

Sept 23rd, 2020

CT B.A.S.S. Nation Conference Call

Call began at 7:05pm

On the Call were:

Vinny Mucci-President

Tom Mee-Kayak Series Director

Marc Levesque- Treasurer

Dean Rustic-Conservation Director

John Piscioniere- Youth Director

Sylvia Morris- Events Coordinator & State Team Administrator

Missing from the Call were:

Mike Billings-Vice President

Bob Jeffrey-Secretary

Clubs Missing were:

Bass Attack

CBBA

Ct Sweetwater

Ct Yankee

Ct Valley

Midcon

Extreme

- **Announcements: Vinny Mucci's Wife Linda had surgery and a meal was sent from their favorite Restaurant for the family on behalf of the CBN. Vinny said all went well and she is on the mend! Feel better soon Linda!**
- **Correspondence: None**
- **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
- **Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque-**

Marc also spoke about the 2019 Taxes; they are being worked on.

- **CBN Conservation Report: Dean Rustic**
- **CBN Conservation Report Sept 23, 2020 CBN Conservation objectives for the 2020 1. Conservation Projects for Candlewood Lake (Boat Launch & Habitat) 2. Create an on the Water Bass Course (like Golf Course) Information from this past Month – 1. CT**

Conservation Advisory Council (CCAC) Meeting No Meeting 2.

Fisheries Advisory Council OFFICER'S REPORTS • Secretary's Report – Motion by Eric Schultz to approve minutes from 11 Jun 20. Motion seconded by Bill Hyatt. All were in favor. • Chair's report – Dean Rustic

- o **Dean proposed that the meetings through March continue to be held virtually. Hopefully, a June in-person meeting will be possible. Potentially an outdoor meeting.**
- o **Membership growth – Dean has reached out to a few new groups that would be valuable new members. Mary Moulton volunteered to serve as the Membership Chair.**
- o **Considering a BAG – Bass Advisory Group – Marinas, Bass anglers, etc.**
- o **There was some discussion of how the FAC should be structured and some concern was expressed about “tribalism.”**

COMMITTEE & INITIATIVES REPORTS • Boating Update – Mike Payton & Peter Francis

- o **Boating division has had to close some facilities in response to increase in COVID cases. After consultation with DPH, DEEP feels that the launches are unlikely to spread the virus. However, there have been large groups gathering after being out on the water and this is the main concern and reason for closure.**
- o **124 boat launch closures due to capacity. Triple from last year.**
- o **Improvements to Squantz Cove Boat Launch**

- ✦ **Mike Payton described the layout so that the group can understand what is being proposed.**
- ✦ **The new layout will make flow better and include a canoe and kayak launch as well as other improvements and amenities.**
- ✦ **Once the design has been drafted, there will be a public information meeting and request for comments. There may be an opportunity to have an outdoor meeting where posters of the design can be presented. The design will also be posted on DEEP's website for the public to view.**
- ✦ **Mr. Payton expects a significant amount of interest in the project.**
- ✦ **Changes will be made based on public comment. Then the project will go through a permitting process. It is expected that the permit will go to a public hearing. Would not expect construction any time prior to the summer of next year.**

• Budget and Legislative Report – Rick Jacobson & Tony Petrillo

- o **New Deputy Commissioner – Mason Trumble. A priority of Mason's is to advance the 3R efforts. He will join us for the December meeting.**
- o **Provided a brief on the Governor's Council on Climate Change activities and the Rivers Sub-working group.**
- o **Communications Survey - DEEP would like to know**

how hunters, anglers, etc would like to be reached and how to get to this information in the quickest and easiest manner. o Finance – no new news relative to the budget. ✦ Bonding • 2020 renovation of Quinebaug Hatchery – \$5.8 MM project. \$2.2 MM budget gap. Think that EO 1 increased the funding available to fill that gap. • Rainbow Fishway – replacement with rainbow fish lift. The current fish lift was designed for Salmon and was state-of-the art at the time but is ineffective for American Shad. Similar price point to the Quinnebaug hatchery (\$6 MM.) Elevate the bond proposal through the Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner. Why is the public paying for this fish lift? Legal team is doing an analysis on funding responsibility. ✦ Bill asked if there has been any progress on the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. House of Representatives has passed a second CARES Act which does provide \$3 trillion in federal aid. Encompassed within that is RAWA. The Senate has balked at the House's bill. • Inland Fisheries Report – Peter Arrestad o A presentation on AIS was given (attached) o Inland fisheries presentation was given (attached) o General comments and questions ✦ Trout in the Classroom – Peter will reach out to staff to find out what is going on with TIC this season. ✦ Concern about possible drowning on the Housatonic. There are no signs that say no swimming. • Marine Fisheries Report – Justin Davis o Some field sampling programs have resumed since June. o Did not resume LIS trawl survey because it involves a large crew on a small boat o Many for-hire boats are doing well during the pandemic but the headboats are not o ASMF adopted ecological reference points for menhaden. o Striped bass ✦ All states on the coast must implement regulations requiring circle hooks. Emergency regulation will be put in place as a gap measure. Final regs are being developed and a public hearing for implementing rule will be in 2021. ✦ Amendment to the striped bass management plan – large potential changes to management. Will be public hearings in the next year. o Scup and black sea bass – substantial reductions in recreational bag limits. Have been successful in not having to implement this each year. o Missed critical months for angler surveys. Not sampling head boats. Seeing a lot of fishing and fishing pressure. o Invasive mitten crab has been found in Housatonic estuary. o License data – 10% increase in inland and marine anglers. • New Business o Given the

presentation that Rick made that there are two major funding issues that will be bond commission issues. The FAC should resurrect the legislative committee. Nominated Bill as the chairman of the legislative committee. Motion was made to resurrect the committee by Greg Sharp and seconded by Eric Schultz. Bill said he is willing to chair and pull together a committee. All were in favor.

