

Priceless

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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As flounder begin to stage up in our bays and inlets in preparation for their move to ocean wrecks and reefs, we are starting to see larger flounder being caught up and down the coast. John Bowman from Ocean View, DE landed this 30.5-inch, 11 lb. 3 oz. flattie while drifting peanut bunker on the south side of the jetty in the Indian River Inlet aboard the "Reef Runner". Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

Double Lines

by Dale Timmons



Sometimes it's hard to get old...a couple of weeks ago when I wrote about how most of the Norfolk spot this year have been too large for good live baits for flounder, I talked about how many anglers had switched to small bunker or finger mullet. What I also meant to include, but my feeble mind forgot, was that these larger spot can be very effective when filleted and cut into nice long strips. In fact, on some days, an enticing strip bait will even out fish a live bait for big flounder. Last week one day I caught one fairly large spot while I was throwing my cast net for bunker. I filleted the spot and cut the fillet into strips. Those strips caught me several flounder that day, including one nice keeper. In addition to strips of spot, you

can use bluefish, mullet, croaker, flounder belly, lizardfish or one of my favorites, sea robin. A young friend of mine told me last week that his fishing partner was filleting mullet one day and caught more flounder on strips than he did on live mullet. If you single hook a four to six inch strip bait, you might want to give the flounder a little extra drop back time, or better yet, use a tandem hook rig. Sometimes I just snell a slightly smaller hook with three or four inches of leader and crimp a small loop that just barely slips over the main hook to make a "stinger". Believe me, it works...



Earlier this summer, I passed on some tagging

information from several red drum that had been tagged with satellite pop off tags near Fisherman's Island just north of the Chesapeake Bay-Bridge Tunnel. They were part of a study by Dr. John Graves. Now some more of the tags have been recovered, and their locations really make you wonder. One fish was at Goodwin Island at the mouth of the York River, which is where you might expect to find a summering red, but the other three were slightly out of the way, to say the least. One tag was released off Wachapreague, VA, which you might say is normal drum territory, but the fish was about 30 miles offshore. To top that, two other tags were released near the South Tower, including one that was southeast of the G tower, near the 50 fathom curve. We tend to think of red drum as an inshore fish, but large schools of reds are often found way offshore. Some theories have them spawning offshore, while others have always said they

come into the surf to spawn, which makes me even more confused than my normal state of mind. One thing is for sure—they are going to have to get those big spotted tails moving if they want to be on the beach in time for drum season...



I was forwarded an e-mail news release last week from the New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife. It concerned a bust made by undercover New Jersey conservation officers on a party boat out of Belmar. The captain and his first mate were charged with deliberately killing undersized summer flounder and filleting them for bait. The officers counted at least 25 carcasses of flounder illegally caught and filleted. If this practice was repeated every day, imagine how many flounder were killed illegally just on this one boat. And the sad fact is that it just wasn't necessary, because they probably could have caught just as many flounder on strips of other perfectly legal fish like

Continued on page 6

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A LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Dear Readers,

My name is Dewayne Rye and I recently had an invitation to join a fine group of anglers; Joe, Kevin, Brian, Leo (Pop) and our team captain Matt in the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000 fishing tournament out of Ocean City, Maryland, which I was thrilled to accept.

Not knowing what to expect, I went with an open mind and was pleasantly surprised. The tournament experience began with the Captain's meeting, and excellent hors d'oeuvres, which were more like a fine dinner. We were served shrimp and scallops tempura, crab dip, steamed shrimp, roast beef and much more food... and of course, orange crushes. I would like to give a very special thanks to Darren, Woody and the rest of the crew at Sunset Grille. Their hospitality was second to none. If you ever get to Ocean City, Maryland, tell them I sent you - they will make you feel right at home.

I ended up fishing three out of the five days and had the time of my life. Captain Mark Hoos, Sr. and Mate Capt. Mark Hoos, Jr. on the "Marli" who are both very good friends of mine were off-the-chart outstanding! Their professionalism, experience, knowledge and down-to-earth manner made you feel at home on the "Marli". I saw numerous whites and caught several fish. I had the pleasure to be in a double header with two whites, which were both boated and measured (they were released unharmed due to size). To top it all off, we had the film crew of the tournament on board and captured everything on video. A special thanks to Jason and Eric - great video! If you want to go offshore fishing and have a wonderful time, definitely call the "Marli" crew.

I guess it was Friday after dinner after all of the fishing was over and things were winding down, I thought to myself "what a great time I had and how awesome everyone has been to my wife and I, to whom I also owe a great deal of thanks". What could I do to express my gratitude? At that time I was introduced to the owner of the Coastal Fisherman, and need I say more - here is my letter of appreciation. Once again, hats off to everyone... it was an experience that I will never forget!

Thank you,

Dewayne J. Rye

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Glenn Maxwell and Josh Schlepner from Hebron, MD, Bill Sauer from Reading, PA and John Coleman of Middletown, DE had a fantastic day white marlin fishing on the "Mak-Atak" with Capt. Chad Meeks and Mates Rusty Reddish and Matt Bierley. The group went 6 for 6 on white marlin in 60-70 fathoms inside the Baltimore Canyon. Five of the fish were caught during the first hour of fishing, with 4 being released at one time. Pictured in the slip at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



If you fish with Capt. Ron Callis, there's a good chance you are going to get into some tilefish, which is exactly what this group of anglers did in the middle of last week. Mike Rose from Salisbury, MD, Tom Zapf of Abingdon, MD, Tom Kirwan from Crofton, MD, George McAdoo from Cambridge, MD and Aaron McAdoo from Mardela Springs, MD ended their day with 7 golden tilefish and 10 wreckfish in the box after deep dropping aboard the "Sea Wolf" with Capt. Ron Callis and Mate Josh Farr. The tilefish were caught in 700 feet of water, while the wreckfish were hooked on clams and jigs in 500 feet of water. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Dale Dean caught his first offshore fish, hooking a 15 lb. dolphin on a spreader bar. Dale was fishing on the "Connie Leigh" with Tom Fraley, east of Massey's Canyon.

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Double Lines continued:
 the ones I described earlier in this column. No, this was a case of just plain stupidity and disregard for the law and the health of the species. I guess this guy just isn't bright enough to realize that he is endangering his own business future by killing all these little flounder. Every flounder fisherman will have small fish swallow the hook once in a while, and we all hate to throw back a fish that we know will die, but I just tell myself that something will eat it, and it won't go to waste. I use flounder belly strips that I trim off the sides of the fillets when I clean my legal fish. I freeze the strips and take them the next time I go. It is not difficult to use strip baits and stay within the law. Apparently, however, on the boat in question, it was a case of "anything goes," as five of the paying customers were also charged with a variety of offenses, including taking undersized flounder and going over the daily bag limit. Unfortunately, this case will

give all recreational anglers a black eye and provide more ammunition for the eco-extremists to use against us...



A few years back I wrote a Ben Sykes story that was kind of tongue-in-cheek about a future time when all the anglers were fishing for "trash fish" like sting rays and sea robins, and they were being bothered by pesky species like speckled trout, flounder, drum, etc. I hate to say it, but we are almost there. It is now early September, and in Maryland, at least, the summer flounder season will close after September 13. This closure comes during what has been one of the best flounder seasons that we have had in years. Now the feds are also talking about closing the sea bass season because of the potential for going over the catch quotas. I don't know who caught all of those sea bass, because it sure wasn't anglers along the Delmarva coast, who in general have had a dismal summer. Government

bureaucrats and marine biologists often discount "anecdotal evidence," and dismiss it with impunity, but their version of what is happening out there sure can be different from what those of us who are out fishing are experiencing. In the future I guess I'll have to come up with new rigs for cownosed rays, lizardfish, and skates...maybe even a special horned dog lure...



Speaking of trash fish, for some anglers the common blowtoad, or northern puffer, comes under that description, but not for me. I caught a nice big blowfish one day last week (again on a strip of spot), the first I have seen in quite a while. It went straight into the cooler, followed by an honored place in the frying pan. Blowtoads are delicious, and many years ago there were so many they could be a pain, especially when you were surf fishing for kingfish and they would swallow your hook and bite the leader off. The rise of

the big bluefish in the 70s and 80s, however, really hurt the blowfish population. I have watched big blues push small blowtoads up to the surface at the south inlet jetty and eat them like popcorn, and they have never really come back at this point. Many anglers throw them back simply because they don't know how to clean them, but it's really pretty simple. Cut straight down just behind the head, through the meat but not all the way. Slide a couple of fingers of one hand under the skin toward the tail while you grab the meat with the other hand and pull, kind of turning the fish inside out. You will have a nice solid piece of white meat with just a backbone. I even leave the dorsal and tail fins intact. Dust with a little House Autry or some other seasoning and fry to a golden brown...it's pretty fit...



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Rich Sies, Jr. from Baltimore, MD released a white marlin while fishing on the "BERZERKER" with Ed Gross of Hampstead, MD and Jeff Hill from Willards, MD. The white marlin was hooked on a Black Bart lure in 100 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon.



With the ocean being one big pool of 80+ degree water, it's no surprise that species like dolphin are being caught closer to shore than they normally are. This 39-inch, 13.8 lb. dolphin was caught by Rose Caraker of Preston, MD while trolling a green machine, south of the Bass Grounds in 82-degree water.



