

2018 ANNUAL ANGLER SURVEY

Q19 Any comments about the current management of the fishery?

Answered: 252 Skipped: 198

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Lack of visible enforcement	2/3/2019 6:18 AM
2	Too many fish killed by 6 pack boats taking two trips per day with up to 6 anglers Too many fish killed by commercial fishermen	2/2/2019 11:07 PM
3	I don't want this magnificent gamefish put to the brink of extension	2/2/2019 6:20 PM
4	In Maine, we do not get the stripers that we should because Massachusetts still harvest commercially. It like the stripers have to pass "the Massachusetts gauntlet" to reach Maine. Maine suffers due to regulations south of us. thanks for asking.	2/2/2019 5:50 PM
5	no	2/2/2019 8:56 AM
6	Hard to say if there are long term trends in stock. Every year is different. Seeing consistent pogies in Maine for last 3 years.	2/2/2019 6:18 AM
7	Open EEZ for catch and release only	2/2/2019 12:48 AM
8	Any regulations are hard to enforce without enough resources. Some states have better resources than others so I'm not sure the best way to address this.	2/1/2019 9:42 PM
9	The Striper population can not sustain the current harvesting and should be closed commercially. A schoolie slot limit should be imposed to save the breeding stock.	2/1/2019 8:02 PM
10	NY needs more DEC enforcement	2/1/2019 7:01 PM
11	Charter boats should not be able to keep bass!	1/31/2019 9:13 PM
12	For the first time in our lives, neither my fishing buddy or I did not catch 1 striper over 28"!!!! We did catch meany under sized. We are strictly catch & release ,but in years past have caught as meany as 30 or 40 MUCH larger fish!	1/31/2019 10:25 AM
13	Lots of smaller fish, very few larger ones (and virtually no bluefish). Things seem to be way out of balance.	1/30/2019 3:34 PM
14	favor seasonal limits instead of daily	1/29/2019 5:19 PM
15	This is not necessarily a fishery management comment but my personal experience over the past 5 years is that I am catching few big fish. Four years ago I landed 19 keeper size fish (all released) on the fly. Last year I caught 0 keeper size fish. I fished approx the same amount both years. This is also the case for all of my fly fishing friends. We are losing our breeder size fish and anyone who doesn't think so is in denial or uninformed. Thanks for all you guys do.	1/29/2019 1:02 PM
16	No	1/29/2019 11:15 AM
17	Over the past few years I am seeing more schools of smaller Stripers on the Cape Cod Flats. There has also been more schools of bait other than sand eels which is encouraging.	1/29/2019 9:37 AM
18	We should view the population of striped bass as in a stressed state and implement meaningful regulation to prevent further reduction of spawning fish. I STRONGLY believe we should have striped bass stamps that limit the daily consumption to those who pay for stamps (like salmon/steelhead/halibut) in the Northwest. Stamps would finance enforcement and prevent abuse of the possession limits. Of course, commercial fishing should be eliminated.	1/29/2019 7:58 AM
19	Only challenge I see is enforcement. Too much poaching with little to no penalty. Real abuse needs real enforcement	1/29/2019 2:14 AM
20	Need to have the same regulations state to state ie same size quota,	1/28/2019 8:15 PM
21	people should be better educated on how to release fish properly. Fishing rivers during as spawning season should be banned. Banning herring harvest should help the striker population. Beach replenishment takes its toll on catching bass on the surf.	1/28/2019 8:06 PM

