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MISCELLANEOUS

NEW LOBSTER TRAPS, heavy duty commercial quality. 36"X21"X14" \$45 each, 48"X21"X14" \$50 each. Brimfield, MA. 413-245-0438. #39

FRESH BUNKER: wholesale or retail. 917-567-5797. #40

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Trailer Rental up to 26', dual axle, brakes, heavy duty, \$50 day/\$75 weekend. Days 203-641-0753. #43

STRIPER MAGNETS-speak to the inventor himself, Bill Hurley at [#2/06](http://codandstriperlures.com)

ATTENTION FISHING CLUBS AND TOURNAMENT COMMITTEES: Do you have a tournament, dinner or get-together coming up? Looking for table favors or something to hand out to members? The Fisherman Magazine has limited back copies free of charge. Call Jason at the office for details. 860-572-0564. #49

REAL ESTATE

ESTABLISHED BUSY BAIT & TACKLE SHOP FOR SALE. Great location less than 1 mile from Cape Cod Canal on busy main road with high traffic count. Big fresh and saltwater area. Lots of ponds and close to several saltwater ramps. Shop is fully equipped and stocked. Health issues prompt sale. Purchase by 10/1/05 and don't pay rent until 3/1/06. Great opportunity. \$49,000. Call 508-888-7467 for more info. #38

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Local Wood continued from page 16

island required him to employ a quicker than normal retrieve to keep him in contact with his lure. It's not so fast that bass cannot catch it or won't be interested in the action; rather it's a fast enough retrieve to keep the lure working consistently across the surface. In fact during that trip to Cuttyhunk, he caught a 25-pound cow in a rip as well as other fish in the mid-teen size under the mid-day sun using the slightly faster retrieve.

Another retrieve that Guimmelli has used effectively is holding the rod horizontal to the water and giving the lure a long slow jerk, creating a wide zigzag motion. Like Dauphin, Guimmelli prefers to use 80-pound Breakaway snaps, believing they enhance his plugs' action. As for wood, he prefers the Alaskan Yellow Cedar. For more information on his lures and to purchase them, you can visit his website at www.afterhoursplugs.com. His lures are also sold at shops up and down the coast.

STRIPERSNIPERS

Of the three manufacturers spotlighted here, Neil Allen is a relative newcomer to the game. He's been making his spook-style lures for a little more than one year. Despite this, his lures, StriperSnipers, work great. Neil makes them 7 inches long and 3 or more ounces in weight. He adds extra weight to the tail, between 1/4 and 1/2 ounce of lead, to help them to punch through the wind and provide stability so the lures don't tumble in heavy surf.

Having fished saltwater for close to 18 years, he wanted a lure that had the profile of a Zara Spook and the action of a pencil popper. Neil used the Super Spooks a lot modified with larger saltwater hooks. Due to the size of the hooks, the lures rested vertically in the water when not moving, similar to pencil poppers, and he felt this often turned the fish off.

He wanted his plug to remain horizontal on the surface of the water. So when a bass boiled behind the StriperSniper and did not get it, and Neil needed to stop his retrieve, the lure would not lose its profile in the water. In addition to maintaining its profile to keep a striper's attention, he was building the lure under the premise of "big baits for big fish." By building a larger plug, he felt the smaller fish would not be as active on his plugs as they were with the smaller Zara Spooks. While this theory has worked, he still finds that 5- to 6-pound fish will take the larger 3-ounce StriperSnipers.

This lure is very responsive to the slightest of twitches, and like the Sea Dog, slower brings the bigger fish up. Similar to the Afterhours Spookster, Neil uses Alaskan Yellow Cedar for his plugs, citing its toughness and buoyancy. Although Neil uses the Breakaway snaps at times, he actually prefers a direct connection to the lure.

The distribution of this lure is not as wide as the others listed above. Neil has been selling them direct and through SurfLand Bait & Tackle on Plum Island, Mass. If you need to reach Neil, you can either call the tackle shop or reach him at 978-360-8168.

Each of these lure manufacturers are now introducing smaller versions of their plugs into the market. They range from 1-1/2 ounces for the Tattoo's up to 2 ounces for the Afterhours and StriperSniper plugs. Although these lures are smaller than their cousins, they still draw in fish of all sizes.

Big wooden-style spooks are really just beginning in the marketplace, but I guarantee you, you will hear a lot more about these plugs in the next few years. Their action is great, and they often take fish when other lures do not. With the fall run approaching, now is the perfect time to stock up on these lures. I've already started.