

NY Marine Saltwater Fishing License



NEW
YORK
STATE

Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Goal: Re-implement a fee based Saltwater fishing license for New York

- Improve opportunities for NY Recreational fishing community
- Improve marine fisheries management
- Improve outreach, education, health, and research
- Provide improved fiscal resources



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SWL Facts

- ▶ Only three of the 23 US Coastal States do not have a fee-based license: New York, New Jersey, Hawaii
- ▶ Fees range from \$7 - \$54 annually. \$10 - \$146 non-resident
- ▶ We forgo \$ millions in federal funds annually (Federal tackle/fuel taxes)
- ▶ NY could enjoy \$10-20 million annually (State sales plus federal augments)
- ▶ NY had a license in 2009-10 but was rescinded in 2011. NY generated \$3 million in additional revenue for the one year; fees were refunded.
- ▶ NY can have a fee license again if done correctly
- ▶ We need to do this over several years to build trust and enjoy long term fiscal benefits

NY Marine Registration Holders

License Year	Resident	Non-Resident	Total Marine Registry Holders
2010-11	150,554	13,757	164,311
2011-12	461,051	34,099	495,150
2012-13	282,967	30,472	313,439
2013-14	346,613	33,683	380,296
2014-15	271,364	31,839	303,203
2015-16	312,715	31,374	344,089
2016-17	331,797	32,702	364,499
2017-18	382,039	37,114	419,153
2018-19	387,688	38,319	426,007
2019-20	381,607	55,028	436,635
2020-21	360,919	45,214	406,133
2021-22	353,583	43,258	396,841

Number of anglers

~ 400K from NY Free registry
1,052,537 from 2022 Federal Survey
(1,660,089 freshwater)
620,997 - removing <16 and >65-year-olds

Increased State Revenues

\$3 million from 200K angler increase

Potential increase of \$1.2 million federal. (currently \$3.7 million)
Total of \$4.2 million annually
(Fed + State)

Recent Surveys & Facts from The Feds

- ▶ 1,052,537 NY Saltwater Angler federal estimate (2022); 353,583 in NY free registry (33.6%)
- ▶ ~ 70% and 80% non-compliance rate for NY and NJ respectively
- ▶ Federal Registry still requires \$15 license annually unless state provides valid angler data to NOAA. NY currently has an exemption.
- ▶ Concern: NY could lose the federal exemption which would require NY anglers to obtain the \$15 federal license; these revenues go the federal General Fund

Commercial Fisheries Fees and Expenditures

- ▶ NY Commercial license fees generate over \$1 million annually
- ▶ Revenues support staffing and management from Marine Account
- ▶ NY Issued ~5,000 permits to ~ 3,000 fishermen in 2022
 - ▶ Permit fees ranging from \$30 to \$1,250
 - ▶ Average fisherman pays \$300 annually
- ▶ Recreational anglers now harvest significantly more fish than commercial for many economically important species under a **free** registry. (Pay no permit fees but do pay federal tackle/fuel taxes)
 - ▶ Striped Bass: 15% Commercial; 85% Recreational
 - ▶ Black Sea Bass: 34% Commercial; 66% Recreational
 - ▶ Bluefish: 20% Commercial; 80% Recreational

How Should we Spend the new Revenues?

- ▶ Revenues from licenses support major marine programs (*not in priority order*)
 - ▶ Artificial Reefs
 - ▶ Increased Enforcement
 - ▶ Shoreline access sites/ Ocean Fishing Pier
 - ▶ Outreach and Education – Increase participation and stewardship
 - ▶ Health Advisories – Improved notification to subsistence fishers
 - ▶ Improved fisheries management data
 - ▶ Staffing/equipment support for Marine **Recreational** Fishing Programs
 - ▶ Expanded Field Studies
 - ▶ Research
 - ▶ MUNI Grants

Artificial Reefs





- 4 new reefs; 16 total
- \$500K annual budget
- Except \$10 million/yr during Reef Initiative
- SWL - \$3 million/year

