

# Fishing Connection

October 2021  
Volume 20 Issue 242

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**Cover Photo**  
**HooDoo**  
Fishing Charters  
Capt. Tim Altman  
with Future  
First Mate  
T.J. Altman  
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**FishingConnectionUSA.com**



The views, opinions and positions expressed in articles submitted by monthly and or periodic contributors to the Fishing Connection Publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the Fishing Connection. The main objective of The Fishing Connection Publication is to provide you as a fishing enthusiast with the best information and knowledge from the top anglers in N.E. Fla and ask you to please support the paying sponsors and column contributors who make this monthly publication possible.





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Congratulations to our Fish Kisser of the month, who looks really happy laying a big kiss on that fish's slimy lips. We have a Free Annual **FISHING CONNECTION** subscription (12 issues) mailed each month to your home or office (\$24.00 Value) for any of you that submit your photo to the contest and are chosen as the winner. If you are this month's winner please contact Joe Dionne at [fbmgjax@gmail.com](mailto:fbmgjax@gmail.com) with your name and phone # to claim your certificate. Prize must be claimed no later than midnite of the last day of this month to be valid. If you would enjoy seeing your photo in the Fishing Connection please send in your best Fish Kissing Photo. Thanks to all who send in a Fish Kisser photo. Anyone can win, maybe soon it will be you. Send photos to [fbmgjax@gmail.com](mailto:fbmgjax@gmail.com).

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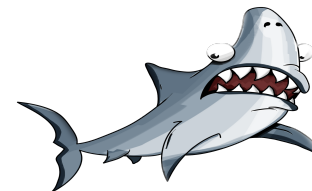
Your lips **MUST CLEARLY** touch the fish's mouth. The person in the photo must be clothed but clothing on the fish is optional. Remember, all submissions are considered against future entries too, so if you haven't seen your photo yet, you're still in the contest.



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			1 <sup>st</sup> TIDE	2 <sup>nd</sup> TIDE	3 <sup>rd</sup> TIDE	4 <sup>th</sup> TIDE	COEFFICIENT	
1 Fri		▲ 7:19 am ▼ 7:11 pm	4:58 am 5.6 ft ▲	10:57 am 1.3 ft ▼	5:33 pm 6.5 ft ▲	11:43 pm 1.4 ft ▼	45 low	
2 Sat		▲ 7:20 am ▼ 7:09 pm	5:57 am 5.9 ft ▲	11:52 am 1.0 ft ▼	6:28 pm 6.8 ft ▲		60 average	
3 Sun		▲ 7:20 am ▼ 7:08 pm	12:32 am 1.0 ft ▼	6:51 am 6.2 ft ▲	12:46 pm 0.7 ft ▼	7:19 pm 7.0 ft ▲	75 high	
4 Mon		▲ 7:21 am ▼ 7:07 pm	1:20 am 0.7 ft ▼	7:42 am 6.7 ft ▲	1:39 pm 0.4 ft ▼	8:06 pm 7.2 ft ▲	89 high	
5 Tue		▲ 7:22 am ▼ 7:06 pm	2:05 am 0.3 ft ▼	8:30 am 7.1 ft ▲	2:29 pm 0.1 ft ▼	8:52 pm 7.3 ft ▲	101 very high	
6 Wed		▲ 7:22 am ▼ 7:04 pm	2:49 am 0.0 ft ▼	9:17 am 7.4 ft ▲	3:18 pm -0.1 ft ▼	9:38 pm 7.3 ft ▲	108 very high	
7 Thu		▲ 7:23 am ▼ 7:03 pm	3:33 am -0.3 ft ▼	10:05 am 7.7 ft ▲	4:06 pm -0.2 ft ▼	10:26 pm 7.3 ft ▲	109 very high	
8 Fri		▲ 7:23 am ▼ 7:02 pm	4:17 am -0.4 ft ▼	10:54 am 7.8 ft ▲	4:55 pm -0.1 ft ▼	11:14 pm 7.1 ft ▲	103 very high	
9 Sat		▲ 7:24 am ▼ 7:01 pm	5:03 am -0.3 ft ▼	11:46 am 7.8 ft ▲	5:46 pm 0.1 ft ▼		92 very high	
10 Sun		▲ 7:25 am ▼ 7:00 pm	12:05 am 6.9 ft ▲	5:52 am -0.1 ft ▼	12:39 pm 7.7 ft ▲	6:42 pm 0.4 ft ▼	77 high	
11 Mon		▲ 7:25 am ▼ 6:59 pm	12:58 am 6.6 ft ▲	6:46 am 0.2 ft ▼	1:36 pm 7.5 ft ▲	7:42 pm 0.7 ft ▼	60 average	
12 Tue		▲ 7:26 am ▼ 6:57 pm	1:54 am 6.4 ft ▲	7:47 am 0.5 ft ▼	2:37 pm 7.3 ft ▲	8:46 pm 0.9 ft ▼	46 low	
13 Wed		▲ 7:27 am ▼ 6:56 pm	2:55 am 6.2 ft ▲	8:53 am 0.7 ft ▼	3:41 pm 7.1 ft ▲	9:51 pm 1.0 ft ▼	41 low	
14 Thu		▲ 7:27 am ▼ 6:55 pm	4:00 am 6.1 ft ▲	10:00 am 0.8 ft ▼	4:48 pm 7.0 ft ▲	10:52 pm 0.9 ft ▼	46 low	
15 Fri		▲ 7:28 am ▼ 6:54 pm	5:07 am 6.2 ft ▲	11:05 am 0.8 ft ▼	5:50 pm 7.0 ft ▲	11:49 pm 0.8 ft ▼	57 average	
16 Sat		▲ 7:29 am ▼ 6:53 pm	6:10 am 6.4 ft ▲	12:06 pm 0.8 ft ▼	6:46 pm 7.0 ft ▲		69 average	
17 Sun		▲ 7:29 am ▼ 6:52 pm	12:41 am 0.6 ft ▼	7:06 am 6.7 ft ▲	1:02 pm 0.7 ft ▼	7:36 pm 7.0 ft ▲	79 high	
18 Mon		▲ 7:30 am ▼ 6:51 pm	1:30 am 0.5 ft ▼	7:56 am 6.9 ft ▲	1:55 pm 0.6 ft ▼	8:21 pm 6.9 ft ▲	86 high	
19 Tue		▲ 7:31 am ▼ 6:50 pm	2:14 am 0.4 ft ▼	8:41 am 7.1 ft ▲	2:42 pm 0.6 ft ▼	9:03 pm 6.8 ft ▲	89 high	
20 Wed		▲ 7:32 am ▼ 6:49 pm	2:54 am 0.4 ft ▼	9:22 am 7.2 ft ▲	3:25 pm 0.6 ft ▼	9:43 pm 6.6 ft ▲	90 very high	
21 Thu		▲ 7:32 am ▼ 6:48 pm	3:32 am 0.4 ft ▼	10:01 am 7.2 ft ▲	4:05 pm 0.7 ft ▼	10:21 pm 6.4 ft ▲	87 high	
22 Fri		▲ 7:33 am ▼ 6:47 pm	4:08 am 0.6 ft ▼	10:39 am 7.1 ft ▲	4:43 pm 0.9 ft ▼	10:58 pm 6.2 ft ▲	82 high	
23 Sat		▲ 7:34 am ▼ 6:46 pm	4:42 am 0.7 ft ▼	11:16 am 7.0 ft ▲	5:21 pm 1.1 ft ▼	11:35 pm 6.0 ft ▲	74 high	
24 Sun		▲ 7:34 am ▼ 6:45 pm	5:17 am 1.0 ft ▼	11:53 am 6.8 ft ▲	5:59 pm 1.3 ft ▼		64 average	
25 Mon		▲ 7:35 am ▼ 6:44 pm	12:14 am 5.8 ft ▲	5:54 am 1.2 ft ▼	12:33 pm 6.6 ft ▲	6:40 pm 1.5 ft ▼	54 average	
26 Tue		▲ 7:36 am ▼ 6:43 pm	12:54 am 5.6 ft ▲	6:34 am 1.4 ft ▼	1:16 pm 6.5 ft ▲	7:27 pm 1.7 ft ▼	43 low	
27 Wed		▲ 7:37 am ▼ 6:42 pm	1:38 am 5.5 ft ▲	7:22 am 1.5 ft ▼	2:03 pm 6.4 ft ▲	8:19 pm 1.8 ft ▼	34 low	
28 Thu		▲ 7:37 am ▼ 6:41 pm	2:26 am 5.4 ft ▲	8:19 am 1.6 ft ▼	2:54 pm 6.3 ft ▲	9:15 pm 1.7 ft ▼	30 low	
29 Fri		▲ 7:38 am ▼ 6:40 pm	3:21 am 5.5 ft ▲	9:20 am 1.5 ft ▼	3:51 pm 6.3 ft ▲	10:09 pm 1.5 ft ▼	35 low	
30 Sat		▲ 7:39 am ▼ 6:39 pm	4:21 am 5.7 ft ▲	10:22 am 1.4 ft ▼	4:50 pm 6.4 ft ▲	11:02 pm 1.2 ft ▼	47 low	
31 Sun		▲ 7:40 am ▼ 6:38 pm	5:21 am 6.0 ft ▲	11:21 am 1.1 ft ▼	5:48 pm 6.6 ft ▲	11:53 pm 0.8 ft ▼	62 average	





## J.O.S.F.C.

By

**Lee Bowman**

Winds and tropical storms have had the ocean a little bumpy here and there but we have had some nice days offshore also.

I know that the rougher days can ruin fishing for a lot of people especially those who are limited on days they can fish. Inshore options right now are good for the days you cannot get out of the inlet.

The bull reds have shown up in the river in good numbers. One of the most important things to remember if you do decide to target them is most are over slot and cannot be kept.

With these larger breeding fish coming out of the deep river they need to be revived, vented, or sent back to the bottom on a fish descending device to make sure that they survive.

Offshore I have been seeing nice mangroves coming off the reefs. Kings are still around but we will probably see them start to disappear as the water temperature starts to drop. As we transition into fall it is a good idea to start to think ahead a little for wahoo and blackfin tuna.

It's always good to get a head start on getting your gear prepped and lures ready especially if you high-speed troll. You can also visit our clubhouse for a meeting and get some great seminars on targeting these species.

We are always looking for new guests and speakers so if you have anything you'd like to come and talk to the club about

that is fishing or boat related send us an email or Facebook message.

### JOSFC Upcoming Events:

**October 7th** - Club Meeting.  
Speaker TBD

**October 16th** - Annual banquet.  
See board members for tickets.

**October 21st** - Club Meeting.  
Speaker TBD

Find us on Facebook and check out our website to keep up with upcoming events, schedules, or any changes. [www.JaxFish.com](http://www.JaxFish.com)  
Our meetings are on the first and third Thursday of each month. We are open to the public so we would love to have you at a meeting even if you are not a member.

*Capt.*

*Lee Bowman*



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**Fernandina**

By

**Capt. Charlie Freeman**

September is behind us so now on to the beginning of Fall, such as it is in Fernandina Beach.

The fishing will be picking up with more species beginning to show up. Surf fishing will improve with the drop in water temperature. Pompano will be showing up, sand fleas being your best bait by far. Whiting will still be found with cut shrimp their favorite. But also the finger mullet schools will be thinking of heading out of the back waters and that means Redfish, Tarpon and Sharks will be found for those tossing out a live or cut mullet. Places like the St Mary's Inlet at Fort Clinch, Peters Point, American Beach or Nassau Sound will be a few of your best bets.

Fishing the inlet will get you the same fish, with tarpon and over sized reds in bigger numbers also using the live or cut up finger mullet. Offshore at the reefs and wrecks will give up Grouper, Seabass, Red Snapper, just remember you cannot keep the snapper, and putting out a flat line while anchored can get you a bonus kingfish, Cuda and Cobia at times still.

Inshore is where the best action will be. Your bigger Sea Trout will be showing up along with good size Flounder and slot size reds. Again due to the massive amount of finger mullet. A lot of folks fish the docks between Nassau Sound and the Shave bridge at State Road 200. Anchor up current, throw a live mullet, shrimp or mud minnow, all on a jig head or using a fish finder rig up to and or pass the dock piling. If no action after 10 mins or so, just move so you can cast to a different part of the dock. But don't spend too much time at any one location. Keep moving till you locate them.

Also make sure to fish the deep holes where a creek comes out into the main river, as well as oyster bars. A tried and true spot for fishing broken bottom is the area from the West Rock papermill to the north down to the Rayonier Papermill to

the south. Be sure to have a lot of terminal tackle as you will get hung up. If you don't, you're not fishing the bottom.

Also fish fishermen look forward to high tides as the Redfish and sometimes Sheepshead will be found tailing. Most flycasters tell me they prefer afternoon high tides over morning as it's easier to spot the fish.

This month's Bait Shop write up is On Line Bait And Tackle Shop At Amelia opened December 1, 2018 as a proud family owned business. Spade and Denise established and stand by daily, their goal to provide quality products and excellent customer service to enhance the public's fishing and leisure experience.