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22	I know a commercial fisherman and the amount of bycatch is astonishing it has to be changed to protect the fishery	1/28/2019 8:01 PM
23	The bite in the back bay fishery near me has been greatly diminished.	1/28/2019 5:58 PM
24	I am one of those concerned about the mercury content of, especially, larger stripers. As a result I am in favor of harvesting smaller fish (slot limit) while leaving the larger fish as breeders.	1/28/2019 4:20 PM
25	They should stop all of the fishing in the EEZ of Block Island	1/28/2019 3:59 PM
26	Too political and not focused on preserving the species	1/28/2019 3:58 PM
27	In NJ fishing for bass has been very poor the last few years and its getting worse. Many of the fish have changed their migratory pattern and are staying out beyond the 3 mile line. We need to keep the EEZ closed to striper fishing and advocate for more enforcement in that area. On a positive note I did catch my personal best at 54.8 lbs last spring and there was a really good run of small stripers along the NJ shore this fall which is a good sign for the future. We need to stop harassing these fish with light tackle as it increases their mortality rate. When the bite is on, people need to stop calling all their friends on cell phones and posting reports all over the internet as that leads to more bass being killed even if they are released.	1/27/2019 9:32 PM
28	Something has to be done to restrict the harvest of 19" fish in MD. I also believe there should be restriction or cap prohibiting harvest on the larger fish larger similar to what was done with red drum.	1/26/2019 3:29 PM
29	Need to continue to conserve conserve conserve! Catch and release.	1/26/2019 12:24 PM
30	We concurrently need to protect forage fish like menhaden to allow for healthy stripers.	1/26/2019 11:19 AM
31	Total mismanaged in Ma. Eliminate commercial. More enforcement, raise license cost 25.0p	1/25/2019 2:44 PM
32	Too many illegal immigrants taking under sized fish. We need better enforcement. High Profile prosecutions!!	1/25/2019 1:26 PM
33	Would not be opposed to a temporary moratorium.	1/25/2019 12:35 PM
34	I fish off cape cod mostly. The seal population off Monomoy is ridiculous. I have a summer home on bass river in West Dennis. Up until 2 years ago I've never seen seals in the river/estuary. This year I saw more than ever. When you read about how much a full grown seal eats a day, it's concerning as to the impact their having on the striper population. They need to cull that seal herd, it's getting way out of control. I also have a 4 yr degree in Wildlife/forestry so I'm not talking from a disgruntled fisherman's perspective! It's time to do something with that seal herd.	1/25/2019 10:25 AM
35	Keep up the fight.	1/25/2019 5:36 AM
36	I wish fishermen would put back the larger fish. I would love a slot limit and curtailing the commercial harvest.	1/24/2019 9:48 PM
37	Commercial fishery needs to end. Slot limit is a good idea.	1/24/2019 8:26 PM
38	The process heavily favors the commercial interests. Why the political decision makers favor the commercial fishermen is an incomprehensible mystery. Illegal commercial harvest is a disgraceful and significant drain on the biomass.	1/24/2019 6:26 PM
39	Out of control.	1/24/2019 5:39 PM
40	FUBAR	1/24/2019 5:31 PM
41	The commercial season should not be extended if quota is not reached. Period! They go over some years, under others. So be it.	1/24/2019 5:07 PM
42	Been fishing for them 20 plus years. We are in TROUBLE with the commercial fishermen and their practices. The 3 month slaughter in the canal in 2017 was horrible, many big fish killed. Getting sick of this bullshit , year after year...Make it an effin gamefish, get rid of the commercial bullshit, and enjoy the Stripers COMING back..	1/24/2019 4:24 PM
43	Striped Bass over 35 inches should not be aloud to be kept under any circumstances. The big females should be protected.	1/24/2019 4:17 PM
44	There needed to be limitations on bait fish such as bunker which have decreased substantially in RI	1/24/2019 4:11 PM
45	We had one of our better years in Gun Point Cove. Schoolies, but better than past five years.	1/24/2019 4:08 PM

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46	I think there should be a slot limit 28-32" Also would like to see more Law Enforcement. And stricter, there's too much, OK we'll let it go this time crap going on.	1/24/2019 4:04 PM
47	I believe it's geared strongly towards for hire charters that are more interested in filling a box rather than enjoying the sport of it.	1/24/2019 4:02 PM
48	keep fighting for stripers to be a game fish only no commercial fishing...	1/24/2019 10:29 AM
49	Shortsighted, highly political, unsustainable, catering to the needs of the few as opposed to the many	1/22/2019 12:45 PM
50	could be much better	1/22/2019 10:49 AM
51	More enforcement of current regulations.	1/22/2019 10:00 AM
52	none	1/21/2019 7:21 PM
53	While i have not seen less bass in numbers recently, I feel the average size has gone down. The slaughter that goes on in their winter and summer waters needs to be better regulated. . . like the Chesapeake and cape cod.... A lot of people practicing catch and release need to realize their handling may be killing them as well, and need to take better care...or letting them go may not be helping at all. Holding from the gills, keeping out of the water for 10 minutes trying to get the best picture, just throwing back in the water after a fight and photo session, etc	1/20/2019 3:00 PM
54	Allowing the harvest of large females is counterproductive. We must institute coast wide slot limits. Practice CPR with the big girls.	1/20/2019 2:57 PM
55	Current management is worried about money and not the fish	1/20/2019 12:54 PM
56	Is there a fishery that commercial interests haven't almost destroyed? Cut menhaden harvest in half. Have a great 2019...	1/19/2019 11:47 PM
57	Keep the omega fleet out of the bay and gill betters need to be gone as well.	1/19/2019 9:12 PM
58	Bring back the slot	1/19/2019 6:33 PM
59	Big problem with menhaden commercial fishing and squid. Complex legislation that favors commercial. And state of MASS should have NO commercial days where fake commercial people slaughter the bass.	1/19/2019 8:54 AM
60	Ecosystem based overview is the only answer. No bunker no game fish. Omega Seafood is going to kill the bunker population.	1/18/2019 8:08 PM
61	I have surf cast in Truro since 1960. There have never been fewer game fish. It's the seals stupid!!!!	1/18/2019 11:42 AM
62	This year was terrible from the NJ surf. Sandy Hook to Island Beach State park to LBI. What's happening? No peanut bunker ever showed. Finally caught schoolies in Dec. Been hard core surf and fly fishing for stripers for 30 years.	1/17/2019 4:21 PM
63	make it a game fish with more funding for enforcement	1/17/2019 9:52 AM
64	Stripers should simply be declared a game fish.	1/16/2019 5:24 PM
65	The ASMFC along with Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey and New England manage striped bass horribly. We also must keep in mind to not allow charter boats, charter boat associations and lobbyists for charters Influence ASMFC and local DNR's. Striped bass bass and every other fish should be managed for abundance NOT what is good for someone's wallet or business. I do not know about other states but here in Maryland the Charter boats have way too much influence on regulation. When financial interest is involved the fish will always lose!	1/16/2019 4:51 PM
66	Stop commercial netting. impacting a hand full of people	1/16/2019 4:23 PM
67	We need to get all east coast states on the same page.	1/16/2019 11:55 AM
68	Requires looking at real life data day to day analysis of what is being caught, how much and where. Analysts and scientists need more involvement in what is actually occurring outside of the office and labs.	1/16/2019 11:09 AM

