



March 2020

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

Tight Line

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Upcoming Events

Monthly Meeting:

When: Thursday, 03-05-2020 7:30pm.

Where: Foundry United Methodist Church,

2801 Virginia Beach Blvd. in Virginia Beach next to Beach Ford.

**Meeting Speaker: 1st mate Chris Haduck & Capt. Brandon Baldwin
with Havoc Charters.**

**Meeting Subject: Spadefish, Black/Red Drum, Cobia, Spanish
Mackerel, Bluefish, Sharks, Tautog, and other bottom fish.**

March & Future Information Notes:

- **Great Bridge Flea Market - March 14. Remember to bring your items to the March meeting and give to Preston.**
- **Lake Smith Crappie Tournament – Saturday March 28.**
- **Drawing for May 23 Charter Fishing Trip – April 2.**
- **Crab Creek Cleanup Volunteers Needed – April 4.**
- **First Annual Fish Fry – Saturday April 25.**

This Month's Quote

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

— Maya Angelou

VBAC Fishing Roulette 2020

Species

Current Leader

Weight

**This Year's Fish Announced at
Our March 5
Meeting**

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

Catch-A-Ride

BOAT

Preston Mangum (757) 582-1450 (FWtr)

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

2020 VBAC Roulette Announcement

Wheel Spin Date: Thursday, March 5th, 2020



The roulette wheel will be spun at the **March 5th, 2020** membership meeting. You must declare your entry to Kelly Hoggard before the spin of the wheel.

Roulette Information: To promote competitive fishing, the club devised a way to support fishing without providing an unfair advantage to any anglers. The solution involved a wheel that included a variety of freshwater and saltwater species in Virginia. The species are selected at random by spin of the roulette wheel. It costs \$20 for an angler to participate and each species winner receives an equal share of prize money.

Roulette Rules: Any fish caught from 1/1/2020 – 12/31/2020 will qualify. Only the heaviest fish in each category will win. Must have entered by March 5th meeting. Payment is expected no later than the April 2nd, 2020 meeting. You are required to submit your entry via the clubs standard Prize Fish form. Prize Fish/Roulette entries can be submitted in hand or by mail to the Virginia Beach Anglers Club Prize Fish Committee. A table of the current leaders will be kept up to date and posted in each newsletter. For any questions or concerns regarding the Roulette or Prize Fish contest, please see Kelly Hoggard at one of the meetings.

VBAC Email: vbanglersclub@gmail.com

VBAC Mailbox: Virginia Beach Anglers Club
% Prize Fish Contest
P. O. Box 8602
Virginia Beach , VA 23450



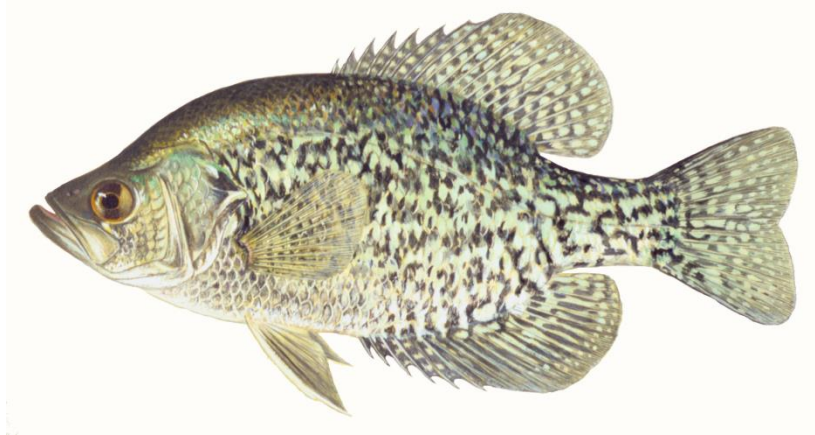
Virginia Beach Angler's Club



Spring Crappie Tournament

Lake Smith Shore or Boat

Saturday, March 28, 2020



Entry Fee: \$20.00 per adult angler, \$10.00 per child under 16

Early entries contact Preston (info below) or register on March 28 at ramp.

Location: Lake Smith & Little Creek Reservoir (Boat only)

Lines In: 8:00 AM

Weigh-in Time: 4:00PM

Crappie tournament prize paid on the heaviest single crappie fish.

\$150 Guaranteed 1st Place Prize, 2nd Place Prize Guaranteed \$75.00

Shore Anglers Only: Heaviest fish of any species wins Shore Prize

Early Entry: Phone, text, or email entry name(s) and number of anglers to: Preston Mangum 757-582-1450 or PMangum@RoseandWomble.com.

Virginia Beach Anglers Club

Lake Smith Crappie Tournament Rules

March 28, 2020

Time: Lines in 8:00am - Weigh-in 3:30 – 4:15.

Location: Lake Smith (shore & boat) and Little Creek Reservoir (boat only).

Gates open at 7:00 AM

Entry Fees: \$20.00 per Angler, \$10.00 for children under 16.

Registration: Register on day of tournament at judge's table before fishing.

Boat check before entering water.

Prizes paid on the heaviest single fish.

Except for shore anglers, an angler may win only one place.

\$150.00 guaranteed 1st place, \$75.00 guaranteed 2nd place. Prizes can increase based on number of entrants. Shore anglers may win shore & crappie tournament prize. (see below).

Shore anglers may enter any fish caught during competition. A single prize will be awarded to the overall largest fish caught from shore irrespective of species. Should a crappie be caught by a shore angler, it may be entered in the tournament as a crappie catch in addition to entering for the shore prize.

Use of all nets (except landing net) will disqualify angler.

Early catch submission is permitted.

Ties will be decided by the earliest entry.

Decision of the weigh-master is final.

2020 Banquet Raffle Prize Donors

Thank you to all the businesses and individuals who contributed to this year's banquet raffles. Please support them with your business and don't forget to thank them for donating to the club when you stop by.

You can click on the business's name to view their webpage.