They are strategically located on the George Crady Fishing Pier State Park also known as the Nassau Sound Bridge) At Amelia Island.

As children they grew up loving fishing and enjoying family fun at this same popular bridge which was a driving bridge if you can imagine that!

Years passed and a need for a bait shop was apparent out of the love for fishing, and that growing public need, On The Line Bait And Tackle Shop At Amelia became a reality.

They sell Shrimp, Finger Mullet, Blue Crab, Squid, Sand Fleas, Fiddler Crabs, and Fishbites. In the very new future they will carry live bait and apparel.

In addition to bait they carry a variety of fishing tackle along with snacks, refreshments, and other sundries. They would love for you to stop by soon to check em' out. They are on Facebook too!

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*Capt.*

*Charlie Freeman*

jaxfishgyd@aol.com



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*Spade and Denise Williams*







## Creeks & Rivers

By

**John "Chappy" Chapman**

Right on the cusp of fall here in NE Florida and the temps are about to start slowly easing down from the high humidity 90s into the low 80s and dipping at night into the 60s.

We don't get a full season change here but hey we take what we can get and this almost always fires the fish up. They seem to like a little cooler temps and escaping the doldrums of summer as well.

As we transition the season we can also start doing the same with our tactics and what fish we target. You can't even think of talking fishin' in this neck of the woods this time of year without at least a mention of the Large Breeder Red fish running along the deep edges of the St Johns stacking up around the natural drop offs and the deep bends in the river.

They have been on fire for the last two weeks and will probably run through the beginning of October. Also, it is a little early but the flounder do deserve a mention as it is time for them to be more prevalent in the creeks and tributaries along the river. This is the time to adjust to a little different tactics and it will help you catch more of the most common prized species in this neck of the woods.

For example everyone that knows me that it is really tough to pry a top water set up outta my hands almost year around, and it doesn't matter if I'm in the creeks of Florida, the structure

riddled creeks in S.C., or the sandy grass flats of TX.

I like top water and the excitement it provides. I guess with age though I've developed a little different taste for the fall. This time of year in the transition from the really HOT to the just a little bit hot I like to switch it up a little with the use of subsurface lures.

These come in a million different names and colors just like top water and that is the beauty of it, your never wrong when you catch fish on them. I like the darker brown or bright fluorescent colors and I make myself slow way down on the presentation of the lure. I personally like to work them along grass lines on a High out going tide.

These can be worked in the daytime or at night. You are likely to hook up with nice fish using this method and trout and reds alike will hit these lures. Occasionally there will be an aggressive flounder that will even jump on board, and make himself known in the area. Remember if you do catch a flounder there are probably more in the area so it might be beneficial to throw a jig head and a soft plastic around that area for a while.

Get out there and give those hard bait subsurface lures a try, you likely won't be disappointed this time of year.

Right around the corner coming with the real cool down will be the sheepshead.

I look forward to the challenge of them this year. Tight lines and good luck.

*John Chapman*



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## Pier & Surf

By

**Spencer Brogden**

Here we are now, October has arrived. What does October mean for surf fishing? It means cooler fulls of fish! The first of the cold fronts start to show up late September and early October, bringing with them cooler temps that will help to start dropping the water temperature in the surf. The water temperature will start to hover in the mid 70's typically and that is EXCELLENT for surf fishing. Better numbers of bigger whiting start showing up in the surf. Fresh Mayport shrimp, sandfleas and clam are all good options to target them. Also, the Redfish and Speckled Trout will still be very active in the surf chasing the thousands of mullet that are making their way to the south. A simple Carolina rig is what I usually use if the current and waves aren't bad. I throw the mullet

just behind the white wash/breakers and move it back towards me slowly. Many times the reds will hit in 2-3ft of water! Spanish mackerel, bluefish and sharks and tarpon are also following the mullet migration. For the blues and Spanish a heavier leader or even wire leader is preferred unless you like losing a ton of hooks! The last few weeks of September the sharks and tarpon were plentiful first thing in the morning as they are chasing mullet. A big live mullet or big lures will work well just make sure you have a reel capable of handling these guys as they will pull some serious line! And last but not least, with the water temperature cooling down in the Carolinas, the pompano make their exodus south and they will arrive in north florida! They are much bigger in the fall! Clams, crab knuckles and sandfleas are the preferred bait in the fall run. Don't forget to check out our YouTube Brokenreel23, as we provide weekly updates of what's going on in the surf and we will let you know when the pompano start to show up. Until next month, tight lines and full coolers.

*Spencer Brogden*



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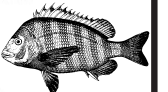


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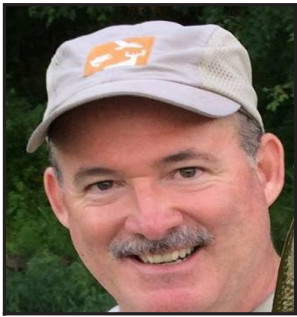


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**Cindy 904-626 -1733 Roger 904-626-1644**





## Ponds, Lakes, and Streams

By  
**Capt. Bert Deener**

### 9/17 Weekly Report

The Ocmulgee/Oconee/Altamaha system is fishable, but other southeast Georgia rivers are high. Pond and saltwater fishing will be your best bets again this weekend.

#### **Altamaha and Ocmulgee Rivers**

- At the time of writing this the middle Georgia rivers are getting pounded with several inches of rain, so expect the rivers to rise. Catfish are usually the best targets on a rising river. Wildlife Resources Division staff collected the last catfish electrofishing samples of the year from the Ocmulgee River this week, and the catfish populations are in good shape. For flathead catfish, live bait is the key, while cut bait, worms, or shrimp will fool blue and channel catfish. The river level on September 16th at the Abbeville gage on the Ocmulgee was 3.4 feet and rising fast. The Doctortown gage on the Altamaha was 5.9 feet and rising.

**Okefenokee Swamp** - The catching has been slow this week with the high water. You may be able to fool a few catfish or fliers in the boat basin on the Fargo side, but don't expect to catch much out in the swamp. The fish are spread out into the prairies with the high water. The latest water level (Folkston side) was 121.44 feet.

**Local Ponds** - Chad Lee had another unique catch (or "almost catch") this week. On Monday he hooked a big bass, and it got hung up in shoreline vegetation. Unbeknownst to him, a big gator was lurking nearby, and it slid over and helped itself to lunch (yep, Chad's bass). He caught a few other bass, but nothing notable. The

spillways of your favorite ponds will likely start flowing again after this week's rains. The fishing in spillways is usually pretty good after it has been flowing for a couple days because the flow attracts fish from downstream. If you can safely access the spillway, it might be a good option for this weekend.

#### **Ocmulgee Public Fishing Area (near Hawkinsville)**

- Thomas Smith had a great trip fishing from his kayak on Monday. He fished the afternoon and caught (and released) 2 bass that weighed 5.6 and 6.8 pounds. A chrome-blue back Red Eye Shad lipless crankbait was the ticket for his fish. The crappie bite has been slow in the heat based on reports, but they will start biting again as the water cools this fall. Remember, bass are catch-and-release on the area.

**Saltwater (GA Coast)** - Capt. Greg Hildreth got on some tarpon this week. His charter went 1 for 3 throwing artificials on Thursday. I fished around low tide on Tuesday in the Brunswick area and had a great day. Keitech swimbaits (figichix and rootbeer/chartreuse back worked best) on 1/4-oz. Flashy Jigheads fooled 4 oversized redfish to 31 inches, and 2 other bull reds screamed drag and broke me off in the shells. I also caught 5 trout (all keepers) to 22 inches on the same Keitechs suspended underneath Equalizer Floats. The key with Equalizer floats is to balance the jighead to the float size so that it will stand up on the pause after you twitch it. The 2 1/2-inch cigar float perfectly matches a 3/16-oz. jighead, while 1/4-oz. is the size for the 3-inch Equalizer. For guide trip information, call Capt. Greg Hildreth at (912) 617-1980 or check out his website ([georgiacharterfishing.com](http://georgiacharterfishing.com)). Check with the Jekyll Island Fishing Center (912-635-3556) for the latest on the Jekyll Island Pier or St. Simons Bait & Tackle (912-634-1888) for the latest on the St. Simons Pier.

**Keaton Beach, Florida** - Capt. Pat McGriff of One More Cast Guide Service ([www.onemorecast.net](http://www.onemorecast.net) - Phone: 850-584-9145) said that the trout bite has picked up this week. His charter took just shy of 3 hours to land their trout limit on Friday and then they released 2 oversized reds, including a 29-incher that had 21 spots. On Saturday it took an hour and 35 minutes to catch 10 keeper trout. They also added a pair of keeper reds to the box and had a giant red (looked about 40 inches) break them off at the boat. Sunday it took 4 hours to catch their trout limit but then they could not find any reds with the east wind. Water temperatures generally ranged from 80 degrees in the morning to 86 degrees during the afternoon this week. All of their trout and reds ate live pinfish suspended underneath Back Bay Thunder Floats. Most of the trout were in 4.5 feet, while the reds were shallower in 3.0 to 3.5 feet. The fall bite has fired off. Book a trip now before all the best slots fill up.

To monitor all the Georgia river levels, visit the USGS website ([waterdata.usgs.gov/ga/nwis/rt](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ga/nwis/rt)). For the latest marine forecast, check out [www.weather.gov/jax/](http://www.weather.gov/jax/). Capt. Bert Deener makes a variety of both fresh and saltwater fishing lures. Check his lures out at Bert's Jigs and Things on Facebook. For a copy of his latest catalog, call him at 912-288-3022 or e-mail him ([bertdeener@yahoo.com](mailto:bertdeener@yahoo.com)). For a 20% discount on some really comfortable fishing shoes (the Miami style is my favorite style of Skuze Shoes), use the CAPTBERT20

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*Capt. Bert Deener*

*Thomas Smith fished Ocmulgee Public Fishing Area near Hawkinsville on Monday afternoon. He caught this 5.6-pound bass and another 6.8-pounder on a chrome/blue back Red Eye Shad.*