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69	The current system is flawed. Striped bass migrate up and down the East coast. The regulations should be standardized at this point. The breeders need to be left alone to help get the stock numbers back up. Bunker need to be protected as well to that the forage for these fish is there. Beach replenishment needs to stop as well due to it's destruction of striper habitat as well as forage species habitat. Then there is the overall lack of enforcement. The issues run so deep I'm not sure it can be fixed.	1/16/2019 10:48 AM
70	Manufacaterers, publication and the For Hire fleet can not be trusted to put the resource first. ASMFC isn't designed to make the tough decisions needed. System is broken.	1/16/2019 10:43 AM
71	The current fishery is in trouble one way to help us to have a coast wide slot limit between 28-32 a tight slot limit along with enforcement will help	1/16/2019 10:15 AM
72	Too focused on commercial harvest.	1/16/2019 9:54 AM
73	I think we should consider a coast wide moratorium on striped bass.	1/16/2019 9:46 AM
74	No	1/16/2019 9:07 AM
75	The fact that no changes are possible until 2020 is incredible.	1/16/2019 9:04 AM
76	We need fewer landings. No fishing in spawning grounds during the spawn. All fish over 50 lb returned to the water Reduce both the recreational and commercial landings. Preserve and protect bass habitat	1/16/2019 7:39 AM
77	Yes make striped bass a game fish .	1/16/2019 7:32 AM
78	Commercial fishing for striped bass has to end. The recreational fisherman, too, needs to let most, if not all, of his fish go. I suppose it's asking too much to require recreational fisherman to return 100% of their catch, even though that is what responsible fisherman do. I chose to keep fish on the smaller end of the scale, as I think the smaller ones are not the breeders that the big ladies and men are.	1/15/2019 5:19 PM
79	Too may breeders being taken commercially as evidenced this last season. By not enough 34+ fish being caught to fill the commercial quota.	1/15/2019 10:35 AM
80	For me this past season (both the spring and fall) the fishery was a little better with larger fish being caught, although I only kept a couple of the smaller ones for consumption.	1/14/2019 5:00 PM
81	Eliminate the commercial fishery and don't allow recreational fishermen to keep fish either.	1/14/2019 12:22 PM
82	Too many large fish allowed to be kept and they are prime breeding stock.	1/14/2019 10:51 AM
83	I never thought the ASMFC would be so blind to the downward trend in the Striper population as to allow us to get back to the state that existed prior to the moratorium. Having started fishing for stripers in 1976, I feel I speak from a place of knowledge when I say the the striper fishing has been on a sharp decline for shore-bound anglers since 2003.	1/14/2019 3:39 AM
84	Breeders and fish approaching that size are called "keepers" and have been the ones legally killed. This hurts the future of the species.	1/13/2019 4:18 PM
85	current management needs to change to protect the striped bass fishery more efficiently	1/13/2019 12:32 PM
86	Understaffed and no with shutdown unde paid	1/13/2019 2:38 AM
87	catch and release only til complete rebound verified by third party (non-biased)	1/12/2019 8:28 PM
88	Striped bass management has been disappointing for a long time. The future looks pretty gloomy for just about all of our saltwater fisheries especially bass. The only legislation that seems to pass is the Modern Fish Act for he purpose of killing striped bass in the EEZ.	1/12/2019 12:41 PM
89	Keep smaller fish, mandatory release of breeders.	1/12/2019 12:17 PM
90	Too much cheating	1/12/2019 12:15 PM
91	It appears that commercial fishermen control the fishery	1/12/2019 11:48 AM
92	I feel strongly that the minimum length should be upped to at least 32" but 36" would be better. We will "suffer" for a few years but the benefits for the long term will be worth it.	1/12/2019 11:46 AM
93	No	1/12/2019 10:47 AM