BUSINESSES

[COASTAL BREEZE CAR WASH](#)
[PRINCESS ANNE DISTRIBUTING CO.](#)

[RUDEE TOURS](#)

[SEA TOW HAMPTON ROADS](#)

[LONG BAY POINT BAIT & TACKLE](#)

[5.11 TACTICAL](#)

[WALMART](#)

[OCEAN'S EAST BAIT & TACKLE](#)

[FIRST WATCH](#)

[WHISKEY KITCHEN](#)

[JIMMY DA GREEK'S](#)

[USA FUEL SERVICE](#) / DAVE TROSIEN (757-615-2666)

[MURPHY'S IRISH PUB](#)

[CHILI'S](#)

[COLD STONE CREAMERY](#)

[LUCKY OYSTER](#)

[THE EGG BISTRO](#)

[HAIR OF THE DOG EATERY](#)

[FIVE GUYS BURGERS AND FRIES](#)

[MOD PIZZA](#)

[58TH STREET DELI](#)

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

MELANIE BAYFORD, BOB BURSTEIN, CHRIS SCHNEIDER, KELLY HOGGARD, JERRY HUGHES, MARK LOZIER, RONNIE NIXON, BILL SEARBY, & PATTY SEARBY

TIME CONTRIBUTORS

THESE INDIVIDUALS CONTRIBUTED THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO SET-UP, TAKE DOWN, COOK, SERVE, AND OTHER TASKS, CONTRIBUTING TO THE OVERALL SUCCESS OF THE BANQUET.

Stan Sutliff, Mark Wray, John Gabriel, Gary Adolph, Sue & David Smith, Rob Stommel,

Ron Anoia, Bill Searby, Kelly Hoggard, Lou Corigliano, Mary Bradley, Patty Searby,

Bob Stuhlman, Gary Doerhoff, Jerry Mariano, Preston Mangum, Bob Burstein, Dave Anderson, Chris Schneider, Bryan Watkins, George Gabriel, and Ronnie Nixon.

Maureen Gabriel made and contributed the table decorations.

2020 VBAC Banquet Recap

Congratulations to all the award winners for their fishing accomplishments of 2019. It was a great time with great food for all that came out to the banquet. We enjoyed some shrimp pasta and stuffed pork chops, along with salad sides, appetizers and desserts. Kelly has additional banquet booklets if anyone wants to pick one up at the march meeting. A huge thank you to all the members and guests who supported our banquet throughout the planning stages and on the banquet day.

Outstanding Awards

Most Outstanding Saltwater Catch

Mike Anderson: 39 lb Dolphin

Most Outstanding Freshwater Catch

Steve Harding: 2 lb 10 oz Crappie

Female Saltwater Angler of the Year

Sue Smith

Male Saltwater Angler of the Year

David Smith

Release Saltwater Angler of the Year

Kelly Hoggard

Female Freshwater Angler of the Year

Melanie Bayford

Male Freshwater Angler of the Year

Russell Willoughby

Release Freshwater Angler of the Year

Melanie Bayford

Jay Smith Memorial Surf Fishing Award

Male Surf Angler of the Year

Kelly Hoggard

Gene Farrar Memorial Surf Fishing Award

Female Surf Angler of the Year

Patty Searby

VBAC Member of the Year

Patty Searby

Dr. James C. Wright

CBF Boat Jenny S.

Capt. Jimmy Sollner, Yancey Powell

Lifetime Membership Award

Ronnie Nixon







VBAC BOAT TRIP

Full Day Fishing Charter - Sea Bass and Tautog

Date: Saturday, May 23, 2020

Time: Leave 5:30 AM, Return 4:00 PM (Approx.)

Cost: \$80 per angler and \$30 tip (\$110 total)

Club Lottery Drawing Date: Thursday, April 2nd, 2020

Gear: Rods, Tackle, Bait provided (can bring your own gear)

VBAC has organized a six-person charter boat trip for Saturday, May 23rd, 2020. The trip will take place with Captain Joe Guffey aboard the 32-foot Contender TEAS'N. The target species for the trip will be Sea Bass, Tautog, and possibly Blueline Tilefish. The club will pay for half of the \$950 trip. Anglers are responsible for the other half of the boat cost (\$80 per angler) and the tip for the mate (\$30 per angler). 6 anglers and a full list of alternates will be drawn via lottery at the April 2nd membership meeting. A payment of \$80 for anglers that are selected for the trip will be DUE IMMEDIATELY. Patty Searby is in charge of organizing the trip for the club.

Fishing gear, tackle, and bait is provided by Joe but anglers can bring anything they would like to assist them on their fishing trip. Anglers will be responsible for cleaning any fish they keep on the trip. A cooler of water will be provided by the club. Anglers need to bring food, additional beverages, clothes, hats, sunglasses, sunscreen or any necessities they will need on the trip.

Please see Patty Searby at the March 5th or April 2nd membership meeting to have your name put on the lottery list.

For additional information or questions:

Patty Searby

Phone: (757) 705-4191

Email: PSEARBY@GMAIL.COM

2020 Membership Dues

As a reminder to all members, 2020 membership renewals are due. Dues are just \$40 per year.

Membership dues are required for eligibility to be selected for club sponsored fishing events. Those would include surf fishing tournaments, boat fishing tournaments, monthly and yearly fishing competitions, our annual oyster roast, and club sponsored boat fishing trips. Current membership holders also receive updates of club events and important information via email on a regular basis. You can see Bob Stuhlman at our March meeting to pay your dues. If there are any questions about the membership to VBAC, please contact us by either our gmail account or inquiring at the monthly meetings.

We draw for the spring and fall surf fishing teams at the February and March General Membership meeting. If you wish to be considered for a team position your dues need to be up to date.

GBFA Fishing Flea Market

On March 14, we will have our annual table at the GBFA Flea Market. Every year we have had a table which features all of the things our members have decided they no longer want and wish to sell so someone else can enjoy them.

The table is manned by volunteers – if you'd like to help, please let Preston Mangum know.

757-582-1450

You are welcome to bring any and all your items that you have pre-priced with an item list showing their pricing and give them to Preston at the March meeting. The list is helpful in getting all unsold items and the proceeds back to their owners. The club charges 10% of the sale price which will be deducted from your proceeds. If you have any questions, feel free to call, email (pmangum@roseandwomble.com), or text at the above number.



