**From:** Patrick @ Old Maine Outfitters <[patrick@oldmaineoutfitters.com](mailto:patrick@oldmaineoutfitters.com)>   
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** [PATRICK.KELIHER@maine.gov](mailto:PATRICK.KELIHER@maine.gov); [FVHATTIEROSE@aol.com](mailto:FVHATTIEROSE@aol.com); [Allison.hepler@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Allison.hepler@legislature.maine.gov); [Cameron.reny@maine.legislature.gov](mailto:Cameron.reny@maine.legislature.gov); [Megan.Ware@maine.gov](mailto:Megan.Ware@maine.gov); [Cheri.Patterson@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:Cheri.Patterson@wildlife.nh.gov); [renee.zobel@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:renee.zobel@wildlife.nh.gov); [groutnhfish@gmail.com](mailto:groutnhfish@gmail.com); [r-dwhite@comcast.net](mailto:r-dwhite@comcast.net); [dhw@cisunix.unh.edu](mailto:dhw@cisunix.unh.edu); [swamper199@gmail.com](mailto:swamper199@gmail.com); [Dan.mckiernan@state.ma.us](mailto:Dan.mckiernan@state.ma.us); [ray@capecodfishermen.org](mailto:ray@capecodfishermen.org); [Sarah.Peake@mahouse.gov](mailto:Sarah.Peake@mahouse.gov); [sarah.ferrara@mahouse.gov](mailto:sarah.ferrara@mahouse.gov); [jason.mcnamee@dem.ri.gov](mailto:jason.mcnamee@dem.ri.gov); [lizzy.2@charter.net](mailto:lizzy.2@charter.net); [sen-sosnowski@rilin.state.ri.us](mailto:sen-sosnowski@rilin.state.ri.us); [Ericreidri@gmail.com](mailto:Ericreidri@gmail.com); [justin.davis@ct.gov](mailto:justin.davis@ct.gov); [matthew.gates@ct.gov](mailto:matthew.gates@ct.gov); [hyattwilliam01@gmail.com](mailto:hyattwilliam01@gmail.com); [robert.lafrance@quinnipiac.edu](mailto:robert.lafrance@quinnipiac.edu); [Basil.Seggos@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Basil.Seggos@dec.ny.gov); [ech12@cornell.edu](mailto:ech12@cornell.edu); Cimino, Joseph [DEP] <[Joseph.Cimino@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Joseph.Cimino@dep.nj.gov)>; Corbett, Heather [DEP] <[Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov)>; [tfote@jcaa.org](mailto:tfote@jcaa.org); Clarke, Peter [DEP] <[Peter.Clarke@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Peter.Clarke@dep.nj.gov)>; Vin Gopal <[Sengopal@njleg.org](mailto:Sengopal@njleg.org)>; [captadamnj@gmail.com](mailto:captadamnj@gmail.com); [tischaeffe@pa.gov](mailto:tischaeffe@pa.gov); [senseofwonder@pa.net](mailto:senseofwonder@pa.net); [john.clark@state.de.us](mailto:john.clark@state.de.us); [fishmaster70@comcast.net](mailto:fishmaster70@comcast.net); [william.carson@state.de.us](mailto:william.carson@state.de.us); [lynn.fegley@maryland.gov](mailto:lynn.fegley@maryland.gov); [MARYJDIZE@gmail.com](mailto:MARYJDIZE@gmail.com); [mbrassil@house.state.md.us](mailto:mbrassil@house.state.md.us); [davidsikorski@ccamd.org](mailto:davidsikorski@ccamd.org); [robert.t.brown@shopcove.net](mailto:robert.t.brown@shopcove.net); [michael.luisi@maryland.gov](mailto:michael.luisi@maryland.gov); [jamie.green@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:jamie.green@mrc.virginia.gov); J. Bryan Plumlee <[bplumlee@pbp-attorneys.com](mailto:bplumlee@pbp-attorneys.com)>; [District01@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:District01@senate.virginia.gov); [pat.geer@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:pat.geer@mrc.virginia.gov); Kathy <[kathy.rawls@ncdenr.gov](mailto:kathy.rawls@ncdenr.gov)>; [jmannen@yfmlaw.com](mailto:jmannen@yfmlaw.com); [bellm@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:bellm@dnr.sc.gov); [thomascd@roadrunner.com](mailto:thomascd@roadrunner.com); Chris <[chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov](mailto:chris.batsavage@ncdenr.gov)>; [rhodesmm@musc.edu](mailto:rhodesmm@musc.edu); [RonnieCromer@scsenate.gov](mailto:RonnieCromer@scsenate.gov); [Doug.Haymans@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Doug.Haymans@dnr.ga.gov); [Trey.Rhodes@house.ga.gov](mailto:Trey.Rhodes@house.ga.gov); [jessica.mccawley@myfwc.com](mailto:jessica.mccawley@myfwc.com); [GJENNINGS@asafishing.org](mailto:GJENNINGS@asafishing.org); [Thad.Altman@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Thad.Altman@myfloridahouse.gov); [info@asmfc.org](mailto:info@asmfc.org); [efranke@asmfc.org](mailto:efranke@asmfc.org)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Striped Bass Emergency Action Comments

