

Fish Facts W

Weakfish

Cynoscion regalis
(aka: Sea Trout,
Gray Trout)

Key Distinguishing Markings:

- Body greenish grey above and silvery below, back with small spots forming undulating dotted lines. Pelvic fins and anal fin yellowish.
- Mouth large, oblique, lower jaw projecting. Upper jaw with a pair of large canine-like teeth at tip.

Sizo.

· Weakfish may grow as large as 29 inches and reach 12 pounds.

Distribution:

- Found along the Atlantic coast from Nova Scotia to Florida, they are most abundant from New York to North Carolina.
- Larger weakfish may range from Delaware into New England while smaller weakfish are located more to the south.

Food Preference:

- As juveniles, weakfish feed on crustaceans (such as shrimp) and small fish, especially bay anchovies.
- Adult diets are dominated by Atlantic menhaden and bay anchovy, while spot, squid, and a variety of other fish (including smaller weakfish) appear in stomach samples.

Spawning:

- Peak spawning is during May September along nearshore areas and mouths of estuaries.
- Juveniles are very common in Maryland's coastal bays. The largest concentrations in Chesapeake Bay usually occur south of Choptank River.

Fun Facts

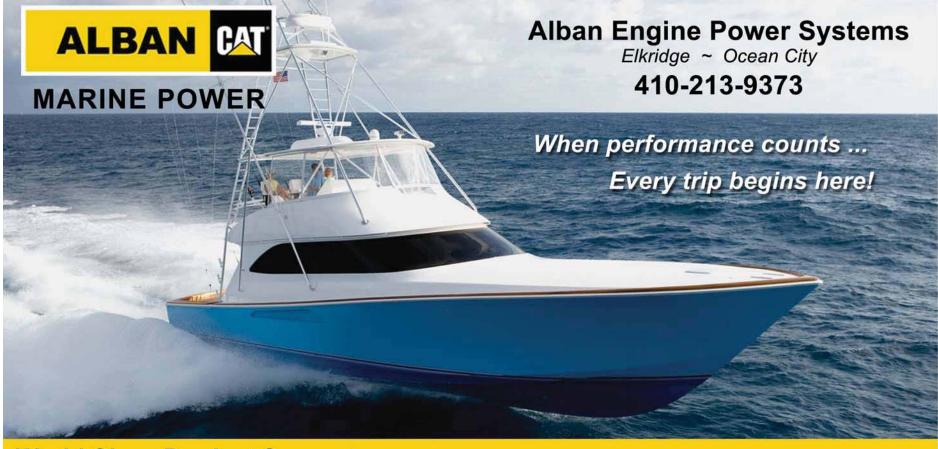
- This fish's name, "weakfish", refers to the tender, easily-torn membrane of the fish's mouth, rather than its fighting ability.
- The largest weakfish ever recorded was caught in 1989 in Delaware Bay and measured 30 inches in length and weighed 19 pounds, 2 ounces.

Reference: www.dnr.state.md



1972 - Back in the day when weakfish were a main target of East Coast anglers, Jack Kaeufer of Ocean Pines, MD caught this 12 lb. weakie while fishing in the Ocean City Inlet using a bucktail tipped with a peeler crab. Pictured behind the original Coastal Fisherman office in West Ocean City.

Do you have a "Flashback" photo you would like to share with Coastal Fisherman readers? Give us a call at 410-213-2200.



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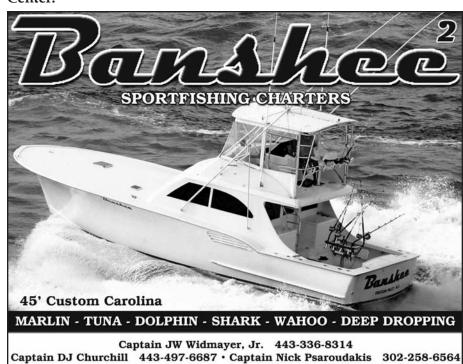


David Crank from Wake Forest, NC took some business associates on a trip aboard the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and ended up catching 2 keeper flounder. The largest flattie measured 23-inches and weighed 5 lbs. 11 oz. Fishing with David were Phil Easton, Tom Walsh, Patrick Bowers, Mike Eder and Harry Kenney. The fish were caught on Gulp! artificial baits in the East Channel. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





Zak Smith from Rt. 113 Boat Sales captured this 280 lb. mako shark while fishing on the "Jimbo" with Justin Lednum of Fenwick Island, DE, Scott Chandler from Dagsboro, DE and Capt. Jimmy Bunting. The big mako ake a bunker fillet in 35 fathoms in the Washington Canyon and was weighed at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

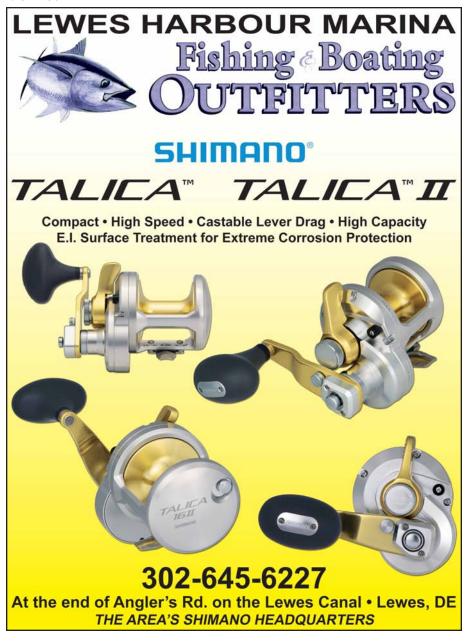


Docked at Fisherman's Marina, West Ocean City, MD

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Thurman Stanley was fishing in the Lewes Canal, right in front of Lewes Harbour Marina, when he muscled in this 8 lb. 2 oz. flounder. Thurman hooked the big flounder on a Gulp! artificial bait and didn't have to travel far to weigh his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.





Pat Hurley, Collin Hurley, Jerry Smirniotis, Brian Wilmer, Jim Morgan and Capt. Mike Henry had a spectacular day fishing in 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon. The anglers, fishing on the "Canyon Crusher", ended their day with 13 yellowfin tuna and 1 bluefin tuna in the box. They also released another 46 yellowfins during the trip. The fish were caught on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars. Pictured at the dock at Sunset Marina.

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Secarr Fullenwilder from Upper Marlboro, MD was fishing at an offshore wreck when he hooked into this 12 lb. 11 oz. tautog. Weighed at Skip's Bait & Tackle.





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Don't Miss It!



Earl "Mr. Drysdale" Conley from the Bank of Ocean City was trolling in the bay off 32nd Street when he hooked this 24-inch, 6 lb. flounder while using flounder belly for bait.



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Gary Mitten from Islamorada, FL released a white marlin and teamed up with Greg Burdoo and Nick Gibson, both from West Ocean City, MD to land 13 yellowfin tuna while fishing on the "That's Right" with Capt. John Oughton and mate Joe Bonvetti. The fish were caught in 72.5-degree water on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars south of the Wilmington Canyon. Pictured at Fisherman's Marina.

June 8, 2011 Coastal Fisherman Page 7



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by Larry Jock

The stars of the show this past week were definitely the yellowfin tuna that showed up in good numbers in the Wilmington Canyon. If you ever thought about chartering a boat to do some tuna fishing, now is the time to grab five friends and hit the water.

Inshore, anglers targeting mako sharks were somewhat frustrated with the size of the makos being caught. doesn't mean some nice ones weren't landed, it just means that overall they were on the small side.

In the bay, flounder fishing was on the slow side, but some fat fish were caught. We also had a catch that I will leave as a surprise for you later in this report.

Mako Mania **Shark Tournament**

Well, after years of great tournaments, you are bound to have a year where the action isn't as fast and furious as you are used to. Smaller than normal make sharks dominated the action at the scales and everyone was surprised that no thresher sharks were weighed.

