

NEW JERSEY SHELLFISHERIES COUNCIL		Delaware Bay Section
<i>Meeting Minutes</i>		

Meeting Name	Monthly Meeting of NJ Shellfisheries Council - Delaware Bay Section		
Meeting Date	August 7, 2012		
Meeting Time	6:00 PM		
Venue	Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory	City	Bivalve, NJ
Attendees	General Public		

Council	State Representatives	Haskin Research Lab
Scott Bailey, Cumberland Co.	Jason Hearon, DFW Shellfisheries	David Bushek, Director
Warren Hollinger, Cumberland Co	Craig Tomlin, DFW Shellfisheries	
Steven Fleetwood, Cumberland Co.		
Richard Malinowski, Salem Co., Not Present		
Cape May / Salem Co. – Vacant		

Compliance with the Sunshine Law

Notice of this meeting was posted July 15, 2012 with the Secretary of State's Office, State House, Trenton, NJ and the Bridgeton Evening News, and Daily Journal pursuant to L. 1975 c. 231.

Revenue collected for May totaled \$ 42,813.00

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Commercial Crab Pot License	\$1,000.00	Dealer License	\$ 0
Atlantic Coast Crab Dredge License	\$ 0	Dredge Boat Renewal License	\$298.00
Delaware Bay Crab Dredge License	\$ 0	Net License	\$1,753.00
Commercial Shellfish License	\$100.00	Oyster Tags	\$32,410.00
Recreational Shellfish License	\$190.00	Application Fees	\$146.00
Juvenile Shellfish License	\$4.00	Lease Fees	\$3,450.00
Copy Sales	\$12.00	Assign Fees	\$3,450.00

Revenue collected for June totaled \$ 33,100.00

Commercial Crab Pot License	\$1,000.00	Copy Fees	\$ 2.00
Atlantic Coast Crab Dredge License	\$ 0	Dredge Boat Renewal License	\$42.00
Delaware Bay Crab Dredge License	\$ 0	Net License	\$528.00
Commercial Shellfish License	\$350.00	Oyster Tags	\$30,700.00
Recreational Shellfish License	\$300.00	Application Fees	\$92.00
Juvenile Shellfish License	\$6.00	Survey Fee	\$20.00
Non-Resident Shellfish License	\$60.00		

Oyster Resource Development Account

<i>July 10, 2012</i>		
Unexpended	\$412,964.21	Total dollars currently in account
Expended	\$124,745.28	Spent from account during FY'12
Pre-encumbered	0.00	Amount previously set-aside for preparation of term contracts (cancelled)
Encumbered	\$201,030.57	Amount obligated to vendors or planned services (e.g., contracting, transplants)
Uncommitted	\$211,933.64	Current free-balance (not obligated/encumbered to specific vendors, etc.)

Shellfish Leased Ground Transactions

Applications for New Grounds

Decision: Held over until applicants are present

Name	Lot #	Section	Acres
Olga Gaine*	5	ADZ4	1.5
Mark Zitter*	TBA	ADZ3	10

**Lease Application Mail to Council after previously canceled meeting.*

Oyster Vessel Transactions

For Council's information, Norm Bloom & Daughter LLC substituted the oyster dredge vessel *NJ 6508HB* with the oyster dredge vessel *NJ 6324HB* with the oyster dredge license #35.

1. Old Business

Direct Market Season Update

Craig Tomlin stated that on Friday August 3, 2012 Shell Rock was closed due to the over 20,000 bu quota being harvested. As well as the high mortality beds still have a quota of approximately 23,000 bu and the Medium mortality bed have a remaining quota approximately 9,000bu. He then noted that the CPUE for the year is 75bu which is above average.

Gandy' Beach Oyster Restoration & Enhancement / Project PORTS/American Littoral Society

Jason Hearon noted that Project Ports had planted 5,000 bu on the Gandy' Beach Oyster Restoration & Enhancement site. Project Ports also submitted new proposal to add an additional 10,000 bu on the same site.

Hope Creek Enhancement Pilot Study

Mr. Hearon stated that there would be a press event Tuesday August 14, 2012 at the Haskin Shellfish Laboratory for the Hope Creek Enhancement Pilot Study. He then noted that Chairman Fleetwood had offer to use one of his vessels to take the on a tour to a local shell planting site.

Economic Development Opportunity

Mr. Bushek stated that dermo mortality has remained low on the high mortality beds. He then noted that all other beds are acting normal for that time of year. Mr. Bushek informed the Council that the Economic Development Opportunity process was moving forward. He stated that in this partnership there would be 250,000 bu of shell planted every year for three years of which 150,000 bu would be direct plants and 100,000 bu would be down bay plants that would be replanted. He estimated that this would be a \$2.6 million project and that would require a \$500,000 match. The Council would have to match with producing 100,000 bu of shell each year for the project. Mr. Hearon advised the Council to hold off on the match until the proposal is finalized. The Council stated that it would provide match if the proposal was adequate when finished.

2. New Business

Water Supply Issues/American Littoral Society-Matt Blake Delaware Bay Project Manager

Mr. Blake stated that most of his work has been with point source pollution and projects in the upper parts of the water sheds. He stated that much of intensive development around the state has to do with sewer service areas. He then stated that the Maurice River according to the State wide master plan is one of the most stressed in terms of water flow. He continued by stating that the DEP just approved permits for the city of Millville to increase water usage in the shallow wells that feed the Maurice River. He believes that this will have a large effect on the amount of fresh water flow in the Maurice River. Mr. Blake then introduced Robert Kecskes to explain the impacts this may have on the shellfish industry.

Salt Water Intrusion & Water Reduction Impacts In The Maurice Estuary- Robert Kecskes

Mr. Kecskes drew a diagram on the caulk board to help explain the impact of the decrease of flow in the Maurice River. He then showed graphs to explain the water usage in Millville (sprinklers) compared to river flow. Mr. Kecskes explained that the wells in Cape May draw from the Cohansey Aquifer that also feeds the Maurice River creating a lot of strain on the system. He concluded that with intensive growth associated with sewer service areas that there will be greatly increased strain on the fresh water inputs on the Maurice River. The Council then explained that the main input of fresh water was the Delaware River. They also explained that in recent years the degradation of water quality on the beds at the mouth of the Maurice River have been associated with less retention time in the river. Lengthy discussion ensued. The Council expressed concerns over the depletion of fresh water in the system. They asked the groups to continue to work on solutions. Councilman Hollinger made a motion to adjourn. The second was inaudible.

Adjourn	@	PM	
The next meeting of the Council will be tentatively held on:		Tuesday, Oct 2, 2012	In the library of the Haskin Shellfish Laboratory

Please be reminded that all shellfish leases must be renewed (in person) by December 31 each year. Bureau offices will begin accepting lease renewals beginning October 15 of each year.