



August 2020

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

Tight Line

Contents

- Upcoming Events & Meeting Announcement -3-
- Fishing Roulette & Catch-A-Ride -4-
- Club Event Calendar 2020 -5
- Upcoming September Charter Fishing Trip -6-
- Crab Creek July Cleanup -7-
- Dominion Offshore Wind Project -8-
- Excerpt of Finfish Meeting Notes -9-
- Tidal Fish -10-
- Red Drum Rodeo -11-
- Committees -12-
- The Chef's Corner -13 thru 16-
- Items for Free and Sale -17-
- Saltwater Fishing News -18 thru 25-
- Surf Fishing News -26 thru 28-
- Freshwater Fishing -29 thru 33-
- 2020 Advertisements -34 thru 40-
- Mission Statement and 2020 Elected Officials -41-

Upcoming Events

Monthly Meeting:

When: 6:00 PM August 6, 2020

Where: Bayville Park

Meeting Speaker: Kelly Hoggard

Meeting Subject: Surf fishing – Basic gear, techniques, and general information for fishing beaches locally.

Stay Well and Be Safe!

August & Future Information Notes:

- **Virus Help Line – Please call Mark Lozier (757-754-0062) if you need anything during this time!!**
- **Club meeting August 6 at Bayville Park.**
- **Seaton Youth event is postponed. Date to be announced.**
- **Club Fish Fry – August 15.**

This Month's Quote

“When I was 5 years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down ‘happy’. They told me I didn’t understand the assignment, and I told them they didn’t understand life.” – **John Lennon**

VBAC Fishing Roulette 2020

<u>Species</u>	<u>Current Leader</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Bowfin	Jerry Hughes	5 lbs.
Yellow Perch	Preston Mangum	1 lb. 8 oz.
Flounder		
Tautog	Robert Oliver	7 lb. 2 oz.
Spadefish	Patty Searby	1lb. 13 oz.

Submissions
 Virginia Beach Anglers Club:
vbanglersclub@gmail.com
 Kelly Hoggard: 757-416-8817 or
fishnkelly@msn.com

Catch-A-Ride

BOAT

Jeremy Maguire (757) 407-0493
 Rich Maguire (757) 619-4851
 Rob Stommel (703) 244-1282
 Scott Nagen (571) 572-1023

CREW

Kelly Hoggard (757) 416-8817
 Victor Minak (703) 888-8992
Add your name to either list by sending an email to
vbanglersclub@gmail.com

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLER'S CLUB

2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST	PPD	SETON YOUTH FISHING EVENT – CBF BROCK CENTER
	6	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – BAYVILLE FARMS PARK
	8	CRAB CREEK CLEAN UP
	15	VBAC FISH FRY – MARY BRADLEY/ROBERT OLIVER HOME
	CNX	OCEAN VIEW PIER FISHING TOURNAMENT
	20	BOARD MEETING – BAYVILLE FARMS PARK
	CNX	2 ND ANNUAL HEAD BOAT CLUB CHALLENGE
SEPTEMBER	3	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – LOCATION TBD
	5	CRAB CREEK CLEAN UP
	CNX	HATTERAS VILLAGE INVITATIONAL SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
	CNX	OCEAN VIEW PIER FISHING TOURNAMENT
	17	BOARD MEETING – LOCATION TBD
	19	VBAC INTRA CLUB SURF FISHING QUALIFER – SANDBRIDGE
	CNX	LONG BEACH ISLAND SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT - TBD
OCTOBER	1	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – LOCATION TBD
	CNX	NAGS HEAD SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
	15	BOARD MEETING – LOCATION TBD
	17	FALL OYSTER ROAST – CBF BROCK CENTER
	CNX	KAYAK TOURNAMENT
NOVEMBER	5	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – LOCATION TBD
	CNX	CAPE HATTERAS ANGLER'S CLUB INVITATIONAL SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
	19	BOARD MEETING – LOCATION TBD
DECEMBER	3	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – CHRISTMAS PARTY & GENERAL ELECTIONS – LOCATION TBD
	CNX	CRAPPIE TOURNAMENT
	17	BOARD MEETING – LOCATION TBD

Announcement:

Upcoming VBAC Boat Trip

Drawing date: Thursday, September 3, 2020

Fishing Date: Saturday, October 3, 2020

Charter: Toro, Matador Charters with Captain Jake Hiles

Cost: \$75 per angler plus \$30 for mate tip. VBAC paid half the cost of the charter.

Location: Virginia Beach Fishing Center – Rudee Inlet

Target: Offshore Wreck Fishing for Black Sea Bass, Triggerfish, Flounder.

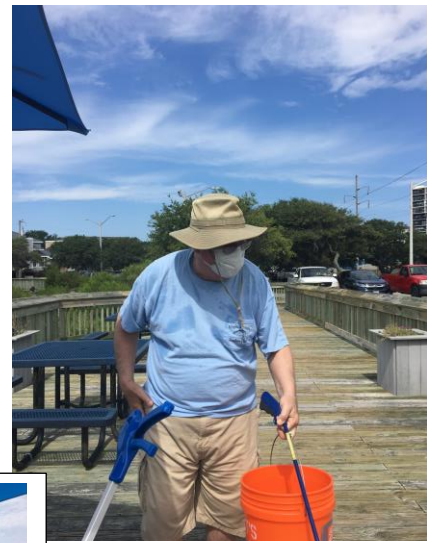
Anglers are responsible for \$75 and \$30 for mates tip. \$75 will be due immediately by all members selected for the trip on September 3rd. Alternates will be drawn in the event that any of the 6 anglers who are chosen are not available to fish. Anglers are required to be in good standing and have fulfilled their volunteer duty.

Anglers should bring necessary items during their fishing trip such as sunglasses, clothing, food, etc. The club will provide a case of water bottles for the members who are fishing. Additional information will be available upon request and to all those who are selected to participate on the trip.

Please contact Kelly Hoggard for more information about the trip or to be on the list of eligible anglers. You can also email the club at vbangersclub@gmail.com to have your name added to the list.



Our July Crab Creek Cleanup



Offshore Wind Project



First Wind Turbine Generators Installed

Dominion Energy has completed the installation of two Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) for the CVOW Pilot Project. These WTGs are approximately 24 nautical miles off the coast of Virginia Beach and are the *first* offshore WTGs installed in federal waters. The WTGs will now undergo acceptance testing before being energized later this summer.

Cable Installation

We have also installed the power cable connecting the wind turbines to shore and the vessel Siem Dorado (MMSI: 311031800; Call Sign: C6YG5) will continue cable burial operations throughout July. These operations will take place just offshore of Camp Pendleton toward the WTGs site. In addition, concrete mattresses will be placed at the crossings with existing subsea telecommunications cables. Safety vessels will remain on site during cable burial operations to help mitigate any fishing interactions.