The "Blackjack" weighed a 171.1 lb. mako on the second day of the tournament and held on to win 1st place in the Mako Division. The "Tighten Up", new Captain Jason Genthner at the helm, weighed a 169.5 pounder on the first day



The yellowfin tuna bite was red hot at the southern end of the Wilmington Canyon on Friday and the crew on "That's Right" was there to capitalize on it. Tony Reed, Andy Petruncio, David Lusby, Bill Landon, Kirk Collins, Eric Blom, Jeff Newell and Sean Terri teamed up to land 17 yellowfins on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars. The anglers were fishing with Capt. John Oughton and mate Joe Bonvetti and are pictured at Fisherman's Marina.

and ended up winning 2nd place. Third place in the Mako Division was won by the "Moore Bills", with a 168.8 pounder caught on the 1st day of the tournament.

Bluefish are drawn to the "Keep Er Wet", and it's a good thing for their crew since they won 1st and 2nd place in the Bluefish Division with fish weighing 11.9 lbs. and 12.7 lbs.

The W.W. Harman Award for most shark releases in the tournament was won by the crew on the "Moore Bills" who

recorded 10 releases during their 2 days of fishing.

Overall, a good time was had by all, with Bahia Marina hosting always tournament.

Tuna

We saw good numbers of yellowfin tuna brought to the scales this week and reports of bluefin tuna releases inshore.

With most of the action centered around Washington Canyon/Rockpile area in previous weeks, "That's Right" decided to head to some pretty water in the Wilmington

www.coastalfisherman.net Canyon on Wednesday and were rewarded with yellowfins caught on the troll in 72.5-degree water. followed that up on Friday with another good day, and returned with 17 yellowfins caught while trolling south towards the southern end of Wilmington/northern end of the Baltimore Canyon. Fish were found in 60-100 fathoms. The "Wrangler" went on an trip overnight Wilmington Canyon Friday/Saturday and ended their trip with 13 yellowfin tuna in the box.

The largest yellowfin tuna we have seen in Ocean City so far this year was the 79 pounder caught on the "Backlash" in the Baltimore Canyon on Saturday.

Bluefin tuna were abundant inshore of the canyons, primarily around the Hambone and the Sausages. Some boats recorded an incredible number of releases during their trip.

On Friday, the "Restless Lady" and the "Muff Diver" took a group of 11 anglers out to the Hambone and boated 3 keepers and released 55 other bluefins. The keepers measured 42, 43 and 55-inches.

Sharks

We haven't seen many thresher sharks so far this year and the vast majority of mako sharks have been smaller than we are accustomed to seeing.

Outside of last weekend's Mako Mania Shark Tournament held at Bahia Marina, we saw some big sharks weighed at the scales.

On Tuesday, Ray Upton on "Local Hooker" impressively landed a 301.6 lb. thresher shark that he caught during a solo trip to the Fingers.

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The big thresher ate a whole mackerel and was towed to the scales by Ray.

On Wednesday, the "Jimbo" arrived at the Ocean City Fishing Center with a 280 lb. make shark that was caught on a bunker fillet in the Washington Canyon.

Ron Hansen chartered the "Restless Lady" for 3 days and ended up with 2 nice makes in the box. One weighed 174 lbs. while the other tipped the scales at 183 lbs. Both were caught around the Hambone.

Dolphin

Mahi are starting to show up at the docks. Hopefully, they will have some size to them this year, since last year saw mainly small fish throughout the season.

Early in the week some dolphin were boated in the Washington Canyon. Later in the week we saw mahi caught in the Baltimore Canyon by anglers targeting yellowfin

Flounder

Anglers are still needing to show a lot of patience when looking for their keeper flounder. I'm still surprised by the large, and I mean large, number of throwbacks being recorded. The one thing you can say about the keeper flounder this year is that they are FAT!

The "Bay Bee" really had some good days last week, especially on Saturday when anglers had 9 keepers during their morning trip and 7 from their afternoon trip. On Thursday, they were kept very busy with 38 throwbacks.

Notable catches last week were Barbara Skelley's 5 lb. 13 oz. flattie caught on Saturday behind Harbour Island and a 5 lb. 11 oz. flounder caught by an angler on the "Get Sum" on Wednesday. That fish was caught in the East Channel.

Most of the keeper flounder we see are in the 19 to 20-inch range and are being caught on minnow and Gulp! Swimming Mullet combinations. If you haven't discovered the Gulp! Alive artificial baits, you are really missing the boat. Some really nice fish are being caught on these baits.

The East Channel, both north and south of the Rt. 50 Bridge, the Thorofare and in the bay behind Assateague near the Ocean City Airport were the best locations last week.

Weakfish

When Capt. Skip Maguire called me on Saturday, asking me to come over to take a picture of a weakfish, I couldn't believe my ears. Sure enough, there was Paul Gillespie with a 4 lb. 6 oz. weakie that he caught off the 2nd Street Bulkhead on a bucktail. This is the first weakfish we have seen at the *Coastal Fisherman* since the 2009 season.

Striped Bass

Stripers are still hanging around the Rt. 50 Bridge and on the point of the South Jetty. Fish continue to run small, but a few keepers were landed during the week. Chuck Wenzel caught a 29-incher early in the week around the South Jetty and the "Get Sum" recorded some throwbacks in the same area. On Saturday night, there was a fantastic bite off the Rt. 50 Bridge with some larger fish thrown in the mix.

Action for surfcasters off Assateague Island has slowed since the incredible spring run, but a few are still being hooked. Stacy Till caught her first keeper, a nice 32-incher on Tuesday.

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Bluefish

If you were looking for chopper bluefish, then the Hambone/Sausages/Fingers triangle was the place to troll.

These fish are hitting hoochies, spoons and probably anything else you want to pull. They typically aren't picky.

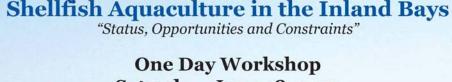
Smaller bluefish are still roaming around the Rt. 50 Bridge, especially during the incoming tide. Again, anything metal is doing the trick.

Sea Bass

Anglers willing to head off to ocean wrecks and reefs are returning with nice catches of sea bass. The "Morning Star" had some beautiful catches over June 8, 2011 Coastal Fisherman Page 9 the last week but really had to work at it with the keeper ratio hovering around 20%. Unfortunately, trying to get the locations from Capt. Monty is harder than keeping him away from Mama Jock's blueberry muffins.

We did hear reports of private boats returning with good catches from the Washingtonian (38-25.844 74-46.059) and San Gill (38-04.757 74-35.617) wrecks.

This coming weekend is tournament-free, so everyone will be going on fun-fishing trips. Don't forget to give us a buzz or swing by the office for a photo of your catch.



Saturday, June 18, 2011 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. University of Delaware Virden Center 700 Pilottown Road, Lewes, Delaware

The Delaware Center for the Inland Bays is organizing and hosting a one-day workshop to explore the feasibility of shellfish aquaculture operations and the ecological benefits these oysters may have in Delaware's Inland Bays.



For more information, please visit the CIB's website www.inlandbays.org

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On Saturday, Paul Gillespie of Baltimore, MD was fishing off the 2nd Street Bulkhead when he hooked this 23.5-inch, 4 lb. 6 oz. weakfish on a bucktail. Weighed at Skip's Bait & Tackle.



Ray Upton from Ocean City, MD took a solo trip to the Fingers and returned with a 301.6 lb. thresher shark hooked on a whole mackerel. Ray was fishing on the "Local Hooker" and weighed his catch at Sunset Marina.





Loren Kline of Newark, DE had all he could handle, weighing this 75.4 lb. black drum after catching it on a chunk of clam at the Coral Beds. Photo courtesy of Bill's Sport Shop.







