



HUDSON RIVER HAPPENINGS & INTERCLUB INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Compiled by the HRBYCA <https://www.hrbyca.org>

May 1, 2021 (v2021.05.01)

Gov Affairs and other river related topics

The following three points summarize the new Engine Cut Off Switch (ECOS) law:

- Effective April 1, 2021, operators of certain vessels under 26 feet long MUST use either a helm or outboard lanyard or wireless ECOS when traveling on plane or above displacement speed.
- Boats manufactured January 2020 or later MUST have a functioning lanyard-style ECOS installed at the helm or on an outboard engine or have a functioning wireless ECOS device AND the vessel operator MUST wear it.
- Operators of boats manufactured before January 2020 MUST use an ECOS device—provided it is installed and functional.

The new law exempts the following boats:

- Boats whose main helm is located in an enclosed cabin.
- Boats not operating on plane or at displacement speed.
- Boats engaged in low-speed activities such as docking and fishing.

Boats that produce less than 115 pounds of static thrust, roughly equivalent to a 2-horsepower engine

ONGOING EVENTS ON THE HUDSON RIVER

The invitation below is from the Hudson River Fishing Association about their spring Striper Derby. The rules and entry form are attached.

Please distribute to your members.

We are looking for river/fishing enthusiasts to spread the word about our tournament by posting our tournament info at local shops/marinas/etc for people to sign up. If you'd like, you can become a sponsor of the event. We would market your service/products to our 200

members through our newsletters as well as on social media for 3 months. All we ask is for a small donation towards the event. We are a non profit and use the tournament to raise money for our family events and youth programs throughout the year. Please consider making a donation and sponsoring the event, let me know either way. Thanks again.

If you have questions contact Alex at a.spindelman@gmail.com



2021 Fred Rung
Memorial Striper Derl

RELATED TOPIC

Hudson River: Striped Bass Cooperative Angler Program

You can share your fishing trip information and help biologists understand and manage our Hudson River striped bass fishery.

- Here's how it works: Fill out a logbook provided by us whenever you fish on the Hudson River (by boat or from shore). You can also use our survey123 app and record your trips using a smart phone or computer. Record general location, time, gear used, what you caught (or if you didn't catch anything) and return the logbook when you are done fishing for the season.

- You'll receive an annual newsletter summarizing the information in addition to the latest news regarding regulations and the river. Whether you catch-and-release or take home a keeper, you can be part of the Cooperative Angler Program. Online logbook instructions can be found

here: https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/hrcoopanglerelogbook.pdf

Join today by contacting: HUDSONANGLER@DEC.NY.GOV or call 845-256-3009

FROM THE HUDSON RIVER ALMANAC

Compiled by Tom Lake, NY State Naturalist

Monitoring Abundance of Juvenile Atlantic Sturgeon

Since 2003, fish biologists in DEC's [Hudson and Delaware Marine Fisheries](#) unit have been studying the population, life cycle, and habitats of the



endangered Atlantic sturgeon to manage and conserve this signature species.

Atlantic sturgeon spawned in the Hudson spend one to six years in the river before they migrate to the ocean. Annual counting and tagging of these young sturgeon help determine how the relative abundance is changing over time in response to management actions such as the coast-wide fishing moratorium that was established in 1998. By analyzing several years worth of catch data, biologists can determine population trends in the Hudson River stock. Is it stable? Increasing? Decreasing?

The [Juvenile Atlantic Sturgeon](#) monitoring takes place in late February through early May in Haverstraw Bay, an overwintering area for these young fish. Research shows the combination of soft, river-bottom sediments and deeper water (more than 20-feet) is preferred habitat for juvenile Atlantic sturgeon.

Fisheries staff use anchored gill nets to catch the sturgeon. The sturgeon are weighed, measured for length, and examined for previous tags. A small sample is taken from each fish for genetic and age analysis. Untagged fish are tagged under the dorsal fin with a Passive Integrated Transponder or PIT tag. This tag is similar to a microchip put in pets and is about the size of a grain of rice.

