



by Nick Honachefsky

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ports had some days with limits of blackbacks up to 4.25 pounds from the area. Mud Hole party boats report that there was a little bit of a slowdown in ling activity during mid-to-late March with catches averaging about 5 to 12 per man in the deeper 150 to 220-foot depths, but the fishery showed signs of a rebound in early April with catches back up to 10 to 30 per man. Smaller cod and pollock also had begun to move in on the mid-shore wrecks with some 10 to 12-pounders of both species taking home the pools on the ling trips.

**Central Jersey**

Flounder pounders found that the season opened up with decent merit in the Manasquan River region as party and private boaters hit up the river south of the Route 35 Bridge, off the Hospital beach, and inside upper Barnegat Bay off Dale's Point and Johnson Brothers Marina to find a pull of one to eight fish on a tide out. Afternoon trips seemed to have better productivity than morning trips as the sun's rays warmed up the waters and, most likely, sparked their feeding. Flounder folk had some excellent catches off the Oyster Creek outflow in Barnegat Bay as flatfish were taken in droves by heavily chumming anglers. The Island Heights bulkhead and Pelican Island Route 37 Bridge also had some flounder activity holding

strong, basically all reports adding up to a good pick of flatties inside Barnegat Bay. Even if you didn't have a boat to get to the flounder grounds, bulkhead fishermen were able to pull some quality catches of flatties from the Monument at Manasquan Inlet, from the Johnson Brothers dock, and off Lyman Avenue in Bay Head, where incidentally, I was able to pull in a most excellent 16-inch winter flounder for dinner one particular day. Reports also had some decent striper activity in the back by the Route 37 Bridge, with some keeper-sized bass taking clam baits and chasing plastic shads. Striper activity trickled in from the area by the High Bar inside Barnegat Inlet where a few shorts were taken on topwater poppers. Bass fishermen also maintained their pull of short and occasional keeper bass off the Route 9 Bridge on the east side of the bridge. Graveling Point was a flux of up- and-down striper fishing; it all depended on the day and your luck. Good days had four to eight fish a man, with occasional keepers, and bad days you got blanked. Some days the high water in the morning was key; other times the middle-of-the-day low tide worked well. It's been a day-to-day crapshoot. The Mullica River did hold some quality stripers up to and over the 20-pound class, signaling the beginning of the spring striper push into the back creeks. That fishery should explode by May.

**Offshore**

Anglers wondering just what the heck there is to fish for 50 to 80 miles out in May will be glad to know that a solid whale cod and pollack bite has been happening through April and should last until May. Humongous cod to 35 pounds and pollock to 35 pounds have both been scored on the mid-shore and offshore wrecks from 25 to 80 miles out. Late prime time spots have been the 28-mile Wreck, the Texas Tower and the Resor Wreck. Another solid offshore bet is to target golden tilefish on the flats of the continental shelf. Granted, you need to be fishing in the 400 to 600 foot depths, but there is some quality tilefishing to be had inside the Hudson Canyon. Most tiles have been reported in the 5 to 20-pound class, but make no mistake, there are lunker 50-pounders waiting to be caught in this often overlooked fishery. Just be sure to spool up with braided line and get the highest speed retrieve reels into play.

Things are swingin' for Jersey anglers since May is the true barometer and catalyst for the fishing year. If it doesn't happen in May, it ain't happenin', and as of April, all things look like they're pointing to a phenomenal time in May. Reports will be flying off the charts by next issue. Be sure you get out to add some of your own! If you have anything to tell me, feel free to email me at [beachnut33@hotmail.com](mailto:beachnut33@hotmail.com). I'd love to hear what you find on the end of your line!

