



Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters Association

P.O. Box 3053 Edgartown, MA 02539

www.mvsurfcasters.org

January 2024 Newsletter

Hello Surfcasters,

Are you ready for the Banquet? In less than 10 days, we'll all be gathering to celebrate, eat, catch up, and cheer on the success of our club members.

Our Annual Banquet will be Saturday, Feb. 1st. We will be at the **Daniel Fisher House this year** – right next door to the Old Whaling Church. There is plenty of parking behind the Daniel Fisher House. Set up begins at 11:00, and the food will be served at 1 pm.



Everyone should bring a dish to share. Check out the list to your left and find out what you should bring based on the first letter of your LAST name.

Bring money! You can pay your dues, and you'll want to purchase lots of raffle tickets and buy into the 50/50 raffle.

Please bring any and all donations you have for our Annual Used Tackle Sale.

If you missed last month's meeting with Patrick Paquette, former president of both the Massachusetts Striped Bass Association and the Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association, you can read about and view some of the great information on our beloved striped bass in this newsletter.

I hope to see you at the Banquet!

Happy New Year!

Lisa

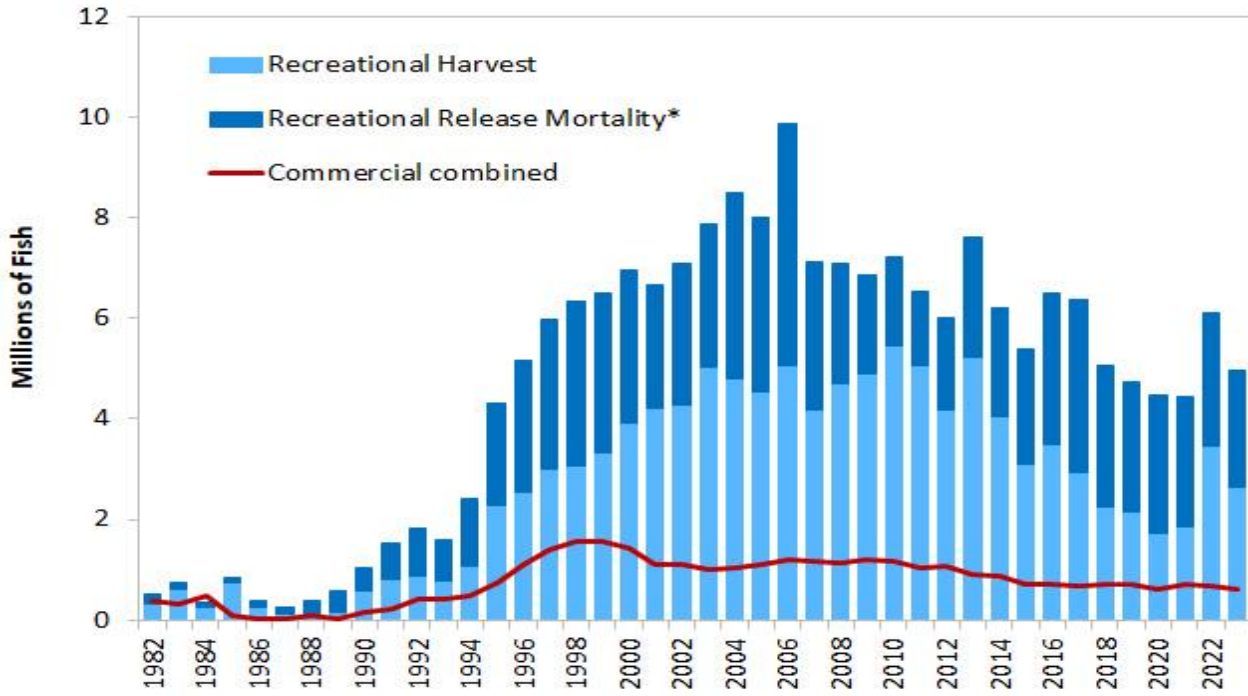
Club Meeting Notes

1. **Upcoming MVSA Meetings** – Monday nights – March 3, April 7, and May 5th.
2. The Prez talked about the upcoming **Banquet**. We will be at the **Daniel Fisher House** – right next door to the Old Whaling Church. Prize people will begin set up at 11 am. Shuckers can arrive between 11:30-12. Zach will manage the kitchen. Phil is making the chowder. The Prez is picking up two trays of wings and one tray of sandwiches.
3. If you have any **new tackle** to donate to the raffle, please let The Prez know and bring it to the Banquet. Don't forget to **bring your used tackle** and gear to the Banquet to donate for the Tackle Sale!
