

New Jersey Marine Digest

May 2014

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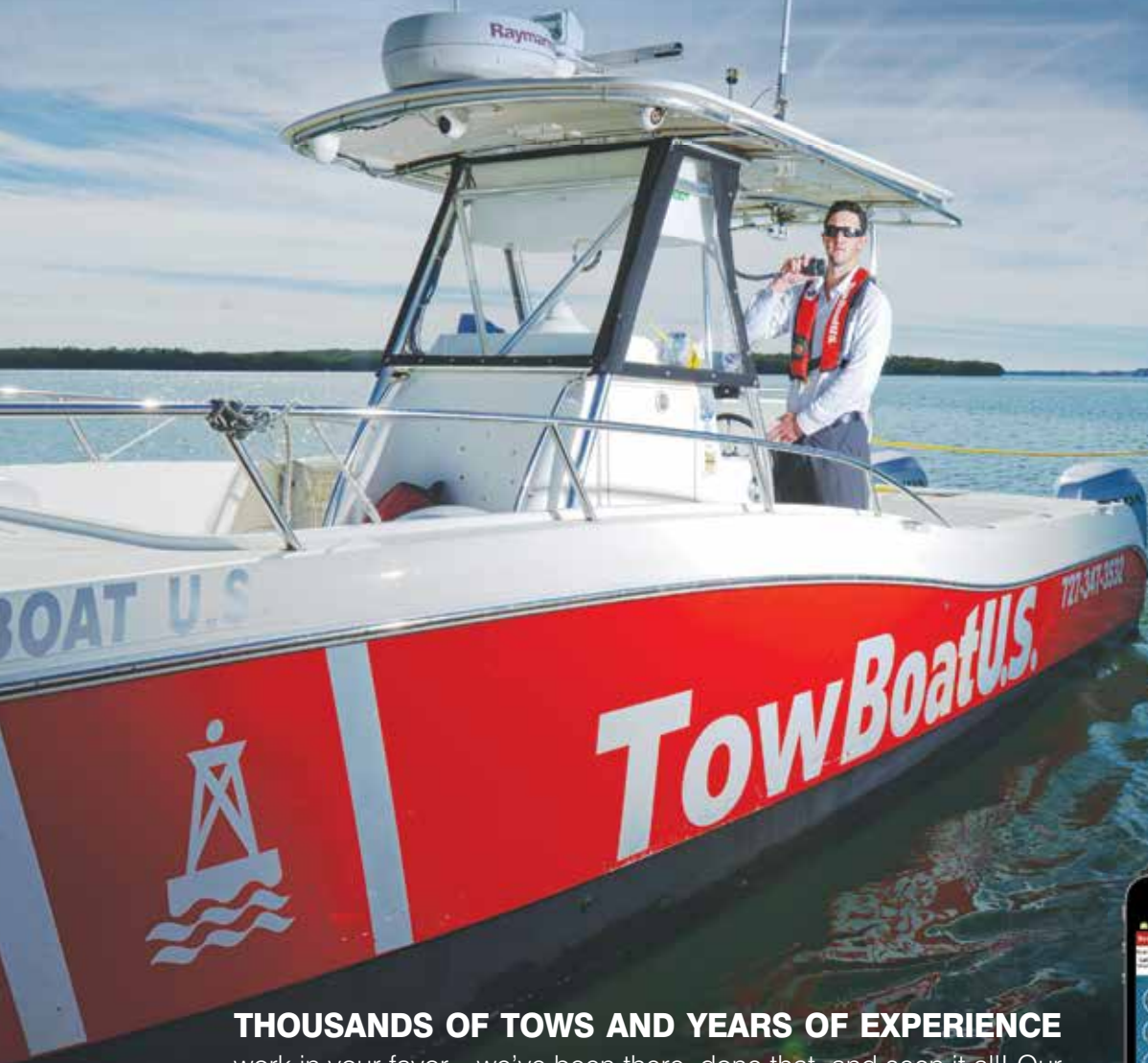
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Marine Fish and Shellfish Management Information
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hotlines

New Jersey Fish and Wildlife

Report Marine, Shellfish and Finfish Violations

(609) 748-2050 or call the 24-hour DEP Hotline: 877-WARNDEP

Violators of the Marine Fisheries laws are subject to a \$30 per fish or \$300 to \$3,000 fine.

