

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

MAY 2025

Marine Resources Administration Staff:

Joseph Cimino, Administrator- MRA

Russell Babb, Chief - BMHS

Jeffrey Brust, Chief - BMF

Heather Corbett, Supervising Biologist

Jeffrey Normant, Supervising Biologist

Craig Tomlin, Supervising Biologist

Michael Celestino, Research Scientist I

Colleen Brust, Research Scientist II

Jessica Gorzo, Research Scientist II

Peter Clarke, Principal Biologist

Maryellen Gordon, Principal Biologist

Gregory Hinks, Principal Biologist

Brian Neilan, Principal Biologist

Scott Stueber, Principal Biologist

Jenny Tomko, Principal Biologist

Jamie Darrow, Senior Biologist

Brendan Harrison, Senior Biologist

Andrew Hassall, Senior Biologist

Matt Heyl, Senior Biologist

Amber Johnson, Senior Biologist

Chad Power, Senior Biologist

Jen Pyle, Senior Biologist

Stacy VanMorter, Senior Biologist

Alissa Wilson, Senior Biologist

Michael Auriemma, Assistant Biologist

Nina Colagiovanni, Assistant Biologist

Conor Davis, Assistant Biologist

Danielle Dyson, Assistant Biologist

Les Frie, Assistant Biologist

Tyler Harris, Assistant Biologist

Megan Swain, Environmental Specialist II

Richard DiVaccaro, Environmental Specialist I

Anya Phelps, Environmental Services Trainee

Jessica Daher, Program Specialist

William Maxwell, Technician I

William Barker, Technician II

Shana Fehring, Technician II

Chuck Karr, Technician II

Jonathan Klotz, Technician II

Jake Babb, Senior Wildlife Worker

Liia Carpenter, Senior Wildlife Worker

Michael Lindner, Senior Wildlife Worker

Brielle Colledge, Wildlife Worker

Michael Swist, Wildlife Worker

Lauren Strazzeri, Permit Coordination Officer I

Karen Bates, Technical Assistant II

Natalie Dragos, Agency Services Rep I

Kathryn Ford, Agency Services Rep I

Mackenzie Peacock, ASMFC Fisheries Biologist

Ryan Alianell, ASMFC Fisheries Technician

Sharon Otto, ASMFC Fisheries Technician

Joseph Shehata, ASMFC Fisheries Technician

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

****MARINE FISHERIES/MRA****

ASMFC/MAFMC/COOP/NOAA/ACCSP

- Entered Weak Rope Survey data from April 2024 to April 2025, totaling over 1,300 sets from six different vessels. Awaiting last month's data to begin analysis; collaborating with NJ Commercial staff on this.
- Partnering with New Jersey whale watch organizations to create a marine mammal sightings database to support environmental reviews, the Landscape Project, and the State Wildlife Action Plan.
- Staff submitted New Jersey's data to the Delaware River Cooperative to be included in the 2024 Fishing Year Shad and River Herring Compliance Report for the Delaware River Basin. New Jersey landed a record low 7.5 pounds of American shad from the Delaware Bay. The tidal young of the year seine survey index value used for management purposes was above the benchmark and time series average.
- While working on this year's cobia compliance report staff noticed a discrepancy between what the ASMFC has listed as our region's default rec regulations and what NJ has on the books. NJ implemented what the Board formally voted on which is the 43" size limit and 2 fish vessel limit, but apparently there was supposed to be a 1 fish per person possession limit as well which was not explicitly mentioned for former de minimis states. Staff is now drafting a NOAC in order to add the one fish per person limit to our regs. NJ is not the only former de minimis state in this boat, as RI and DE are having the same issue.
- Staff fielded and responded to multiple reports of deceased sturgeon ranging from Pt. Pleasant to Ocean City this week. One of the sturgeon was fresh dead upon collection and after being worked up by BMF staff contacted the Office of Fish and Wildlife Health and Forensics which has been interested in collecting fresh dead sturgeon for baseline population health studies and now has an approved NMFS permit to do so. BMF staff have coordinated with OFWHF for them to pick up the frozen sturgeon.

MEETING SUMMARIES

- **Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program-ACCSP**
 - Staff attended the open sessions of the second NOAA-sponsored Consensus Study on a Peer Review of the Marine Recreational Information Program Data Standards.
- **Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission-ASMFC**
 - Administration staff participated in a call of the ERP-WG to discuss progress on each of the models under consideration. The group was able to come to consensus on base models for all models as well as a preferred model for ERPs. The timeline is tight for final writeups, and ERP-WG review, but the group is optimistic. The peer review is scheduled for August 2025, with presentation to the Policy Board at their annual meeting in October.
 - Administration staff submitted NJ's ASMFC compliance report for bluefish for the 2024 fishing year (2024 calendar year). NJ met its biological sampling requirement (min 100 ages). NJ's commercial harvest was the lowest in many years (and 75% lower than the prior year). Recreational harvest (kept fish only, by number) was the lowest on record, and catch (which includes kept + released fish) was the 2nd lowest in the time series. The index of juvenile abundance from the Delaware River seine survey was at about the median of the timeseries. All monitoring programs will continue, and a stock assessment is scheduled for summer 2025 to provide management advice for the stock.
 - Administration staff participated in a conference call of the ecological reference points working group (ERP-WG). The goal of the meeting was to review model updates from all models and recommend a preferred and supporting models. Modelling is a little farther behind than expected, and one modeler was unable to attend the call. We do not have a base run for any model, nor do we have a final decision on preferred/supporting models, though we are tantalizingly close on both. The

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

group is undeterred and will march onwards compressing the future timeline to accommodate these setbacks. The review is scheduled for August 2025 and will be presented to the Board at their annual meeting.

