

## Q27 Any additional comments as to how the management of striped bass is affecting my guiding business:

Answered: 35 Skipped: 650

| #  | Responses   | Date               |
|----|---|--------------------|
| 1  | No  | 1/3/2017 1:04 PM   |
| 2  | It's getting bad out there we need to stop poaching   | 1/3/2017 12:19 PM  |
| 3  | Still waiting for the reduction to a one fish limit to pay off, which I'm sure it will. The other problem is the lack of menhaden north of Cape Ann.  | 1/2/2017 8:29 PM   |
| 4  | I'm having to learn tonfish for other species so when the bass fishing does not pan out, I have something else to hopefully encourage my clients to fish for. I'm also spending. More time looking for fish and trying new spots and techniques more often.   | 1/2/2017 8:11 PM   |
| 5  | Done  | 1/2/2017 3:15 PM   |
| 6  | My anglers just want to catch fish, no matter the size. They have no issue with the slot limit on the Hudson River.   | 1/2/2017 10:14 AM  |
| 7  | Because of the lack of stripers in my area, I have retired from the guiding business. It is not worth all of the effort for such little results. Sorry!   | 12/31/2016 9:55 AM |
| 8  | The current regulations give anglers the incentive to fish for, and keep, large trophy fish. Ergo, the need for a slot. We can take lessons from the state of Florida where slots, and species, are watched very closely by species. The fishery there is extremely important to their economy and way of life. Also, there are a number of guides/captains that are not properly licensed. Meaning they are operating without a CT charter/party boat license. This means the state is losing revenue for the resource and conservation enforcement, and anglers (many not knowing) are taking fish without a license because they assume they are covered by their guide's license. SF should require ALL guides on their site to provide copies of their licenses every year, and a photo of their license plate "prominently" displayed on their vessel. Guiding without a license is another form of poaching. | 12/31/2016 9:03 AM |
| 9  | This year my inshore flats fishing clients caught many more 2011 class fish. I like seeing all these small fish and It gives me hope for the future of the fishery. What bothers me is the 7 menhaden trollers scooping up all the menhaden off the coast of Chatham, Ma (Cape Cod ) this fall. This bait fish is the health of our Striper fishery and better regulations should be put on eliminating this over harvest. This was the first season in many years that we had large schools of menhaden of the coast of Cape Cod w/ schools of large Stripers feeding on them.   | 12/30/2016 8:07 PM |
| 10 | When the Asians and Spanish take hundreds of undersized fish prior to DEM being able to catch them, and when they are caught they are back at it again tomorrow or next week the lack of strict punishment for this stuff destroys my guiding. 10 years ago my clients brought in over a 1000 fish in a month, lucky if now there's 10 keepers in a month. I'm outta business cause of them fuckers.  | 12/30/2016 7:15 PM |
| 11 | Fishing in south jersey was terrible this year. We had to travel 40 miles north to find fish  | 12/30/2016 7:12 PM |
| 12 | 5 year moratorium on bass fishing is needed. Management is killing me business.   | 12/30/2016 6:22 PM |
| 13 | during the summer months large portions of ches bay have no Stripers above 19 inches. Keeping one fish per person of 19 would help fishing parties.   | 12/15/2016 8:42 AM |
| 14 | Many guides act like they have seniority or are are very entitled to fishing certain water, including keeping fish for customers. Just because they are able to be on the water more, doesn't neccisarrily mean they are good at what they do. There is this misconception that fishing guides are stewards for the fisheries, many are, but quite often they are just chasing around the endless summer and have become pompous in thinking their decisions are king. I could go on all day, but quite often the modern day guide disappoints me and gives a bad rep for the ones that are going beyond to protect their local fishery/environment.  | 12/11/2016 1:46 PM |
| 15 | I am not a full-time guide, so my annual number of trips is relatively low and remains steady from one year to the next. So my overall business has remained steady, not declined, despite the more challenging striped bass fishery.   | 12/10/2016 2:09 PM |
| 16 | Honestly 95% if my clients enjoy the trip and they are not obsessed with keeping a fish. Last year out of 20 trips only one client keep a fish a 40 + inch fish. But on the other hand 20 years ago we could fish and catch 10 to 15 fish per trip, in the 35 to 38" size. Now if we get 1-3 we are lucky. Some change.   | 12/9/2016 1:28 PM  |

