RESULTS of Sunset Seining & Fish Survey

Sunday, September 12, 2021

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth, NJ

(near the mouth of Pews Creek)

View email with pictures and more information here: <https://mailchi.mp/2379e4609f63/results-of-fish-survey-along-sandy-hook-bay>

Time: 3:00pm - 4:30pm (approx)

Moon Stage: First Quarter

Air Temperature = 83 degrees F

Water Temperature = 75 degrees F

Winds = Light winds from the southwest

Salinity = 22.5 ppt

Turbidity = 3.3 feet, clear

Tidal Stage = Outgoing tide (Low tide - 7:00pm)

Seaweed = Sea lettuce (Ulva) scattered around the edge of the beach.

400+ Peanut Bunker or juvenile Atlantic menhaden (Brevoortia tyrannus)

Sizes ranged from 4.6 inches long to 5 inches long.

100+ Atlantic Silversides or spearing (Menidia menidia)

Sizes ranged from 2.3 inches long to 2.6 inches long.

1 Sand Shrimp (Crangon septemspinosa)

1 Eastern Mud snail (Ilyanassa obsoleta)

Lots of comb jellies (Ctenophora), an ancient animal that has roamed the seas for around 500 million years feeding on plankton.

Of special note: We found one live adult Atlantic Menhaden that was infected with red anchor worm parasites and the vibrio bacteria. It was approximately 10 inches long.

Save Coastal Wildlife conducts aquatic surveys to take the pulse of a local aquatic ecosystem. It's a way to gain an insight into the health of the near shore environment where many people swim and enjoy the water. It’s a chance to see what is living in local waters without harming sea life.