Jonathan O'Sullivan, Jim Thompson and Jillian Thompson, all from Pennsburg, PA, Scott and Xavier Kluzenaar from Newark, DE and Ian Gheris of Virginia Beach, VA caught 6 keeper flounder while fishing on the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and Mate Tyler Hasenei. The fish were caught on peanut bunker in the East Channel. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center. To see a video of the catch, log on to www.coastalfisherman.net and click on Catches at the Dock.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



There are a couple of weeks a year that I could write this fishing report on a matchbook cover, and unfortunately this is one of those weeks. Fortunately, we haven't had many of these weeks this summer, but this one is going to be short.

Everyone hoped that Tropical Depression Danny would stir things up, especially in our offshore waters. Unfortunately, Danny didn't have much of an impact except to keep anglers at the dock based upon the weather forecast. The week ended up being nicer than expected, finished off with a weekend of blue skies and only a few, minor sprinkles.

It's really amazing how this year is shaping up to be almost a carbon copy of last year. Good flounder bite... no yellowfin tuna... excellent bluefin tuna bite while they were here... no weakfish... and finally a super white marlin bite in the Wilmington and Baltimore Canyons.

White Marlin

One of the few bright spots is the white marlin bite, which you may remember started heating up this time last year and got red hot in the middle of September.

The action began on Wednesday when the "Clear



On Sunday, the crew on the "Moore Bills" took advantage of a good white marlin bite in the Wilmington Canyon, releasing 12 whites in 35-100 fathoms. The crew consisted of Stephanie and Shane Moore of Jarrettsville, MD, Vincent and Pat Trovato of Easton, MD (both not pictured), Capt. Rob Skillman and Mate Chris Hornung. Capt. Rob reported water temperatures hovering around 80-degrees. Pictured in the slip at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

Shot" returned from an overnight trip where they went 6 for 9 on white marlin in 30-50 fathoms between the Washington and Norfolk Canyons. Capt. Tony Battista reported getting most of his hook-ups in the Washington Canyon.

On Thursday, the bite centered around the Baltimore Canyon where the "Mak-Atak"

went 6 for 6 on whites. The "Billfisher" released 4, the "Espadon", the "Phat Mann" and the "Marlin Magic" each released 3 and there were some other boats that released a couple. The "Mak-Atak" had their bites in 60-70 fathoms, all on ballyhoo.

With the effects of Tropical Depression Danny blowing through offshore on Friday, action slowed. "That's Right" released 2 whites in the Baltimore and the "Marli" and "Shelly II" each released 1.

Saturday ended up being a blow day, so everyone was geared up for Sunday and the action didn't disappoint.

Sunday's bite was good for boats in the Wilmington and Baltimore Canyons. The "Moore Bills" had a great day, releasing 12 whites in 35-100 fathoms inside the Wilmington Canyon where Capt. Rob Skillman reported water at 80-degrees. Other boats that did well in the Wilmington were the "Pumpin' Hard" (6), the "Reel Joy" (3) and the "Billfisher", who recorded 7 white marlin releases.

A few boats released white marlin in the Baltimore Canyon, led by the "All In" with 9 releases followed by the "Marli" with 3 and the "Wave Dancer" with 2 white releases.

This sets the stage for what could be an exciting Labor Day White Marlin Tournament to be held this weekend at Sunset Marina.

Flounder

I know it sounds like a broken record, but the flounder bite is still good for anglers drifting north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. How far north depends on the day. Some days it is better close to the bridge, other days a nice class of fish are being hooked around the docks at Harbour Island.

The fish are beginning to stage up, preparing for their jaunt to ocean reefs and wrecks to spawn. At this time, we usually find flat fish along the rocks by the cement plant, along the wall on the north side of the Inlet and also around ocean structure.

This year appears to be holding true to form. If you can stand the boat traffic, drifting in the East Channel with a live spot, a peanut bunker or a combo with a Gulp! artificial bait gives you the best shot at a lunker. Other nice catches have come in from just east of the Thorofare and in the Inlet. You still may have to weed through a bunch of

continued on page 13



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throwbacks, but if you put in your time, the fatties are there for the taking.

The real flounder action is still on the wrecks and reefs. The Twin Wrecks, the Great Eastern Reef and the Bass Grounds are producing nice catches. If you want to make the 20-mile run north to the "DB" Buoy, it would probably be worth your while, with big flounder being caught in this area every week.

Surf

Sue Foster at Oyster Bay Tackle reports, "We at Oyster Bay Tackle and Fenwick Tackle had several reports of snapper bluefish in the surf this week before Tropical Depression Danny gave us high surf. There were still Norfolk spot, a few kingfish, flounder, and croaker along with sharks at night, but not as many as last week. The bluefish were biting on finger mullet or simply chunks of finger mullet on surf rigs. Kingfish and Norfolk spot were biting on bloodworms and little strips of box squid and cut spot or bunker. Some croakers were caught at night as well. Tropical Depression "Danny" put a

damper on surf fishing over the weekend. The surge from the offshore storm made holding bottom difficult."

Other Fish

We did see a couple of cobia caught this week, one by an angler on the "Morning Star" and another by spearfishermen at Fenwick Shoal. The spearfishermen also reported a good catch of triggerfish.

Sea bass are biting at the Great Eastern Reef and Capt. Monty on the "Morning Star" brought back some from other ocean wrecks and reefs.

Billfishermen are catching some dolphin in the Wilmington and Baltimore Canyons. We did see a dolphin caught 8 miles south of the Bass Grounds, only 8 miles off the beach.

On Wednesday, the "Shelly II" returned with 7 golden tilefish and 10 wreckfish while deep dropping in 500-700 feet of water.

The Marlin Club Labor Day Tournament is Friday, Saturday and Sunday with weigh-ins at Sunset Marina from 3:30 to 7:00 pm.

See you at the scales!



The "Clear Shot" returned from an overnight trip after going 6 for 9 on white marlin while fishing in 30 to 50 fathoms between the Washington and Norfolk Canyons. Pictured are anglers Colin Wheeler and Dennis Martin of Manchester, MD, Mike Leaf from New Windsor, MD, Capt. Tony Battista and Mate Larry Lee. The whites were hooked on trolled ballyhoo in water temperatures that ranged from 79.3 to 80.5-degrees. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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On Thursday, Remington Tshudy, Rick Tshudy, Tucker Tshudy and Charles "Blue" Kohler, all from Quarryville, PA ended their day with 10 keeper flounder in the box (8 pictured) after drifting live minnows in the East Channel.



Pierce Strother from Richmond, VA caught his first flounder, a 21 inch, while fishing in the Delaware Bay aboard the "Indian". Courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



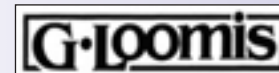
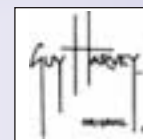
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Seth Hetherington caught this 25.6 lb. dolphin on cut mackerel near "D" Buoy while fishing on the "Sushi".



Heather Preece from Long Neck, DE ventured out to Reef Site #10 where she captured this 4 lb. 12 oz. flounder after hooking it on a squid and minnow combination. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.



With only 2 weeks left in the Sunset Provisions Employee Flounder Fishing Tournament, Scott Lenox took the lead with this 6 lb. 1 oz. flattie caught on a live spot near Harbour Island. Scott was fishing on the "Pop Pop's Pontoon" with his wife, Kristen, who caught herself a nice 3 lb. 8 oz. flounder in the East Channel. Pictured with Scott and Kristen is their son Ryan. Weighed at Sunset Marina.

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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



Fishing in September

September is the month I love to go fishing. The weather is almost like summer except the days are a little shorter and not quite so hot. The air is usually clear and the breezes are mild. Occasionally there is a hurricane scare, so you always have to keep your eye on Mr. Weather Channel just in case. But besides that, it's a wonderful time of year to go fishing.

Since we have a flounder closure in Maryland beginning on Sept 14th, most anglers in boats will be giving their all to catch flounder until that date. Flounder tend to stack up near the Route 50 Bridge, so anglers will be drifting from 14th Street to the draw of the Bridge on the slacking tides. Anglers also drift from the draw of the Bridge to the Inlet. Live minnows and frozen shiners tipped with a strip of squid, larger live bait such as spot, finger mullet, or peanut bunker will work for catching doormat flatties. Berkley Gulp! has become a very popular bait for flounder. However, don't just use it alone! Combine it

with a live minnow, shiner, or strip of cut bait. It works great and presents a larger bait. Experiment with the different varieties.

September is a good month to purchase a cast net and aerator bucket and search for peanut bunker and live finger mullet. Lagoons, marina basins, edges of sand bars, the Commercial Harbor and the waters around Northside Park at 125th Street and Homer Gudelsky Park are all places you can give the cast net a try. Hint: Be careful in canals in North Ocean City as debris such as shopping carts may be in the water.

Live spot can be caught on hook and line with little pieces of bloodworm on tiny hooks. The shallow waters around the Route 90 Bridge are a good place to try for spot. This year hasn't been the best for small spot, so if you get spot that are too large, fillet and cut the spot into long strips for flounder bait. From the shore, places to try to catch spot for bait are Northside Park at 125th Street on high tide, any canal or lagoon or marina basin around Ocean City, 9th Street Pier,

anywhere that anglers clean fish, the Oceanic Pier, behind the Convention Center at 41st Street and the South Point Boat Ramp.

"Where's the best place to fish for flounder from the shore?"

Fish are on their way out towards the ocean, so you want to fish the deep waters close to the Inlet. The 9th Street Pier, the bulkhead between 2nd and 4th Streets (only when the water slacks up can you cast out without snagging), the Route 50 Bridge and the Oceanic Pier. Flounder can also be caught in the Inlet on the slacking tides. It's best to walk down the cement ledge and fish close to the Oceanic Pier for the best results.