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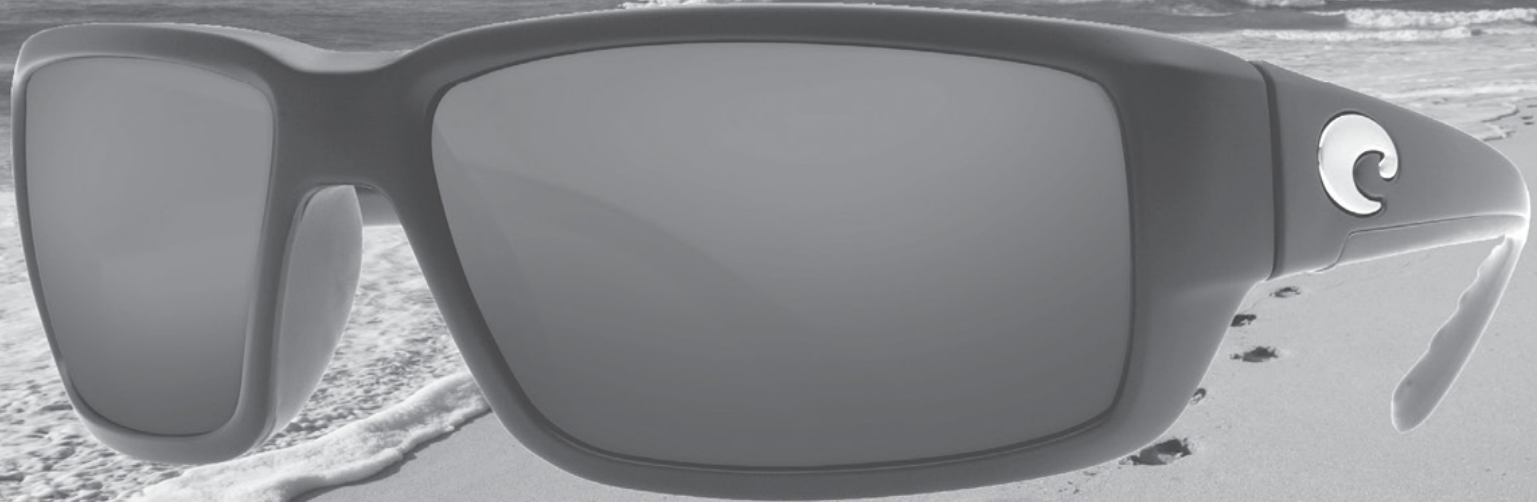
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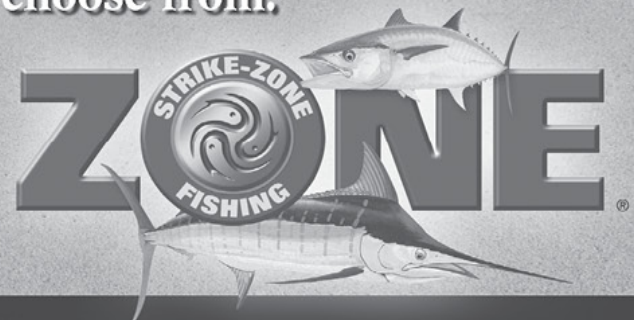
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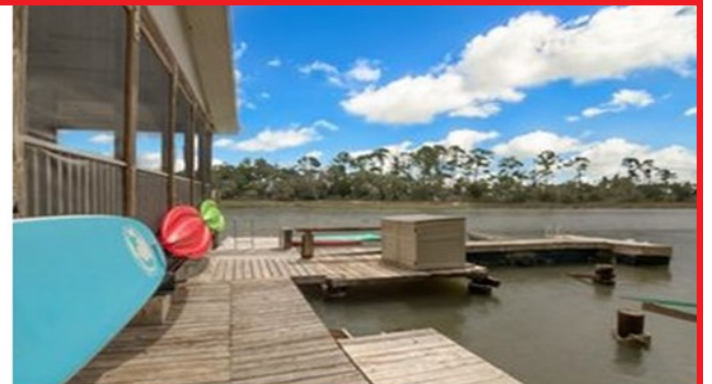
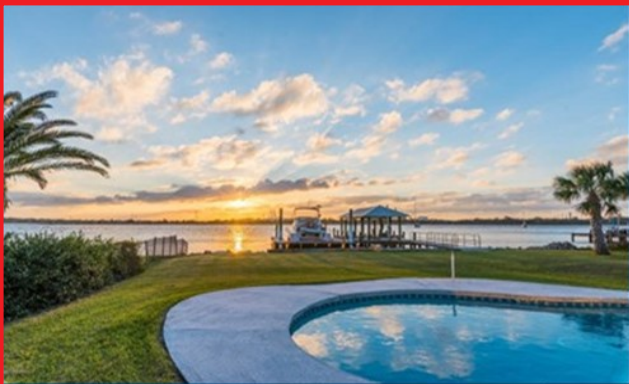
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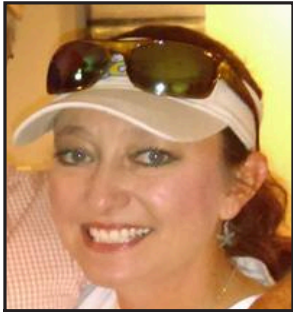
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			1 <sup>st</sup> TIDE	2 <sup>nd</sup> TIDE	3 <sup>rd</sup> TIDE	4 <sup>th</sup> TIDE	COEFFICIENT	
1 Fri		▲ 7:19 am ▼ 7:10 pm	4:49 am 4.6 ft ▲	10:30 am 1.4 ft ▼	5:15 pm 5.4 ft ▲	11:19 pm 1.4 ft ▼	45 low	
2 Sat		▲ 7:19 am ▼ 7:09 pm	5:45 am 4.8 ft ▲	11:25 am 1.2 ft ▼	6:07 pm 5.6 ft ▲		60 average	
3 Sun		▲ 7:20 am ▼ 7:08 pm	12:07 am 1.1 ft ▼	6:35 am 5.1 ft ▲	12:19 pm 0.8 ft ▼	6:55 pm 5.7 ft ▲	75 high	 
4 Mon		▲ 7:21 am ▼ 7:07 pm	12:53 am 0.7 ft ▼	7:22 am 5.5 ft ▲	1:11 pm 0.4 ft ▼	7:41 pm 5.9 ft ▲	89 high	 
5 Tue		▲ 7:21 am ▼ 7:06 pm	1:37 am 0.3 ft ▼	8:08 am 5.8 ft ▲	2:00 pm 0.1 ft ▼	8:27 pm 6.0 ft ▲	101 very high	  
6 Wed		▲ 7:22 am ▼ 7:04 pm	2:19 am 0.0 ft ▼	8:53 am 6.1 ft ▲	2:48 pm -0.1 ft ▼	9:13 pm 6.0 ft ▲	108 very high	  
7 Thu		▲ 7:23 am ▼ 7:03 pm	3:02 am -0.3 ft ▼	9:40 am 6.3 ft ▲	3:36 pm -0.2 ft ▼	10:00 pm 5.9 ft ▲	109 very high	  
8 Fri		▲ 7:23 am ▼ 7:02 pm	3:45 am -0.3 ft ▼	10:29 am 6.4 ft ▲	4:26 pm -0.1 ft ▼	10:50 pm 5.7 ft ▲	103 very high	 
9 Sat		▲ 7:24 am ▼ 7:01 pm	4:31 am -0.2 ft ▼	11:20 am 6.3 ft ▲	5:19 pm 0.2 ft ▼	11:42 pm 5.5 ft ▲	92 very high	
10 Sun		▲ 7:24 am ▼ 7:00 pm	5:22 am 0.1 ft ▼	12:15 pm 6.2 ft ▲	6:19 pm 0.5 ft ▼		77 high	
11 Mon		▲ 7:25 am ▼ 6:59 pm	12:37 am 5.3 ft ▲	6:19 am 0.4 ft ▼	1:14 pm 6.1 ft ▲	7:27 pm 0.8 ft ▼	60 average	
12 Tue		▲ 7:26 am ▼ 6:57 pm	1:37 am 5.1 ft ▲	7:26 am 0.7 ft ▼	2:18 pm 5.9 ft ▲	8:37 pm 1.0 ft ▼	46 low	 
13 Wed		▲ 7:26 am ▼ 6:56 pm	2:44 am 5.0 ft ▲	8:37 am 0.9 ft ▼	3:27 pm 5.8 ft ▲	9:42 pm 1.0 ft ▼	41 low	 
14 Thu		▲ 7:27 am ▼ 6:55 pm	3:53 am 5.0 ft ▲	9:45 am 0.9 ft ▼	4:35 pm 5.8 ft ▲	10:41 pm 0.9 ft ▼	46 low	 
15 Fri		▲ 7:28 am ▼ 6:54 pm	5:00 am 5.1 ft ▲	10:48 am 0.9 ft ▼	5:35 pm 5.8 ft ▲	11:35 pm 0.8 ft ▼	57 average	
16 Sat		▲ 7:28 am ▼ 6:53 pm	5:58 am 5.3 ft ▲	11:46 am 0.8 ft ▼	6:28 pm 5.8 ft ▲		69 average	
17 Sun		▲ 7:29 am ▼ 6:52 pm	12:25 am 0.7 ft ▼	6:49 am 5.5 ft ▲	12:41 pm 0.7 ft ▼	7:15 pm 5.7 ft ▲	79 high	
18 Mon		▲ 7:30 am ▼ 6:51 pm	1:10 am 0.5 ft ▼	7:35 am 5.7 ft ▲	1:30 pm 0.6 ft ▼	7:58 pm 5.6 ft ▲	86 high	
19 Tue		▲ 7:30 am ▼ 6:50 pm	1:51 am 0.4 ft ▼	8:18 am 5.7 ft ▲	2:15 pm 0.5 ft ▼	8:38 pm 5.5 ft ▲	89 high	 
20 Wed		▲ 7:31 am ▼ 6:49 pm	2:28 am 0.4 ft ▼	8:57 am 5.8 ft ▲	2:55 pm 0.5 ft ▼	9:16 pm 5.3 ft ▲	90 very high	  
21 Thu		▲ 7:32 am ▼ 6:48 pm	3:02 am 0.4 ft ▼	9:34 am 5.8 ft ▲	3:33 pm 0.6 ft ▼	9:53 pm 5.1 ft ▲	87 high	  
22 Fri		▲ 7:32 am ▼ 6:47 pm	3:35 am 0.6 ft ▼	10:11 am 5.7 ft ▲	4:09 pm 0.8 ft ▼	10:30 pm 4.9 ft ▲	82 high	 
23 Sat		▲ 7:33 am ▼ 6:46 pm	4:06 am 0.7 ft ▼	10:47 am 5.6 ft ▲	4:45 pm 1.0 ft ▼	11:07 pm 4.8 ft ▲	74 high	
24 Sun		▲ 7:34 am ▼ 6:45 pm	4:38 am 1.0 ft ▼	11:25 am 5.5 ft ▲	5:23 pm 1.3 ft ▼	11:47 pm 4.6 ft ▲	64 average	
25 Mon		▲ 7:35 am ▼ 6:44 pm	5:14 am 1.2 ft ▼	12:04 pm 5.4 ft ▲	6:06 pm 1.6 ft ▼		54 average	
26 Tue		▲ 7:35 am ▼ 6:43 pm	12:28 am 4.5 ft ▲	5:57 am 1.5 ft ▼	12:47 pm 5.3 ft ▲	6:58 pm 1.8 ft ▼	43 low	 
27 Wed		▲ 7:36 am ▼ 6:42 pm	1:15 am 4.5 ft ▲	6:50 am 1.7 ft ▼	1:35 pm 5.2 ft ▲	7:56 pm 1.8 ft ▼	34 low	 
28 Thu		▲ 7:37 am ▼ 6:41 pm	2:08 am 4.4 ft ▲	7:52 am 1.7 ft ▼	2:29 pm 5.2 ft ▲	8:54 pm 1.8 ft ▼	30 low	 
29 Fri		▲ 7:38 am ▼ 6:40 pm	3:08 am 4.5 ft ▲	8:56 am 1.7 ft ▼	3:30 pm 5.2 ft ▲	9:47 pm 1.5 ft ▼	35 low	
30 Sat		▲ 7:38 am ▼ 6:39 pm	4:10 am 4.7 ft ▲	9:57 am 1.4 ft ▼	4:30 pm 5.3 ft ▲	10:37 pm 1.2 ft ▼	47 low	
31 Sun		▲ 7:39 am ▼ 6:38 pm	5:09 am 5.0 ft ▲	10:55 am 1.1 ft ▼	5:27 pm 5.4 ft ▲	11:25 pm 0.8 ft ▼	62 average	





## Thinkin' Outside the Tackle Box

By  
Trina Polkey

### I Love Fall!

And no, it is not because of pumpkin spice and everything. Nor is it because of the cool fall air. We don't usually get much of that. It is simple, deer season and bull reds. Most of my favorite childhood memories include hunting, fishing, or just time spent outdoors.

My brother and I were blessed that our grandparents took us camping from a very early age and frequently. Most often in New Mexico but we made it up to Colorado a couple of times and into

Arizona at least once that I can remember. Luckily, most of those trips destination was a lake, creek, or river. My heart smiles just thinking about it.

I can remember very young trips when Dad took us dove hunting and I even remember a couple of trapping trips with Bud, our Uncle Gary's dad. Then, we met Pops. My bonus dad who took us in as if we were his own. We lived on 23 acres in the mountains and went hunting and fishing all the time. Deer, antelope, rabbit, frogs, catfish and trout. It was heaven!

So you can imagine just the thought of hunting season floods my heart with joy. I love getting ready to hunt. I love hearing the woods wake up in the morning. I love putting the woods to bed at night. I love the smells, the sounds, and the quiet time with God. And I love deer with mashed potatoes!

And for the afternoons or the days you can't make it to the hunt camp, God created bull reds!! These beasts roam the river from the jetties to the Dames Point bridge and beyond this

time of year. You can't keep them but man are they fun to catch! Get out there. Enjoy the beauty, bounty and fun God created for us. And don't forget to pass it on.

Take a friend, take a brother, take a nephew, take an almost 2 year old granddaughter that is Sooo close to being ready. It is our job to share the joy of the outdoors that someone once shared with us. Don't take that job lightly – it might be one of the most important you've ever been given.

*Trina Polkey*



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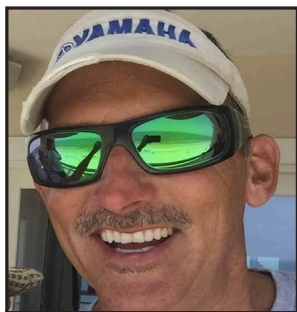
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## Intracoastal St. Johns River

By  
**Capt. John Eggers**

Summer finally winding down and fall is finally here. Cooler water temps will help make the fish more aggressive but the big difference will be with the influx of bait.

Finger mullet will be here in groves and with them will be reds trout and flounder. This month offers the fisherman many different species to choose from. I do a lot of bull red trips this time of year and my clients love it. Whole crab on a circle hook in the river right on the ledge of the drop offs will be the ticket. Make sure to bring your venting tool and know how to use it properly to release these giants safely back to the water.

Black drum will be at the jetties and deep holes of the creeks. Sheepshead start showing around the big rocks and oyster beds. Speckled trout fishing should pick up but has been surprisingly slow this summer.

Hopefully it will get better with the mullet run. Slot reds will be feeding on the mullet making it a great time to throw top water plugs, jerk baits both hard and soft plastics in white or natural colors. Big fall tides will present some awesome sight fishing opportunities for tailing reds in the grass.

The star of the month will be the flounder. The shrimp will be dumping out towards the ocean and along with them will be flounder.

