Hurricane Sandy Takes Toll on Garden State Fisheries

The U.S. Department of Commerce in mid-November approved NJ Governor Chris Christie’s declaration of a federal fishery resource disaster as a result of the devastation to the commercial and recreational fisheries industries caused by Hurricane Sandy.

“I strongly support Acting Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank for acting swiftly to respond to my request for help for New Jersey’s fishing industries, which suffered serious losses during the storm,” Governor Christie said. “My administration will be working closely with federal authorities to assess the extent of the storm’s economic impacts and in developing a response that will help the fishing industry in this time of great hardship.”

Sandy resulted in significant losses for the industry in New Jersey, damaging or destroying vessels, ports, facilities, and equipment. It also caused coastal areas where the industry needs severely damaged or inaccessible. The Commerce Department’s declaration also applies to New York’s fishing industries, which also sustained heavy losses during the storm.

“We are taking action because of the storm’s devastating impact on the people who live and work in coastal communities that were hit hard by Sandy,” said Acting Secretary Blank. “Many of these hardworking Americans depend on a robust fishing industry to support their families and local economies. This disaster declaration is the first step in providing federal assistance to help the region rebuild.”

The federal fishery disaster declaration triggers a federal economic transition program to provide disaster relief for impacted fishermen, charters, operators, processors, and owners of related infrastructure affected by the disaster.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has begun preliminary work to assess economic impacts of the storm to the industry and has teamed up with officials from the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to visit commercial and recreational fishing operations, charter fishing operators, processors, and owners of related infrastructure affected by the disaster.

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The Christie letter also stated “The revenue loss for New Jersey’s fishing industry is both now and in the future - a significant infrastructure and economic resource that will need to be revived. For this reason, a federal catastrophic regional fishing industry disaster declaration and assistance via a regional economic transition program is appropriate. Such a declaration for New Jersey will assist in obtaining immediate disaster relief assistance for all negatively impacted fishermen, charter fishing opera- tors, United States fish processors, and owners of related infrastructure affected by the disaster.”

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RECREATIONAL FISHING AND BOATING ADVISORY

DEP Issues Recreational Fishing and Boating Advisory

TRENTON – Due to damage caused by Hurricane Sandy, several water temperature advisories in the state went offline, resulting in the temporary runoff of effluents into certain waterways. As a result, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in early November advised boaters, anglers and crabbers to temporarily avoid these waterways and is advising residents not to eat any fish, crustaceans or shellfish from these waters due to contamination from pathogenic bacteria.

Affected water includes the New Jersey portion of the Hudson River, Passaic River, Hackensack River, Newark Bay, Kill Van Kull and Arthur Kill, Raritan Bay, Raritan River, and Sandy Hook Bay. If you are boating or fishing in these waters, you are advised to thoroughly wash, clean and disinfect any gear immediately.

In addition, the DEP is conducting tests of certain estuaries of the Atlantic coastline. Officials are encouraging all anglers, crabbers and boaters to visit the Hurricane Sandy and Fishing webpage at nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/ for updates on this advisory. In addition, please visit fishmartesmtart.org for current fish consumption advisories.

Anyone consulting fishmartesmtart.org will find a map with specific fishery consumptions. This is a tool for safety and health precaution. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has worked closely with members of Congress and the governors of impacted states to develop financial assistance plans to help coastal communities and the fishing industry.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act authorizes the Commerce Secretary to declare a fishery resource disaster and a catastrophic regional fishery disaster, respectively, which allows Congress to appropriate federal relief funds for assistance to alleviate harm resulting from a natural disaster.

Upon appropriation of funds by Congress, Commerce’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will work closely with members of Congress and the governors of impacted states to develop financial assistance plans to help coastal communities and the fishing industry.

In a letter written to Blank, in which Governor Christie had stated the request for a declaration of a federal fishery disaster resource, he noted: “New Jersey’s fishing industry is not only a defining element of the Jersey-Shore and a crucial tourism draw, but it is also vital to New Jersey’s coastal economy and invaluable to the state’s recreation and educational activities.”

Governor Christie continued, “Indeed, New Jersey’s fishing industry provides jobs for fishermen, fish processors, and related maritime support industries, among others. In 2011, New Jersey’s commercial fishing industry landed roughly 175 million pounds of seafood, generating over $1.3 billion of economic activity. Similarly, the economic impact of recreational fishing also supports approximately 8,500 jobs and $1.4 billion in annual sales.