Hi,

I am unable to attend todays meeting so I just wanted to say how much I support this action.  Thank you very much for understanding the situation striped bass are in and putting measures in place to help give them a fighting chance.  Everyone at the ASMFC should be proud they were able to work quickly and make a decision that supports striped bass.   Striped bass are our only real saltwater fishery in Maine and losing them would be a real hit it our economy and countless guides, tackle shops, and businesses that need them around in abundance.

Please do not let states like New Jersey undermine, and flat-out insult the ASMFC by ignoring this action.  If so, they should be dealt with with harsh penalties as it completely undermines the goal and effects states that actually have striped bass bests interest in mind.

Thank you again! I fully support this. 

--

Patrick Rudman

26 Bellevue Ave, South Portland Maine, 04106

[www.oldmaineoutfitters.com](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/www.oldmaineoutfitters.com__;!!J30X0ZrnC1oQtbA!NkWaxGPhI0BsPqNpfbOVA2ETmK-x8IwNzRtSQc-0Cp71DNqCDJQ8Y66bPF8zWXO0J_vgkT7yDJZOhLGV-VzDxruv_Jkfybctag$)

From: David Licks <[davidlicks@gmail.com](mailto:davidlicks@gmail.com)>

Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:56 PM

To: DEP Marine Fisheries Council [DEP] <[marinefisheriescouncil@dep.nj.gov](mailto:marinefisheriescouncil@dep.nj.gov)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Striped Bass Regulations

I support the new registration changes to help protect our Striper population in the northeast. I also believe commercial striper fishing should be ended.

Thank you for your consideration.

David Licks

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Jack Fullmer <jf2983182@msn.com>   
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:56 AM  
**To:** Harrison, Brendan [DEP] <Brendan.Harrison@dep.nj.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: NJ Marine Fisheries Council - Striped Bass

Brendan, Thank you for the info.  Our concern is about the narrow 3-inch slot limit because the sport diver/spearfisherman does not have an opportunity to measure a fish first and then release it.  He must determine the legality of the size underwater by sight alone.  But if he has a Bonus Bass tag and combines that with the new 3-inch slot from 28 to 31 inches, he then has a larger slot of legal fish from 24-31 inches, and that is more doable.  The problem being that he can only do it once, and then must go through the process of renewing the Bonus Bass permit (if the fish is 24-28 inches) and that could take some time.   Jack Fullmer.