SHOE DRIVE



Your donation of gently-worn or new shoes will allow our 2020 Thanksgiving Turkey Brigade to feed MORE Hampton Roads families this year, it will also support micro-enterprise around the globe, and provide shoes to those who do not have any.

February 1 - April 30, 2020

Last year, the Rose & Womble Foundation fed in excess of 18,000 people at Thanksgiving. We were able to do this as a result of fund-raising efforts during the year. The Rose & Womble Foundation receives money for each bag of 25 pair of shoes collected. Please check your closets and give me a call and I'll come by and pick them up or bring them to the February, March, or April meeting and give them to me.

Thank You,
Preston Mangum
REALTOR ®

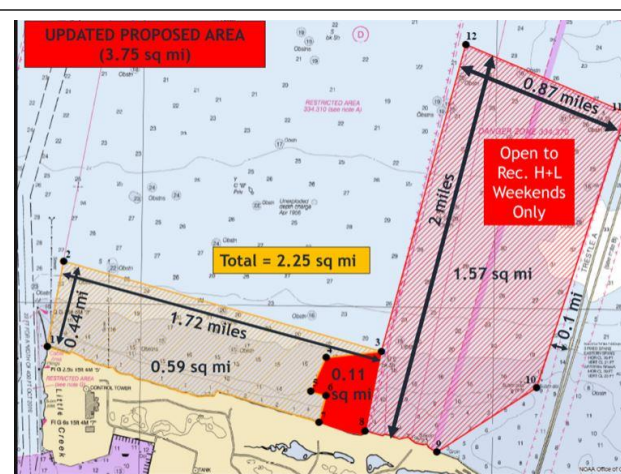
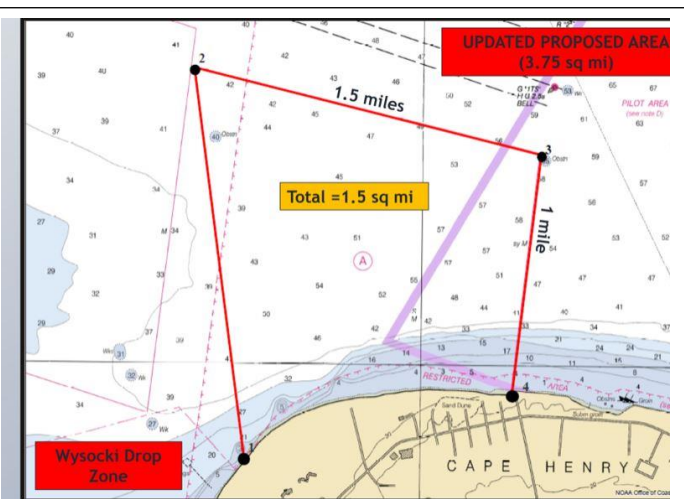
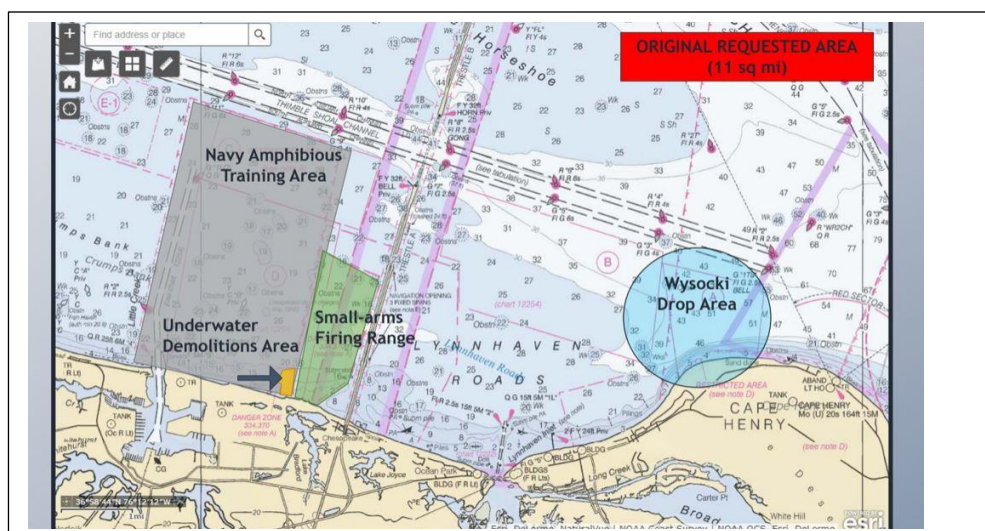
CALL ME FOR PICK-UP

757-582-1450

Rose & Womble Realty, 123 S Lynnhaven Rd., Virginia Beach, 23452

Slide 2 is the Navy's original request; the 3rd and 4th are the Navy's revised request. The 3rd slide shows a trapezoid north of Cape Henry that would deny the area to any fishing or vessels, including those who want to transit. The 4th slide shows the other areas adjacent to Little Creek. The area marked .11 sq mi allows NO traffic, including fishing or transit; the Navy blows stuff up there. The area marked 1.57 sq mi allows vessel transits, except when the Navy is doing live-fire from boats in that area; and allows fishing on the weekends. The area marked .59 sq mi is where LCACs routinely operate and the Navy really doesn't want anyone else there, but does allow vessels transiting.

Navy wants VMRC Marine Police to patrol and enforce the restrictions. It will first go to the **Finfish Management Advisory Committee meeting on March 9, 2020** for recommendations, and then to **VMRC on March 24, 2020 for action**. VMRC is taking written public comments on the proposal and **will conduct a public hearing at its March 24 meeting**. I called Rob to see if this would have any impact on his chumming for Cobia. He said he usually does that north of the CBBT 3rd island, so it wouldn't. If we continued having the historic Fall runs of big yellow-bellied Spot we like we did 30 years ago, it might matter. It also looks like the proposal won't have a major impact on kayakers either. I'll bring the slides and my notes to tonight's meeting.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 25, 2020

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB 1ST ANNUAL FISH FRY



April 25th 2020 from 1-5 PM

**Robert Oliver and Mary Bradley's House
429 Chesopian Trail
Virginia Beach, VA 23452**

Items to Bring: Chair for Seating, Dessert to Share, BYOB

See Jerry Mariano at Upcoming VBAC meetings.

