

NEW JERSEY SHELLFISHERIES COUNCIL		Delaware Bay Section
<i>Meeting Minutes</i>		

Meeting Name	Monthly Meeting of NJ Shellfisheries Council - Delaware Bay Section		
Meeting Date	May 4, 2010		
Meeting Time	6:00 PM		
Venue	Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory	City	Bivalve, NJ
Attendees	General Public		

Council	State Representatives	Haskin Research Lab
Scott Bailey, Cumberland Co. (<i>Absent</i>)	Russell Babb, DFW Shellfisheries	Eric Powell, Director
Warren Hollinger, Cumberland Co	Jason Hearon, DFW Shellfisheries	John Kraeuter, Assoc. Director
Steven Fleetwood, Cumberland Co.	Craig Tomlin, DFW Shellfisheries	David Bushek, Research Professor
Richard Malinowski, Salem Co.		Kathryn Alcox, Research Professor
Cape May / Salem Co. – Vacant		

Compliance with the Sunshine Law	Notice of this meeting was posted with the Secretary of State's Office, State House, Trenton, NJ and the Bridgeton Evening News, and Daily Journal pursuant to L. 1975 c. 231.	April 15, 2010
-----------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------

Minutes	
January 2010	The Council approved the January 2010 minutes on a motion by Mr. Hollinger, which was seconded by Mr. Malinowski.
February 2010	Presented for consideration only due to inadequate review time

Revenue collected for March totaled \$20,122.00 revenue collected is itemized as follows:

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Commercial Crab License	\$2,200.00	Oyster Cultch Fees	\$8,580.00
Atlantic Coast Crab Dredge License	\$500.00	Oyster Dredge Vessel License	\$474.00
Delaware Bay Crab Dredge License	\$700.00	Net License	\$6311.00
Commercial Shellfish License	\$500.00	Assignment Fees	\$5.00
Recreational Shellfish License	\$140.00	Duplicates	\$2.00
Juvenile Shellfish License	\$2.00	Application Fees	\$608.00
Oyster Dealer's License	\$100.00		

Revenue collected for April totaled \$38,158.00 revenue collected is itemized as follows:

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Commercial Crab License	\$3,200.00	Oyster Cultch Fees	\$28,540.00
Atlantic Coast Crab Dredge License	\$500.00	Oyster Dredge Vessel License	\$450.00
Delaware Bay Crab Dredge License	\$100.00	Net License	\$4514.00
Commercial Shellfish License	\$300.00	Duplicates	\$8.00
Recreational Shellfish License	\$90.00	Application Fees	\$446.00
Juvenile Shellfish License	\$10.00		

Oyster Resource Development Account as of:

<i>May 4, 2010</i>		
Unexpended	\$567,958.36	Total dollars currently in account
Expended	\$5,931.77	Spent from account during FY'09
Pre-encumbered	0.00	Amount previously set-aside for preparation of term contracts (cancelled)
Encumbered	\$144,568.23	Amount obligated to vendors or planned services (e.g., contracting, transplants)
Uncommitted	\$423,390.13	Current free-balance (not obligated/encumbered to specific vendors, etc.)

Oyster Dredge Vessel Transactions
For Council's information, Robbins & Robbins, Inc. has replaced the oyster dredge vessel <i>Carol Ann</i> , but not the license with to oyster dredge boat <i>NJ 5163FF</i> (License No. 3).
For Council's information, Scott Sheppard has replaced the oyster dredge vessel <i>Carol Ann</i> (License No.70) with the oyster dredge vessel <i>Carol Ann</i> , (License No.70).
For Council's information, Jenny King has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Grandpa's Girls</i> (License No.97) to Gary Robbins.

Shellfish Leased Ground Transactions

Lease Transfers		
Original Lessee		New Lessee
Robbins & Robbins		Tim Smith
Section	Lot	Acreage
A	137	46

Lease Transfers		
Original Lessee		New Lessee
Walter Canzonier		Elizabeth Haskins
Section	Lot	Acreage
A	29	28

Application for Leased Ground		
RCK Transport Inc.		
Section	Lot	Acreage
E	8	194
E	23	197

Application for Leased Ground		
Thomas Keen Taylor		
Section	Lot	Acreage
C	336	22
D	264	17

The preceding lease transfers and application for new ground were approved on a motion by Mr. Hollinger, which was seconded by Mr. Malinowski. All were in favor.