"What do we fish for in these areas when the flounder season closes?"

Starting September 14th 2009, stripers will be the fish of the day in the deep channels. Anglers will switch to live eels, large live spot and larger sized finger mullet to catch ever increasing amounts of stripers. Usually, this is the time of year the anglers start fishing for stripers anyway. There will also be some pretty good sized bluefish in the deep channel of the bay and Inlet.

"It will just break my heart to have to release a big flounder!"

Well, unless you want to hang up your boat for the year, you'll just have to get over it, enjoy fishing, and target other fish. It's really a "mind set." Anglers don't mind releasing stripers or bluefish but get all goofy about having to release flounder. Shoot, we've been releasing nice 17 3/4 inch flounder all summer anyway. Fishing with larger live eels or lures, such as swimming shad lures, will cut back on your chances of hooking flounder. Use large size live spot and spend time fishing the inlet and just outside the inlet for stripers. Of course, a good amount of those stripers are going to be in your favorite flounder holes close to the draw of the Route 50 Bridge,

so, fish the deepest holes, hold your breath, and think.... stripers.

If you really want to catch and keep flounder, you can take your little boat, put it on a trailer, buy a fishing license for Delaware and fish the Indian River Inlet or Bay where the flounder season is open year round. You can also get a fishing license for Virginia and take a little drive. Virginia's flounder season is also open year round but remember, Delaware's size limit is 18 1/2-inches and Virginia's size limit is 19-inches.

Try casting small lures such as four-inch soft bodies on lead heads or Mirrolures or Rattletraps around the sandy islands in the bay, or around the pilings of the Route 90 and Route 50 Bridge and have fun with stripers, bluefish, redfish, and trout. You'll be surprised what fish might be lurking around that you didn't even know existed because you've never tried it. Tie some lightweight Fluorocarbon leader (12-20#) to your line so the leader shy fish won't be spooked when fishing shallower water places.

Tautog come back in September. As the days get shorter and the bay waters start to cool, tautog return from their offshore hiding places and seek refuge in rocky areas of debris. Anglers catch them from the bulkhead from 2nd through 4th Streets, near the pilings of the Route 50 Bridge, 9th Street Pier, at the end of the Oceanic Pier and the inlet rocks. Sand fleas, green crabs, or clam all work for tautog. Flip your bait away from the rocks or bulkhead, but not so far that the tide will take it into a snag. It's an art and it takes some practice. It is a lot of fun once you get the hang of it! Tautog really fight!

Night fishing! Night fishing in September usually turns on good with stripers and bluefish. Anglers fish the Route 50 Bridge at night with swimming shad lures, lead heads with 5 to 7-inch soft bodies such as Zoom or Fin-S

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Fish, and Got-cha Plugs. The last three hours of the incoming tide and the first hour or two of the outgoing tide after dark is good for the stripers. Bluefish will also bite during the day on Got-cha Plugs if they are schooling. Blues are a lot of fun and not bad if you eat the smaller (12-18-inch) ones and cut the dark meat out.

Surf Fishing!!! Ah, September through November is made for surf fishing. As soon as the lifeguards go off duty for the season, (after Labor Day except for weekends) and vacationers are out of the water, anglers can fish all day in unpopulated areas. Stay away from Condo Row between 94th and 119th Streets while the weather is still warm. This area generally stays crowded with vacationers.

Cast out finger mullet on whole finger mullet rigs for schooling snapper blues. You can also take the finger mullet and cut it into one-inch chunks and put them on basic top-and-bottom surf rigs for bluefish. Hold the rod in your hand this time of year so you can feel the bites. Set the hook, and reel the fish in! Anglers fish with bloodworm or Artificial Fish Bite Bloodworm tipped with a little triangle of squid or strip of fresh mullet or spot fillet on

continued on page 17

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Duane Douglass from Ocean View, DE was fishing in the Indian River Inlet, using sand fleas for bait, when he caught these two sheepshead. The fish weighed 12.0 and 8.4 lbs. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Driftin' Easy continued:
kingfish/whiting surf rigs with #6 hooks to catch kingfish, Norfolk spot, croaker, and small trout. Stripers also pick up in September, though catching keepers usually doesn't happen until October. Surprise catches of speckled trout, red drum, and pompano can happen in September. Surf fishing is lots of fun and VERY relaxing.

Party boat fishing! September usually sees an upswing in sea bass catches. Croaker are still around and until the 14th of September, some nice flounder should still be around! Delaware party boats will continue to catch flounder through September and into October.

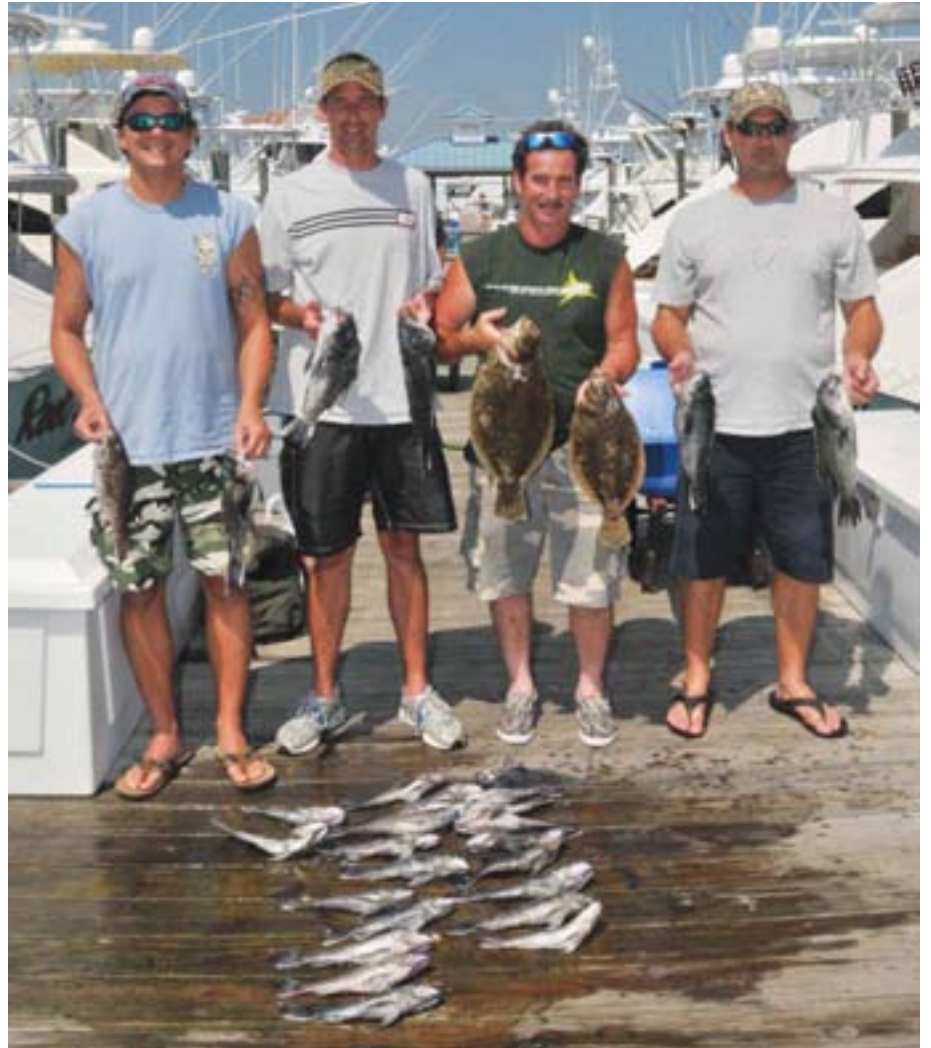
Fishing in September is sweet!

Good fishing!

Sue Foster is an outdoor writer and co-owner of Oyster Bay Tackle in Ocean City, MD and Fenwick Tackle in Fenwick, DE.



This 20-inch flounder was caught by Brian Askey of Columbia, PA while drifting a Gulp! artificial bait in the Indian River Inlet.



Matt Saboy from Abingdon, MD, Don Thomas from Baltimore, MD, Brian Eder of Berlin, MD and Keith Zocman from Pasadena, MD spent the day fishing at the Great Eastern Reef aboard the "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos and Mate Mark Hoos, Jr. and returned with a couple of flounder and a load of sea bass. The fish were caught on squid and minnows. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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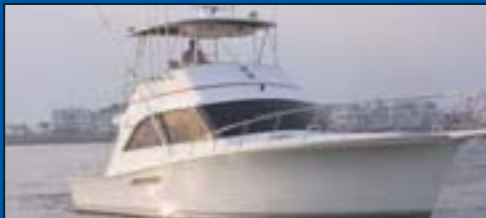
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The Galley

by Mama Jock



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- 3 mahi fillets
- 1/2 cup water
- 4 tsp. butter
- 1/2 t. salt
- 1 medium onion, chopped
fine
- dash pepper
- 1/2 tsp. ketchup

In a large non-stick skillet place the water, butter, salt,

onion, pepper and ketchup. Add the fillets and cook for 15 minutes over medium flame.

Fish should be opaque when separated with a fork.

Remove from flame; let cool for 2 to 3 minutes.

Pour any remaining sauce over the fillets.

Serves 4.

Spinach Salad with Tuna

- 4 tuna fillets
- Salt and pepper
- 10 oz. baby spinach
- 1 pt. grape tomatoes,
halved
- 3/4 cup crumbled fresh
goat cheese
- 1/4 cup pecans
- 1/4 cup Balsamic-
Rosemary Vinaigrette

Heat broiler with rack set 4 in. from heat.