For more information on these activities, [click here](#).

For a project map of July/August Pilot Project Activity, [click here](#).

Finfish Committee Meeting Notes Excerpt

Speckled Trout: We have a self-imposed commercial harvest quota for speckled trout which is the average landings from 1994 and 1995 + 25%. We track the harvest and when it reaches 80% we go into a bycatch allowance of only 100 lbs per vessel per day. This is tracked by the buyers calling in weekly and providing the numbers on what they purchase. Unfortunately, we've seen in some years we can be well below 80% one week and when we get the next week's reports we've blown by the quota. In 2019 we were 81% over the quota. To keep us more on track, we are requesting that starting on August 1 through November 30, buyers will need to report daily through our phone system so we can track harvest more closely.

This was not brought before FMAC because it is more of an administrative issue. Since we were opening the regulation, I would have liked to establish a small bycatch allowance once we closed the season (50-100 lbs per day), but staff were all in agreement that needs to go through FMAC.

There are other issues that FMAC needs to address in the future as well, such as what should be the basis for the quota.

Striped Bass: I've gotten some calls about this one. The only change to the regulation is the addition of a circle hook requirement mandated by Addendum VI, which was vetted and endorsed through FMAC last fall. It needs to be approved and implemented by January 1, 2021. I don't think folks have an issue with that. However, we've been under a continuing directive to update language and streamline regulations when we open them for regulatory matters. These changes should in no way impact the intent of the regulation and are more administrative than regulatory, and thus, the reason we did not bring it before FMAC. Unfortunately, the striped bass regulation has grown to 21 pages and anything we can do to streamline and reduce redundancy would be beneficial. The section that folks had some concerns with was 4VAC 20-252-30 "general prohibitions and requirements". We removed subsection G which references commercial hook-and-line fishing temporal and spatial restrictions because the exact same verbiage is in the Commercial Hook-and-line regulation 4VAC20-950 Section 20 B. Some people like redundancy, other don't. We are also asking the Commission to repeal Section 155 "Exemptions from size limits and closed fishing seasons for recreational striped bass fishing tournaments". This was put in there for a one-time live release tournament back in 2006 that was out of season and above the size limits of the time, and has not been used since. Granting permission for these tournaments is an administrative procedure and staff believe giving the status of the stock with its low SSB, it would be unwise to support these types of activities in the future. This probably shouldn't have ever been put into the regulation (IMHO) - it could have been dealt with administratively through a permit specific to a given tournament. Another administrative update is relates to enforceability of size limits. During our regulatory review, law enforcement representatives stated that section 4 VAC 20-252-50C specified that the captain or operator of the recreational vessel was responsible for the possession limits, but that there was no such language for size restrictions. To increase enforceability of size restrictions on recreational vessels, staff is recommending to the Commission they approve the new regulatory language, placing the responsibility of minimum and maximum size limits on the captain or operator of a recreational vessel. This doesn't mean the captain will always be written the ticket. Officers will ask those onboard whose fish it is and if someone comes forward - they get the ticket. If not, the captain/vessel operator will be cited as the responsible party.

Patrick J. Geer
Chief
Fisheries Management Division
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
380 Fenwick Rd, Building 96
Fort Monroe, Hampton, VA, 23651-1064
Main Office: 757-247-2200
Direct: 757-247-2236

Trending posts from Tidal Fish.com!

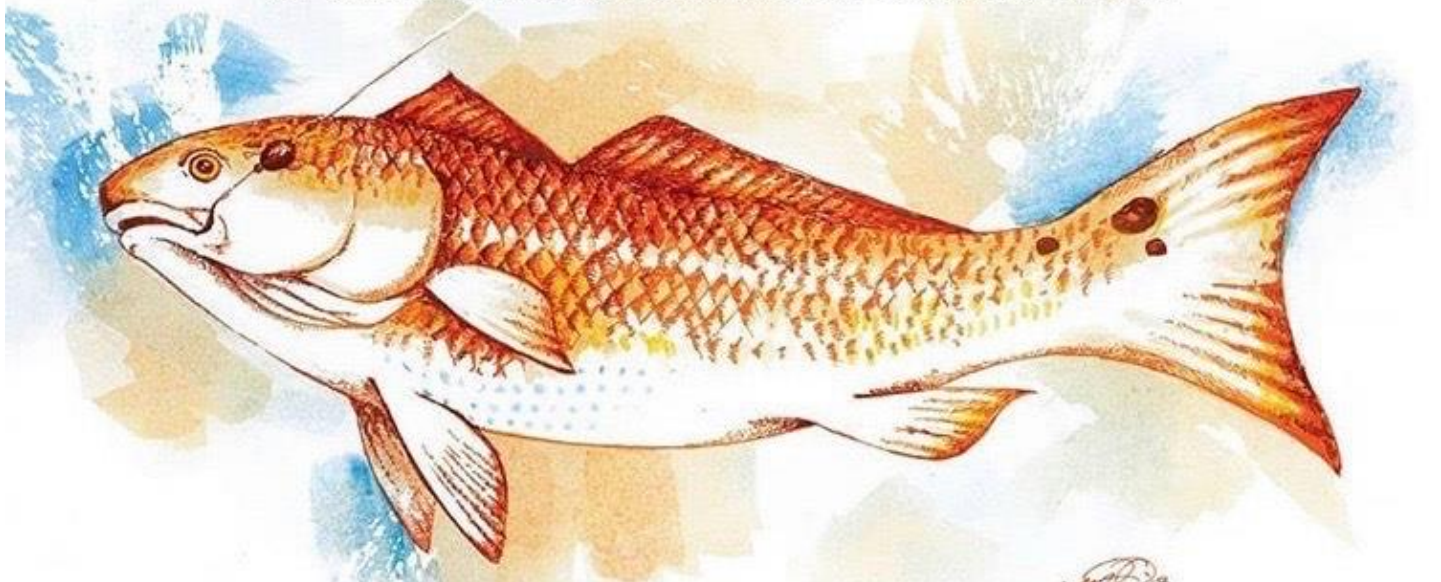


Click logo above to go to site.