Email: vbangersclub@gmail.com

February Meeting

Our February meeting was very interesting as Chris Moore, the Senior Regional Ecosystem Scientist at Chesapeake Bay Foundation spoke about a number of subjects affecting the Chesapeake Bay. Ed and Karen from Sea Tow were on hand to award prizes to donors to the Toys for Tots Christmas campaign. Pictures are below.



Boat Show 2020

Boat Show Recap 2020

By Kelly Hoggard

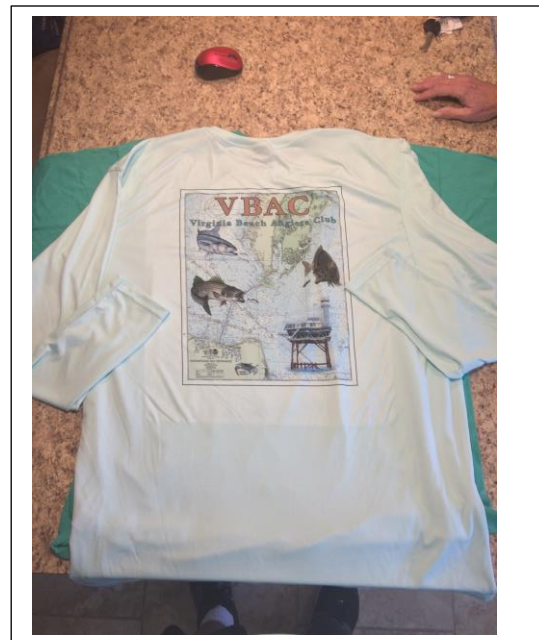
It was another great year at the 67th Mid-Atlantic Sports and Boat Show. Saturday was pretty busy as usual but Sunday saw a big uptick in traffic. In the last couple of years, the boat show has emphasized a more open floorplan to allow visitors to wonder around more freely. This has benefited boat vendors allowing easier access to their boats from multiple directions. Those of us on the outside including the club see a little less congestion which has been an issue in the past. A big thank you to all the club members who volunteered to sit at the club table. Nearly all the volunteers are pictured. If I didn't catch a picture of you, it was because I was too busy at the Sea Tow booth.



Hats & T-Shirts

VBAC is selling shirts and hats at the club meetings. \$25 for long sleeve performance. \$15 regular cotton short sleeve shirts. \$15 for VBAC hats.

If you won a free shirt at the club banquet, make sure to bring your claim ticket to the meeting for redemption.



2018 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
Pier Tournaments:	Chair – Brian Watkins Co. Chair – Gary Doerhoff
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: Spiny Dogfish Processing 101

March 2020

This incredible meat fish is one of the first to show up when the winter waters turn toward spring, so don't miss out on this excellent source of fresh protein!

This is the second segment on overlooked food fish and aims to change perceptions and break down paradigms when it comes to oft misunderstood fish and each's respective place on the list of palatable table fare.

Next to the stingray, Spiny dogfish sharks (*Squalus acanthias*) are vastly underrated and overlooked meat fish and the first to show up in the late winter and early spring.

This fish is delicious—soft, delicate and moist—and I'm amazed we don't eat more of it.

In England this and other dogfish are sold in fish and chip shops as "huss" or "rock eel." It was historically sold as "rock salmon" until that term was outlawed by consumer legislation. In France it is sold as "small salmon" (saumonette) and in Belgium and Germany it is sold as "sea eel" (zeepaling and Seeaal, respectively).

Although tricky to work with ("you need to know its anatomy"), once the fillets are prepped you have a beautiful, fresh fish that resembles a long, white with an almost pinkish tinge, eel. During these early months, Spinies are one of the most available fish in the sea, yet local anglers almost never fish for the infamous "horn dog." In fact, as with stingrays, most consider them nuisances and discard them as trash fish. That is, unless a fisherman has actually had the opportunity to sit down to a steaming plate of dogfish.

They are so tasty; I usually target these fish early and happily brave the chilly March and April winds to put some of these delicacies in the cooler!

As a boy growing up in Leigh-On-Sea, I knew this fish by its local name - "Rock Eel" — and along with Skate Middle, it was one of the most popular items on the menu at the local chip shop.

When filleted and skinned, spiny dogfish provide long narrow fillets of white meat that can be crosscut into perfect size portions which can be cooked in just about any fashion someone likes to cook fish.

It can also be cut into steaks for grilling or using in a delicious Osso Buco variation as picture here!

There are no bones, and the cartilaginous skeleton is easy to cut through.



Author with a nice April Spiny Dogfish!



Dogfish Steak Osso Buco is Absolutely Delicious!

The fins and tails are processed into fin needles and are used in less expensive versions of shark fin soup in Chinese cuisine.

The flesh has a mild flavor and tender texture similar to Mahi, and it freezes very well – although once you’ve tried it, it may never make it past the table to find a place in the freezer!

Field Care and Prep:

While not quite as dangerous as stingrays, spiny dogfish are classified as dangerous fish and must be handled with care.

Their bodies are dark gray above and white below, often with white spotting on the sides.

The species name, “*acanthias*,” refers to its two prominent spines located near the dorsal fins.

These defensive features are used defensively and must be managed as the shark arches its back to pierce its captor. The spines secrete a mild venom capable of inflicting painful wounds if not handled properly.

Spiny dogfish have very small teeth, but unlike the “smooth” dogfish, the teeth are quite sharp and will easily cut an ill-placed finger or hand, so handle with care when removing the hook.

Once I beach the fish in the surf and safely remove the hook, I immediately immerse it in a bucket of fresh seawater to calm it down. Then, I proceed to field-dress it before it dies to bleed it out and get it on ice as soon as possible. This assures optimum preservation and maintains near-perfect freshness and texture.

