

Lobsters Beware!

New York commercial lobstermen have a new trick up their sleeves.....

→ By William Walters,
Regional Marine Specialist

"To bag or not to bag?" is the question many local lobstermen have been asking since the announcement of the inexpensive Vexar plastic netting. This new thermoplastic netting, manufactured by E.I. duPont de Nemours and Company, now makes bait bags available for about 10 to 12 cents each.

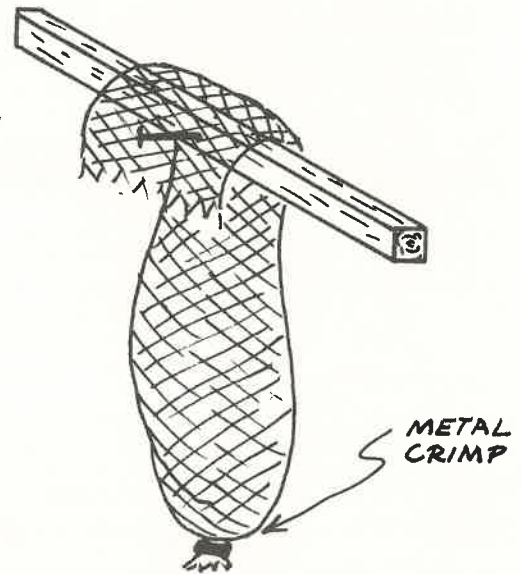
The new bait bags were developed and tested by Dr. Henry Moeller of the New York Ocean Science Lab in cooperation with Stan Lenox, a local Montauk lobsterman. Field trials proved that the bait bags fished as well as or better than bait hung in the regular way.

Vexar is being marketed in long rolls of tubing. A twelve to fourteen inch length is cut off and closed at one end to form a bag. The bottom is closed by dipping the end in boiling water (which softens the material) and tying a single

overhand knot. This method is cheaper than using metal staples or crimping sleeves — which also work well. Your supplier can advise you of the costs of the various crimping materials.

The pre-baited bags can either be hung in the usual manner, or if your traps have a central crossmember — by an even faster technique. Hook the twine over a nail in the crossmember, swing the bag over the top and close the trap. The door will clamp the bag securely and save the time wasted in closing the top of each bag. This method requires a slightly longer bag than hanging in the conventional way. (see illustration at right)

The bags can be reused and will probably last as long as a full season using the standard weight material (22-CDO-627.) A lighter and less expensive material will also be available (15-CDO-29.)



Vexar is not biodegradable and should not be thrown overboard — please dispose of worn out bags on shore.

Lobstermen interested in experimenting with this new material may obtain additional information from:

E.I. duPont
Products Information Office
ATTN: Vexar
350 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10001
Phone: (212) 971-4771

SITE VISIT SLATED FOR MID-SEPTEMBER

Representatives of industry, the National Sea Grant Office, other government agencies and universities will gather at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York on September 18 and 19 for the New York Sea Grant Program's annual site visit.

This program review, a regular procedure for New York and other Sea Grant programs, gives the site visit team of knowledgeable scientists the chance to

evaluate both proposals for the coming year and accomplishments and the effectiveness of program activities over the past year. In addition, the panel will have the opportunity to tour a portion of New York's Great Lakes coastline to observe areas where research and Advisory Service activities are currently being conducted.

Those persons interested in more materials detailing past and future activi-

ties of the New York Sea Grant Program may wish to write for the following free publications:

N.Y. Sea Grant Year II Annual Report
N.Y. Sea Grant Year IV Program Proposal

Both are listed on page 4 and are available through any of the offices listed on the back page.