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Anthony Mauro, Chair of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), commented: “Chris Christie’s action would be heart- ened to see that Governor Christie, state legislators, and the Department of Environmental Protection continue to recog- nize the significant economic and environ- mental contributions made by out- doorsmen and women to New Jersey. These contributions are both quali- tative and quantitative. Conservationists are stewards of wildlife and the environment, while supporting businesses as diverse as tackle shops, charter boats, restaurants, hotels, gas stations, marinas, boating, etc. The deblithisim from Sandy on these businesses is unprecedented.

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If you can’t fish because your favorite access point, marina, or dock is gone because of Hurricane Sandy, Chris Zeman, New Jersey’s representative to the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fishery Council, would like specifics.

Mr. Zeman is writing the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to get federal disaster aid for the recre- ational fishing industry and is looking for the help of anglers.

He is looking for recreational anglers to provide some details as to where specific infrastructure damage has occurred. The reports should be one to two paragraphs, include location and a photo.

E-mail your reports to Chris Zeman, chrisz@optonline.net. Place “Sandys fishing-related damage” in the subject line and include your name and town.
## County Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs Information Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Meeting Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Germania Gun Club</td>
<td>Eric Gaupp</td>
<td>609-513-8542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bergen</td>
<td>3rd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Bergen County Communities Service Bldg., Rm 29, 327 Ridgewood Ave., Paramus, NJ</td>
<td>Frank Dara</td>
<td>973-523-2640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burlington</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>The American Legion 39 Pemberton-Juistown Rd., Pemberton, NJ</td>
<td>Bill Schultz</td>
<td>856-235-3344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camden</td>
<td>3rd Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Square Circle Sportsmen Club 97 Clementon Rd., Gibbstown, NJ</td>
<td>Bill Schemel</td>
<td>856-931-5099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape May</td>
<td>3rd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August (please call for up-to-date information)</td>
<td>Ken McDermott III</td>
<td>609-412-3811</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Manantico Gun Club Union Rd., Maurice River Twp., NJ</td>
<td>Bob Russell</td>
<td>856-327-2197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Bloomfield Civic Center 84 Broad St., Bloomfield, NJ</td>
<td>Carmine Minichini</td>
<td>908-864-5713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloucester</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of month, 7:45 PM except July and August</td>
<td>George Ruch Building 14 St. and Highland Ave., Williamstown, NJ</td>
<td>Thomas Weeas</td>
<td>856-629-9465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Northern Region Office of Fish &amp; Wildlife, Clinton WMA, 26 RT 173 W, Hampton, NJ</td>
<td>Loren Robinson</td>
<td>908-782-1076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer</td>
<td>3rd Monday of month, 7:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Sportsmen’s Center US Highway 130 N., Bordentown, NJ</td>
<td>Rick Moore</td>
<td>609-882-2202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlesex</td>
<td>1st Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Polish American Citizen’s Club 66 Adirondack Ave., Spotswood, NJ</td>
<td>John Messerei</td>
<td>732-828-8543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monmouth</td>
<td>4th Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>4 F’s Gun Club Burke Rd., Freehold, NJ</td>
<td>Ken Ganson</td>
<td>732-566-0841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of month, 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Mine Hill American Legion Post 391 1 Legion Place, Mine Hill, NJ 07803</td>
<td>John Rogals</td>
<td>732-691-9355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August (please call for up-to-date information)</td>
<td>Larry Cella</td>
<td>908-839-0193</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passaic</td>
<td>Last Monday of month, 7:30 PM except June and July</td>
<td>The Wayne Civic Center, Room 3 1006 Hamburg Tpk., Wayne, NJ</td>
<td>Richard Weber</td>
<td>732-697-1814</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salem</td>
<td>Tuesday after 3rd Friday of month, 7:30 PM except Jul., Aug., and Dec.</td>
<td>Salem County Sportsmen Clubs RT 40, Carneys Pt., NJ</td>
<td>Dave Cesaroni</td>
<td>856-223-0409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday of month, 8:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Somerset Fish &amp; Game Protective Assoc. 445 Milltown Rd., Bridgewater, NJ 08807</td>
<td>Joe Griglak</td>
<td>908-526-9026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sussex</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday of month, 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Sparta Ambulance Building 14 Sparta Ave., Sparta, NJ</td>
<td>Dick Strobel</td>
<td>732-967-3989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>1st Monday of month, 8:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Union County Complex Building 300 North Ave. East, Westfield, NJ</td>
<td>Ray Spadoni</td>
<td>908-403-5789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>4th Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Pequest Trout Hatchery RT 46, Liberty Twp, NJ</td>
<td>Bill Engelhardt</td>
<td>908-625-9699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Trapping Course Held**

Dear Oliver,

On Saturday-Sunday, September 22-23, the NJ Trappers Association held a trapping course at the Hackertown Hatchery. There were 75 attendees, including 45 who had preregistered and 30 walk-ins. The instructors were NJTA President Jim DeStephano, Vice President Rick Moore, Secretary Jimmy Sapios, Treasurer Bill Guiles, Stephen Urena, Tome Mulea, Chris Quilliam, Ed Mayer, Bill Phillips, Phil Cacchio, Jay Staudt, Bob Connon, Bob Healey Jr., and myself.