Field Dressing:

1. Remove the head and entrails as shown and thoroughly rinse in fresh seawater – this step is a must.
2. Carefully remove the fins, spines, and tail (optional, but this step helps larger fish fit in cooler!)
3. Rinse once more in fresh seawater and immediately place in a cooler and cover with ice.

NOTE: The spines and fins may be removed in the field or on the fillet table.



A typical Doggie in the NC surf.



Ready to field-dress & rinse.



Watch out for the Spines!



Removing the Head & Entrails.



Dressed & Ready to trim the fins.



Field-dressed Doggies ready to Ice!

Skinning and Portioning:

I usually bring the iced-down dressed carcass home to fillet in a kitchen or, for larger dogfish, at my fish cleaning station in Salvo, NC.

A standard fillet knife is all that's required to remove the meat from the cartilage as shown below.

The following pictorial sequence demonstrates the filleting process. In this case, I was in the kitchen at my cottage in Salvo.

NOTE: another method is to cut the skinned fish into steaks for grilling, broiling, stewing, etc. Or, cut several steaks out of the middle sections and fillet the ends – whatever suits your needs!



Remove first dorsal & spine.



Remove second dorsal & spine.



Dorsal fins & spines removed.



Remove tail & split skin.



Peel each side of the skin off.



Fins, tail, & skin removed.



Belly meat ready to skin.



Skins after belly meat is removed.



Skinned core & belly meat.

A bonus of dogfish fillets is that there will never be any pin bones or bones of any nature for that matter, so they are ideal for kids and others that worry about fine bones when consuming most other fish! Also, the belly meat is well worth salvaging and makes incredible Po' Boy sandwiches when fried crispy – a Germanos family favorite!



Skinned & ready to fillet..



Slice down each side of cartilage.



Use knife to remove cartilage.



Separating cartilage from fillet.



Cartilage removed.



Fillet ready for portioning.

Dogfish fillets can be portioned, vacuum-sealed, and frozen – as can dogfish steaks. I like to trim the fillets and cut them into uniform shapes. These trimmings are added to the salvaged belly meat and used in a variety of dishes from soups and stews to fish tacos and Po' Boys! Just one more example of the ethical utilization of every inch and every ounce of edible flesh!

Once you get the hang of it, the skinning process goes very quickly, and you are left with these beautiful fillets!



White meat fillets portioned and ready to go!



End product – succulent white meat.

The edges around these fillets are trimmed, saved, and fried crispy for awesome Po' Boys on Hoagie Rolls!

As these pictures suggest, the yield is well worth the effort, and the flesh is extremely versatile. I have literally produced dozens of recipes and tasty dishes using stingray meat and have not had a bad one yet!

Master the art of processing these critters, and you will be amply rewarded!

Trash Fish or Meat Fish?

Until now, dogfish have been considered trash fish. This never ceases to amaze me. As a meat fish, they are plentiful at a time of year when many other fish are hard to come by. They are relatively easy to catch, and as for palatability, Spiny Dogfish are right up there with Puffers on my *personal* game fish list every spring!

Just look at the diversity of these dishes which I have recently created using Spiny Dogfish as the main ingredient:

- English Pub Dogfish Fish-n-Chips with Malt Vinegar and hand-cut homemade fries
- Dogfish Po' Boys – I like to save the belly scraps and fry them up in a crispy batter to serve on hoagie or hot dog rolls with shredded lettuce, grated cheddar, pickle, tartar sauce, and a side of fries.
- Dogfish Osso Buco – made with thicker steaks and every bit as good as the Italian veal shank classic!
- Spanish Dogfish Stew with Picada and Veggies (can use steaks or fillets)
- Blackened Dogfish Bites (can also blacken whole fillets or steaks)
- Doggie Poppers –these fried delicacies are excellent served with a nice lime-garlic aioli, fresh lemon, Cajun shake, or homemade tartar sauce!
- Fried Dogfish Fingers with Honey Mustard, Buffalo Wing, and Barbecue Dipping Sauces, with Celery and Carrot Sticks and my homemade Chunky Bleu Cheese Dressing
- Dogfish Steaks in lemon sauce with sautéed fresh spinach over angel hair pasta
- Dogfish and Cheddar Sandwich with my homemade Tartar Sauce and hand-cut fries
- Dogfish Tacos

And that's just the tip of the iceberg!



Spiny Dogfish-n-Chips.



Spiny Dogfish Belly Po' Boy!



Spanish Dogfish Stew.

Look for these recipes in current and future editions of VBAC's Chef's Corner!

Contributed by: VBAC Member John Germanos, aka "The Instinctive Chef" and inspired by my Hometown Chip Shop in Leigh-On-Sea, Essex, England.

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

Saltwater Fishing News

Specks in the Elizabeth River 2.3.20

Russell and I fished the Elizabeth River today targeting speckled trout in his Carolina skiff. We launched out of Great Bridge Locks ramp and headed straight to the area we had heard was good the day before. Temps in the air was in the 60's and water temp was almost 50 degrees. I was casting Mirrolures and Russell 3 inch swim baits from shallow to deep we found the specks. At first they were all short 12-13 inches but I did manage one 19 inch, a 17 inch and two 15 inch fish. Over the hour and a half we ended up with about 15 specks between the two of us until the current went slack. They seemed to prefer my MR 52 TT 808 color with orange belly, brown back over anything else we threw at them. Once the bite stopped we traveled around the river and looked for more fish but found no bite in the slack tide even when we found fish on the sonar. We checked the Deep Creek but even an hour into the incoming tide there was little current. Fished the S curve area and did pick up a couple of small ones. So went back to the place we caught well earlier and started catching again. But this time it was all small fish biggest about 14 inch. They preferred my green MR 27 but had to count out to 20 to make sure it got down to the 18 foot bottom. Finished the day with over 30 caught. Only kept the 19 incher but fun catching those fish. Great weather, ended up at 70 degrees, light winds. We're loving this warm weather in winter.