Place tuna on a foil lined rimmed baking sheet; season with salt and pepper.

Broil, without turning until opaque throughout, 7 to 9 minutes.

Let cool briefly, then flake. Divide spinach and

tomatoes among serving plates.

Top with tuna, goat cheese and pecans, and drizzle with vinaigrette.

Balsamic-Rosemary Vinaigrette

In a blender, combine 1/3 cup of balsamic vinegar, 1 TBSP. Dijon mustard, 1 small garlic clove, 1 TBSP. fresh rosemary leaves or 1/4 tsp. dried, 2 TBSP. water, 1/2 tsp. salt and 1/4 tsp. pepper.

Blend until smooth.

With machine running, add 1/2 cup of extra-virgin olive oil in a thin stream; blend until creamy.

Serves 4.

Flounder with Shrimp Sauce

- 1 1/2 lbs. flounder fillets
- 1/4 tsp. each salt, paprika
and pepper
- 3/4 lb. sliced fresh
mushrooms

Sauce:

- 1 1/2 tsp. grated onion
- 4 1/2 tsp. butter
- 4 tsp. flour
- 1/4 tsp. each salt, paprika
and pepper
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup chicken broth
- 3/4 lb. cooked medium
shrimp, peeled and
deveined
- 4 TBSP. grated Parmesan
cheese, divided
- 1 tsp. minced parsley
- 1/4 tsp. dried basil
- 1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Place fish in a 15 x 10 x 1 in. baking pan coated with cooking spray; sprinkle with seasonings.

In a large nonstick skillet cook mushrooms over medium heat until tender.

Spoon over fish.

Bake for 10 to 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, in the same skillet, cook onion in butter until tender.

Stir in the flour, salt, paprika and pepper until blended.

Gradually stir in milk and broth.

Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1 to 2 minutes until thickened.

Stir in the shrimp, 3 TBSP. cheese, parsley and basil; heat through.

Spoon sauce over fish, sprinkle with cayenne and remaining cheese.

Serves 4.

Sweet and Sour Mahi-Mahi

4 mahi fillet, skin removed and sliced into 1/2-inch thick pieces

- 3 TBSP. oil
- 6 green onions, sliced
- 2 cups sugar
- 6 TBSP. corn starch
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup sherry
- 6 TBSP. soy sauce
- 2 cups vinegar
- 4 cups water
- Panko bread crumbs

In a large fry pan, place the oil and green onions on medium heat.

In a bowl, stir together the sugar, corn starch and salt.

Whisk in the sherry, soy sauce, vinegar and water.

Add mixture to the pan with the onions and stir until it becomes translucent.

Dip the fillets into the bread crumbs and saute each side in butter; do not overcook.

Place on platter and cover with sauce.

Sprinkle with sesame seeds, if desired.

Serves 4.

If you would like to share your favorite seafood recipe with Coastal Fisherman readers you can email it to www.coastalfisherman@comcast.net or mail it to Coastal Fisherman Recipes, 12748 Sunset Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842.

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Matt Harris from Feasterville, PA caught this 3 lb. triggerfish on a chunk of clam while fishing on the "Judith M" with Capt. Kane Bounds and Mate Anton Postnikov. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Larry and Tom Coyle took advantage of a good flounder bite at Reef Site #10, landing these two keepers weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz. and 6 lbs. 4 oz. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



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<p>Marl View this boat and video</p>	<p>FISHING REPORT 8:30.09 View this report</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, August 19, 2009 Busy everyone, for the day in updating the fishing report. Action has been incredible since.</p> <p>The "Morning Star" again had a nice catch of flounder. Heaviest weighed 4 lbs. 13 oz.</p> <p>"Oliver & Bob" weighed a 60 lb. white marlin.</p> <p>THURSDAY, August 20, 2009 The "Morning Star" returned with another nice catch of big flounder.</p> <p>In the Mid Atlantic BASS BOWL, a couple of white marlin were weighed, but did not meet the minimum weight of 60 lbs.</p> <p>The "Flat Head" weighed a 60 lb. yellowtail.</p> <p>The "Ten Dead" weighed a 22 lb. sea trout.</p> <p>MONDAY, August 24, 2009 Not much happening except for the Mid Atlantic BASS BOWL. On the first day, the "Bullfinch" weighed in a 60 lb., qualifying white marlin. A couple of other boats weighed white marlin that didn't meet the qualifying weight of 60 lbs.</p> <p>There were some other whites released, along with a load of dolphin. The heaviest dolphin weighed at the scales in OC was the "Shree</p>

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Sporting some spiffy flounder fishing hats, Budd Heim and Bob Grady, both from Ocean Pines, MD caught 3 nice sized flounder while drifting live bunker in the East Channel. Budd's flatties measured 26.75 and 22.5-inches while Bob landed a 20 incher.

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This 7 lb. 1 oz. flounder was muscled in by Bruce Kidd of Rehoboth Beach, DE while drifting live minnows in the Indian River Bay. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.



Shawn Williams used squid for bait to fool this 6 lb. 1 oz. flounder at Reef Site #10. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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John Bentley from Sterling, VA landed a 9 lb. flounder while Alex Allen from Gaithersburg, MD caught himself a 7 lb. 8 oz. flounder, both while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Mike Kinder and Tucker Colquhoun. The fish were caught on an ocean wreck on flounder belly and clams. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Matt Maxwell from Brooklyn Park, MD caught his limit of flounder, ranging from 18.5 to 20-inches, while fishing with a spec rig tipped with minnows at the Oceanic Pier. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.

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Bob Gummer from Ocean City, MD captured this 5 lb. 3 oz. flounder while fishing in the East Channel off of the bulkhead on 2nd Street. Bob hooked the 24.5-inch flattie on bunker.



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Danny Cox of Ocean City, MD caught this 26.5-inch, 8 lb. *paralichthys dentatus* while fishing with mullet in the East Channel. Weighed at Ake Marine.

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Tim Kane from West Ocean City, MD and Jim Kane of Abingdon, MD returned to Sunset Marina with 4 flounder and 10 sea bass after spending the day fishing on the "Jezebel" with Capt. Chester Sadowski and Mate Joe Maffei. The fish were caught on squid and minnow combinations at the Great Eastern Reef.



This 19-inch flounder was muscled in by Timmy Felker from Gap, PA. Timmy was fishing with his dad, Tim Felker and used a squid and minnow combination to fool this flattie in the East Channel.

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Travis Baker of Asburn, VA caught a 15.5-inch croaker while drifting a Fish Bites artificial bait around the South Jetty. Travis was fishing on the "Sherry Allison" with Sabrina, Sofia and Greg Baker.



Rich Zegles of Cumberland, MD (right) caught and released his first white marlin while fishing with Jonathan Staehle, Reese Vest and Ted Staehle. The fish was hooked in 50 fathoms inside the Poor Man's Canyon.



River Vickers from Millville, DE used live spot and squid to trick this 23.5-inch flounder while fishing in the Indian River Bay.

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Delaware Fishing Report

by Rick Willman



Hi folks. Fishing slowed a bit after "Hurricane Bill" but it looks like the fish are getting back on track. Back bay flounder fishing is still fair to good, mostly on the outgoing tide. Minnows, squid, frozen shiners, live spot, and of course Berkley GULP! have all been good choices of bait. Fishing the deeper holes and channels will lead to a more successful outing.

Fishing in the Indian River Inlet is also producing its share of flounder. Stripers are being caught in the inlet, although most of the success has been at night or early morning hours. Bluefish seem to be quite plentiful, especially during the incoming tide. Croakers are also scattered throughout the inlet and back bays. If you are getting a lot of hits but can't get



Jimmy, Johnny and Andrew Coffiey from Wilmington, DE and Ken Harwank from Shickshinny, PA were fishing around "B" Buoy when they caught these 12 keeper flounder on cut sea robin. The largest flounder weighed 6 lb. 10 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

a hook in a fish, try switching to a #6 or #8 hook and smaller bait because you are probably into the croakers.

Anglers fishing the suds from the beaches are picking up kingfish, spot, croaker, and blues. Sharks are still in the surf at night. Bottom bouncers are picking up croakers, flounder,

blues, and sea bass anywhere from just off the beach to Site #10, Site #11 and around "DB" and "DA" Buoys. I know that's a big area, but fish have been scattered throughout and fisherman have been successful in all those areas.

Offshore action has been slow unless you are fishing the

canyons for white marlin or dolphin. Inshore action has been more productive as dolphin, Spanish mackerel, false albacore, and bonito have been trolled up anywhere from Site #10 to the Delaware Lightship. John Klerlein trolled around Site #10 and caught Spanish mackerel and false albacore.

After talking to Dan at Henlopen Bait and Tackle on Savannah Road in Lewes, DE, I was informed things are pretty much the same with croakers scattered everywhere and flounder being in all the usual spots. The Anchorage and areas of structure are the most productive. There has been a bit more bluefish action for those fishing from the sand.

Ron at Rattle & Reel Sporting Center reported plenty of croaker throughout the back bays and flounder in the Indian River Inlet. Massey's Ditch is still giving up flounder along with croaker and spot. Nighttime fishermen will find stripers on the prowl during the late night hours. Ron also reported that stripers are cruising the inlet at night and in the early morning hours.

While talking to Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em Bait and Tackle at the Indian River Marina, I was informed that the white marlin action has been pretty hot in the Baltimore and Wilmington Canyons. Anglers on the "Boys Toy" released 5 whites, and the "Fish Whistle" released 6 during a trip this past week. Dolphin are also being caught in the canyons.