This was the largest class that the NJTA has ever had. The day was saved when Keith Griglak of the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife went Pequest to get 25 chairs that were needed for the walk-in students.

The weather was beautiful and the harvest was plentiful. The Pledge of Allegiance, led by Bill Guiles, was recited, and the class began with a review of the rules and regulations.

After lunch, the class was taken out to the fields to set snares. Bob Healey conducted his always-informative body-grip raccoon-fleshing demo, which is a must-see for fur handlers.

The day ended with Jim DeStephano inviting the 75-student class to the NJTA held the subsequent October 7 at Space Farms.

Doug Edler
Ringwood, NJ

**Canada Moose**

Dear Oliver,

While waiting for the New Jersey extended bow season to start, I took a trip to Canada for some moose hunting and bagged a nice one (see photo at right). I saw you posted a picture of some strippers for Oscar in the October issue (I let him read my papers when I am done with them.) Thanks!

Bill Allen, Lambertville, NJ

**Youth Deer Hunt**

Dear Oliver,

I have forwarded to you a photo of the November 17 Youth Deer Hunt (see photo at right). Pictured are our future hunters from the Clementon Gun Club in Atco, NJ. This club is one of the most active in Camden County and they are members of the Federation.

Bill Schmel via email

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  - Receives $1,000.00 excess liability insurance, membership certificate, and Federation’s Monthly Newspaper (12 issues)
- Insured Sportsman Member Household - $30.00 each
  - Receives Insured Membership without newspaper
- Sportsman Member - $20.00 each
  - Receives Federation’s Monthly Newspaper (12 issues) and Membership Card
- Sportsman Household Member - $35.00 each
  - Receives Sportsman Membership without newspaper

**Check if Emblem Patch Is Required - $5.00 each**

**Check if you wish to make an additional donation to the NJSFSC Legislative Fund**

**December 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of City</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Required Information</th>
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I was glad we had that chance, as old soldi- ers, to confirm each others’ memories.

Jim’s company, Leatherwood Hi-Lux Optics, is currently run by his son, who continues to turn out modernized versions of the original ART scope, but also a series of 19th-century “Malcolm” style scope sights for black powder rifles. The latest incarnation of the Malcolm is designed to fit reproductions of early Winchester lever- action rifles. It will also be able to fit these mounts to the Henry or Model 1866 reproductions.

The scopes are backed with a Limited Lifetime Warranty. Retail price is $299 for the 3x and $325 for the 6x. For more information visit the Hi-Lux Optics website at www.hi-luxoptics.com, or send an e-mail to info@hi-luxoptics.com.

A Book of Distinction

Last year, Mathieu Willemsen approached me (along with several other people) for some assistance in preparing the English-language edition of his book The Art of Trial: Prototypes and Test Models of International Military Small Arms of the 19th and Early 20th Century. Mathieu is curating the firearms collection of the Legermuseum in Delft, Holland, and the book provides a history and catalog of the railgun, the museum collection acquired and/or tested for possible issue to the Dutch army from 1800 into the early 20th century. The collection, housed at the Dutch army’s Normaal Schiet-school at Breda, dates back to 1855 until that institution was closed for budgetary reasons in 1933 as the Great Depression spread across Western Europe, is now at the Legermuseum.

Although I worked with the manuscript, I did not see the finished product until I received my copy in the mail in late July, 2012. This well-documented and lavishly illustrated book, printed on high-quality glossy paper, more than lives up to its promise. It is a truly stunning piece of work, and I don’t say that often. Mathieu’s extensive history of marksmanship train- ing in Europe in general, and in the Dutch army in particular, during the black-pow- der era is invaluable, and the diversity and scope of the guns cataloged and beautifull- y photographed, along with details excerpted from test reports still on file in the Dutch National Archives, provide the reader with a genuine treasure trove of firearms and ammunition history.

I am delighted with my own connection to this ground breaking treatise (I receive no royalties from its publication) and would recommend it to the serious stu- dent of international arms. Needless to say, the book isn’t cheap: retail price is $165, but it is well worth it.