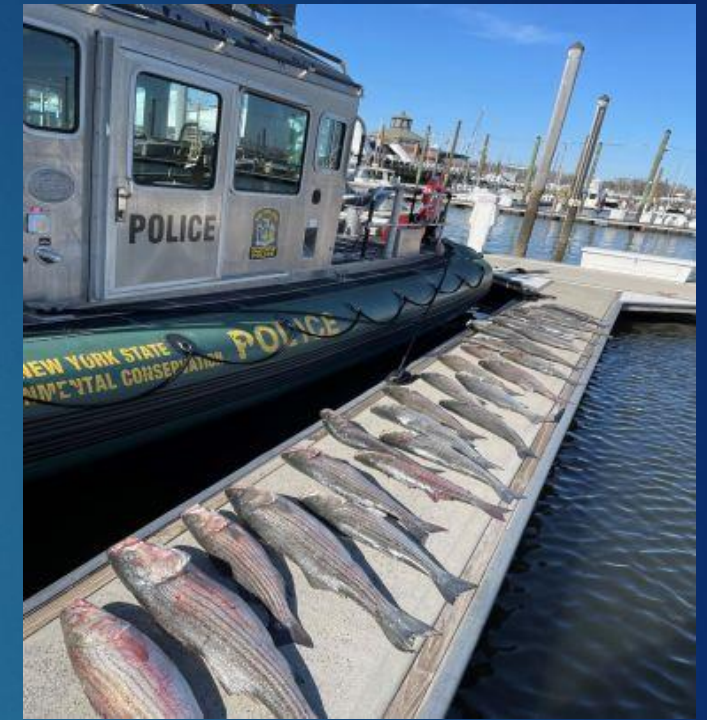




Waterway Access Sites
(Boat Ramps, Shoreline Access)
Hashamomuck

Ocean Fishing Pier

Enforcement



- ▶ ~ 2,700 miles of coastline in the Marine and Coastal District
 - ▶ Plus 3 miles and beyond into the Atlantic Ocean
 - ▶ Plus dozens of Bays, Coves, Rivers, Tidal Straights, etc.
- ▶ Currently <10 Officers to cover
- ▶ Enforcement also responsible for Federal JEA and Homeland Security
- ▶ Fishing Community Constantly Complaining over lack of enforcement
- ▶ Increased Enforcement Revenues
 - ▶ Courts unsupportive of a **free** license



Spending plan – Phased over Several Years

Phase 1: Service to Anglers – 2024-2025

Phase 2: Staffing, Data, Monitoring – 2025-2026

Phase 3: Staff, Ecosystem Programs – 2026 -2027

NOTE: An existing or new oversight group could be included to monitor expenditures generated from a fee-based license (ex. Marine Resources Advisory Council)

Phase 1: Service to Anglers – 2024-2025

Possible expenditures

- ▶ Artificial Reefs: increase from \$500K to \$3 million annually
- ▶ Law Enforcement: Law Enforcement: \$1 million 2024; \$2 million 2025 and beyond
 - ▶ Five (5) new MEU Officers
- ▶ Shoreline Access - \$1 million 2024; \$2 million 2025 and beyond
 - ▶ Marine Waterway access sites
 - ▶ Ocean Fishing Pier
- ▶ Outreach and Education – \$500,000
 - ▶ Health Advisories
 - ▶ Fishing clinics
 - ▶ Kiosks
 - ▶ SW Fishing Guide

Phase 2: Staffing, Data, Monitoring

Possible expenditures

- ▶ Phase 2: 2025-2026: \$2.5 million
 - ▶ Recreational Fishing Staff
 - ▶ New Rec staff hires
 - ▶ New Rec data streams
 - ▶ Field Survey Enhancements

Phase 3: Staff, Ecosystem Programs

Possible expenditures

- ▶ Phase 3: 2026 - 2027: \$1+ million per year
 - ▶ Additional DMR Staff (ex. Habitat)
 - ▶ Research
 - ▶ Habitat Preservation
 - ▶ MUNI Grants

HOW?

- ▶ Advisory Group
- ▶ Outreach
 - ▶ 57 Fishing Clubs
 - ▶ 105 B&T Shops
 - ▶ Surveys
 - ▶ APAIS
 - ▶ Events and Shows

Matt Broderick Editor, Fisherman Magazine

Antoinette Clemetson NY Sea Grant Fisheries Specialist

Bob Danielson MRAC Recreational Fishing member (Surfcaster), NY Sportfishing Association Leadership

Melissa Dearborn Regal Marine Products; MRAC Recreational Fishing member

Tim Huss CFAB for LI, former DEC Conservation Police Major

Carl Lobue The Nature Conservancy, NY Oceans Program Director

John Mantione NY Bait & Tackle Industry; J&J Sports – Bait and Tackle

Joe Paradiso President, NY Sportfishing Association, LI North Fork Charter Captain, MRAC Recreational fishing member

Paul Risi MAFMC NY Council Member, Charter/Party Boat Captain

Chris Squeri NY Marine Trades Association Exec Director

Charlie Witek MRAC Member, Former NY Chapter Exec Director for Coastal Conservation Association

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!



NEW YORK STATE RECREATIONAL SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE SURVEY



Take a brief survey by
scanning the QR code
below or visit:

<https://on.ny.gov/swlsurvey>

Join us during one of our in-person open house meetings to learn more about a saltwater fishing license in New York. **Meetings will be held at:**
DEC Marine Resources, 123 Kings Park Blvd, Kings Park, NY



- Wednesday, September 6: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 12: 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 13: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Saturday, September 16: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Participants can attend any time during one of the sessions.
For more information call DEC at (631) 444-0430.



DEC OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS

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- Wednesday, September 13: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Saturday, September 16: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

TAKE THE SURVEY !!! QUESTIONS ?



GAS & Oil

