

March 2020



Fighting for Fisherman's Access to Beaches, Ponds, Rivers and Harbors

Falmouth Fishermen's Association
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2020 Board of Directors:

President: Keith Roberts	Newsletter: Steve Ferreira	Vice President : Kevin Downs
Beach Access: Don Hoffer	Secretary: Steve Ferreira	Merchandise: Kevin Griffin
Treasurer: Bruce Bumpus	Herring: Lou Turner	Membership: Sue LaFoe
Saltwater: Brian Curry	Historian : Open	Librarian: Charlie Peterson
Barnstable County League: Rep. Open		Facebook and SM : Mitch Buck
		Freshwater and Tournament
		Director: Tom Pilitz
		Past President: John Dillon

Our February Speaker

Our February speaker was Chuck Martinsen, Deputy Director & Shellfish Constable from Marine & Environmental Services of Falmouth. He is responsible for the local boating enforcement and is the herring warden. He talked about Falmouth resources, like shellfish and finfish populations and how volunteers play a big part in shellfish propagation.

Oysters consume nitrogen in the water, turning the green cloudy water into clear water. Reducing nitrogen helps the growth of eel grass and water turbidity. In a highly populated area where there are good flushing systems. Solving the water pollution problem cannot be solved by using oysters alone. In 2017 they added scallop farms to the oyster farming. In 2018 quahogs were added. When they receive their oysters from a hatchery in Maine. They receive 3.1



million oysters in a box the size 13 shoebox. When fully grown in five to six years, the oysters will a tractor trailer full!

During the winter months the oysters are removed from the sea and placed into storage in coolers filled with ice. 45-50% of them will die. Oyster survivability is 95% from the first year to the second.

Scallops are difficult to grow. They die easy, grow fast and are tremendous swimmers. An upweller is a nursery system for them. In April there will be a Shell fishing seminar. Chuck received a NOAA grant for improving shellfishing in Waquoit Bay by removing nitrogen. Chuck has to move the location of the shellfish beds each year as the output from the oysters turns the ground below into ammonia.

There are volunteer service hours needed to assist in these projects. Annually 4,200 service hours are needed. There are 150-200 different tasks so that the volunteers do not get bored doing the same service work each time. Chuck's secretary, Christina Lovely coordinates the volunteer program. Chuck spoke about the return of the blue crabs, when taken they must be five inches across.

Chuck told a funny anecdote to begin his talk. He spoke about ice fishing in Maine when he had just graduated college. He and a friend chose a local pond to fish. As they were cutting the ice many of the locals began to stop their cars to see what they were doing. Chuck and his friend thought it was odd, checked their pond map and assured themselves that all was well. They continued drilling through the ice with an auger until they broke through and began pulling up corn husks! It turns out that they were not on the pond after all, rather in the middle of a corn field! All in attendance enjoyed Chuck's presentation, it was very informative and entertaining. Thank you, Chuck, we hope to hear from you again in the future!

If a picture is worth 1000 words, this picture truly shows Chuck and Christina's efforts!!!!



Our March Speaker

There will not be a speaker for March. With upcoming FFA board member election in April, most of the meeting will be spent nominating new board members. The following board positions will be open for nominations as of April 1, 2020:

- Vice President : Bill Prodous nominated at February 2020 meeting
- Membership: Open
- Entertainment: Open
- Beach Access: Open
- Historian : Open
- Barnstable County League Rep.: Stan Bazycki nominated at February 2020 meeting

In addition, the following fishing tournament winners will be present with their plaques.



Striper: Bill Prodouz
Weight: 32.8 lbs. Length: 42" Girth: 25"



Bluefish: Gary "George" Osowick
Weight: 6.1 Lbs. Length: 22 inches Girth: not included



Trout: Gary "George" Osowick
Weight: 5.2 lbs. Length: 24.6" Girth: 12.5"

Other Cape Fishing Information:

My Fishing Cape Code with Ryan Collins

On Feb. 22 MFCC will be hosting our 5th My Fishing Cape Cod Breakfast. This will be a great event and we already have 80 people registered to attend! The breakfast buffet will begin at 8:30am. We'll also have a big raffle to help raise money for the Cape & Islands Veterans Outreach Center.