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| 17 | higher price for commercial permits. closed entry for commercial permits. price for catch and release only permits and a higher price for the one fish a day. better on the water policing of commercial fishing. circle hooks for all in land fishing using bait artificial lures with only one hook a hot line to call wardens. wardens doing the jobs and not traffic details. or just get people who will do it  | 12/8/2016 5:22 PM  |
| 18 | During the summer. It is now very difficult to catch even a few stripers. Those are mostly 12 17 inches, even at the primes locations and tides. My clients just want to go out and have fun. Keeping fish is low priority. When you go out to fish a prime tide and time of day constantly casting a fly for 4 hours, get only a couple of small hit and catch a few 12 1/2 to 15 inch stripers. you have to wonder why you are out there as it is not worth the time an money. My clients appreciate the honesty when I tell them what they can expect. It is hard to take as a guide as your mind tells you all these prime spots should hold fish and yet you try spot after spot and find them dead. I have long time customers that remember the good fishing at all these prime areas and can't believe things have changed like they have. I see no chance of improvement any time soon. | 12/8/2016 4:39 PM  |
| 19 | Need to end commercial harvest   | 12/7/2016 10:32 AM |
| 20 | Isn't helping much.  | 12/7/2016 7:24 AM  |
| 21 | I am retiring at the end of this year.   | 12/6/2016 3:10 PM  |
| 22 | End commercial harvest, severe and permanent penalties for poaching, fund research.  | 12/6/2016 3:03 PM  |
| 23 | Led me to sell my boat some years ago and now borrow a boat from another Captain if need arises  | 12/6/2016 12:05 PM |
| 24 | The increase of population of school sized fish in easy to access flats and back waters has significantly increased fly fishing requests. These areas provided an abundance of fish giving the most novice of fly fisher shots at many fish on lighter tackle. The trips are safe for the angler and the fish, as the fish are generally under size limit and are caught in an easy to release environment. It also provides the passer-by an opportunity to witness the catch and release process which many non-anglers do not even recognize as a practice, especially on the ocean.  | 12/6/2016 9:54 AM  |
| 25 | Terrible year so far ...few under size fish and very few over 22 inches.   | 12/6/2016 5:24 AM  |
| 26 | I've pretty much given up on my guiding service; it's way too discouraging to take people out and have them catch nothing or very few fish. 20 years ago we almost never got skunked; now it's a regular thing...  | 12/5/2016 10:44 PM |
| 27 | Beach replenishment along our beaches is having a major impact on the striper runs here. We have little to no structure along our beaches to hold bait, so the stripers pass us by. This is a southern NJ concern as neither NJ has more natural beaches and other structures. Our fall run was nonexistent this year. We are just now getting a few bass here, but they remain well off our beaches and are few and far between.  | 12/5/2016 8:40 PM  |
| 28 | Hard to believe how little they actually know. What have they done with the money we gave them?  | 12/5/2016 8:39 PM  |
| 29 | The Lack of real management is leaving my clients with fewer opportunities to catch a fish let alone a Big Fish. We always do Catch and Release, and always get Great pictures and measurements with My Nikon DSLR, that can actually be given to a taxidermist so he can recreate the exact fish that was caught.   | 12/5/2016 6:41 PM  |
| 30 | The customer base is getting smaller.  | 12/5/2016 6:05 PM  |
| 31 | Protect the local population with bonus tags and avoiding a slot limit   | 12/5/2016 5:02 PM  |
| 32 | Stock too depleted   | 12/5/2016 4:49 PM  |
| 33 | I have seen improvement in the fishery over the years in Raritan Bay.  | 12/5/2016 4:19 PM  |
| 34 | Manage the Bass by what's best for the fishery. Stop managing this resource by how much money can be made off of it. Bring back the stock levels and the economics of this fishery will take care of itself.   | 12/5/2016 4:13 PM  |
| 35 | We need more equalized age classes to the degree that nature will allow that. Right now its' a roller coaster year-to-year on both size and #'s.   | 12/5/2016 4:10 PM  |