1. Old Business

Direct Market Program Update

Mr. Tomlin stated that the direct market fishery had been ongoing for approximately one month. He noted that approximately 12,100 bushels had been harvested to date with a total of 178 boat days fished and an average CPUE of 68 bushels per day. He mentioned that the Shellrock seedbed had received the most effort, with approximately 8,000 bushels being harvested.

Intermediate Transplant Program

Mr. Hearon stated that the intermediate transplant program would contribute 27,226 bushels to the fishery, equating to 345 bushels per eligible vessel, which brought the total allowable catch per vessel to 955 bushels. He noted that the beds that were closed due to the transplant would reopen on May 24, 2010. Mr. Hearon informed the Council that the High Mortality seedbed regional quota would be increased from just less than 14,000 bushels to 35,341 bushels and the Shellrock regional quota would be increased from 10,814 bushels to 16,492 bushels.

2010 Vibrio parahaemolyticus Control Plan

Mr. Connell stated that in March of 2010 he had met with members of the Council's *Vibrio* Committee to discuss the 2010 plan. He noted that last year had been a success and that this year there will be no requirement for a two-week harvest moratorium during the last two weeks of June. He added that the harvest time restrictions would remain in effect. He also strongly encouraged all harvesters to be extremely diligent with temperature controls during the last two weeks of June and the first two weeks of July. Mr. Connell noted that the only other change in the plan would be a requirement for intertidal harvesters to follow procedures similar to the ones followed by direct market harvesters.

Ms. Alexander informed the Council that she had attended many public meetings about *Vibrio* during the last few months. She noted that the key to the success of the 2010 Vp plan was to continue the good practices from last year and not to co-mingle products. Ms. Alexander mentioned that during the 2009 year most of the Vp cases that were reported had been related to clams, not oysters. She also informed the Council that the *Vibrio* plan enacted by the New Jersey shellfish industry

had now become a national standard, of sorts. She committed to providing local health departments with information about temperature abuse in shellfish at restaurants and take-out food places. She also noted that she would attend the July Council meeting to give a progress update on the 2010 plan. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Council Documents

Mr. Hollinger stated that Council members and committees had drafted four documents that needed to be approved by the Council. He stated that these documents addressed the following issues: 1) Stock Assessment Workshop appointment process for the Council, 2) Leasing Committee recommendations, 3) a letter to the Attorney General's Office Authority regarding authority, and 4) a Council leasing policy document for Delaware Bay. Mr. Babb stated that the authority letter had already been sent to the Attorney General's Office. A lengthy discussion ensued over the documents that were put forth by the Council's Committees and members. The Council tabled decision on these documents until the next Council meeting. Mr. Hollinger asked that the documents be available at the Shellfish Office for anyone in the industry to review before the next Council meeting. Mr. Hollinger stated that he would contact the Chair of the Atlantic Coast Shellfish Council to pen a letter to the Tidelands Resource Council regarding their aquaculture policy document that they had recently distributed and a new proposed fee. A lengthy conversation ensued.

Comments to NJDEP Rule Proposal (N.J.A.C. 7:12)

Mr. Babb presented the Council with a copy of the comments that were sent regarding the Department's rule amendments to N.J.A.C. 7:12. He reminded the Council that the primary comment had been a suggestion that a member of the industry be appointed to serve on the Shellfish Resource Recovery Steering Committee.

Shell Planting Update

Mr. Hearon informed the Council that approximately 100,000 bushels of shell would be planted on the seed beds in 2010. He added that the tongers beds will also receive approximately 2,000 bushels. **(TAPE ENDED)**

2. New Business

U.S.C.G. Booming Exercise – Maurice River

Mr. Babb stated that the Coast Guard would be performing an oil spill booming exercise on the Maurice River in late August 2010. He added that he would remind the Council again as the date approached. He stated that it would only last one day and that the navigation channel would remain open.

*Adjournment** - The Council's next meeting was tentatively set for June 1, 2010 at the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Hollinger.

** Please be reminded that all shellfish leases must be renewed (in person) by December 31 each year. Bureau offices will begin accepting lease renewals beginning October 15 of each year.*