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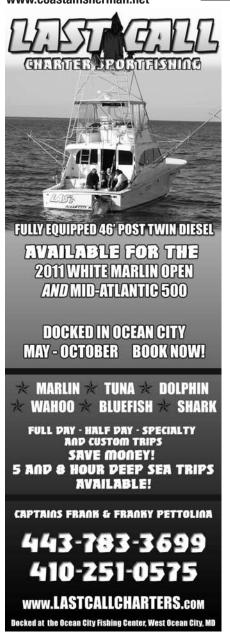
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Melanie Hohrein from Shelltown, MD boated this 11 lb. tautog during a trip aboard the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Tucker Colquhoun. The blackfish was hooked on a chunk of clam at an ocean reef and weighed at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

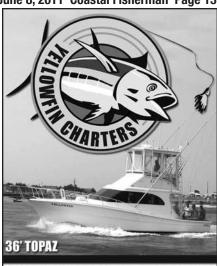








Ron Hansen ventured down from Stafford, NY to go fishing on the "Restless Lady" with Capt. Todd Kurtz and mates Brandon Baiocco and Sean Welsh. Ron ended up catching this 183 lb. mako shark and a bluefin tuna while fishing in 50 fathoms inside the tip of the Washington Canyon. Weighed at the Talbot Street Pier.



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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



It looks like it's heating up to be a good crabbing year in Ocean City, MD. Homeowners who are putting out two crab pots behind their condos in North Ocean City are coming into the tackle shop to say they are catching really nice crabs. So, it's time to talk about crabbing and what you can and cannot do!

"What are those big square cages in front of your store?"

They are crab pots! Just like the ones commercial watermen use out in the bay. But, vacationers in Maryland are not allowed to set these big crab pots out in the bay or off a pier. They must use collapsible crab traps, hand lines, or a trot line.

"I have water front property!"

If you own or rent waterfront property, you can set 2 crab pots at the property. You can tie the pot to the dock/bulkhead or you can set them, not more than 100 yards, from the shore and mark them with a buoy that has the owner's name and address written on it.

Crab pots are supposed to have two culling rings (round plastic rings) and four turtle reduction devices (rectangular wire things). Tackle stores sell these items if you don't have them.

Some anglers take crab pots out into the bay without regard to the law or they do not know the law. When the pots disappear, anglers think that other boaters are stealing them, but it's usually the DNR police. This gets expensive.

"Which end is up? What's the best bait to use?"

New crabbers ask this all the time.

OK, the cylinder that you put the bait in goes on the bottom when you lower the crab pot into the water. Crabs will eat about anything, but the most popular bait to buy is frozen bunker. Put one or two bunkers in the cylinder and drop it in the water. Pull it up after a tide has come or gone (about 6 hours). Anglers who fish can save their fish carcasses and use them for bait. Flounder, bluefish or whatever you can cram into the cylinder will work. Chicken is good too, but not as good as bunker. Once the bait gets really stinking in the hot bay water, it's a good idea to change it.

OK, let me give you a word of advice now. When you check your crab pot (every morning

and every evening is a great idea) pull it up and out of the water. If there are several crabs in there you want to get out and there's some nasty rotting bait you want to get rid of, open the cylinder top and let the old bait drop into the water BEFORE shaking the crabs Otherwise, when you shake the crabs from the top part of the cage to the lower part of the cage to get them out of the opening, all that bait comes apart and gets all over you and the crabs!!!! Yuck!

"How long can you keep crabs in the crab pot?"

People ask this all the time. Eventually, the crabs will get back out, or one or two will die and the other crabs will try to eat them and things will get stinky. The best thing to do is take the crabs out at least once a day and keep them in a holding pot for no more than 2 or 3 days. You can also cook them and keep them in the refrigerator.

To clean a crab, take the back off and take out the dead man's fingers. Hose the guts out and keep them in the refrigerator for a day or two before cooking them. Cook them just like regular steamed crabs. Sprinkle with OLD BAY and steam for around 25 minutes.

"How many crabs can you keep?"

One bushel per person or two bushels per boat if there is more than one person aboard the boat.

"I want to use a trot line in the Coastal Bays. How long is it allowed to be?"

I get this question a lot from crabbers that are from the Chesapeake Bay and know how to use a trot line. I always have to get the Maryland law book out and look it up. Here is the answer:

"It Shall Be Lawful -

1. To crab in the Coastal Bays of Maryland's Atlantic Ocean and their tributaries using:

a. not more than 600 feet of baited trotline, with floats of the same color size and shape attached to each end; or

B. not more than two 600foot trotlines if 2 or more persons are in the boat."

"Do I need a license to

crab?"Since

Since anglers now need a fishing license in Maryland, vacationers and boaters are all asking this question. The answer is NO.

It gets very confusing because the Chesapeake Bay and our Coastal Bays have slightly different laws regarding crabbing and fishing. So, when you open the Maryland Fishing Law Book be sure to read the laws for the Coastal Bays, not the Chesapeake Bay. Some of the differences are: Legal crab size is 5-inches tip-to-tip all season. We are allowed to keep mature female crabs. There's no time or day restrictions. You can crab any time, any day. No license is required.

You can read the Maryland Law Book online at: http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/fishing_guide/guide.pdf.

"How many collapsible crab traps or hand lines can I use from the dock or boat?"

You can use any number of dip nets and any number of hand lines you want. You are allowed 10, or a combination of 10, collapsible crab traps or crab net rings per person from docks, piers, bridges, boats or shoreline. If you are in a boat, not more than 25, or a combination of 25, collapsible crab traps or crab net rings, if two or more persons are in a boat.

In Delaware, there are another whole set of rules which we'll get into another time. In a nutshell, boaters can drop two crab pots per person in as long as they have a Delaware fishing license. Crabbers using hand lines and traps from the shore, unlike Maryland, have to buy a Delaware fishing license.

all the rules/regulations are available at the DEL tackle stores or you can read the rules online at: http://www.fw.delaware.gov/Fisheries/Documents/2011_De laware_fishing_guide.pdf.

Delaware handbooks with

Good crabbing....

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





Ocean City local, Caleb Myers caught this 20.5-inch flounder in the bay behind 23rd Street on a live minnow. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Joe Malone from Ocean City, MD had 2 keeper flounder (1 pictured) while fishing in the Thorofare with a bucktail & minnow combination. Joe's largest fish measured 22-inches. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.





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Rob Dowling from Gambrills, MD muscled in this 197 lb. mako shark while fishing with Nick Arbutina and Gavin Scattergood of Churchill, MD, Capt. Stuart Sudel and mate Kip Murphy. The mako ate a bluefish fillet in 30 fathoms at the Fingers, where the anglers also released 4 other mako sharks during the trip. Weighed at Ake Marine in West Ocean City.



90-year-old Lefty Merling from Baltimore, MD captured this 24-inch, 5 lb. flounder while fishing with John Stewart on the "Gypsy". The big flattie was caught in the Indian River Inlet on a minnow & white Gulp! combination.







Ethan Boyle used a white Gulp! Swimming Mullet to trick this 3 lb. 8 oz. flounder while fishing in the Lewes Canal. Could young Ethan be on his way to mastering the "Lewes Stretch"? Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



This 222 lb. mako shark was caught by Bud Morgan and Austin Josephson of Westminster, MD. The anglers were fishing on the charter boat, "White Lightning" with Capt. Luke Blume and mate Eddie Smith while bringing the boat to Ocean City from Hatteras, NC. In addition to the mako, they ended up with 6 yellowfin tuna and 3 dolphin in the box. They also released 9 additional yellowfins during the trip. Pictured at Sunset Marina.