- Participated in On-Demand Gear Framework meetings. The PDT/FMAT is working on a draft, with hopes to finalize the action plan by late fall. The next meeting is scheduled for June.
- **Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council-MAFMC**
 - On May 20, staff attended the Tilefish Monitoring Committee (MC) via webinar. The MC reviewed the Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) 92 blue-line tilefish operational assessment as well as recent fishery performance and management recommendations from the Advisory Panel, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), and Council staff for blue-line and golden tilefish. The MC reviewed the 2026 catch and landing limits for golden tilefish and recommended 2026 commercial and recreational Annual Catch Limits (ACLs), Annual Catch Targets (ACTs), commercial and recreational Total Allowable Landings (TALs) for blue-line tilefish.
- **Miscellaneous**
 - On May 8, staff attended the quarterly webinar of the AFS Angler Survey Committee. Presentations included:
 - Characteristics of Anglers and Angling Preferences in Utah: Results From the 2021-2022 Utah Angler Survey, Utah State University
 - Don't get your hopes up: Untangling the effects of technology use on recreational angling in Wisconsin, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin Center for Limnology
 - Working the Nightshift: Shining a Light on Coastal Louisiana Anglers, Louisiana State University
 - Attended the Cape May Point Arts and Science Center's Marine Science Symposium to learn about ongoing marine mammal research efforts.
 - Bureau staff met with staff from the Office of Information Systems to review OIS's progress on an anadromous fish timing restriction GIS layer. The layer is almost fully populated based off of information provided by Freshwater and Marine Bureau staff.

INDEPENDENT FISHERIES

- **Delaware River Seine Survey**
 - Preparations are underway for the 2025 Delaware River Striped Bass Recruitment Seine Survey. Gear is being organized and repaired for an expected start date of June 16.
- **Eel Surveys**
 - The Yellow Eel Pot Survey continued in Great Bay. The survey has tagged 500 yellow American eels since 2022. Staff is continuing to collect otoliths from a subsample of eels each day, as well as sex and swim bladder presence/absence. The survey will continue until June 13.
- **Herring Surveys**
 - The adult gillnet portion of the river herring survey completed for 2024 during the week of May 19. Both the Maurice and Great Egg Harbor Rivers had strong run of this year with the Maurice River indices for both alewife and blueback herring representing time series highs and the alewife index on the Great Egg Harbor River representing the 3rd highest in the time series. The young of year seine portion of the survey is scheduled to begin during the first week of July.
- **Horseshoe Crab Survey**
 - The Horseshoe Crab Survey completed three rounds of sampling in May. Preliminary data is currently being entered, and preparations will be made for another two rounds of sampling in June.
- **Raritan-Sandy Hook Bay Complex Inventory Project**

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- The Raritan Inventory Project began on May 2, 2025, and was completed in 6 days throughout the month. All 16 otter trawl stations, 16 seine stations and 8 gillnet stations were completed.
 - Gillnet sampling consisted of Atlantic menhaden (n = 32), horseshoe crabs (n = 19), and bluefish (n = 9). Other species collected consisted of spider crabs, blue crabs, striped bass and smooth dogfish.
 - Otter trawl sampling consisted of primarily bay anchovy (n = 834), Atlantic herring (n = 122), and spider crabs (n = 21). Other species collected consisted of spider crabs, rock crabs, Northern pipefish, alewife, summer flounder, and black sea bass.
 - Seine sampling consisted of Atlantic silversides (n = 467), Atlantic menhaden (n = 157), and bay anchovy (n = 26). Other species collected consisted of horseshoe crabs, Atlantic herring, striped killifish, spot, mummichog, blue crab and white perch.
 - Sixteen eDNA water samples were collected and filtered from otter trawl stations and nine eDNA water samples were collected and filtered from seine stations.
- **Acoustic Receivers**
 - Data from the Delaware Bay, Mullica River, and Raritan/Sandy Hook receiver arrays were submitted to the ACT/MATOS data warehouse as part of the spring data push. This was the first time data was included from the two additional arrays in the Mullica River and Raritan Bay. The Raritan array had 13,303 detections from 227 individual tags and the Mullica River array had 2,780 detections from 8 individual tags.

DEPENDENT FISHERIES

- **Access Point Angler Intercept Survey-AP AIS**
 - The fishdump for April was reviewed and comments were submitted to ACCSP.
 - The draw for May consisted of 177 site assignments and 9 head boat assignments that yielded a total of 868 intercepts (338 SH, 125 CH, 318 PR, 87 HB).
 - 1 site assignment was cancelled due to staff emergency.
 - 2 headboat assignment were cancelled due to weather.
 - Staff continue to make updates to the Vessel Directory and Site Register in preparation for Wave 4.
 - May mileage is being validated and submitted for reimbursement; April mileage reimbursements have been received.
 - Wave 2 sampling ended with a total of 401 intercepts (214 SH, 3 CH, 151 PR, 33 HB).
- **Artificial Reef**
 - Several deployments were made in May 2025, including two separate reef ball deployments on Townsends Inlet Reef and a memorial reef ball deployment on Ocean City Reef. Staff has been coordinating the deployment of an ex-commercial fishing vessel from Brielle, NJ with the Greater Point Pleasant Party Boat Association. Staff expect this deployment to take place in July 2025.
- **Commercial Fisheries/Quota Management**
 - Staff began entering commercial harvester trip reports for 2025. Majority of early season reports are no harvest reports but with the commercial crab pot season starting the number of harvest reports will be increasing greatly.
 - Staff have been busy with commercial data requests. Most of the requests have been made by state staff for compliance reports. Other requests include the state of Delaware for the Delaware Bay Blue Crab stock assessment and ACCSP for numerous data validations and stock assessments.
- **For-Hire Telephone Survey-FHTS**
 - Weeks 18-21 were sampled in May. 264 vessels were drawn with 108 responding, resulting in a 40.9% response rate.
 - Staff continue to send out weekly mailings to randomly drawn vessels.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- Staff continue to work in the NOAA vessel directory updating vessels as needed. Staff continue to work in the imports inbox of the NOAA vessel directory making changes as they come in.
- **NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program-NJSRRP/Volunteer Angler Survey-VAS**
 - As of May 29, 2025, there were 70,223 individual and 866 for-hire vessel registrations obtained with the New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry Program (NJSRRP) for 2025. (Last month: As of April 30, 2025, there were 54,311 individual and 728 for-hire vessel registrations obtained with the 2025 New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry Program).
- **Striped Bass Bonus Program-SBBP**
 - The 2025 Striped Bass Bonus Program (SBBP) opened on May 15th. The SBBP webpage and harvest report page were updated. Staff have issued permits to 125 for-hire vessels and 7,149 individual anglers. The number of individual anglers participating in the program as of opening day was 15% less than in 2024, but the number of for-hire vessels participating was slightly more. The current 2025 bonus harvest is 636 lbs. from 88 fish.
- **Tournament Sampling**
 - 2025 tournament sampling began in May. During two tournaments, staff measured eight bluefish, five summer flounder, and three striped bass. Scales were taken from the striped bass and otoliths were taken from three bluefish.

