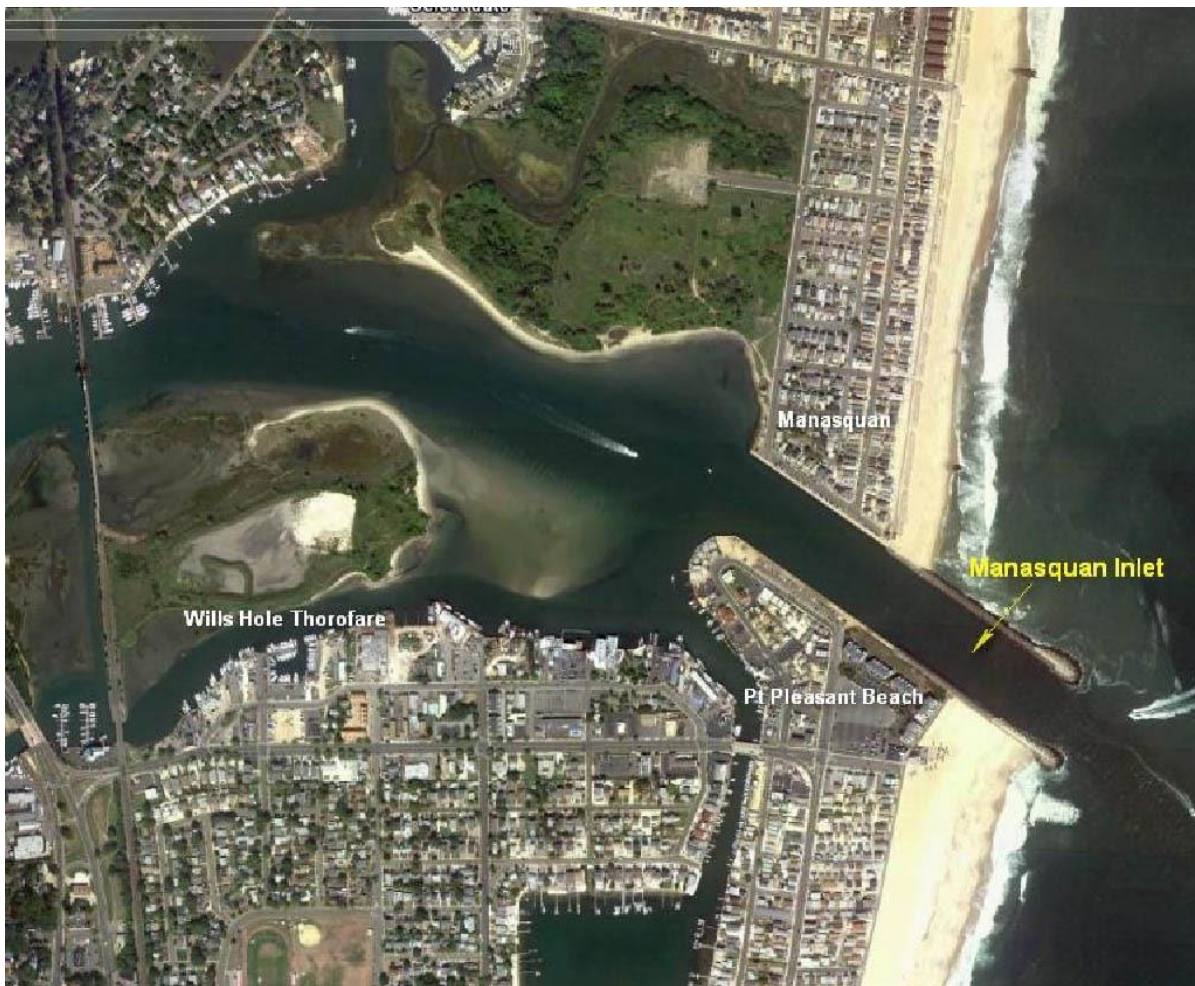


Manasquan River Inlet (Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area to Beach)

Sunday, February 19, 2023

1:00pm - 3:00pm



Weather: Cloudy skies with an east wind 10-20mph, with gusts up to 30mph. Air temperature was 47 degrees F.

Yesterday's Weather: Partly cloudy with a west wind 10-20mph. High temperatures was 44 degrees F.

Moon Stage: New Superman (1%)

High tides: 6:34am & 7:01pm

Low tide: 12:11am & 12:54pm

Water temperature = 42.8 F



SPECIES OBSERVED

Birds

50-100 Atlantic Brant (*Branta bernicla*), many were feeding on sea lettuce (*Ulva*)

50+ Herring gulls (*Larus argentatus*)

- 50+ Ring-billed gulls (*Larus delawarensis*)
- 6 Black ducks (*Anas rubripes*)
- 5 Common Loons (*Gavia immer*)
- 4 Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura*)
- 4 Buffleheads (*Bucephala albeola*)
- 3 Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*)
- 3 Black-backed gull (*Larus marinus*)
- 2 Hooded mergansers (*Lophodytes cucullatus*)
- 2 Northern Gannets (*Morus bassanus*)
- 1 Double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*)
- 1 Northern Flicker - yellow shafted (*Colaptes auratus*)
- 1 Boat-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus major*)

*** Volunteer reported that both yellow-crowned (*Nyctanassa violacea*) & black-crowned (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) night herons utilize the wetlands at Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area during the summer.

Fish

- 1 Winter Skate Egg Case (*Leucoraja ocellata*)

*** Volunteer reported that Blackfish (*Tautoga onitis*) can be heard by people as the fish crunch on mussels in the summer.

Various fish vertebra were found along edge of beach at Fisherman's Cove.

Ses Urchins

- 1 Atlantic Purple Sea Urchin (*Arbacia punctulata*)
- 1 Sanddollar (*Echinoidea*)

Crabs

- Common Spider Crabs (*Libinia emarginata*)
- Atlantic Rock Crabs (*Cancer irroratus*)

Shellfish

- 1,000+ Blue Mussels (*Mytilus edulis*)
- 1,000 Northern Rock Barnacles (*Balanus balanoides*)
- Moon Snail (*Naticidae*)
- 100+ Coquina Clams (*Donax variabilis*)
- Bay Scallop (*Argopecten irradians*)
- Ocean Scallop (*Pectinidae*)
- Hard Clam (*Mercenaria mercenaria*)

Soft-shell clams (*Mya arenaria*)
Atlantic Razor or Jackknife Clams (*Ensis leei*)
Jingle shells (*Anomia*)
Blood Ark (*Anadara ovalis* Brugière)
Eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*)
Slipper shell (*Crepidula fornicata*)
Eastern Oyster Drill (*Urosalpinx cinerea*)

Look What We Found!

A Common Loon feeding on an Atlantic rock crab!