Conservation Officers reported a total of 18,440 additional patrol hours, 211 patrols, officers performed 6876 field inspections of hunters, fishermen or trap- pers. When Officer Holmes approached, he noticed an uncased rifle on the machinery, as well as an uncased pellet gun on the floor of the barn. When Officer Holmes got close, he also noticed that the man was sitting on an uncased shotgun shell, which was lying directly across the face of the man in the creek. All of the guns turned out to be loaded. The irate property owner stated that the two of them were hunting in the creek, All of the guns turned out to be loaded. The irate property owner stated that the two of them were hunting in the creek, the short fish as well as keeping bass in excess of the legal limit of panfish. The appropriate summonses were issued.

CO Mascio was at his station when he received a call from a complainant that a fisherman had caught and kept a sub- legal striped bass. The men were charged with the short fish as well as keeping bass during the closed season.

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Mackerel and Herring Spill December Fun

by Milt Rosko

Little did I realize I’d be writing this column with a pencil on a legal pad, while sitting in a fisherman’s shack on a cold December day. I was in the middle of a winter storm when we expected a couple of weeks before Christmas, sunny, in the low forties, with wind out of the south. Everyone around was making snowmen, and on that chilly morning when my dad and I left for the Jersey shore for a day of party boat fishing, we’d be doing the same thing. We drove to Brielle and boarded the Dianna, skippers by Bob Ziegler. Unlike the day on which I am writing this, it was a pleasant December day and our target was Atlantic mackerel. It was typical of the weather one would expect a couple of weeks before Christmas, sunny, in the low forties, with wind out of the south.

As we headed west along the south shore of Long Island, they’ve been inclined to make a swing southward into the Hatteras Island towards the edge of the Mud Hole, where sand eels and other forage of their liking is plentiful. It’s only an hour’s ride for most of the party boats sailing from Jersey northern and central ports. A plus is that they encounter herring – a species that’s both fun to catch and a great eat. We didn’t pick up any of the schooling mackerel, but the schools were right up against each other, all the way back up to Longport.

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We were joined by some of the twelve patrons on board the vessel and Hoffman’s Marina in Brielle. This vessel is named for the local fisherman who owns the marina and has given it that name. We were turned over to West Point’s Lieutenant Ely and his crew, who were on the patrol boat for the upcoming year, for those party boats out of Jersey northern and central ports. A plus is that they encounter herring – a species that’s both fun to catch and a great eat. We didn’t pick up any of the schooling mackerel, but the schools were right up against each other, all the way back up to Longport.

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An Affilable Amazon Adventure

You can feel the power for yourself if you embark on an excursion to encounter these powerhouse gamefish. Pete Robbins photo.

An Open Letter to NJ Sportsmen and Women

by Bob Brunisholz

This is, indeed, my last story during this year 2012 for the venerable Federation newspaper, which leaves me at least somewhat happy that I had the opportunity to use this comparatively modest bully pulpit to communicate with my fellow (and lady) sportsmen from the Garden State, an honor—to at least me—to do so.

Conversely, you, the sportsmen and women of New Jersey, don't make any things happen without fully-breaded with the metaphorical pen. You come in all sizes, shapes, and colors. You are a collection of people from one great nation, and you're comprised of a plethora of stripes, hues, persuasions, and affiliations. In short, you are a statistician's and linguists' worst nightmare. Sportsmen and women, especially from New Jersey, but nationwide as well, cannot be, nor will they allow themselves to be, placed in one, near, or distant category. We are who we are, and you come from a surfeit of religious, ethnic, racial, and socio-economic backgrounds.

Additionally, most of you are probably college educated. And a good many are not only the people with grades and experience in the fields of commerce, business, and sciences, but it is probably also the people with degrees of common sense and decency. In this instance, decency translates into simply the riddle of weird sayings: What do you mean and what do you say? When referring to sportsmen and women originating from all stripes and belts, there was a time that I naïvely thought if one were a hunting or shooting enthusiast, it therefore stood to reason that s/he would also be a conservationist, or at least a Republican. I've been at this outdoor writing game since 1984, and it didn't take long before I had a head-on collision with reality.

In case of one: The outdoor writer's groups to which I belong happened to host a gathering of scribes, and as usual, I initiated a conversation concerning those hand-wringing, limb-wrister liberals. My tirade was met by several in the group with annoyed stares and more than a few heated comments and few proclamations of most political.Defaultly, I've run into some minor glitches when it comes to saying what one means and meaning what one says. When referring to sportsmen and women originating from all stripes and belts, there was a time that I naïvely thought if one were a hunting or shooting enthusiast, it therefore stood to reason that s/he would also be a conservationist, or at least a Republican. I've been at this outdoor writing game since 1984, and it didn't take long before I had a head-on collision with reality.

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Just make sure that everything, from your split rings to your hooks, is ultra-strong. While we were there, one angler had two 42 treble hooks straightened by an angry teen-class peacock. Fifty-pound brand is the minimum and some peacock veterans won't risk it with anything less than 65- or even 80-pound line.