Blessings,
Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



Surf Fishing News



Virginia Beach Anglers Club

Ocracoke Surf Fishing Tournament Teams

May 1st & 2nd

Team A

Butch Eason(Cpt.)
Doug Wehner(R)
Stan Sutliff(IQP)
Rob Stommel(L)
Bob Schuster(L)
Bill Searby(L)

Team B

John Germanos(Cpt.)
Patty Searby(R)
Bill Frunzi(R)
Kelly Hoggard(IQP)
Jerry Hughes(L)
Russell Willoughby(L)

Alternates

Victor Muron
Mark Wray
Carl McCoy
Caroline Robinson

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OUR ANGLERS!

Freshwater Fishing

Largest freshwater fish caught during 2019 in this category by species.

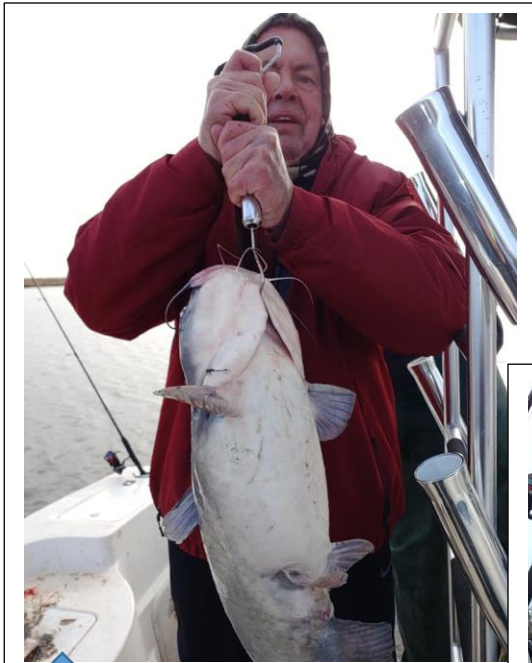
Species	Angler	Date Caught	Length	Where Caught	Weight
Blue Catfish	Ike Eisenhower	31-Jan	38"	Northwest R	
Bluegill					
Bowfin	Melanie Bayford	7-Jan	23"	Piankatank	
Chain Pickerel					
Crappie	Bob Stuhlman	3-Feb	14"	Lake Smith	
Largemouth Bass					
Longnose Gar					
Longnose Gar					
Snakehead					
White Perch					
Yellow Perch					

Freshwater Fishing

Catfishing the Northwest River with Josh Andrews and Louis Glaser 1/31/2020

Louis and I chartered Josh Andrews to take us catfish fishing on the Northwest River on 1/31/2020. We launched from Bob's Fishing Hole and the weather had us in upper 30's temps in the early morning that settled mostly in the mid 40's with light North winds, perfect for catching catfish in 45 degree water. We were headed down the river into North Carolina and set up lines in a deep feeder creek off the river and as we were heading to our first anchoring we had set out 5 pool noodles with lines attached in hope of getting smaller keeper sized fish if rod and reel didn't succeed. Within a half an hour Louis was fighting a nice blue catfish 19.5 lbs. 34.5 inches. Next one was a 33 inch one for me and shortly after that I caught a 38", 25lb release citation blue catfish. By 9:30 Louis and I had caught 6 all over 30 inches and a couple of small throwback size ones under 3lbs. As we headed back up the river stopping at each place fishing with rods we found each noodle held a fish waiting for us. The biggest was 44 inches that Josh is holding for the picture.. Of the 15 caught total 8 were over 30". All fish were blue catfish caught on fresh shad Josh had netted. This was Louis' first experience cat fishing from a boat. Awesome time. Most were released but I kept a couple for dinner. Not as concerned about PCB's with their meat like we have been with fish from the James.

