

On Sunday, Capt. Ron Callis and mate Wayne Bradford took the "Muff Diver" to one of their hot spots for golden tilefish and were rewarded with 7 tilefish and some dolphin after deep dropping chunks of clam in the Baltimore Canyon. The largest golden tilefish weighed in at 56 lbs. and two of the fish (41 lbs. & 52 lbs.) were caught as a doubleheader. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center are Michael Brazerol and Darrin Pruitt from Stevensville, MD, Matt Reeder and Jim Goddard from Kent Island, MD, Vince Barbee from Grasonville, MD and Mike Turner from Bloody Point, MD.



## Gray Triggerfish Balistes capriscus

#### Key Distinguishing Markings:

- Gray Triggerfish have large incisor teeth and a deep laterally compressed gray-colored body covered with tough, sandpaper-like skin.
- The Gray Triggerfish have more than one dorsal spine; the first is large, and when erect it remains so until the smaller second spine is deflexed, triggering the first.

#### Size:

 Females live longer and grow larger than males, reaching lengths of more than 22 inches.

#### Distribution:

- The Gray Triggerfish is found on both sides of the tropical and temperate Atlantic from Massachusetts to Brazil, and from England southward along the coast of Africa.
- Along the coast of the United States, it typically inhabits hard bottom areas such as wrecks, rock outcroppings and reefs in waters 80 - 200 feet in depth.

#### Food Preference:

• Gray Triggerfish use powerful teeth to dislodge and crush small mussels, sea urchins and barnacles. They also feed on plankton.

#### Spawning:

- Spawning occurs off shore during the spring and summer, when fish are 3 years old or about 12 inches long.
- Unlike most reef fish, triggerfish have demersal eggs that are deposited in guarded nests.

#### Fun Facts:

• Triggerfish use undulating motions of their dorsal and anal fins to ascend and descend vertically and to hover over the bottom searching for food.



Burt Campbell and Mike Esham from Rehoboth, DE used live spot to fool these 4 flounder while drifting in the Indian River Inlet. Burt landed the heaviest fish of the trip, tipping the scale at 8 lbs. 4 oz. at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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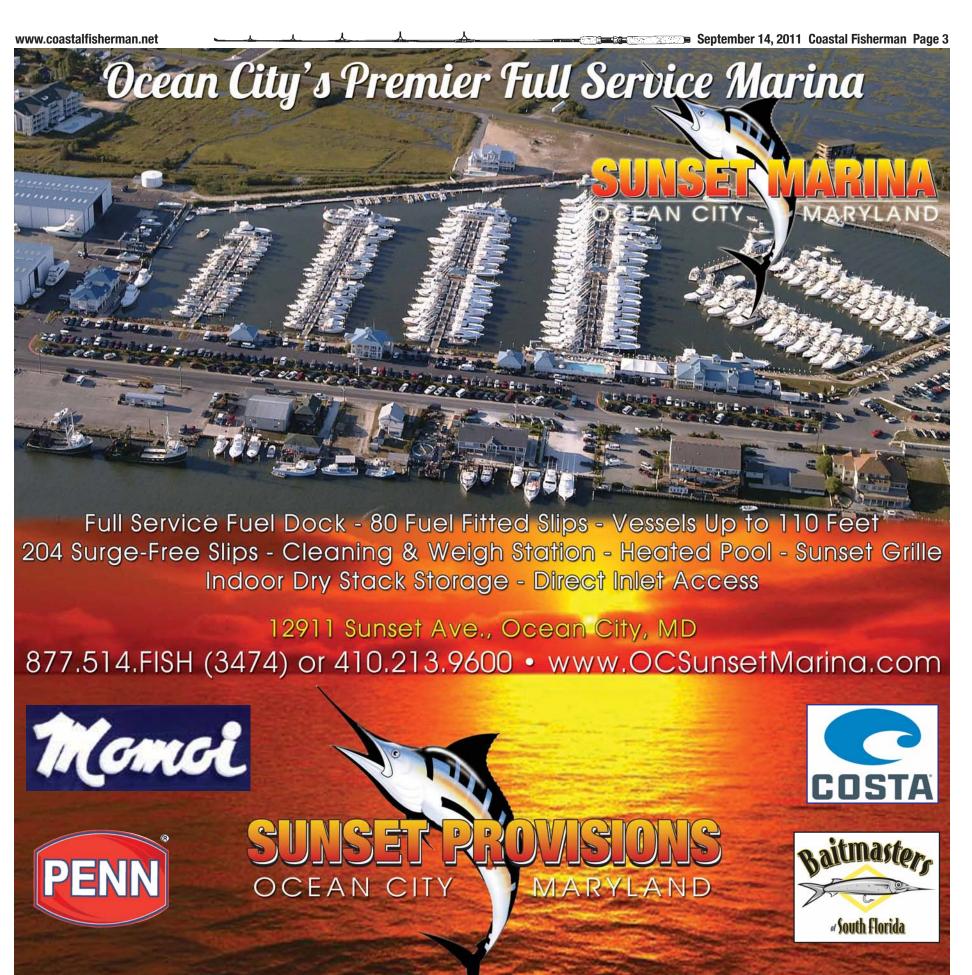
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Back in August, the crew on the "Still Lucky" boated this 213 lb. bigeye tuna while trolling a skirted ballyhoo in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured are Andrew Weber, Lucas Weber, Steve Lednum and Cory Lednum. Not pictured is Kenny Hooper and Bryant Danner.



Amy Marts from Ocean City, MD was drifting minnows near Harbour Island when she hooked into this 19-inch flounder. Amy is pictured with Mary Grace Marts.



www.coastalfisherman.net September 14, 2011 Coastal Fisherman Page 5



Russell Myers from White, PA landed a 4 lb. 13 oz. sea bass and Mike Wollard from Hagerstown muscled in a 2 lb. 8 oz. sea bass, both while fishing with clams at an artificial reef on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Rich Silvani.



Hurricane Irene put a damper on flounder fishing, but that didn't stop Mike Shockley from catching this 6 lb. 15 oz. flattie while casting a Gulp! artificial bait from the Lewes Beach. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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The flounder bite came alive on Sunday morning for anglers fishing the deep holes in the bay. Steve Wagner (right) and Doug Baker each caught a pair of flatties with Steve's 24-incher tipping the scale at an incredible 8 lbs. 1 oz. All of the fish were caught on live bunker off Martha's Landing. Pictured at Ake Marine.



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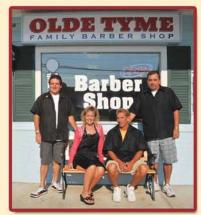


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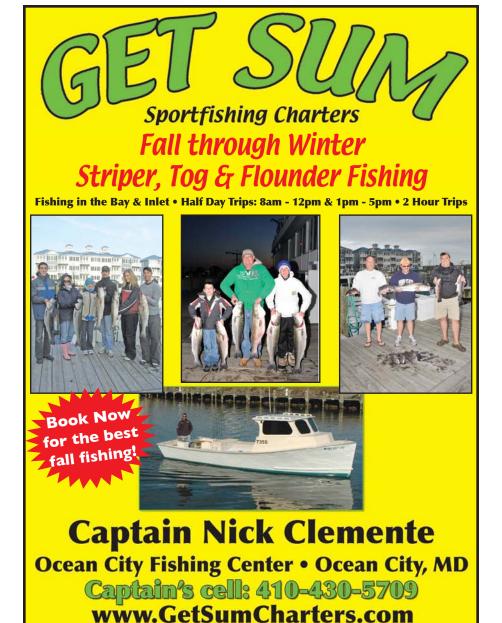
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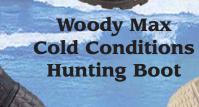


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Still Plenty of Live & FROZEN Bait

by Larry Jock

Usually, once or twice a season I could write the fishing report on a matchbook cover, and this would definitely be one of those weeks.

Hurricane Irene definitely put a damper on fishing with dirty water in the bay and sporty seas offshore. Heck, a couple of days the inlet was practically impassable. We saw one big sportfishing boat try to enter the inlet and just turn around and head back north.

#### Flounder

During the week, flounder fishing was definitely slow for those looking to throw a keeper in the box. Anglers continued to catch good numbers of short flounder with the throwback ration being as high as 60 to 1.

However, by the weekend, and especially on Sunday, the bite improved greatly. Anglers drifting live bunker or mullet around deep holes in the channel were able to land some beautiful fish. Steve Wagner gave us a call to have his picture taken with the fattest 24-inch flounder I have ever seen. This fish weighed an amazing 8 lbs. 1 oz. and was caught on a live peanut bunker around the pilings off Martha's Landing.

On Saturday, striper slayer Kevin Weber changed gears and landed a couple of 4 pounders on



On Saturday, Joyce Dodd from Morgantown, WV boated this 24inch, 6 lb. 2 oz. flounder during a trip aboard the "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mate Bay Zamani. The fish was caught on a chunk of clam at the Susan Power Reef (subway cars). Pictured in the slip at Capt. Bill Bunting's Angler Dock.

live bunker in the Fish Bowl. This is the area north of the Rt. 50 Bridge between the East and West Channels.

It looks like the subway cars at the Susan Power Reef could turn into a top producer. We have seen some nice sea bass come in from that artificial reef and we are now seeing good size flounder being caught there as well. On Saturday, the "Angler" ventured out to the reef and returned with a nice 24-inch, 6 lb.

2 oz. flattie.

This time last year, there was a good red drum bite starting for anglers fishing just Assateague Island and further out at the Mud Hole. I'm hearing this bite may be quietly heating up again for anglers this year. On Sunday, Capt. Monty Hawkins reported releasing a 41.5-inch, 27 lb. red drum over 20 miles off the beach. Pretty amazing!

www.coastalfisherman.net

bluefish

terrorizing flounder anglers fishing with live bunker all

weekend. Larger bluefish were found roaming around the

**Red Drum** 

pilings of the Rt. 50 Bridge.

Snapper

#### White Marlin

Boats that headed offshore picked at white marlin all week, with action heating up over the weekend.

Early in the week, the bite centered in the Washington and Norfolk Canyon. "No Quarter" returned on Monday with 20 white marlin releases during an overnight trip to the Norfolk. The "Billfisher" released 6 white marlin in the Washington Canyon.

On Wednesday, the top catch came in from the "D.A. Sea" with 10 white marlin releases in the Washington Canyon.

On Thursday, the Ocean City Inlet was so rough that boats didn't take a chance either coming or going. The outgoing tide bucked the East wind and made things treacherous.

