

**Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

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

**Call began at 7:06pm**

**On the Call were:**

**Vinny Mucci-President**

**Mike Billings-Vice President**

**Bob Jeffrey-Secretary**

**Marc Levesque- Treasurer**

**Dean Rustic-Conservation Director**

**John Piscioniere- Youth Director**

**Sylvia Morris- Events Coordinator & State Team Administrator**

**Missing from the Call were:**

**Tom Mee-Kayak Series Director**

**Clubs Missing were:**

- **Announcements: NEXT CONFERENCE CALL FEB 24<sup>th</sup> 2021**
- **Correspondence: Check received for \$500.00 from Mercury Sponsorship Program**
  
- **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
- **Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque-**
  
- **CBN Conservation Report: Dean Rustic**
- **Dec 16, 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**
    - a. Hosted Meeting on Premise and Virtually**
    - b. Discussed Friends of Connecticut Sportsman**

## **2. Fisheries Advisory Council INTRODUCTION TO MASON TRUMBLE & Q&A – DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF RECREATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

- **Mason introduced himself, provided background, and talked about priorities.**
- **The question was asked how his administration will implement a EEJ issues. Mason said that his priority is connecting urban centers to nature and ensuring access is equitable. Rick said that he has everyone thinking about what leadership wants to tackle in the near term and beyond.**
- **One member expressed gratitude that the focus will be on access as loss of access is a big issue on the shoreline for surfcaster.**
- **He was asked how he plans to diversify the workforce. He acknowledged that it is tough but its important start with the internal culture to make sure itsinclusive. It's important to make the connections with the pipelines. Asked the group that if they have a connection with someone who can assist, please pass the information on to him.**
- **Hiring a legal director for outdoor recreation. BASS SURVEY – ED MACHOWSKI • Please see attached presentation**
- **Questions from members on What percentage of potentially harvestable population is dying each year due to mortality after release? Ed has put together some population estimates on select high-pressure lakes to see what level these populations may be impacted during the spawn. He has put more numbers in from C&R mortalities but has to continue running the numbers to get a better picture.**

**Would any thought be given to barbless hooks or type of hook to decrease mortality from C&R? DEEP has had brief, internal discussions on this but needs further discussion. Imposing circle hooks on bait fishing may prove most effective. Jason said that they've been studying lure size in Texas and the impact on mortality.**

**o Recommended article by a member: Interesting paper on a novel rig to reduce injury and increase landing rate**

**<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29785344/>**

**o Recommended research article: Size Structure suppression and obsolete length regulations in recreational fisheries dominated by**

**catch-and-release <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fishres.2017.12.007> o How can weed control and habitat be managed? Post-treatment monitoring must be more robust. DEEP should be more involved on the monitoring level. OFFICER'S REPORTS**

- **Secretary's Report – The vote on minutes was tabled until the next meeting. She apologized that the minutes weren't ready for this meeting. Please get any edits to the version that has been sent out to Alicea.**

- **Chair's report – Dean Rustic o March will be virtual and will evaluate for the June meeting. COMMITTEE & INITIATIVES**

- **Legislative Committee Report –Bill Hyatt o Greg Sharp, Bill Lucey, Jack Kovach, Vin Ringrose, Mike Piquette, Rob LaFrance, Steve Gephard are all on the committee. o Bill introduced Rob LaFrance to the FAC. He is interested in joining the FAC. o Will see a detailed work plan going forward.**

- **Inland Fisheries Report –Peter Aarrestad**

- o **Please see attached presentation o Thoughts/reactions on Opening Day of Trout Season ✦ Is there a strategy for data collection to see if the timing of opening day makes a difference? Pete is hoping to get some data, although it may not be as robust due to staffing levels. ✦ There seemed to be a consensus that an earlier opening day seems to work well. ✦ Is there data from other states that have done a more recent elimination of opening day? ✦ In terms of 2021, DEEP staff has been asked to develop a plan for an earlier opening day.**

- **Marine Fisheries Report –Justin Davis o Menhaden ✦ Quotas were set and it was a positive outcome for Menhaden. The populations are currently in excellent shape thanks to management decisions over the years. ✦ Reports of menhaden fish kills. They currently think it is a natural occurrence. There are many factors that may be contributing. NY is analyzing fish. ✦ The occurrence of the kills is throughout the state. Where the kills have occurred there are more live fish than dead fish.**

- o **Striped bass – Public outreach push on circle hooks. Had to get something in place by January 1st. DEEP used emergency regulation process to meet mandate and is currently in place. Focus will be on education and outreach, not necessarily enforcement,**

which will be difficult. The challenge is that the nuances (such as the what defines natural bait) have not yet been worked out.

