

# Fishing Seminars

## Wednesday, February 28

- 1:00 pm** Fishing for Striped Bass—Jim Hutchinson, Jr., *The Fisherman Magazine*
- 3:00 pm** Intro to Tuna Fishing—Capt. Phil Howarth, Goose Hummock Shops
- 4:30 pm** The Trolling Motor Install—Aaron Held, Octopus Yachts
- 6:00 pm** True Sonar Installation & Use—Allen Schneider, Si-Tex

## Thursday, February 29

- 1:00 pm** South Jersey Sheepshead—Khoa Nguyen, Tidechasers Podcast & Century Rods
- 3:00 pm** Intro to Tuna Fishing—Capt. Phil Howarth, Goose Hummock Shops
- 4:30 pm** New Jersey Artificial Reefs—Capt. Peter Clarke, NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife
- 6:00 pm** Fishing Fall Striper Blitzes—Capt. Jim Freda, Shore Catch Sportfishing

## Friday, March 1

- 1:00 pm** South Jersey's Backwater Stripers—Capt. Mike Doebley, Mighty Heron Charters
- 2:30 pm** Intro to Tuna Fishing—Capt. Phil Howarth, Goose Hummock Shop
- 4:30 pm** The Best Buffet In Town—Noel Feliciano, One Stop Bait and Tackle
- 6:00 pm** Wreck & Bottom Fishing—Capt. Adam Nowalsky, South Jersey Charter Captain

## Saturday, March 2

- 11:00 am** Catching Jumbo Blackfish—Frank Mihalic, Century Rods
- 12:30 pm** Fishing for Doormat Fluke—Jenni Ackerman, *The Fisherman Magazine*
- 2:00 pm** Targeting Bigeye Tuna—Capt. Cody Melton, Jersey Nutz Charters
- 3:30 pm** Tactical Jigging, Sea Bass to Tuna—Chris Gatley, Mustad
- 5:00 pm** Intro to Tuna Fishing—Capt. Phil Howarth, Goose Hummock Shops
- 6:00 pm** South Jersey Sheepshead—Capt. Dan Schafer, Insomniac Guide Service

## Sunday, March 3

- 11:00 am** Trolling Motor Tactics—Capt. Brett Taylor, Reel Reaction Sportfishing
- 12:00 pm** Intro to Tuna Fishing—Capt. Phil Howarth, Goose Hummock Shops
- 1:00 pm** Jersey Shore Fluke—Capt. Scott Newhall, Time Out Charters
- 2:00 pm** Targeting Nj/De Wahoo—Capt. Darren Dorris, Good Chemistry II
- 3:30 pm** Northeast Striped Bass Study—Jim Hutchinson, Jr., *The Fisherman Magazine*

# Fishing Seminar Descriptions

## Fishing for Striped Bass

**Jim Hutchinson, Jr., *The Fisherman Magazine***

With the March 1 opening of the back bays, the spring run of striped bass is officially underway in the Garden State. Whether it's bloodworms to start the year or chasing down a personal best during the bunker run, new regulatory changes put greater focus on increasing the survival of released fish. Join Hutch for a spring kickoff primer on tackle and techniques for the striper run.

## Intro to Tuna Fishing

**Capt. Phil Howarth, Goose Hummock Shops**

Well, we all must start somewhere—as Phil did ten years ago. Now a self-professed Tuna addict, Capt. Phil will explain the rules, regulations, and reporting requirements surrounding Tuna fishing which can seem like a fishing minefield. He will discuss how to equip your boat with the right fishing and safety equipment, concluding with valuable tips on how to catch this majestic species.

## The Trolling Motor Install

**Aaron Held, Octopus Yachts**

The trolling motor has become a real “game-changer” in local fishing, whether locking onto a prime tautog snag, sneaking up on shallow water stripers, or eliminating “wind against tide” in fluking. With more and more of these unique tools popping up on the bows of Jersey Shore boats, here's a chance to learn what it takes to add this high-tech tool to your arsenal.

## True Sonar Installation & Use

**Allen Schneider, Si-Tex**

True scanning sonars were once out of reach for most sportfishing boats, as they were complicated to use and expensive. However, that's all changed now that the next generation of scanning sonars has arrived. Featuring more compact transducers along with easy-to-use operating systems and displays, this technology is now accessible for boats as small as 30 feet. Learn more about this exciting technology and how offshore anglers are upping their tuna and marlin game with scanning sonar.

## South Jersey Sheepshead

**Khoa Nguyen, Tidechasers Podcast & Century Rods**

Learn all about targeting New Jersey's unique seasonal residents with Khoa, an expert in sheepshead fishing. In recent years, the popularity and availability of sheepshead have soared, making them a sought-after catch. Join Khoa as she shares insights into the gear and techniques essential for successfully targeting these accessible and delicious fish. Khoa is co-host of TideChasers Podcast which covers topics from conservation to seasonal tactics and gear reviews.

## New Jersey Artificial Reefs

**Capt. Peter Clarke, NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife**

Since 1984 New Jersey has been a national leader in designing and creating artificial reefs for recreational fishing. Spend an hour with the state's artificial reef coordinator for the latest updates on the reef program, learn how to fish them, and perhaps get a few new numbers you were unaware of. Plus, learn how you can help support new reef initiatives through the Sportfishing Fund with Brian Nunes-Vaise.