Saturday saw a good bite near the Rockpile, where both the "Billfisher" and the Slammer" each released 9 whites. Other boats headed north of the Washington, where the "Osprey" and "Pool Party" each released 4 white marlin and the "Trust Fun" released six.

On Sunday, the action really took off, especially in the Norfolk where several boats recorded



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Bluefish



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Rob Lloyd from Princess Anne, MD caught and released his first white marlin during a trip to the Baltimore Canyon aboard the "Reely Movin" with Johnny Oliver and Tim Mcguire (pictured).

multiple white marlin releases. The "Billfisher" led the way with 14 releases, followed by the "No Quarter" with 10 releases. The "Reel Joy" was a little north, and released 8 whites in the Washington.

#### Dolphin

Boats looking for white marlin were able to find some good size dolphin in addition to a load of bailors.

The big catch of the week was made by junior angler, Tesher Freng, who captured a 43 pounder while fishing on the "Pool Party". The bull dolphin was hooked north of the Washington Canyon on Saturday.

#### Tuna

The only yellowfin tuna that we heard about last week was caught on Friday in the Washington Canyon by an angler on the "Crush Em". It seems like boats are having a rough time locating them after the hurricane blew through the area.

#### **Upcoming Tournaments**

This weekend is the Challenge Cup that pits Ocean City anglers against those coming down from Cape May, NJ. There are no weigh-ins for this tournament, only bragging rights for the winner. The tournament is by invitation only and will take place on September 16th and 17th. Best of luck to our Ocean City team. Bring home the trophy, again!

September 23rd, 24th and 25th is the A.M.S.A. Red Drum Tournament. This is a surf fishing tournament for anglers fishing off of Assateague Island. This tournament was historically run by a local tackle shop that is no longer in business, so the tournament was taken over by the A.M.S.A.

We do want to alert folks that both the Ake Marine Prime Time Rockfish Tournament and the Black Friday 550 Rockfish Tournament will not be held this vear. Both tournaments have been cancelled. However, the Chamber Pines Commerce will hold their 1st Rockfish Tournament out of Pines Point Marina. The tournament will be held on October 29th. You can register online www.oceanpineschamber.org.

See you at the scales!

Miles and Javanya Battarshy, from Harsahaads, NV saught those

Mike and Jeremy Battersby from Horseheads, NY caught these keeper flounder during a trip aboard the "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and mate Serge Garder. Mike landed the larger flattie of the two, with his measuring 21.5-inches and weighing 4 lbs. 6 oz. on the scale at Bahia Marina.









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to R: WGMD's Bill Collie Capt. Bill Baker Capt. Mike Rivera

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Pat McPartland from E. Northport, NY was tossing live spot from the Rt. 50 Bridge when she hooked this striped bass during slack tide. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.



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Angela Wallace couldn't be stretching this flounder out any farther after hooking it on a Gulp! and minnow combination at the Roosevelt Inlet. The big flattie weighed in at 4 lbs. 7 oz. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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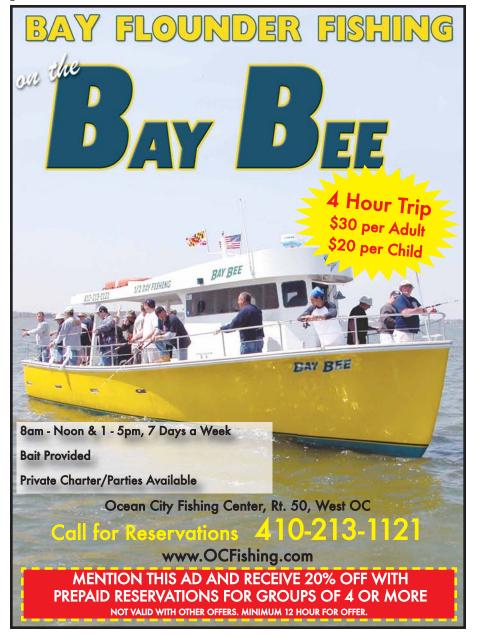
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Bud Ehrmantraut was fishing on the "Judith M" near Little Gull Shoal when he hooked this black drum on a chunk of clam. Bud is pictured with his son, Wil.





Dave Bennett was fishing in 500 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon when he caught and released this long bill spearfish after hooking on a rasta spreader bar. Dave was fishing with Chris Woolhare, Phil Shetzler and Jimmy Thompson on the "Done Worken".



On Saturday, Tesher Freng from Elkton, MD muscled in this 43 lb. dolphin and released a white marlin while fishing on the "Pool Party" in 40 fathoms north of the Washington Canyon. Tesher was fishing with her dad, Will Freng, Bill Culver, Ron Bartemy, Walt Crompton, Capt. Chris Watkowski and mates Andrew Culver and Dave Barnes. In addition, the crew boated a good catch of bailor dolphin, Ron released a white marlin and Walt released a pair of white marlin during the trip.

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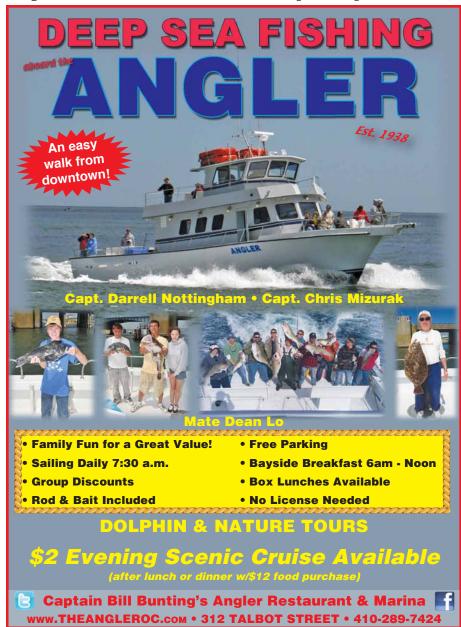


Here's a catch you don't see often off the coast of Delmarva. Ashlynn Sylvester of Hartley, DE caught this yellowfin bass while jigging with squid in 700 feet of water in the Baltimore Canyon. The yellowfin bass is typically found in waters from Virginia to southern Florida, the Gulf of Mexico and Guyana to northeastern Brazil.





Jack Brzoska from Angola, DE caught 3 keeper flounder while drifting minnows in the Indian River Inlet. Jack's heaviest fish weighed 5 lbs. 15 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop.



## **Driftin' Easy**

by Sue Foster

sun."



Tides...

One of our most asked questions are about tides. What tide should we fish? When's high or low tide? How long does it last? When does the tide come in? When does the tide go out? What's the tide in a certain place in the bay? How long does it stay high?

The definition of tides, according *Wikipedia*, the free encyclopedia on the internet:





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"The alternate rising and falling of the sea, usually twice in each lunar day at a particular place, due to the attraction of the moon and

There are usually two high and two low tides each day. Every 5 hours and 50 minutes the tide will change. If there is a "blank" in the tide table, it means there are 2 AM tides and only one PM tide, or there are 2 PM tides and only one AM tide. This may seem confusing but if you look at them closely, you will see that "blank" will be real close to midnight. For example, Oct. 24th on our Oyster Bay tide charts read that high tide is 5:36 AM and 5:59 PM. Low tide is 11:55 AM and there is a blank for low tide PM. That means that the PM low tide is around midnight. Since it is a few minutes after midnight, making it an AM tide on the following day, so they make a blank....

Most of the tide charts in our area are calculated from ocean tides and you have to convert them for the bay and inlet areas. You wouldn't think it takes 2 hours for the tide to come into an inlet, but it does! So rule of thumb is to add 2 hours to the inlet tide to calculate the tides in the bay. We always figure the Route 50 Bridge is a good landmark for adding 2 hours. The further up in the bay you are, the more you need to add to calculate the tides. Add about 2 ½ hours for the Thorofare. Add about 3 hours for Route 90. If you are way up there by Northside Park add around 3 to 3 1/2 hours. If you are in the Fenwick Ditch Harpoon Hannas you may have to add 4 hours or more! The further away from the Inlet you get, the more the

tidal flow may be affected by other things such as the wind.

The bay behind Assateague can be affected by other inlets, so this tide is actually a little earlier than the bay behind Ocean City. If you add about an hour to the tide table, you will have the tide for the bay behind Assateague.

## "The tide chart says Isle of Wight on it! Isn't that a bay tide?"

Many tide charts are figured by the ocean tides at the Isle of Wight Shoal, which is offshore in the ocean. It is a totally different place than the Isle of Wight Bay! This confuses people a lot!

The tide at the Inlet is about 2 hours earlier than the bay around the Route 50 Bridge. If you are sitting at the bulkhead at 2nd Street waiting for the incoming tide to slack up, you can run to the inlet and it will slack up earlier there. Many anglers work these tides and move around.

## "How long does the tide stay low or high?"

Not very long! Slack tide only lasts about a half hour. That's why it's **VERY** IMPORTANT to get to your fishing location BEFORE the tide is at its peak. For example, on October 24th, the high tide is 5:36 AM. If you add two hours for the bay that means full high tide will be at 7:36 AM. Basic rule of thumb is to get out there and be fishing 2 to 3 hours before high tide and one to two hours after high tide. So if you are fishing the bay, you want to get up at the crack of dawn and be fishing by 5:30 AM. at the latest.

If you are flounder fishing in the bay in a boat, you'll want to wait for the sun to come up so you can see, but if you are fishing a place like the Route 50 Bridge for flounder, stripers, blues and even tautog, get up there before light and you will probably have a good catch of whatever you are fishing for!

If you are surf fishing, high tide will be at 5:30 AM. so get out there as early as you can. You may miss the incoming tide, but will catch the first of the outgoing tide, which can be very good in the surf. The surf is always good in the early morning hours, no matter what the tide. If you are a surf fisherman, don't let the tides rule your life. Dawn and dusk are always good.

## "When is incoming tide? When is outgoing tide?"

OK, let's look at October 24th again for an example. Peak high tide in the ocean or on the surf is 5:36 AM. That's as high as it gets. Then it starts going out. In the bay, that time would be 7:36 AM. Between 5:36 AM (high tide) and 11:55 AM (low tide) the tide will be going "out." We call that the "outgoing tide." Between 11:66 AM (low tide) and 5:59 PM (high tide) the tide will be coming into the bays and we call this "incoming tide." Between 5:59 PM (High Tide and Midnight (Low Tide) the tide will again be an "outgoing tide."