4. Prez is suggesting that the Club make a donation to MVCS for the veterans. The Prez will suggest that this year's tag sale profits be divided to split the funds 50/50 for the vets and students. He is also suggesting that anyone who donates to the veterans at the Banquet, the Club will match the donation up to \$1,000.
5. Patrick Paquette, former president of both the Massachusetts Striped Bass Association and the Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association, spoke at the meeting about the health of the striped bass population.
4. Striper breeding is way down and juveniles were extremely low in 2024.
5. The worst offender in the reduction of the striped bass population is the recreational fisherman. The recreational release mortality rate is killing more stripers than all the commercial fishermen.
6. Patrick stressed that our primary goal needs to be figuring out how to interact with stripers over the next decade.
7. Stripers need more wet, cold winters in the mid-Atlantic. Environmental conditions are truly affecting bass
8. This year, we were catching stripers that were spawned from 2015 – 2018.
9. You can read the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission 2024 Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update Report here:
file:///Users/Lisa/Downloads/672288892024_AtlStripedBassAssessmentUpdate.pdf
10. There are four slides below to illustrate the message Patrick shared with us.
11. Peter Sliwowski gave us an update on MVBAG and what is happening on Chappy. The good news is: the TTOR Beach Plan meets and exceeds state regulations. TTOR got a good result from the Environmental Impact Report. The DEP site review begins on January 24. Peter and all the leaders are MVBAG are staying vigilant, following all the reports and keeping the lines of communication open with TTOR. MVBAG is also outspoken about the 14 violations of the private land owners who are in battle with TTOR.