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94	Rod and reel commercial fishing has in the past and will continue in the future to do more damage to spawning stocks than any other fishery in the state of RI for several reasons. Poaching, discarding of fish to "high grade" to larger size, ( these fish are not discarded until larger fish are caught resulting in 100% mortality), Targeting large fish that are more likely to be "spawning stock". This fishery is "greed driven" by a high market value that encourages cheating and poaching by a relatively small number of participants. Until enforcement takes a more proactive position this situation will continue to have a negative impact on the management of the fishery.	1/12/2019 10:41 AM
95	It sucks	1/12/2019 8:43 AM
96	stop talking and start acting before it is to late	1/12/2019 8:19 AM
97	The management of striped bass cannot be discussed without the discussion of destruction of the stocks major food source , menhaden. Without a replenished menhaden stock the stripers will continue to decline as our food web needed to support a large striper population is coming apart . The commercial menhaden fishery has reduced the menhaden stock to 1-2 % of its unfished biomass. The Atlantic lobster fishery should be decertified and labeled unsustainable as it is consuming a disastrous amount of wild caught menhaden and herring to support lobster fishery. Good luck , you are doing a good job alerting people to this horror show.	1/11/2019 7:21 PM
98	Notice an increase in schoolies and a lack of cows this year. Used circle hooks for years and when the hooks works as marketed it is great but at least 50% of the time the stripers I catch on bait with circle hooks are gut hooked. And unlike J hooks that the stripers may be able to swallow the circles hooks are a death sentence as the hooks pins the gullet closed.	1/11/2019 2:50 PM
99	Slot limits should be created with the ability to keep one trophy fish per year	1/11/2019 12:45 PM
100	If we go to a slot we need to not allow harvest in rivers and back bays where some striper reside year round. If a slot or any harvest is allowed in these areas well be back to square one with a diminished stock.	1/11/2019 11:03 AM
101	Management has dropped the ball again. The I think both rec's and comm's quota are to high. There seems to a an abundance of small fish and very few fish over 36 inches. I think we need a catch and release of fish over 38 inches. I see very few fish of this size being caught from the surf. would not like to see another moratorium like the one from from the mid 1980's	1/11/2019 10:26 AM
102	To many large fish (female) been caught by rec.angler.	1/11/2019 10:09 AM
103	Can't keep killing all the breeders and expect to have fish. Should only be allowed to keep fish under 26"	1/11/2019 9:34 AM
104	Worst year since I started fishing 40 yrs. ago.	1/11/2019 8:21 AM
105	In my experiences, Striper fishing on the Cape has been steady over the last few years with many shorts accounting most of the action... a good sign for sure. Instead of slot limits I think any fish over 42" should be released.	1/11/2019 7:44 AM
106	Make it a game fish...	1/10/2019 11:36 PM
107	They seem out of touch.	1/10/2019 7:33 PM
108	It needs to continue to improve over time	1/10/2019 7:21 PM
109	Force a release the breeder campaign anything over 32 inches release	1/10/2019 7:01 PM
110	Striped bass need to be a sport fish	1/10/2019 6:28 PM
111	None	1/10/2019 6:27 PM
112	Management does not fish so they have no idea how bad the fishing is. I spent 3 weeks in Montauk this year and had no striped bass for my efforts.	1/10/2019 6:20 PM
113	to many breeders are being killed	1/10/2019 5:56 PM
114	Make a game fish !	1/10/2019 4:57 PM
115	There are way too many inconsistencies from state to state. The laws need to be standardized. It doesn't make sense for some areas to be able to commercial fish and kill many breeding fish when only feet away others are held to one fish per day recreationally. There are some states where the culture seems to be to target and kill the large breeding fish. I would like to see them given gamefish status and made catch and release only for every state. I know that will never fly so I would like to see a program instituted like the more successful redfish program.	1/10/2019 4:48 PM

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116	Until we stop killing the brood stock it's difficult to make progress in this fishery. I won't even take a striper charter because we'll kill these magnificent creatures some upwards of 50 lbs. I've been fortunate enough to have caught many bass over 40 lbs and have released them all. "Make it a Game Fish"	1/10/2019 4:46 PM
117	Only fished the last four years. Omega boat was up here in Rockaway. Took 4M pounds of bunker in early September. We saw NO fish on the beach. We did see fish in deeper water off the boats. Surfcasting was a complete joke. Enforcement needs to be serious. Some people are taking short fish! Make licensing serious. Take short fish? ding em \$\$\$. Take em again or poach? revoke license for lifetime. No more fishing or put em in jail for 180 days and then more. Striped bass should be a game fish. Each of us is spending thousands a year on recreation. Trips. hotels. Gas. rods, reels... and we take maybe a handful of fish. Last thing: Bass tournaments should be outlawed. We are killing all the big fish. Tough not to take that big one, but why encourage more of that with tournaments? Good luck guys!	1/10/2019 4:34 PM
118	Needs Improvement in law enforcement.	1/10/2019 4:30 PM
119	Until the data says otherwise about the striped bass population, I think we need to put a moratorium on harvesting stripers! If we do that sooner than later the population can come back more quickly!	1/10/2019 4:06 PM
120	I'm alarmed by the lack of bigger fish in Massachusetts waters. There seem to be a lot of smaller fish, identical in size. I don't think it's a healthy population right now. I also believe there isn't enough emphasis on managing forage fish such as squid, menhaden and herring.	1/10/2019 3:40 PM
121	The current and future management should be by professional biologists, not fishermen that answer surveys.	1/10/2019 3:30 PM
122	Massachusetts needs a slot! Too many breeders being taken.	1/10/2019 3:22 PM
123	Rhode Island ; like Massachusetts and Connecticut , SHOULD HAVE A SLOT LIMIT . I know guys in Narragansett Anglers that TAKE 4 to 6 30+" fish EVERYTIME there's a tournament . And THESE ARE BREEDERS . They take them because they are NOT held accountable like the rest of us . The Slot Limit would LEAVE THE BREEDERS ALONE . To bad for the rest of us .	1/10/2019 3:21 PM
124	As much as I'd love to see it, I don't I'll ever see commercial fishing eliminated for SB in my lifetime. Capt. Bill Hassan	1/10/2019 3:12 PM
125	Circle hooks have actually INCREASED the number of bass that are "gut-hooked". Management must also protect forage species for stronger bass numbers.	1/10/2019 2:17 PM
126	Would prefer total gamefish status, but would support any reductions to both recreational and commercial take.	1/10/2019 1:21 PM
127	Greater number of much smaller fish the last 3-5 years, nothing like 20 years ago	1/10/2019 1:04 PM
128	End commercial season	1/10/2019 12:26 PM
129	No fish,sport fish	1/10/2019 12:25 PM
130	catch and release with no commercial fishery .Slot sized fish may be taken home .	1/10/2019 12:25 PM
131	We are taking to many fish out of the biomass. Hopefully management does the right thing like the previous crash. I'm 40 years old so hopefully Bass will recover by the time I retire. During the last crash at least we had tons of bluefish which isn't the case now. I'm not sure if I will continue fishing if thing continue to be mismanaged.	1/10/2019 12:20 PM
132	S/B HOOK AND LINE ONLY, NO COMMERCIAL FISHING FOR STRIPED BASS, A RECREATIONAL FISH ONLY.	1/10/2019 11:46 AM
133	I know this is a tricky issue because opening waters beyond three miles to commercial fishing would potentially be detrimental, but to forbid recreational fishing there is outrageous. Stripers Forever should advocate for legal recreational fishing with strict limits and ther appropriate conservation measures (circle hooks for bait, lures with single hooks only, etc.,) in federal waters.	1/10/2019 11:38 AM
134	More enforcement against the phony sportsmen who keep and sell stripers on the side.	1/10/2019 11:15 AM