This is the month to catch the

biggest flounder of the year. Finger mullet on a carolina rig or jig head will be the best bait but 4 to 5 inch fish bite plastics will be a close 2nd. Catch them early in the month because the regulations on flounder have changed. Starting mid october they will close the harvesting of flounder for a month. Check your fwc regulations for more details.

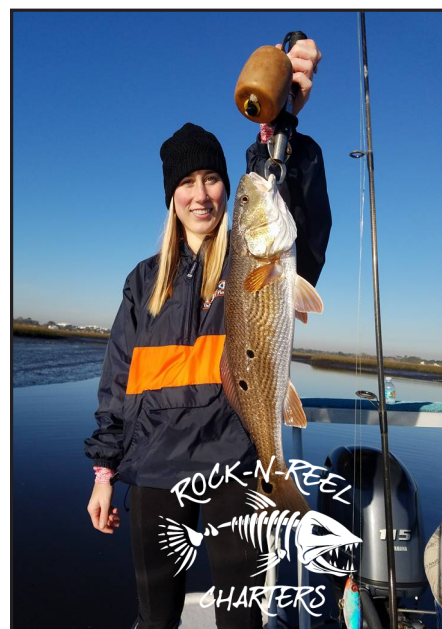
*Capt. John Eggers*

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*Growing up on the St. John's river fishing the back waters and offshore since he was a teenager, Captain John Eggers has more than 25 years experience fishing in Northeast Florida. His first experience fishing was five years old. While he is known for his elite skill in fishing for Redfish (Red Drum), John has the expertise and experience to help you catch numerous types of native northeast Florida fish in the hottest fishing spots around Jacksonville.*

*Featured on TNN and Versus tv shows, the ESPN red fish trail, as well as in The Florida Sportsman Magazine, and The Saltwater Sportsman mag, John also often appears on the "Gone Fishing" show, a local fishing radio show that aired Fridays at noon. He writes a monthly article for The Fishing Connection Magazine.*

*As a pro on red fish tournament series, his records include over 15 wins team of the year awards wins on both the IFA redfish series and the FLW red fish tour.*



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## Intracoastal

By  
**Capt. Todd Philcox**

October is one of my favorite months to fish Jacksonville's inshore waters.

The days are getting shorter, hopefully cooler and more temperate, and the opportunities to enjoy many different fishing methods and target multiple species continues.

Fishing action in September was good along the Intracoastal, the quantity of finger mullet has grown nicely, our mullet run will peak towards the second half of October.

Bring along a cast net to secure a good supply of mullet and fish them live either on jig head or with a fish finder rig up on the flats and weed edges at high tide or along the intercoastal banks and creek holes on lower tides. I've found the last 3 hours of the falling tide through the first hour of the incoming to be the most productive for slot redfish.

The flounder action has been decent along the intercoastal banks south of the river at higher tides along weed edges and creek runouts, that action will continue this month.

Many of the flounder I catch come to the boat while working those same areas for redfish. I have not found the flounder bite to be as good as expected in the river this year, fishing docks and rocks has not been as productive as previous years.

The trout bite picked up in September and should continue to improve this month. Flood tides will occur from the

6th through the 11th this month, providing the chance to fish up on the grass flats for tailing redfish and sheepshead.

The most productive flats tend to be closer to ocean inlets where the tidal range is greatest, the Ft. George area and the adjacent Intracoastal grass flats are productive, as are flats closer to Vilano Beach to the south.

Fly-fishing with crab imitations or gold spoon flies is productive in the grass as are Gulp shrimp and crabs fished on light tackle, all need to be rigged weedless. Also on tap for October is the height of the run of spawning bull redfish, action will be hot from the jetties up the river to the Dames Point bridge, fish the drop offs from 35-55 feet deep with cut crab, mullet or ladyfish, use ample weight to hold the bottom, heavy tackle and hold on!

Get out fishing and enjoy one of our most beautiful and productive months on the water!

*Capt. Todd Philcox*

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## Our Waterways

By

**Capt. Jim Suber**

\* City of Jacksonville Waterways  
Coordinator

\* Dock Master

\* Division of Natural Marine resources

\* Department of Parks,  
Recreation & Community Services

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The Waterways are alive and full of boating and fishing activities and great progress has headed our way!

We are in the peak of the Hurricane season so make sure you stay ready and prepared.

The water temperatures are starting to make a steady decline and we are in the low 80's and nearing high 70's. We passed the fall equinox September 22 which was the first day of fall! On this day the days and nights are roughly equal in length. During this time the sun begins to rise later and the night comes sooner.

We have experienced some algae bloom in our waterway but this should settle and fade away. The weather continues to do its thing. One month we have a "wet" month and September was a dryer month as of this writing. Which really means we are hovering around "normal"?

This time of year the manatees are starting to move out of the north Florida area but a few will linger for a few extra days so remain aware and keep a look out. The river salinity has been up and down the scale through the summer but it looks like September gave us normal and stable salinity. Water levels are returning to normal as long as the storms stay away.

The Mayport Community Center Construction is in progress and moving as planned. The Parks and Recreation Department has opened the park west of the Ferry complex for over flow parking. A contract for the dredge project for Oak Harbor Basin has been awarded and

work started but a small glitch in the pre-surveys has caused a small delay. We may not see dredge activity for a couple of more months.

The installation of the new adaptive kayak launch and dock extension for Mandarin Park has started and there will be some closures and restrictions when the floating dock extension starts. The docks are being built so actual on site activity should start soon.

New dock projects on the south bank area, Jackson Street and Post Street continue to make progress and the Southbank Dock at River Place Tower has mobilized and docks are being installed. As soon as this dock is completed they are ready to move to Jackson St. to install the docks. Post St. is moving forward and all permits and leases are in place and the contract process is moving forward. We are still working through the process to begin construction phases for the dredging of Burt Maxwell Boat Ramp.

The bids were opened and a contractor is in place so actual digging should start before the end of the year. The construction of the new dock on the east side of the Jacksonville Zoo, the dredging of the Kayak access at Castaway Island Preserve, and a new fishing platform at River Road Park in San Marco is moving through the process. There were several complaints and photos of a land management project on Pottsborg Creek near Beach Blvd.

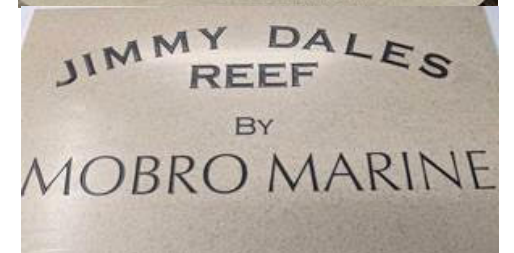
This turned out to be a mitigation project for a new convenience store in the same water shed. Sediment was draining in to the creek and after the Florida Department of Environmental Protection the City of Jacksonville Permitting Office and Jacksonville Environmental Quality Division the Permits have been denied and FDEP is working the case for compliance and mitigation of damages.

From proceeds of the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament, Jacksonville Marine Charities has donated \$12,500.00 along with donations from North Florida Marine Association and Greenland Biomass to TISIRI (Think It Sink It Reef It). Joe Kistel of TISIRI has advised two vessels will be moved to the area of Harms Ledge and the two will spend eternity holding fish and dive opportunities for North Florida.

One of the vessels is a large project sail boat and the other is an old tug



boat that has a 12 ft. propeller which will remain with the vessel. The sailing vessel reef will be named Greater Jax Kingfish Reef and the tug will be named in honor of a deceased member of Mobro Marine, Jimmy Dales. Mobro Marine is donating tugs and staff to assist with preparation of the vessels and the deployment. The funds were used to insure the vessels are clean and environmentally safe for deployment. The vessels are currently at Mobro in Green Cove Springs and deployment is scheduled for early October if weather permits. These reefs will insure economical impact and fun for North Florida for years to come. Due to the efforts between the Waterway Management Department, City of Jacksonville Environmental Quality Division, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and Florida Fish and Wildlife and Parks and Recreation Maintenance staff we have removed several derelict vessels from our waterways through our boat ramps. We now have secured contracts with Salonen Marine Contractors to remove derelict vessels in the ICW, Trout River, Julington Creek, Broward River and Mandarin Point in the St. Johns River. We will be moving 7



derelict vessels in the next few weeks. All of this is due to grants issued by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Boating and Waterways Department thanks to funding provided by our State Legislature.

As most of you know we are starting to see movement on the improvements and development of the sports complex. This will include the rebuild and improvement of Metropolitan Park Marina some fishing piers and open park space and community focused space that will connect with the rest of the downtown river front. River front public access is a major part of the development..

**Continued on Page 18**

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## Offshore Deepwater

By

**Capt. Tim Altman**

### Wahoo Pre-Season

Wahoo Season is just around the corner and what tells me that it's time to start revamping all of my Wahoo lures and rigging? Tree Stands. I bet you're saying what is this guy talking about? How do tree stands tell me it's time to start fishing for Wahoo? Well the short version is that the opening of deer season usually coincides with the shorter periods of sunlight (shorter days) and decreasing temperatures. This usually causes a decrease in near-shore sea-temperature setting up the beginning of the eventual temperature breaks we find in the winter months. We know these temp-breaks start the beginning of the pelagic food chain. But this early in the season your bottom spots and if you are high-speed trolling play connect the dots with your spots. If you are in a good Triggerfish or Bliner bite in depths of 120ft or greater, when you're finishing up from bottom fishing prep your high-speed gear. After you come off of anchor/trolling motor and start to pull away from your spot deploy your high-speeds and make a couple passes on the very spot you were bottom fishing if they're there, chances are they will bite and sometimes it's going to be a monster.

### Bottom Fishing

Folks the bottom fishing is still



strong in depths of 120ft or greater. The Triggerfish and Bliner (Vermillion Snapper) bite is outstanding. Make sure you have plenty of bait.

The conventional wisdom for Triggerfish is cut Squid. Squid is plentiful at your bait & tackle places, but for a really good bite use small strips of Bonita. Where can you get Bonita? Just off of the beach in the near shore waters. They are great for kids to fight and if you take them home and store them in your bait freezer, you have some really great bottom bait! The Grouper bite is very strong along the "ledge" in depths of 165-190ft. You may have to go through several type of baits before you snag them. When I say "types" of baits I'm referring to Dead Bait and Live Baits. The easiest way is Boston Mackerel, but if they're not on the Mackerel or biting your live pogies or grunts then it's time to get innovative. Try cutting your grunts up or what we call butterflying them. If that doesn't work, try the same with a legal Bliner. Don't worry, the bait can't be too big. But be prepared, if you hook up it's running straight into it's hole and it's your job to turn the fish before it makes it home and you get "Rocked Up". Your drag should be locked down tight all the way and you should have a "stout" rod. Grouper fishing isn't easy that's what make it so much fun.

For how and what to use to catch Wahoo, Triggerfish, Bliners, Mutton & Mangrove Snapper and Grouper, visit Strike-Zone Fishing Jacksonville and ask Mr. Dave Workman Jr or his friendly staff and they will set you up with whatever you need to get the job done!

I'll say it again and again until we get through this COVID-19 has affected our economy on every level. Please support your local businesses because they are the one's disproportionality impacted.

So even if you can't take a kid fishing just let them fish. I was doing some work on the Hoodoo boat preparing for my charter for

the following day and my grandson TJ wanted to tag along, but of course we had to take his favorite rod (at my house) and stop by Strike Zone for some Jig Heads and Gulp curly tails that he had to pick out. Needless to say, while I was on the boat and he was fishing off of the seawall this happened. Until next month, please stay safe on the water and remember that great things happen when you take a kid fishing.

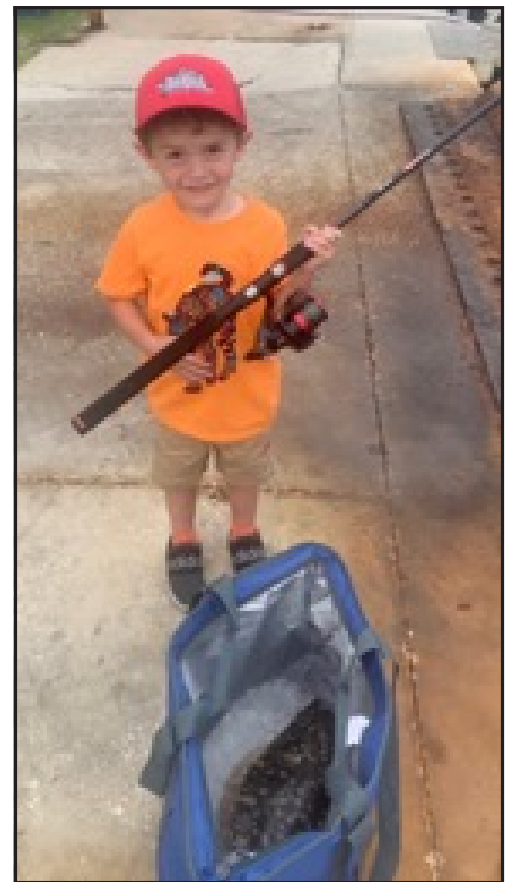
*Capt. Tim Altman*

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### Continued from Page 16

As always allow me to remind everyone to always check your boat and yourself.