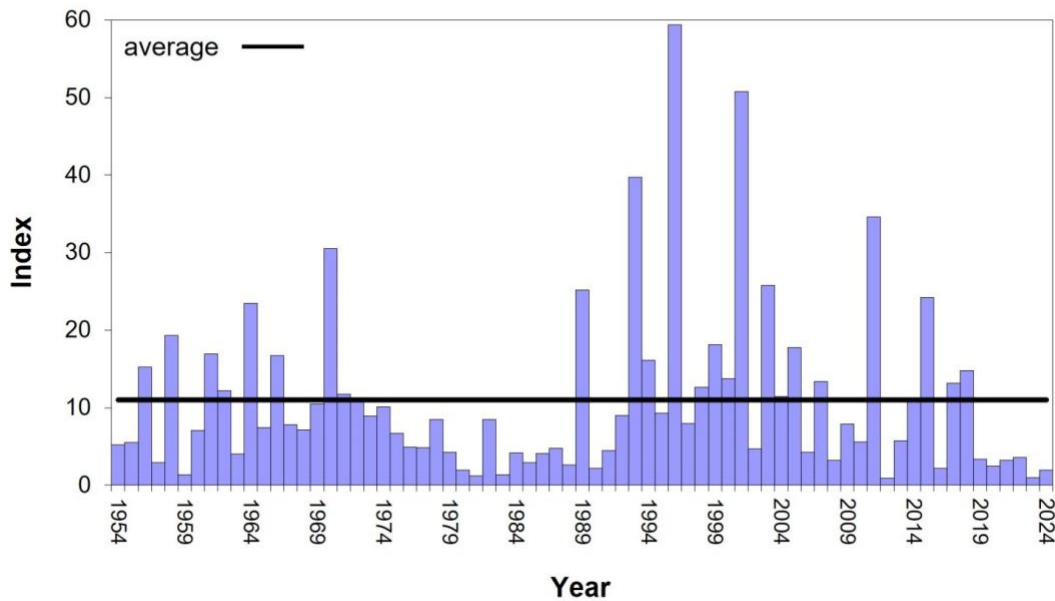
Striped Bass by the Numbers

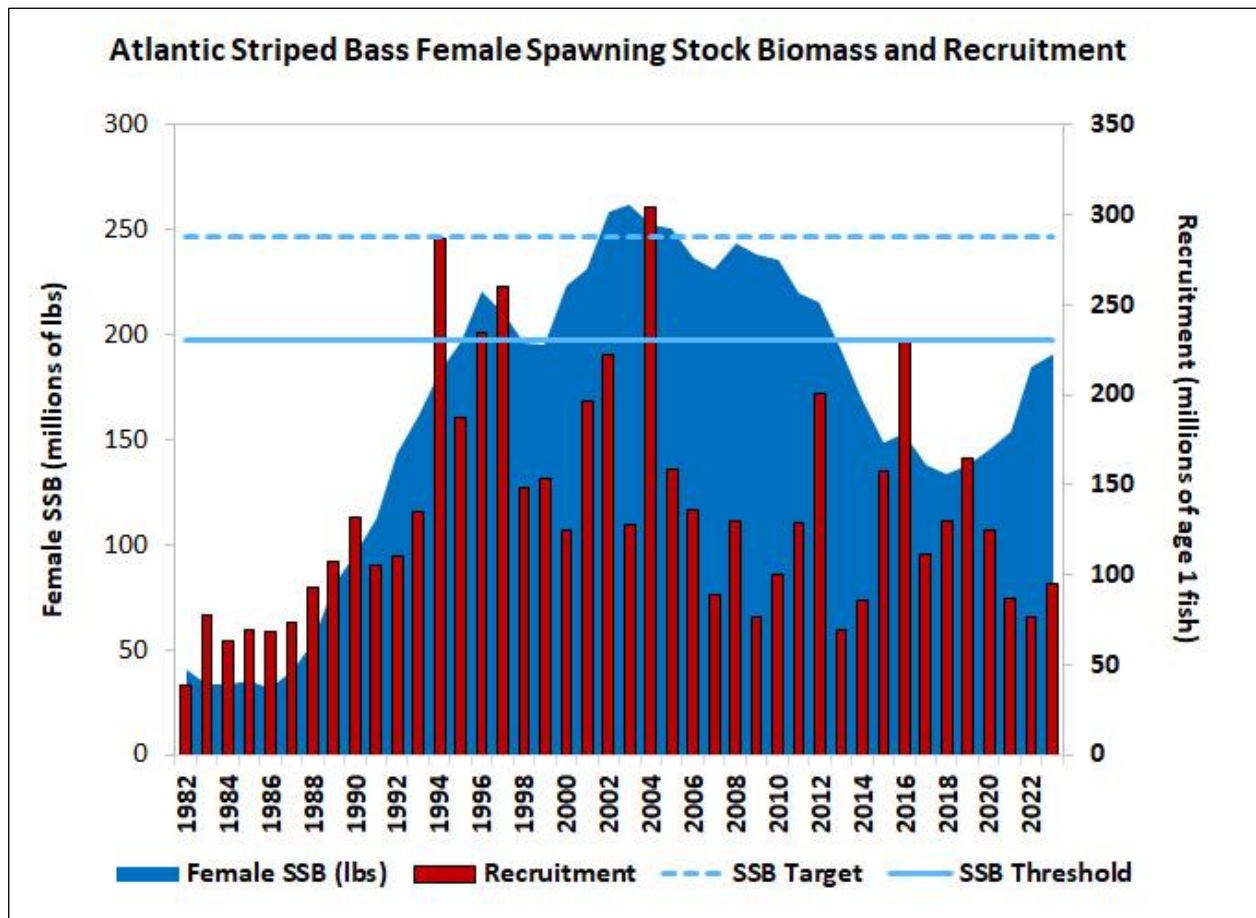
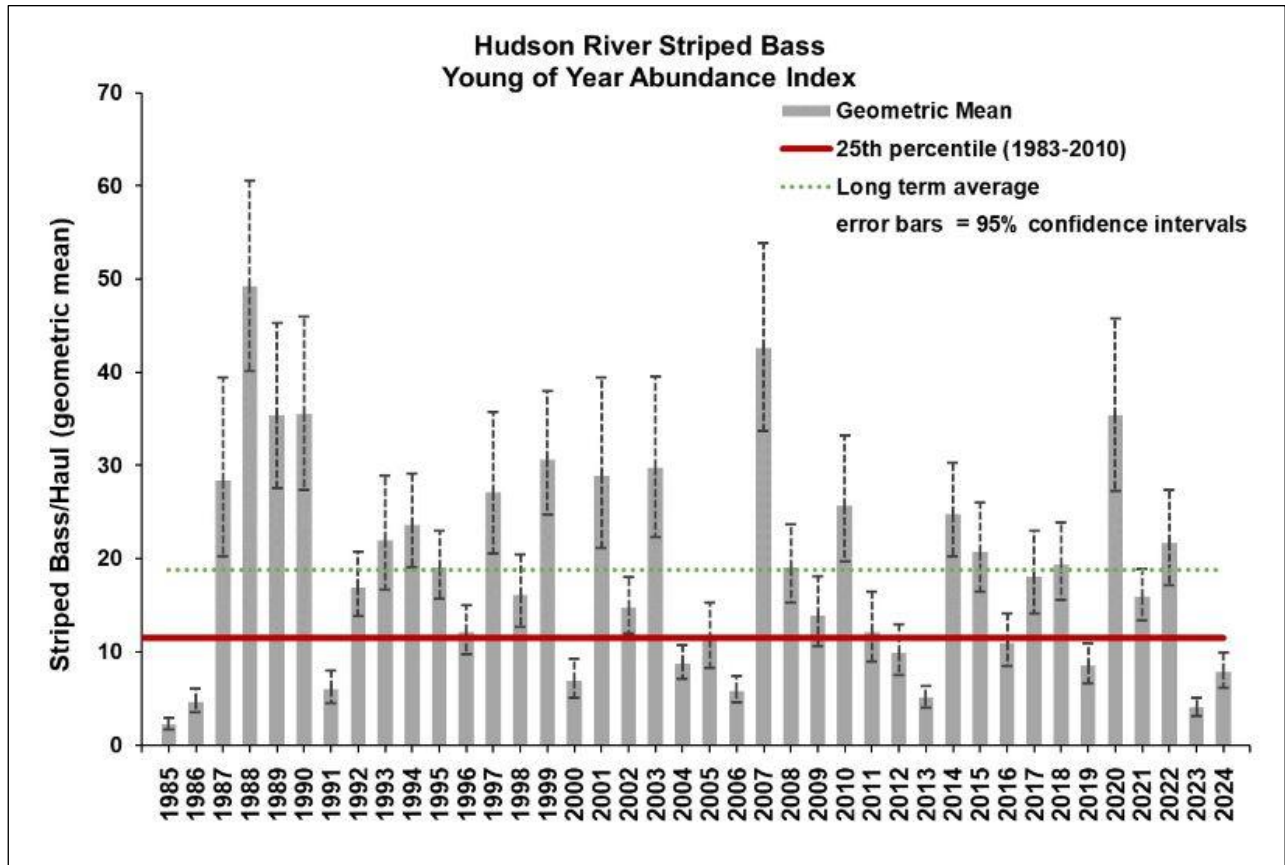
**Atlantic Striped Bass Commercial Landings and Discards
& Recreational Landings and Release Mortality**



* 9% of fish released alive are assumed to die because of being caught.