Most anglers prefer an incoming tide because the water is cleaner and higher. If you are crabbing on one of the piers in the upper bays, the incoming tide is best because the water levels are higher. If you are surf fishing, the incoming tide usually has less troublesome crabs chewing on your bait. The Oceanic Pier usually has better fishing during the incoming tide than the outgoing tide.

However, there are two parts of the outgoing tide that are good. The beginning of the outgoing tide is always good for flounder, stripers, tautog or just about anything. When is the beginning of the outgoing tide? Find peak high tide on the tide chart. For example, on Oct 24th, that would be either 5:36 AM. or 5:59 PM. (add two hours for the bay). At that time the tide is as high as it can get. When it starts moving out we call

this the "beginning of the outgoing." This is usually a very good tide, but may only last about an hour before the water gets dirty.

OK, the other part of the outgoing tide that is good is the "last of the outgoing." That's the tide where it is still moving out but is getting very close to low tide. So get the tide chart out. Oct 24th, for example, low tide is at 11:55 AM. So figure an hour before that time, around 10:55 AM. should get you the last of the outgoing tide. In the spring and fall, water temperatures are the warmest on this tide. Especially important when fishing for flounder or tautog.

The other part of tides that you have to understand, is that tide charts will never be precise and "on the nose." They are a "guide" and that is all. Wind can force a tide in sooner or hold it in longer. Always go fishing earlier so you don't miss the tide. And if it's a pretty day, just go fishing!

Hope it helps... good fishing!

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



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Steven Sauble from Perry Hall, MD caught his limit of flounder and Sue Hibernik from Duncansville, PA landed a 3 lb. 7 oz. sea bass, both while fishing on the "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Matt Temple. The heaviest flounder weighed 3 lbs. and was caught on a strip bait at a natural reef.



Norm Belbot, Jason Belbot, Robert Turner and Phil Goetz returned to the Ocean City Fishing Center with 3 white marlin releases and a dolphin after spending the day fishing in 50 fathoms inside the Washington Canyon on the "Bill\$ 4 Bills" with Capt. Jim Conkel and mate Marty Whitehurst.



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Chuck Covell from Rockville, MD boated this dolphin on light tackle while fishing with David Stevens of Ocean Pines, MD on the "Sea Biscuit". The dolphin, along with a small yellowfin tuna, were caught on live spot outside the tip of the Baltimore Canyon.



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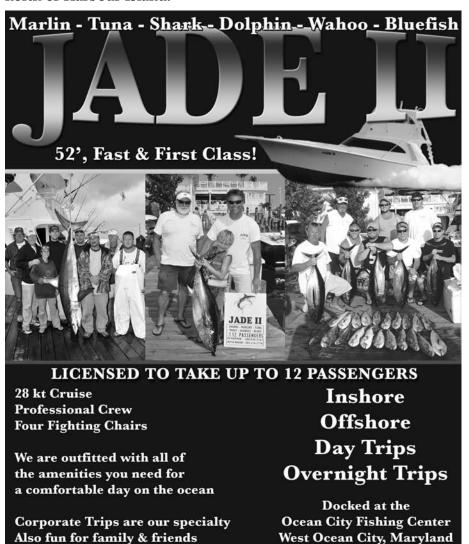
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Gulp! artificial baits have been a popular and effective choice for flounder fishermen this year, and John Thomas put the 4-inch white shrimp to the test when he captured this 23-inch, 4 lb. flattie just north of Harbour Island.

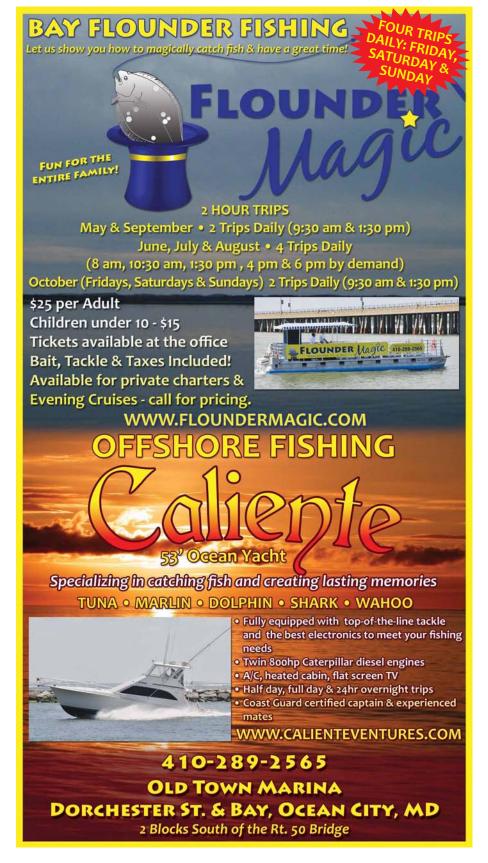


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Tracy Luppe from Pittsburgh, PA caught this 18.25-inch flounder on a minnow and squid combination in the bay behind Assateague Island while fishing on the "Flounder Magic" with Capt. Alan Bowmaster and mate Sonny Layton. Tracy is pictured at the Old Town Marina with his son, Ryan.



## The Galley

by Mama Jock



## Spaghetti with Mussels and Bacon

Kosher salt
4 slices bacon, diced
2 shallots, chopped
1 cup dry white wine
1/4 tsp. red pepper flakes
1 28 oz. can whole
tomatoes
12 oz. spaghetti
1/4 cup parsley
1 large clove garlic,
smashed
2 lbs. mussels, scrubbed
and debearded

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil.

Heat the butter in a dutch oven or deep skillet mediumhigh heat.

Add the bacon and shallots; cook until the bacon starts to brown.

Add wine and red pepper flakes, increase the heat to high and cook until slightly reduced.

Add the tomatoes, crushing them with your hands, and cook until reduced by half, about 10 minutes.

Add the pasta to the boiling water and cook according to directions on package; drain.

Pile the parsley, garlic and 1 tsp. of salt on a cutting board and use a large knife to mince and mash them together.

Add the mussels to the tomato sauce and turn to coat, then cover.

As the mussels open (2 to 6 minutes), use tongs to transfer them to a bowl; discard any that do not open.

Add the pasta to the sauce and toss until heated through,

Add the parsley-garlic mixture and toss.

1 minute.

Divide the pasta among bowls and top with mussels. Serves 4.

## Open-Face Tuna Burgers with Honey Mustard

1/3 cup Dijon mustard
3 TBSP. honey
4 skinless fillets, cut into
cubes
Salt and pepper
1/4 cup finely chopped
chives
1 TBSP. Old Bay Seasoning
1 tsp. grated lemon zest
Extra-virgin olive oil
Softened butter, for
spreading
2 sandwich-size english
muffins, split and
toasted

Lettuce or other greens

In a small bowl, stir

Thinly sliced cucumber

Red onion, thinly sliced

together the mustard and honey. In a food processor, pulse

the tuna to a fine chop.

Place in a bowl and season with salt and pepper.

Add 2 TBSP. of the honeymustard mixture, the chives, Old Bay and lemon zest.

Form into 4 large burgers.

Drizzle some extra-virgin olive oil into a large skillet, add the burgers, cook, turning once over medium-high heat for 6 minutes for med-rare, 10 to 12 minutes for med-well.

Lightly butter the English muffins.

Top each muffin half with the tuna burgers, remaining honey-mustard sauce, the sliced cucumbers, onion and greens.

Eat these patties with a knife and fork.

Serves 4.

#### Dolphin with Mango Salsa

2 TBSP. butter

4 mangos

2 kiwis

1 banana

1 large red onion

1 yellow bell pepper

www.coastalfisherman.net
Basil leaves, chopped
4 wahoo steaks
Olive oil

Dice fruit, onions and peppers into small pieces.

Melt the butter; place all of the ingredients, except the wahoo in a frying pan and simmer until soft.

Heat grill and oven to 350 degrees.

Brush olive oil on one side of the steaks.

Place oiled side on hot grill; cook until this side is nice and brown.

Do not turn.

Place the grilled side down in a glass oven baking dish.

Spoon salsa over uncooked side of steak.

Top with the chopped basil.

Place in oven for 15 to 20 minutes.

Serves 4.

#### **Crab Fritters**

3/4 cup mayonnaise
1 TBSP. Dijon mustard
1 TBSP. prepared
horseradish
2 cloves garlic, peeled
2 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
1 TBSP. chives, chopped
2 cups oil, for frying
1 cup hush puppy mix
1/2 cup milk
1 egg
1 lb. cooked lump
crabmeat

In a food processor, combine the first 5 ingredients; process until well blended.

Transfer to a bowl; stir in chives, cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

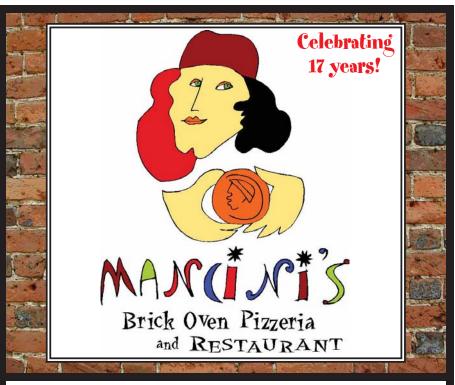
Heat oil in a heavy saucepan to 375 degrees.

Stir together the hush puppy mix, milk and egg until smooth.

Fold in the crab; drop 2 TBSP. of the batter into the hot oil.

Fry until golden brown, turning once if needed.

Drain on paper towels. Serve with the garlic sauce. Serves 5. Yields 20 Fritters.



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Cole Evans from Chestertown, MD set a personal best when he landed this 25-inch flounder on a Gulp! artificial bait in the East Channel. Cole was fishing with Jay Phillips of Ocean City, MD.



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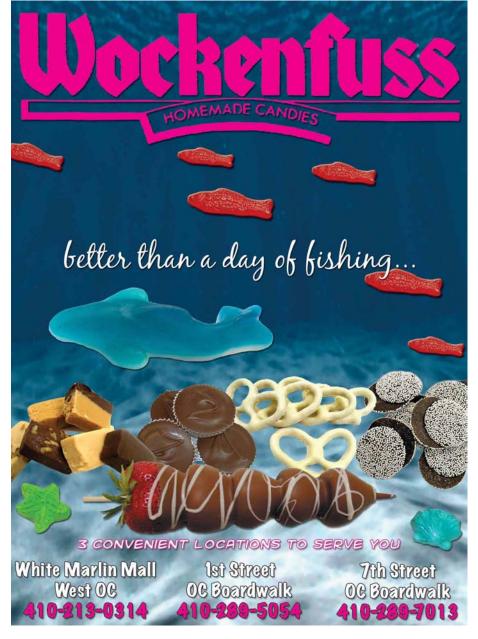




This group of anglers ventured out to the Great Eastern Reef for some sea bass fishing and were surprised to catch 3 dolphin on minnows and squid. They also caught sea bass, flounder and an 18-inch squid during the trip. Pictured are Ward Parkin and Todd, Brent and Russell Applegit.