RED DRUM RODEO FISHING TOURNAMENT

August 6th-8th, 2020

A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT TO BENEFIT TIS YOUNG LIFE
BY COASTAL VIRGINIA FISHING TOURNAMENTS



PRIZES

Grand Prize: \$5,000

Largest Drum by Length

Overall Runner Up: \$1,000

Plus other prizes to be awarded:

- Junior (18 & under) Division: Largest Red Drum by length
- Most Red Drum over 100cm • Red Drum with Most Spots
- Largest Drum on a Fly Rod • Largest Cobia (length)

Detailed rules & guidelines posted on website: www.reddrumrodeo.com

REGISTRATION

Individual: \$75.00

Junior (18 & under): \$45

Boat (up to 6 anglers): \$300

CAPTAIN'S MEETING

August 5th • 6:00 P.M. • Eastern Shore & Virginia Beach Locations TBD

POST TOURNAMENT PARTY & AWARDS CEREMONY

August 9th • 3:00 P.M. • SMARTMOUTH PILOT HOUSE

2020 Virginia Beach Anglers Club Committees:

Boat Show:	Chair – Russell Willoughby
Calendar:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Ronnie Nixon
Crab Creek Clean-Up:	Chair – Ronnie Nixon
Great Bridge Flea Market:	Chair – Preston Mangum
Banquet/Oyster Roast:	Chair – Jerry Mariano
Seton Youth:	Chair – Dave Anderson
Raffles:	Chair – Preston Mangum
Audit Committee:	Chair – Mike Anderson
Surf Tournaments:	Chair – Bryan Watkins
Club Tournaments:	Chair – George Gabriel Co. Chair – Bob Burstein
	Chair – Brian Watkins Co. Chair – Gary Doerhoff
Pier Tournaments:	
Prize Fish:	Chair – Kelly Hoggard
Nomination Committee:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair Kelly Hoggard Co. Chair Beth Synoweic
Conservation and Regulations:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Kelly Hoggard
T-Shirt Committee:	Chair – Patty Searby

**If You Would Like to Help on a Committee,
Please Speak to the Chair. Help is Appreciated!**

Chef's Corner: Cobia Seafood Gumbo

AUGUST 2020

Cajun cooking comes to town in this Classic Seafood Gumbo that highlights the perfect blend of cubed Virginia Cobia and fresh North Carolina Shrimp!

Waste not, want not continues to be my theme as I explore the ethical utilization of all edible morsels from our catch or harvest.

This recipe utilizes the sweet head meat and other trimmings taken from the tail, belly, fins, and loins of a freshly filleted 42-inch Cobia.

The firm texture of Cobia meat makes it a great ingredient in soups, stews, and pasta dishes because it does not easily dissolve like many lighter fish.

The head, cheek, and neck meat are wonderfully rich in flavor, as are the trimmings carved out of the ribs, tail, and muscular fins (also called “collars”).

The high Omega3 fat content of these choice cuts yields delicious heart-healthy meat rich in flavor and loaded with key immune-boosting nutrients.

My hope is that this delicious Gumbo recipe makes anglers think twice about how they process their catch the next time they are fortunate enough to land one of these versatile Cobia fish!



Cobia Seafood Gumbo with Jasmine Rice!

Cobia Seafood Gumbo

Pictured at right is the Cobia used to build this recipe. There is no better way to utilize all of the fish than this!

Ingredients:

A rich seafood gumbo can be made with just about any combination of seafood or fish you have on hand. I chose Cobia for its texture and flavor, but this will work with other firm-fleshed fish such as Red Drum, Stingray, or Halibut.

Regardless, combinations that include shrimp or crab to complement the fish will produce a sweet and spicy Gumbo that begins with the stock!



Author with the 42-inch Cobia featured in this recipe!

Seafood Stock for the Gumbo:

- 1 Large Cobia head with pectoral fins/collars intact
- 2 Large blue crabs (live – these were leftover Sheepshead bait!)
- 3 Large chowder clams (fresh – leftover Spadefish bait!)
- 6-10 garlic cloves, crushed to release oils
- 3-5 bay leaves
- 1 tablespoon whole black peppercorns
- Vegetable trimmings and ends (onion, peppers, celery, etc.)
- Enough water to cover all ingredients in a large stew pot as shown

Gumbo Ingredients:

Note that many of these ingredients are optional or were based on what was in hand at the time. Gumbo, like many soups and stews, is very versatile – so feel free to experiment! Here are the ingredients used for this particular pot of goodness!

- Boiled Cobia meat from head, collars, and bones
- 1-1/2 pounds cubed Cobia meat
- 1-1/2 pounds fresh NC shrimp
- 1/4-pound crabmeat (from crabs in stock pot)
- 1-pound fresh Andouille Sausage
- Bag chopped frozen okra (fresh if you have it)
- Diced garlic
- Onions, chopped
- 8 cups cooked Dirty Rice (optional)
- Celery, chopped
- Green bell peppers, chopped
- Parsley, chopped
- ½ cup chopped green onions
- Fresh tomatoes, finely chopped (or whole canned tomatoes – diced will work, too)
- Tabasco sauce
- Chopped cilantro or parsley (garnish)
- Fresh green chiles and scallions on the side



Smoked Andouille Sausage!



Fresh Cubed Cobia Meat!



Fresh Peeled & Deveined NC Shrimp!

Gumbo Roux

The roux is what makes the gumbo and gives it its texture while binding all the flavors and spices into a silky-smooth bowl of flavor!

These simple ingredients make for an excellent Gumbo roux:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup bacon grease (vegetable oil and butter are suitable substitutes)

Sometimes a little more flour is required to achieve the right texture, but a 1:1 ration is a good point of departure.

Gumbo Spices:

- Sea salt
- Black pepper
- Smoked paprika to taste
- Whole leaf thyme
- Gumbo Filé powder
- Add Cayenne for more “kick!”



Stirring the basic Roux!

Variations: This recipe is not rigid by any means. There are many ways to play this based on your personal taste and what you have on hand. Other ingredients might include carrots, mushrooms, fresh chili/jalapeno peppers, baby clams, mussels, scallops, oysters, crawfish, chicken, etc. You can also use diced potatoes and serve as a Gumbo soup vice over rice (Cajun sacrilege, but it works!). So, enjoy this “suggested” list of ingredients, but improvise at will! I recommend using fresh shrimp when you can get them, but frozen is fine and will make an excellent dish. I like to use small to medium size shrimp. If you only have extra-large size, I suggest cutting them in half, so they fit in your soup spoon!

Directions:

Preparing the Seafood Stock:

After gently simmering the stock ingredients until done, strain the stock into a large vessel and begin refining the strained stock by letting the sediment settle. Carefully ladle-away clear stock into a large vessel until the thin cloudy layer is reached. Pour the remaining cloudy stock into a narrow container and let settle again, pour out the remaining clear liquid and discard the trace stock that remains cloudy. The clear, refined stock is now ready for building the Gumbo!

NOTE: If you want an extra-rich stock, you can return the refined stock to the stove and simmer-off some liquid, but do so gently, and just under the boil.