**From:** Harrison, Brendan [DEP] <[Brendan.Harrison@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Brendan.Harrison@dep.nj.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2023 1:22 PM  
**To:** [Jf2983182@msn.com](mailto:Jf2983182@msn.com) <[Jf2983182@msn.com](mailto:Jf2983182@msn.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: NJ Marine Fisheries Council - Striped Bass

Hi Jack,

Thanks for contacting NJ Fish & Wildlife and for tuning into part of the NJ Marine Fisheries Council (MFC) meeting last night. Ultimately, the MFC postponed final action and requested a meeting with the Striped Bass Committee and advisors to get additional input and public comment. The MFC will make a final decision during a special Council meeting in June. NJ Fish & Wildlife will post information about the June meeting once details are available.

Thanks for your comments below. The ASMFC Board motion that was passed prohibits changes to “other recreational fisheries” regulations, which includes the Striped Bass Bonus Program, so the SBBP size limit cannot be changed.

Thanks.

 Brendan

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| --- | --- |
| New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Fish and WIldlife, Logo  [Logo  Description automatically generated](https://www.nj.gov/dep/) | **Brendan Harrison**  *Fisheries Biologist*  New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife  Bureau of Marine Fisheries  PO Box 418  Port Republic, NJ 08241  Phone: 609.748.2020    [Logo  Description automatically generated](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/www.njfishandwildlife.com/__;!!J30X0ZrnC1oQtbA!KTUPK7EGEEJ_iD7wTAndbLCGo2_RfkhR28DBNGR-h1UxWw3umQftajybwBbr3fIqfP4YCPB2WZ_hfA03W81Vd7mR$)    [signature_1012866063](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.facebook.com/NJFishandWildlife/__;!!J30X0ZrnC1oQtbA!KTUPK7EGEEJ_iD7wTAndbLCGo2_RfkhR28DBNGR-h1UxWw3umQftajybwBbr3fIqfP4YCPB2WZ_hfA03W4O6lWjC$)    [signature_1919278513](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.instagram.com/newjerseyfishandwildlife/__;!!J30X0ZrnC1oQtbA!KTUPK7EGEEJ_iD7wTAndbLCGo2_RfkhR28DBNGR-h1UxWw3umQftajybwBbr3fIqfP4YCPB2WZ_hfA03W8ep_t7a$)    [signature_2054649495](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpTE5tP4yTvFyXDws_oJGqz3v73Rn9vdH__;!!J30X0ZrnC1oQtbA!KTUPK7EGEEJ_iD7wTAndbLCGo2_RfkhR28DBNGR-h1UxWw3umQftajybwBbr3fIqfP4YCPB2WZ_hfA03Ww-6R_Qa$) |

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**From:** Jack Fullmer <[Jf2983182@msn.com](mailto:Jf2983182@msn.com)>   
**Sent:** Sunday, May 14, 2023 8:09 AM  
**To:** Brust, Jeffrey [DEP] <[Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NJ Marine Fisheries Council - Striped Bass

 Jeff,

Unfortunately, I had to leave the webinar before 7 PM to show a slide presentation at the Princeton SCUBA Club.  Missed the discussion on the emergency action by the ASMFC for Striped Bass.  Could you summarize what happened?  The narrow 3-inch slot will definitely cause a problem for the spearfishermen that take Striped Bass along the jetties and inlets in NJ.  They do not have the option of measuring the fish and then releasing it if it doesn't fit the narrow slot.   It is conceivable that the Bonus Bass Program could increase the slot to 24 to 31 inches and that is do-able, but that is only for 1 fish and would have to reapply for the program.

       Jack Fullmer,  NJ Council of Divers and Clubs              [jf2983182@msn.com](mailto:jf2983182@msn.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Peter Walsifer <[peterjwalsifer@gmail.com](mailto:peterjwalsifer@gmail.com)>

Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023 8:07 PM

To: Brust, Jeffrey [DEP] <[Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Slot

Hi Jeff

I strongly urge you to align NJ with the federal slot for striped bass. The alternative of a federal moratorium for the state is untenable. As a constituent I urge you to reconsider your stance.