Blessings,
Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



Blue catfish 33in
17lb 1.31.20 Louis
Northwest River

Blue catfish
38in 24lb
release
citation

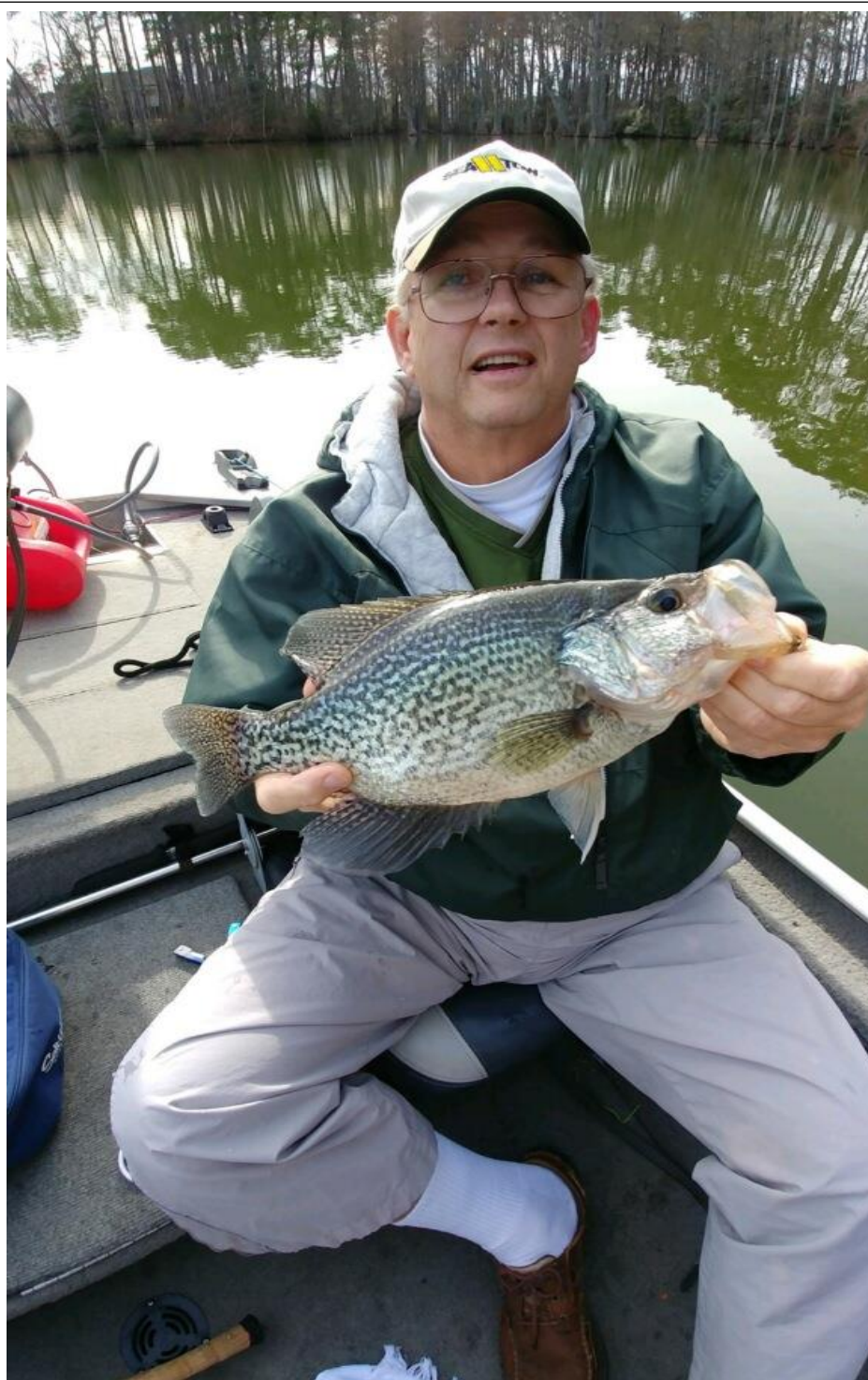


Blue catfish 1.31.20
44in release on
noodle Josh1.msg

Freshwater Fishing

Submitted by Preston Mangum:

Bob Stuhlman and I went fishing in Lake Smith on the 3rd of February on a fairly warm day. We ended up drifting in Lake Lawson with minnows and catching some small to medium fish as we went along. The one pictured below is the largest of the day. Bob caught this 14" monster using a medium minnow with bobber.



Freshwater Fishing

Pictures submitted by Russell Willoughby:

Russell has been busy this past month chasing fish in Lake Smith. Shown below are some pictures of a few of his catches. Keep it up Russell!



14" 1.64# Lake Smith
2-10



17" Bass – 1 of 7 bass caught
that day 2-12



13.5" 1.5# Lake Smith
2-12

Freshwater Fishing

A Great Crappie Day in February

I fished with Russell Willoughby in his john boat in Lake Smith on 2.10.20. It was windy out of the SW but warm and with the wind protection of the Lake Smith's and Lawson's coves it was fishable with bobbers and shiners. It started slow on Lake Lawson with my catching a 10 inch .75 lb. black crappie keeper and two small ones and one small bass released with Russell catching only a small crappie. But when we went to the next more protected cove in Lake Smith and began to explore it casting our bait and bobbers around the cove Russell got hooked up with a big one that got off at the boat. On the next cast Russell brought in a crappie that weighed 1.64 lb. and was 14 in. long for a definite club minimum weight fish. From that point we began to catch one after another with gaps in the time catching but we kept it up until we ran out of shiners. We finished the day with Russell catching another weight club minimum of 1.62 lb., a release club minimum 12.5 inches and several more throw backs. I ended up with two more keeper fish and several more throw backs. So we kept Russell's weight fish and my keepers making a great couple of meals for us. Great catch for Russell as he only used medium shiners and that seemed to make a difference. I used a mix of smalls and mediums.

Blessings,
Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower

14" 1.64#



14" 1.62#



12.5" Release Citation

Freshwater Fishing

A day full of Bass 2/12/20

I went fishing with Russell again Wednesday on Lake Smith since the temps continued to be okay with a lot of sun. We started out in a place we had done well on Monday and decided to release all of the fish since I had 5 nice crappie from Monday to eat. Today was my day to shine with the crappie. I started with a 12 inch crappie club minimum release which was followed by a 11 inch crappie club minimum release so (sorry, no pics of them). Then there was no hits for a while so we moved to another nice spot. Then it was one bass after another. Russell ended up with 7 bass total for the day, the biggest was a 17inch club minimum release. I caught three bass with the biggest being an 11 inch. The bass seemed to prefer the bigger shiners. Water temperature was 54 degrees.

Blessings,
Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



Freshwater Fishing Continued

Another great catching day on Lake Smith 2/24/20

I went fishing on Lake Smith with Russell again when we found a low wind day this week. The weather had been colder in the evenings going down into the 30's so we weren't surprised that the water temp was 46 degrees and expected a slow start. So we started fishing about 10am and went straight for the back of Smith Lake. In about 5 minutes at this first stop over I got hooked up on a big bass that again went airborne and spit my jig at me almost hitting me in the head. Great exciting start but I wasn't trying to catch bass at all. So a little later there I hooked a 12" black crappie club minimum release (sorry no photo of that one) and another that was throwback size. Then nothing. We tried another location on the lake and that produced nothing as well. Since the wind was coming out of the SW we tried one of our Northern coves and then the catching began again. Both Russell and I started catching fish, Russell caught bass and I caught crappie. I started there with a 11 inch and then a 11.5 inch release and several small ones but the big fish finally found my shiner. This was a 14.5 inch, 1.8 lb. (28.8 ounces) crappie in the net and released for another club minimum. It was full of roe and fat despite the fact that it wasn't long enough for a state citation. Russell was able to boat two 15 inch bass for club minimums and hooked but lost a couple more. Then it began to rain on us earlier than predicted so we quickly left the lake around 2pm. Overall it was a productive few hours of fishing even with cold water in the lake. Medium sized shiners worked better than small ones. With a jig of various colors under a bobber. We use bobber stoppers also.