Use of a lookout and being aware of your surroundings are always a priority. Invest in a QUALITY EPERB, File a float plan with someone that will miss you first so if things don't go as planned, the search for you can be narrowed and recovery can be quicker.

Take a safe boating course and do your part to activate our waterways! The Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron, America's Boating Club, continuously offers America's Safe Boating Course at Lamb's Yacht Center and classes have resumed monthly so check there web site for 2021.

The cost of the classes to the student will continue to be reduced to an affordable \$10.00 thanks to a donation from Jacksonville Marine Charities from proceeds from the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament.

The next class will be announced on the America's Boating Club web site at [usps.org/localusps/Jackson](https://usps.org/localusps/Jackson). The Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron, America's Boating Club of Northeast Florida and United States Coast Guard Auxiliary are back available for vessel safety checks.

Jacksonville Marine Charities has awarded a \$2,000.00 donation to assist with the cost of boating safety classes. This makes the cost for the class and book to the public \$10.00 per person. Classes will be at Lambs Yacht Center October 3 and November 6 8am-5pm.

I continue to remind all that if you are aware of an event that will impact our waterway or if you are a member of a club or organization that is planning an event that will impact our waterway please let us know so we can help you with promoting.

North Florida is fortunate to have a large number of organizations and individuals that invest hours and hours of volunteer time to make opportunities for our friends in need with the participation of our gracious anglers and business owners.

If you send the information to me at [jsuber@coj.net](mailto:jsuber@coj.net) we will publish on the website and promote on Facebook pages. The city of Jacksonville has several events around the city and Beaches that we

are just not getting credit for as a community. We want to promote our city and our beaches as a city with great waterways and beaches with tournaments, events and entertainment opportunities that are happening just not being included in the Big Picture.

Last but not least, show pride in the facilities provided for your use with your tax dollars by properly disposing of your by product when you clean your fish and dispose of your trash appropriately  
**BE SAFE! AND WASH YOUR HANDS!!**

*Capt. Jim Suber*



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## Public Participation

By

**John Nooney**

*Tight Lines and Screaming Reels Fishermen! How do you really feel?*

### FIND time REDISTRICTING?

67 counties in the state of Florida. In Duval County there are 14 city Council Districts. City Council District lines may be redrawn every 10 years.

One piece of criteria is population. This is known as Redistricting.

And on top of that does your district already contain a special district that may be part of a (Community Redevelopment Agency) CRA, a (Downtown Investment Authority) DIA, a USD (Urban Services District), or an Enterprise Zone?

I reside in Duval County and I attended the 9/2/21 Redistricting meeting that was put on by former Duval County FIND Commissioner and current District 3 Jacksonville City councilman Aaron Bowman. This was an open discussion of Initial maps for District 3 and adjacent council districts. 3 potential maps were presented by Bill Killingsworth, Director of Planning and Development for the city of Jacksonville.

This is new. Meetings are happening now throughout the County. Just asking the question. Will your Fishing spots be redrawn in your District?

While this is going on it is also FIND time.

FIND is an acronym for the (Florida Inland Navigation District) it's a special taxing district for the continued

management and maintenance of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (ICW).

FIND consists of 12 counties along the east coast of Florida from Nassau through Miami-Dade. Duval County is a tax paying member.

At the 9/15/21 Jacksonville Waterways Commission meeting the Chair Al Ferraro who is also the current District 2 city council representative and a Mayoral candidate for Jacksonville in 2022 asked for volunteers for upcoming FIND Projects.

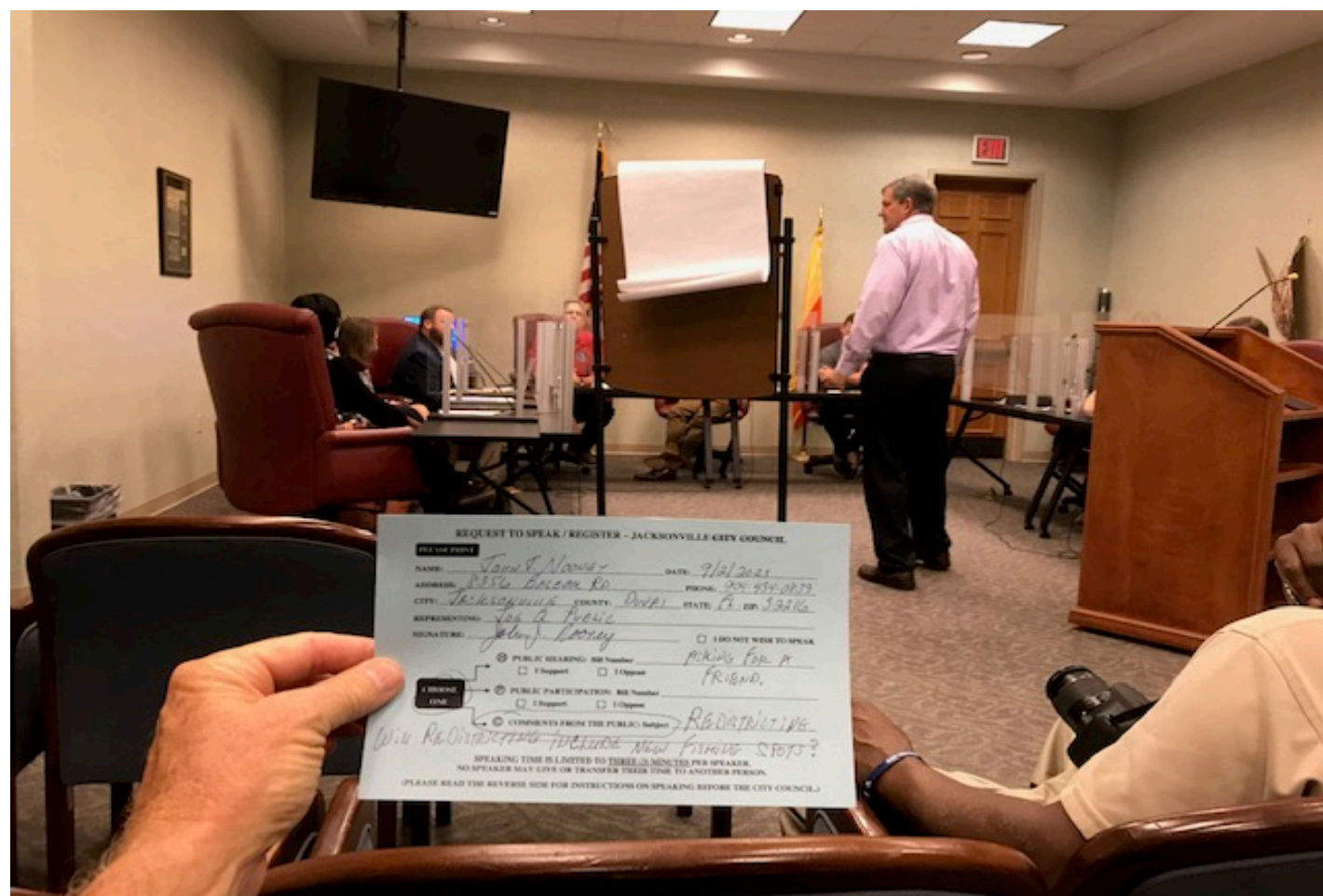
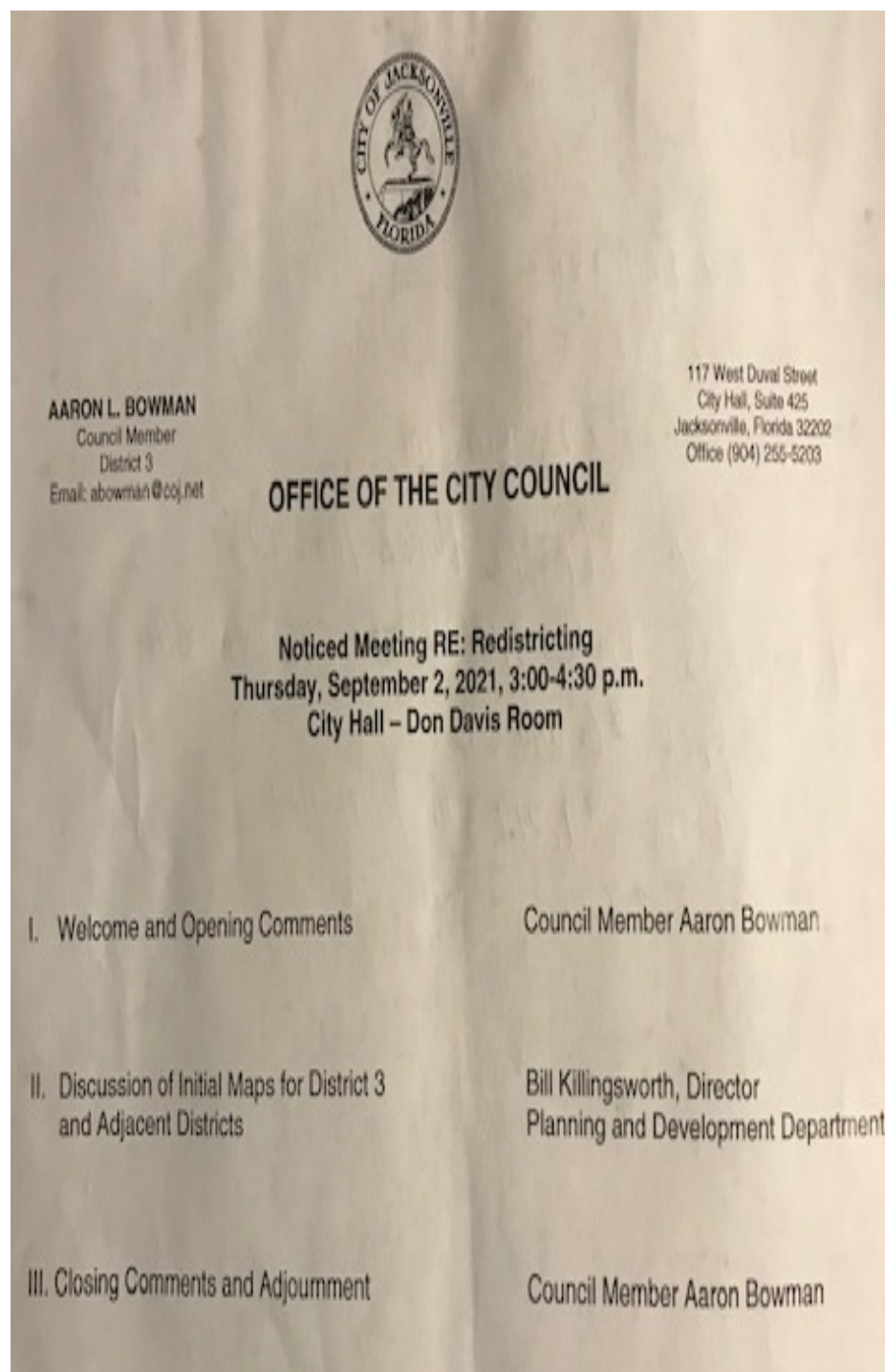
Answering the call for the upcoming FIND subcommittee that will be tasked with identifying the FIND Projects will be Commissioners Ray Pringle, Jon Michael Barker, and Robert Birtalan.

2021-0075 was last years Duval County's FIND legislation that was a nail biter going through the committee process. Pull the tape.

Tight Lines and Screaming Reels FIND time  
To Fish On!

*John Nooney*

vendo5@yahoo.com  
904-434-0839







## **Palm Valley St. Augustine**

By  
**Capt. Cory Sparks**

October is probably my favorite month to fish. Cool mornings. Bait and birds. Fall changes in the air.

It's pretty magical in Palm Valley. Our mullet run should be full throttle right now and every inshore target is available. In general, where you see bait, you should be able to locate feeding fish.

There are no tricks to it. Just fish what looks "fishy". Our flounder should be close to their peak in both size and numbers. Muds minnows or finger mullet dragged on a 1/4 oz. Jig head will catch them anywhere.

If you prefer artificial, any curly tail profile such as a Gulp or Fishbites Fight Club will put flatties in the boat.

If you've ever flounder gigged you will be surprised at some of the rough bottom areas you see them hiding in. Target areas where you know there are oysters and lightly scattered shell bottom. You may have to bounce off a few shells or hang ups but you will be rewarded because these fish love the structure as ambush points.

If you're not getting hung up then you're not flounder fishing! Redfish will be following the bait schools and will be more than willing to chase soft plastics or top water lures thrown around those bait schools.

I love the Slayer S.S.T. paddle tails on jig heads. They have a ton of action and thump in the tail. You can also cover a ton of water throwing them. Reds, trout, flounder, Jacks and many more species will strike this

presentation. Don't forget the good ol' shrimp on a jig.

Any hungry fish will pick this up and it is deadly when tipped with a bright piece of Fishbites strips for some added scent and color. This month will have a lot of "Rat Reds" mixed in with the slot fish so weed through them to catch your dinner!