Peter Walsifer

**From:** Andrew Ciok <[aciokssp@gmail.com](mailto:aciokssp@gmail.com)>   
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 4:48 PM  
**To:** Brust, Jeffrey [DEP] <[Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL]

Jeffrey

I listened to part of the discussion on the Striped Bass reg changes, and quite frankly, I had to log off because it sounded like the Commissioners didn't sound like they get it. A dead fish is a dead fish, it doesn't come back to life, it doesn't breed again. So, even though we followed the regs last year, we still over fished and now it's time to pay the piper.

Continuing with current regs is not a good thing. There is NOT an endless supply of Striped Bass in the ocean, just like there was not an endless supply of carrier pigeons, or dodo birds.

I have not seen or heard of any final decisions, perhaps you could fill me in

Regards

Andrew Ciok

**From:** RICH <[reconsam@aol.com](mailto:reconsam@aol.com)>   
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 6:09 AM  
**To:** Brust, Jeffrey [DEP] <[Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BASS REGS

HOW DO YOU GET THE CATCH NUMBERS?  YOU SAY WE CATCH TOO MANY BASS,I DONT THINK SO, IF WE CAN ONLY HAVE ONE FISH DAILY  WELL IT DONT ADD UP, ANYWAY I SEE NOTHING WRONG WITH 28-38 IN, THANKS  RICH SAMALONIS

-----Original Message-----

From: Bronsen Dhume <[bronsen2121@gmail.com](mailto:bronsen2121@gmail.com)>

Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 2:56 PM

To: Brust, Jeffrey [DEP] <[Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Written petition from Jonathan Amedrano and Bronsen Dhume of Full Strike Sportfishing.

Please address the information expressed in this as we make a living to survive on the water along with many other full time charter boat captains that have read and agreed with this.

Sent from my iPhone

May 2, 2023

To Whom it may concern,

We are writing this letter today as a petition to reconsider the recently passed regulation

regarding the Striped Bass fishery on the eastern seaboard. While it is understood that

regulations and limits must be enforced to conserve the biomass and future of the fishery, we

believe the decisions taken will impose a detrimental effect on the livelihood of thousands of

charter/headboat captains and owners along the north east coast. The newly imposed slot

regulation of 28 to 31 inches will be another devastating blow to an industry that has over the

years received the harshest dividend of quota and size and allocation. Charter boats and captains

have lawfully attained to the set sizes and gear restrictions over time while trying to maintain the

best quality of service to a recurring customer base. A customer base, that in New Jersey alone,

has been estimated to produce hundreds of millions of dollars in state tax and business revenue

and touches numerous aspects of commerce including the hotel and housing service industry,

tackle and sporting goods retailers, transportation, fuel, and many other essential areas of

everyday business. We believe that in the aggressiveness of passing the new emergency regulation,

the for-hire side of the industry was once more not considered at all in the decision making. As

we mentioned earlier, this is our livelihood and the way we provide a future for our families rather

than just a “recreational” venture and thus we plead to the managing board to consider

implementing a regulation geared towards for hire vessels that will allow us to continue to stay in

business while also aiding the effort to maintain and help flourish the striped bass fishery. While

we understand that reaching a happy medium in which all parties can benefit is an agonizing

task, we also must strongly reiterate the fact that the approved slot size will most likely be the

straw that broke the camel’s back to an industry of hard working American citizens that for the

last decade have been trying to abide and navigate the ever changing requirements and

regulations. We hope you can come to an agreement of a specific regulation size and quota for

the for-hire sector that will resemble what was in place before, while we understand that the

28-38 inch slot size might be out of reach, we do hope we can meet somewhere along the lines of

a 28-35 inch slot size. This size limit individually aimed at for for-hire vessels, if approved, along

with the use of the recently imposed gear and tackle regulations (in-line circle hooks and the

prohibition of gaffing fish) should provide a better shot at the conservation of not only the fishery

but also the industry of charter and headboat captains that so urgently depend on it. We hope

this letter will serve at minimum as conversation starter and bring attention to a slice of the

fishing industry that most often gets left in the dark and dwarfed by the deep-pocket shadow of

the commercial side and the enormous size of land base and recreational side of the trade. We

are sure that through negotiations, conversations, and a unified amalgamation of ideas we can

reach a beneficial point and make a difference towards a future which will remember these

consolidating efforts for years to come.