Preparing the Roux:

There are lots of ways to make a Roux, but you get out what you put into it, so I like to work it slow and steady to get that rich dark color without burning the mixture. How long does this take? I once saw a show featuring Chef Emeril Lagasse, and he quipped: “A good roux takes about three beers!” That’s a rule of thumb I can live with!

To get the Roux dark enough for this recipe, it takes almost a full hour of almost constant stirring, but it’s worth every second!

In a heavy skillet, preferably cast-iron, melt the bacon grease over moderately low heat, add the flour, and cook the roux, stirring constantly, for 30-45 minutes, or until it is the color of cocoa.

Building the Gumbo:

In a heavy Gumbo Pot, sauté onion, peppers, and celery until they begin to soften. Add the Andouille sausage, okra, and garlic, and cook until just golden.

When the roux is ready, add it to the pot of garlic, celery, okra, and onion and cook for 2-3 minutes, gently stirring until the roux absorbs all the juices and is well mixed. Set the mixture aside.



Cobia Head, Fin, & Collar Meat Picked, Reserved, & Chopped!



Chopped Onion, Peppers, & Celery!



Folding the veggies into Roux!



Folding in the Andouille Sausage!

In a large pot, bring the refined seafood stock to a boil, add the roux mixture, filé powder, tomatoes with juice, bay leaf, parsley, thyme, and celery leaves. Simmer the mixture for 50 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Stir in the cubed Cobia meat, shrimp, and the picked crabmeat and Cobia meat reserved from the stock pot. Simmer the gumbo for 5 minutes, or until the cubed Cobia chunks and shrimp are firm. Discard the bay leaf and serve the gumbo sprinkled with the filé powder.

Adjust seasoning as needed with salt, pepper, smoked paprika, and hot sauce.

Notes on Thickening the Gumbo:

Three of the ingredients contribute to “tightening-up” the Gumbo.

1. The Roux is a classic thickener used in many recipes, but for Gumbo, the trick is to produce a silky chocolate-colored Roux without overcooking to a burnt flavor.
2. Okra also has a nice thickening effect and adds its own distinct texture and body to the Gumbo.
3. The filé powder is made from dried sassafras leaves and adds a nice flavor while also helping to thicken the Gumbo.

The combination results in a richly flavored Gumbo stew with an incredibly silky texture that is perfect served over rice in the Cajun tradition!

Serving the Gumbo:

Place a generous serving of rice in a wide bowl and ladle the Gumbo over the rice. If you want a milder effect, use more rice and less Gumbo. I like it rich, so I go with about 2 heavy scoops of Gumbo to one light scoop of rice.



Lay a Bed of Dirty Rice!



Ladle Gumbo over Dirty Rice!



Add Chopped Scallions & Peppers!

Finish it off with a sprinkle of filé powder and chopped scallions, cilantro, or parsley for garnish and a refreshing flavor barrage! It's also acceptable to have Tabasco and/or other favorite Louisiana hot sauce for those that care to kick it up further!

Just for the record, this dish is even better the next day, and I have been known to let it “rest” in the fridge for a day or two before serving for that very reason!

So, the next time you catch a stocky Cobia, try this recipe out to fully utilize the entire fish and preserve the Cajun tradition!

Contributed by: VBAC member John Germanos, aka “The Instinctive Chef”

Items for Sale

Free to Members

Virginia Beach Anglers Club has a number of styles of Lead fishing weights for its members on as as needed basis. Call and see if we can help.

Call Michael Anderson 481-1296 and leave a message.

If you have anything you'd like to offer for sale, fishing related or otherwise, let Preston know. It's free and ad runs for 90 days.

Saltwater Fishing News

Exciting Fishing Opportunities in waters of Virginia

Please click the link below to get information all fishing in Virginia

<https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/>

READ FISHTALK ONLINE

Rudow's FishTalk Magazine is a monthly magazine focused on fishing the Chesapeake Bay and Mid-Atlantic region. Read the current issue here online or browse through the archive of past issues below. If you can't find what you're looking for drop us a line [HERE](#)

CURRENT ISSUE

GEAR | HOW TO | WHERE TO | TACTICAL ANGLER | FISHBOAT REVIEWS | FISHING REPORTS

Thank you, anglers, for picking up FishTalk!

We hope you'll enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed making it, and more importantly, that it helps you catch more, bigger fish. We love to hear from you. Please send your fishing pics and reports anytime to lenny@fishtalkmag.com

<https://www.fishtalkmag.com/read-fishtalk-online>~ *Lenny Rudow, Angler in Chief*

Read the Latest Issue Online

See What's New in the 2020 Fishing Regulations

Click the link below.

https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_content=header

Largest Saltwater Fish (Released) 2020

Species	Angler	Date	Length	Where	Weight
Amberjack					
Black Drum					
Blackfin Tuna					
Blackbelly Rosefish					
Blueline Tilefish					
Bluefish	Frank James	14-May	33.5"	Rudee Inlet	
Cobia	Robert Oliver	9-Jun	37.5"	CBBT	
Dolphin					
Flounder					
Golden Tilefish					
Grey Trout					
Houndfish					
King Mackerel					
Oyster Toad					
Pinfish					
Pompano	Kelly Hoggard	13-Jul	16.5"	Sandbridge Surf	
Puffer Fish (smooth)					
Puppy Drum					
Red Drum	Kelly Hoggard	9-Jul	35"	Sandbridge Surf	
Roundhead	Kelly Hoggard	30-Jun	16.5"	Sandbridge Surf	
Sea Bass					
Sea Robin					
Shark					
Southern Puffer Fish					
Spanish Mackerel					
Spadefish					
Speckled Trout					
Spot	Robert Oliver	2-Jun	9"	Lynnhaven Inlet	
Swallowtail Bass					
Tautog	Kelly Hoggard	28-Apr	20.25"	CBBT	
White Marlin					

Saltwater Largest Fish (Kept) 2020

Species	Angler	Date	Size	Where	Weight
Amberjack					
Black Drum					
Blackfin Tuna					
Blackbelly Rosefish	Ike Eisenhower	25-Jun		Norfolk Canyon	1lb 7 oz
Blueline Tilefish	Kelly Hoggard	25-Jun		Norfolk Canyon	13 lb 0 oz
Bluefish					
Cobia					
Dolphin					
Flounder					
Golden Tilefish					
Grey Trout					
Houndfish					
King Mackerel					
Oyster Toad	Robert Oliver	22-Apr	16.25"	CBBT	3lb 13oz
Pinfish					
Pompano	Kelly Hoggard	13-Jul		Sandbridge Surf	2lb 13oz
Puffer Fish (smooth)					
Puppy Drum					
Red Hake	Kelly Hoggard	25-Jun		Norfolk Canyon	2 lb 5 oz
Red Drum					
Roundhead	John Germanos	14-Jun		Ramp 55 NC	1lb 9 oz
Sea Bass					
Sea Robin	Kelly Hoggard	9-Jun		Ches Light Tower	1lb 6 oz
Shark					
Snowy Grouper	Kelly Hoggard	25-Jul		Norfolk Canyon	40 lb 0 oz
Southern Puffer Fish	Patty Searby	24-May	9.5"	Sandbridge	13oz
Spanish Mackerel	John Germanos	3-Jul		Ramp 44 NC	5 lb 6 oz
Spadefish					
Speckled Trout					
Spot					
Swallowtail Bass					
Tautog	Robert Oliver	28-Apr		CBBT	7lb 2 oz
White Marlin					

Saltwater Fishing News

VBAC Summer Boat Trip Recap – July 25th

By Kelly Hoggard

Bucket List Catch!

