

Participating Organizations

Alliance for a Living Ocean
American Littoral Society
Arthur Kill Coalition
Asbury Park Fishing Club
Bayberry Garden Club
Bayside Saltwater Flyrodders
Belford Seafood Co-op
Belmar Fishing Club
Beneath The Sea
Bergen Save the Watershed Action Network
Berkeley Shores Homeowners Civic Association
Cape May Environmental Commission
Central Jersey Anglers
Citizens Conservation Council of Ocean County
Clean Air Campaign
Coalition Against Toxics
Coalition for Peace & Justice
Coastal Jersey Parrot Head Club
Coast Alliance
Communication Workers of America, Local 1034
Concerned Businesses of COA
Concerned Citizens of Bensonhurst
Concerned Citizens of COA
Concerned Citizens of Montauk
Dossil's Sea Roamers
Eastern Monmouth Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Response Network
Explorers Dive Club
Fisheries Defense Fund
Fishermen's Dock Cooperative
Fisher's Island Conservancy
Friends of Island Beach State Park
Friends of Liberty State Park
Friends of Long Island Sound
Friends of the Boardwalk
Garden Club of Englewood
Garden Club of Fair Haven
Garden Club of Long Beach Island
Garden Club of Morristown
Garden Club of Navesink
Garden Club of New Jersey
Garden Club of New Vernon
Garden Club of Oceanport
Garden Club of Princeton
Garden Club of Ridgewood
Garden Club of Rumson
Garden Club of Short Hills
Garden Club of Shrewsbury
Garden Club of Spring Lake
Garden Club of Washington Valley
Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association
Greater Point Pleasant Charter Boat Association
Highlands Business Partnership
Highlands Chamber of Commerce
Hudson River Fishermen's Association/NJ
Interact Clubs of Rotary International
Jersey Coast Shark Anglers
Jersey Shore Audubon Society
Jersey Shore Captains Association
Jersey Shore Running Club
Junior League of Monmouth County
Junior League of Summit
Kiwanis Club of Manasquan
Kiwanis Club of Shadow Lake Village
Leonardo Pary & Pleasure Boat Association
Leonardo Tax Payers Association
Main Street Wildwood
Marine Trades Association of NJ
Monmouth Conservation Foundation
Monmouth County Association of Realtors
Monmouth County Audubon Society
Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater
Montauk Fisherman's Emergency Fund
National Coalition for Marine Conservation
Natural Resources Protective Association
Newark River Municipalities Committee
Newcomers Club of Monmouth County
NJ Beach Buggy Association
NJ Commercial Fishermen's Association
NJ Council of Dive Clubs
NJ Environmental Federation
NJ Environmental Lobby
NJ Marine Educators Association
NJ PIRG Citizen Lobby
NJ Sierra Club
NJ Windsurfing Association
Nottingham Hunting & Fishing Club
NYC Sea Gypsies
NY/NJ Baykeeper
NY Marine Educators Association
Ocean Advocates
Ocean Conservancy
Ocean County Citizens for Clean Water
Ocean Dives
Ocean Wreck Divers
Outreach/First Presbyterian Church of Rumson
Piscataway Saltwater Sportsmen Club
Raritan Bay Anglers Club
Raritan Riverkeeper
Riverside Drive Association
Rotary Club of Long Branch
Saint George's by the River Church, Rumson
Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County
Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club
Save Barnegat Bay
Save the Bay
SEAS Monmouth
Seaweeders Garden Club
Shark River Cleanup Coalition
Shark River Surf Anglers
Sheepshead Bay Fishing Fleet Association
Shore Adventure Club
Shore Surf Club
Sierra Club, Shore Chapter
Soroptimist Club of Cape May County
South Monmouth Board of Realtors
Staten Island Friends of Clearwater
Strathmere Fishing & Environmental Club
Surfers' Environmental Alliance
Surfrider Foundation, Jersey Shore Chapter
TACK 1
Terra Nova Garden Club
Unitarian Universalist Cong. of Mon. County
United Boatmen of NY/NJ
United Bowhunters of NJ
Volunteer Friends of Boaters
Watersprint
Women's Club of Brick Township
Women's Club of Keyport
Women's Club of Long Branch
Women's Club of Merchantville
Zen Society

Clean Ocean Action



Ocean Advocacy
Since 1984

■ **Main Office**
18 Hartshorne Drive
P.O. Box 505, Sandy Hook
Highlands, NJ 07732-0505
Voice: 732-872-0111
Fax: 732-872-8041
SandyHook@CleanOceanAction.org

www.CleanOceanAction.org

□ **Institute of Coastal Education**
3419 Pacific Avenue
P.O. Box 1098
Wildwood, NJ 08260-7098
Voice: 609-729-9262
Fax: 609-729-1091
Wildwood@CleanOceanAction.org

Press Release

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Attachments: Letter to ACOE

Contact: Cindy Zipf, Executive Director
Jennifer Samson, PhD., Principal Scientist
Nicole Simmons, Water Policy Analyst
732-872-0111

Positive Changes to Reef Application Retains Program Integrity Position of Coalition Affirmed

Sandy Hook- Today, Clean Ocean Action (COA) sent a letter to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, (ACOE) acknowledging and praising the positive, swift federal and state actions to fix the substantial issues with a recent application for artificial reef sites off the Jersey Shore. The letter also clarified misinterpretations.

In January 2005, COA submitted detailed comments to the ACOE responding to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's application for a 5-year permit to manage 15 artificial reef sites. Of concern were three issues where the state application was inconsistent and incomplete. COA requested that these issues be addressed and that failure to address the issues would require the application be denied. This letter prompted some to misinterpret the comment letter to suggest opposition to the reef program

The letter signed by Cindy Zipf, Executive Director, COA, to Lt. Colonel Robert Ruch, states in part, "COA is delighted that swift progress is being made to address the deficiencies in the application." In addition the letter states, "In no way should COA comments be construed as opposing the reef program."

"COA has always supported NJ's Artificial Reef program, its expansion, and its status as one of the best in the country, and our comments were submitted to uphold the status of the program," said, Cindy Zipf, Executive Director of COA.

The significant actions to address these concerns included the following:

1. NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife, held a meeting on January 27th (10 days after the comment letter was submitted) with representatives from COA, American Littoral Society, Recreational Fishing Alliance, and Jersey Coast Anglers Association to discuss the permit application. The State concurred that the application was inconsistent with State policy. The meeting focused on expediting actions to address the inconsistencies to assure permit approval. The meeting resulted in a letter from the state to the ACOE to that effect.
2. The Endangered Species Act consultation has now been considered and the National Marine Fisheries Service has concluded that the project will not affect any listed species, such as sea turtles.
3. NJDEP Land Use Regulation Program is preparing the documents required for federal consistency determination.

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