OUTREACH

- Staff joined Michael Shepherd on his “Shep on Fishing” radio show on WOND to discuss the Bureau’s striped bass programs. Discussion focused on the Striped Bass Bonus Program and surveys such as the Delaware Bay Striped Bass Tagging Survey and the Delaware River Striped Bass Recruitment Survey.

ADMINISTRATIVE/MISCELLANEOUS (Marine Resources Administration)

- **Regulatory/Legislative**
 - Rulemakings
 - The multi-species rule proposal amending N.J.A.C. 7:25-18.5A Artificial Reefs, along with other sections of N.J.A.C. 7:25 et al. pertaining to marine fisheries was submitted to the Governor’s Office for approval.
 - On May 27, 2025, edits and comments were received from DOL on the rule proposal expanding the Commissioner’s authority to modify rules via NOAC.
 - An additional multispecies rulemaking is underway and will incorporate a reorganization of all Marine Fisheries-related rules under N.J.A.C. 7:25B.
 - Legislative Activity – State
 - S4125 (Singleton, D7; Wimberly, D35) Requires Division of Purchase and Property to issue annual report on State-owned underutilized real property with potential for other uses. 5/12/2025 Reported from Senate Committee, 2nd Reading; 5/12/2025 Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.
 - S4305 (Burzichelli, D3) Makes various changes to provisions of "Administrative Procedure Act." 5/12/2025 Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee.
 - S4373 (Scutari, D22) Makes various changes to provisions of "Administrative Procedure Act"; establishes Commission on Efficiency and Regulatory Review in Office of Administrative Law. 5/12/2025 Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- S4416 (Bucco, R25) Requires State agencies to submit certain documentation for procurement of certain information technology projects. 5/19/2025 Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee
- S4484 (Zwicker, D16) Allows public bodies to provide required notices to newspapers distributed online and establishes related publication requirements; establishes rates that newspapers and online news publications may charge for each notice posted online. 5/19/2025 Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee.
- S1895 (Amato, R9) Permits municipalities to charge reduced or no beach fee for children ages 12 to 17; revises law concerning beach fees for veterans. 5/12/2025 Referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.
- S4406 (Amato, R9) Clarifies child support obligation notice and certification requirements for applicants for State licenses. 5/19/2025 Introduced and referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.
- S4465 (Burzichelli, D3) Exempts small-scale renewable energy projects from State land-use permit requirements, under certain conditions. 5/19/2025 Introduced and referred to Senate Environment and Energy Committee.
- Legislative Activity – Federal
 - H.R. 3340 (Rep. Fry, R-SC) To provide for the standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, and for other purposes. 5/13/2025 Introduced in House and referred to House Committee on Natural Resources.
 - S1529 (Sen Booker (D-NJ) Keep Finfish Free Act of 2025 To prohibit Federal agencies from authorizing or facilitating commercial finfish aquaculture operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone except in accordance with a Federal statute authorizing such action. 4/30/2025 Read twice and referred to Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
 - S283 (Sen. Cruz, R-TX) Illegal Red Snapper and Tuna Enforcement Act To require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of seafood to support enforcement against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and for other purposes. 5/21/2025 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 86.
 - S216 (Sen. Sullivan, R-AK) To amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. 5/20/2025 Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote. 5/26/2025 Received in the House.
 - S1649 (Sen. Tuberville, R-AL) To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain marketplace providers as importers for purposes of the excise tax on sporting goods. Introduced 05/07/2025; in Senate Finance Committee (no NJ cosponsors).
- **Scientific Collection Permits**
 - Eighty five scientific collecting permits have been issued for 2025.
- **HOT TOPICS/Miscellaneous**
 - Attended the New Jersey DEP RMI symposium to learn about ongoing research funded by the DEP.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

****MARINE HABITAT & SHELLFISHERIES/MRA****

APRIL

Offshore Wind, Restoration, Enhancement, Mitigation, and Habitat

- **Environmental Review/ Waterfront Development**
 - Staff reviewed and provided comments to the Office of Environmental Review on several pre-applications, Land Management Reviews, and Waterfront Development permit applications.
 - 0501-25-0001.1 Avalon Bulkhead Reconstruction, Docking Facility, and Maintenance
 - MRA received and reviewed materials for a bulkhead reconstruction, docking facility, and maintenance located in Avalon, NJ. The project is located within a manmade lagoon system off a back bay in Cape May County. Any appropriate timing restrictions and comments were applied and provided.
 - 0900-19-0001.2 NJ Transit Hoboken Ferry Terminal
 - MRA received application materials for an NJ Transit ferry terminal project located in Hoboken, NJ. MRA provided comments in a timely manner.
 - 0000-20-0003.1 USACE Maintenance Dredging
 - MRA received a Federal Consistency Review located at several dredging locations within the NJIWW. MRA provided comments and applied any appropriate timing restrictions.
 - 0604-25-0002.1 Garrison Tract Shoreline Stabilization Project
 - MRA received application materials for a shoreline stabilization project located in Cumberland County. MRA provided comments in a timely manner.
 - Staff worked with DLRP on several mapping interpretations.
 - Staff attended monthly JPPM meetings.
 - Staff continued working on an MRA Guidance Manual and Quick Start Guide. Finals edits are expected soon with a goal of having the final materials sent out by the end of the summer.
- **Shellfish Enhancement**
 - **Shell Recycling Program**
 - Staff continue to coordinate with Shell Recycling Program participants for weekly shell collection and investigate additional venues.
 - Staff collected 323.8 bushels of recycled shell in the month of April
 - Staff presented at Pennsylvania Avenue School as a part of Project SHELL (Strengthening Habitat's through Environmental Learning & Leadership) as a part of the grant received from NOAA to expand the program.
 - Staff met with Bureau of Information & Education staff to plan for a Shell Recycling Program presentation at the ACI conference in July of 2025
 - Staff presented on the Shell Recycling Program for Borgata Hotel & Casino as a part of MGM resorts "Planet Talk" series. Borgata has been a valuable restaurant partner in the Shell Recycling Program since 2023.
- **Hard Clam Enhancement**
 - Requests for quotes to supply 600,000 hard clam seed in the 2 – 4mm size range were sent to 7 seed vendors.
 - Seed will be purchased for **ReClam The Bay's** enhancement efforts, to be placed in up-wellers and grown to size to be planted in Barnegat or Little Egg Harbor Bays.
- **Public Outreach**
 - Staff attended the Atlantic County Utilities Authority Annual Earth Day Festival representing the Shell Recycling Program. Staff attend this event every year as it is an excellent opportunity to