**High Tides For May 2007**

**Bridgeport, CT**

May 1	11:35 AM	11:44 PM	May 16	11:25 AM	11:40 PM
May 2	-----	12:11 PM	May 17	-----	12:17 PM
May 3	12:18 AM	12:47 PM	May 18	12:32 AM	1:10 PM
May 4	12:54 AM	1:24 PM	May 19	1:25 AM	2:04 PM
May 5	1:30 AM	2:03 PM	May 20	2:19 AM	2:59 PM
May 6	2:10 AM	2:45 PM	May 21	3:16 AM	12:01 PM
May 7	2:54 AM	3:32 PM	May 22	4:14 AM	4:54 PM
May 8	3:43 AM	4:23 PM	May 23	5:15 AM	5:52 PM
May 9	4:38 AM	5:18 PM	May 24	6:15 AM	6:48 PM
May 10	5:38 AM	6:16 PM	May 25	7:14 AM	7:40 PM
May 11	6:40 AM	7:13 PM	May 26	8:08 AM	8:29 PM
May 12	7:41 AM	8:09 PM	May 27	8:57 AM	9:13 PM
May 13	8:40 AM	9:04 PM	May 28	9:43 AM	9:55 PM
May 14	9:37 AM	9:57 PM	May 29	10:25 AM	10:34 PM
May 15	10:32 AM	10:49 PM	May 30	11:05 AM	11:13 PM
			May 31	11:44 AM	11:51 PM

**High Tides For Other Locations:**

<b>City Island</b>	+0:17	<b>Stamford</b>	+0:03	<b>Madison</b>	- 0:21
<b>New Rochelle</b>	- 0:04	<b>S. Norwalk</b>	+0:09	<b>Essex</b>	- 0:05
<b>Mamaroneck</b>	+0:12	<b>Housatonic Rvr</b>	+0:26	<b>Saybrook Pt</b>	- 0:31
<b>Cos Cob</b>	+0:05	<b>Milford</b>	- 0:08	<b>New London</b>	- 1:45

Times are approximate • Not responsible for errors

**Moon Phases**



**High Tides For May 2007**

**Fire Island Democratic Point**

May 1	7:24 AM	7:43 PM	May 16	7:24 AM	7:42 PM
May 2	8:01 AM	8:16 PM	May 17	8:16 AM	8:32 PM
May 3	8:37 AM	8:48 PM	May 18	9:09 AM	9:23 PM
May 4	9:13 AM	9:20 PM	May 19	10:05 AM	10:17 PM
May 5	9:51 AM	9:56 PM	May 20	11:03 AM	11:14 PM
May 6	10:33 AM	10:37 PM	May 21	-----	12:01 PM
May 7	11:21 AM	11:28 PM	May 22	12:10 AM	12:57 PM
May 8	-----	12:15 PM	May 23	1:04 AM	1:50 PM
May 9	12:24 AM	1:11 PM	May 24	1:55 AM	2:42 PM
May 10	1:23 AM	2:09 PM	May 25	2:47 AM	3:33 PM
May 11	2:25 AM	3:09 PM	May 26	3:40 AM	4:23 PM
May 12	3:28 AM	4:09 PM	May 27	4:34 AM	5:10 PM
May 13	4:33 AM	5:07 PM	May 28	5:25 AM	5:54 PM
May 14	5:34 AM	6:02 PM	May 29	6:12 AM	6:34 PM
May 15	6:31 AM	6:53 PM	May 30	6:55 AM	7:12 PM
			May 31	7:36 AM	7:48 PM

**High Tides For Other Locations:**

**South Shore**

**North Shore**

<b>Amityville</b>	+ 2:59	<b>Pt. Washington</b>	+ 3:23
<b>Bay Shore</b>	+ 2:46	<b>Oyster Bay</b>	+ 3:32
<b>E. Rockaway Inlet</b>	+ 0:32	<b>Pt. Jefferson</b>	+ 3:29
<b>Freeport</b>	+ 1:16	<b>Mattituck Inlet</b>	+ 3:35
<b>Jones Inlet</b>	+ 0:19	<b>Greenport</b>	+ 2:45
<b>Moriches Inlet</b>	- 0:18	<b>Sag Harbor</b>	+ 2:35
<b>Shinnecock Inlet</b>	- 0:12	<b>Montauk Point</b>	+ 0:29

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**Moon Phases**