VBAC ‘finally’ held our boat trip on the Teas’n with Captain Joe Guffey and Mate Jason Yost on Saturday, July 25th. Black Sea Bass, Blueline Tilefish, and a flounder were all target species for the day. Patty, Scott, Patrick, David, Bryan and myself all met at the Owl’s Creek Boat Ramp in Rudee for a 5am boat launch. It was a beautiful morning and well before sunrise when we were headed out the inlet. As we left Rudee, you could already see the red glow of the lights on the wind turbines offshore. Proof that they are visible from a long way away.

We worked our way out on some of the inshore wrecks with little success. There were a few smaller bites and a small sea bass caught, but the fish just didn’t seem interested in our baits yet. On our way out, we spotted a couple of waterspouts on the NE side of the triangle wrecks. Though storms were forecasted, they never really developed near us. By noon, we had made our way out to the edge of the canyon to tilefish.

Our entire time tile fishing was non-stop cranking. Big Black Sea Bass and Tilefish were coming over the rails. It was so hot and heavy; the gear was often bit before it even hit bottom. There were a few smaller tiles mixed in with some hefty big tile bites. Bryan had the bad luck of the day when one of our rigs failed and a huge 18#ish Blueline broke off next to the boat and sank to the bottom. I’ve done a bit of blueline fishing and haven’t seen a fish come anywhere close to the size of that monster tile. It certainly had the girth that only an old fish would carry. Bryans big tile will hopefully recover and be caught again someday. The fish will either shake the hook or the hook will rust in a couple of days and the fish will certainly have a chance to live.

After filling our limit of Blueline, we made a run out to a grouper hole and gave it a couple drifts. The first drift was a little unsuccessful due to calm but shifting winds. Our second drift yielded a solid grouper bite that did not want to come off the bottom. Bryan came tight on some BIG tugs. After a short battle, he unfortunately lost another quality fish after the leader broke. After all the bad luck for Bryan today, he is certainly due for a crazy and successful fishing trip. The next drift I was working my bait and went to jig the bait, only to find that it was attached to a behemoth head shaker. Lots of drag peeled and I set my sights for a long fight. After about 15 minutes of quality fight time, I was rewarded with my first grouper of my fishing career! A 40# Snowy Grouper! We made one more set with no grouper bites and headed home with calm seas all the way back.

I’ve really put my Seigler SGN to the test on this one. While it’s not designed for offshore fishing methods, I’ve been increasing the scope of my fishing. Seigler also makes a large and offshore reel for larger fish. I’d suggest getting one of those if you’re planning to do any of this style fishing. I did not intent to catch such a large fish on this reel, but it has performed flawlessly all year with many citation catches. I have it paired with a Shimano Trevala S 168g and it’s perfect for all my conventional fishing needs so far.

It was a lot of fun for the group and we look forward to the next opportunity to fish together.

Pictures

Next Page

Saltwater Fishing News



Saltwater Fishing News



Submitted by Bob Stuhlman July 3, 2020.

Fished two days for Spanish Mackerel and on the second day we tossed in a little flounder fishing. Dave Steele has been trying to catch a flounder on a jig and his efforts were rewarded with a 3 lb 4 oz flattie. On the 1st day of trolling for Spanish we tried from Cape Henry down past Rudee Inlet and back and caught two. Fished in 30 - 40 feet of water. On the 2nd day we trolled the CBBT. Caught three including the citation 4 lb 4 oz Spanish around the 3rd/4th islands. Both days we trolled gold and silver Clark spoons on in line sinkers and number 1 planners. Best luck was on gold behind a 2 oz inline.

Saltwater Fishing News

Contributed by: Bob Stuhlman



Went cobia fishing and the crew caught a turtle.

Saltwater Fishing News

Southern Reels Fishing



JIGGING FOR FLOUNDER (Chesapeake Bay)

EliasVFishing



Flounder Jigging Limited Out Without Gulp!

Surf Fishing News

I VBAC Surf Fishing Updates

VBAC Surf Committee regrets to inform you that ALL 2020 surf fishing tournaments to take place in the Outer Banks have officially been canceled.

Long Beach Island has been cancelled as well.

We have decided that all teams will carry over to next year and we will draw names for alternates at the regular scheduled general membership meetings next year.

Thank you all and looking forward to a great season next year! As always please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Bryan Watkins
Surf Committee Chair
757-831-9724
Watkinsautorenewal@gmail.com

Surf Fishing News

My July 18 VBAC Intra Club Surf Tournament

By Kelly Hoggard

Fished the Intra-club tournament on July 18th this year. I was fortunate to have the morning off from a busy summer of work to get a day of competition in. We fished at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, just south of Little Island Park in Sandbridge. Our fishing time was from 7-11 am and fishing took place just over the dunes on the walking path from the parking lot. The beach is much more reasonable to access there than little island... where the walking distance can be very cumbersome.

There were some anglers already fishing when I arrived at the beach around 6:30. A couple anglers were shark and drum fishing and caught a shark and stingray. Another group were spanish and blue fishing and caught quite a few fish. I helped dig a few sand fleas for anglers using a rake and set up down the beach to get ready to fish. I had my first line in shortly after 7. Fishing was relatively slow but consistent. The beach here is pretty shallow. White other areas have a nice slough or cut near the beach, this area does not and it forms a generally shallow pool. Because high tide was at 6:30, it was important to get a quick start on the fishing while water near the beach was deep enough. I fished three main zones in the day. I had a pompano rig for out deep, a pair of roundhead rigs for close up, and a casting rod for spanish or blues.

The majority of my points were on roundhead. I didn't catch any big ones, but a couple of 12 inchers and some smaller ones. I did get a pair of spanish on a handful of bites. The spanish were big and combined provided about 36 points. I did have one good pompano bite, but missed it. There were a lot of good fish to be caught and our anglers all seemed to be catching some fish. It was a good time by everyone.