Michael Manning from Bentleyville, PA caught this 19inch flounder in the bay while fishing a squid and minnow combination on the "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and mate Serge Garder.



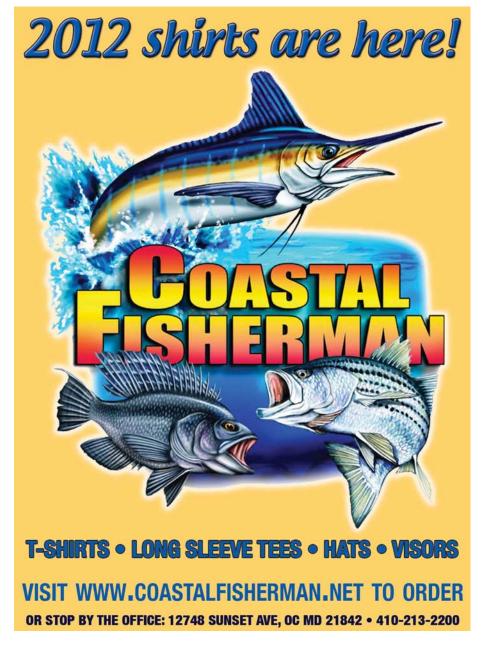


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Scott Cody caught this 20-inch flounder during a fishing trip with Tara Hubbard to the West Channel north of Hooper's Crab House. The fish was caught on a white Gulp! Swimming Mullet.

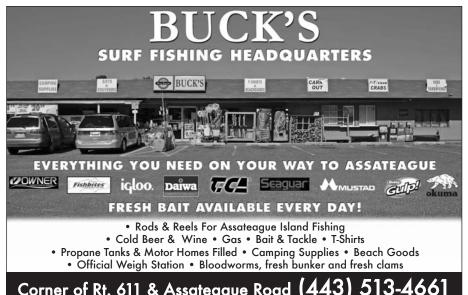




Dominic Albanese from Millsboro, DE released his first white marlin while fishing on the Seaside Slammer with Capt. Scott Fluharty and mate Ryan Fluharty.



Looking both happy and scared, Ally and Molly Haas of Allentown, PA display the 2 keeper flounder they caught on shiners and clams while fishing on the headboat, "Judy V". Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.



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## **CLARK WINS SPOT TOURNAMENT**



In the 2011 Ocean City Fishing Center Spot Tournament held on Sunday, Braelyn Clark from Berlin, MD captured first place honors with a 224 millimeter (8.8 inches) spot caught off the dock at the Fishing Center. Second and third place went to Ashton Jerman with spot measuring 220 millimeters and 215 millimeters. The Most Unusual Fish Award was won by Keegan Latchum with a 670 millimeter (26.4 inches) needlefish and the Most Fish Award was taken by Lane Jones with 10 fish and a turtle. Over 50 anglers participated in the annual tournament and \$266 in prize money was awarded. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





### Why advertise in the Coastal Fisherman?

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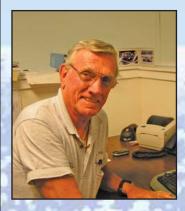
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Glen Hastings of Inland Cove, Inc. Boat Storage says, "Ever since we started advertising in the Coastal Fisherman we have seen a good increase in the number of customers. We know the business is coming in from the Coastal Fisherman ad because many times they show up with the ad in their hand."

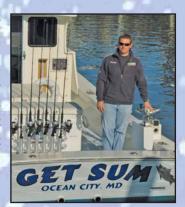
Capt. Paul Turner of PT's Marine says, "Since most of my customers are fishermen, there's no better way to reach them than through the Coastal Fisherman. My ad has helped me establish my new business and put me in contact with new customers. I really appreciate all the calls and the business."





Capt. Bill Baker of Bill's Sport Shop says, "It's the best exposure possible if you are targeting the fishing and boating community. The Coastal Fisherman has brought many new customers through our doors that were happy to find us and the products they were looking for. Our customers wait with great anticipation for the arrival of the magazine and it flies off the racks every week."

Capt. Nick Clemente of "Get Sum" Charters says, "People see our ad and photos in the Coastal Fisherman consistently, and that really helps us book trips on a near daily basis. A lot of our customers also see the "Get Sum" video on the Charter Boat Directory section of the Coastal Fisherman website."



## FOASTAL FISHERMAN

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(410) 213-2200 coastalfisherman@comcast.net 12748 Sunset Avenue Ocean City, MD 21842



Brian Perry released his first blue marlin while trolling the 50 fathom line of the Baltimore Canyon. Brian hooked the fish on a ballyhoo/Ilander combination.



Todd Applegit from Buffalo, NY caught these 2 flounder weighing 5 lbs. 8 oz. and 6 lbs. 8 oz. while drifting minnows in the East Channel. Todd was fishing with his brother, Brent Applegit, his dad, Russell Applegit and Ward Parkin.





Commercial fisherman Chuck Powell from Ocean City, MD was trolling ballyhoo to his next pot when he hooked into this 46 lb. dolphin in the Norfolk Canyon. Chuck was fishing on the "Pot Luck".







# FISHERMAN



## 2011

## Heaviest Fish of the Year

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

Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
Sea Bass	May 25, 2011 Ricky Herbert "Morning Star" 6 lbs. 4 oz.	May 27, 2011 Hobby Isaacs Reef Site 11 5 lbs. 10 oz.	Mako Shark	June 22, 2011 Robert Powell "Fish Finder" 640 lbs.	June 8, 2011 Chris Bowden "Misdemeanor" 231 lbs.
Tautog	March 30, 2011 Scott Allison Ocean Wreck 19 lbs. 8 oz.	July 2, 2011 William Bonniwell Wreck 11 lbs. 11 oz.	Thresher Shark	May 29, 2011 Charlie Lutes Fingers 470 lbs.	May 31, 2011 Alex Capozio "DB" Buoy 487 lbs.
Striped Bass	April 20, 2011 Robert Remo Rt. 50 Bridge 36 lbs.	May 18, 2011 Bill Winkler Indian River Inlet 45 lbs. 2 oz.	Bluefin Tuna	July 17, 2011 J.L. Cropper Hot Dog 128 lbs.	July 23, 2011 Chip Roman Poor Man's Canyon 108 lbs.
Weakfish	June 1, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel 4 lbs. 6 oz.	No Weights Reported	Yellowfin Tuna	June 10, 2011 Joe Cox Baltimore Canyon 103 lbs.	August 19, 2011 Darren Evans Baltimore Canyon 96.5 lbs.
Speckled Trout	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Longfin Tuna	August 21, 2011 Al Rittmeyer Baltimore Canyon 35 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Flounder	August 2, 2011 Trace Shaffer West Channel 9 lbs. 3 oz.	July 22, 2011 Randy Colona Indian River Inlet 12 lbs.	Bigeye Tuna	July 6, 2011 Crew "Marli" 280 lbs.	August 17, 2011 Ryan Cene Baltimore Canyon 182.5 lbs.
Bluefish	May 21, 2011 Alexa Lamplugh Fingers 14.8 lbs.	August 21, 2011 Duncan Rine Indian River Inlet 12 lbs. 6 oz.	Dolphin	July 30, 2011 Noah Citron Washington Canyon 65 lbs.	July 7, 2011 Kelly Horning Baltimore Canyon 42.6 lbs.
Sheepshead	June 18, 2011 Michael Guigley South Jetty 13 lbs.	July 2, 2011 Kyu Sok Yi Ice Breakers 12 lbs. 9 oz.	Wahoo	September 3, 2011 Mike Cusimano Washington Canyon 89 lbs.	September 2, 2011 Mark Smith Hot Dog 80 lbs.
Cobia	July 10, 2011 Gail Pulvere "Lisa's Way" 35 lbs.	August 18, 2011 Timmy Barnette Delaware Lightship 68.2 lbs.	White Marlin	Most Release August 13, 2011 "Billfisher" Washington Canyon 20 releases	s in One Day  July 5, 2011  "Outlet"  Baltimore Canyon 5 releases

For a copy of this page or to report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200



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## **Delaware Fishing Report**

by Rick Willman



Hi folks! Fishing has slowed down considerably with the kids back in school and Mother Nature wielding her nasty weather stick. Dirty water and unfavorable sea conditions have kept most boats in their slips. Those venturing out are finding a few fish in the normal spots.

Inshore fishermen are finding a few sea bass, flounder, and croaker at the "DB" and "DA" Buoy areas. The Old Grounds is also giving up a few fish. Most of the offshore activity seems to be south near the Poor Man's Canyon. Back bay fishermen are finding dirty water to be a big thorn in the side. Crabbing also continues to be good.

Ten-year-old Josh Dabbs of Millsboro used squid to fool a 6.2 lb. flattie in the Indian River





Peter Luketic from Vienna, VA was fishing on the "Angler" with Capt. Chris Ragni when he hooked into this 4 lb. 2 oz. flounder. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

Inlet.

Striper season is just around the corner and now is the time to gear up. Be sure that your rod and reel are ready for a fight. Check your line to see if it should be changed to ensure you come out on the winning end of the battle. Live eels, live spot, Black Salties and bucktails will probably be your weapons of choice. When fishing the inlet, try your best to be a good sport. The Indian River Inlet is able to fish a good number of boats, but it can get a bit crowded at times. When we had the striper blitz in the spring, many people just got out of control and made it a bad situation. Hopefully we will have a great fall run and let's try to make it safer and more enjoyable. Striper chasers fishing the ocean and the mouth of the Delaware Bay will be using Stretch 25's,

umbrella rigs, big bucktails and live bait.

To make the striper season even more exciting, get involved in a tournament or two. There will be various contests going on in the area and this is a great way to make every trip a bit thrilling. Here at Rick's Bait and Tackle, we are running a tournament in conjunction with Sea Side Gas and Grill. The contest starts October 1st and runs through November 30th. Stop in and get signed up.

Bill's Sport Shop is also running his yearly striper tournament. There is plenty of added fun and you may walk away with some extra cash in your pocket.