Tommy Brown

Background

In 1968, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) embarked on an experimental program to develop high quality recreational fishing for salmon and trout in Lakes Ontario and Erie. Experience in the program to date has indicated that a combination of suitable water, heavy annual planting of hatchery-reared salmonids and lamprey control where needed could produce sport fisheries to rival those now famous in Lake Michigan. Annual harvests are expected to reach more than a third of a million large trout and salmon.

where?
Stocking had been limited to chinook and coho salmon in the initial stages of the program, but in 1973, 65,000 lake trout and 60,000 brown trout were added. During 1974 stocking in Lake Ontario has included 500,000 lake trout received on a cooperative basis from Federal hatcheries, 300,000 coho and over a million chinook salmon. Estimated optimum stocking needs for New York's share of her Great Lakes are 3.1 million salmonids annually.

To meet this need, a new Great Lakes hatchery will be imperative. First funding has already been started for land acquisition and planning. If on schedule, the first fish for stocking from the new hatchery will be available in 1978.

The cumulative effects of stocking and lamprey control should result in increased numbers and sizes of salmonids over the next several years, judging from the improved run of 2-year-old chinooks in the Salmon River and other streams stocked in 1972, including; Skinner Creek, Jefferson County; Grindstone Creek and Little Salmon River, Oswego County; Sandy Creek and Salmon Creek, Monroe County. Best fishing in these waters should be in September and October.

Coho and chinook salmon die after spawning and do not feed readily while on their spawning run. Snatching with bare multiple hooks and other special Great Lakes Salmonid regulations have been approved to maximize salmonid harvest.

Community Efforts

Although no one can say for sure how big the salmonid fishery will be, judging from Michigan's experience with salmon, it is likely to have major beneficial effects on the recreation and economic potential of Great Lakes communities and the rest of New York state. Preliminary research by Tommy Brown of Cornell University indicates that between September first and mid November last year salmon fishermen brought \$37,000 to Oswego County alone.

However, all is not as rosy as it sounds. At present many of the communities likely to be affected by the fishery are ill equipped to handle any large influx of salmon fishermen. Recognizing the kinds of problems that could result, community leaders and concerned citizens have been working

It's Salmon Time in New York!

Information provided through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and by Rick Sojda, Regional Marine Specialist, Sea Grant Advisory Service, SUNY/Brockport

with Sea Grant and Cooperative Extension staff to alert the public and initiate planning. Department of Environmental Conservation officials and representatives of other state agencies have also lent strong support for public informational programs over the past year.

New York has been very fortunate in having Michigan's salmon program to draw upon. In addition to supplying written materials documenting past efforts, that state has also loaned "salmon experts" to share ideas and experiences. During this past April, Oswego County residents had the opportunity to hear John Hodge of Michigan's Extension Service, who has been active in helping communities in his state plan for their salmonid fishery. And, as this goes to press, New York Sea Grant staff are working with various groups in Michigan, including Extension, Department of Natural Resources and the Marina Operators Association to arrange a trip to Manistee, Michigan for a selected group of New Yorkers. This tour will give concerned public officials, marina operators and others the chance to "experience" the potential fishery and see what they may be headed for.

The Outlook

Because of increased stocking and improved lamprey control, residents of the Lake Ontario region should get some good insights into the future impact of the fishery during September and October of this year—prime salmon fishing time. Though the actual numbers of fish caught, fishermen and revenues earned will be formally documented,

DEC's salmon collecting weir is located in Pulaski, New York, a target town for salmon fishermen.



most communities should be able to do better planning for the future based on the kinds of demands they experience over the next two months.

Sea Grant Recreation Specialist, Rick Sojda, who will be helping communities prepare for the fishery, suggests that in addition to the usual supplies of road maps, lists of restaurants and accommodations, businessmen and local governments may wish to consider offering other kinds of services. These could include every thing from materials on how to catch and prepare salmon to maps of the best fishing spots. Sojda cautions against initiating major new projects at this point, such as building additional boat slips, but indicates it is not too soon to explore costs and find out where the problems lie. Sea Grant Advisory Service offices and DEC regional offices may be able to provide assistance in many of these areas.

