Northern Neck Anglers Club February 2012 Newsletter

No matter what the calendar may show, the salt water fishing is not over yet this winter. Did you see the report of the new state record striped bass? The fish weighed 74 pounds and was caught in Virginia waters by Cary Wolfe of Prince William County. The record fish was caught on Friday, January 20^{th,} and arrangements were made to transport it to the Fishing Expo in the Richmond area where it was on display for visitors to see on the weekend.

Here is a link to an article on Tidalfish that will provide some of the details of the catch: http://www.tidalfish.com/forums/content.php/999-Virginia-Fishing-New-Virginia-Striped-Bass-State-Record

The Board of Directors of the NNAC will meet on February 11th to plan for the 2012 events. We have already had some conversations via the phone and e-mail, and the meeting is likely to take a while to review and discuss a number of topics. We have reserved the libraries in Heathsville and Kilmarnock for our four member meetings and mini-seminars, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend the meetings listed below:

April 28th in Heathsville - Capt. Rick Lockhart will discuss trolling for trophy striped bass in the spring. June 9th in Kilmarnock August 11th in Heathsville October 6th in Kilmarnock

We have set the tournament schedule for 2012 on the following dates so mark these on your calendars as well:

Trophy Rockfish - May 5 & 6 Rock-A-Thon - May 26 & 27 Target Ship Shootout - June 23 & 24 Flounder Bash - July 21 & 22 Spanish Lessons - Aug. 18 & 19 Fall Grab Bag - Sept. 15 & 16

Striper Challenge - Oct. 13 &14

Bonus Rockfish - Nov. 17 & 18, Nov. 24 & 25, Dec. 1 & 2 (3 weekends)

The BOD will be reviewing the results of our tournaments for 2011 and may consider making a few changes in the target species in 2012 based upon input from members and the actual results from 2011 before updating the NNAC web site, which is hosted and maintained by the Chesapeake Angler Magazine.

Best of Species - Results

| Species | <u>Angler</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Weight</u> |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| Bluefish | John O'Connor | Oct. 23 | 1 lb. 8 oz. |
| Croaker | Stuart McKenzie | July 23 | 1 lb. 5 oz. |
| Flounder | Bob Reed | Sept. 10 | 4 lbs. 11 oz. |
| Striped Bass | Bill Bailey | Dec. 4 | 31 lbs. 5 oz. |
| Spanish Mackerel | Emmett Boyd | Aug. 20 | 2 lbs. 10 oz. |
| Spot | Susan Hudson | Aug. 21 | 11 oz. |

Congratulations to the winners, who will receive a plaque for their achievement. The competition is limited to target species caught and weighed in during the designated tournaments or to any NNAC member who provides the NNAC with a copy of a Virginia State weight citation for a species caught between the first and last NNAC tournaments. No weight citations made the list in 2011, which leads to another topic for discussion. There is a report on Tidalfish that Gov. McDonnell has proposed cancelling the Virginia State Saltwater Citation Program (VSWFT) with the idea of saving \$200,000 at VMRC, which administers the program. See the link below:

(http://www.tidalfish.com/forums/showthread.php/312880-Governor-s-budget-kills-Saltwater-Fishing-Tourn ament?highlight=vswft)

Please review this issue and contact your state representative with your comments so that input from anglers in Virginia will be known by the legislators.

NNAC Vice President, Jan Jamrog, has put together some interesting spreadsheets with tournament information from 2011. Attached for your review are copies of the following:

Tournament Results Summary Best of Species Summary Angler of the Year Summary

Remember to pay your dues for 2012 and invite a neighbor or friend to join the club. Regards,

Tom Smith, NNAC President