Inshore action had croaker being found just about anywhere that was wet. Reef Site #10 and Site #11 are producing keeper flounder and the sea bass sizes are improving. The buoy line from "DB" Buoy to "DA" Buoy is also providing good flounder action and improving sea bass. Headboat fishing on the "Judy V." and the "Capt. Bob" has given patrons some much-improved activity. Bert said that there are lots of fish so now is the time to get on board. The Indian River Inlet is giving up flounder, stripers, and bluefish.

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John Bowman on the "Reef Runner" captured an 11.2-pound flattie using bunker for bait. According to Bert, the surf fishing action has picked up a bit with fair to good action on the blues, kingfish, and spot. Sharks are being taken at night.

From Bill's Sport Shop on RT #1 in Lewes we are reminded fishing should be on the upswing and the recent storms could change things and make fishing even better than it has been.

Gary Cook and his dad, James, caught 40 flounder with 5 keepers, all at 19" in the Indian River Inlet using GULP! Alive new Penny Shrimp and chartreuse Swimming Mullet. Flounder and croaker are being caught by anglers fishing Sites 6,7 and 8, in the Anchorage near "G" Buoy and around the Outer wall.

The Canyons are producing dolphin and marlin on ballyhoo and plastics but the tuna were scarce.

Charter and headboat action has been fairly productive. Capt. Carey Evans

on the "Grizzly" headed to the tilefish grounds and had a nice mixed bag of golden and blue line tiles up to 30 lbs. Captain John Nedelka of the "Karen Sue" out of the Indian River Inlet has boated a mixed bag including false albacore, bonito, Spanish mackerel and dolphin. Captain John was fishing the ridge east of "A" Buoy. Captain Paul Henninger on the "Amethyst" went to Site #10 and the Old Grounds and boated croaker, sea bass and flounder. Captain Paul trolled outside "A" Buoy for false albacore, bonito and Spanish mackerel. On another charter, the "Amethyst" went to the 19 Fathom Line and hooked into tons of skipjack.

The surf is producing kingfish, spot, croakers, and blues on small hooks with finger mullet, Fishbites and bloodworms.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said Tropical Storm Dan didn't have much of a punch, but its passing still slowed fishing activity over the weekend due to a lingering

large southerly swell. A few boats made it out onto the Delaware Bay on Saturday afternoon, and reported croakers and some flounder at the Star Reef Site. Spot were plentiful and cooperated in the Lewes Canal, Broadkill River, and around the Cape Henlopen Pier. Pieces of bloodworms, nightcrawlers or Fishbites on sabiki rigs did the trick. Earlier in the week, flounder catches were good. Larry and Tom Coyle worked Reef Site #10 in the ocean Tuesday, and were rewarded with their limit of nice flatties, including Larry's 6.2 pounder and Tom's 6.9 lb. fluke. Joe Walker and crew drifted Site #10 on Wednesday, and returned with a 16 flatfish limit. Bobby Bryant boated the biggest, a 6.2 pounder.

Inshore wrecks have been holding triggerfish. Captain Tony Vansant and friends hit a snag on Fenwick Shoal for 30 triggers, and then stopped by Site #10 for nine quality fluke to top off the box.

Trollers pulling spoons in clean water between "DA"

Buoy and Delaware Light found a mix of false albacore, bonito and Spanish mackerel. Many inshore lumps and structure changes between 10 and 20 fathoms held the same assortment of gamefish that could be tempted by trolling small, flashy lures.

Offshore trolling boats encountered good numbers of billfish. White marlin were numerous between 60 and 70 fathoms inshore of the Baltimore Canyon. Crews told of several shots and multiple releases on many trips. Whites showed up at other locations along the edges of the Wilmington, Poor Man's and Washington Canyons as well. This is about the same time that last year's fantastic white marlin action took place, and maybe we're in for a repeat performance.

'Til next week, have fun, be safe and have a great Labor Day weekend!!!

Rick and his wife Deb are owners of Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE.

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Capt. Franky Pettolina
Capt. Frank Pettolina



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Capt. Wade Lober



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Capt. Anthony Thomas



Hot Spot - 42' Bertram
Capt. Al Van Wormer
Capt. Ken Antkowiak



Fish Bonz
42' Ocean
Capt. Mark Radcliffe



Ranger
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Capt. Steve Reddish
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Tim Wilson from Mifflintown, PA, George Campbell of Port Royal, PA, Jan Wilson from Mifflintown, PA and Louise Campbell of Port Royal, PA caught 4 keeper flounder, a couple of croaker, a bluefish and a weakfish, all while fishing on the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and Mate Tyler Hasenei. The fish were caught around the South Jetty on peanut bunker. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Brent Hardesty of Baltimore, MD was fishing with his dad, Bryan Hardesty in the Inlet when he hooked into this 19-inch, 2 lb. 8 oz. flounder. Brent was using live minnows for bait.

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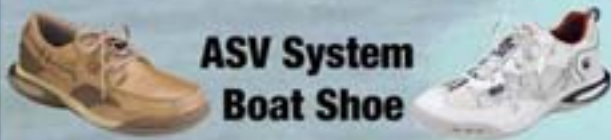


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John Doak released this small blue marlin while trolling a blue and white cedar plug in 50 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. John was fishing on the "Hot Topic" with Al Mullens.



Patti Silvani of Keansburg, NJ celebrated her birthday by going fishing on the "Morning Star" with Brian Panek of Freehold, NJ, Bruce Worth of Keansburg, NJ, Julie Silvani of Seaford, DE, Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Rich Silvani and Mike Kinder. Bruce just beat out Patti's 5 lb. flounder with his own 5 lb. 8 oz. flattie. All of the fish were caught at the Bass Grounds, with Julie's croaker hitting on clam and the flounder and sea bass hooked on strips of croaker. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Sisters Beth Tyson of Delmont, PA and Amy Harris from Hebron, MD were fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Tucker "The Great Bluefish Slayer" Colquhoun and Rich Silvani when Beth landed this 19.5 lb. cobia and Amy caught a 5 lb. 4 oz. flounder. The cobia hit a croaker fished from a kite, while the flounder ate a strip of cut croaker. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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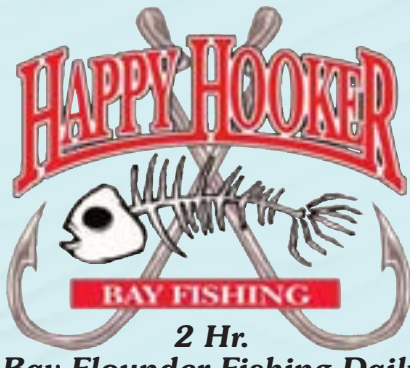
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Ward Parkin and Russell Applegit of Ocean Pines, MD trolled from the Bow Mariner wreck to the Poor Man's Canyon and ended up going 2 for 4 on white marlin. All four of the fish were caught on pink skirted ballyhoo in 85-degree water aboard the "Toy Boy".



Paige Redden and Alyssa Schiffer caught a bunch of croaker while fishing in the bay behind Ocean City. All of the fish measured at least 12-inches with the largest coming in at 14-inches.

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Christine Shamblin and Ken Millburn, both from Bethesda, MD took a half day trip aboard the "Restless Lady" with Capt. Todd Kurtz and Mate Sean Welsh, returning with Spanish mackerel, bluefish and false albacore. The fish were caught while trolling spoons at the First Lump. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.



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Chum Lines

by Mark Sampson



A couple weeks ago, a client asked how we've been doing in the tournaments this year. When I told him that we don't fish any tournaments he was shocked. "I thought you charter captains fished all the tournaments for extra money!" Obviously the fellow wasn't exactly up to speed on the tournament situation, because if he was he'd know that fishing "every tournament" here in Ocean City is darn-near

an impossibility unless you've got a lot of money, a lot of free time, and 2-3 boats of various sizes at your disposal - there's just too many tournaments targeting too many types of fish. Maybe it's because I've got the "boat" part of the equation covered that the "money" and "time" components continue to be elusive and keep me from being a part of the "tournament scene."

Then again, while it might seem almost sacrilegious for me to admit this (being as I've been a director of one of the events for 30 years) I don't fish tournaments anymore because I simply don't enjoy competing against other anglers or being a part of all the hoopla. Not that there's anything wrong with participating in ethical and well-run competitions, in fact I'm glad so many folks don't feel the way I do because that's what keeps our event successful - it's just not for me.

Big fish, little fish, inshore, offshore from the beginning of June until Labor Day, scarcely a week passes that there isn't at least one or two species swimming around with a bounty on their heads and plenty of anglers eager to sign-up for a chance to stand on the winners platform and pose for the cameras with a trophy and an oversized (fake) check that might represent sufficient funds to cover next months car payment or in some cases enough cash to buy a nice home - a VERY nice home!

Of course, like any competition, fishing tournaments have their rules, which for some events are as simple as; "catch the fish and tell us how long it measured or how much it weighed", while other tournaments go into much more detail with guidelines that stipulate what kind of baits may be used, where anglers are allowed to fish, what type of hooks or line

must be used. Some even regulate the size of boats and how long a fish can be played before it's either landed or disqualified. Generally speaking, the greater the value of the cash or prizes given out, the more demanding the rules will be.