Throughout the year, Cooperative Extension, Sea Grant, DEC, and other groups will continue to hold public informational meetings in various counties. Many of these will be announced in local newspapers, and whenever possible, in "Coastlines". And as this goes to press, several of the Sea Grant Advisory Service offices are preparing and collecting additional materials on various aspects of the salmon fishery, including cleaning, handling of salmon, and information for community planning. "Coastlines" will announce these materials as they become available.

If you have questions or would like to express concerns on this fishery please feel free to contact any Department of Environmental Conservation Office or Sea Grant Advisory Service Office.



Floyd Nolan of Pulaski, New York (at right) shows John Hodge of Michigan's Cooperative Extension Service some of the key areas for New York's salmonid fishery.

FLOOD INSURANCE TO BE MANDATORY FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE

By Peter Sanko,
Regional Marine Specialist

Property owners in officially designated flood hazard areas may no longer be eligible to receive Federal disaster assistance or to obtain loans from Federally chartered, insured and Federal Home Loan Bank member institutions without flood insurance.

These regulations are currently in effect for property in designated flood hazard areas within communities eligible for the sale of National Flood Insurance. But as of July 1, 1975, they will apply to *all* property in designated flood areas, whether or not the community is eligible under the Flood Insurance Program.

According to the latest Federal Disaster Assistance Administration regulations, promulgated on March 13, 1974, flood insurance is required to receive Federal Disaster Assistance Grants for permanent restorative work within an identified flood hazard area. This is true even if no flooding is involved in the disaster. However, if a disaster should occur in a non-participating community, the community will have 6 months to become eligible to receive disaster assistance.

In an apparent attempt to discourage rebuilding in flood areas after a disaster, and to encourage relocation out of flood areas, two new regulations have been added:

- 1) should the required flood proofing codes and standards significantly increase the eligible Federal restorative costs on flood insured property, Federal assistance may be based on relocation.
- 2) even if a community is not participating in the Flood Insurance Program, in the event of a declared disaster, Federal financial assistance will be given to relocate those buildings in need of replacement, outside of the flood area.

To purchase flood insurance, you need only contact the insurance agent or broker of your choice. If your community is not eligible for the sale of flood insurance, your only alternative is to stimulate

action in your community for meeting the requirements of eligibility. In New York state, communities may receive technical assistance in qualifying for the National Flood Insurance Program from the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Office of Planning Services. Further information on the National Flood Insurance Program is also available through any of the Sea Grant Advisory Service Offices.

The National Flood Insurance Program first went into effect in 1968, but both community and property owner partici-

pation remained at a low level until sanctions were added in 1973 and 1974. Now, with a number of loans more available, the advantages and necessity for flood insurance should become more apparent. Financial assistance currently available includes: Federal Disaster Assistance, mortgage loans from Federal agencies such as the Federal Housing Administration, Veterans Administration, the Small Business Administration, and Federally insured banks and savings and loan institutions dependent upon flood insurance.

The State University of New York at Stony Brook is now offering an undergraduate program in marine biology at the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory at the University of the West Indies. The program provides fourteen weeks of intensive study during the spring semester including independent or group research projects supervised by the teaching staff.

Further information and applications are available to SUNY students through the Office of International Education on their home campus. Applications should be directed to the Office of International Education, Library, W-3522, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, New York 11794. The deadline for applications is December 1.

I WANT MORE

Further details to help solve several coastal problems are available. Each month we try to list several publications of possible interest to you, check off those you would like and return to the Sea Grant Advisory Office nearest to you. Addresses are listed on the back page.

- ___S5—New York State Sea Grant Program Annual Report, 1972-1973. 52 pp.
- ___S6—New York's Sea Grant Program, 1974-1975. 150 pp. (Available by the middle of September)
- ___S7—New York Bight Atlas Flyer. 4 pp.

There is a charge for the following publications. Make checks payable to "Cornell University."

