



Compass Rose

Erie Pennsylvania Sport Fishing Association Monthly Newsletter

Edition 48

January Issue

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Compass Rose

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Message from the President

Dear Members,

With the mild winter we have experienced, it sure has made winter go fast. I am not complaining and could get used to these, but I don't think the ice fisher folks would agree!

We are blessed with good fishing out of Erie. As I sit and type, I feel fortunate to have so many good angling opportunities within 20 miles of my house. Lakers, steelhead, perch at times, smallmouth bass, other misc. species including musky and of course, off the chart's walleye fishing. And we don't have to do much to protect it or enhance it besides buy a reasonable priced fishing license.

With that said, there is something you and your fishing partners can do. That is to take action and comment on the proposed Cormorant controls being considered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This takes about 10 minutes if you submit comments electronically. Each and every one of us should do this if we want to do more to protect the fishery. There is a movement to take measures against these birds whose population has gotten out of control. These birds do much environmental damage, consume massive amounts of fish and make an unsightly mess once they establish themselves. We have all see it in Erie and the massive flocks of these birds in P.I. Bay and off Seagull Point. BTW, they are in our Bay for two reasons, shelter and food. (see more on page 2)

As the saying goes, there is a reaction to most actions! But you darn sure cannot expect any action or reactions if one does zero. Please take 10 minutes and comment, it will mean a lot for the future fishery for you, your kids and grandchildren.

I hope to see many of you at the March meeting.

Sharp Hooks,
Captain Pete Alex

Current Events:

Erie Sport and Travel Expo: Feb 2—March 1st

Seminars on jet divers, lake trout & lead core & many more

Western NY Sport and Travel: Hamburg, NY

Seminars on Lake Ontario cut bait, west end spring kings, fall shallow water lake trout & many more

Erie, PA Walleye University (sold out): March 7th

Kids Day 2020: Saturday May 23rd, 2020 If interested in volunteering-Contact Paul O-EPSFA VP.

Spring Trout Challenge: Sunday April 19th, 2020

B.A.S.S. Nation Regional Championships: June 24th-26th

Summer Slam-Pro Am: July 25th and 26th, 2020. Captains meeting July 24th.

Fall Trout Challenge: Sunday October 18th, 2020

Member News

- EPSFA is still looking for a director for the Slam event. The compensation is \$600.00
- Memberships are up for renewal for many of you. They can be renewed on our website. By becoming a member, you become part of a larger voice and are supporting the activities and agenda we represent and stand for. Remember-----**NO MEMBERS=No Voice**
- Want to donate? EPSFA is accepting donations through our membership registration page on our website.
- **Lakeshore Towing has \$5 discount to all EPSFA members.**
- The EPSFA has a very active face book page with much information. Check it out!
- Correction: membership is at **123 active**-it was reported less on our meeting minutes in error.
- Correction: dates for 2002 Summer Slam are Saturday **July 25 and Sunday 26th** with mandatory captains meeting on the 24th. *It was reported as being July 24 and 25 in prior newsletter.*

2020 MEETING and SPEAKER SCHEDULE: Election Meeting

March public meeting will be held: Tuesday March 24th, 2020 **Location: American Legion Post 773, 4109 West 23rd Street, Erie, PA**

Speaker: Captain Joe Nemet on Open Water Trolling Techniques

As part of ongoing efforts to address conflicts between double-crested cormorants and wild and stocked fisheries, the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has announced an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR), and intention to prepare a draft environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended.

<https://www.fws.gov/regulations/cormorant/>

<https://www.fws.gov/regulations/cormorant/public-involvement>

To promulgate a proposed rule and prepare a draft environmental review document pursuant to NEPA, the Service will take into consideration all comments and any additional information received on or before March 9, 2020. You may submit written comments by one of the following methods. Please do not submit comments by both methods. We do not accept email or faxes

Electronically

Go to the [Federal eRulemaking Portal](#). Follow instructions there for submitting comments to [Docket No. FWS-HQ-MB-2019-0103](#)

By hard copy

Submit by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to:

Public Comments Processing
Attn: FWS-HQ-MB-2019-0103
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters
MS: JAO/1N
5275 Leesburg Pike

<https://nowtoronto.com/news/cormorants-doug-ford-hunting-ontario/>

<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/MidwestBird/documents/DCCOfactsheet2008.pdf>

<https://www.bassmaster.com/conservation-news/cormorants-impact-fisheries>

EPSFA Mission Statement:

The EPSFA was formed to educate, enhance and protect the sport fishing in Pennsylvania, especially in Lake Erie, Presque Isle Bay and its tributaries. To that end, we have established goals which we believe will define our organization's activities by their significant diversity. We welcome and invite you!