



401-826-2121

RHODE ISLAND

FAX: 401-826-3546

SALTWATER ANGLERS

Association

6 Arnold Road, Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

www.RISAA.org

Stephen Medeiros
President
401-826-0146

Douglas MacPherson
1st Vice President
401-728-6917

William Sosnicki
2nd Vice President
401-822-2979

Capt. Stephen Segerson
Secretary
401-884-9585

Steven Trivisono
Treasurer
401-949-1076

David Fewster
Board Member
401-828-6935

Thomas Pelletier
Board Member
401-828-9424

Donald Smith
Board Member
401-823-9914

REMARKS MADE AGAINST LICENSE:

- RI Legislature can't be trusted (to keep funds in dedicated account).
- Legislature has no concern for R.I. Fisheries. Look at what they did to the Marine Fisheries Council.
- If R.I. begins a license, other neighboring states will do the same. "How about launching out of Mystic and Westerly and in less than a mile find yourself fishing in Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York in less than a one mile radius. Better have your wallet full of licenses or be ready to take a ride in the big green boat."
- "A salt water license places a barrier at the entry level and does not improve or promote salt-water fishing in any way shape or form."
- "Salt water fishing is not quite the same as fresh water fishing. If I am a CT resident and I am fishing a pond in RI, I need to buy a RI license. Otherwise, don't fish a RI pond. Why not consider regional licensing for salt water fishing"
- "Reciprocity - RI is a small state with a small coastline. People cross over the line on either side and now have to worry about being in RI waters? What if they are passing through with fishing gear on board? Does that constitute intent to fish RI waters? If other states get a license, can one be valid in the other states waters if fishing from a boat? Would there be a buffer zone?"
- "We already pay state and federal excise taxes on pleasure vehicles, state ramps, tackle equipment, boat fuel, etc. Users pay in this situation and they pay big. Although it isn't direct funding, we pay more that our fair share to have the right to go down to the ocean and take a fish home for dinner."
- "If there was a license, do you really think there would be X-times as many law enforcement officers hired that would bring the enforcement requirements up to par with the added burden of now checking everyone for a license?"
- "We have seen (and continue to see) the positive results of RISAA and Save The Bay. Unfortunately, we cannot say the same about most of the federal and state taxes we are currently paying and quite honestly, a saltwater fishing license would be just that -- a tax on recreational saltwater fishing. Does that also mean we would have to get a separate license to dig for clams and quahogs? How about going crabbing? squidding? putting out mummy traps? etc? Recreational saltwater fishing is one of the FEW great "FREE**" resources we as Rhode Islanders have left.