The day was really hot and a few people left the beach early. I don't blame them. I drank over a gallon of water in the 4 hours I was on the beach. Having a small cooler with some ice helps to keep some water cool when you're out there on hot days. Though it feels like you'll never bring enough cold water. Lately, my trips usually end whenever my supply of water runs out. I'm hoping to make it out in

September when we have our 3rd and final leg of the intra-club. Good luck to all competing anglers.

Can't catch fish on the couch!



Surf Fishing News

My Surf Fishing Round-Up for July

By Kelly Hoggard

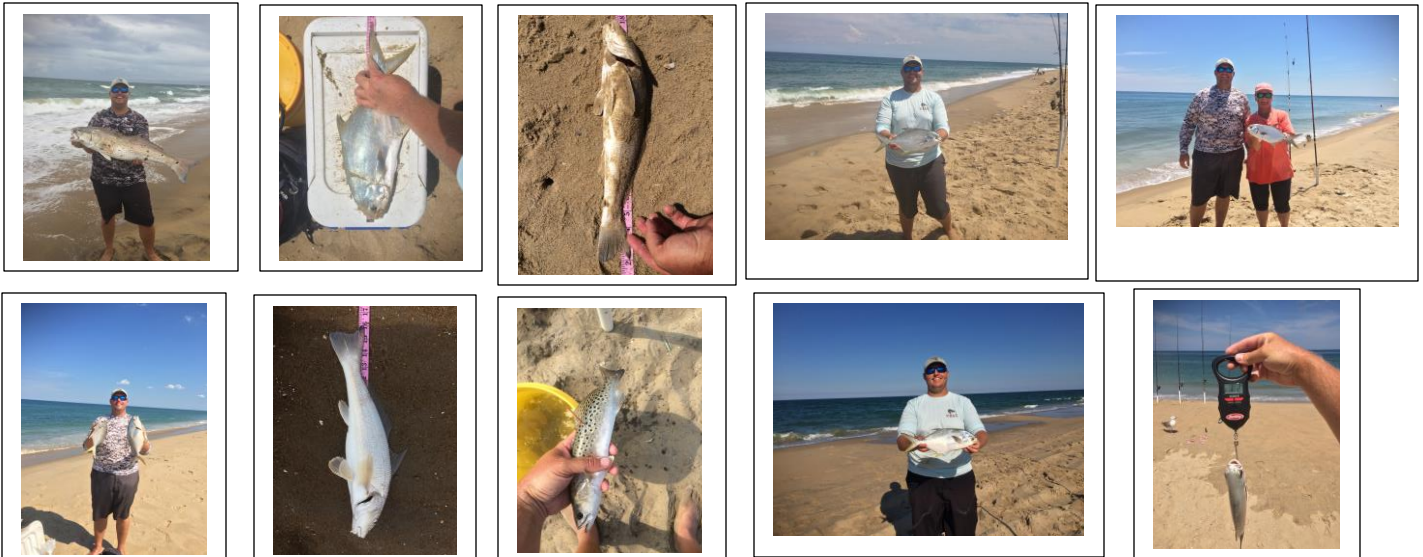
The surf fishing scene in Sandbridge has been absolutely insane this summer! So far this month, I've amassed 7 salt water fishing citations. That includes 4 pompano catches and 3 roundhead releases. Nearly all of my fishing has been at the little island park. But I have fished a little bit to the north and on the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The most consistent fishing has been the roundhead. A majority of the roundhead have all been over 12 inches with scattered 14-16 inch fish being caught as well as a 16.5 incher. The pompano however, has been a much less consistent bite. Pompano are not schooled up like other fish, and usually the bite produces a pair of fish in 4 hours of fishing. Pompano fishing is better on the days with clear water and west winds that produce a calm surf. My largest so far this year measured out a 19" and weighed a hefty 2 lb 13 oz.

This year, I've been using a lot of smaller floats to elevate the bait out of the sand. Nearly every fish I've caught has been on sand fleas. Sand Fleas have not been tipped with any scent or extra bait. The majority of fish are tight to the beach, chasing sand fleas that get caught too far out in the wash. The rigs have been consistent and nearly all fish of size have come on the same combination of beads and floats. While fishing for roundhead and pompano, I have caught a few other species. Bluefish, houndfish, red drum, spot, speckled trout and more have all eaten the sand fleas this month.

Casting for spanish and blues has been productive when they are on the beach. When the fish are schooling along the beach, you will see the spanish jumping out of the water and bluefish will bust the surface. These fish are mostly chasing the shiner minnows. There are also a few mullet and menhaden schools out there that do provide feeding opportunities for fish. During feeding frenzies, use casting lures that are more natural in size and color. My most consistent bites have been on gold, silver, white, pink, and ghost colors. It can also be a combination of these. They are full of food but will eat anything that strays from the school of bait. I've thrown non-natural colors that they will chase all the way to the shore but not eat. Then change over to a natural color and be hooked up on the first cast. When the fish are there and you're not hooking up, try a different color combination to see if it makes a difference. Even the bluefish have been picky at times.

I regularly surf fish and am always looking for an extra angler to tag along. I haven't invited many people out this year. Don't be afraid to ask if you'd like to join me and potentially learn or catch some quality fish.

Can't catch fish on the couch!



Freshwater Fishing News

Fresh Water Largest Fish (Kept) 2020

Species	Angler	Date	Size	Where	Weight
Blue Catfish					
Bluegill					
Bowfin	Jerry Hughes	16-Apr		NW River	5lb
Carp					
Chain Pickerel					
Black Crappie	Russel Willoughby	10-Feb		Lake Smith	1.64lb
Largemouth Bass					
Longnose Gar					
Northern Pike					
N Snake Head	Frank James	13-Jun		Aquia Creek	8.2lb
Sunfish					
Warmouth (Bass)	Alan Hunter	3-Apr		Piankatank	8 oz.
White Perch					
Yellow Perch	Preston Mangum	11-May		Lake Prince	1# 8oz

Freshwater Fishing News

Fresh Water Largest Fish (Release) 2020

Species	Angler	Date	Size	Where	Weight
Black Crappie	Melanie Bayford	2-May	15"	Beaverdam	
Blue Catfish	Ike Eisenhower	31-Jan	38"	NW River	
Bluegill	Melanie Bayford	20-Mar	9.5"	Piankitank	
Bowfin	Melanie Bayford	7-Jan	23"	Piankitank	
Carp	Alan Hunter	17-Mar	30"	Piankitank	
Chain Pickerel	Melanie Bayford	2-May	24.25"	Beaverdam	
Largemouth Bass	Ike Eisenhower	4-Mar	22 1/2"	Lake Smith	
Longnose Gar	Alan Hunter	7-Jul	45"	Cat Pt. Creek	
Northern Pike	Melanie Bayford	11-Apr	23"	Beaverdam	
N Snakehead	Frank James	13-Jun	30"	Aquia Creek	
Sunfish	Alan Hunter	3-Apr	9"	Piankitank	
Warmouth (Bass)					
White Perch	Melanie Bayford	16-May	13"	Beaverdam	
Yellow Perch	Alan Hunter	7-May	12"	Mt Landing Creek	

Freshwater Fishing News

Submitted by Melanie Bayford:

Alan and I took a trip to Cat Point Creek off the upper Rappahannock River on July 7. The target was big long nose gar. The morning was slow with only small catfish biting, then the tide changed. We were surrounded by gars leaping everywhere. I hooked up one that was about 5 ft long, but it jumped out of the net and got loose. Alan landed one that was 45 inches long. We released many smaller ones. I also caught a blue catfish that was 29 inches long.