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135	The only reason my season this year was better is because I worked harder and had vastly more time to fish than in seasons past. The amount of time I had to put in to catch just a handful of 30lb+ fish (plug, no canal fishing) is, frankly, embarrassing. In the past, I would have been a schmuck. Now, you're just "lucky" to even catch a 30lber a year- or, you have to work extremely hard. PS- The canal should be catch and release only, or closed to fishing during certain months, etc. It's turned into a trout pond slaughter, and it's disgusting. I don't fish it, went twice this year and was so disheartened by what I saw I don't think I could ever go back.	1/10/2019 11:14 AM
136	The fishery should be managed as a whole, and not as individual allotments	1/10/2019 11:04 AM
137	It is wrong to allow our best fishermen ( commercial ) to harvest our best breeders.	1/10/2019 10:53 AM
138	End the "trophy rockfish" season in Maryland. It kills too many breeders. And I know people cheat. Catch their limit in the morning and go back out in the afternoon.	1/10/2019 10:49 AM
139	He'd to adapt a slot size	1/10/2019 10:41 AM
140	Not qualified to make a comment	1/10/2019 10:24 AM
141	Please keep the pressure on to remove stripers from commercial harvesting.	1/10/2019 10:12 AM
142	not well managed	1/10/2019 10:11 AM
143	Slot size	1/10/2019 10:00 AM
144	NJ should go to one fish and a bonus tag since we have no commercial fishery to avoid the needless slaughter of big fish	1/10/2019 9:59 AM
145	The striped bass fishery in Montauk from the Surf is OVER. Overfishing in the Rips of MTK by charters and Rec anglers plus the commercial pressure has made the fishery here unrecognizable from just 5 years ago.	1/10/2019 9:57 AM
146	Eliminate commercial catching completely. Police and enforce party boat catches. Prohibit keeping breeder-size fish.	1/10/2019 9:56 AM
147	Control the draggers from inland fisheries and limit the areas they can fish, as they are killing many species of fish they cannot keep. They also ruin it for shore fisherman by catching all the bait and fish near shore as well as bottom fish. they should be at least 5-25 miles off shore and even then there are so many fish dumped that could be sold that just die, it's disgusting.	1/10/2019 9:56 AM
148	I would like to see stiffer penalties for illegal poaching both commercial and recreational enforcement	1/10/2019 9:38 AM
149	Put more anglers on the fishing board	1/10/2019 9:31 AM
150	There are far to many striped bass. They are feeding on many of the other game fish, weakfish ,sea bass, blackfish etc. and damaging the other fisheries. Lower the size limit and increase the daily bag limit.	1/10/2019 9:01 AM
151	I feel like the commercial dagggers really hurt the sticks, based on the amount of undersized fish they kill in their bycatch. I think we should go back to 2 fish quota, but at least one fish, if not both, should be 32" inches.	1/10/2019 8:57 AM
152	I've said this before. If you truly want to designate striped bass as "gamefish only" you would have a much better chance by compromising and designating a segment of the striped bass biomass as gamefish, say everything over 40 inches, much like what other regions of the country have done with snook, redfish, etc. Compromise and we/you may have a chance!	1/10/2019 8:33 AM
153	Shortsighted	1/10/2019 8:07 AM
154	We should consider areas that are set aside where gill netting is not allowed, e.g. Within 5 miles of Montauk point and other sensitive migratory or spawning/ aggregation areas.	1/10/2019 7:58 AM