**Maryland's Juvenile Striped Bass Index
Arithmetic Mean (AM) Catch per Haul**





MVSA Upcoming Calendar

1. February 1st - MVSA **Annual Banquet** – at the **Daniel Fisher House** in Edgartown, right next door to the Old Whaling Church.

Year-end awards, silent auction, raffle, food, FUN

11:00 – Set up begins

12:30 – Doors open

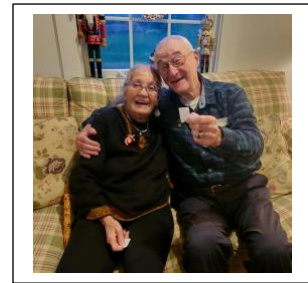
1:00 pm – Food is served



2. Feb 8th – MVRHS Science Fair – Dr. Dave loves judging. Contact Dr. Dave if you would like to be a judge. 508-395-8322

3. Feb. 22nd - Celebration of Life for Janet Messineo.

Details will be posted on Facebook when available.



3. March 3rd - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -

Speaker TBD

The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30



4. March 7 – 9 – Rhode Island Fishing Show

5. April 7th - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -

Speaker TBD

The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.

6. April 19th – Earth Day – Beach Clean Up on South Beach and Norton, then a festival at the MV Museum.



7. May 5th - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -

Speaker TBD

The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.

8. August 30th – save the date – **Annual Used Tackle Sale**



The Prez sent a shout of thanks to Luke Brewer and his crew at Brewer Landscaping for their help moving dozens of Christmas trees to South Beach for beach restoration.

BE A WINNER IN THE MVSA IN-HOUSE DERBY

MVSA In-House Derby - This is a fun and loosely run tournament based solely on the honor system and club members are eligible to win prizes by submitting entries for one or more of the eligible species (striped bass, bluefish, false albacore, bonito). Fish can be kept but catch and release is strongly encouraged. To determine the weight, the fish can be weighed or the weight can be estimated by using the following formula. (length x the girth squared, divided by 800=total weight). It's surprisingly accurate.

HOW TO ENTER -----

You must be a paid in full member before catching and weighing in any fish.

Use the weigh-in slip on the MVSA website and make as many copies as you need.

When you catch a fish you want to enter, use the calculation above or weigh on a digital fishing scale.

To be eligible for consideration, your fish must conform to the minimum sizes below:

Bluefish 22"

Bonito 21"

False Albacore 25"

Boundaries: To be eligible, a fish must be caught in or around the waters of Martha's Vineyard, within MVSB & BF Derby Boundaries. *(Fish caught during the trip to Cuttyhunk are not eligible for any prizes)*

DIVISION AND AWARDS

A monthly pin will be awarded to the member that submits an entry for the largest fish in each species. All monthly entries will participate in a "luck of the draw" raffle to win a Ron McKee custom lure. All first, second and third place monthly winners will also be entered into a year-end raffle to win new fishing reels. There will be three raffles, one each for all first, second and third place entries.

The 'Angler of the Year' will be determined by a point system based on monthly entries. Five points will be awarded for a first-place monthly winner, three for second, and one for third. The member who finishes the year with the most points will be declared the '**Angler of the Year**'.

Entries: Must be received within seven days after the catch and may be submitted by **email** to Dave Balon at: WeighSlip@mvsurfcasters.org. If you do not have an email account, mail your entry to: MVSA In-House Derby, P.O. Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539

Slips must be postmarked within seven days of the date of catch. During the MV Bass & Bluefish Derby, there is no need to fill out our weigh-in slip; simply mail in the official MV Derby weigh-in slip.

In-House Derby entry forms may be obtained on the MVSA web-site www.mvsurfcasters.org (Then go to the Club tab, 2018 In-House Derby) The Official Weigh-In Slip link is under the MVSA Derby Info section.