The "Bay Bee", with Capt. Bob Gowar and Mate Tyler Adkins, had a great day on Friday returning with 7 keeper flounder from their morning trip. The fish were caught in the East Channel and in the bay behind Assateague. Anglers who caught keepers were Marrell Harden, Larry Davis, Zakery Bowes, Damian Kefler, Zena Brown, Deborah Reid and Walter Brown. The fish measured between 18 and 20.25-inches. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

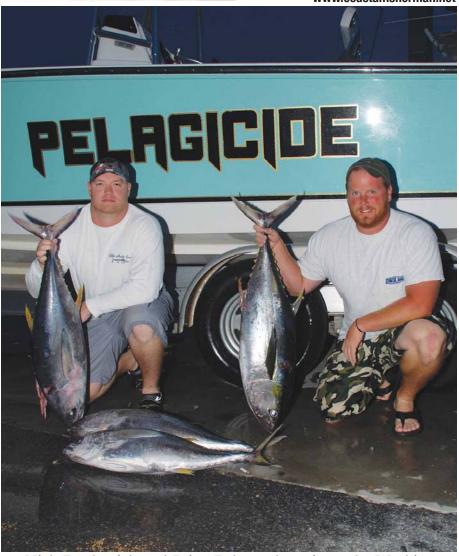


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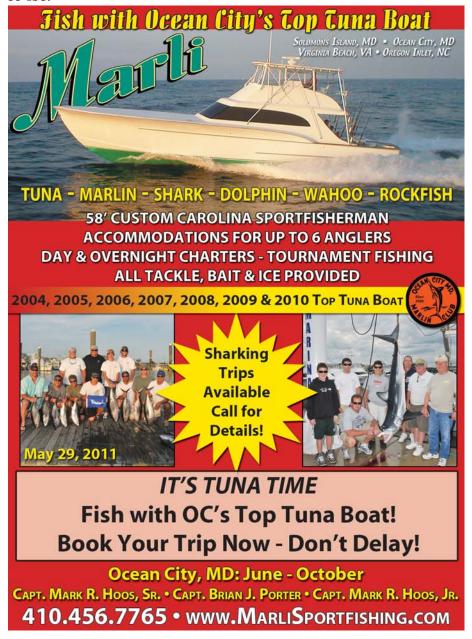
*All pricing is good on in-stock and special order boats through June 15th

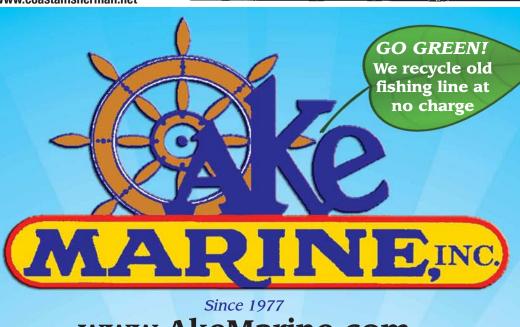


Warning - Buying a Boat Anywhere Else Could Cost You Thousands More.



Nick Dankanich and Brian Behe took a trip to the Washington Canyon aboard the "Pelagicide" and returned to Sunset Marina with 4 yellowfin tuna in the box. The fish were caught on trolled ballyhoo and green machines with the heaviest tipping the scale at 35 lbs.





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The Galley

by Mama Jock



Shark with Grilled Pineapple Salsa

Salsa:

1 pineapple, trimmed, cored, quartered lengthwise and cut again lengthwise Extra-virgin olive oil 2 limes. juiced and lime halves reserved 1 small red onion, minced 1/2 cup fresh mint leaves, finely chopped 1/2 cup fresh cilantro leaves, finely chopped 1/8 tsp. salt

Fish:

4 center-cut shark fillets Extra-virgin olive oil 1 tsp. salt Black pepper

Heat a grill pan or griddle over medium-high heat.

Lightly rub the pineapple pieces with oil.

Grill 2 minutes per side or until lightly caramelized.

Remove from grill; set aside to cool.

When cooled, cut grilled pineapple into 1/2 inch dice.

Place in a bowl and add all remaining salsa ingredients, including the lime halves. Set aside.

Fish should be opaque and firm to the touch.

Remove to a platter and

Serves 4.

Shrimp Scampi

1 1/2 lbs. large fresh shrimp, peeled and deveined 1/2 tsp. divided 1 TBSP. olive oil 2 cloves garlic, minced 3/4 cup vermouth 3 TBSP. lemon juice 2 TBSP. butter 1/4 tsp. pepper 2 TBSP. fresh parsley, chopped

tsp. salt.

Add shrimp; cook for 5

Using a slotted spoon,

Rub each shark steak with olive oil; season with salt and pepper.

Place steaks on grill, 3 to 5 minutes per side, depending on the thickness of the steaks.

spoon salsa over steaks.

3 cups cooked angel hair

Sprinkle shrimp with 1/4

In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat.

minutes or until pink.

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remove shrimp from pan.

Add garlic to pan; cook 3 minutes.

Add vermouth, and simmer 1 to 2 minutes.

Stir in lemon juice, butter and remaining 1/4 tsp. salt and pepper.

In a large bowl, combine shrimp, parsley, pasta and vermouth mixture. Serve immediately.

Serves 4.

Open-Faced Blackened Flounder Sandwiches

13/4 tsp. paprika 1 tsp. dried oregano 3/4 tsp. ground red pepper 1/4 tsp. black pepper 4 flounder fillets 2 tsp. olive oil 1/3 cup plain Greek yogurt 3 TBSP. fresh lime juice 1 TBSP. honey

2 cups packaged cabbagecarrot coleslaw 1 cup cilantro, chopped 4 slices sourdough bread, toasted

Combine first 5 ingredients in a small bowl.

Sprinkle both sides of fish with the paprika mixture.

Heat a large cast-iron skillet oven medium-high heat.

Add oil to pan; swirl to coat.

Add fish; cook 4 minutes on each side or until desired degree of doneness.

Combine yogurt, juice and honey in a medium bowl. Add cabbage and cilantro; toss well to coat.

Top each bread slice with about 1/2 cup slaw and 1 fillet.

each fillet remaining slaw.

Serves 2.

One-Dish Rockfish

2 bags fresh spinach 2 rockfish fillet 10 cherry tomatoes, halved 1/2 cup white wine or vegetable broth 2 TBSP. fresh dill, minced 1/4 tsp. garlic powder

www.coastalfisherman.net

1/2 tsp. lemon pepper 1/4 tsp. onion powder Salt and pepper to taste 2 slices lemon 2 slices onion 1 tsp. butter

Preheat oven 400 degrees. Layer spinach on bottom of 2 1/2 quart baking dish.

Lay fish on top of spinach. Scatter tomatoes around fillets.

Pour the wine or broth in dish.

Season fish with the dill, garlic powder, lemon pepper, onion powder, salt and pepper.

Place the lemon and onion slices on top and dot with the butter.

Cover with aluminum foil. Bake 20 to 25 minutes. Serves 4.

Teriyaki Shark Kabobs

2 lbs. shark meat 1 can pineapple chunks 1/2 cup soy sauce 1/4 cup sherry 2 TBSP. brown sugar 1 tsp. ginger 1 tsp. dry mustard 1 garlic clove, minced 1 bell pepper cut into 1-inch pieces Cherry tomatoes Mushrooms

Drain pineapple, reserve 1/4 cup of the juice.

Onion wedges

In a large bowl, combine pineapple juice, soy, sherry, sugar, ginger, mustard and garlic.

Pour over shark chunks, cover and refrigerate for 1 hour.

Drain and reserve marinade.

fish Thread chunks, pineapple chunks, bell pepper, cherry tomatoes, mushrooms and onion wedges alternately on skewers.

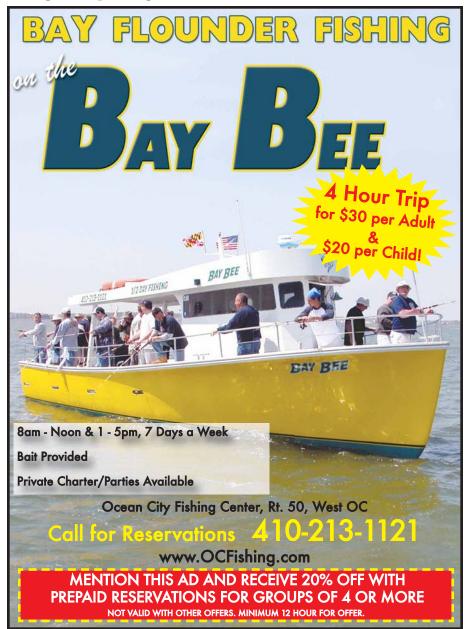
Cook over coals 5 minutes; basting with marinade.

Turn and cook 5 more minutes or until fish flakes.

Serves 6.



Aaron Saulsbury of Easton, MD captured this 172.4 lb. bigeye tuna while fishing outside the Washington Canyon in 500 fathoms. Aaron was fishing on the "Magic Moment" with Bill Miles, David Cummings (not pictured), Francois Aldrich, Capt. Jim Bugg and mate Richard Hutchison. The anglers also caught 5 yellowfin tuna during the trip. Weighed at Sunset Marina.