The black drum bite should really pick up and you will find them on shell bars and oyster mounds with moving water along them. Having a deep drop along the side of these structures doesn't hurt either.

You better have your line taught though. Black drum feed softly many times and light taps eventually lead to rod pressure to let you know they are on there! Set it and hang on!

Keep Reeling!

*Capt. Cory Sparks*

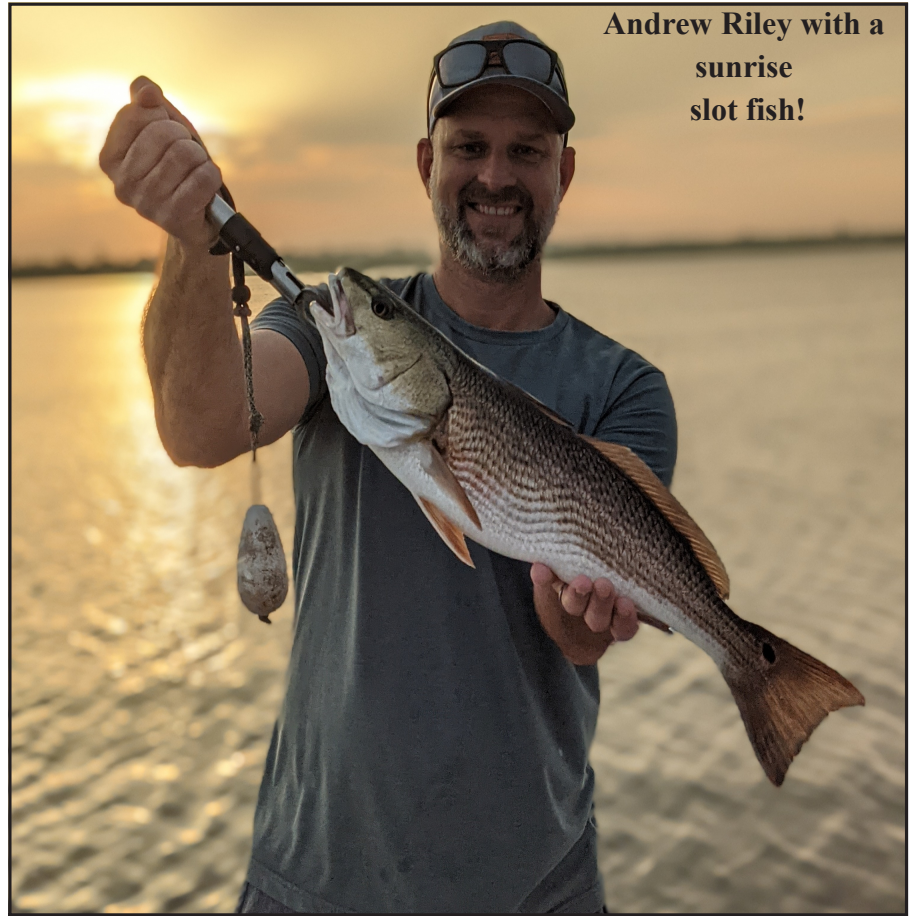
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**Ashley Bonner with a  
birthday Bull Red!**



**Kristian Ellefsen released  
this 22" Red.**



**Andrew Riley with a  
sunrise  
slot fish!**



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 <p><b>Bluefish</b> ▲ ■</p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12" fork length</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Atlantic - 3 per harvester</b></li> <li>• <b>Gulf - 10 per harvester (includes Monroe county)</b></li> </ul>  <p><b>Spotted Seatrout</b> ● ★ ▲ ◆ T ■</p> <p><b>Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not less than 15" or more than 19"</li> <li>• May not possess more than 1 over 19" per vessel</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 per harvester per day W.P. Zone</li> <li>• 5 per harvester per day B.B. Zone</li> <li>• 3 per harvester per day S. Zone</li> <li>• 2 per harvester per day C.E. Zone</li> <li>• 5 per harvester per day N.E Zone</li> </ul> <p><b>Closed Season:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feb. W.P. Zone</li> <li>• Nov. - Dec. C.E. Zone</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>6 fish vessel limit south of state road 64 (Manatee County) through Gordon Pass (Collier County)</b></li> <li>• See management zone map on pg. 9</li> <li>• Zero bag limit for captain and crew of for-hire vessels</li> <li>• For current regulations see MyFWC.com</li> </ul>  <p><b>Black Drum</b> ▲ ◆ T ■</p> <p><b>Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not less than 14" or more than 24"</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 per harvester</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May possess one over 24". Snatching prohibited.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Flounder</b> ▲ ◆ T ■</p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>14"</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5 per harvester</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Closed Season:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Oct. 15 – Nov. 30</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be harvested by spearing. Snatching prohibited.</li> </ul>  <p><b>Permit</b> ● ▲ ★ T ■</p> <p><b>Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22" fork Special Permit Zone (SPZ); Not less than 11" or more than 22" fork length all other areas</li> </ul> <p><b>Closed Season:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 1–July 31 SPZ Only</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 per harvester, not to exceed 2 per vessel SPZ;</li> <li>• 2 per harvester all other state waters</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May possess 1 over 22" fork length outside the SPZ, not to exceed 2 over 22" fork per vessel per day. For map of SPZ, please see: MyFWC.com.</li> <li>• Zero daily bag and possession limit for captain and crew on for-hire vessels</li> </ul>  <p><b>Pompano, Florida</b> ▲ ★ T ■</p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11" fork length</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 per harvester</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hook and line, cast net and beach or haul seine ONLY.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Bonefish</b> ★ ■</p> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 per harvester</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catch and release only</li> <li>• Hook and line only</li> </ul>  <p><b>Weakfish</b> ▲ ★ ◆</p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weakfish Management Area (WMA) in Nassau County - 12"</li> <li>• All other areas - no minimum</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WMA - 1 per harvester</li> <li>• All other areas - 100 pounds per harvester</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulations apply in parts of Nassau County only.</li> <li>• See map at: MyFWC.com/Fishing/Saltwater/Recreational/Weakfish</li> </ul>  <p><b>Mullet, Striped (Black) &amp; Silver</b></p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No minimum size</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 aggregate per harvester;</li> <li>• <b>Aggregate vessel limits</b> Feb. 1–Aug. 31: 100 per vessel; Sept. 1–Jan. 31: 50 per vessel</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Pompano, African</b> ● ★ ▲ T ■</p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24" fork length</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 per harvester per day, not to exceed 2 per vessel</li> </ul>  <p><b>Snook (All species)</b> ▲ ★ ◆ T ■</p> <p><b>Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not less than 28" or more than 32" Atlantic excluding Monroe</li> <li>• Not less than 28" or more than 33" Gulf and Monroe County</li> </ul> <p><b>Closed Season:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atlantic (excluding Monroe) closed Dec. 15–Jan. 31 and June 1–Aug. 31.</li> <li>• Gulf including Monroe County, Dec. 1–end of February, and May 1–Aug. 31.</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 per harvester</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Remains Catch-and-release only south of state road 64 (Manatee County) through Gordon Pass (Collier County)</b></li> <li>• Snook permit required for harvest when saltwater license required. See MyFWC.com for snook permit details. Snatch hooks and spearing prohibited.</li> <li>• Zero daily bag and possession limit for captain and crew on for-hire vessels</li> </ul>  <p><b>Blue Runner</b> ■</p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No minimum</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 fish per harvester</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Sheepshead</b> ● ▲ ◆ T ■</p> <p><b>Minimum Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12"</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 per harvester</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Snatching prohibited</li> <li>• Vessel limit of 50 fish during March and April</li> </ul>  <p><b>Tarpon</b> ● ★ T ■</p> <p><b>Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 per harvester per year. \$50 harvest tag required. Vessel limit of one fish. Harvest tag can only be used when fish is retained for potential IGFA record.</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tarpon over 40 inches must remain in the water during release. Spearing and snatch hooking prohibited. Bottom weighted jigs prohibited in Boca Grande Pass. See: MyFWC.com/Fishing/Saltwater/Recreational/Tarpon for additional information.</li> </ul>  <p><b>Red Drum (Redfish)</b> ▲ ★ ◆ T</p> <p><b>Size Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not less than 18" or more than 27"</li> </ul> <p><b>Daily Recreational Bag Limit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 per harvester per day in the NE zone, and 1 per harvester in the NW and S zone. See map on p. 6</li> <li>• Off the water possession limit of 6 fish</li> </ul> <p><b>Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Remains Catch-and-release only south of state road 64 (Manatee County) through Gordon Pass (Collier County)</b></li> <li>• Giggling, spearing, snatching prohibited. Harvest in Federal waters prohibited.</li> </ul>
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### SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE

Required to take or attempt to take saltwater fish, crabs, clams, marine plants or other saltwater organisms (other than non-living seashells and lionfish with certain gear). A Florida fishing license is required to land saltwater species in Florida regardless of where they are caught (state or federal waters).

Resident Annual: **\$17.00**

Resident Five-Year: **\$79.00**

Non-Resident Annual: **\$47.00**

Non-Resident 3-Day: **\$17.00**

Non-Resident 7-Day: **\$30.00**

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### FRESHWATER FISHING LICENSE

Required to take or attempt to take native or nonnative freshwater fish.

Resident Annual: **\$17.00**

Resident Five-Year: **\$79.00**

Non-Resident Annual: **\$47.00**

Non-Resident 3-Day: **\$17.00**

Non-Resident 7-Day: **\$30.00**







## Guana Lake

By

**Capt. Matt  
Chipperfield**

Three things you can find in North Florida this time of year: flood bugs, bull reds and fatties. We are entering the beginning of Fall and although the temperature is still at the top of the thermometer we are beginning to see a slow cooling trend.

The days are getting shorter and nor'easters have started pushing down the coast. This drop in water temperature will kick the Guana region into high gear.

The mullet run will begin and our inshore and nearshore fish will begin feeding voraciously.

Let's start in the flood. October is typically the peak of the flood tide season. The tides will be at their highest points yet and Redfish will be continuing to tail through the spartina flats. However, October is also historically the peak of hurricane activity.

If we experience storm surge or violent weather the flats can be scoured of crabs and crickets by the rising waters and severe winds. October can also bring the first cold fronts of the season, which tend to push a lot of redfish out of the grass and into the low tide creeks.

This means that you need to take advantage of any opportunity you have to get in the flood. Your window to stalk tailers in the grass is closing, get out there! Bull reds have been chewing throughout the Intracoastal along bridges, jetties and deep channels. Blue crab, live or cut

mullet, chunked ladyfish and an assortment of other live or cut baits can be used to target the bulls. Just remember these are the breeders, they are responsible for the future of our Redfish population.

Handle them with care and make sure you get a healthy release. And be sure to bring the heavy tackle. You will often be fishing in deep, high current areas with large lead weights.

Add to that a nearly 50 inch Redfish and you will need a rod with backbone and a reel with some stopping power. The faster you bring these monster reds to the surface the healthier they will be when they swim away.

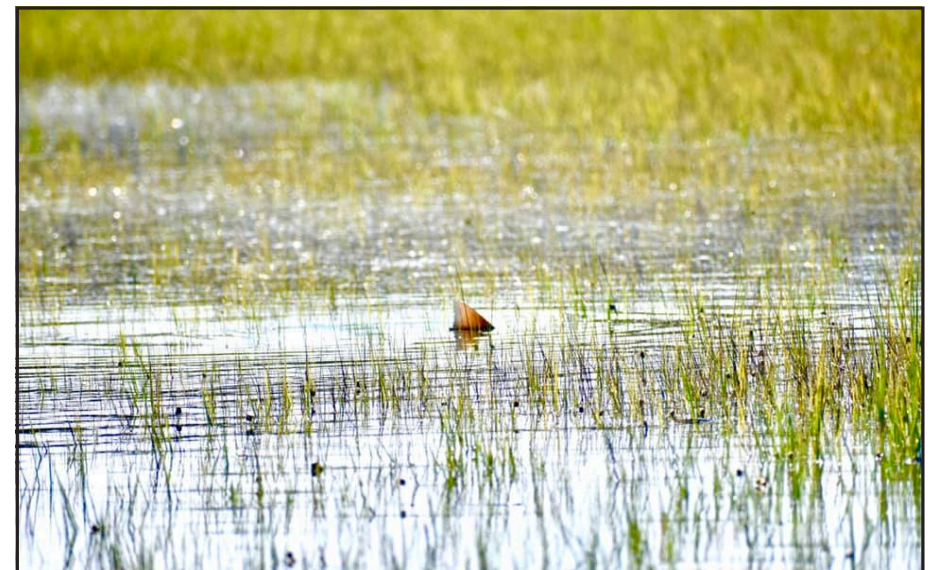
Lastly, be on the lookout for flounder to start getting thick around the inlets and creek mouths. As the mullet run reaches its peak over the next month these flat fish will chew hard as they fatten up for winter. Just remember the new flounder regulations go into effect in October and the harvest of flounder will be temporarily closed.

Happy Halloween!