Of course without rules you've got no event, just a free-for-all to see who can grab the golden ring first (or maybe who's got the best right hook!) so all competitors must be ready for the fact that if they are going to enter a tournament, any tournament, they are going to have to agree to play by whatever rules the tournament committee has set forth. If they say you must use circle hooks then you use circle hooks. If they say no lines or teasers in the water until 8:30 then nothing goes in until 8:30. If they say all anglers must wear blue and pink socks then ... well you get my point. When I hear anglers complain about tournament rules, all I can say is, "As long as the rules were set before anyone paid their entry fee and signed up for the competition then no one can really gripe, because if they don't like the rules, then they shouldn't enter the event. It's that simple!"

Naturally, tournament directors must enforce the rules they set forth, otherwise it can severely compromise the legitimacy of the event, not to mention possibly land them in court. Of course, the published rules provided to fishermen before an event cannot take into account every variable that could occur, so many tournaments have their own appointed judges to settle disputes that require some kind of interpretation of the rules. In many cases, the judges are a part of the tournament committee who actually came up with the rules in the first place. So unlike our Supreme Court Justices who must interpret what our country's founding fathers intent was when they penned our Constitution and Bill of Rights, tournament judges typically know exactly what they were

trying to accomplish when they formulated each rule.

Competitions of all sorts seem to bring out the best and worst in people and fishing tournaments are certainly no different. In 35 years of being a part of fishing tournaments either as an angler, captain, or director, I've seen anglers helping their competition in all sorts of ways from providing fishing information, helping with mechanical breakdowns, rigging tackle, acquiring bait, and sometimes even tipping them off to where the fish are located. The flip-side is that I've also seen competitors act like spoiled children when things aren't going the way they think they should. Cussing, shouting, and throwing "hissy-fits" before crowds of men, women, and children isn't exactly what most would consider an example of "good sportsmanship." I once had a fellow who was absolutely livid as he complained to me after our award presentation. According to him, we gave too much recognition to the angler who caught the winning fish and not enough to himself who was a part of the crew and helped rig the baits and run the boat. The sad thing about his complaint was that the angler was his very own 12-year-old son. Like I said, fishing tournaments aren't much different from most other events. Crowd enough people in the same arena and you're sure to have a typical cross-section of humanity - the good, the bad, and the ugly!

Anyone who has run a "money" tournament is painfully aware that when it comes to divvying out the cash at the end of the show they better be 100% accurate on who-gets-what or there is going to be hell to pay. When the fishing is over and it's time for "pay day", anglers who fished hard and played by the rules can (perhaps rightfully) become quite upset if they think they're being shortchanged so much as a penny, and woe be it to the

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Will Kennington of Allen, MD caught this 9.1 lb. dolphin while fishing on the "Predator" in the Baltimore Canyon.



Cory Nicholas of Minersville, PA, Diana Baker from Kutztown, PA, Michele Thornton from Clairton, PA, Allison Miller of Freeland, MD, Eddie Posey from Weston, WV and Brandon Morfoot from Upperco, MD had a nice catch of flounder after fishing on the "Happy Hooker" with Capt. Steve Whitlock. All of the fish were caught on shiners and sand eels in the bay behind Assateague Island. Matthew Davis from Fredericksburg, VA caught himself an anchor on 20 lb. test. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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BLUEFISH
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TAUTOG
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WEAKFISH
13" minimum 6 per person/day



BLUE CRAB
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SUMMER FLOUNDER
18" minimum 3 per person/day



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STRIPED BASS
28" minimum 2 per person/day



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Chris Rozsas of Bishopville, MD was fishing with his dad, Tom Berry, when he caught this false albacore on a trolled cedar plug. The anglers were fishing on the "Booked Up" and also caught mackerel during their trip to some inshore lumps.



Jermaine Purnell caught this 18.5-inch, 2 lb. flounder while using shrimp and peeler crab for bait in the bay behind Assateague Island. Weighed at Buck's Place.

Double Lines continued:

tournament directors who make a mistake and assign winnings to the wrong team.

That brings us back to the tournament rules and how they're enforced. In many big money events these days the rules state that teams which end up in the winners circle must subject themselves to lie detector tests to help prove that they didn't break any rules when they were on the water and out of public view. This requirement in itself should help to keep a lot of anglers honest. But I surely wouldn't want to be in the position of a tournament director who has a winning fish caught by someone who ends up failing the polygraph. What do you tell the guy? "Sorry bud, you caught a nice fish and no one is suggesting that that you broke any rules, but that machine over there either doesn't like you or thinks you're lying about something so we're going to have to disqualify you from the event, take your boat, your dog, and ban you from

ever fishing again!"

That's a tough corner that I'm sure no tournament director would want to be in. But then again, "the-rules-are-the-rules" and if it's written and published what will happen if the machine doesn't like your answers then I guess that those running the show have an easier way out - though I'd expect they'd still end up in court over the matter.

Moral of this story: Tournament fishing isn't for everyone and there's nothing wrong with that, but if you do enter a tournament make sure you read the rules very carefully and follow those rules precisely, and if you're a tournament director make sure your rules are clear and cover as many scenarios as you can imagine - and always have a plan to handle the unexpected cases that will surely come along.

Mark Sampson is an outdoor writer and Captain of the charter boat "Fish Finder", docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Ship To Shore

by Pat Schrawder



PREPARING FOR AN EMERGENCY

If you have prepared your boat well for unexpected events, you will likely have stashed away somewhere a first aid kit to take care of any minor cuts, etc. But have you considered making up an electronics first aid kit? If not, it is a great thing to do and here are some suggestions for what might be included.

One of the most common occurrences with your marine electronic equipment is a blown fuse. How frustrating it can be to have something not even power on just because a fuse has blown and you don't have any replacements. Changing a fuse is generally a very simple

procedure so why not keep an assortment of them with you. Most fuses are common variety AGC glass fuses that come in varying amperages. I would suggest keeping two or three of the following sizes: 5, 10, 15, 20 and at least one 30 amp. If you want to take the time, obviously you can check all the items on your boat to see what type and size fuse they use. If you have the manuals that came with the equipment, it will tell you. It's a good thing to make a list of your equipment and the size fuse it uses. Store that along with the spare fuses.

Whatever you do, DO NOT roll up a little aluminum foil and use it to bridge the gap of a fuse unless you have absolutely no other choice.

The "foil" fuse is a common "fix" that has been used but it is not a wise choice. You have to remember that the fuse is installed for the purpose of protecting equipment from further damage and using too large a size fuse or using that "foil fuse" that has unlimited amperage can allow current to flow and damage your equipment beyond reasonable repair. There are cases, however, when a fuse blows because it has fatigued or your system has caused a surge. In those instances, fuse replacement with the same size is the appropriate solution. Before changing a fuse, however, remove it from the holder and look to see if it is "blown". In some cases, a small amount of corrosion on the fuse and/or its holder will cause the same effect as a blown fuse. This can be remedied by lightly sandpapering the holder and the ends of the fuse and then spraying it with an anti-corrosion chemical.

This brings up two more items for your electronics first aid kit. That is one sheet of finer grade sandpaper and the other is that spray can of anti-corrosion compound. Personally, I like CRC 2-26. It is much lighter than WD-40 and safer for use on more materials. You would be surprised how many places these two simple items can be used effectively.

Also obvious for your kit is an assortment of screwdrivers or, better yet,

one of those that has changeable blades. The important thing here is to make sure you have included very small blades as electronic equipment typically uses smaller screws. They also often contain hex head screws so be sure to include one of those packs that has several choices of hex head driver blades. Along with those screwdrivers, you'll want to include some pliers but they don't need to be large ones at least for your electronics.

Another obvious item would be a miniature flashlight and replacement batteries. Getting into some of those small places where your electronics have been installed can be tedious at times, particularly if they have been flush mounted.

Standard items to be included would also be an assortment of terminal ends and/or "butt" connectors along with a set of crimpers to apply them. This will enable you to make a wire splice if needed or repair a prior connection that may have gone bad or simply pulled apart. I would keep at least one roll of electrical tape in my kit. Tape has multiple uses and makes a good temporary repair as well as providing insulation to keep wires or connections from touching each other. You can use house wiring "screw type" splicers but they are only good for a temporary fix as they allow corrosion to set

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Over the years, manufacturers have developed wonderful new display screens that are much improved when it comes to glare and visibility in bright sunlight. However, they have a coating that can be destroyed if you clean it with conventional methods such as Windex or soap and water. They need to be wiped clean with a special micro fiber cloth. Many manufacturers will include one of these cloths with their equipment. If not, you can pick up one at the local automotive outlet. Definitely put it in your electronics first aid kit and use it often.

Assemble all of these items and put them in a plastic container that is stored in a very accessible place on your boat. It may sound like a lot of items, but it really doesn't take up much space. Hopefully, you will not have to use most of them but the one time you do, you will be glad you had it on hand. And, of course, if you use any of the disposable items, make sure you replace them when you get back to the dock.


Pat Schrawder and her husband Larry are owners of L&L Marine Electronics on Golf Course Road in West Ocean City.

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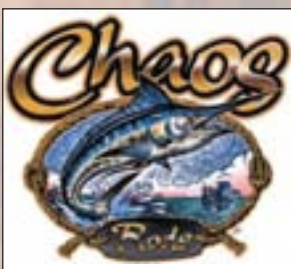
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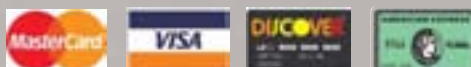
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Virginia Fishing Report

by Dr. Julie Ball



Yet another tropical disturbance threatens fishing continuity along the Mid-Atlantic coast. Danny could make this weekend a wash for anglers, but the late summer fishing trend should pick up again after the weather clears. Right now, many summer species are preparing to migrate out of the area, while the fall residents are making their debut. This can make it tough to choose which fish to

target. Most are choosing cobia and flounder as they both group in the lower bay, making easy targets.