White Sharks Off Cape Cod TV Feature

In this episode, my friends and I go searching for Great White sharks off Monomoy and along the back beaches of Cape Cod with captain Cullen from Cape Star Charters. In just a few hours we manage to spot a half dozen big Great Whites!

Barnstable County League

SMFC to Hold Public Hearing on Atlantic Herring Addendum III on March 2, 2020

Advisory: Public Comment Sought on Proposed In-Season Increase to 2020 Summer Flounder Period I (January 1 - April 22) Commercial Trip Limits. Email has been forwarded to members.

Public Comment: Sought on Proposed Action to Temporarily Lift the State-Waters Groundfish Closure for April 2020 Email has been forwarded to members.

Reminder: Scoping Hearings for Summer Flounder/Scup/Black Sea Bass and Bluefish. Email has been forwarded to members.

FISHERIES

ASMFC SPECIES - Please note all the ASMFC Species are proposed at this point.

Anadromous:

- Draka Dam on the three mile in the Taunton River watershed received a fish ladder. This project took thirty years from its inception. In the last 20 years Save The Bay, the towns of Dighton and Fall River, DMF, Mass Environmental Trust, and US fish and Wildlife Service all played a part in this project. In the coming months we should see river herring making their way up this river for the first time in over 100 years.
- Herring Brook in Pembroke received a fish weir

- Town Brook in Plymouth is receiving a video system at the Jenny Grist Mill site. Last year this waterway received an eel ramp
- Fore River. DER and DMF are collaborating on building a fishway. This should allow for passage that has not been seen in about 200 years!

During the discussion the size limits for Striped bass came up, they may make it a range of 28 to 35 inches?

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Recreational Fisheries' program
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MassWildlife

2020 Freshwater fishing limits. You can learn about the recreational saltwater fishing regulations by looking at the link below. Updated as of July 12, 2019. These regulations apply to state-waters only. <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/recreational-saltwater-fishing-regulations>

DMF makes every attempt to keep these regulations tables accurate and up to date. This is an “unofficial” copy. The Secretary of State maintains the official copy of the 322 CMR . You can buy an official copy from the state bookstore. For more information on ordering a copy of 322 CMR visit the Secretary of State website. <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/>

Vineyard Wind

Permitting Delay Announced for Vineyard Wind Project

Statement on Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Timeline FEBRUARY 11, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Bedford – Vineyard Wind today released a statement about the Department of Interior’s Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) permitting timeline for the Vineyard Wind 1 Project.

“We have received updated information from the Department of Interior that indicates the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Vineyard Wind I project will be published later than what was previously anticipated,” said Lars Pedersen, CEO of Vineyard Wind. “While we need to analyze what a longer permitting timeline will mean for beginning construction,

commercial operation in 2022 is no longer expected. We look forward to the clarity that will come with a final EIS so that Vineyard Wind can deliver this project to Massachusetts and kick off the new US offshore energy industry.”

About Vineyard Wind

Vineyard Wind LLC is an offshore wind development company seeking to build the first large-scale offshore wind energy project in the US, to be located 15 miles south of Martha’s Vineyard. Vineyard Wind, based in New Bedford, Massachusetts, is 50 percent owned by funds of Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) and 50 percent by Avangrid Renewables. For more information, visit www.vineyardwind.com.

Steve Ferreira
Newsletter Contact

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Falmouth MA 02541-0832

Membership Application

Date: _____

Applicant: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Occupation: _____

Fishing interests: _____

I hereby apply for membership in the Falmouth Fishermen's Association, Inc. and agree to abide by all Club by-laws and guidelines.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Proposing Member: _____

Membership Date: _____

Annual Dues: \$50.

FFA By-Laws - Article VI - MEMBERSHIP

The number of voting members may be set by vote of the membership.
-To be eligible for membership a candidate shall have been a fisherman for several years, a good reputation for sportsmanship, and be proposed by at least one voting member of the Club.
-The initiation fee for such members and the annual dues shall be as prescribed by the Board of Governors.

Members in good standing may introduce and sponsor new candidates for membership.

The annual dues, for all classes of membership, are due by April 1st of each year, and each member who has not paid the same by the first of July following shall cease to be a member.
-They are to be notified thereof by the Treasurer of their change in membership status.
-They will be placed in the category of *Friends of the Club* and have no rights in the Club. They shall be reinstated upon making payment before the following first day of September.