At Rattle & Reel Sporting Center, Pat tells us that the larger flounder are beginning to stack up near the Inlet. He also reported some better sea bass activity at Site #10.

www.coastalfisherman.net Capt. Bill at Bill's Sport Shop reported that Chuck Nagle was fishing Massey's and came away with a lot of blues in the 20 to 22-inch size. He also pulled some sea bass and short flounder over the rail. A rare catch at Massey's! The effects of Irene must have caused this. A 5 lb. sheepshead was tricked to the boards with clam as bait last week. Anglers on the "Playin Hookey" ventured to the Baltimore Canyon on Wednesday and came back with 2 yellowfin. Paul Powalski called from the Cape Henlopen Pier after stopping at Bill's for fresh mullet to report catching blues over 16-inches while chunking. He also reported that a lot of fishermen were catching sand sharks. Bill also received the following email from customer: "We went out to "DB" Buoy on Wednesday and did pretty good. We had a mix of fish like croaker, sea bass, and blues, lots of small flounder and two that were 22inches. Not bad for a trip after the hurricane. We will be going again soon and if we do well I'll let you know. Thanks again, Frank."

Dom and Russell fishing on the "Mr. Dom" caught 41 croaker all between 12 and 16inches as well as two 16-inch throwback flounder. They fished west of "B" buoy using squid and silversides for bait. Chad Bayles fished at 3R's Rd. with whole mullet rigs and caught blues up to 15-inches and small stripers on mullet chunks. He then went to the swirls at the Indian River Inlet and caught 18-inch blues on finger mullet and 6 kingfish up to 12-inches on FishBites. Mike fished the Naval Crossing and had blues up to 15-inches on whole mullet rigs. Large spot measuring up to 9inches were being hauled over the boards at the fishing pier at Cape Henelopen. Massey's Ditch was also producing bluefish on fresh mullet. Eddie Kim of Rockville, MD caught a citation flounder in the Indian River Inlet using a white bucktail and chartreuse Gulp!.

The flounder weighed in at 8.45 lbs. and was 27-inches

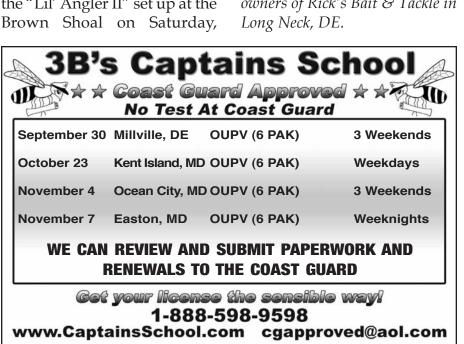
Capt. Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said ocean caught bottom bouncers croakers, but not in big numbers like the previous weekend. Rough structure northwest of the "DB" Buoy continued to be productive; however, hardheads were scattered across the Old Grounds and from "DC" to "DA" Buoys. More keeper sea bass showed among catches of anglers drifting those same areas. Snapper blues were plentiful, and ling were mingled among the catches as well. Boaters also hooked flounder, but legal size flatties have been scarce since the passage of Irene. Flatfish do like fresh meat, so strips of mullet, spot or bluefish are good choices for trying to tempt one into eating this time of year.

Fishermen on the "Martha Marie" kept two nice fluke and a bucket full of sea bass and croakers while working south of "DB" Saturday. Captain Carey's crew on the "Grizzly" iced 2 fluke out of 10 they caught, and also put a mix of about 3 dozen croakers and bass in the box near "DB". The "Miss Kirstin" returned with a nice batch of croakers and bass from northwest of "DB" Saturday. Delaware Bay water conditions remained murky, but an assortment of panfish was still available around the artificial reefs. Captain Chet on the "Lil' Angler II" set up at the where his group enjoyed a blowfish blitz. They kept 28 of the tasty puffers, and also had 75 snapper bluefish plus a pair of nice flatfish. Peter Luketic landed a 4.07 lb. flounder during a trip on the "Angler". Mullet have moved into the shallows inside Henlopen and along Lewes Beach, and snapper blues have been working the baitfish over pretty well. Surfcasters on the bay side of the Cape got into mini choppers using cut fresh mullet. Spot were still hanging around the Cape Henlopen Pier. Folks lining the rails did well with bloodworms and FishBites. At Roosevelt Inlet. anglers had throwback flounder, and a few nice keepers, like the 4.42 lb. flattie that Angela Wallace captured while casting a Gulp!.

On the offshore scene, boats trolling 40 fathoms between Rockpile and the Washington found white "Skipjack" marlin. The overnighted in the Baltimore Canyon on Friday for a yellowfin and some dolphin, plus a swordfish release. It's the time of year for wahoo inshore, and 'hoos have been reported on twenty fathom structures like the Hot Dog, Hambone and Chicken Bone. Wahoo often orient themselves to free floating objects, so it's worth checking out any weeds or wood you come across.

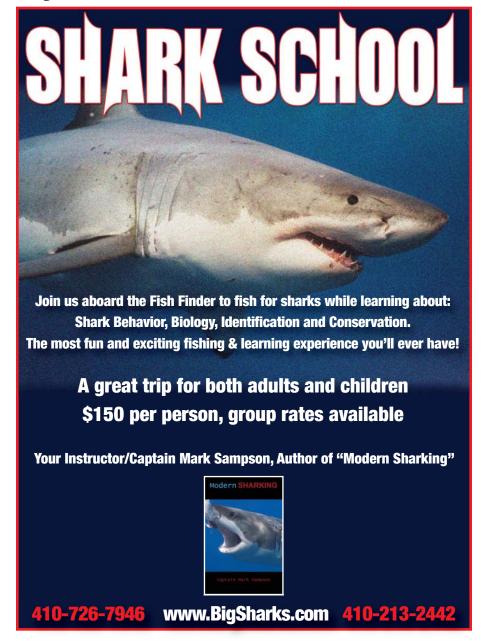
'Til next week, have fun and be safe!!!

Rick and his wife Deb are owners of Rick's Bait & Tackle in





Noah Tuohey, age 11, from Middletown, DE is all smiles after catching this 2 lb. flounder on a live minnow at Massey's Ditch. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.





## Delaware Regulations State Waters Only



STRIPED BASS 28" 2 per person 8/31-12/31



**BLUEFISH** 

No minimum size 10 per person/day

**RED DRUM** 20" - 27" 5 per person/day



**CROAKER** 8" minimum No creel limit



SUMMER FLOUNDER 18" minimum 4 per person/day 5/11 - 10/23



**SHEEPSHEAD No limit** 



WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day



**TAUTOG** Closed 9/1 - 9/28 14" minimum 10 per person/day 9-29-11 - 3-31-12



SPECKLED TROUT 12" minimum No creel limit



**BLUE CRAB** 

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**BLACK DRUM** 16" minimum 3 per person/day

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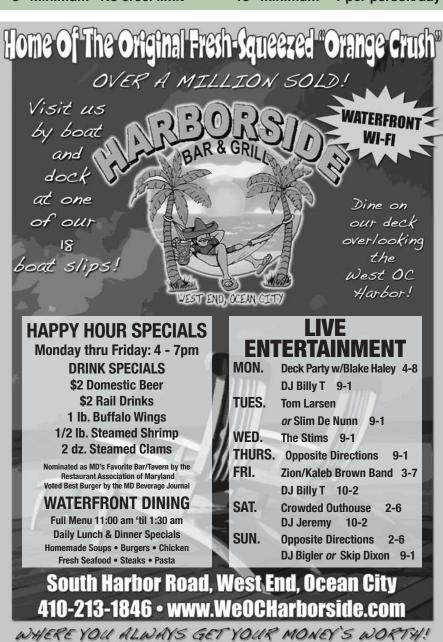
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Dave Beach from Ocean City, MD was fishing off the 4th Street bulkhead when he hooked this 19-inch, 2 lb. 12 oz. flounder on a minnow. Weighed at Oyster Bay Tackle.



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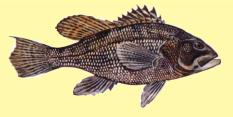
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BLACK SEA BASS 12.5 " 25 per person/day 5/22 - 10/11 & 11/1-12/31



BLUEFISH 8" minimum 10 per person/day



CROAKER
9" minimum 25 per person/day



TAUTOG

14" 2 per person/day 5/16 - 10/31

14" 4 per person/day 11/1 - 11/30

Closed 12/1 - 12/31



WEAKFISH
13" minimum 1 per person/day



COD 22" minimum 10/person/day



SUMMER FLOUNDER

18" minimum 3 per person/day
April 16th to November 30th



SPECKLED TROUT

14" minimum 10 per person/day



STRIPED BASS
28" minimum 2 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD No limit



RED DRUM
18" to 27" 1 per person/day

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# Ship To Shore

··—·— by Pat Schrawder



# SOME TIPS TO HELP YOUR EQUIPMENT **OPERATE EFFICIENTLY**

There are things that you should do to maintain your equipment on a regular basis and give you days of trouble free boating. Here are just a few tips to give you some help.

Your VHF radio, for example, may have a tendency to deteriorate in performance over time. The frequency drifts and the power may decrease. Fortunately, these are things that can usually be corrected by a series of internal adjustments depending on the model and the age of the set. At least every two years, you should take your set to your dealer for a check up and adjustment of these items. If you do not, you might find that the radio seems to both transmit and receive over shorter distances than before. In the worst case,

people may tell you that your voice sounds garbled.

All of your equipment depends on a good twelve volt power source. Actually, a properly working battery system should maintain a level of 13.6 volts. As that amount decreases, the result is poorer performance of your electronics to the point where some of them may not even come on. There are some things you can look for to give you a clue about what is going on with your equipment, however.

If your radio seems to work okay until you push the transmit button and then it squeals, switches to channel sixteen or goes off altogether, that is a good sign that you are not getting enough power to the set. This is something that affects all of your equipment. It is just easier to spot when it comes to your radio equipment. If you should experience any of this, start

checking your power leads and sources. Corrosion is the most frequent culprit. Even though you have good power coming from your batteries, corrosion on a fuse or along the power wires can cause them to be incapable of delivering the full current to your equipment. Very often, moisture that seeps into a cable through a puncture in the wire's casing will eat its way along the wire, eventually destroying it.