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155	I feel strongly that NJDNR (officers) should more actively/rigorously enforce the possession laws, both from shore, and beyond the 3 mile line..fine first time offenders ( not just a warning ), and imprison second time offenders...if first time offenders get caught with 81 fish, and they simply can't afford to pay the fine in full within 90 days, then they should be imprisoned for 30 days. IMO The laws need to be in enforced, and the harshness of penalties for possession increased. // classes and seminars held locally throughout the state should be offered during the Winter months (JAN-MAR) regarding the decline of the fishery, and the impact that we all play (recreational & commercial) on the dwindling fishery..... IMSO - BEACH REPLENISHMENT AND COINCIDENTAL WEATHER PATTERNS KEPT THE BIG BAIT OFF SHORE THIS YEAR...So there was no driving need for the bigger Bass to come in close...so the impression we have from shore on the condition of the fishery is more probably dire than that of the guys with the boats.	1/10/2019 7:45 AM
156	Leave it alone.	1/10/2019 7:34 AM
157	Maryland needs to get in line & start protecting the fishery.	1/10/2019 7:25 AM
158	Not consistent with scientific data	1/10/2019 6:18 AM
159	bait, bait, and bait.... Menhaden mgmt!	1/10/2019 6:14 AM
160	I think the fisheries have purposely misrepresented survey data in a manner that reflects little or no change in the fishery. Additionally, the technology being employed is far behind. There are companies such as ANGLR Labs that provide a recreational-use log book that utilizes data collection far beyond that of the fisheries. I think if ANGLR's technology was further utilized by recreational fishermen, it could be used to provide more acute data, as well as trends of the recreational fishermen. Further, I have heard that ACCSP and the North Atlantic Fisheries have merged, which would create an obvious conflict of interest. The Vineyard Wind project may also pose risk to the fisheries, which has been greatly overlooked by the fisheries and other organizations. The official study conducted reports numerous flaws in their data collection and research, yet, it will still be used as a baseline of marine health in the proposed turbine areas.	1/10/2019 2:51 AM
161	it varies from state to state. i knock em dead in mass but can't get arrested in n y.	1/9/2019 11:52 PM
162	Educate people about killing large breeding bass.	1/9/2019 11:03 PM
163	I like the idea of a stamp - I also thing that if there is a Rec harvest there should be a tagging program so anglers can keep a certain # of fish per year. Sort of like deer.	1/9/2019 10:30 PM
164	Something needs to be done. The fishery is in serious decline	1/9/2019 10:29 PM
165	need to reduce pressure on valuable breeders	1/9/2019 10:01 PM
166	Should end killing of large breeder fish for commercial and recreational purposes.	1/9/2019 9:54 PM
167	Even Smmaaaall schoolies are getting smaller	1/9/2019 9:46 PM
168	Law enforcement isn't able to do enough. We need more community supported enforcement.	1/9/2019 9:18 PM
169	I have never before seen so many small bass. I would presume that bodes well, but there should be absolutely no commercial bass fishing of any type whatsoever.	1/9/2019 8:58 PM
170	This fishery has deteriorated until it is now a shadow of what it could be. I feel the loss very deeply!	1/9/2019 8:36 PM
171	Get rid of the spring trophy season - we're allowing the killing of our breeding stock. It's just crazy to continue this!	1/9/2019 8:35 PM
172	We need all catch and release fishing until the stocks are restored to the level of the mid 90's.	1/9/2019 8:32 PM
173	During breeding season all fisheries should be mandated as catch and release only.	1/9/2019 8:29 PM
174	Stripers should be made a game fish.....Period	1/9/2019 8:28 PM
175	This fishery needs to be managed as a whole and not state by state. A migratory fish species needs to be managed that way. There should be set regulations up and down the coast. You can't burn the candle from both ends and expect a healthy fishery. Hope that a high slot limit could be proposed something like 34-39" so that every fish should be able to spawn and any fish that survive the gauntlet would be able to pass on its good genetics.	1/9/2019 8:12 PM
176	As a guide I see lots of smaller fish gut hooked with the circle hooks. Less so on bigger fish.	1/9/2019 8:11 PM



