

**From:** [Dominick Pucci](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Please Forward to ASMFC Striped Bass Committee  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 8:05:02 PM

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Please forward to the Atlantic States Marine Fishing Council's Striped Bass Management Board ASAP.

Dear ASMFC Striped Bass Management Board Members

As a life-long striped bass fisherman for over 5 decades who's now enjoying his retirement along Maine's Midcoast fishing for striped bass just about every day from late May to early October. The fish is my passion and obsession.

After reading the *Proposal to Study the Tube Rig Fishery and Consider Its Exemption from the Circle Hook Provision* prepared by Maine DMR and Massachusetts DMF, I feel it is imperative for the Striped Bass Management Board approve the necessary circle hook exemption to allow the data for this proposal to be accurately accumulated. There is no secret among people who actually fish for striped bass using the tube and worm technique that anything but a lip hooked fish is an extremely rare exception.

The study outlines how to bolster the data returned from the MRIP studies. Additionally, Maine and Massachusetts have committed to getting some of their employees out on the water to collect tube and worm data. It's nice to see that some states have the good sense to send their marine fisheries personnel out on the water instead of keeping them chained to a computer screen. I would strongly suggest that other states do the same, and maybe some of the members of this committee also. It might be an eye-opening event for desk jockeys to actually deal with the subjects of their theoretical modeling.

Please give this proposal your serious consideration and approval. Such an action will prove to the fishing public that you truly respect and want to protect this resource, instead of paying lip service to it, as many accuse you of.

Sincerely,  
Dominick Pucci, PhD

**From:** [Rick Bellavance](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [DAVID BORDEN](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped Bass  
**Date:** Friday, January 29, 2021 9:22:47 AM

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Good Morning,

Could you please pass these comments to the Striped Bass Board for consideration at their Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting?

On behalf of the RI Party and Charter Boat Association, I would like to offer our support for conducting a Striped Bass Assessment in 2022. We understand the data gaps in recreational catch due to COVID and support delaying the assessment from 2021 until 2022. Striped Bass is very important to RI's For Hire Fleet and we strongly hope an updated assessment can be conducted no later than 2022. We also are hopeful that the PID for AMD 7 is approved for Public Comment. Lastly, we support modifications to the circle hook requirement that would allow for worms to be used with trolled tubes and pork rind to be used on bucktail jigs and trolled spoons.

Thanks,  
Rick Bellavance

*Capt. Rick Bellavance*, President  
RI Party and Charter Boat Association  
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[www.rifishing.com](http://www.rifishing.com)

**From:** [John Lapenta](#)  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Striped bass  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 9:36:57 PM

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I'd like to express my support for exempting Tube N Worm the requirement to use circle hooks for all like bait fishing for stripers.

I caught more than 400 stripers this past spring using tube and worm with J hooks (90 keepers). Not a single was gut hooked. My theory is that the hookset with TnW occurs as soon as the fish hits. There is no opportunity for the bass to swallow and get gut hooked.

Best Regards,

John Lapenta

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10