This effect of moisture on wiring can also affect your antennas. Whether they are for your radios or your GPS, corrosion can prevent your antennas from receiving the proper signals. If this happens, proceed along the same lines as above. Examine your cables from your antennas to see if there are any puncture marks. If you find any, remove the antenna and check along the cable from the puncture mark forward to see if you can determine how far the corrosion has advanced. Most boat wiring is made of copper and has a shiny appearance. When corrosion attacks wiring, it turns the color to a dark, dull brown and the wire eventually becomes brittle. If you catch the process before it has become too advanced, you can, in some cases, cut out the bad part and splice the remains together. If that is not possible, you will have to replace the entire cable and fitting. In the case of your GPS equipment, that is a good alternative. In the case of radio equipment antenna, possibility of replacing the wire is only an option if the corrosion is far enough away from the base of the antenna to allow for a splice. Since the wire feeds into the body of the antenna and the antenna itself cannot be taken apart, corrosion that is too close to the antenna will mean you have to replace the whole antenna.

Aside from corrosion, the other potential villains that may affect your equipment are an

interruption of ground, improper or inadequate installation, and, of course, normal equipment failure. If your equipment has been operating successfully and suddenly starts having problems, obviously the sources of the problems are not installation. Likewise, if you have never had a proper ground system and your equipment has been doing its job pretty well, there is no reason to assume, at this point, that lack of ground is the problem. If, however, you do have a good ground and you start having problems with noisy reception on radios or depth finders, checking for a break in the ground would be a wise move and something you can do yourself. If you have ruled out power problems or other difficulties caused by corrosion and you have good ground on a previously well working system, it is then reasonable to assume that your equipment itself may defective, especially if there is only one item that is acting up. At this point, it is time to consult someone who is trained in searching out the source of the problem.

Much of today's equipment is waterproof but it is still a good idea to keep splashes or rain off the items. One good idea is to keep one or both bath towels available that you can throw over equipment if the situation calls for it. The towel will absorb the bulk of the water and can be dried out to use another time.

Since we are coming to the end of this season, there are several things you should consider doing before you put your boat away. We'll look at some of them next week.

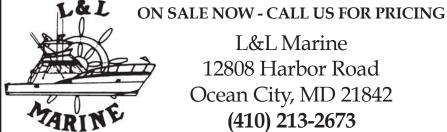
Pat and her husband, Larry are owners of L&L Marine Electronics on Golf Course Road in West Ocean City, MD.

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Garrett Hoffman and Joel Lewis from Deep Creek, MD and Steve and Nick Cosgrove from Baltimore, MD ended their day with 6 flounder in the box measuring between 18 and 20.5-inches. All of the fish were caught on live bunker in the East Channel near the Rt. 50 Bridge.



Steve Farkas, Sr. was fishing on the "I'm Just Sayin" near the Commercial Harbor when he landed this 19.5-inch flounder.



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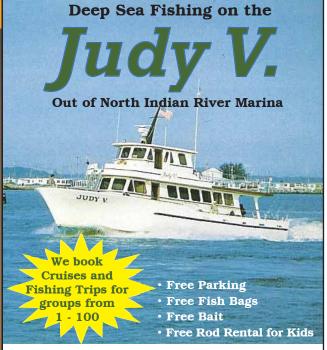
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# **Chum Lines**

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Probably more so than ever before, fishermen are doing a lot more "releasing" these days. And while I'd like to say that it's all a result of a new upwelling of ethics among fishermen, but I'm afraid that much of the credit is simply due to regulations. If you haven't noticed, a lot of days it might be no problem to go out and catch a fish or two, but to get the right size and type at the precise time when the season is actually open - that's the trick! Of course, if there's fish to be

caught a lot of us are going to be out there catching them just because we love to fish so much that if catch-and-release is what we've gotta do then so be it, we'll catch fish every day and eat burgers every night if we have to, but we WILL fish!

At face value this release bonanza might seem like a winwin-win for everyone involved, and it pretty much is considering that fishermen get to fish, tackle shops, marinas and all the other businesses that prosper from the fishing industry make money, and after being released the fish get to go back into the water to do whatever it is they were doing before they were interrupted by a sudden tug on their cheek. Everybody's happy - right? Well..... maybe not always.

Catch-and-release has always been a great thing for sportsmen and has allowed us to participate the different fisheries regardless of whether the season is open or closed, even if the fish are too small or, in some cases, too big. If we put back everything we catch, we get to keep on fishing no matter what. Catchand-release is something fishing has over hunting as you can't exactly drop a deer in the woods or knock a duck out of the sky and then decide, "Nah, it's too small," pat it on its head and send it happily on its way with hopes of maybe shooting again next year after it's grown a bit. Shoot-and-release hunting just doesn't seem to work.

As ridiculous as the notion of killing something and then trying to turn it loose might seem, over the years I have unfortunately seen far too many examples of fishermen who are pretty close to doing just that with some of the fish they catch. Mishandling fish is a problem a lot of fishermen need to work on.

Much of the problem is an attitude of contempt some anglers have toward the fish they release, and I'm not just referring to sea robins and skates. I've heard anglers cussing flounder, sea bass and even tuna when what they catch is too small and

they release their quarry in anything but a gentle way. While stuck in traffic one afternoon I watched a fellow haul an undersized flounder up onto the Rt. 50 Bridge, flop it down on the hot dry pavement, hold it down with his foot while he pried the hook out, and then toss it over the railing like a Frisbee! While I'm sure that was an "extreme" case of poor ethics, total "jerkness" or however you'd want to describe the actions of the fool, it just goes to show how bad it can be sometimes for the fish that get released. Then again, whether a fish dies from such blatant mishandling as that, or after being released by a wellbut uninformed meaning fisherman who makes the mistake of using a dry rag to hold his catch while removing the hook, dead-is-dead and either way that fish is not going to live to make more fish or have a shot at being caught again some day when it might be a keeper.

Poor release practices are often the result of fishermen who simply aren't prepared for catchand-release. Consider a small group of anglers who hop in their boat for a day of offshore fishing with hopes of bringing home a few tuna. They're ready for their catch with a cooler full of ice and a sharp gaff but when they happen into a school of mostly undersized fish it might be a different story. It's easy to land a keeper tuna. All you have to do is stick it with the gaff and swing it into the fish box. But boating, measuring, de-hooking and releasing a tuna in a way that doesn't eventually kill it requires some extra tools and at least a little prior planning. Obviously a gaff can't be used so the tuna will have to either be netted or lifted in by the leader. Once on deck, tuna are like greased pigs that kick and squirm at 6000 RPM's, and if not handled properly will beat and bang themselves to death while anglers try to measure and de-hook them. Tuna should never be lifted by the tail but anglers can wrap them in a large wet towel for safe control while working with them. A large padded mat on the deck can also be used to keep them from banging themselves up too much. Whenever possible, the best bet is to just release the tuna (or any fish) in the water, and for that the ARC de-hooking tool is a "must-have" for

fisherman. Speaking of de-hooking tools, and getting back to flounder, I'm astonished to see that aboard at least some of our local bayfishing party boats, members are not routinely using de-hookers to release their flounder. This is a tool that every mate on every flounder boat should have in their possession every moment they're fishing. During the summer, when business is good and the fish are biting, 50-100 flounder will be released from these boats each trip. Considering the "proven" fact that holding a fish in a bare hand or a dry rag removes the slime layer and can eventually kill it, that's a lot of flounder that might be dying every day after being caught and released from our local headboats. De-hooking tools are cheap, easy to use and get a fish back in the water fast and without the hassle or mess of trying to grab or restrain a squirming, puking flounder. It's an absolute "no-brainer" that everyone fishing the bay should

> populations! Whether they're turning loose tuna, sharks, billfish, bluefish, sea bass, sea robins or flounder, every fish and every fishing situation is so different that there is no one technique that will always ensure a safe and healthy release for every fish, but "where there's a will there's a way" and the best thing anglers can do is have a release "plan" and release "tools" ready for quick use before the fish is landed. Even if they're among the few that have zero ethics, common sense alone should tell anglers that just like putting money in a savings account every fish they put back in the water "healthy" is one more they might be able to catch in the future.

a de-hooking

particularly the crews of the

headboats - but many of them

don't. It doesn't make much

sense that some of the folks who

rely on a healthy flounder

population for their own

livelihoods do so little to help

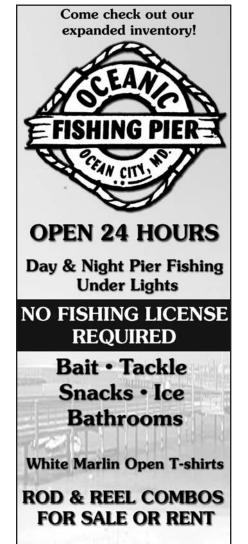
protect it. Just a little effort by a

few fishermen could go a long

way to enhancing local flounder

tool,

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



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Bigeye ***	60"	75 lbs. or 52"	Seabass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"
Bluefin ***	60"	75 lbs. or 52"	Shark:		
Yellowfin ***	50"	75 lbs. or 52"	Blue Shark *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-	Hammerhead *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Bluefish	34"	14 lbs. or 33"	Mako *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Cobia	44''	-	Thresher *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"	Tiger *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"	Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"
Black Drum	48''	50 lbs. or 45"	Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"
Red Drum *	any size	-	Swordfish *	any size	any size
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 36"	Golden Tilefish	-	35 lbs. or 40"
Blue Marlin **	any size	any size	Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"
White Marlin **	any size	any size	Weakfish	24"	9 lbs. or 31"

<sup>\*</sup> Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program \*\*\* Use curved-fork-length measurements



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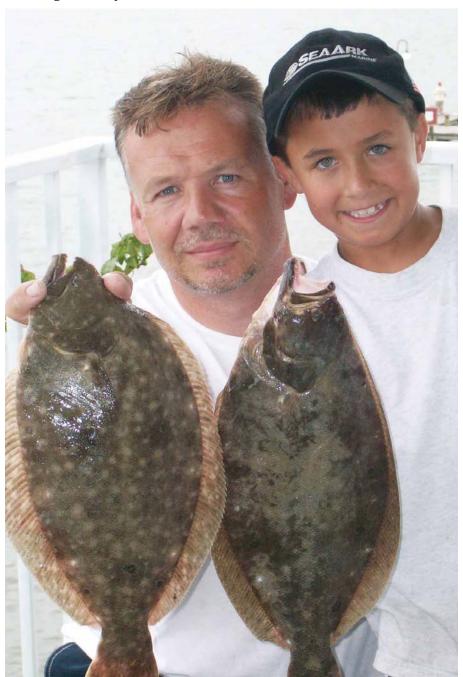
BY OCMC INVITATION ONLY



<sup>\*\*</sup> Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs



Nick Diesel, who had never caught a marlin in his life, released 3 white marlin and a blue marlin during a trip aboard the "Partner-Ship" with Troy Purnell and Susan, Mark and Spencer Cropper. Susan also released a white marlin during the trip to the tip of the Washington Canyon in 45 fathoms.