### **3. DEEP Items**

**a. Reviewed with DEEP for Bass Management**

**b. Spoke with Edward Machowski about the Bass Survey.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Dean Rustic Conservation Director**

- **CLA REPORT: NONE**

- **TOURNAMENT REPORT**

**2021 CBN Events Have been scheduled and we plan on holding them! Tournaments for 2021 have been approved, on shore weigh-ins can be held in April, May and June, however may have issues with on shore weigh-ins for the Summer months, July, August and Sept Tournaments. Vinny will keep in touch with the DEEP.**

**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, 20% off for all Members, Code is BASSNATION**

- **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](http://shopbassmaster.com) and use code, NATION.**

- **CBN Scholarship- Mike Billings: The New Question has been chosen, Scholarship app is being worked on and will be Available January 2021.**

- **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris**

**We have canceled our Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Awards Banquet and have rebooked for November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

- **Membership Committee: Need a new one!!!**
- **Kayak Series-Tom Nee- Kayak-NOT ON CALL**
- **Website: Nothing new**
- **CBN Youth Report: John Piscioniere-:**

**John received a large donation of plastics for the Youth from Joe Mangini. Thank you Joe! John is reminding all clubs that the Youth could use any donations of used and new equipment.**

**John will be sending out Registration e-mails to all the Youth. He has received a lot of new interest in the 2021 Season! He will be scheduling another Virtual meeting for Jan or Feb.**

**All American HS Nominations is coming up!**

**Looking for clubs to possible host on e of the High School Events.**

**Money is still in the account from Tackle The Storm, collected from donations in Greg Mazurs name to purchase Rods & Reels for the kids. John is looking into purchasing them soon.**

- **State Team Report, Sylvia Morris**

**Lake Erie, Presque Isle Bay, has been Locked in again for 2021. It will be Official Practice June 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tournament days will be 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, & 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**Held our First meeting virtual and went over contract. All understood and agreed. Collecting all signed Contracts at this time.**

**Will look to have another Virtual Meeting in Feb.**

**We will have a travel day of Sat June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will depart the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

**Sylvia Morris, State Team Administrator**

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

**Old Business**

- **Secretary cast one vote for existing Officers, except the Secretary Position, running unopposed was Sylvia Morris**
  - **2021 CBN OFFICERS:**
  - **President-Vinny Mucci**  
**Vice President- Mike Billings**  
**Secretary- Sylvia Morris NEW**  
**Treasurer- Marc Levesque**  
**Conservation Director-Dean Rustic**  
**Tournament Director-???????**  
**Youth Director-John Piscioniere**  
**Membership Chairperson-???????**  
**Social Media Director-???????**  
**Kayak Series Director- Tom Mee**
  - **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 Following Clubs need to update their online Rosters and send an updated Roster to Marc Levesque:**
- Ct Bassmen**  
**Ct Valley**  
**CT Yankee**  
**Xtreme**
- **Excused Absences: Bass Attack**
  - **The CBN is now in need of a Membership Chairperson**
  - **We need a Social Media Director!!!**
  - **Still no Tournament Director?????? We need one!!!!**

## **ANY MORE OLD BUSINESS?**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**\_Vinny has created a new e-mail to be used for CBN business  
[Ctbass.president@gmail.com](mailto:Ctbass.president@gmail.com)**

**Need updated e-mails for Vinny please. Send them to his e-mail so he can have an accurate list for group e-mails.**

- **2021 CBN Meeting Dates**

- **4<sup>th</sup> Wed of each month, 7:00 pm, except when a Holiday or Event then it will be the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Wed of the month.**

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

**Feb 24**

**March 24**

**April 28**

**May 26 Feb**

**June 16 #rd Week because of State Team in the fourth week.**

**July 28**

**Aug 25**

**Sept 22**

**Oct 27**

**Nov 17 3rd week**

**Dec 15 3rd 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 Feb 24<sup>th</sup> 2021****

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HEALTHY HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**