

# The Movement and Habitat use of Fish in the Navesink River

The Behavioral Ecology Branch in the Ecosystems Processes Division of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center at the NOAA Fisheries Lab at Sandy Hook have established moorings with acoustic receivers at various locations throughout the Navesink River that will be used to measure the movements of tagged bluefish, weakfish and striped bass. The acoustic tags that will be surgically implanted in the fish operate like EZ-pass tags while the acoustic receivers operate as EZ-pass tag readers that continuously listen for tagged fish in the river. We have also placed hydrographic instruments on many of the moorings that measure temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, current speed and direction, tidal height and turbidity. These instruments along with boat surveys using gill nets and hydroacoustics will allow us to map factors that may determine why fish use different parts of the estuary during different times of day and different seasons. By combining this information, we will hope to determine how different parts of the river are used by fish to meet their needs for growth, health and reproduction. The tagged fish will have external tags with fish ID # and a contact phone #. If you catch one we'd like to know where and when you caught it, and if it was taken or released. We will be building a website [<http://sh.nefsc.noaa.gov>] in the near future to keep the public abreast of our activities and findings. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or need more information.

Dr. John Manderson: 732-872-3057 email: [john.manderson@noaa.gov](mailto:john.manderson@noaa.gov) or  
Dr. Beth Phelan: 732-872-3079 email: [beth.phelan@noaa.gov](mailto:beth.phelan@noaa.gov)