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

engage with the public on their role in environmental stewardship and look for opportunities to expand the program.

- Staff attended the NJ State Federation Sportsmen Jamboree representing the Marine Resources Administration.

- **Public Dropoff (Shell Recycling Program)**

- Staff implemented two public shell drop-off locations in the month of April. One in Ocean City and one in Atlantic City. The drop-offs are located at the Shelter Road Recycling Center, and the Knife & Fork Inn respectively.
- Staff worked with Bureau Information & Education staff on a short promotional video for social media to promote the public drop-offs.

- **Shellfish Estuarine Inventory**

- Staff spoke with United States Coast Guard Station- Sandy Hook to reserve a location for the hard clam stock assessment work in Raritan Bay in fall of 2025.

- **Seagrass Conservation Program**

- Staff assisted with any contracting needs related to current DEP-funded seagrass projects.
- Staff continued working on new brochure design and website updates for the program.
- Staff continued drafting New Jersey specific seagrass survey guidelines for SAV related to waterfront development projects.
- Staff built a drop-camera system with a 0.25m² quadrat to be used for a site inspection conducted in Barnegat Bay for proposed temporary aquaculture leases.
 - A GoPro camera was mounted at the top of the drop-cam system, and a survey grid was designed to be sampled in May to conduct percent coverage within and surrounding the proposed lease areas.
 - This system can be used for future site inspections and seagrass surveys where in-diver surveys may not be possible.
- Staff began planning and preparations for the 2025 Seagrass Field Verification Survey as a part of the 2025 Phase II Mapping of Barnegat Bay to Little Egg Harbor.

- **Habitat Restoration and Nature-based Solutions**

- Staff was joined by Bureau of Land Management staff on a site visit and attempted hard clam survey at Boot Island off Brigantine, within Absecon Wildlife Management Area.
 - Boot Island is the site of a proposed marsh restoration project led by numerous project partners, including Fish and Wildlife, NJDOT, Stockton University, The Nature Conservancy, and USACE. The project will incorporate beneficial use of dredged material—from nearby channel dredging sites—to elevate marsh platform and/or restore eroding edges.
 - Biological and physical site data collection is ongoing and will provide site characterization and influence selected project alternatives. Shellfish density data remain limited at the site.
 - Staff was unable to collect hard clam data during the site visit due to numerous challenges and may revisit the site to collect clam density data.
- Staff participated in the NJ Coastal Resilience Collaborative field trip to Cattus Island State Park to visit and discuss the proposed habitat restoration and living shoreline projects at the park.
 - Numerous agencies, consultants, and NGO representatives were present and engaged with during the event.

Aquaculture and Shellfish Leases

- **Aquaculture Development Zone**

- Staff installed the southern-most inshore buoy at the ADZ-4 on April 7

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- Staff installed the two middle offshore buoys at the ADZ-4 on April 27
- Staff assisted the new ADZ-2 leaseholder with possible docking sites within a close vicinity to their new lease ground
- Staff provided lease ground coordinates to three lease holders at the ADZ-4 as they wanted to make sure they were staying within their lease grounds
- Staff continue to assist individuals interested in ADZ lease grounds in understanding the process, fees, and responsibilities.
- **2025 Lease Field Work**
 - Staff have completed the outstanding Hydrographic Surveys for Scull Bay.
 - Staff marked 64 lease corners with floating buoys
 - The leaseholders will need to adjust any/all gear, stakes, and product that is outside of the lease boundary.
 - Notification letters were sent out to each leaseholder that this may affect.
 - Most of the applications for survey work are more than a decade old.
 - The bureau will look to complete the surveys for Shelter Island Channel in May.
- **Aquaculture Advisory Council Meeting**
 - Bureau staff attended the Department of Agriculture Aquaculture Advisory Council meeting on April 11, 2025 located at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Cape May Court House.
 - Council members include representatives from: Bureau of Shellfisheries, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, commercial shellfish aquaculturists and Rutgers University Staff.
 - Discussions included committee updates, Rutgers Marine Extension interviews, aquaculture research symposium & growers workshop recap, introduced legislation S4273 to modify the definition of aquaculture and jersey fresh quality standard for bivalve shellfish.
- **Atlantic Coast Section of the New Jersey Shellfisheries Council – Regulatory Committee**
 - On April 29, 2025, staff hosted an Atlantic Coast Regulatory Committee meeting. Committee has previously met for seven meetings to provide informal public input with various industry expertise to give feedback on concepts to potential shellfish regulation.
 - The April 29 meeting specifically focused on lease utilization and allocation.
 - The next Leasing Committee meeting is to be determined, potentially in the fall.
- **Exploring Best Practices in State Aquaculture Policy Workshop**
 - Staff as a member of the aquaculture policy building consensus advisory committee attended a virtual meeting for exploring best practices in state aquaculture policy: workshop debrief to prioritize policy topics discussed at the March 6, 2025 workshop.
- **Aquaculture Compliance Database**
 - Staff are working to create a database to share permit and lease data across agencies for improved communication and data sharing to support lease management and compliance.