Sincerely,

Board of Charter/Headboat Captains of New Jersey

**From:** Licks Fishing <[licksfishing@gmail.com](mailto:licksfishing@gmail.com)>   
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2023 10:45 PM  
**To:** DEP njmarinefisheries [DEP] <[njmarinefisheries@dep.nj.gov](mailto:njmarinefisheries@dep.nj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Regulation changes for striped bass

I support any regulations to help rebuild population of striped bass in the northeast.

**From:** Pat Hamilton <[pr08543a@gmail.com](mailto:pr08543a@gmail.com)>   
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2023 10:43 PM  
**To:** DEP njmarinefisheries [DEP] <[njmarinefisheries@dep.nj.gov](mailto:njmarinefisheries@dep.nj.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Striped bass regulations

I support the changes to the striped bass regulations. I believe that 28 inch to 31 inch limits would help preserve the fishery and avoid a moratorium in the future. Thank you.

**From:** Koch, Gregory E <[greg\_koch@merck.com](mailto:greg_koch@merck.com)>   
**Sent:** Friday, May 5, 2023 3:24 PM  
**To:** [tfote@jcaa.org](mailto:tfote@jcaa.org); [cimino@dep.nj.gov](mailto:cimino@dep.nj.gov); Vin Gopal <[Sengopal@njleg.org](mailto:Sengopal@njleg.org)>; Corbett, Heather [DEP] <[Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov)>; Clarke, Peter [DEP] <[Peter.Clarke@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Peter.Clarke@dep.nj.gov)>; [captadamnj@gmail.com](mailto:captadamnj@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [tony@saltwaterguideassociation.org](mailto:tony@saltwaterguideassociation.org)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NJ is the joke of ASMFC - Please take a hard look at their actions

Public

FYI only. I submitted the following email to Governor Murphy’s office.

Dear Governor,

I am writing to you as a New Jersey citizen of 59 years. I want to bring to your attention the action of the NJ representative who was the sole dissenting vote (15-1) in implementing a revised slot limit for striped bass which per Amendment 7 is required by LAW to rebuild the striped bass stock in our coastal waters. Clearly our members either do not understand the science behind managing our fisheries, or have other interests driving their actions. Respectfully request you reconsider who sits on the ASMFC representing NJ.

Per Amendment 7;

*2.7.2 Stock Rebuilding Schedules If at any time the Atlantic striped bass population is declared overfished and rebuilding needs to occur (as specified in Section 4.1 Management Triggers), the Board will determine the rebuilding schedule at that time. The only limitation imposed under Amendment 7 is that the rebuilding schedule is not to exceed 10 years.*

<https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/news-2023-05-03-asmfc-takes-emergency-action-to-support-stock-rebuilding-for-striped-bass/>

[https://saltwaterguidesassociation.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/ASGA\_Striped-Bass-Rebuilding\_SignOn\_Letter\_04252023.pdf](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/saltwaterguidesassociation.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/ASGA_Striped-Bass-Rebuilding_SignOn_Letter_04252023.pdf__;!!J30X0ZrnC1oQtbA!L6b5iwaVqr9t2pMrTs-8d3KeQfVwwyo6GXKAsLLvZSQHtO3pX6E81c0qrSr7MoBwfsmFZTle6CpTUYv6BhGCwYKI8Q$)

Kind regards,

Greg Koch

Westfield, NJ