Freshwater Fishing News

Lake Prince Fishing 7.13.20:

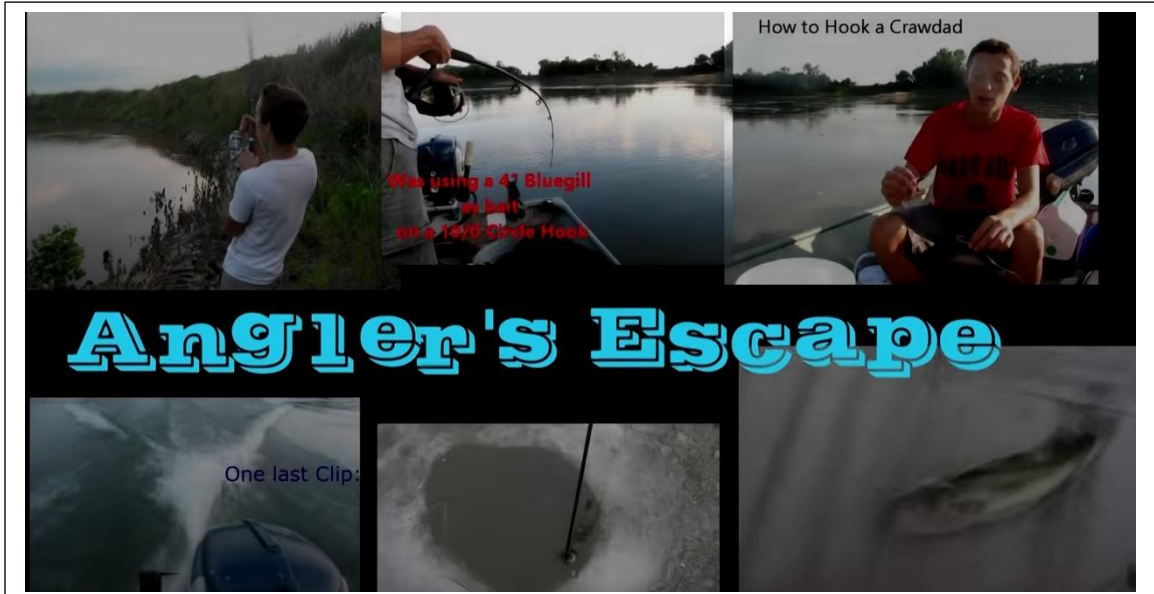
Russell and I went fishing on Lake Prince early on a day that threatened rain and a low front coming through. As soon as we got to the lake and started fishing I started catching yellow perch. Most were keeper sized and this was the first time I'd caught some in the summer. Otherwise this fish is usually a winter catch. They love shiners. After I had caught about a half of dozen, Russell got a big fish on one of his ultra-light rods and really had his hands full fighting this big one. When we finally saw what it was as he led it to the net it was a blue catfish. Weighed 10lbs on my digital scale. In the box for me to eat. I love catfish. We moved around that area looking for bowfin but didn't find any. It was lightly sprinkling the whole morning but then the sun came out and the bite stopped suddenly. So the heat increased with no wind after the front moved through so we headed to the shade of the overhanging trees surrounding the lake especially where the water was at least 10 foot deep looking for shellcrackers. After trying several new spots we settled into some familiar places and I hooked a 3lb 2 oz largemouth bass and Russell got a 7.5lb blue catfish. The bass I caught actually bit on a bunch of red wigglers on a jig and hit as soon as I got the hook on the bottom underneath the boat. Exciting hook up and fight but no jumps like we usually see bass do. Both of Russell's cats were caught on a floating jig with red wigglers on the hook. That was enough for us with the heat now at its highest index that day so we had had enough. Not real big fish but catching most of the day made it fun despite not catching our target species.

Blessings,
Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



Freshwater Fishing News

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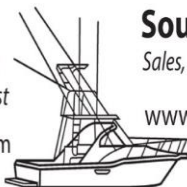
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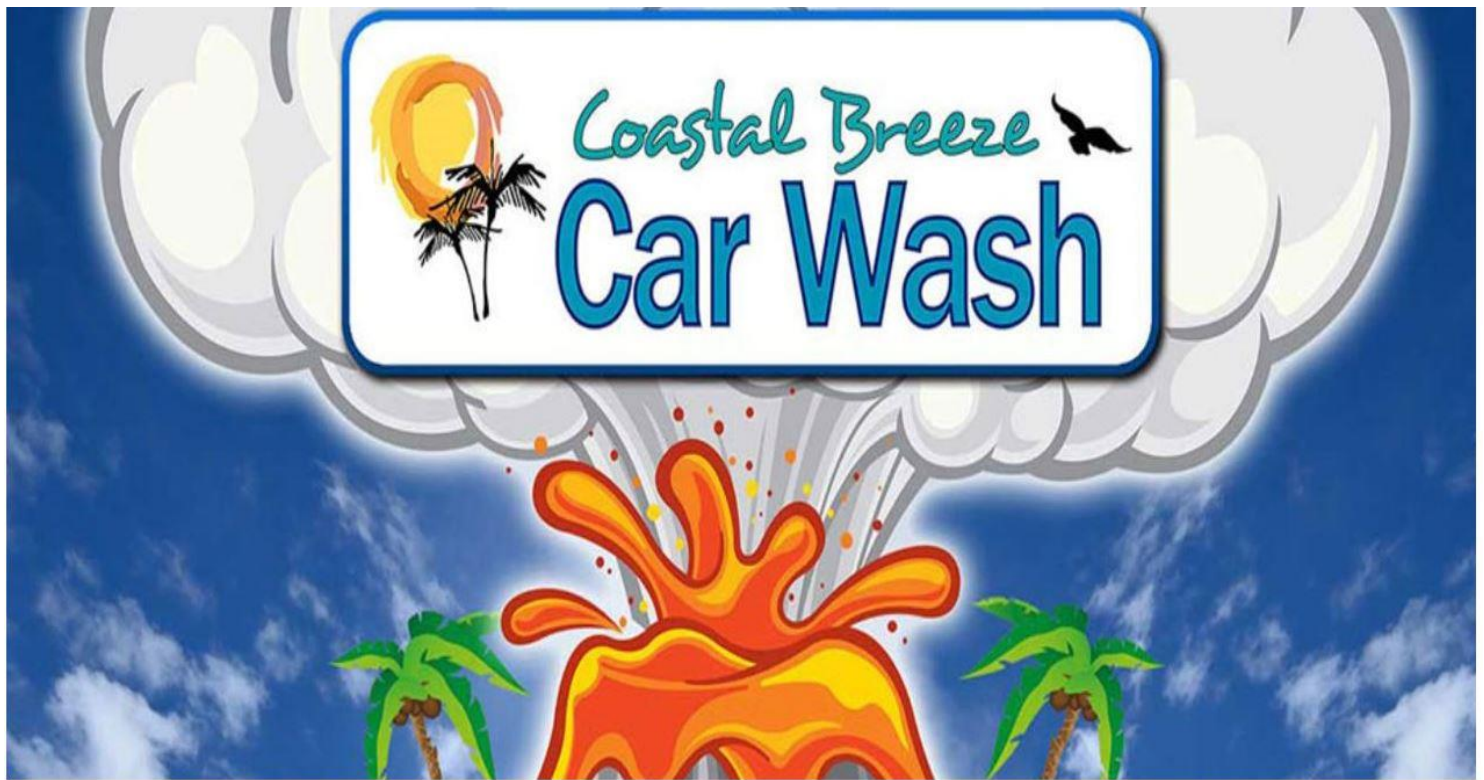