- ___05—1974 Legislation Relating to New York State's Coastal and Marine Resources. by Marsha Bird. 9 pp. 50¢
- ___06—Marine Fisheries Conservation in New York State: Policy and Practice of Marine Fisheries Management, Vol. I. by Jay J. C. Ginter. 50 pp. \$3.00
- ___07—"Helping Power to Be a Good Neighbor" by Ron Stewart. (reprint from NOAA) 6 pp. 25¢
- ___08—Proceedings of the Regional Shoreline—Resources and Management Conference. (Sponsored by Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Board and New York State Sea Grant Program) 34 pp. \$2.00

status now?

→ COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Information supplied through the courtesy of Carol Sondheimer, New York Office of Planning Coordination.

The Office of Planning Services has submitted an application and a detailed first year work program to the Office of Coastal Zone Management in the U.S. Department of Commerce. The application requests a Federal grant of \$550,000 which will be matched by \$275,000 in State funds and services already available for State purposes related to coastal zone activities.

Because the success of any coastal planning effort in this State is dependent on the cooperation and interest of the affected parties, the statewide program is designed as a 50-50 effort between the State and local units of government, including counties, municipalities and regional planning bodies. Accordingly, any money the State receives will be divided equally between State agencies and regional, county and local governments.

Organized and general citizen participation also will be necessary if the planning effort is to be successful. Therefore, during the first year, a procedure for setting up at least two citizen advisory commissions will be established. Members of these commissions will determine their specific role for the future. Informal sessions, geared to those members of the general public with a particular interest in shoreline related matters will also be held in several coastal locations throughout the coming year.

A primary thrust of the first year's work program (to be undertaken in the ensuing 12 months following receipt of a Federal grant) will be toward helping State and local governments and the public determine the need, desirability and feasibility of coastal zone management approaches and methods.

In addition, the Federal grant will provide funds to produce basic information and techniques which would be useful in the existing planning, development and regulatory activities of State and local governments and regional agencies. Among the subjects on which basic in-

formation will be gathered are wetlands, flood-plains, wildlife and vegetation, water quality and supply, port and harbor development opportunities, land use patterns and development trends.

The application for Federal coastal zone planning assistance has been distributed to over 200 State and local agencies, citizen groups and concerned individuals for their review and comment. The Office of Planning Services will continue to work with local governments throughout the year to insure that their needs and interests are adequately reflected.

Any requests for additional information on this program should be addressed to:

Henry G. Williams, Deputy Director
Office of Planning Services
488 Broadway
Albany, New York 12207

CLAIMS BOARD INITIATED

New York commercial fishermen will now find it easier to seek fair settlements of claims for damages to U.S. vessels or gear caused by Soviet vessels operating off our coasts.

In an effort to provide for an informal, yet systematic means of contact between the two governments and the fishermen involved, an agreement was reached establishing joint U.S. - U.S.S.R. boards in Moscow and Washington. The boards will receive and consider damage claims submitted by nationals from either government. The boards have been empowered to investigate reported claims and to recommend settlements between the parties involved. The recommendations of the boards are not binding. They must be acceptable to the parties involved.

The Washington group will consider claims of loss or damage sustained in the northeastern Pacific, including the Bering Sea and those arising in the western areas of the Atlantic. Normally parties may bring their claims before the board within one year after the occurrence of a relevant incident. There is also a provision for discussing claims for incidents that occurred during the two years preceding the effective date of the agreement (February 21, 1973). Claims must be fully documented.

WILKINS ON LEAVE

On August 1st, O. Cleon Barber, formerly a Cooperative Extension Agent in Broome County, New York, assumed the role of Acting Program Leader for the Sea Grant Advisory Service in New York State. Mr. Barber will replace Bruce Wilkins, Professor of Natural Resources at Cornell University during Wilkins' sabbatic at the University of British Columbia and Oregon State University.