Cobia is a sure deal as they crowd along bridge pilings and lower bay buoys, with more fish now reported in open water. Pods of fish are appearing on the surface as they prepare to exit bay waters. Reports indicate good numbers of cruising fish outside Little Creek Inlet, along the entire Baltimore Channel, and near York Spit. Chummers and bottom anglers are still catching decent fish in the usual hot spots with cut bunker. John Wandrick of Cape Charles scored with a 63-pounder on cut bait while fishing near Buoy 16 last week.

Flounder action is up and down lately, but any rain and wind from Danny could push the action to the downside. On good days, anglers are finding enough keepers to hold their interest. Nice flatfish are coming from deeper channels and lower bay structures. The High Rise, the bend at the 3rd Island, the 1st Island, and Back River Reef

are the popular flounder spots lately. Both live bait and stripped bait are working well. Craig Miller of Norfolk weighed in a 7-pound, 4-ounce doormat he tricked at the CBBT on a live croaker. The lower bay inlets are also giving up some keeper fish, with many ranging up to 22-inches in both the Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets. If you prefer not to fight the crowds, decent flatfish will begin showing on inshore and offshore wrecks soon. Nice keeper sized seabass are also providing good action on many offshore structures.

Bull reds are still roaming the lower bay shoals, as well as the 3rd and 4th Islands of the Bridge Tunnel. Surf anglers are also pulling big bulls out of the surf along Smith Island, where Henry S. Jones, Jr. of Cape Charles landed and released a pair of reds stretching to 48 and 49-inches.

Decent spot are showing in Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets, and scattered around the lower Bay. This action should only improve over the next few weeks. Croaker weighing up to 2-pounds are hitting near the four islands of the CBBT, off the Concrete Ships, and the near the Cell.

Puppy drum are still active in the shallows. The best locations are the Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets, with speckled trout also showing promise on the Poquoson flats and Hungar's Creek. Backwater casters are reporting nice sized pups on live bait, Gulp! Swimming Mulletts, and cut bait.

Trigger fish are gaining even more momentum, while diehard sheepshead anglers sneaked by with scattered catches up to 12-pounds last week. Both triggers and

sheepshead are hitting fiddlers dangled along the structure of the CBBT. Spadefish are also lingering in these same areas.

The king mackerel bite is still not what it has been over the last few years, but September and October are often good months for kings, so anglers are still hopeful. Nice sized Spanish mackerel are providing good action from the middle Bay on out to the Chesapeake Light Tower. A few anglers are encountering gaffer mahi pushing to 20-pounds along the CB Buoy line and the Tower Reef areas lately.

According to Chris' Bait and Tackle, tarpon action is still non-existent this week. Tarpon experts fear that more bad weather could mark the end of this year's already bleak sliver king run.

Deep droppers are still faring very well off Virginia. The Rudee Inlet headboats continue to bring home content anglers toting limits of big tilefish, rosefish, and grouper. Several citation blues over 10-pounds are in the mix.

Amberjack are still available at the South Tower and offshore wrecks. Jack Crevelle's will show on the Light Tower within the next few weeks.

Offshore, billfish are still at the top of the list, with scattered wahoo, and bailer and gaffer dolphin being good consolation prizes. Sailfish in particular have been congregating from southeast of the Cigar to the 800 line in around 20 to 100 fathoms. Swordfish will become more common as waters cool. An angler fishing aboard the "Rudee Angler" skippered by Captain Mark Sterling lost a 250-pound sword alongside the headboat this week.

Dr. Julie Ball is the I.G.F.A. Representative for Virginia Beach, VA. You can find Dr. Julie's reports at www.drjball.com.

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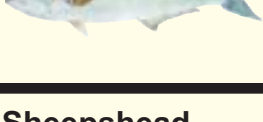
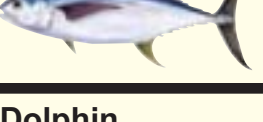
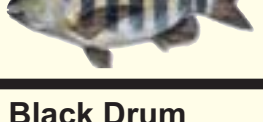
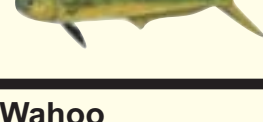

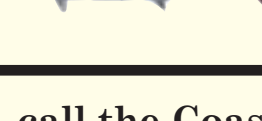




2009 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2009

Heaviest Fish of the Year

(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - ties go to first fish reported)

Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
 Sea Bass March 6, 2009 Noah Fowler Bow Mariner 7 lbs.	March 6, 2009 Noah Fowler Bow Mariner 7 lbs.	February 25, 2009 Paul Twilley Wilmington Canyon 7 lbs. 5 oz.	 Mako Shark June 20, 2009 Jim Hughes Washington Canyon 876 lbs.	June 20, 2009 Jim Hughes Washington Canyon 876 lbs.	July 1, 2009 Rick Sank Poor Man's Canyon 170 lbs.
 Tautog March 15, 2009 Capt. Kane Bounds "Judith M" 19 lbs. 8 oz.	March 15, 2009 Capt. Kane Bounds "Judith M" 19 lbs. 8 oz.	July 17, 2009 Alex Levantowsky "Grizzly" 16 lbs. 4 oz.	 Thresher Shark June 19, 2009 Brent Applegit Fingers 642 lbs.	June 19, 2009 Brent Applegit Fingers 642 lbs.	July 1, 2009 John Kazem "B" Buoy 376 lbs.
 Striped Bass May 17, 2009 Donald Hatfield Assateague Surf 45 lbs. 8 oz.	May 17, 2009 Donald Hatfield Assateague Surf 45 lbs. 8 oz.	May 13, 2009 Derek Bair Indian River Inlet 35 lbs. 6 oz.	 Cobia July 25, 2009 Chris Toner "Fish Finder" 72 lbs.	July 25, 2009 Chris Toner "Fish Finder" 72 lbs.	August 1, 2009 Bobby Haas Site #11 22 lbs.
 Weakfish May 16, 2009 Chris Tilghman Rt. 90 Bridge 7 lbs. 8 oz.	May 16, 2009 Chris Tilghman Rt. 90 Bridge 7 lbs. 8 oz.	May 24, 2009 Isaiah Ross Broadkill River 6 lbs. 8 oz.	 Bluefin Tuna July 13, 2009 Giuseppe Ferrarelli "That's Right" 170 lbs.	July 13, 2009 Giuseppe Ferrarelli "That's Right" 170 lbs.	June 28, 2009 Collin Johnson "MEGA-BITE" 180 lbs.
 Speckled Trout No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 Yellowfin Tuna August 20, 2009 Donnie Moore Poor Man's Canyon 69 lbs.	August 20, 2009 Donnie Moore Poor Man's Canyon 69 lbs.	August 15, 2009 Bill Russell Middle Lump 64.3 lbs.
 Flounder August 17, 2009 Steve Hammond East Channel 11 lbs.	August 17, 2009 Steve Hammond East Channel 11 lbs.	July 19, 2009 Jody McCullough Indian River Inlet 11 lbs. 10 oz.	 Longfin Tuna August 4, 2009 Gunnar Zorn Wilmington Canyon 67.5 lbs.	August 4, 2009 Gunnar Zorn Wilmington Canyon 67.5 lbs.	No Weights Reported
 Bluefish June 27, 2009 Mike Osifat Poor Man's Canyon 13 lbs.	June 27, 2009 Mike Osifat Poor Man's Canyon 13 lbs.	May 24, 2009 Troy Schifflett 12 Fathom Lump 13 lbs. 13 oz.	 Bigeye Tuna August 3, 2009 Doug Salter Baltimore Canyon 249 lbs.	August 3, 2009 Doug Salter Baltimore Canyon 249 lbs.	June 21, 2009 Doug Rinicker Poor Man's Canyon 102 lbs.
 Sheepshead June 11, 2009 Tassos Argyros Barnstable Wreck 11 lbs. 4 oz.	June 11, 2009 Tassos Argyros Barnstable Wreck 11 lbs. 4 oz.	July 23, 2009 Joe Kossek Ice Breakers 10 lbs. 2 oz.	 Dolphin August 5, 2009 Ron Bennett, Sr. Baltimore Canyon 37.5 lbs.	August 5, 2009 Ron Bennett, Sr. Baltimore Canyon 37.5 lbs.	July 27, 2009 Ned Baumbach 19 Fathom Lump 23.6 lbs.
 Black Drum August 12, 2009 Milton Crim South Jetty 15.1 lbs.	August 12, 2009 Milton Crim South Jetty 15.1 lbs.	May 22, 2009 Anthony Lano Coral Beds 82.3 lbs.	 Wahoo August 2, 2009 Greg Garman Hambone 69 lbs.	August 2, 2009 Greg Garman Hambone 69 lbs.	July 25, 2009 Wilson Hazzard Baltimore Canyon 75 lbs.

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Some big flounder have been pulled out of the Indian River Inlet lately as shown by the 7 pounder caught by Mike Amrhein from Felton, PA. Mike was fishing on the "Mullet Head" and used live mullet for bait. He also landed two other flatties, measuring 18.5 and 19.5-inches. Weighed at Fenwick Tackle.

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25	2008	2510 XLD WA	T-150 HP - 4S	Walkaround
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Colby Roy Hook (right) caught this barracuda in the Wilmington Canyon while fishing on the "Just Reel-Ax".



Jake Lathroum of Bishopville, MD caught this 15 lb. dolphin and released his first white marlin while fishing on the "Topless" with his dad, Scott Lathroum, Scott Steele, Glenn Steele, Capt. Chris Martin and Mates Matt Mosley and Gar Wormer. Both fish were hooked on trolled ballyhoo near the 840 line in the Washington Canyon.