Our hands became raw, as the result of the hundreds of casts we made, all of which were retrieved at a high-speed, non-stop pace. A few bandages and some medical tape made them usable and palatable for the remainder of the trip, and frankly, when you're reeling in a 15- to 20-pound peacock, you 'll forget about the pain. We wore sun-protective clothing, wide hats, Buff facemasks, long sleeves and long pants) every day, and despite the equatorial sun we suffered no ill-effects as long as we drank water liberally.

It is truly an exceptional experience, one which in some respects will run you for future conventional bass fishing state-side, but it's one that every avid angler owes himself. Just be sure bring your heart pills, bring your ibuprofen, and bring something to bandage up your hands.

Travel: You'll stay overnight in Manaus, the city of a million people, flying a five-hour direct flight from Miami (currently American Airlines and TAM go straight from Miami; other airlines take a more circuitous route). A passport and visa are necessary to get into Brazil.

Food: No one goes hungry on these trips, which feature both Brazilian cuisine and American staples. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, along with meats, are both tasty and safe to eat. You'll get beef, chicken and fish. We ate a few more exotic choices like piranha (which we caught), caiman (which we shot), and turtle (which we netted). There are always options.

Health and Insurance: You'll want current Yellow Fever and Hepatitis shots. We opted to take anti-malarial medications, although the tannic waters of the Rio Negro tributaries produce few mosquitos.

Trip insurance is a necessity. With no pharmacies or doctors near the boat, you'll need Medivac coverage, and the chance of poor water conditions make rescheduling a possibility.

Outfitters: There is a number of reputable companies doing business in the Amazon region, but you'll want to get references before plunking down a deposit. Some travelers have experienced “bushwic” when they were charged more money once they arrived in Brazil or when they were given something other than the one promised. You'll also want to be sure that they'll reschedule in the case of high water that might make fishing poor. A good outfitter will tell you to reschedule rather than just pocketing your money for a trip. We've used Steve Yatomi of Adventure Travel Alliance (www.adventuretravelalliance.com) and we've been satisfied in every respect.

Case in point: One of the outdoor writer's groups to which I belong happened to host a gathering of scribes, and as usual, I initiated a conversation concerning those hand-wringing, limb-wrister liberals. My tirade was met by several in the group with annoyed stares and more than a few heated comments which are unprintable. When, on a cold, dreary, misty day a panicking mom is hysterically calling the police because she cannot find her toddler, those yellow headlights boring through the mist, the police when they arrive, ask any of them when the last time they were hunting or fishing? We've assumed Steve Yatomi of Adventure Travel Alliance (www.adventuretravelalliance.com) and we've been satisfied in every respect.

And when politicians align themselves with anti-sport groups, ask any of them when the last time was that they donated their time, labor, and money to an organization that protects birds and swamps or the outright purchase of hundreds, sometimes thousands, of acres of pristine wilderness holdings or some species of waterfowl. Or the last time they held a small tributary of the Rio Negro, a few hundred miles from the city of Manaus, and well over a 100 miles from the Amazon region, but you'll want to get references before plunking down a deposit. Some travelers have experienced “bushwic” when they were charged more money once they arrived in Brazil or when they were given something other than the one promised. You'll also want to be sure that they'll reschedule in the case of high water that might make fishing poor. A good outfitter will tell you to reschedule rather than just pocketing your money for a trip. We've used Steve Yatomi of Adventure Travel Alliance (www.adventuretravelalliance.com) and we've been satisfied in every respect.

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Are You a Good All-Round Fisherman? Take The Test!

by Vin T. Sparano

How do you rate as an all-round knowledgeable fisherman? Do you really know everything about knots, fish species, baits, rigs, lures, weather, and much more? If you score. Each correct answer to the 20 questions is worth 5 points. Good luck!

Question 1: An effective technique for locating a school of fish is to catch one, attach a school-do to it, and when the fish returns to the school, you can focus on the area and catch more of the same species. On which of the following correctly describes the rig?
- a- Carolina Rig
- b- Carolina Rig
- c- Carolina Rig
- d- Carolina Rig

Question 2: Who was responsible for the first circle hook design?
- a- Eagle Claw Hook Company
- b- All Welded
- c- Commercial Longliners
- d- Mustad

Question 3: The Carolina and Texas Rigs are both effective plastic worm rigs for largemouth and smallmouth bass. Which of the following correctly describes the rig?
- a- The Carolina Rig is a shallow running lure fished with no weight. The Texas Rig has a slip sinker and is designed to be fished deep
- b- The Carolina Rig, fished deep, uses a sinker at the head of the hook and worm. The Texas Rig is fished on the surface, skimming the worm to generate strikes.
- c- The Carolina Rig is designed to be fished in heavy weeds. The Texas Rig curls the plastic worm so that it can pass under objects.
- d- The Carolina Rig is designed to be fished deep with a slip sinker three feet ahead of the worm. The Texas Rig has a sinker at the head of the worm with the point of the hook buried in the worm to make it nearly weightless.