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177	Size requirements should be standard for the whole coast, not change from state to state. Commercial gill netting should be banned within a 200 foot area at low tide. And if quotas exceed the daily limit, the excess should be added to the next day's quota so they then take less. Amagansett this fall- 1 guy, 4000+ POUNDS of 30-40 pounders thrown back dead & WASTED because the gill netters over caught.	1/9/2019 8:08 PM
178	I would like to say a federal regulation in terms of size and slot limits for the entire eastern seaboard. Something of a slot limit 24-32" and 1 fish per person per day.	1/9/2019 8:05 PM
179	ban commercial sale of wild striped bass everywhere	1/9/2019 8:01 PM
180	I, as many others feel, that the forage fish is being removed in a non-sustainable manner causing issues with Striped bass and other gamefish.	1/9/2019 8:00 PM
181	There should be no commercial striped bass fishing, make them a game fish. Charter boat mates and operators should not keep fish for the boat if out for hire.	1/9/2019 7:57 PM
182	In the last 5-7 years the Stripers have declined a lot from the beach in Southern NJ. It use to be that you would at least catch a short now that happens rarely.	1/9/2019 7:30 PM
183	Ensure recreational everyday people have access to fresh fish their willing to catch themselves. Whatever science, economics and logic say is required to make it happen.	1/9/2019 7:27 PM
184	I never understood why we keep large breeding stripers - put them back. Keep several smaller ones which would include males and females.	1/9/2019 7:27 PM
185	There doesn't appear to be any active management in ME, certainly no enforcement	1/9/2019 7:20 PM
186	Party boats from Mass to Virginia are DEVASTATING stripers non stop. Regulations on these needs to be changed	1/9/2019 7:19 PM
187	Got to do something about number fish taken in Chesapeake area	1/9/2019 7:15 PM
188	My comments on success and size improving are purely because I have dramatically improved as an angler. I do see less overall fish activity and think there is a definite decline. I think more enforcement is need both on land in heavily trafficed areas like Montauk or Canal and off shore in boats	1/9/2019 7:08 PM
189	Those that are apprehended violating current regulations seem to get off with a minor slap on the wrist!	1/9/2019 7:05 PM
190	Caught, tagged and released one 18" striped bass in 53 trips in 2018.	1/9/2019 7:03 PM
191	It's managed like poo. Very simply we as anglers owe it to our kids and their kids to educate them to catch and release. Not everything needs to be dinner. We must stop killing fish because it's in our nature. We must educate and release.	1/9/2019 6:58 PM
192	The overfishing on the breeding stock is already signs of disaster. It is disheartening to watch this fishery collapse ever so slowly in front of our very eyes. Never saw a striper until I was 19. Didn't even know much of the history of the fisheries previous collapse. History proves not to be the perfect teacher.	1/9/2019 6:54 PM
193	At least I saw more shorts this year. For a while there I was only seeing breeder sizes. Population seems to pendulum back and forth.	1/9/2019 6:53 PM
194	The fishery is failing they should shut down the commercials and make the Striper a sport fish	1/9/2019 6:44 PM
195	no	1/9/2019 6:43 PM
196	I did not fish for striped bass this year.	1/9/2019 6:34 PM
197	Good questions. I hope Maine can keep the circle hook requirement and it spreads to other states!	1/9/2019 6:28 PM
198	It sucks. They need to make the striped bass a game fish along the entire east coast. No bass larger than 28 inches should be taken. These bass need to be released.	1/9/2019 6:26 PM
199	Ideally I believe a moratorium is in order. However as far as the reality goes if bass have to be kept nothing below 28 inches or above 32 inches.	1/9/2019 6:20 PM
200	It is mismanagement. There isn't a single species that has been restored to historical limits.	1/9/2019 6:19 PM

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201	Biggest problem other than over fishing the breeding stock it the habitat problem. Where I am in Cape May it has gotten bad. There is little to no forage fish like there use to be not all that many years ago. With the lack of food fish there can never be a strong fishery like we use to have as fish need food. When there is not a good food source they move along or head further offshore. Dredging, beach replentishment, and run off have been the biggest problem. The size and numbers of the fish gets worse each year with less resident fish.	1/9/2019 6:17 PM
202	A lot of schoolies this year. Fewer adult bunker. Minimal shore blues. Minimal herring	1/9/2019 6:13 PM
203	Striped Bass fishing in my area is definitely worse than it was 5 or more years ago and getting worse. The regulations up and down the east coast need a good hard look. We need to stop the decline of the big females. The big girl Striped Bass need to be protected. The commercial guys need to be stopped. They kill the stock of all species of fish not just Striped Bass.	1/9/2019 6:12 PM
204	I would encourage more vigorous support of catch & release among recreational anglers.	1/9/2019 6:05 PM
205	Need 1 fish limit on the entire coast. Also need to protect the female breeders. I also feel it may be too late unfortunately	1/9/2019 5:59 PM
206	I believe that the Chesapeake Bay states have regulations in place that are detrimental to the Atlantic coast fishery.	1/9/2019 5:58 PM
207	The current management is a joke . There needs to be a slot rule for the entire east coast and the Chesapeake bay as well as the cape cod canal should be designated as a catch and release only area.	1/9/2019 5:57 PM
208	It sucks. Management waited too long to take proactive measures to insure a viable fishery.	1/9/2019 5:50 PM
209	Surf fishing for stripers does not relate to what boat fishermen can catch or do catch. More fish stay out away from the beaches.	1/9/2019 5:40 PM
210	The current regulations do absolutely nothing with regard to achieving a stable population. The management practices that are now in place are lunacy as far as preserving a healthy population of bass. im Not going to go into my thoughts on this as it would be redundant and take up to much of your time. My survey answers speak for me. Good luck with the slot!	1/9/2019 5:40 PM
211	make the bass a game fish.	1/9/2019 5:35 PM
212	Three years ago I caught and release 300 fish on my fly rod. Last year I took 30. Something is seriously wrong. Commercial fishing must end. We also must do more regarding global warming and political advocacy. It is all related.	1/9/2019 5:35 PM
213	The fish are out side of the 3 mile limit should extend it to at least 5 miles have the bonus fish be any size give us a 4 fish a day	1/9/2019 5:32 PM
214	Recreational fishing brings in far more revenue to areas in terms of direct and indirect monies. Keep up the fight to end commercial striped bass harvesting!	1/9/2019 5:30 PM
215	All of my fishing is with a fly rod from shore	1/9/2019 5:26 PM
216	By the size limits they place on us they are forcing us to kill the bigger breeders absolute stupidity	1/9/2019 5:26 PM
217	Mismanagement leads to bad commercial and recreation practices. Stricter laws/regulations are vital. The idea of a striped bass stamp is great. A common sized slot limit throughout the coast is needed.	1/9/2019 5:25 PM
218	One fish 22-28 one fish 28-42 one fish over 42 this will be a trophy fish tag valid one fish per year fine for not affixing tag 2500 dollars	1/9/2019 5:24 PM
219	Make all states the same standard.	1/9/2019 5:24 PM
220	some great questions..thanks for putting this out there. I hope you get a positive and overwhelming response for the Striped Bass Fishery from the recreational market.	1/9/2019 5:23 PM
221	Stop the planned sand dredging operation at Morris Island in Chatham! No need for it and a disaster for the fishery and environment.	1/9/2019 5:23 PM
222	Enforcement should increase in preventing Sport and commercial catching Stripers outside the EEZ. It is wide spread even amongst charter boats.	1/9/2019 5:23 PM
223	Mismanaged. Not enough enforcement in some states	1/9/2019 5:23 PM
224	I just wished all the states had the same fishing laws	1/9/2019 5:23 PM