On Saturday, Barbara Skelley from Manchester, MD caught a personal best 24-inch flounder while drifting a squid and shiner combination in the bay behind Harbour Island. The flattie weighed 5 lbs. 13 oz. Pictured at Ake Marine.



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On the second day of the 15th Annual Mako Mania Shark Tournament, Brian Leader of Annapolis, MD (right) boated a 12.7 lb. bluefish and hung on to win 1st place in the Bluefish Division and a check for \$5,332. Also on the second day, Nate Leader landed an 11.9 pounder and won 2nd place in the Bluefish Division and \$3,212 in award money. The fish were caught while fishing at the Sausages on the "Keep Er Wet" with Lauren Stinchcomb, Billy Marvel, Jeremiah Leader and Capt. Dave Sumpter. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



On opening day of the 2011 Mako Mania Shark Tournament hosted by Bahia Marina, Ted D'Anna from Baltimore, MD captured this 169.5 lb. make shark and won 2nd place in the Make Division. Ted was fishing on the "Tighten Up" with Scott Rowe, Mike Runk, John Schmitz (not pictured), Capt. Jason Genthner and mates Chris Hornung and Michael Murray. The make ate a mackerel in 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon and was worth \$30,723 in award money. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

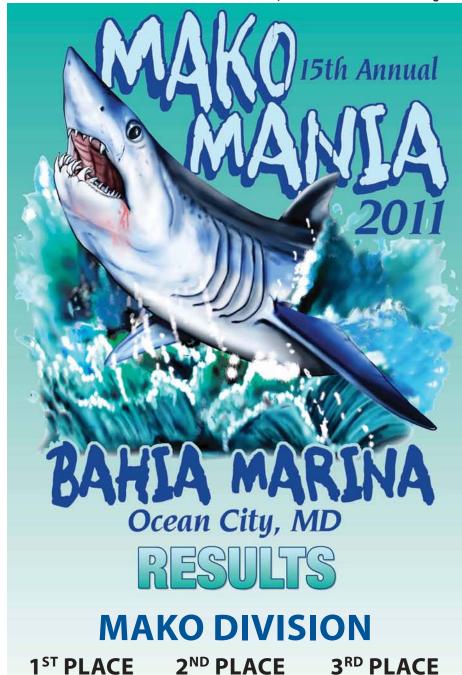




Bob Falatach from Stevensville, MD muscled in this 168.8 lb. mako shark to win 3rd place in the Mako Division of the 15th Annual Mako Mania Shark Tournament. Bob was fishing on the "Moore Bills" with Kelly Barr, Randy Carmichael, Jim Midkiff, Eddie Szymanski, Capt. Rob Skillman and mate Wayne Blanks. The mako was fooled with a bluefish in 30 fathoms at the Hot Dog and earned the crew \$8,951 in award money. The anglers also won the W.W. Harman Award worth \$1,000, and a \$500 gift certificate to The Shark restaurant for recording the most releases in the tournament (10). Pictured at Bahia Marina.



James Romero from Glenwood, MD landed this 158.8 lb. mako shark on the second day of the 2011 Mako Mania Shark Tournament and held on to win 4th place in the Mako Division. James was fishing on the "Game On" with Bill Zimmerman, James Romero, Jr., Bill Sauer (not pictured), Dan Parncutt (not pictured), Capt. Willie Zimmerman and mate Justin Hart. The mako was caught on a mackerel at the Hot Dog and was worth \$2,430 in award money. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



1ST PLACE 2ND PLACE 3RD PLACE John Adams Ted D'Anna Bob Falatach "Blackjack" "Tighten Up" "Moore Bills" 171.1 lbs. 169.5 lbs. 168.8 lbs.

\$12,032 \$30,723

THRESHER DIVISION

NONE WEIGHED

BLUEFISH DIVISION

1ST PLACE Brian Leader "Keep Er Wet" 12.7 lbs. \$5,332 2ND PLACE Nate Leader "Keep Er Wet" 11.9 lbs. \$3,212

\$8,951

W.W. HARMAN AWARD

"Moore Bills" 10 Releases \$1,000

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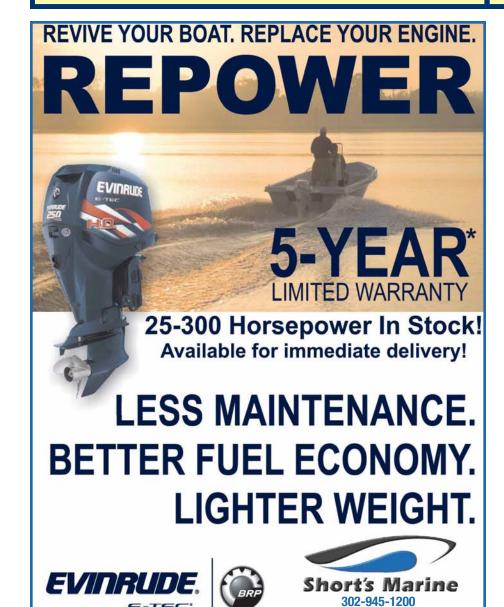
Maryland & Delaware Citation Sizes Atlantic Coast

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Tuna:		
Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs. or 32"
False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Bigeye ***	60"	75 lbs. or 52"
Bluefin ***	60"	75 lbs. or 52"
Yellowfin ***	50"	75 lbs. or 52"
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-
Bluefish	34"	14 lbs. or 33"
Cobia	44"	-
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"
Red Drum *	any size	-
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 36"
Blue Marlin **	any size	any size
White Marlin **	any size	any size

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

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"
Striped Bass	40"	30 lbs. or 40"
Sailfish *	any size	-
Seabass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"
Shark:		
Blue Shark *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Hammerhead *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Mako *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Thresher *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Tiger *	any size	100 lbs. or 66"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"
Swordfish *	any size	any size
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Golden Tilefish	-	35 lbs. or 40"
Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"
Weakfish	24"	9 lbs. or 31"

^{**} Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs

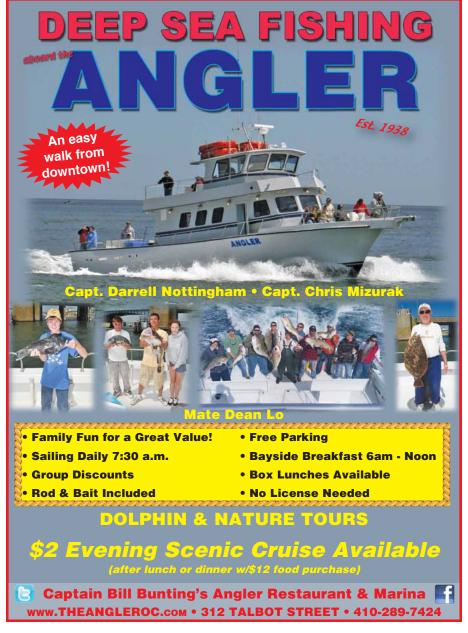


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Capt. Chris Watkowski did it all with this 71 lb. yellowfin. Chris captained the boat, cranked on the fish and helped to get it into the boat, all while fishing in 60 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon.



John and Garrett Hoffman from Deep Creek Lake, MD, Jeremy Smith from Baltimore, MD and Joel Lewis, also from Deep Creek Lake, MD ended their day with 9 flounder in the box after drifting squid and minnows in the East Channel and the Inlet. The fish measured 18 to 24-inches.