Question 4: When fishing offshore, what seabird is the most likely to find your fish?
- a- Gannet
- b- Frigate
- c- Pelican
- d- Roseate Tern

Question 5: What do you get when you cross a lake trout with a brook trout?
- a- A tiger trout
- b- A steelhead
- c- A sea-run brook trout
- d- A salmon trout

Question 6: When fishing a bay or inlet for any species, what is the best tide to fish?
- a- High tide
- b- Outgoing
c- Ebb tide
- d- Incoming

Question 7: What should your minimum and maximum legal fish lengths be for 12-pound-test monofilament line?
- a- 4-pound minimum, 8-pound maximum
- b- 6-pound minimum, 10-pound maximum
- c- 2-pound minimum, 6-pound maximum
- d- 8-pound minimum, 10-pound maximum

Question 8: When cutting up a baitfish, what part of the bait is generally considered the best for big striped bass?
- a- The tail
- b- The head
- c- The mid-section
d- A filet strip bait

Question 9: Which of the following would be considered a safe thickness for one person ice fishing on one of the New Jersey lakes?
- a- 2 inches
- b- 3 inches
c- 4 inches
d- 10 inches

Question 10: What is the one lure that continuously out fish every other lure in saltwater?
- a- Diamond jig
- b- Deep-diving plug
c- Bucktail
d- Spoon

Question 11: If you don’t know how to tie a big Beninia Twist to create a double line, there is another knot that’s easier to tie and just as effective. What is it?
- a- End loop knot
- b- Double-line shock leader
c- Double surgeon’s loop
d- Spider hitch

Question 12: Some species of fish love to hang around and under floating objects. Dolphin have such a reputation for hiding under floating debris, but what other species has the same reputation?
- a- Kingfish
- b- Yellowtail Snapper
c- Tripletail
- d- Permit

Question 13: What is one of the most productive and durable live baits for striped bass?
- a- Herring
- b- Eels
c- Sandworms
d- Baits

Question 14: What knot should you use when tying monofilament to wire leaders? (This is also the same knot you use when tying monofilament to monofilament of greatly different diameters.)
- a- Blood knot
- b- Nail knot
c- Albeigt
- d- Uni-knot

Question 15: Which of the following species will inflict a painful injury if mishandled?
- a- Trout
- b- Bass
c- Catfish
d- Walleye

Question 16: When a fisherman says he’s going to use a 6-inch baitfish, what is he doing?
- a- Planning to fish with a kite
- b- Rigging a mirrored teaser
- c- Trolling a rigged flying fish
- d- Putting out a large teaser with wings

Question 17: There are times, depending on the water conditions, when largemouth and smallmouth bass look similar in coloration. What’s the best and fastest way to differentiate these species?
- a- Coloration is brownish in the smallmouth and green in the largemouth
- b- Take the jaw in relation to the eye
- c- Connection of the dorsal fins
d- All of the above

Question 18: When a fisherman says he’s planning your tackle for a particular water temperature, what is he doing?
- a- Planning to fish with a kite
- b- Rigging a mirrored teaser
- c- Trolling a rigged flying fish
- d- Putting out a large teaser with wings

Question 19: Which of the following freshwater species is indigenous to New Jersey?
- a- Rainbow trout
- b- Brown trout
c- Brook trout
d- Lake trout

Question 20: Where did the concept for big bunker spoons originate?
- a- Automotive headlights
- b- Commercial Longliners
c- Big soup ladles
d- Hammered diamond jigs

Bonus Question (worth 10 points): The first tarpon taken on a fly tackle in the Florida Keys was caught on a freshwater fly. What was the year and the name of the fly?
- a- 1928, Mickey Finn Streamer
- b- 1933, Clouser Minnow
c- 1926, Royal Coachman
d- 1936, Gray Ghost

For the answers, go to page 10, and evaluate your score!
Once we arrive at home, the fire burns in the hearth, and the aroma of baking bread and cookies fills the air. The guests begin to filter in, dressed in their holiday best. We exchange gifts, stories, and laughter. The night is long, and we talk well into the early morning hours.

