

**Sept 22nd, 2021**  
**CT B.A.S.S. Nation Conference Call**  
**Call began at 7:06pm**

**Officers on the Call were:**

**Mike Billings-Vice President**

**Sylvia Morris-Secretary**

**Dean Rustic-Conservation Director**

**John Piscioniere- Youth Director**

**Marc Levesque- Treasurer**

**Clubs Missing were: CT Valley**

**Minutes from Previous meeting were accepted.**

- **Announcements: Bill Forman has been in an accident, he is in a rehab right now and we will be sending a Get well card.**
  - **Correspondence: None**
  - **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
  - **Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque**
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- **CBN Conservation Report: Dean Rustic -September 22, 2021**

**CBN Conservation objectives for the 2021**

**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**

**Hosted hybrid meeting with 50% in person and 50% virtually. ii.**

**Discussed the upcoming regulations package for the DEEP. iii.**

**Reviewed the impact of the “No Closed Trout Season” to the regulations.**

**2. Fisheries Advisory Council**

**a. Hosted the Virtual meeting**

**b. Discussed the increase of Fishing License sales and the impact on the lakes and streams that water front homeowners are working**

**to limit access as they have seen a sharp increase of people on “Their” lake.**

**c. Many towns are looking to use AIS fears to shut down public access to the lakes. Peter Francis of the DEEP Boating Division confirmed that towns are attempting to shut down lake access. There has been many requests to shut down access and the boating division has had to explain that with the Federal grants to build the state launches, that will not be possible.**

**d. Peter Francis and Yolanda Cooley presented the update to the Squantz Cove Boat Launch project. Currently they are still evaluating the ideas for redesigning the launch. Seems that they will not expand the car parking to more than 5 spaces and that they will be keeping the center dock design. They will be moving the handicapped outhouse though.**

**e. Budget and Legislative Report – Rick Jacobson & Tony Petrillo**

**i. Federal Sport Fish Funds are projected to be stable for FY 22.**

**Wildlife Restoration Funds will see another huge jump in funds coming from the recent surge in ammunition and gun sales**

**ii. Legislature passed a PA that eliminated the trout fishing season.**

**The regulations have to be changed to address any regulations that touch on a closed season. Rick went through the various scenarios, particularly pertaining to private land owners who grant access that will make regulations less straight forward. Area closures were also an issue (i.e. closing certain areas due to low flows, temperature) but the department does have authority to do so under the current statute.**

**iii. Recovering America’s Wildlife Act – Significant developments.**

**113 Co-sponsors in the House of Representatives. In the Senate, there are a number of Co-Sponsors.**

**iv. Alicea asked about the enforcement officer Ranger Program and if this relief of encon officers has freed up availability to respond to fisheries violations. Rick says that there is no data on this only that the Ranger program has been helpful in aiding the enforcement program.**

**f. Inland Fisheries Report – Peter Aarrestad i. Staffing**

**1. Jim Murtagh was hired to replace Tom Bourret who retired in April.**

**2. Hired a new maintainer at Burlington Hatchery**

**3. 5 recruitments underway to fill vacancies.**

**ii. More than 58,000 trout and salmon will be stocked and more than 80% will exceed 12" in length. iii. Plans in progress**

**1. Wild Trout Management and Bass Action Plans are drafted and under internal review.**

**2. Warmwater Fisheries Action Plan is nearing completion of first draft.**

**3. CT River AIS Initiative**

**4. Hand pulling to eradicate water chestnut**

**5. AIS Stewards**

**6. There was further discussion of regulation changes and Peter encourages feedback from anglers and that public testimony will be critically important to help inform decisions.**

**g. Marine Fisheries Report – Justin Davis**

**i. Approval to hire a new biologist.**

**ii. Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) angler survey in progress.**

**iii. Species that are more common in the mid-Atlantic are now showing up in LIS.**

**iv. CT River seine survey and estuary seine survey are in progress.**

**v. Positive news on scup, black sea bass, and summer flounder stock assessments.**

**vi. Bluefish populations have turned a corner and are heading in the right direction but still a way to go to reach full stock rebuilding by 2029.**

**vii. Blackfish stock assessment will be available this fall.**

**viii. Working on a regulations package that will address horseshoe crab and whelk commercial fishing regulations. NY and CT are the last two states that do not have regulations on their whelk fishery.**

**ix. The Baldwin Bridge State Boat Launch in Old Saybrook will be shut down to the public for maintenance likely in October.**

**3. Friends of CT Sportsman (FoCS) event a. CBN was represented by 8 members at the Rockville Fish and Game event to benefit the FoCS b. Event was sold out – 120 attendees outdoors c. Estimated that the event raised \$4,500.00 between the event, raffles and personal donations**

**4. DEEP Items**

**a. Was able to review outline of the Bass Management Plan from DEEP. It looks very promising for getting many of the initiatives that we, CBN have been requesting.**