Mr. Barber's 30 years association with Cooperative Extension and Cornell University are seen as strong qualifications for providing leadership to the Sea Grant Advisory Service staff's five offices in New York State. He holds degrees in Agricultural Education from Cornell University and in Public Affairs from the University of California, Davis.

Dr. Wilkins will be serving as Visiting Sea Grant Professor at Oregon State University and associated with the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia prior to his return August 1, 1975.

BLUE PIKE SOUGHT

The National Fish Hatchery in Hebron, Ohio is offering a \$25 finder's reward for live Blue Pike.

Once a valuable commercial and sport fish in Lake Erie, the Blue Pike disappeared in the late 1950's. It is now classified as an endangered species and some experts believe it may be extinct. These fish cannot be taken legally, but if you should net one accidentally, you should keep it alive in a bucket or tank and phone Arnold Stoltz at the Hatchery immediately, (phone: 614-928-8092).

Stoltz presently has seven live Pike at the hatchery, however none of them are really excellent examples because there has been considerable interbreeding between the Blue and Yellow Pike (Walleye.) No color photograph exists of this fish, thus identification of Blue Pike has been difficult.

The National Marine Fisheries Service is one of the agencies responsible for U.S. participation in the new arrangement.

URBAN YOUTH PROGRAM

Summer school took on an entirely new look for New York City teachers and students this year with the assistance of Sea Grant Specialist, Rick Raymond.

In School District 12, Science Coordinator Paul Mancinelli was able to set up an "Integrated Day" program which combined recreational field trips to the seashore with practice in reading and math skills.

Meryl Mateli, summer school principal for Community School 66, said her whole program was changed with the addition of the "oceanography room", set up for the seashore field trips. Teachers from her school made six trips with their classes to various beaches around New York City to observe and collect marine specimens.

An aquarium was set up to keep alive specimens of marine life collected at the beach. The material was used to stimulate general discussion about the

UPDATE

The Fredonia Advisory Service Office announces that a daily Lake Erie recreation report can be heard over three radio stations in that area. The report, broadcast approximately ten to twelve times a day by WRIE in Erie County Pennsylvania, and WBUZ and WDOE in Northern Chatauqua County, gives information on boating, fishing and beach conditions for Lake Erie. Information for the reports is gathered daily from marina owners, state park managers, boat liveries and the United States Weather Bureau.

marine environment. Shells, sea weed and rocks were collected for art work.

Ms. Mateli has invited other schools to visit their oceanography room and see the student's work.

This year's "Fish Expo", the annual trade show of the commercial fishing industry will be held in Scope Auditorium in Norfolk, Virginia, November 16-19, 1974. If there is sufficient interest in attending among New York commercial fishermen, the Stony Brook Advisory Service Office will arrange for a charter bus to make the trip down. Fishermen are asked to phone the office as far in advance as possible so the appropriate arrangements can be made.

New York Sea Grant's Great Lakes Advisory Service welcomed another new staff member on July 1; Stephen Brown. Steve holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts in recreation and economics and Masters in recreation and resource development from Michigan State University. He has worked with a consulting firm in recreation planning. Steve is currently located in the Oswego Advisory Service Office.

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Twin Towers
99 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12210
Tel. (518) 474-5787

Sea Grant Advisory Service
Fernow Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14850
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Youth Development Program
381 Park Avenue South
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New York, New York 10016
Tel. (212) 685-5081

Sea Grant Advisory Service
Marine Sciences Research Center
SUNY/Stony Brook
Stony Brook, New York 11794
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Sea Grant Advisory Service
Room 375
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Fredonia, New York 14063
Tel. (716) 673-3413

Sea Grant Advisory Service
Culkin Hall
SUNY/Oswego
Oswego, New York 13126
Tel. (315) 341-3042

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251 Hartwell Hall
SUNY/Brockport
Brockport, New York 14420
Tel. (716) 395-2638

COASTLINES, published bi-monthly, is available free of charge on written request to the editor.



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