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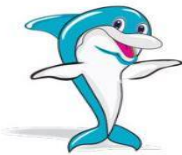


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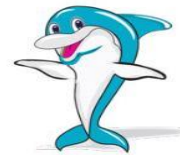
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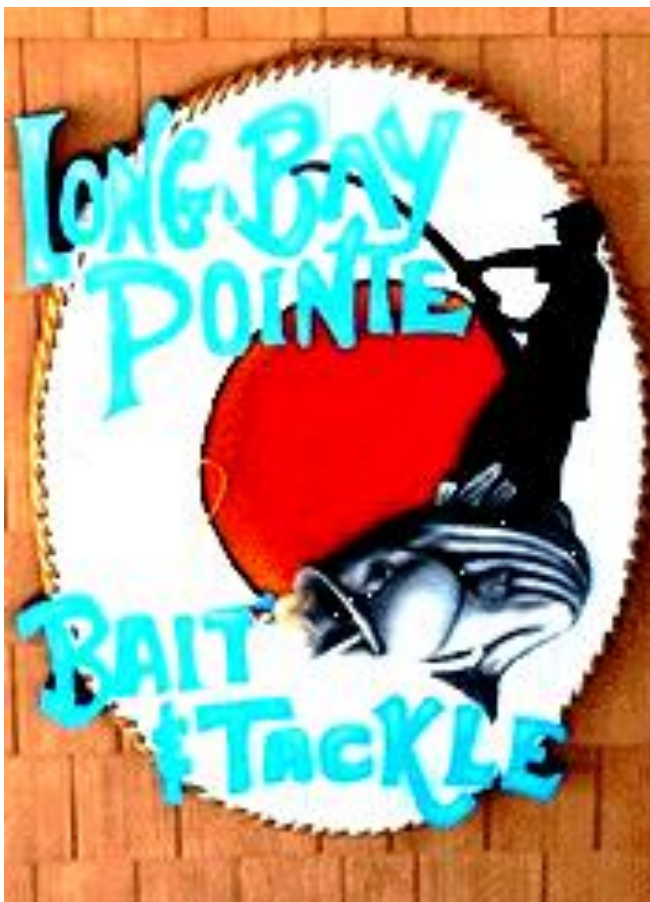
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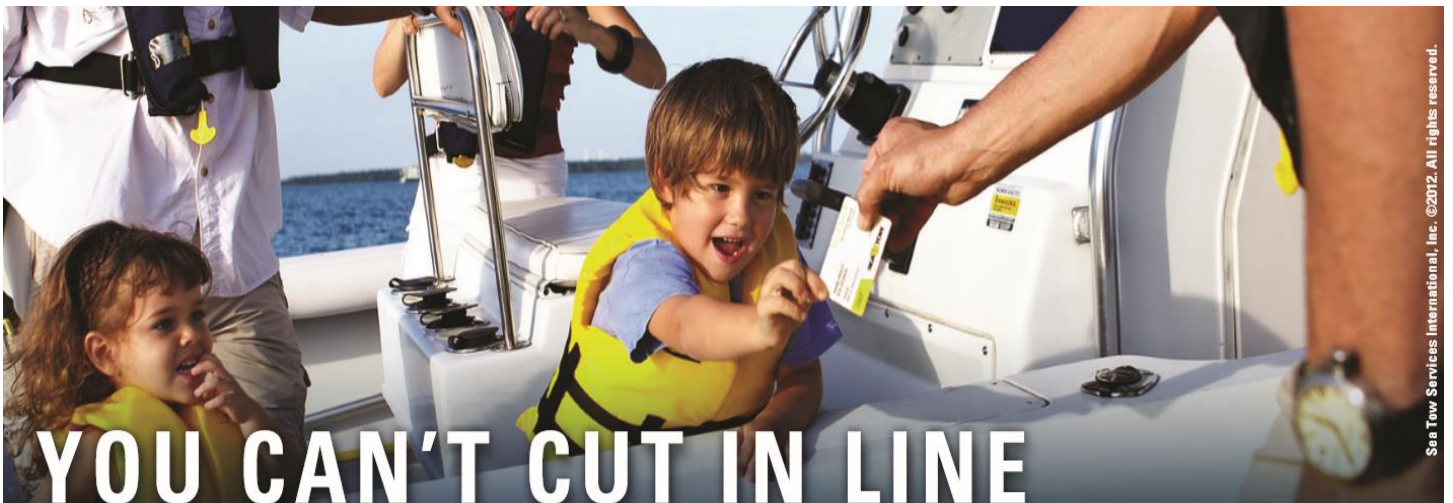
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- ❖ Promote interest and participation in recreational angling by conducting programs and activities that encourage sport fishing.
- ❖ Educate members and others in the techniques of sport fishing to enhance their enjoyment of the sport.
- ❖ Conduct social activities that create a wholesome climate for deriving the maximum pleasure from sport fishing by members, their families and guests.
- ❖ Plan and conduct fund raising activities to provide the revenues needed to support these objectives.

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