**b. Mike Payton has retired from the Boating Division of the CT DEEP.**

**Respectfully Submitted, Dean Rustic Conservation Director**

- **TOURNAMENT REPORT Vinny Mucci**

**The Classic was held on Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Lilly**

**Congratulations to the Winners!! Representing the CBN on the 2022 State Team are:**

**Boaters:**

**Dave Miller**

**Mike Shay**

**Non-Boaters:**

**Gary Belanger**

**John Zera**

**Sat & Sun Oct 2nd & 3rd, CBN Two Day, 8:00 to 3:00, Squantz & Latins, Candlewood Lake, mailing deadline is Friday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>.**

### **2022 Approved CBN Tournaments**

**April 10th, CBN T#1, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins, 8 to 3,**

**April 23rd, Bryan Kerchal Open, Candlewood, Danbury 7 to 3,**

**April 24th, HOC Open, Candlewood, Danbury, 7 to 3,**

**May1st, CBN T#2, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins, 8 to 3**

**May 15th, Mr BASS, TBD, 7 to 3**

**June 12th, CBN T#3, Ct River, Haddam, 7 to 3**

**Aug 7th. CBN Classic, Ct River, Haddam, 7 to 3**

**Oct 1st & 2nd, Two Day, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins, 8 to 3**

**CBN Sponsorship Report:**

- **TH Marine, ask Vinny for current offer if any.**
  - **AFTCO Grant Program is available to all Youth Groups, CBN & CBN Clubs Ask Vinny for details.**
  - **Toyota Bonus Bucks is back!**
  - **Skeeter Real Money**
  - **Triton Gold**
  - **Power Pole Program Contact Vinny for info**
  - **Accu Cull Program Contact Vinny for code**
  - **Ranger Cup**
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- **CBN Scholarship- Mike Billings: No Report**
  - **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris**

**Scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. WE NEED PRIZES!!!! Everything is set up just need prizes please!!**

**Sponsor Invites went out first week of Sept. Member Invites will be going out next week.**

**The Venue has indicated Masks will be necessary to enter and mingle, once at your table they may come off. They are required in Hartford County at this time, that could change.**

- **Membership Committee/ Social Media Director:**  
**Remember to contact our Social Media Director and Membership Director, Devin Hines if you have something that needs to be posted on our Social Media Pages or have a new member to place in a club.**

**Devin's info is P: 203-752-7797 E: [devinehines19@yahoo.com](mailto:devinehines19@yahoo.com)-email**

- **Kayak Series- Need a director!**
- **Website: The CBN E-mail list has been given to the webmaster to send E-mail Blast each time he adds News, Pairings, results, etc. to the webpage. Check with your members and be sure they are receiving**

**them. Check Spam folders too! Please send any e-mail changes or additions to Myself or Vinny!!!**

**CBN Youth Report: John Piscioniere-:**

**Thank you to Sweetwater for Hosting with a cookout and running the weigh in on our last Event for the kids, boat captains and their parents!!!**

**Our Annual Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Chowder Pot in Hartford, CT. I will be sending out additional information in the near future! We hope you all can make it.**

**Congratulations to our State Champions and runner ups who will be representing Connecticut at the BASS national championships next year!**

**Congratulations to all participants for a great year. Our top 3 teams for 2021 are:**

**HS State Champions-**

**1<sup>st</sup> Alex Gordon and Brandon Aux- CT**

**Thunder 8**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place Ben DelVecchia and Ryan Teixeira – CT  
Thunder 1**

**3<sup>rd</sup> place- Tyler Mahood and Ryan McKinney- CT  
Thunder 4**

**In our Junior Division:**

**Junior Champion- Brandon McKinney**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place- Hunter Leslie**

**Setting up next year's Trail will send soon.**

**John Piscioniere**

- **State Team Report, Sylvia Morris, State Team Administrator**

**Working on next year. The Team is forming nicely, not sure where it will be yet! Should be announcing this week!**

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

**Old Business**

- **E Board Meeting was not held, Vinny will set up one soon.**
- **The Veterans Fall tournament was held on Candlewood, Danbury, on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Was a huge success, Thank you to Gaylord Hospital, Major Steven Roy Andrews Foundation, Joe Kowalski, Al Guite, all the Boat Captains & Volunteers from the CBN and ADP!!!!**
- **Excused Absences: Ct Yankee & Xtream**
- **It was brought up at the last meeting to maybe go back to in person meetings, but in leu of Covid rising we will wait a little while longer.**
- **Still no Tournament Director?????? We need one!!!!**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Kevin Rose asked the CBN for reimbursement up to 2000.00 with receipts for himself and Joe Sodoras travel, lodging, boat gas and food (Not Covered by B.A.S.S.) for their 2021 Nationals trip as they are representing the CBN in the 2021 B.A.S.S. Nationals in Louisiana. Travel & Tournament Dates are from Oct 27<sup>th</sup> to Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Motion was made, seconded, voted, passed unanimously.  
A CBN Expense Form will be sent to them.  
Good Luck to you both!**
- **The Final Year of The Katie Dobroczyński Memorial Golf Tournament was held on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at Hawks Landing Country Club,**

**201 Pattonwood Drive, Southington Ct. They had 45 Foursomes attending the event! Was a great success!**

**Motion to adjourn 7:45pm**

- **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)**

**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 Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021****