2011

2011 FISHERMAN

(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - must be reported with picture within 48 hours of catch)

Species	2011	2010	Species	2011	2010
Sea Bass	May 22, 2011 Tyler Sumpter "Keep 'Er' Wet" Jack Spot	April 18, 2010 George Henning "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	Mako Shark	May 1, 2011 Brett Coakley "Wrangler" Washington Canyon	May 20, 2010 Josh Dolan "Nontypical" Washington Canyon
Tautog	January 6, 2011 Mike Grybos "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	January 7, 2010 John Smith "Morning Star" Offshore Wreck	White Marlin	May 29, 2011 Anthony Pino "Marli" Rockpile	June 8, 2010 Eric Van Orden "Bimini" Washington Canyon
Striped Bass	April 14, 2011 Capt. Skip Maguire "Skip's Charter" Sinepuxent Bay	January 1, 2010 Max Thumma "Hard Times" Little Gull	Blue Marlin	None Reported	June 8, 2010 Scott Brooks "Stress Reel-ief" Outside 461 Lump
Weakfish	June 4, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel	April 16, 2010 Tim Thorpe Assateague Surf	Bluefin Tuna	May 1, 2011 Mike Sears "Wrangler" Washington Canyon	May 16, 2010 Tom Dorwart "Margin" Norfolk Canyon
Flounder	April 17, 2011 Tommy Fowler Thorofare	April 5, 2010 Paul Turner Thorofare	Yellowfin Tuna	May 26, 2011 Phil Falgowski Wilmington Canyon	June 11, 2010 Tom Zapf "Darlin" 461 Lump
Bluefish	May 1, 2011 Alex Levantovsky "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	April 17, 2010 Dana Zapcic "Get Sum" Sinepuxent Bay	Longfin Tuna	None Reported	None Reported
Black Drum	April 30, 2011 Melson MaGee Fenwick Surf	May 2, 2010 Lucas May "Jam-Man" Coral Beds	Bigeye Tuna	May 31, 2011 Aaron Saulsbury "Magic Moment" Washington Canyon	June 13, 2010 Ron Los, Jr. "Marli" Washington Canyon
Sheepshead	May 7, 2011 Sheldon Thomas "Kimberly Ann" Winter Quarter Shoal	May 23, 2010 Dave Pasun Inshore Wreck	Dolphin	May 22, 2011 Daryl Bathelmess Lindenkohl Canyon	June 8, 2010 Tina Boykin "Lucky Duck II" Poor Man's Canyon
Thresher Shark	May 25, 2011 Jimmy Bunting "B" Buoy	May 16, 2010 Tenille Schrier "Hookin' Wubbas" Jack Spot	Wahoo	May 22, 2011 Dave Woods Lindenkohl Canyon	None Reported

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



On Saturday, the "Bay Bee", with Capt. Bob Gowar at the wheel and mate Spencer Cropper in the pit, followed-up a good morning trip with another outstanding one in the afternoon. Here, Anthony Marinari, Jim Walther, Matt Sullivan and Kurt Hetrick are pictured with their 6 keepers, caught in the bay behind Assateague Island on squid and shiners. The fish measured between 18.5-inches and 21inches. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Bill Brown from Pittsville, MD reeled in this 133 lb. mako shark while fishing at the Marine Electric on the "Cheryl Lynn" with Rob Simons of West Ocean City, MD and Jimmy Parrott from Haleyville, MD. The make at a mackerel and was weighed at Ake Marine.



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NEW LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR MARYLAND ANGLERS WENT INTO EFFECT JANUARY 1

CHANGES WILL ALLOW MARYLAND TO COMPLY WITH NEW FEDERAL LAW

WHO NEEDS A LICENSE?

All persons fishing recreationally in the tidal waters of the State need a license, EXCEPT as follows: If a person:

- is less than 16 years of age
- is a registered angler with the State of Maryland and is fishing from a boat holding a valid tidal/saltwater license issued by Potomac River Fisheries Commission or the Commonwealth of Virginia
- possesses a valid commercial tidal fish license
- is fishing from a licensed commercial fishing pier
- is a registered angler with the State of Maryland and is fishing on a free fishing pier
- is the owner or the owners non-paying guest fishing from private real property or an attached pier in the Potomac River
- is fishing from a licensed charter boat
- is fishing on a free fishing day the first two Saturdays in June and July 4
- is a registered angler with the State of Maryland and possesses a Virginia Saltwater recreational fishing license
- possesses a Potomac River Fisheries Commission recreational fishing license

WHAT KIND OF LICENSE DO I NEED?

- RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT BAY & COASTAL SPORT (ANNUAL) LICENSE allows an individual to
 fish in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and the state waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal
 bays and tributaries from January 1 through December 31.
 - \$15 Resident Annual
 - \$22.50 Non-Resident Annual
- 7-DAY BAY & COASTAL SPORT LICENSE allows residents and non-residents to fish in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and the state waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal bays and tributaries for 7 consecutive fishing days.
 - \$6 Resident 7-Day
 - \$12 Non-Resident 7-Day
- RESIDENT SENIOR CONSOLIDATED FISHING LICENSE allows residents who are 65 years of age or older to fish in the fresh waters of Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and the state waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal bays and tributaries from January 1 through December 31 at a reduced
- CONSOLIDATED BAY & COASTAL SPORT BOAT LICENSE allows everyone on board a vessel used for pleasure to fish in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and the state waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal bays and tributaries in lieu of individual licenses. However, these individuals must register with the Department (see below). A special complimentary Bay & Coastal sport fishing license, which includes recreational crabbing, will be issued to the boat owner purchasing this license. This license is also valid as a recreational crabbing boat license. \$50
- FREE BAY & COASTAL SPORT REGISTRATION Unless individually licensed, registration is required for MD waterfront property owners, those fishing in a designated free fishing area, passengers that do not possess an individual license on a vessel displaying a Consolidated Bay & Coastal Sport Boat decal from either MD, VA or PRFC, and anglers in MD tidal waters with ANY VA recreational saltwater license. In the Potomac River a registration is required for passengers on a vessel displaying a Boat License decal from MD, VA or PRFC, and for the owner/owners nonpaying guest fishing from private real property or an attached pier in the tidal waters of the Potomac River.
- BAY & COASTAL SPORT CHARTER BOAT LICENSE allows individuals on board chartered vessels operated by MD licensed fishing guides to fish in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and the state waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Atlantic coastal bays and tributaries in lieu of individual licenses. There are separate licenses for charter boats that carry 6 passengers or less and those that carry more than 6 passengers.
 - \$240 up to 6 passengers
 - \$290 more than 6 passengers
- COMMERCIAL FISHING PIER LICENSE provides for a fee pier to have unlicensed and unregistered individuals fish from the pier. The licensee must submit contact information on all pier anglers as prescribed by the Department. \$240

WHERE CAN I REGISTER FOR FREE?

This registration is free online for Maryland and Potomac River anglers at: http://www.dnr.state.md.us/swregistry.asp

WHERE CAN I BUY A LICENSE?

- Online at www.dnr.state.md.us/service/fishing_license.asp or by phone (800) 918-2870 through a third party vendor. Additional fees apply.
- Your local tackle shop may provide sale of a Maryland license online through a third party vendor.
- Any regional service center; the closest location to Ocean City is Salisbury, MD: 201 Baptist St. #22. Hours of Operation: M-F 8:30am 4:30pm. (410) 713-3840
- Local license agent; the closest location to Ocean City is the Wal-Mart in Berlin, MD: 11416 Ocean Gateway. (410) 629-0502

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please visit http://www.dnr.state.md.us/service/fishing_license.asp e-mail: customerservice@dnr.state.md.us or call (410) 656-9526

NOAA finds endangered species listing for Atlantic bluefin tuna not warranted

After an extensive scientific review, NOAA announced that Atlantic bluefin tuna currently do not warrant species protection under the Endangered Species Act.

NOAA has committed to revisit this decision by early 2013, when more information will be available about the effects of the Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill, as well as a new stock assessment from the scientific arm of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the international body charged with the fish's management and conservation.

NOAA is formally designating both the western Atlantic and eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stocks of bluefin tuna as "species of concern" under the Endangered Species Act. This places the species on a watchlist for concerns about its status and threats to the species.

"NOAA is concerned about the status of bluefin tuna, including the potential effects of the Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill on the western stock of Atlantic bluefin, which spawns in the Gulf of Mexico," said Jane Lubchenco, Ph.D., under Secretary of Commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "We will revisit the status of the species in early 2013 when we will have a new stock assessment and information from the Natural Resource Damage Assessment of the oil spill. We will also take action in the interim if new information indicates the need for greater protection."