Doug Iman, Sr. and Doug Iman, Jr. were fishing in the West Channel near Hooper's Crab House when they caught these twin, 18-inch flounder on minnow and Gulp! combinations.

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Even in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, the fall fishing season is off to a good start, with most anglers targeting speckled trout, spot, flounder and cobia. Offshore boats are getting back out, and finding good results. As long as we continue to dodge the array of tropical activity, this trend should continue to improve.



Speckled trout action really took off after Irene. Although many fish are small within the local inlets, a few pushed to over 6-pounds in some areas last week. Lures and cut bait are working well in most of the usual haunts such as the lower Bay inlets, the Elizabeth River, Hungar's Creek, the Poquoson Flats and Mobjack Bay. Surf anglers are also getting in on the action with nice specks averaging from 3 to 5-pounds coming out of the wash from Cape Henry to Sandbridge . A few nice grey trout are also taking lures intended for

specks within the Little Creek Inlet.



Nice sized spot are pouring into the lower Bay and oceanfront areas. The Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel, the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, the lower Bay and ocean front piers and the lower Bay and oceanfront inlets are all providing yellow belly action for excited anglers. The best bites are occurring on a moving tide, with both bloodworms and Fishbites working well.

Horse croaker ranging to 2-pounds are also active in lower Bay waters. The bigger hardheads are lurking in deeper areas around the channels, inlets and the Bay Bridge Tunnel. Big hardheads are also thrilling anglers at the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel, the Ocean View Fishing Pier, the Concrete Ships and just

outside the Lynnhaven Inlet in the channel.

Flounder action is still not up to where it was before the hurricane, but folks are still finding some decent fish. Keepers, with some ranging to over 7-pounds, are taking both live bait and drifted bait near the CBBT structure and drop-offs, with the 3rd and 4th Islands producing the best lately. Deep channel edges, especially at the mouth of the Bay, are also providing good results. According to the folks at Ocean's East 2, the flatfish in Rudee Lynnhaven Inlets are mostly throw-backs right now. Offshore wreck flounder are also a good bet, where keeper sea bass and triggerfish will also take offerings.



Cobia are still lingering on the pilings of the CBBT and the buoys near the mouth of the Bay and off the oceanfront. Schools of cobia are also cruising on the surface as they gather to exit the area. Many of these fish are exceeding 50-pounds, with tossed jigs and live bait working well.

Big red drum are swarming all over the lower Bay. The Nine Foot Shoal area and 4th Island are the best places to look. Reds are also still available along the shorelines off the oceanfront. Nice puppy drum available from the surf, and within the Lynnhaven, Rudee and Little Creek Inlets, and the Elizabeth River.

Spanish mackerel are still chasing trolled spoons along Sandbridge and Dam Neck in about 20 to 25 feet of water. The usual by-catch of Tailor

www.coastalfisherman.net bluefish are a guarantee, and schools of false albacore in these same areas will also hit spoons.



Sheepshead are still taking late season offerings along the entire span of the CBBT, with the best hauls coming from the 1st and 2nd Island tubes. Scattered tautog along with hoards of trigger fish are in the same vicinity. Spadefish are still active around the 3rd and 4th Islands, but this action is slowing up.

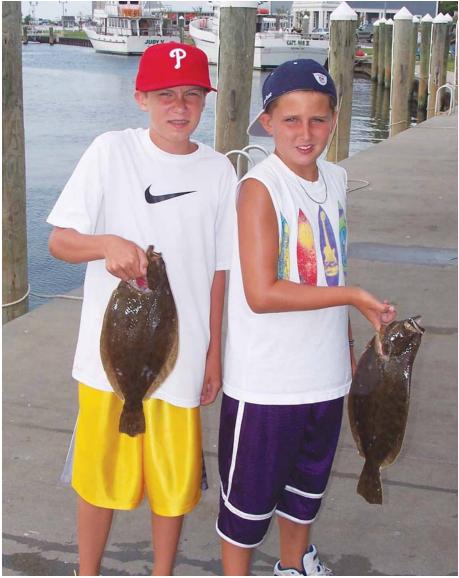
Amberjack are available wrecks, on local Chesapeake Light Tower and the South Tower. Crevelle are also a possibility, but this action has not materialized as of yet. Deep droppers are having good luck near the Canyon edges lately. The Fishing Center reports that their headboats had a good deep dropping trip recently, with limits of nice blueline tilefish. blackbellied rosefish and jumbo seabass. A few big golden tilefish and grouper were also in the mix.

Offshore action is picking back up. Good numbers of white marlin are keeping those boats venturing to blue water busy. Most of the billfish action is occurring from the the Triple 0's area and south lately. Even swordfish and spearfish were reported last week. Scattered 50-pound class yellowfin tuna and excellent catches of bailer and gaffer dolphin are rounding out catches.

For more information, go to www.drjball.com.

Dr. Julie Ball is the I.G.F.A representative for Virginia Beach, VA. For more information, go to www.drjball.com.





Carter Beyer and Brandon Costello, both from York, PA landed these two 18-inch flounder while fishing on the "Judy V.". Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em".







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Cory Lednum of Fenwick, Island (2nd from right) released this white marlin during a trip aboard the "Unwind" with Steve and Justin Lednum, Scott Chandler and Zak Smith. The fish attacked a skirted ballyhoo at the Hot Dog.

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John Justin of New Castle,

DE caught this 22-inch, 4 lb. 3 oz.

flounder while fishing with

shiners in the Indian River Inlet.

John weighed his catch at Rick's Bait & Tackle and will attend a class next week on how to properly hold a fish for a picture.



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# Virginia Regulations Coastal State Waters Only



BLACK DRUM
16" minimum 1 per person/day



BLACK SEA BASS 12.5 " 25 per person/day 5/22 - 10/11 & 11/1-12/31



BLUEFISH
No minimum size 10 per person



CROAKER

No minimum size No creel limit



TAUTOG
14" minimum 4 per person/day



COBIA 37" minimum 1 per person/day



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



STRIPED BASS 28" 2/person/day 5/16 - 12/31



SPECKLED TROUT

14" minimum 10 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD

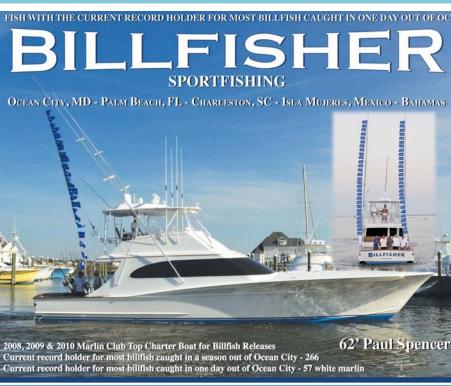
No minimum size 4 per person



SUMMER FLOUNDER
17.5" minimum 4 per person/day



WEAKFISH
12" minimum 1 per person/day











Rich Daiker from Reisterstown, MD is all smiles after capturing 1st place in the 6th Annual Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder. Rich caught the winning 5 lb. 12 oz. flounder on a live minnow while drifting in front of the Coast Guard Station and took home \$3,205 in award money. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Third place in the 6th Annual Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder went to Gene Stalls of Bishopville, MD with a 4 lb. 13 oz. flattie caught on live spot in the Ocean City Inlet. Gene was fishing on the "Flattie Wagon" and won \$500 for his third place finish. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Dick Shelley picked a great day to catch a couple of big flounder while fishing on the "Finally" with Frank Watkins and Buddy Seigel. Dick's heaviest fish weighed 5 lbs. 9 oz., good enough for 2nd place in the 6th Annual Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder. Dick hooked the flounder on live bunker near Harbour Island and won \$750 in award money. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

# 6th Annual Flounder Pounder September 11, 2011



1<sup>st</sup> Place Rich Daiker "Baron Sea" 5 lbs. 12 oz. \$3,205

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Dick Shelley "Finally" 5 lbs. 9 oz. \$750

3rd Place **Gene Stalls** "Flattie Wagon" 4 lbs. 13 oz. \$500

100 Anglers Registered Total Prize Money \$4,455

# NOAA Fisheries Releases 2010 Fisheries of the U.S. Report

NOAA Fisheries released its Fisheries of the United States 2010 report, an annual snapshot of the landings and value of U.S. fisheries. This year it contains some good news - landings were up and the value of those landings was up. U.S. commercial fishermen landed 8.2 billion pounds of seafood valued at \$4.5 billion in 2010, an increase of 200 million pounds over 2009 and an increase in value of more than \$600 million from 2009.

The report also highlights the top U.S. ports including the leader for the 22nd consecutive year, the Alaska port of Dutch Harbor-Unalaska. And, for the 11th consecutive year, New Bedford, Mass., had the highest valued catch, due in large part to the sea scallop fishery.

Another aspect of the report is seafood consumption. In 2010, the average American ate 15.8 pounds of fish and shellfish, a slight decline from the 2009 figure of 16 pounds. On a global scale, the U.S. continues to be third-ranked for consuming fish and shellfish, behind China and Imported seafood Japan. continues to increase to help fill consumer demand - about 86 percent of the seafood consumed in the U.S. was imported from overseas.

As Eric Schwaab, NOAA Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, said in the announcement, "These increases in fish landings and value are good news for our nation's fishermen and for fishing communities, where jobs depend on healthy fish stocks. We know fishermen are making sacrifices now to rebuild fish populations, and these efforts, combined with good science and management, support sustainable jobs for Americans."

# U.S., European Union to Strengthen Cooperation to Combat Illegal Fishing

NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco and Maria Damanaki, European Union commissioner for maritime affairs and fisheries, signed a historic statement pledging bilateral cooperation to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, known as IUU fishing — a first for the longstanding partnership between the U.S. and the E.U. on fisheries management.

The European Union and United States rank first and third, respectively, as the world's top seafood importers (Japan is second). Globally, illegal fishing deprives legal fishermen and coastal communities of up to \$23 billion of seafood and seafood products annually. This puts honest fishermen at a disadvantage in the global marketplace. The U.S. and the E.U. recognize their responsibility to protect the oceans' vital food and biodiversity resources.

In the statement, the U.S. and

the E.U. make it clear that they are committed to cooperating on combating IUU fishing as the only effective way of ending these practices. Among other things, they agree to work together to support the adoption of effective management measures in regional and international organizations to combat IUU fishing; promote tools that prevent IUU operators from benefiting economically from their illegal activities; exchange information on IUU activities; and promote the sustainable use of fisheries resources while preserving marine biodiversity.

"Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing is one of the most serious threats to American fishing jobs and fishing communities, as well as to the health of the world's oceans," said Dr. Lubchenco, who is also under secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere. "International cooperation across oceans will help us maintain a level playing field for our fishermen by strengthening enforcement and preventing illegal fishing."

"IUU fishing is a criminal activity, and we have the duty to do everything possible to stop this practice," said Damanaki. "Today's agreement will help us to do just that. By joining forces, we make it harder for culprits to get away with their dirty business."

Individually, the United States and the E.U. have already put in place a number of legal measures to combat IUU fishing, such as the U.S. High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protec-

tion Act that identifies countries engaged in IUU fishing and an E.U. regulation that blocks illegal seafood imports without the required certifications. Both participate actively in international fishery management organizations and promote international instruments to address IUU fishing.

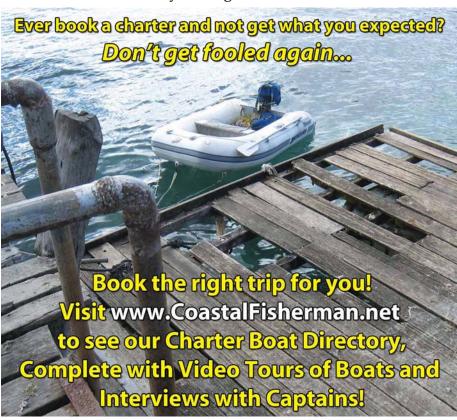
"We will use all the tools at our disposal to clamp down on IUU fishing and prevent illegal seafood from entering our market. With all the sacrifices U.S. fisherman have made, they deserve no less." Dr. Lubchenco said. "The U.S. and the E.U. share common challenges in fisheries management, so working together will bring us closer to achieving a shared vision of sustainable fisheries."

The U.S. is turning a corner in ending overfishing and rebuilding stocks. Landings have increased by more than 200 million pounds and all coastal regions of the country saw increases in total value of these landings in 2010, over last year. Meanwhile, the E.U. is in the process of reforming its Common Fisheries policy designed to rebuild its own fisheries and is looking to learn from the United States' success stories. Beyond domestic boundaries, there is an increasing need for international cooperation, especially among major fishing and seafood-importing nations, to improve global fisheries management of shared marine resources and to preserve the associated employment and other economic benefits of sustainable fisheries.





Ben Wood from Edgewater, MD caught these two sea bass while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Tucker Colquhoun and Rich Silvani. The heaviest fish weighed 3 lbs. 4 oz. and was caught on a chunk of clam at an artificial reef. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





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Special thanks to Keith Fraser and AllTackle.com for supporting this helpful volunteer angler survey!



# Federal Size & Creel Limits 3 - 200 miles



WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No bag limit



**DOLPHIN** No minimum length 10 per day/person



YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day includes Capt. & Mate

**BLUEFIN TUNA** 

(RECREATIONAL)

1 BFT per vessel/day/trip

27" to less than 59" CFL

(CHARTER BOAT)

1 BFT per vessel/day/trip

27" to less than 47" CFL

**PLUS** 



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**THRESHER** 





**BLUE SHARK** 

For allowed species other than Atlantic sharpnose and bonnetthead sharks, anglers are allowed to keep one shark per vessel, per trip with a minimum size of 54 inches fork length.

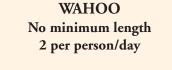


**BLUE MARLIN** 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No bag limit

**SWORDFISH** 

47" Lower Jaw Fork Length

1 per person / 4 per vessel





**LONGFIN TUNA** No minimum length



1 BFT per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 59" CFL No bag limit



Note: the Northern & Southern Area Trophy Fishery is Closed



Poaching" deprives the public of the opportunity to use and enjoy Maryland's natural resources. Preserving our natural resources for our present and future enjoyment is everyone's responsibility.

## IT'S ILLEGAL

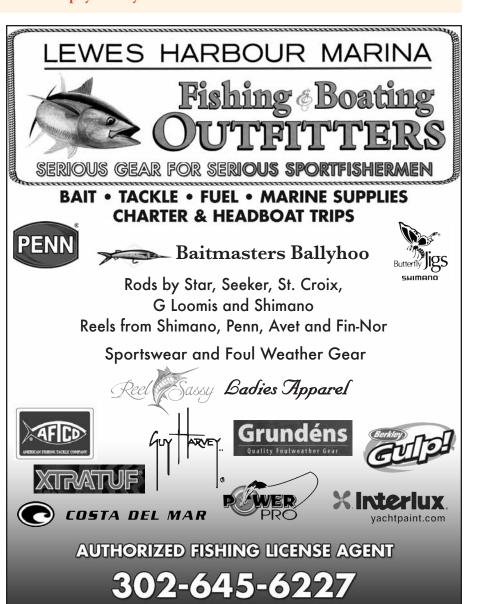
• Taking sportfish or game out of season • Taking of banned sportfish or non-game wildlife • Exceeding creel or bag limits (legal quantity in possession) • Taking game or sportfish with illegal methods or equipment • Taking fish outside of established hours

# REWARD

Citizens who supply the Natural Resources Police with information leading to the arrest and conviction of a violator will receive cash rewards. Be specific in the description of individuals. When possible, give name, addresses and vehicle descriptions. The anonymity of the information/caller is guaranteed.

REPORT A POACHER Call Toll-Free: 800-635-6124

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources Catch-A-Poacher Program Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, MD



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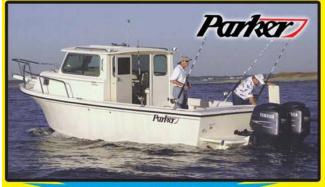


Known flounder slayer Tommy Fowler of North Bay Marina was fishing with his son, Noah Fowler and Steve and Travis Hudson when they all caught their limit of flounder in the Thorofare. The fish measured between 18 and 24-inches and were caught while fishing on the "Fowlscay" at night.



Tim Painter landed a 21-inch flounder and T.J. Painter caught himself a 19 incher, both while drifting jumbo minnows just outside Guinea Creek. Photo courtesy of Rattle & Reel Sporting Center.





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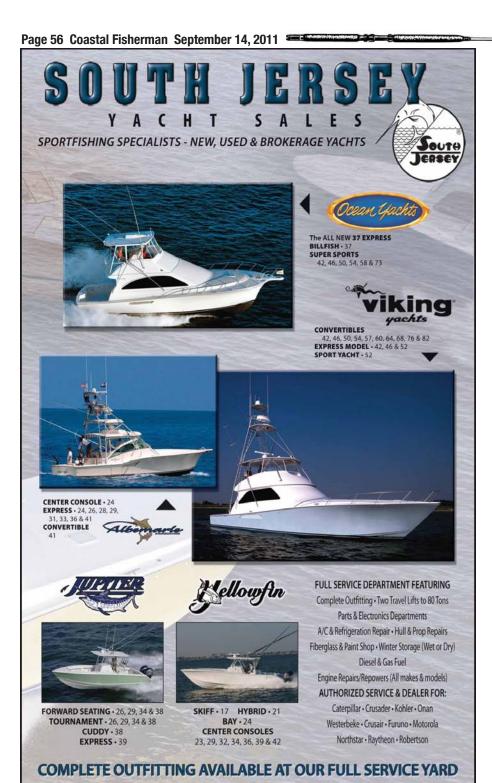
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AnneMarie Radzikowski was holding the fishing rod when this 20-inch flounder attacked her live minnow in the East Channel. She was assisted with the catch of her first flounder by her dad, Phil.

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Giant - Rt. 26
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# **TIDES & MOON PHASES**

# OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. Sept. 14	Low 03:20 am Low 03:45 pm	High 09:44 am High 10:03 pm
Thurs. Sept. 15	Low 03:54 am Low 04:25 pm	High 10:23 am High 10:41 pm
Fri. Sept. 16	Low 04:30 am Low 05:06 pm	High 11:03 am High 11:19 pm
Sat. Sept. 17	Low 05:08 am Low 05:51 pm	High 11:44 am High 11:59 pm
Sun. Sept. 18	Low 05:49 am Low 06:41 pm	High High 12:28 pm
Mon. Sept. 19	Low 06:37 am Low 07:34 pm	High 12:43 am High 01:17 pm
Tues. Sept. 20 Last Quarter	Low 07:30 am Low 08:31 pm	High 01:33 am High 02:14 pm
Wed. Sept. 21	Low 08:29 am Low 09:29 pm	High 02:33 am High 03:15 pm

Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge. Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide - subtract 45 minutes to low tide Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide, - 21 minutes for low tide Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

These tides are only meant to be a guide, as tides can be affected by storms and weather fronts.

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# ~ SEPTEMBER ~

33rd Annual Challenge Cup September 16 - 17 • OC Marlin Club 410-213-1613

10th Annual A.M.S.A. Red Drum Tournament September 23 - 25 • 443-235-2609

# ~ OCTOBER ~

Lewes Harbour Marina Tautog Tournament October 1 - 31 • Lewes, DE 302-645-6227

32nd Annual Mid-Atlantic **Surf Fishing Tournament** October 6 - 8 • Ocean City, MD 410-213-0646

7th Annual A.M.S.A. Surf Fishing **Tournament** October 20 - 22 · 443-235-2609

12th Annual Rocktoberfest **Tournament** October 15 - 16 • Bahia Marina 410-289-7473

Lewes Harbour Marina Striper Tournament October 22 - November 22 • Lewes, DE 302-645-6227

Bill's Sport Shop Striper Tournament October 21 - December 2 • Lewes, DE 302-645-7654

# ~ NOVEMBER ~

19th Annual MSSA Chesapeake Bay Fall Tournament November 19 - 20 · MSSA 410-255-5535

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# **HAVE A PHOTO OF YOUR CATCH?**

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coastalfisherman@comcast.net

Include in the email: Angler's name & town Names & towns of others in photo Weight and/or length of fish **Bait or lure used Location of catch** 

Please send the photo file at full size.

Do not compress it and do not run it through any photo software.

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- · Have the angler face into the sun to minimize shadows.
  - · Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera.

- · Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size available.
  - DO NOT use a cell phone camera.
    - Shoot vertical photos
      - Smile!

\*As always, we do our best to run the pictures we receive; however, we are sometimes unable to run all of the pictures due to space restrictions and other circumstances.

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