State Fisheries and Quota Management

- **Atlantic Coast Section of the New Jersey Shellfisheries Council Meeting**
 - A hybrid council meeting was held in person (and online) at the Nacote Creek Research Station, Port Republic on April 21, 2025
 - Revenue Totals for each month
 - Total Revenue for March 2025 \$779.00
 - Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund \$122.00
 - Presentation of February 10, 2025 and March 17, 2025 minutes for approval.
 - Notification of change in corporate membership

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- 1 application for consideration
- 3 applications for consideration – temporary lease Barnegat Bay
- Agenda included regulatory committee update, legislative update, notification of Scull Bay hydrographic survey,
- Next meeting May 19, 2025 at the Nacote Creek Research Station, Port Republic
- **Delaware Bay Section of the NJ Shellfisheries Council**
 - The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6
- **Oyster Tonging Fishery, 2024-2025 Season**
 - Tonging season November 1 - April 30
 - Season Tag Sales and Harvest Highlights:

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
Single Tags (\$2)	200	250	50	150	200	0	850
Revenue	\$400	\$500	\$100	\$300	\$400	0	\$1,700.00
Wkly Harvest	105	177	93	61	54	0	490 bushels
Dealer Harvest	105	175	88	61	197	33	659 bushels

- **Direct Market Harvest Program – 2025– Delaware Bay Oyster Dredge Fishery**
 - Sign-up period: March 17 - March 28
 - Tags available March 31
 - Season opens April 7 – November 28
 - Total allocation 48,809 bushels
 - 80 dredge boat license holders signed up
 - Starting quota 610 bushels
 - 410 bushels for each license from any direct market region
 - 150 tags for each license will be caught from Ship John or Cohansey.
 - 50 tags from each license from New Beds, Hog Shoal, Vexton, Beadons, Hawks Nest, Strawberry, Egg Island and Ledge
 - Staff worked with Direct Market Harvest Program participants to install Vessel Tracking units at the request of the Delaware Bay Shellfisheries Council over the winter months.
 - Staff continue to monitor the units and
- **Intermediate Transplant Program– 2025**
 - Sign-up period: March 17 - March 28
 - Four dredge boats signed up
 - A series of “culled” intermediate transplants
 - Transplant begins April 28
 - A transplant of 68,837 bushels not to exceed 33.7 million oysters from the Low Mortality Region (Arnolds, Upper Arnolds, & Round Island)
 - Each Oyster Dredge Boat License will be responsible for the transplant of 600 bushels
 - Bureau staff selected sites for intermediate transplant on April 24.
- **Hard Clam Fishery Management Plan**
 - Staff continue drafting sections of the Hard Clam FMP and engaging with the Advisory Committee, as necessary.
 - Staff visited the JT White Depuration Plant in Highlands on 4/29 to meet plant manager and Advisory Committee member Kevin Kirk.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- Mr. Kirk provided a tour of the facility and engaged in informative and productive conversation on the history of the fishery, the current status, and related information and feedback relevant to the FMP

Surveys & Laboratory Work

- **Atlantic Coast Leasing Biological Assessment**
 - 2 Biological surveys were completed in Scull Bay
 - Leaseholders were notified that the survey was completed and will be placed onto the May Council meeting agenda.
 - 2 Biological surveys were completed in Little Egg Harbor, Thompson Point
 - Leaseholders were notified that the survey was completed and will be placed onto the May Council meeting agenda.
- **Delaware Bay Juvenile Finfish Trawl Survey**
 - The 2025 Delaware Bay Juvenile Finfish Trawl Survey began in April and will run through October. In April, staff sampled all 11 stations for the survey.
 - The stations are located in shallow, nearshore waters from the Cohansey River south to the Villas, NJ.
- **Dermo Monitoring and Shell Plant and Transplant Site Monitoring**
 - The 2025 Dermo Monitoring and Shell Plant and Transplant Site Monitoring resumed April 28
- **Delaware Bay Spat Bag & Water Quality Monitoring**
 - Staff continue planning to implement a spat bag monitoring program in Delaware Bay and its Tributaries for 2025.
- **Mullica River/Great Bay Spat Bag & Water Quality Monitoring**
 - Staff deployed 4 water quality monitoring stations in the Mullica River and Great Bay. HOBO data loggers are mounted ~2ft below the water surface on highflyers. Data loggers were swapped out on a biweekly basis.
 - Staff developed a spat bag program to be deployed in June.
- **Great Egg Harbor/ Little Egg Harbor/ Barnegat Bay Spat Bag Monitoring**
 - Staff worked with NGOs ReClam the Bay and Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association to develop a spat bag monitoring program in the Great Egg Harbor and Little Egg/Barnegat Bay estuaries.
- **Side Scan Sonar**
 - Staff continue to create a User Manual for use of the Side Scan Sonar and its software for guidance purposes while out on the water.
- **Sturgeon Receiver Project**
 - The sturgeon receiver project was conducted on April 17.
 - The receivers listen for acoustically tagged species that are in the vicinity of the receiver and log data which can be used to determine what species was logged and from where it was tagged.