Since the start of the program in 2004, standardized monitoring indicates the [juvenile Hudson River Atlantic sturgeon](#) is increasing. The average catch rate in recent years is two times higher than that observed during the start of the survey suggesting the Hudson River stock may be recovering in response to the coast-wide fishing moratorium that was enacted 23 years ago. Additional years of monitoring will help establish recovery targets for the species as a whole.

Natural History Entries



4/1 – Poughkeepsie, HRM 76: [Late-arriving story] On the Hudson River waterfront this evening, just north of the Walkway Over the Hudson, a seal was hauled out on one of the Vassar College rowing docks. Photos were taken and those, in addition to the story, were sent to the DEC *Hudson River Almanac* as well as the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society for identification. (*Photo of harp seal courtesy of Linda*

Moriarty)

- Linda Moriarty

[Kim Durham, from the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society, identified the seal as a yearling harp seal (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*).

Harp Seals are native to the north Atlantic and Arctic waters. They are a highly migratory species and have been known to travel distances up to 1,500 miles. Their breeding season occurs in late winter on Arctic pack ice. Afterwards, the seals disperse widely to feed during the warmer months.

Harp seals occasionally find their way south along the coast and even less commonly into the Hudson River. The last harp seal we documented in the Almanac occurred March 2019 at Green Island, river mile 152. The nearly white adult harp seals have a diagnostic black “splotch” on their back (pelage), a Rorschach-like image suggesting a harp. Tom Lake]



4/6 – Manitou, HRM 46.5: We were watching the river late this afternoon, the tide was creeping up the shoreline, when we spotted a seal hauled out on our small sandy beach. The seal seemed relaxed and healthy. Although we were quiet and did not approach from 30-feet away, the seal eventually sensed our presence. After a short lull, the seal began to work its way back into the water, head-first into the chop, and then dissolved out of sight into the river. (Photo of harp seal courtesy of Todd

Berland)

- Todd Berland, Ace Berland

[Todd's photos confirmed that this was the same yearling (class of 2020) harp seal that was sighted and photographed in Poughkeepsie five days ago. Tom Lake]

[We are frequently asked, “Are there resident seals in the Hudson River estuary?” With the exception of the harbor seal at Saugerties (now more than 600 days in residence), the answer is no. Think of our seals as friends who come for a backyard barbecue, feed until they are full, and then go home. For seals, most of them visit at times of peak fish presence, i.e., spring migration, then go home, back to the sea. Tom Lake]

[If you see a live and apparently healthy marine mammal or sea turtle in the estuary, please contact the Atlantic Marine Conservation Society (<https://www.amseas.org>). If you have photos or video, please send them to sightings@amseas.org. However, if you see a sick or injured marine mammal or sea turtle, please call the New York State Stranding Hotline, Riverhead Foundation for Marine Research & Preservation, at (631) 369-9829. Tom Lake trlake7@aol.com]

Boats for sale

A well-equipped 1978 Bristol 29.9 sloop. \$15,900.

Contact Andy Hudson 845-238-8535 or iceboatguy@icloud.com



The appearance is great. The gelcoat shines. The upholstery is in great shape. The teak trim is in great shape. Inboard Yanmar diesel. As you can see from the hour meter, it has low hours, 572.



It is shoal draft with centerboard. Great for bays or your trip to the Bahamas.

There is pressure water, depth finder, and speed log, as well as an autopilot.

Comes with an almost new custom winter cover.

It is located in Stony Point, New York. Currently it is covered for the winter. Soon the cover will come off.

INTERCLUB INFORMATION EXCHANGE-VIRTUAL BULLETIN BOARD

We are able to give you the direct links which have been setup to bring your members directly to the location of information.

Links for "Happenings"-the complete Newsletter

The HRBYCA News page on the web site - with intro and summary