# JASON MARCUS DELACRUZ



#### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Owner/Operator, Wild Seafood Co. Madeira Beach, FL. 2012-Present
  - Built and continue to operate my own fish buying/distribution business buying and selling commercially-harvested fish and shellfish at Don's Dock in John's Pass. Manage daily operations of this small family business. Manage accounts and bookkeeping. Handle over 750,000 pounds of commercially-harvested reef fish. Employ approximately 50 captains, crew, and fish house staff. Partner with Gulf Wild to ensure full transparency and traceability of branded seafood.
- **Owner/Operator,** Wild Seafood at John's Pass dba Don's Dock. Madeira Beach, FL. 2012-Present Manage a recreational fishing dock selling bait, fuel, ice, and convenience store items to recreational and charter fishermen at Don's Dock in John's Pass. Manage daily operations of this small family business. Manage accounts and bookkeeping.
- **Commercial Longline Fishing Vessel Owner,** Self Employed. Largo, FL. 2009-Present Manage four full-time commercial longline vessels that harvest reef fish from the Gulf of Mexico.
- **Commercial Spear Fisherman**, Self Employed. Largo, FL. 2005-Present Operate one commercial spear fishing vessel to harvest reef fish from the Gulf of Mexico using spear.
- **Owner,** JBY Outboard. Tampa, FL. 2001-2010 Built and operated my own outboard motor repair company. Employed as owner, mechanic, bookkeeper, manager.
- Manager/Sales Associate/Metal Worker, Big 3 Truck Salvage. Tampa, FL. *1991-2001* Employed as a metal worker at my family-owned salvage business. Advanced from metal worker to database manager to sales associate, to manager.

Sales Associate, Video Wiz. Tampa, FL. 1986-1991

Employed as a sales clerk at my family-owned video business. Operated as sales clerk in the retail department.

#### **EDUCATION**

#### AMERICAN MARINE INSTITUTE, 2000 Daytona Beach, FL *Certification: Marine Mechanic*

**ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE,** 1990-1991 St. Petersburg, FL

**PINELLAS VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE**, 1989-1990 St. Petersburg, FL *Certification:* Electronics Technician

### LARGO HIGH SCHOOL, 1984-1988

Largo, FL

#### MEMBERSHIPS

• Member, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Data Collection Advisory Panel.

- Member, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Reef Fish Advisory Panel.
- Member, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Ad Hoc Red Snapper Advisory Panel.
- Member, Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance (2009-Present) Director (2010-2011), Vice President (2012-Present).
- Member, Gulf Wild\* (2011-Present) Executive Director (2014-Present) (\*a program of the Shareholders' Alliance until 2014).
- Member, Gulf Fishermen's Association Member (2011-Present), Director (2011-Present).
- Member, Pinellas County Fishery Council advisory panel to Congressman David Jolly (2014-Present).
- Member, National Fisheries Institute (2013-2014).
- Member, St. Petersburg Underwater Dive Club (1998-2011) Secretary (2001), President (2002).
- Member, Florida Skin Diving Association (1998-2011).

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND INFORMATION

- Avid spear commercial and recreational fisherman.
- SCUBA certified Open Water, Advanced, Advanced Nitrox, Technical/helitrox, Decompression Procedures, Underwater Scientific Diver (AAUS-American Academy of Underwater Sciences)
- Proficient as an engine mechanic.
- Certified electronics technician.

# KEY PRESENTATIONS, MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS, AND ACCOLDES

- Collaborator, cooperative research programs (3) with National Marine Fisheries Service, Ocean Conservancy, and Mote Marine Laboratory to test electronic video monitoring systems on commercial reef fish longline vessels and to establish Mote Marine Laboratory as a regional electronic video monitoring center (2009-Present).
- Recipient, multiple spear fishing trophies from many tournaments (1997-Present).
- Multi-panel panelist, National Sustainable Seafood Summit, New Orleans, LA (2015).
- Panelist, Guy Harvey Gulf Fisheries Symposium, St. Petersburg, FL (2014).
- Invitee, National Electronic Monitoring Workshop, Seattle, WA (2014).
- Collaborator, cooperative research program with University of South Florida College of Marine Science, testing the effects of preservation methods of muscle tissue from upper-trophic level reef fishes on stable isotope values (2013).
- Panelist, University of South Florida Marine Restoration Workshop, USF College of Marine Science, St. Petersburg, FL (2012).
- Speaker, Blue Crab Design Team Seafood Marketing, Watermen Way, Grasonville, MD (2012).
- Recipient, Fish Head Ball Certificate of Appreciation, St. Petersburg, FL (2012).
- Presenter, St. Petersburg Science Festival, St. Petersburg, FL (2012).
- Speaker, FL Fish and Wildlife Commission Outreach Days (2012).
- Participant, cooperative research program with Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission tagging goliath grouper and collecting site information data (2008-2009).
- Recipient, Shooting (Spearfishing) for Science Certificate of Appreciation, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (2008).
- Participant, Marine Resource Education Program, West Greenwich, Rhode Island (2008).
- Winner, Grouper Category, St. Pete Open Spearfishing Tournament (2008).
- Winner, Grouper Category, St. Pete Open Spearfishing Tournament (2007).
- Participant, cooperative research program with Florida FWC collecting hogfish biological samples, providing the largest source of data for the hogfish assessment (2006-2008).
- Competitor, National Freediving Competition in Hawaii (2004).
- Recipient, Jim Zumwalt Outstanding Sportsman and Sportsmanship Award, St. Petersburg Underwater Dive Club, St. Petersburg, FL (2002).