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225	Recreational take needs to be reduced also to restore the health of the fishery.	1/9/2019 5:20 PM
226	I think seasons should be changed to not start until mid-May. In NJ the Raritan bay fishery targets the breeder fish who are staging before moving up the Hudson to spawn. This should be stopped.	1/9/2019 5:20 PM
227	End killing bass by commercial and recreational	1/9/2019 5:17 PM
228	Appreciate your continuing advocacy. Thanks	1/9/2019 5:17 PM
229	It sucks	1/9/2019 5:16 PM
230	Managing menhaden that stripers feed on is as important as managing stripers.	1/9/2019 5:15 PM
231	Needs to be atlantic states shutdown for commercial and recreational for many years!	1/9/2019 5:14 PM
232	I believe the breeder size bass should be protected. There is an abundance of smaller fish available.	1/9/2019 5:13 PM
233	The current management is ineffective.	1/9/2019 5:12 PM
234	End commercial striper fishing. Also, I think we need coast wide management and need to end special rules for states like Maryland and New Jersey. Letting Maryland waterman slaughter the 2011 year class, when they were undersized, makes no sense.	1/9/2019 5:12 PM
235	Need a strong conservation effort to protect forage species.	1/9/2019 5:11 PM
236	its the same old same old, the amount of \$\$\$\$ brought in by tourists from fishing so out weighs the few \$\$ of comercial fishermen. Especially when fleets of boats on commercial days go out and jig up bass after bass of breeding size. Plus as you know the quota was not reached until or even if it was reached by Oct. Seals are adding to the elimination of bass thank you for your time R Crafts	1/9/2019 5:11 PM
237	Catch and release, proper release, needs to become the culture for stripers, not the exception. Every charter captain and guide needs to be educated on this so they can educate their customers. Eat chicken!	1/9/2019 5:09 PM
238	No	1/9/2019 5:09 PM
239	There should be stricter fines for environmental laws that include forfeiting equipment ie boats, trucks used int the crime. This could be auctioned off to help fund more enforcement.	1/9/2019 5:09 PM
240	We cannot manage ourselves let alone the fisheries	1/9/2019 5:07 PM
241	The new slot should be 36-45 inches, nothing bigger or smaller. Hudson River closure till 6/1 or catch and release circle hooks like what NJ does on the Delaware River.	1/9/2019 5:06 PM
242	I did not catch a single fish over 28 inches this year. The number of fish was about the same, just the quality was less.	1/9/2019 5:05 PM
243	The resource needs to stop being managed from a "well, we're not at disaster stage yet" perspective, and move to being managed as a healthy, sustainable fishery.	1/9/2019 5:03 PM
244	If the current management remains in place then stripers will be extinct because all legal fish are females and should be allowed to breed.	1/9/2019 5:01 PM
245	The fishing has definitely declined , I'm not sure what the cause is cause there's many factors but I think we should do a slot fish and or 1 fish over 28	1/9/2019 5:01 PM
246	I NOTICE THAT AMERICAN FISHERMEN WHEN CAUGHT BREAKING THE LAW THEY GET FINED. NONAMERICANS WHEN CAUGHT BREAKING THE LAW ARE GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE. WHY? BECAUSE JUDGES SAY THEY ARE ALLOWED TO DO THAT IN THEIR COUNTRY. MY FEELING IS THEY SHOULD BE PUNISHED THE SAME AS AMERICANS BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT IN THEIR COUNTRY. WHEN A FEW GET BUSTED AND FINED IT WILL GET AROUND THEIR COMMUNITIES AND THEY WILL STOP BREAKING THE FISHING REGULATIONS.	1/9/2019 5:01 PM
247	I think that in my state it's managed horribly. Commercial fishing needs to end and we need way more enforcement to end the rampant poaching and some laws that actually have some teeth for those caught. Seize and sell off their gear, boats etc to pay for more enforcement.	1/9/2019 5:01 PM
248	Short sighted and stupid	1/9/2019 5:00 PM
249	its backwards, corrupt, political and doesnt have the majority or our long term economic and emotional benefits in mind. Maryland for one needs to step in line and the new governor is unhinged.	1/9/2019 4:59 PM

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250	Current organizations responsible for Striped Bass are refusing to use current data and are relying on old data. That same approach is what led to the moratorium in the 80's	1/9/2019 4:58 PM
251	It sucks!	1/9/2019 4:54 PM
252	Nope	1/9/2019 4:53 PM