NOAA's status review, released with their decision and peer-reviewed by The Center for Independent Experts, indicates that based on the best available

www.coastalfisherman.net information and assuming countries comply with the bluefin tuna fishing quotas established by ICCAT, both the western and eastern Atlantic stocks are not likely to become extinct.

The status review team also looked at the best available information on the potential effects of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill on the future abundance of the western stock of bluefin tuna and found that it did not substantially alter the results of the extinction risk analysis. While the NOAA team found that the presently available information did not favor listing, it also recognized the need to continue to monitor the potential long-term effects of the spill on bluefin tuna and the overall ecosystem. New scientific information expected in a 2012 bluefin tuna stock assessment and as part of the Natural Resources Damage Assessment of the Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill.

"Based on careful scientific review, we have decided the best way to ensure the longterm sustainability of bluefin tuna is through international cooperation and strong domestic fisherv management," said Eric Schwaab, assistant NOAA administrator for NOAA's Fisheries Service. "The United States will continue to be a leader in advocating sciencebased quotas at ICCAT, full compliance with these quotas other management measures to ensure the longterm viability of this and other important fish stocks."

NOAA conducted the status review of Atlantic bluefin after determining on Sept. 21, 2010, that a petition for listing under the ESA from a national environmental organization warranted a scientific status review.

To read the status review report on Atlantic bluefin tuna, and the federal register notice on bluefin tuna, please go to: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/s tories/2011/05/bluefin_tuna.h tml.



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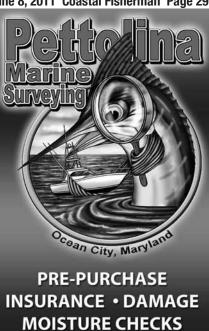
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Noah Fowler of West Ocean City, MD was fishing with his dad Tommy and Rob Mercers when he caught this cunner. As Noah started reeling in the fish, it was munched on by a hungry bluefish.



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Baltimore Canyon.

Inshore sea bass action was fair at Reef Site 11. Anchoring seemed more productive than drifting. Bass fishermen had to weed through many short ones to end up with a catch of fish above the 12-1/2 inch minimum. However, some nice bass were boated, like Chuck Coverdale's 3.59 pounder caught on the "Angler".

Back in Delaware Bay, black drum continued to come from the Coral Beds, but the run will likely wind down soon. A couple big boomers checked in recently including Phil Spare's 72.1 pounder on the "Joint Venture", and a 68.6 pounder landed by Ogden Lester aboard "Miss Kirstin". Stripers were taken around the Outer Wall and Ice Breakers by casting plugs, bucktails and soft plastics in the evening and early morning hours. Flounder are beginning to bite around Bay reef sites. Captain Chet Harer showed 'em how it's done by pulling in a 5.19 pounder. The Lewes Canal is still yielding good numbers of flatties. The largest so far was an 8.1-pound doormat that Thurman Stanley scored using a Gulp! right in front of Lewes Harbour Marina. Ethan Boyle fooled his 3.46pound flatfish with a Gulp! as well.

At Hook'em and Cook'em Bait and Tackle in Indian River Marina, Deanna Adams reported that through the week it was pretty slow, but then the yellowfin tuna started to hit the docks on Saturday. John Coleman, a former Hook 'em & Cook 'em employee, went out to the Wilmington Canyon and brought back some yellowfins with the biggest weighing in at 63 lbs. One bluefin made it to the docks weighing in at 40 lbs. It was caught out at the Chicken Bone and was brought to us from the "Black Widow".

The inshore bite for sea bass was pretty good on the "Karen Sue" last weekend. Capt John Nedelka ran out to the Washingtonian and came back with a nice catch. Nate Walker caught a 4.8 lb sea bass when he was fishing out at Site 11 with Capt. David Kincaid on the "Ambush".

Delaware Fishing Report

by Rick Willman

Hi folks. The fishing continues to be a bit on the slow side with most anglers reporting mostly small fish being caught.

Flounder action in the Rehoboth and Indian River Bays has been most productive during the outgoing tide. The usual baits such as minnow and squid combinations, frozen shiners, smelt and, for sure, good 'ole Gulp!. A few bluefish are being caught, especially in the Indian River Inlet on the incoming tide. If you see the birds working, you can be pretty sure the blues are roaming underneath. Just throw any cut bait or a shiny lure and you should score.

Sea bass fishing has not been as good as I thought it would be. Anglers are scoring some fish at Site # 11 and the areas of rubble between "DB" Buoy and "DA"



Bill Hamilton and Mike Lombardi from Long Neck, DE caught these two striped bass, weighing 23 lbs. and 24 lbs., while fishing with bucktails tipped with worms in the Indian River Inlet. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.

Buoy. Salted clam seems to be the best choice for bait.

Offshore action has been fair with reports of yellowfin and bluefin tuna for those trolling the canvons.

Capt. Bill Baker at Bill's Sport Shop reported that cod are still being caught and spot have shown up. Croaker have also been spotted in the Delaware Bay.

Jim Jones went to the Washington this past weekend and caught 15 to 20 small yellowfin tuna and 1 bluefin tuna. Loren Kline caught a 75.40 lb., 49-inch black drum at the Coral Beds on clams. Michael Davidson, aboard the "G-Force", boated 6 yellowfins, 2 bluefins and released 2 mako sharks in the Washington Canyon.

At Capt. Mac's in Fenwick, DE, Capt. Bruce said that offshore action heated up in the Baltimore and Wilmington Canyons. Most action has taken place east of 45 fathoms. Yellowfins, bluefins and a few bigeyes are giving anglers a workout. Chunking produced some fish around the Hot Dog and the Sausages. Shark fishing has seen a lot of different species of sharks but not many big fish.

In the back bays anglers are catching small bluefish and a lot of short flounder.

Surf fishermen are picking up some stripers and kingfish although the fishing has been a bit slow overall.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said a big shark caused a buzz around the dock last week. Captain Ted Moulinier and the crew of the "Pirate King II" celebrated Memorial Day with some sharking, returned with a 487-pound thresher. The large longtail struck a mackerel northwest of "DB" Buoy, and after the battle, was too heavy to get over the gunwale, so it was towed home.

The tuna bite was good on Saturday. It was encouraging to numerous yellowfins inshore of the canyons, and hopefully the pattern will continue. All of the trollers reported numerous short tuna, plus plenty of skipjacks and some false albacore on both ballyhoo and a variety of artificials.

Offshore bottom fishing was good. Bill Swords and his buddies brought back 16 golden tiles to 35 pounds, plus a bunch of sea bass and ling caught





Fritz and Will Winkler were fishing with their father Bill Winkler from Selbyville, DE and caught these stripers while using hickory shad for bait in the Indian River Inlet. The fish weighed 18 lbs. and 23 lbs. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

The headboat "Judy V." has been making trips out to the inshore sites as well. The bite has been somewhat slow but there have been keepers taken home by some and throw backs for others. As the days get warmer we are looking forward to seeing more keepers come to the area along with flounder.

Speaking of flounder...the boat "Horizon" returned with 6 keepers after drifting out at the Old Grounds and Site 11. Flounder are finally showing up in the Indian River Inlet in bigger numbers. Many people are reporting catches of a lot of undersize fish, but are finding more keepers than last year at this time.

The Indian River Inlet is still popping out some keeper rockfish. Frank Hunters caught

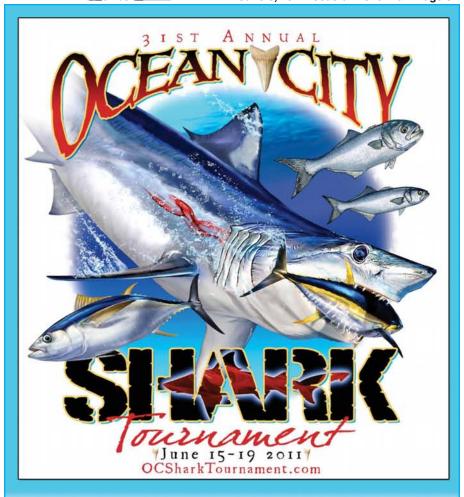
a 12 pounder on a chartreuse Storm lure while Bill Winkler took his sons fishing on two separate days and caught 5 rockfish weighing in at 23, 18, 18, 11 and 9 lbs. Bill uses live hickory shad for his bait. Blue fish are also coming to the fish-cleaning table from the inlet. They are still on the small side, but there have been some nice ones caught as well.