## Fishing Fall Striper Blitzes

### Capt. Jim Freda, Shore Catch Sportfishing

The past two striper seasons have featured all-out blitz fishing along the Central and North Jersey coast from September through December, which followed some epic trophy striper action in the spring. Whether you were in on the blitzes or not, Capt. Jim has unique video of the action to share, along with tips and tactics to help make your 2024 striper season one for the ages.

## South Jersey's Backwater Stripers

### Capt. Mike Doebley, Mighty Heron Charters

Sod bank fishing is an exciting way to score striped bass throughout the year, whether you're walking the sedges or getting there in a shallow draft boat. And sometimes, it's a combination of both! Scale down with this Ocean City, NJ-based guide on the hunt for outback stripers.

## The Best Buffet in Town

### Noel Feliciano, One Stop Bait and Tackle

The 13 jetties found in the Absecon Inlet area provide outstanding structure and offer near-year-round fishing opportunities. As the owner of One Stop Bait & Tackle in Atlantic City, Noel Feliciano keeps a keen ear to the rocks on what's biting and where. From fluke, weakfish, striped bass, and tautog, to a few unexpected visitors, Noel knows how, when, and where to find the bite in Atlantic City.

## Wreck & Bottom Fishing

### Capt. Adam Nowalsky, South Jersey Charter Captain

Whether you're looking for your own hidden snag or working the state's artificial reef complex, get a pro's point of view for putting more fish in the box when fishing structure. With more than 15 years of experience as a professional charter captain, Capt. Adam is known as an expert bottom fisherman and offers unique insight into the tackle and techniques to pull blackfish (tautog) and black sea bass from hard bottom.

## Catching Jumbo Blackfish

### Frank Mihalic, Century Rods

Blackfish are pound for pound one of the hardest fighting fish in the Mid-Atlantic, with some of the biggest bruisers coming from New Jersey waters. A dedicated togger and author, Frank has spent years perfecting the equipment he uses to target tog—and he'll share proven tips on hunting down and landing the biggest togs in our region.

## Fishing for Doormat Fluke

### Jenni Ackerman, The Fisherman Magazine

The summer season brings a bounty of boat fishermen targeting summer flounder. Whether you're fishing the local wrecks or along the shallow flats there are plenty of tactics, tricks, and tools to use which can optimize your chance of scoring that personal best doormat. Start your first drift of the new season with Jenni as she shares a few secrets to summer flounder success.

## Targeting Bigeye Tuna

### Capt. Cody Melton, Jersey Nutz Charters

Bigeye tuna are about the toughest brawlers you'll find on the Mid-Atlantic offshore grounds, but calling one out from the wolf pack—and then the others—sometimes requires very specific tools and tactics. Learn from the pros!

## Tactical Jigging, Sea Bass to Tuna

### Chris Gatley, Mustad

From butterfly to slow pitch and everything in between, jigging is one of the most effective ways of getting big fish to bite throughout the water column. Whether you're looking to increase the size of your sea bass catches or hoping to gear up for yellowfin and bluefin, jigging success begins with your gear selection and tactical rigging, and ends with a full box back at the dock.

## South Jersey Sheepshead

### Capt. Dan Schafer, Insomniac Guide Service

As one of the most respected light tackle and flyfishing backwater guides in New Jersey, Capt. Dan Schafer has effectively revolutionized sheepshead fishing at the Jersey Shore. The Stone Harbor guide and lure designer (Bottom Sweeper jigs) is an expert at targeting New Jersey's more unusual seasonal residents such as sheepshead, spadefish, and triggerfish in the shallow, back-bay waters.

## Trolling Motor Tactics

### Capt. Brett Taylor, Reel Reaction Sportfishing

Trolling motor technology has revolutionized how many people fish for fluke, tautog, and stripers at the Jersey Shore. Trolling motors paired with navigation electronics allow you to pinpoint your drift and put you on the exact spot you want to be, or, once you find the fish, put you back on that same drift. Trolling motors also allow you to fish in less-than-optimal conditions such as wind against the tide.

## Jersey Shore Fluke

### Capt. Scott Newhall, Time Out Charters

Capt. Scott Newhall has spent the last 20 years fishing every part of the Jersey Shore and has learned a thing or two. With all those years on the water, primarily targeting fluke, one is almost guaranteed to learn something from Scott. His success in consistently getting his clients on the fish speaks volumes about his expertise. Allow him to share some of his proven tips to help make your fluke outings more productive.

## Targeting Nj/De Wahoo

### Capt. Darren Dorris, Good Chemistry II

South Jersey sees an influx of wahoo in the summer months, and nothing is quite as exciting as hooking up with and boating one of these speed demons. Spend an hour with dedicated Jersey 'hoo hunter Capt. Darren Dorris as he runs through the best lures, baits, trolling techniques, tackle, and local areas to find these tasty, toothy, and tremendous fish on South Jersey's lumps and canyons.

## Northeast Striped Bass Study

### Jim Hutchinson, Jr., *The Fisherman Magazine*

A revolutionary study initiated in 2019 by Gray FishTag Research and The Fisherman has been deploying mini satellite tags on post-spawn striped bass off the Atlantic Coast. The tags record salinity, depth, temperature, and location before detaching from the fish after a pre-set time. The findings from those tags have been eye-opening and may someday disrupt the dogma of migratory striper beliefs.