K.
- **Small Grant:** Applications are in. We should be making our recommendations to the Governors office within the next two weeks.

### FISHERIES

- The DMF fishing Derby goes until the end of November. Get your measured or weighed fish to us.
- DMF is currently exploring new tautog management. MA and RI may combine efforts under one mgmt unit. The current proposal would mean that for both MA and RI The bag limit would be as follows:
  - April-May (4), Jun-Sep (MA 1, RI 0), Oct-Nov (4). \*\*\*\*\*DRAFT REGS NOT OFFICIAL\*\*\*\*\*
- A commercial tog tagging project will commence next year. Commercially caught tautog will require some type of tag to identify them as legitimately caught commercial fish. This tagging is similar to striped bass tagging. The difficulty in tautog tagging is that the fish are brought to the market live more often than not.
- The current tautog R&R survey wraps up this fall. The results of the R&R survey are showing greater than expected abundance in Buzzards Bay and Vineyard sound.
- Striped bass Tagging is now complete. The tally for 2017 was 480 fish tagged over 10 trips.