Federal Marine Fisheries Contacts

NOAA Fisheries

Enforcement Hotline

24-hour non-emergency tipline
(800) 853-1964

NOAA Fisheries Office of Law

Enforcement — Northeast

Enforcement Division HQ
(978) 281-9213

Federal Fisheries Law

Enforcement Field Offices

Wall: (732) 280-6490
Marmora: (609) 390-8303

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Write to: New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Large Format Marine Digest, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Be the First to Know! Get on the List

The Marine Fisheries and Shellfish e-mail list, that is. This free service provides the latest information about Fish and Wildlife events, public hearings and other matters related to marine resources. And there are six other lists to help you get the most out of New Jersey's fish and wildlife resources. **Sign up today.**

Visit Fish and Wildlife's Web site: NJFishandWildlife.com/lstsub.htm

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Director's Message

DAVE CHANDA



Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament Moved to Springtime

This year New Jersey's Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament will receive a date change, with the 2014 tournament now scheduled for Sunday, May 18. For more than two decades, thousands of anglers have participated in the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament held annually at Island Beach State Park. This popular family event routinely draws anglers from throughout New Jersey and surrounding states and, since its inception, has raised more than \$130,000 for marine conservation efforts and fishing education programs.

The fall format of this family event conflicted with a host of autumn outdoor festivals and weekend school sporting events. As a result, all of the tournament sponsors, which include the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, the Division of Parks and Forestry, the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, and the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, proposed a change to the springtime. The proposal was supported by the Governor's Office as they felt it would be a perfect jumpstart for the summer tourism season.


Increased surf fishing opportunities—a generous variety of eligible fish species, larger fish, and greater abundance—should make this event even more successful. We are confident that this new spring tournament will lure in even more enthusiastic anglers, including many families and youths who will now be able to participate in this exciting event.

The individual who catches the overall largest fish wins the Governor's Award and will have his/her name engraved on the Governor's Cup, which is permanently displayed at Island Beach State Park. Prizes of fishing equipment are awarded to winners who catch the largest fish in a variety of species and age group categories.

As a reminder, all funds raised by the tournament have gone towards a variety of good causes, including the purchase of specialized wheelchairs that provide the disabled and elderly with beach access, construction of access ramps for disabled saltwater anglers, surf fishing instruction programs and equipment plus marine education and restoration projects. (See page 10 for more details).

Information about the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament, including registration forms, are available on New Jersey Fish and Wildlife's website (www.NJFishandWildlife.com). I would like to remind everyone interested in participating that they may be asked to verify compliance with the free New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry Program (see page 15). If you're not already registered for 2014, please do so before hitting the beach the day of the tournament.

Whether you casually cast your line in the ocean, battle it out for the biggest fish seeking to win the Governor's Cup, or come to the Park supporting family members or friends competing in the tournament, there's really no better way to kick off the summer season at the Jersey shore.

We look forward to seeing you on May 18! 

Dave Chanda is the Director of the Division of Fish & Wildlife.



About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

J.F. Griffin is an award-winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish and wildlife regulation guides. J.F. Griffin supports the Fish and Wildlife staff in the design, layout and editing of the *New Jersey Marine Digest*. We also manage the marketing and sales of *Digest* advertising to appropriate businesses.

The revenue generated through ad sales significantly lowers production costs and generates savings. These savings translate into additional funds for other important fisheries-related programs.