Buildings, Grounds, Vessels and Vehicles

- **Boat Maintenance**
 - Bureau staff continue to maintain the R/V James W. Joseph and R/V Zephyrus by performing regular maintenance, repairs, and equipment upgrades as necessary.
 - Staff replaced the failing VHF 210 with a new VHF 215 on the James W. Joseph on April 14.
 - Staff replaced the water pump on the R/V James W. Joseph's main engine on April 29 .
 - Repairs on the R/V Vadum's ECM were completed.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- Staff changed filter on the R/V Zephyrus water pump along with additional routine maintenance
- Vessel training at Nacote Creek April 15
- **Equipment Maintenance**
 - Staff replaced one YSI and ordered and new YSI for the upcoming field season.
 - Staff updated YSI SOP and maintenance/cleaning operations to reflect new YSI models
 - Staff trained other pertinent bureau staff on maintenance/cleaning operations
 - Designed and started the layout for the Cape May County Shell Recycling collection trailer lift arm. Had the Hydraulic lift-arm mounted on the trailer. Designed the plumbing for the hydraulics and purchased all lines and fittings.
 - Repaired the large Patent and purchased new hydraulic lines
 - Purchased lines and fittings for our new half sized patent tongs

Administrative/Miscellaneous

- **License Sales**

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Oyster Tags	\$47,580.00	Menhaden	\$104.00
Assigned Fee/Rutgers	\$4,000.00	Application Fees	\$98.00
Nets	\$1,911.00	Commercial Shellfish	\$50.00
Commercial Crab Pot	\$1,900.00	Special Use Permit/JH	\$50.00
Dredge Boat Renewal	\$1,290.00	Non-Res Rec SF	\$20.00
AC/DB Crab Dredge	\$300.00	Duplicate Fee	\$4.00

Revenue collected from the Delaware Bay Office totaled **\$57,307.00** for **April 2025**.

- **Monthly Meetings**
 - Staff attended monthly meetings included Bay Islands, Ocean Acidification Team, and CHARRM.
- **Miscellaneous**
 - Staff worked to put a procurement order together for Shellfisheries staff.
 - Staff assisted with any graphic design needs for other staff and projects

MAY

Offshore Wind, Restoration, Enhancement, Mitigation, and Habitat

- **Environmental Review/ Waterfront Development**
- Staff reviewed and provided comments to the Office of Environmental Review on several pre-applications, Land Management Reviews, and Waterfront Development permit applications.
 - 0000-02-0028.1 ACOE Maintenance Dredging
 - MRA received application materials for maintenance dredging located in Hudson, Union, and Essex counties. MRA provided comments in a timely manner.
 - 1322-03-0005.4 Keyport Bulkhead
 - MRA received application materials for the replacement of an existing bulkhead and walkway located in Keyport. MRA provided comments in a timely manner.
 - Shelter Island Marsh Restoration, Dredge Hole #90
 - MRA received application materials for marsh restoration located in Margate, NJ. MRA applied any appropriate timing restrictions and provided comments.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- NJTA Interchanges 1 to 4 Capacity Enhancements Program - Interchange 3 Outside Toll Improvements
 - MRA received project materials for the NJ Turnpike Authority Interchange 3. MRA applied appropriate timing restrictions.
- Delaware River Bridge Project - PA Turnpike I-95 Interchange Project - Stage 3
 - MRA received updated project materials for a Delaware River Bridge Project and provided comments in a timely manner.
- Lighthouse Center Marsh Restoration Project
 - MRA received updated project materials for a living shoreline and SAV restoration project located at the Lighthouse Center along Barnegat Bay. MRA provided comments in a timely manner.
- Staff worked with DLRP on several mapping interpretations.
- Staff attended monthly JPPM meetings.
- Staff continued working on an MRA Guidance Manual and Quick Start Guide. Finals edits are expected for the next month or so with the goal of having the final materials sent out by the end of the summer.
- Environmental Review Group staff worked on a project proposal for a living shoreline and seagrass restoration project located at Sedge Island.
- MRA staff reviewed updated NJ SWAP actions and provided feedback/comments in a timely manner
- **Shellfish Enhancement**
 - **Shell Recycling Program**
 - Staff continue to coordinate with Shell Recycling Program participants for weekly shell collection and investigate additional venues.
 - Staff collected 322.3 bushels of recycled shell in the month of May
 - Staff met with representatives from Sysco to discuss a potential partnership on the Shell Recycling Program
 - Staff presented twice at Pennsylvania Avenue School as a part of Project SHELL (Strengthening Habitat's through Environmental Learning & Leadership) as a part of the grant received from NOAA to expand the program. This concluded the lesson series for the 2024-2025 school year. Staff will look to recruit more schools to the program before school begins in September.
 - Staff attended the Governor's State Employee Recognition Day awards ceremony and received an award for the Governor's Team of Excellence.
- **Seagrass Conservation Program**
 - Staff assisted with any contracting needs related to current DEP-funded seagrass projects.
 - Staff finalized new brochures and a website page highlighting the program.
 - Staff conducted research on seagrass restoration techniques including seed-based and adult transplants, focused on both eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) and widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*).
 - Staff continued planning and preparations for the 2025 Seagrass Field Verification Survey as a part of the 2025 Phase II Mapping of Barnegat Bay to Little Egg Harbor.
 - Staff assisted with a temporary lease survey in Barnegat Bay. Staff used a drop-camera system with a 0.25m² quadrat to estimate percent coverage of seagrass present within and surrounding the lots.
 - Staff drafted a report to be presented to the Shellfisheries Council at the following council meeting.
 - Staff attended the Ocean Fun Day event at Island Beach Station Park on Saturday, May 17 to highlight the Seagrass Conservation Program and MRA as a whole.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- The event ran from 10 am to 3 pm.
- Staff met with the "SAV-vy Seeders" seagrass restoration group on May 30 to hear updates on the group's plans to conduct seagrass restoration in Barnegat Bay
- **Seagrass Field Verification Survey**
 - Field verification began on May 20, 2025. This Phase II approach will utilize satellite imagery rather than traditional aerial imagery. The field verification data collected by MRA staff will fill in areas of "uncertainty" from the 2023 maps produced for Barnegat Bay to Little Egg Harbor.
 - Using an 8-quadrat sampling grid, MRA staff will sample 80 stations to conduct percent coverage in 10% increments of submerged aquatic vegetation, macroalgae, and bare sediment.
 - Water quality will additionally be collected at areas where seagrasses are present in order to investigate water quality thresholds for both eelgrass and widgeon grass.
 - A new survey video will be created with I&E staff in June and posted on social media platforms including YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram

Aquaculture and Shellfish Leases

- **Aquaculture Development Zone**
 - Staff installed weights on the two middle offshore buoys at the ADZ-4 on May 4 to help them remain upright
 - Staff installed the ADZ-2 buoys on May 7
 - Staff replaced several buoys and lights due to the buoys no longer remaining upright and the lights not functioning
 - Staff assisted the 2 new ADZ leaseholders with navigating the additional permits they need
 - Staff continues to maintain a presence at the ADZ-4
 - Staff continue to assist individuals interested in ADZ lease grounds in understanding the process, fees, and responsibilities. There is currently one individual interested in an ADZ-2 lease ground.
- **Aquaculture Leasing Database**
 - Staff have requested the purchase of 3 Samsung tablets to be used in the field for data collection that will be integrated with the leasing database.
- **2025 Lease Field Work**
 - Staff began preparation for the Hydrographic surveys for Shelter Island Channel in June.
 - Staff began preparation for the Lease inspections in Great Bay, Great Thorofare, and Little Egg Harbor.
 - This is a compliance check for the lessees in this area and staff from Coastal Enforcement and Law enforcement will be present.
 - This is set to take place in the first week of June.
- **Swan Point Water Quality Department and Growers Meeting**
 - Staff attended a meeting on May 9, 2025 hosted by staff of the Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring and Bureau of Marine Enforcement with leaseholders from Swan Point to discuss water quality concerns and the interactions of birds on shellfish aquaculture gear.
- **Interstate Seafood Seminar**
 - Bureau staff attended the 75th Annual Interstate Seafood Seminar in Lewes Delaware from May 13 to May 15, 2025. The theme of this year's seminar is "The Diamond Anniversary of the ISS in the Diamond State: Polishing our Practices for a Brighter Seafood Future". Topics will emphasize current and emerging issues of concern to the field of shellfish sanitation, such as risk-based approaches for growing area classification and shellfish dealer inspections, pioneering research into Vibrio and other pathogens, and emerging technology such as drones, plus

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

opportunities for discussion and collaboration on proposals for the upcoming ISSC Biennial Meeting.

- **Birds and Aquaculture Growers Forum**

- Bureau staff attended the Birds and Aquaculture Growers Forum on May 20, 2025 at the JCNERR. Steve Frost representing Frost Seafood, LLC organized the meeting with oyster farmers and facilitated by Rutgers to address the issue with birds on floating gear. This meeting discussed ways to be proactive and self-police among farmers. Representatives from DEP and Rutgers were in attendance to answer questions.

State Fisheries and Quota Management

- **Atlantic Coast Section of the New Jersey Shellfisheries Council Meeting**

- A hybrid council meeting was held in person (and online) at the Nacote Creek Research Station, Port Republic on May 19, 2025.
- Revenue Totals for each month
 - Total Revenue for April 2025: \$650.00
 - Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund \$270.00
- Presentation of April 21, 2025 minutes for approval.
- 2 applications for consideration – Little Egg Harbor Bay Jeremy Point
- 1 application for Decision – Scull Bay
- 2 applications for Decision – Temporary Lease Barnegat Bay
- 11 applications for transfer – Swan Point (3), Scull Bay (8)
- Agenda items included: hard clam management plan committee and regulatory committee updates, lease discrepancy in Brigantine, Birds and Aquaculture Growers Forum notification.
- Next meeting s June 16, 2025 at the Nacote Creek Research Station, Port Republic

- **Delaware Bay Section of the NJ Shellfisheries Council**

- The Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.
- The hybrid meeting was held in person at the Rutgers Haskin Shellfish Research Lab and online.
- Various representatives from DEP and Rutgers Haskin Shellfish Research Lab were present.
- Agenda items included:
 - Delaware Bay Office Revenue Collected
 - Revenue Collected for March 2025
 - Revenue Collected for April 2025
 - Oyster Resource Development Account
 - Old Business
 - Red Knot Stakeholder Committee Update
 - Financial Disclosure Statements
 - Oyster Tonging Fishery Update
 - 2025 Direct Market Harvest Program Update
 - 2025 Intermediate Transplant Program Update
 - 2025 Vibrio Control Plan
 - Vessel Tracking Device Update
 - New Business
 - Public Comment
 - Meeting Schedule - Date, time, and place of next meeting:
DATE: July 1, 2025
TIME: 6:00 PM
PLACE: Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory and MS Team

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- **Direct Market Harvest Program – 2025– Delaware Bay Oyster Dredge Fishery**
 - Sign-up period: March 17 - March 28
 - Tags available March 31
 - Season opens April 7 – November 28
 - 80 dredge boat license holders signed up
 - Starting quota was issued on 3/10/25 for 610 bushels (Allocation of 48,809 bushels)
 - 410 bushels for each license from any direct market region
 - 150 tags for each license from Ship John or Cohansey
 - 50 tags from each license from New Beds, Hog Shoal, Vexton, Beadons, Hawks Nest, Strawberry, Egg Island and Ledge
 - Second quota was issued on 5/19/25 for 302 bushels (Allocation of 24,092 bushels)
 - 252 bushels for each license from any direct market region
 - 50 tags for each license from Ship John or Cohansey
 - Total of both quotas 912 bushels.
 - Staff worked with Direct Market Harvest Program participants over the winter months to install Vessel Tracking units at the request of the Delaware Bay Shellfisheries Council. Staff continue to monitor the units, fix issues as they arise, and are working with DOIT to acquire the data from the units for further use.
- **Intermediate Transplant Program– 2025**
 - Sign-up period: March 17 - March 28.
 - Four licensed dredge boats signed up.
 - A series of “culled” intermediate transplants.
 - Transplant began April 28-May 12, 2025.
 - Council mandated each Oyster Dredge Boat License to be responsible for the transplant of 600 bushels or 295,200 oysters in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:25A-3.3c.
 - After completing the transplant, the number of oysters per bushel was greater than anticipated which resulted in a reduction in the total number of bushels required to be moved. Based on these facts, the Council at its May 6 meeting reduced the requirement for each license to transplant 600 bushels to 315 bushels.
 - All 80 Oyster Dredge Boat Licenses participated in the transplant & all received second quota
 - This transplant moved oysters from: the Hope Creek, Liston Range and Fishing Creek seed beds to an area on Sea Breeze; the Arnolds and Upper Arnolds seed beds to areas on the Shell Rock and Bennies seed beds; and the Middle seed bed to an area to the Shell Rock seed bed.
 - Using the market-sized oysters per bushel conversion used by the 2025 Stock Assessment Workshop, the transplant program will yield an additional 9,925 bushels available for harvest.
 - This additional quota will be added to the Medium Mortality, Shell Rock and High Mortality region totals.
 - The exploitation rate on the High Mortality region will increase from 0.0749 to 0.0982, Shell Rock from 0.0370 to 0.0488 and Medium Mortality from 0.0303 to 0.00370
 - Total increase over the starting quota will be 24,092 bushels.
- **Hard Clam Fishery Management Plan**
 - Staff continues drafting sections of the Hard Clam FMP and engaging with the Advisory Committee, as necessary.
 - An Advisory Committee meeting was set for June 5th, to be held in-person at Nacote Creek Office. The meeting was called to continue scope development, primarily discussion and determination of the goals and objectives to be included in the FMP.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