3. DEEP Items a. Permitting Process for Herbicides treatment – b. DEEP will be setting up a web meeting for a Bass Forum to gather information from Bass Anglers about Bass Fishing in CT c. Lattins Cove Launch is shut down due to Covid-19 spike in Danbury d. Squantz Cove has returned to full parking. Respectfully Submitted, Dean Rustic Conservation Director

- **CLA REPORT: No Report**
- **TOURNAMENT REPORT**
2020 CBN Events Suspended until Further Notice Due to Corona Virus. We will hold an Open on Oct 4th. See info under New Business

Tournament Permits have started to be given for 50 or less people in an event including people running it and spectators (Can call and ask for special permission for more people to be considered). There can be NO Weigh-ins on Shore or any Island or Shorelines, only on the water or Catch, weigh, record, and release until Oct 15th, 2020.

2021 Proposed Trail (Notice Tournament #1 is in April!)

Sun April 18th CBN T#1 8 to 3 Squantz & Latins, Candlewood Lake

Sun May 2nd CBN T#2 8:00 to 3:00 Squantz and Latins Candlewood Lake

Sun June 13th, CBN T#3 7:00 to 3:00 Ct River, Haddam Meadows

Sun Aug 1st, CBN Mr. Bass, TBD, 7:00 to 3:00

Sun Aug 29th, CBN Classic? 7:00 to 3:00

Sat & Sun Oct 2nd & 3rd, CBN Two Day, 8:00 to 3:00, Squantz & Latins, Candlewood Lake

- **CBN Sponsorship Report:**
 - **Huk is offering a discount to all B.A.S.S. Nation Members. Get the Code from your Club President or Vinny.**

- **TH Marine, 30% of for all Members, Code is BASSBONUS**
- **B.A.S.S. is offering a 25% discount to all members on B.A.S.S. Nation Merchandise and memberships. Go to shopbassmaster.com and use code, NATION.**

- **CBN Scholarship- Mike Billings: Not on Call**
- **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris**
We have canceled our Nov 7th, 2020 Awards Banquet and have rebooked for November 7th, 2021.
- **Membership Committee: not on call**
- **Kayak Series-Tom Nee- Kayak-**

Plan for the kayak series is to have a multiple day tournament over multiple lakes (3) as a qualifier for the 2022 Huk B.A.S.S Kayak Series. Currently working out details with Josh Raynor and will contact the DEEP to confirm that permits are not necessary.

Thanks,

Tom

- **Website: Nothing new**
- **CBN Youth Report: John Piscioniere-: The HS Championship will be on Kentucky Lake again this year in Oct. The CBN HS qualifiers are still undecided if they will be attending. John will pick up their Alliance Jerseys from Sylvia.**

John Piscioniere

Phone-203-982-0921

- **State Team Report, Sylvia Morris**

Looks like BASS is working on setting up Erie again for 2021. Waiting on verification and date. They are asking for June again.

Sylvia Morris, State Team Administrator

- **MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN, SECOND, ALL IN FAVOR**

Old Business

- **The CBN is now in need of a Membership Chairperson**
- **We need a Social Media Director!!!**
- **Still no Tournament Director?????? We need one!!!!**
- **Latin's Cove will reopen on Oct 15th**
- **Still a limit of 25 Boats on Candlewood for a permit and no on shore weigh ins until after Oct 15th.**
ANY MORE OLD BUSINESS?

NEW BUSINESS

- **BASS Nation Rosters have cleared, time to collect the 30.00 per member and update the online Rosters!!!! The CBN has voted to roll over the 2020 CBN dues to 2021, you **MUST** submit a new Roster to the CBN with all members from last year and any New members along with the New Members dues of 50.00 each. Due by Nov 1st 2020. Mail your 2021 Roster and dues (check made out to CBN) if any New Members, to:
Marc Levesque,
20 First Avenue,
Waterbury, Ct 06710**
- **The CBN will hold a 25-boat max open on Candlewood on Oct 4th, Squantz Cove. Following all CDC and DEEP guidelines!!! Vinny will e-mail all club Presidents the details and application. 90% payout to top 5 teams.**
- **John Piscionere has set up HS Tournament for the kids for fun(no points) on Sat Oct 3rd, Candlewood, Squantz following all CDC & Deep guidelines. Should be 16 boats.**
 - **2020 CBN Meeting Dates**
- **4th Wed of each month, 7:00 pm, except when a Holiday or Event then it will be the 3rd, Wed of the month.**

(WILL BE E-BOARD, DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS & CLUB REPS CONFERENCE CALLS TILL FURTHER NOTICE)

Oct 28th

Nov 18th Third Week

Dec 16th Third Week

**HOTELS TO UTILIZE: Super 8 Hotel 3 Lake Ave Ext, Danbury, CT
06811 ASK FOR CAROLYNN OR ANNA & FISHERMAN RATE, \$69.00**

NEXT Conference Call IS WED, Oct 28th, 2020