The next morning, we wake to a snowy landscape, the sun rising slowly over the mountains. We sit by the fire, drinking coffee and tea, as the world outside gently wakes up. Slowly, we begin to move about the house, setting the table, preparing breakfast. The air is crisp, but the warmth of the room is comforting. We chat and joke, enjoying each other's company.

As we all sit down to eat, we pass around the ornaments and cards that have been collected throughout the years. It's a moment of nostalgia and affection, as we remember holidays past.

After breakfast, we all head outside, the snow crunching under our boots. We walk through the woods, taking in the beauty of the winter landscape. It's a perfect day for a winter hike, and we all take turns leading the way.

By late afternoon, we return to the warmth of the house, exhausted but happy. We settle into the living room, where we play cards and games, enjoying each other's company. The night drifts on, and we chat well into the evening.

As the night draws to a close, we all wish each other a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We exchange hugs and kisses, promising to see each other soon. And then it's time to say goodbye, until tomorrow.

So, my dear reader, how do you celebrate Christmas? Do you have a favorite tradition or memory? Let me know in the comments below.

Happy Holidays to you all!
Winter is the time when most fishing seasons are winding down or at a standstill. The last-minute rush to prepare and organize tackle. The point is well taken, since a bit of reason-able effort and time spent now will pay off in the spring when you want to spend as much time as possible with your line in the water and not having to scrounge for and fuss with tackle.

Assuming an angler fishes both fresh and saltwater, one of the best organization-al steps he or she can take is to separate the two types of tackle. When the season opens you don’t have to want to have to sift through the tackle box and re-arrange stuff in order to get your hands on the ultralight spinning gear and fly-fishing tackle you use for trout.

Another important procedure that this columnist has found useful for the storage and use of both saltwater and freshwater fishing equipment involves separating the reels into two groups: one for immediate use and one for storage and future use. The main tackle box can be kept in a large tackle box and a cabinet, locked, or on a closet shelf or similar storage space. Extra hooks, lines, duplicates of favorite lures, spare spindles, leader material, bulk amounts of snaps and swivels, fly-tying materials, and lure making and rod-building repair components are best kept in a “reservoir” or cache until needed. The same goes for extra and out-of-season rods and reels, as those should be kept in a safe place until needed.

In-season tackle should be kept in a smaller field pack, tackle box, or vest, and thus be ready for immediate use. Such a kit should include spare hooks, pre-tied rigs, and other essentials necessary for the soon-to-come fishing out-ings in amounts compatible with the anticipated need. The philosophy here is to carry only what will be needed and used: while leaving unneeded items at home. Dragging around unnecessary gear means for added weight, and items that may require anglers to fish for better efficiency by getting in the way.

The main reason for organizing and tending to fishing gear and other angling-related equipment during the winter is to try to prevent problems from cropping up when you go fishing in the spring.

Some anglers advocate releasing the drag on a reel so as to reduce the strain on the reel’s internal mechanism when not in use. The period of non-use during the winter is an ideal time to clean and lubricate reels, by removing old gear grease with a suitable solvent and applying fresh grease and oil, as the case may be, to the parts of concern. Wooden toothpicks and old tooth-brushes are great for getting old lubricant residue out of the gear teeth and other hard-to-reach spots. If you don’t feel con-fident in tasks like this, you can put it back together, take it to a tackle shop that provides the service.

Check the mono line loaded on reels. Strip off the forward section of line that appears to be nicked, kinked, or otherwise overly worn. Some anglers like to tie a sec-tion of fresh line to the good line that is left. Others do not. If you choose to do this, use a low-profile knot for the attachment.

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A very large carry-over of raccoon pelts, which will depress the prices of that item. John stressed the importance of not trapping until the fur is prime.

Next to speak was Mr. Andy Burnett, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife biologist, who covered a number of items pertaining to the state’s wildlife populations. One item stressed was that coyotes now inhabit every county in the state.

After several agenda items were addressed and voted on, the election of officers for the coming year took place.
Back in early October, my wife and I eventually over- 
headed Lake Placid and rented a camp on Lake 
Placid for nearly 40 years to fish the 
famed Ausable River and some of the less-
known Florida guide, is used to tie shock 
liners who leave their baited gear unat-
tended, an important factor for long-
distance fishing because of its deadly 
hooking ability, would also become one of 
the three largest stripers ever 
found. Albright will also connect monofilament 
ment to an 80-pound-test leader. The 
much smaller, black, 12-pound-test line. That leaves one pound 
equal, but a minimum setting of 4 pounds 
will also track schools of dolphin, king-
fish, or an interpolatedDeep off son ice, the thickness should be doubled. 
Many fishermen prefer it because the knot 
remains strong, and it is easier to attach a 
boat or an anchor to a line using this method. 