*Capt.*

*Matt Chipperfield*

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## Kayak Fishin'

By  
Will Neimann

Well, we made it through another scorcher of a summer and I personally welcome fall with open arms.

The fall mullet run will continue through the end of October, continuing to bring in the big fish. Bull redfish, tarpon, tackle testing jacks, with a few snook will be in the mix.

Hooking into one of these fish in a kayak will not only test your skills as an angler, but will also take you on quite a ride. I prefer a medium heavy rod with at least a 4000 series reel.

My go to setup is a Cajun Custom Rods Savannah series paired with a Florida Fishing Products Osprey 4000. This combo provides me with enough power to handle a large caliber fish, while being lightweight enough to cast all day.

This time of year mullet and mullet patterns are what you will want to throw. I always have a topwater plug ready to throw in case a mullet school gets blown up on.

A Rapala Skitterwalk, Spook Jr, or Storm Chug Bug are all great choices. Suspending baits such as Unfair Lures Rip-N-Slash are deadly around the mullet schools as well.

Fish the edges and underneath the bait pods, allowing the lure to slowly sink into and through the bait, giving it an occasional twitch. When you feel a bump, set the hook.

A white or natural mullet colored Hackney Jr Belly on a red 1/16 oz Fishbites Jighead will also trick a fish or two.

The night bite has been off the charts as well. Snook, tarpon, trout, and reds are all hanging out in the dock and bridge lights. Work the shadow lines, the biggest fish will be waiting in the dark for an unsuspecting mullet to swim by. I prefer artificials when im working lights.

Just keep casting, paddletails and suspending baits are what I use the most. Its also a great opportunity to get em on fly. Streamers will destroy the fish.

With that being said, a live or cut mullet should be your bait of choice for anyone who isn't wanting to throw artificials. Dragging a live mullet along the bottom around oyster beds, ledges, sandbars, and grass lines will produce nice flounder, redfish, trout, and many other species.

Drifting and free lining a mullet over the flats is another killer way to catch fish. I'll often times free line a mullet behind me while throwing artificials. At high tide, covering water will be key to finding fish.

Low tide, concentrate on runouts, potholes, and eddying water. The fish will stage in these areas waiting for the tide to come back in so they can get back onto the flats.

If you find one fish, there will likely be others. This is a fun time of year to be kayak angler, with cooler weather and big fish in the area.

Get on out there and catch a few, then come into St Augustine Paddle Sports and share your catches with us. Good luck and tight lines. I'll see ya out there.

*Will Neimann*

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## Daytona Ormond Beach

By  
**Capt. Jeff Patterson**

We are into some of the best and most consistent fishing of the year with the fall mullet run in full effect.

Quite often I've been able to get plenty of bait in one cast with just my 7 foot cast net. There are huge schools of mullet and pogies on the beach and all throughout the river as well. I've been fishing the intracoastal in Port Orange a lot with some awesome trips!

One day I had issues with the outboard and my client really wanted to fish so I stayed within a half mile of the boat ramp fishing two random areas I've never fished before and we had non stop action!

We were using live finger mullet with a split shot or two fishing mostly mangroves and landed 17 snook, 8 jacks, and 10 mangrove snapper. At least a handful of the snook we caught shook the bait off and another snook busted the bait a second after it hit the water.

I've never seen it happen so many times in a row! Glad my client decided on making the trip happen!

Bridges and docks are holding redfish and some really nice snook and I feel like the snook are just stacked this year! Big snook are very tricky to get out of bridges and docks so you're best off over doing it with tackle and rods.

I like to use a 5 or 6000 size spinning reel with 20-30lb braid and 40lb leader. Sometimes I'll start with 30lb and if we get busted off I'll definitely bump it up to 40. If I feel there are some big snook or tarpon around I'll even go up to 50 or 60 lb leader

and I prefer regular monofilament over fluorocarbon because it's much more abrasion resistant and I haven't seen it cause an issue being that our river isn't crystal clear by any means.

There has been some really nice flounder in the river already and I've both caught and heard other reports between the inlet and Ormond. We've had some higher flood tides already and grassy areas in the Tomoka Basin have produced a bunch of really nice fish. I like using artificial baits targeting flounder since they lay on the bottom and you can cover more territory. You can't go wrong with soft plastics on a jig head in my opinion.

Definitely try the outskirts of oyster bars and sandy shorelines. All kinds of awesome fishing this time of year so try different techniques and new areas. Even though I grew up here I still fish new areas in between some of my old reliable spots just like I explained about that trip earlier.

It makes it fun and it's always nice changing up the scenery! This is a slower season for my business and the fishing is on fire so give me a shout if you want to get a rod bent! Tight Lines!

*Capt. Jeff Patterson*

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1 Fri		▲ 7:18 am ▼ 7:10 pm	4:36 am 4.1 ft ▲	10:31 am 1.2 ft ▼	5:00 pm 5.1 ft ▲	11:19 pm 1.3 ft ▼	45 low	
2 Sat		▲ 7:19 am ▼ 7:09 pm	5:28 am 4.4 ft ▲	11:23 am 0.9 ft ▼	5:50 pm 5.3 ft ▲		60 average	
3 Sun		▲ 7:19 am ▼ 7:08 pm	12:05 am 1.0 ft ▼	6:16 am 4.8 ft ▲	12:14 pm 0.7 ft ▼	6:36 pm 5.5 ft ▲	75 high	
4 Mon		▲ 7:20 am ▼ 7:06 pm	12:48 am 0.7 ft ▼	7:01 am 5.2 ft ▲	1:03 pm 0.4 ft ▼	7:21 pm 5.7 ft ▲	89 high	
5 Tue		▲ 7:20 am ▼ 7:05 pm	1:30 am 0.4 ft ▼	7:45 am 5.6 ft ▲	1:50 pm 0.2 ft ▼	8:06 pm 5.8 ft ▲	101 very high	
6 Wed		▲ 7:21 am ▼ 7:04 pm	2:11 am 0.1 ft ▼	8:30 am 6.0 ft ▲	2:37 pm 0.0 ft ▼	8:52 pm 5.8 ft ▲	108 very high	
7 Thu		▲ 7:22 am ▼ 7:03 pm	2:52 am -0.1 ft ▼	9:16 am 6.3 ft ▲	3:25 pm 0.0 ft ▼	9:38 pm 5.8 ft ▲	109 very high	
8 Fri		▲ 7:22 am ▼ 7:02 pm	3:35 am -0.1 ft ▼	10:04 am 6.4 ft ▲	4:15 pm 0.1 ft ▼	10:27 pm 5.6 ft ▲	103 very high	
9 Sat		▲ 7:23 am ▼ 7:01 pm	4:22 am -0.1 ft ▼	10:55 am 6.4 ft ▲	5:09 pm 0.3 ft ▼	11:18 pm 5.3 ft ▲	92 very high	
10 Sun		▲ 7:23 am ▼ 6:59 pm	5:14 am 0.1 ft ▼	11:48 am 6.3 ft ▲	6:10 pm 0.5 ft ▼		77 high	
11 Mon		▲ 7:24 am ▼ 6:58 pm	12:13 am 5.1 ft ▲	6:13 am 0.3 ft ▼	12:45 pm 6.1 ft ▲	7:15 pm 0.7 ft ▼	60 average	
12 Tue		▲ 7:25 am ▼ 6:57 pm	1:12 am 4.8 ft ▲	7:19 am 0.6 ft ▼	1:47 pm 5.8 ft ▲	8:22 pm 0.8 ft ▼	46 low	
13 Wed		▲ 7:25 am ▼ 6:56 pm	2:18 am 4.7 ft ▲	8:27 am 0.7 ft ▼	2:54 pm 5.6 ft ▲	9:26 pm 0.9 ft ▼	41 low	
14 Thu		▲ 7:26 am ▼ 6:55 pm	3:28 am 4.6 ft ▲	9:33 am 0.7 ft ▼	4:02 pm 5.5 ft ▲	10:26 pm 0.8 ft ▼	46 low	
15 Fri		▲ 7:27 am ▼ 6:54 pm	4:36 am 4.8 ft ▲	10:37 am 0.8 ft ▼	5:05 pm 5.5 ft ▲	11:22 pm 0.8 ft ▼	57 average	
16 Sat		▲ 7:27 am ▼ 6:53 pm	5:36 am 5.0 ft ▲	11:37 am 0.7 ft ▼	6:01 pm 5.5 ft ▲		69 average	
17 Sun		▲ 7:28 am ▼ 6:52 pm	12:13 am 0.7 ft ▼	6:28 am 5.2 ft ▲	12:33 pm 0.7 ft ▼	6:50 pm 5.5 ft ▲	79 high	
18 Mon		▲ 7:29 am ▼ 6:51 pm	12:59 am 0.5 ft ▼	7:14 am 5.5 ft ▲	1:24 pm 0.6 ft ▼	7:35 pm 5.4 ft ▲	86 high	
19 Tue		▲ 7:29 am ▼ 6:50 pm	1:40 am 0.5 ft ▼	7:57 am 5.6 ft ▲	2:09 pm 0.6 ft ▼	8:17 pm 5.3 ft ▲	89 high	
20 Wed		▲ 7:30 am ▼ 6:49 pm	2:18 am 0.5 ft ▼	8:36 am 5.7 ft ▲	2:50 pm 0.6 ft ▼	8:58 pm 5.1 ft ▲	90 very high	
21 Thu		▲ 7:31 am ▼ 6:48 pm	2:53 am 0.5 ft ▼	9:14 am 5.7 ft ▲	3:28 pm 0.7 ft ▼	9:37 pm 5.0 ft ▲	87 high	
22 Fri		▲ 7:31 am ▼ 6:47 pm	3:28 am 0.6 ft ▼	9:52 am 5.7 ft ▲	4:07 pm 0.8 ft ▼	10:16 pm 4.7 ft ▲	82 high	
23 Sat		▲ 7:32 am ▼ 6:46 pm	4:04 am 0.8 ft ▼	10:30 am 5.5 ft ▲	4:46 pm 1.0 ft ▼	10:55 pm 4.5 ft ▲	74 high	
24 Sun		▲ 7:33 am ▼ 6:45 pm	4:41 am 1.0 ft ▼	11:09 am 5.4 ft ▲	5:29 pm 1.2 ft ▼	11:36 pm 4.3 ft ▲	64 average	
25 Mon		▲ 7:33 am ▼ 6:44 pm	5:23 am 1.2 ft ▼	11:50 am 5.2 ft ▲	6:18 pm 1.4 ft ▼		54 average	
26 Tue		▲ 7:34 am ▼ 6:43 pm	12:18 am 4.1 ft ▲	6:11 am 1.3 ft ▼	12:34 pm 5.0 ft ▲	7:11 pm 1.5 ft ▼	43 low	
27 Wed		▲ 7:35 am ▼ 6:42 pm	1:04 am 4.0 ft ▲	7:06 am 1.4 ft ▼	1:23 pm 4.9 ft ▲	8:06 pm 1.6 ft ▼	34 low	
28 Thu		▲ 7:36 am ▼ 6:41 pm	1:56 am 3.9 ft ▲	8:04 am 1.5 ft ▼	2:18 pm 4.8 ft ▲	8:58 pm 1.5 ft ▼	30 low	
29 Fri		▲ 7:36 am ▼ 6:40 pm	2:55 am 4.0 ft ▲	9:00 am 1.4 ft ▼	3:17 pm 4.8 ft ▲	9:47 pm 1.3 ft ▼	35 low	
30 Sat		▲ 7:37 am ▼ 6:39 pm	3:56 am 4.2 ft ▲	9:55 am 1.2 ft ▼	4:16 pm 4.9 ft ▲	10:35 pm 1.1 ft ▼	47 low	
31 Sun		▲ 7:38 am ▼ 6:38 pm	4:51 am 4.6 ft ▲	10:50 am 1.0 ft ▼	5:10 pm 5.1 ft ▲	11:21 pm 0.8 ft ▼	62 average	





## Fishing with Artificials

By  
**Brett Warren**

### "Time for Topwater"

It's that time of year where the water is just starting to cool down and you can bet the Trout are feeling the change as well. The mullet run is in full swing, and the predatory fish are looking for bigger baits to eat. If you live for Topwater strikes like I do, this is the time to throw bigger profile plugs in low light conditions to target a potential Trophy fish. Early mornings, early evenings and cloudy days offer great opportunities.

With the casting distance these heavier plugs provide, you can cover plenty of water in a short amount of time to find hungry fish. The Fishbites Trading Post carries all the different plugs you need to make your topwater time a success on the water. Hedon Super Spooks, Rapala Skitterwalks and Big Storm Chug Bugs are all great plugs for targeting fish like Snook, Trout and the occasional Tarpon. Different plugs have different pitch sounds so if you don't solicit a strike in good conditions, switch up to a plug with a different pitch or vary your retrieves until you find out which strike pattern these fish are looking for.