Duncan Westmoreland and Fred Hurwitz of Bethesda, MD caught these 3 flounder while fishing in the bay behind Assateague Island aboard the "UT-O" with Capt. Dave McKay. The fish were caught on Gulp! Swimming Mulletts. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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ASMFC Weakfish Board Initiates Addendum to Address Stock Decline

In its report to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Weakfish Management Board, an independent panel of scientists endorsed the 2009 weakfish stock assessment for management use. The Review Panel confirmed that stocks are at an all time low and current fishery removals are unsustainable under existing stock conditions. It agreed with the stock assessment's conclusions that weakfish abundance has declined markedly, total mortality is high, non-fishing mortality has recently increased, and the stock is currently in a depleted state. Given these findings, the Board initiated the development of Draft Addendum IV which will propose a range of options to reduce fishing mortality, including complete harvest moratoria and limited bycatch only fisheries.

"While the Board has been aware of the decline in weakfish landings over the past ten years, conflicting signals in the stock assessment models employed in the past confounded decision making. This peer review panel found the methodology acceptable and agreed that the stock is in

dire condition," stated Board Chair Roy Miller. "Given the condition of the stock, the Board has decided to accelerate its management process and prepare a draft addendum for public comment in early fall. Upon considering public comment and final action on the addendum, the Board will have the option to implement the addendum's measures through emergency action this November."

The weakfish stock is depleted at an all-time low of 2.9 million pounds (1,333 metric tons), far below the proposed biomass threshold of 22.4 million pounds (10,179 metric tons). At this stock size, recent fishery removals (landings and dead discards combined), estimated at 1.9 and 1.8 million pounds in 2007 and 2008, respectively, represent a significant proportion of the remaining biomass. While the decline in the stock primarily results from a change in the natural mortality of weakfish in recent years, it is further exacerbated by continued removals by the commercial and recreational fisheries.

Natural mortality has risen substantially since 1995, with factors such as predation, competition, and changes in the environment having a stronger influence on recent weakfish stock dynamics than fishing mortality. Given current high natural mortality levels, stock projections indicate that the stock is unlikely to recover



Sherrie Strausser of Coal Twp., PA used a shiner and squid combination to hook this 21-inch flounder just outside the Ocean City Inlet. Sherrie was celebrating her wedding, held 2 days prior, with Capt. William Kuzmick and some friends.

rapidly, even under a harvest moratorium. In order to rebuild the stock, total mortality will need to be reduced, although this is unlikely to occur until natural mortality decreases to previous levels. On a positive note, juvenile abundance surveys indicate that young-of-the-year weakfish continued to be present in numbers similar to previous years, suggesting that recruitment at this point has not been severely limited in spite of low stock size.

The Board has placed the Draft Addendum on a faster timeline than standard addenda. Staff and the Plan Development Team will prepare a draft for Board review and consideration in mid-September. If approved, the draft will then be made

available for public review and comment. It is anticipated that the majority of states will be conducting public hearings of Draft Addendum IV in October; a press release will be issued on those hearings once the information is available. The Board will meet again in November to consider public comment and take final action on the Draft Addendum. Under Commission procedures, the Board may opt to implement the Addendum under emergency action, with approved measures taking effect immediately upon Board action.

For more information, please contact Nichola Meserve, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at (202)289-6400 or <nmeserve@asmfc.org>.

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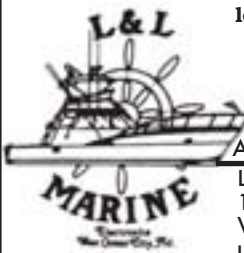
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Francis March from Manheim, PA used a Zoom and minnow combination to fool this 6 lb. 12 oz. flounder while fishing at Gull Island. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.

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BLACK SEA BASS
12 1/2" minimum 25 per person/day



BLUEFISH
No minimum size 10 per person



CROAKER
No minimum size No creel limit



TAUTOG
14" minimum 4 per person/day



PORGY (SCUP)
8" minimum 50 per person/day



RED DRUM
18" - 26" 3 per person/day



STRIPED BASS (COASTAL REG)
28" 2 per person/day



SPECKLED TROUT
14" minimum 10 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD
No minimum size 4 per person



SUMMER FLOUNDER
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Brittney Becchione of Croydon, PA and Justyn Ray of York, PA caught 3 flounder while fishing with mullet in the East Channel. Brittney's 25-inch, 5 lb. 8 oz. flounder took heaviest fish honors and was weighed at All Tackle Ocean City.

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	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>		<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Tuna:			Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb.
Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs.	Striped Bass	40"	20 lbs.
False Albacore	24"	12 lbs.	Sailfish *	any size	-
Bigeye ***	60"	75 lbs.	Seabass	20"	3 lbs.
Bluefin ***	60"	75 lbs.	Shark:		
Yellowfin ***	50"	75 lbs.	Blue Shark *	any size	100 lbs.
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-	Hammerhead *	any size	100 lbs.
Bluefish	34"	14 lbs.	Mako *	any size	100 lbs.
Cobia	44"	-	Thresher *	any size	100 lbs.
Croaker	18"	3 lbs.	Tiger *	any size	100 lbs.
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs.	Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs.
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs.	Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs.
Red Drum *	any size	-	Spot	12"	-
Flounder	24"	7 lbs.	Speckled Trout	24"	-
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs.	Swordfish *	any size	any size
Blue Marlin **	any size	any size	Tautog	24"	7 lbs.
White Marlin **	any size	any size	Wahoo	60"	20 lbs.
			Weakfish	24"	9 lbs.

* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program
 *** Use curved-fork-length measurements

** Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs



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TOURNAMENT**
 September 3-6
 Registration &
 Captain's Meeting:
 September 3rd
 Fish 2 of 3: September 4th - 6th
 Awards Banquet: September 6th

Due to a programming error, all catch reports submitted on and between the dates of Tuesday, August 4th, and Monday, August 17th, were lost. We kindly ask that you resubmit any catch reports online at www.ocmarlinclub.com if they were entered on and between 8/4 and 8/17. Thank you.

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TOURNAMENT**
 Open to members of the Cape May Marlin & Tuna Club and the OC Marlin Club
 September 17-19
 Registration & Capts. Meeting:
 Sept. 17th
 Fish 2 of 2: September 18th & 19th
 Awards Banquet: September 19th



For Membership or more information about the Marlin Club Summer Tournament Series please contact the club: Ocean City Marlin Club • 9659 Golf Course Rd. • Ocean City, MD 21842



Todd Martinek was fishing at the Twin Wrecks aboard the "Reel Addiction" with Dan Mergott when he caught this 4 lb. 8 oz. sea bass while using a live eel for bait. The duo ended their day with 15 sea bass and 3 flounder in the box.



Joe Walker took his granddaughters, Kaela and Krysta Gray to the Brown Shoal Reef Sites where the lady anglers used cut bait to land these two flounder weighing 3 lbs. 10 oz. and 4 lbs. 2 oz. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina, home of the "Lewes Harbour Stretch".

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3. Stop by the office with your catch, and we will be happy to take your picture. We are located on Sunset Avenue behind Crab Alley.

4. Stop by the office with your camera or a picture. We can download or scan your picture directly into our computer.

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Thurs. Sept. 3	Low 01:33 am Low 01:33 pm	High 07:44 am High 08:09 pm
Fri. Sept. 4	Low 02:06 am Low 02:13 pm	High 08:24 am High 08:47 pm
Sat. Sept. 5	Low 02:39 am Low 02:53 pm	High 09:03 am High 09:24 pm
Sun. Sept. 6	Low 03:13 am Low 03:34 pm	High 09:42 am High 10:01 pm
Mon. Sept. 7	Low 03:48 am Low 04:17 pm	High 10:22 am High 10:39 pm
Tues. Sept. 8	Low 04:26 am Low 05:03 pm	High 11:03 am High 11:20 pm
Wed. Sept. 9	Low 05:07 am Low 05:54 pm	High 11:47 am High -----

These are Ocean City, MD tides at the Ocean City Inlet.

Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge.

Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide

Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide,
21 minutes for low tide

Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

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September 12 - 13 • Sunset Marina
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September 13 • Bahia Marina
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31st Annual Challenge Cup

September 17 - 19 • OC Marlin Club
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~ OCTOBER ~

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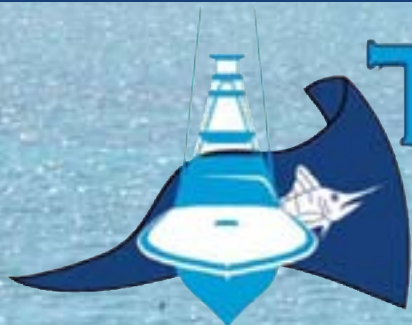
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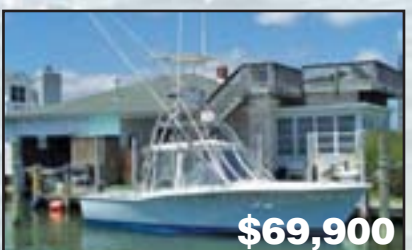
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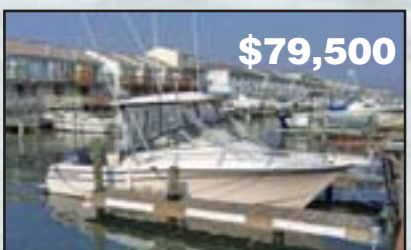
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