Blessings,
Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



Freshwater Fishing Continued

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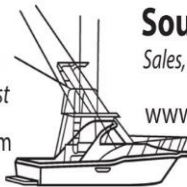
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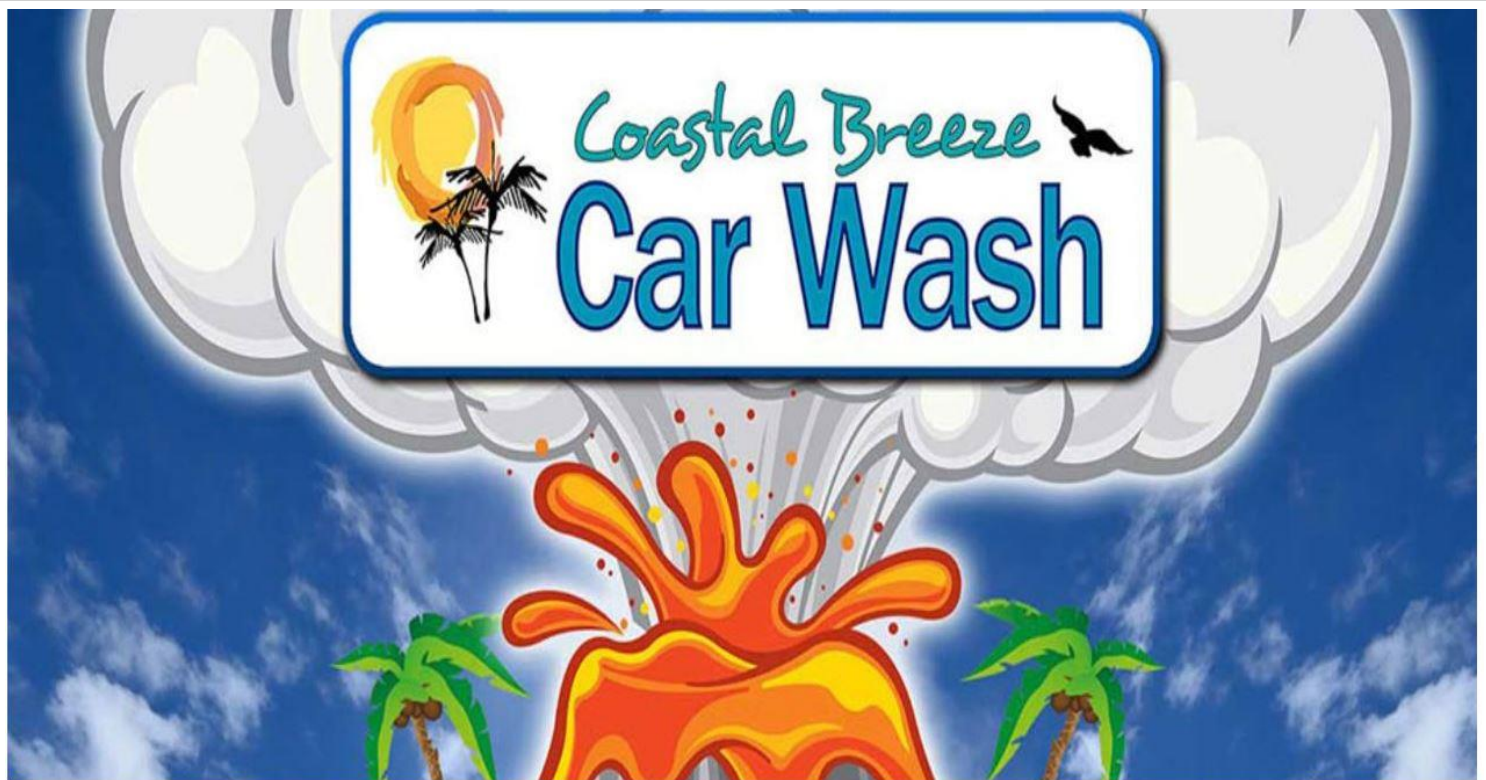


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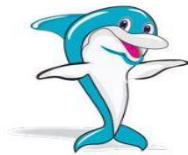


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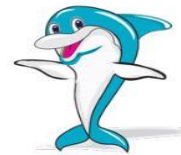
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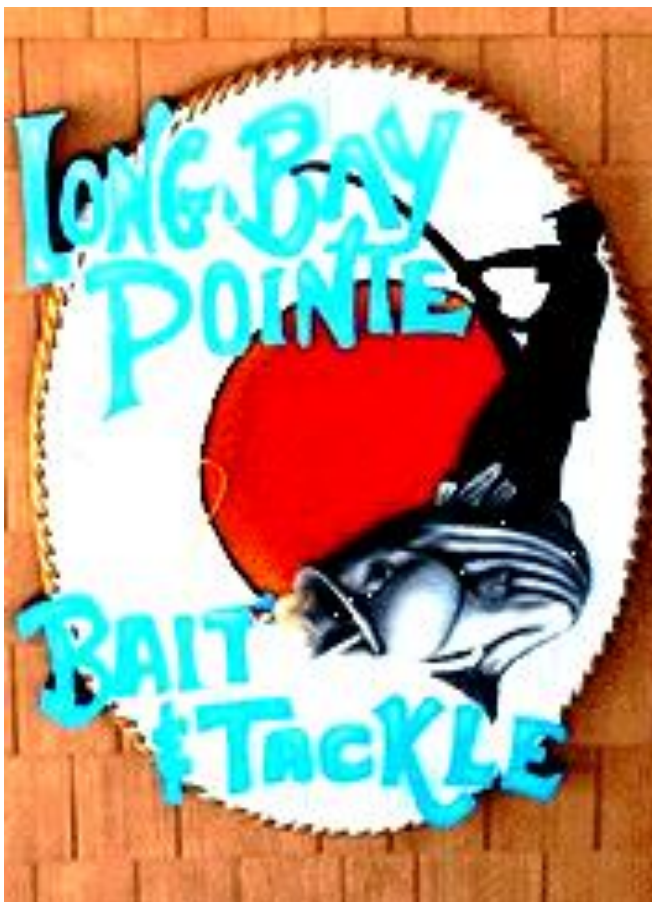
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- ❖ Promote interest and participation in recreational angling by conducting programs and activities that encourage sport fishing.
- ❖ Educate members and others in the techniques of sport fishing to enhance their enjoyment of the sport.
- ❖ Conduct 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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