Many fish will attack at or just after a pause as you "walk the dog" with your plug. Cast around the clock to find the fish, look for bait pods being ambushed and throw your plug in the middle of the pod. You don't need to worry about spooking these fish while they're busy attacking bait fish. Your "injured" bait fish i.e. plug is exactly what they're looking for.

If there's too much chop on the water for walking the plug, switch to the Storm Chug Bug. I caught my personal best Trout at 9 pounds in those exact conditions. Give it a shot and stop by the Trading Post let me know how you do!

*Brett Warren*



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## Landing a Bull Red on the Fly

By  
Sawyer Martin

### *Preparing Yourself - Gear, Rigging, & Flies*

Landing a 30-pound class redfish on your fly rod is easier than you think. The most important thing to remember is to keep things simple. In other words, there's no need for a leader and tippet section consisting of ten different types of monofilament and fluorocarbon, and you definitely don't need the "latest and greatest" fly reel or rod offering from Ross or Sage. A sturdy 9WT fly rod paired with your favorite arbor-style fly reel - anywhere in the 7-10 range - is well-suited for subduing large redfish, while still maintaining the "fun" factor. I back my reels that I use for targeting large reds with a couple hundred yards of 30-pound test braided backing, and then use an Albright Knot to tie on my fly line, which is generally a cheap, floating 9WT line. Tie a Surgeon's End Loop to the end of your fly line, then, using a loop-to-loop connection, attach a section of 40-pound test monofilament that is about the length of your rod. To finish the process, grab your favorite big streamer - for this application, I tie my own brightly colored, weighted streamers in the 5 to 7 inch range - & use a Rapala Loop to tie it your leader section. Now you're ready to rock.

### *Yak Attack*

You don't need to go out and purchase a boat, but you will need a kayak. Any "Craigslist Special" sit-on-top kayak in the 10 to 14 foot range will get the job done. Just be sure that it is seaworthy first. Check to be sure that water does not enter the hull of the kayak via any cracks, holes, stress points, or hatches. Be sure to take a landing net, measuring tape, pliers, extra rigging materials, flies, a camera and a life jacket with you on your trip as well.

### *Start Your Search*

Naturally, you will want to find an area where large redfish congregate.

Targeting them on the flats is possible, as they do cruise through the shallow water that many flats offer on a semi-regular basis, but its best to find somewhere at which they can be found in numbers, as it can be particularly frustrating spending an entire day searching the flats aimlessly for a single bull redfish, only to have it be a finicky fish that isn't interested in your presentation.

Because I am located in Pensacola, Three Mile Bridge is the perfect spot. If you are not located in the Pensacola area, fear not. Any bridge located in a bay or estuary that is illuminated by street lights at night will generally be a good area to start, as large redfish often feed on the baitfish that congregate in these lights during the night hours.

Once you've found a spot, pick a night of the week that you don't have to be up early the following morning - yes, you will be targeting these fish via the technique of "sight fishing" in the dead of night, so be sure that you're comfortable kayaking at night first, and bring a buddy!

### *Finding the Fish*

Launch your kayak & slowly approach the areas near the bridge that are lit by streetlights above. I prefer approaching from underneath the bridge, so that I remain inconspicuous to the redfish below as I scan the lit areas of water. This is a sight fishing game, so keep your eyes peeled. Redfish are fairly easy to see at night, as they emit an orange glow as they swim through the lights. If you don't find one at the first light you approach, don't worry. Keep hitting bright lights until you find one. Once you do, it's game time. Casting a fly rod while sitting down in a kayak isn't easy, but try to keep the false casts to a minimum so that you don't spook the fish that you are targeting. Place the fly 7 to 10 feet in front of the fish, in the direction that it is moving. Strip the fly quickly to get the attention of the redfish. When the fish inhales the fly, set the hook - fish on!

### *The Fight*

If you've never heard of the term



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"sleigh ride" in reference to kayak fishing before, I'll describe it to you. Here is a rundown of the events that will immediately follow your hookup with a trophy-sized redfish.

- The slack in your fly line is going to disappear, very quickly
- Once tight with the redfish, you will be at the mercy of whichever direction the fish feels like swimming - if it wants to go, it is going to go!
- The redfish that's creating that 90 degree bow in your fly rod is going to begin towing you, probably faster than you can paddle


Enjoy the redfish sleigh ride, but don't forget to hold on to your fly rod! Be mindful of pilings and bridge structures as the redfish tows you around. I keep my paddle in my right hand tucked against my side so that I can maneuver my kayak during the fight if I need to. Once you wear the fish out (often times it's the other way around), try to

position it yak-side so that you (or your buddy) can carefully scoop it up with your landing net.

### *Your Trophy*

You've just accomplished your goal of landing a trophy-sized redfish, and it was on a buggy whip, arguably the most challenging (and fun) way of targeting these fish! What do you do next? Pop the fly out of the mouth of the fish, get a quick measurement, have your buddy take some photos - be sure to smile, as you should be grinning ear-to-ear at this point - release the fish, and then go do it all over again!

Fly fishing for bull redfish is one of the most rewarding types of inshore fishing available in Florida, or anywhere for that matter, and it can be done very effectively by keeping things simple and following some basic guidelines.



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## Guidelines For the Best Time to Go Surf Fishing

By  
Randy Meyers

The best time to go surf fishing has to be answered in a number of different ways. To address this topic we must consider what is meant by, "the best time". Are we referring to the time of year, the time of day, the tidal movements, the phases of the moon or the weather situation? There's a lot of room for interpretation. I will address them all in this article.

### What is the Best Time of Year?

Since I am not considering any particular location, as a general rule of thumb I would have to say spring and fall. Now that doesn't mean if you are fishing in the winter or summer that the surf fishing will be poor. It most likely just won't be outstanding. That being said, it doesn't mean the fishing will be outstanding in the spring and fall. What it does mean is that given the same set of circumstances, the fishing will probably be better in the spring and fall. Surf fishing depending on your location can be good year round. If you know what you're doing it isn't difficult to catch fish in the surf year round.

### What is the Best Time of Day?

This question is easier to answer. In the early morning just before dawn until 9 or 10 AM and in the evening an hour or two before dusk. This follows the nocturnal feeding habits of the fish. During the summer when a lot of the beaches are occupied by sunbathers, dusk might be your best bet after they have left the beach. In some areas the rule is no fishing in swimming areas from the time lifeguards go on duty until the time they go off.

### What is the Best Tide Time?

It's no secret that the tides affect surf fishing. Moving water at the surf line is good for fishing. High tide is best because it's easier to cast out and reach the deeper water. The window of opportunity is two hours before high tide and two hours after. Slack tide which is right between high tide and low tide is not

productive for surf fishing. Low tide in most areas is usually only good for scouting the beach for ideal fishing spots.

### What are the Best Moon Phases?

The moon not only plays a part in the tidal movements, it also affects the fishing. Let me explain. The moon produces the most extreme tide changes, referred to as spring tides, during the new moon and the full moon. The water moves faster during the change in tides from high to low tide and the total change in depth is the greatest. This is the best time to fish the surf. Also, common belief is that during a full moon the fish feed most of the night.

### What are the Best Weather Conditions?

Weather conditions are a little more difficult to address because of all the different kinds of weather factors. An onshore breeze if it isn't too strong is a plus. Cold fronts are negative factors. High wind and surf is also bad. High winds make it difficult to fish and the water clarity is very poor. Low pressure is better than high pressure during a spring tide. When the weather conditions have been poor for the last 24 hours the fishing won't improve until the fish have had a chance to acclimate. Sometimes it may take a day or two depending on how severe the weather has been.

Now after considering all the best times for surf fishing, it's easy to understand how these situations can work together when they occur at the same time. When planning to go surf fishing try to take advantage of the time when several of these conditions overlap each other.

*Randy Meyers is a surf angler who has been fishing the surf for over 30 years.*



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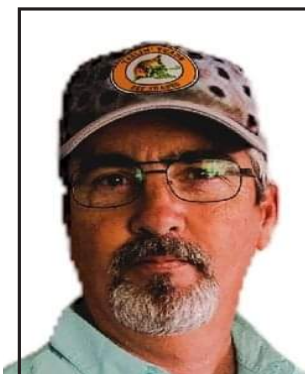


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## Hook It & Cook It

By  
**Jeff Altman**

### Poor Mans Lobster

Fall is in the air and the water temperatures are starting to drop. The mullet run is in full effect there is plenty of bait in the river and surf. Kingfish, tarpon and lots of sharks are following the bait south. The surf is on fire with Whiting, Redfish and Black drum and the pompano are starting to head South.

The creeks are full of red fish, trout and the fall flounder run is happening now so catch them while you can. So with all the fish in your freezer you're going to need plenty of ways to prepare your harvest. This month's recipe I found on Facebook and I had to try it out. I do love all seafood fish, shrimp, crabs, scallops and some sweet tasty lobster. But who wants to pay the high price for lobster.

This month's poorman's lobster is one way to use the firm textured fish that you have caught.

This is so simple all you need is fish. I used a black drum fillet cut into 1" pieces. large pot half filled with water. Add 1 cup white sugar, 1 lemon cut in half and squeezed into water bring to a boil until sugar is dissolved.

The sugar and lemon will add flavor to the fish and will keep it nice and firm. Next add your fish pieces do not stir you don't want to break up the fish. When fish is done it will float to the top use a slotted spoon to remove the pieces and put on a paper towel or rack to drain. You can use your favorite spices for flavor, lemon pepper and Old Bay are perfect. Melt your stick of butter and drain off milk fat so you have clear butter for dipping. I hope everyone enjoys this poor man's lobster bites till next month tight lines.

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**Craig Van Brocklin**

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- 2nd Charles Dehlinger/Bob Morris 13.04
- 3rd Phil Zeller/Scott Koons 9.37
- 4th Scott O'Brien/Martin Simmons 9.03
- 5th Lynneia Holladay/Steve Yurkevicious 8.84

### Big WT (whiting)

- 1st Larry Finch 24.65
- 2nd Brian Hooie 21.7
- 3rd Wendell Nolan 21.1

### Ladies

- Gina Corbin 20.5

### Wednesday Night Tourney - Lions Club

- 1st Austin & Garrett
- 2nd Jimmy/Kyle Pausche
- 3rd Alec Pope/Justin Flowe

### Sisters Creek

- 1st Scott Koons/Scott O'Brien
- 2nd Logan Griffith/Kane

### North Florida Inshore Slayers Spots

- 1st Austin Chambliss 7
- 2nd Allen Aldridge 7
- 3rd Tony James 6

## Upcoming Tournaments

### October

- \* 2nd FLA Sisters Creek
- \* Netti Kayak Challenge
- \* King of the Hill Surf
- \* Full of Bull
- \* 9th Pink up the Spots Vilano
- \* 17th Mammos Matter Vilano
- \* 24th Premier Trout

### November

- \* 3rd El Pescado Billfish
- \* 6th FLA Fernandina
- \* Bigg Sam Slam Vilano
- \* 13th AIGA Redfish Spots Fernandina

### December

- \* 4th Flounder Pounder
- \* 11th FLA Sisters Creek



# Jacksonville Premier Trout Tournament



Benefiting:



Captains meeting & Registration October 21st 6PM Strike Zone

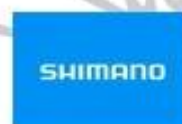
Weigh in by 4PM October 23rd at Palms Fish Camp

Boat Division \$6,000 in guaranteed prizes- Big Trout, Aggregate & Jr.

Kayak Division \$1,000 in guaranteed prizes- Big Trout

Look for us on Facebook & Eventbrite

Contact Craig Van Brocklin 904-887-0762 or premiertrout@gmail.com





# Fuel up. Cast out.

Ethanol-free gasoline is available at these GATE locations.

535 Atlantic Blvd., Atlantic Beach  
5000-60 U.S. Highway 17, Fleming Island  
60 Airport Center Drive, Jacksonville  
10044 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville  
11350 Baymeadows Road, Jacksonville  
570 Busch Drive, Jacksonville  
7099 Collins Road, Jacksonville  
12705 Durbin Lake Drive, Jacksonville  
3150 Emerson St., Jacksonville  
4100 Heckscher Drive, Jacksonville  
11040 McCormick Road, Jacksonville  
1001 Monument Road, Jacksonville  
450 Park Street, Jacksonville  
1605 Race Track Road, Jacksonville  
9540 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville  
12548 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville

4511 San Juan Ave., Jacksonville  
4123 Town Center Parkway, Jacksonville  
10980 U.S. Highway 1 N., Jacksonville  
2520 S. 3rd St., Jacksonville Beach  
686 Blanding Blvd., Orange Park  
3210 U.S. Highway 17 S., Orange Park  
220 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach  
2545 Palm Valley Road, Ponte Vedra Beach  
10970 U.S. Highway 1 N., Ponte Vedra Beach  
3011 International Golf Parkway, St. Augustine  
2350 State Road 16, St. Augustine  
1900 Mizell Road, (SR312), St. Augustine  
26699 State Road 56, Wesley Chapel  
2940 County Road 136, White Springs  
463779 S.R. 200, Yulee



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