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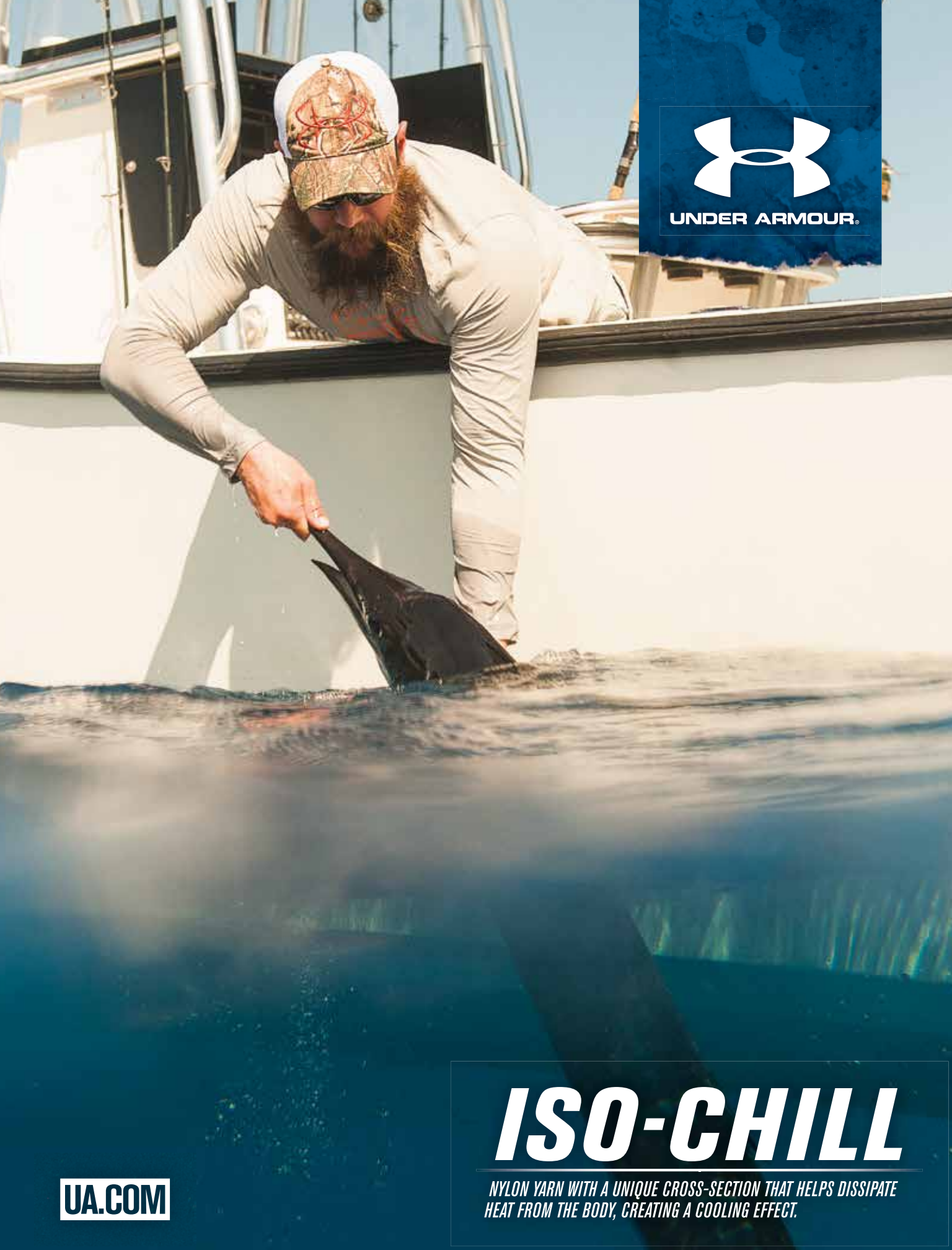


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New Jersey Marine Digest

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FREE Freshwater Fishing Days — June 14 and 15, 2014 —

On these two days, residents and non-residents may fish New Jersey's public fresh waters without a license or trout stamp. All other regulations, including size and daily catch limits, remain in effect.

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New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

Our Mission

To protect and manage the state's fish and wildlife to maximize their long-term biological, recreational and economic value for all New Jerseyans.

Our Goals

- To maintain New Jersey's rich variety of fish and wildlife species at stable, healthy levels and to protect and enhance the many habitats on which they depend.
- To educate New Jerseyans on the values and needs of our fish and wildlife and to foster a positive human/wildlife co-existence.
- To maximize the recreational and commercial use of New Jersey's fish and wildlife for both present and future generations.

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