Question 14: a- A bird. b- The 
head is by far the best 
location to aim for in 
whiting. c- The dark 

tactics allow you to 
fish without using a 
boat. d- A large teardrop. 

Question 15: a-c-d-e. 
The best times for fly 
and fly-fishing at 
Mir-a-Lac are in the 
months of June, July, and 
August. The main 
target species are 
smallmouth bass, 
 largemouth bass, 
and northern pike. 

Question 16: a- In recent 
years, an increasing number of fisherman have 
found that they can sometimes catch more 
fish on a fly rod to a dropper loop 
three feet above their lure. The eph- 
onyx is a large fish that is known for 
being a good sport, and it is also worth 
durable when casting for sharp-toothed 
to play such species, such as bluefish, pike, and 
walleye. 

Question 17: a- All of the above. b- On a 

largemouth, the jaw falls 
short of the eye or reaches only the mid-
point of the pupil. c- On a smallmouth 
the dorsal fins are nearly sep-
ated. d- Smallmouths also tend to 
be hook-shy, and a large bass is 
generally green in color. 

Question 18: a- A 

door is a large teardrop 
built with angled wings. 
When trolled, a 
door is a large teardrop. 
If a bird is trolled 
towards a flying fish, it 
imitates a flying fish. A bird is usually 
trolled ahead of a lure or a 
daisy chain. 

Question 19: c- The 
brook trout, in years past 
called “native” trout and 
actual version of a fish known as the 
Salmon River species, beginning in the 19th century 
and continuing to the present. 

Question 20: These 
tackle companies now pro-
duce these big bumper 
spoons, which can be used 
as a tooth or a 
swinging 

tackle hook. 

Bonus: b- 1926 on a Royal Coachman. The 
tarpon was caught by Col. L.S. Thompson 
for the 1932 Olympics, another reason that 
the town is a family destination: the 
Meadowbrook Campground on Route 
86 between Lake Placid and Saranac 
Lake. We had some great times in our little 
“tent city” there, until our last reunion 
when it cost a couple bucks a night, was 
a canoe and fly 

fisherman’s delight. We, a couple of former Marine Corps 
pals, would camp out in a con do at a fancy Lake 
Placid resort seven years ago, and went to 
lose our collective shirts before finally 
unloading it. (The wrong side of the 
real estate bubble burst on our parade.) 

But, that being finished, we realized 
would lose a whole winter each year for the next 30 (we should live so long) at 
the Mirror Lake Inn, which is our 
former con do, has a waterfront view. 
We’ve stayed there in the past and 
always found the charming and 
exquisite dining and a wonderful service. 
This is to be expected from an AAA Four 
Diamond inn, and our room had学了 to house four guest rooms, until MLI 
leader Ed Weibrecht decided it would be a 

Ed the Inn itself 
goes back to 1924, when 
Bonne Allen built the 
first building. Nearby 
married William Rufus Wiko of 
Massachusetts. The latter made a bunch of 

brush for Mr. Wiko’s “Brush 
Man” and created the “Mir-a-Lac” 
out of an old estate. It was winterized for the 1932 Olympics, another reason that 
the town is a family destination: the 
Olympic venues. It’s best known for the 

float, especially inshore for 

Its main惬意的 to believe in miracles? hockey team win, 4– 
3, over the vaunted Russians, perhaps 
the greatest moment in American sports. 

That tradition continues with the sites 
takes that the Big Ten. The 

cup with the most points at the 
Inn Resort & Spa the Number One resort 
and restoration project that 
rebuilt to continue welcoming guests to 

Meadowbrook Campground on Route 
86 between Lake Placid and Saranac 
Lake. We had some great times in our little 
“tent city” there, until our last reunion 
when it cost a couple bucks a night, was 
a canoe and fly 

fisherman’s delight. We, a couple of former Marine Corps 
pals, would camp out in a con do at a fancy Lake 
Placid resort seven years ago, and went to 
lose our collective shirts before finally 
unloading it. (The wrong side of the 
real estate bubble burst on our parade.) 

But, that being finished, we realized 
would lose a whole winter each year for the next 30 (we should live so long) at 
the Mirror Lake Inn, which is our 
former con do, has a waterfront view. 
We’ve stayed there in the past and 
always found the charming and 
exquisite dining and a wonderful service. 
This is to be expected from an AAA Four 
Diamond inn, and our room had学了 to house four guest rooms, until MLI 
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* Includes 7% sales tax on amounts allocable to range use per state law. New range members must attend a range briefing prior to using the range (held on the first Sunday of every month at the Cherry Ridge Club house, starting at 9:30 a.m.). See www.anjrpc.org for additional details.** Plus a service obligation fee of $40 for family membership. (other than primary members.)

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