Surveys & Laboratory Work

- **Atlantic Coast Leasing Biological Assessment**
 - 2 Biological surveys were completed in Scull Bay
 - Leaseholder were notified that the survey was completed and will be placed onto the May Council meeting agenda.
 - 2 Biological surveys were completed in Little Egg Harbor, Thompson Point
 - Leaseholder were notified that the survey was completed and will be placed onto the May Council meeting agenda.
- **Delaware Bay Juvenile Finfish Trawl Survey**
 - The 2025 Delaware Bay Juvenile Finfish Trawl Survey Began in April and will run through October. On May 5 and 7, staff sampled all 11 stations for the survey.
 - The stations are located in shallow, nearshore waters from the Cohansey River south to the Villas, NJ.
- **Dermo Monitoring and Shell Plant and Transplant Site Monitoring**
 - Staff in partnership with Rutgers Haskin Shellfish Lab staff conducted oyster sampling from the Delaware Bay oyster reefs for Dermo on May 27. Staff also sampled the Bureaus shellfish Shellplant and Transplant sites with Haskin staff on May 29.
 - Dermo and Enhancement site monitoring normally occurs the last two Mondays of each month but was pushed back in May due to weather constraints.
- **Delaware Bay Spat Bag & Water Quality Monitoring**
 - Staff continue planning to implement a spat bag monitoring program in Delaware Bay and its Tributaries for 2025.
 - Whole half shell Surf Clam was ordered and delivered for the spat bag program.
 - The monitoring program will have 13 land accessible sites and 5 sites accessible by vessel.
 - Spat Bags will be set beginning in the middle of June.
 - Staff will change out the bags weekly from the middle of June through the end of August with a possible second set being monitored in September and October.
- **Mullica River/Great Bay Spat Bag & Water Quality Monitoring**
 - Staff continue to monitor water quality at 4 locations in the Mullica River and Great Bay using HOBO data loggers, measuring for actual conductivity, salinity, and temperature. Data loggers were swapped out on a biweekly basis.
 - Staff prepared for an early June deployment of spat bags at 4 locations similar to the water monitoring stations. Spat bags and anchor systems were assembled and all equipment was procured.
- **Great Egg Harbor/ Little Egg Harbor/ Barnegat Bay Spat Bag Monitoring**
 - Staff continued to work with NGOs ReClam the Bay and Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association to develop a spat bag monitoring program in the Great Egg Harbor and Little Egg/Barnegat Bay estuaries.
 - Spat bags and anchor systems were assembled and all equipment needed was procured.
 - Staff hosted a training with NGOs on proper standard operating procedures and sample processing.
 - ReClam the Bay deployed 7 spat bags and Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association deployed 4 spat bags.
- **Side Scan Sonar**
 - Staff continue to create a User Manual for use of the Side Scan Sonar and its software for guidance purposes while out on the water.

Marine Resources Administration Monthly Report

- **Sturgeon Receiver Project**

- The sturgeon receiver project was conducted on April 17.
 - The receivers listen for acoustically tagged species that are in the vicinity of the receiver and log data which can be used to determine what species was logged and from where it was tagged.

Buildings, Grounds, Vessels and Vehicles

- **Boat Maintenance**

- Bureau staff continue to maintain the R/V James W. Joseph and R/V Zephyrus by performing regular maintenance, repairs, and equipment upgrades as necessary.
- R/V Vadum was bottom painted.
- Staff changed filter on the R/V Zephyrus water pump along with additional routine maintenance
- The UTV trailers door had two hinges fail due to corrosion. Staff dropped the trailer off at a welder and had the door repaired and greased for continued use.
- Staff replaced fuel and oil filters on the R/V James W. Josephs generator.

- **Equipment Maintenance**

- Bureau staff received new buoys markers and lights for ADZ area 2. They were outfitted with new shackles and chain and deployed the corners markers on May 7.
- Staff inspected the UTV after deploying buoys at ADZ area 4 and noticed the front differential was leaking oil. Staff have contacted dealers to get the unit fixed but have no progress.
- The diesel dock tanks fuel pump began failing, staff ordered a new full rite pump through Grainger and plan to install it once delivered.
- Purchased a new hydraulic pump for the dump tailer that will run the hydraulic lift are and the dump body
- Installed the pump and hydraulic lines on the Cape May County Shell collection trailer, it is operational and ready for work.
- A new davit was made for the Vadum to operate the small patent tongs.

- **License Sales**

Revenue collected from the Delaware Bay Office totaled **\$26,670.00** for May 2025

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Oyster Tags	\$24,292.00	Menhaden	\$52.00
Nets	\$1,288.00	Commercial Shellfish	\$50.00
Commercial Crab Pot	\$800.00	Recreational SF	\$20.00
AC Crab Dredge	\$100.00	Duplicate Fee	\$2.00
Application Fees	\$66.00		

- **Miscellaneous**

- **Meetings/Trainings:** Aquaculture Growers Forum, May 20, 2025 in Tuckerton, 6:30pm-8:30 pm (Alissa/DBO & Megan/NCO)