With only a few small kingfish, bluefish and a blowfish now and then, the surf remains the best place to catch a nap and a tan.

'Til next week, have fun and be safe!

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





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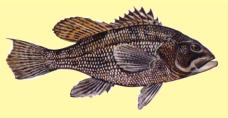




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BLACK DRUM
16" minimum 1 per person/day



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



BLUEFISH 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

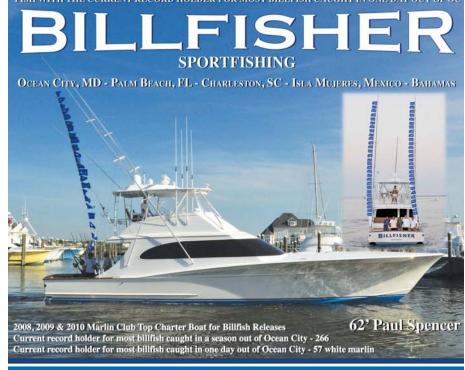


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TIGHTEN UP 52' Custom Capt. Jason Genthner



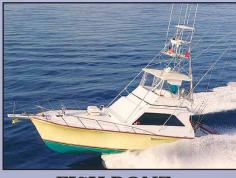
GAME ON 47' Buddy Davis Capt. Willie Zimmerman



LAST CALL 46' Post Capt. Franky Pettolina Capt. Frank Pettolina



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SPECKLED TROUT

12" minimum No creel limit



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



BLUE CRAB 5" minimum 1 bushel/person



BLACK DRUM
16" 3 per person/day



BLUEFISH
No minimum size
10 per person/day



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



CROAKER
8" minimum No creel limit



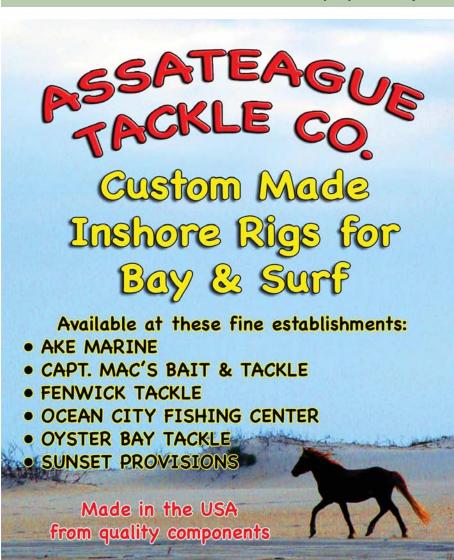
SUMMER FLOUNDER
18" minimum 4 per person/day
5/11 - 10/23



SHEEPSHEAD No limit

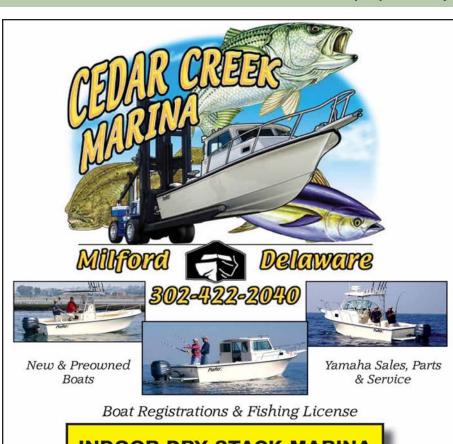


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Ship to Shore

--- by Pat Schrawder



THE SOUND OF MUSIC (ON YOUR BOAT)

I remember years ago when a customer asked me what they needed in the way of electronics for their boat. "A good radio." I replied to which they said "Well, we won't listen to music much when we're out on the boat." Ever since then, I've been clear to point out what kind of "radio" I am talking about.

That having been said, I want to talk a little today about radios as stereo equipment for your boat. The fact is that many people like to enjoy a little music while they are fishing or cruising around. Today there are many choices in that department and lately manufacturers have been making their equipment Sirius/XM ready since all too often, regular AM or FM

reception is very spotty especially the further offshore you go. Today's units give you the option of standard radio plus CD, Sirius/XM satellite radio and MP3/WMA ports even iPod and iPhone. Hardly anyone is offering equipment with a tape player.

So, how do you decide which is best for you and what is involved?

The first thing to consider is the construction of the unit. Unless it is designed for marine use and has been made of materials that resist saltwater environment, your stereo will have a very short life. This applies to your speakers as well, perhaps even more so. Conventional speaker cones are made of a material that simply will not hold up in marine conditions. Those with polypropylene similar or



On Saturday, this group of anglers fishing on the "Bay Bee" with Capt. Bob Gowar and mate Spencer Cropper returned to the Ocean City Fishing Center with 9 flounder in the box after drifting squid and shiners in the East Channel and in the bay behind Assateague Island. Pictured are Charles and Seth Hutchinson, Gordy Spangler, Dwayne Worthington, Sean and Brian Bowers and Timmy Martin. The flatties ranged in size from 18 to 19.75-inches.

waterproof cones and marine rated exterior surfaces are essential. Polyplanar, for one, makes an excellent line of waterproof speakers.

The next thing to consider is how you will mount your stereo unit. Will it be gimbal mounted or flush mounted? If you intend to flush mount the set, make certain it is designed to do so and find out if you need to purchase anything else to make that happen.

So, you have your main unit and your speakers but you will need some kind of antenna if you plan to have radio reception. For standard radio reception you can purchase a small AM/FM antenna or one of the "splitters" on the market that allows the use of your VHF antenna for both the VHF and stereo. There are also some antenna coils that work in some instances. They are designed to stick onto glass such as your windshield but can often be stashed in the console and still work fairly well. For satellite you will need a Sirius/XM antenna that has a small "mushroom" style shape.

Right now, the market is not offering a stereo that has satellite reception built in to it. They are only "satellite ready", which means you need to purchase a Sirius/XM satellite receiver along with a control head or tuner that provides you some way to select the satellite station you desire. The receiver is made by Sirius/XM but is marketed under their brand or another

manufacturer's. Of course, you also need to sign up to some service plan with Sirius/XM. The two companies merged in July 2008 and now offer either service to the end user. You can find more information on their rates and packages www.siriusxm.com

More and more combinations of available hardware options are being developed. Polyplanar and JBL seem to be at the forefront of this technology and you can expect others to join the growing field of non-home use stereo systems. I cannot emphasize enough, however, that you make certain any unit you are looking at for your boat is advertised for marine use. Beyond that, look for the unit(s) that has exactly what you desire. You can listen to the radio, bring your favorite CD's to play or record your favorite songs on a "thumb" drive to place into the USB slot. You can plug in your iPod or your IPhone but, personally, I would be a little worried about dropping my "I" unit overboard or getting it wet. Look for more and more features to be added to these stereo units as time goes on.

Sirius/XM offers also marine weather satellite and we will take a look at that next week.

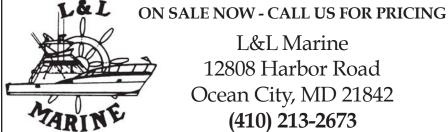
Pat and her husband, Larry are owners of L&L Marine Electronics on Golf Course Road in West Ocean City, MD.

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Karen Yingling and Marc Uhde of Ocean View, DE caught these 12 lb. and 22 lb. stripers while fishing with flies and Storm lures in the Indian River Inlet. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



Terry Mulligan from Ocean Pines, MD caught a pair of 19-inch flounder and Bob Reese from Ellicott City, MD caught flatties measuring 18.25 and 19.75-inches while fishing on the "Bay Bee" with Capt. Bob Gowar and mate Tyler Adkins. Terry caught his fish on squid and shiner combinations and Bob fooled his with a mullet. In addition to these keepers, anglers on the "Bay Bee" recorded 38 throwbacks during the trip. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



2011 Tournament Series





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29th Annual Canyon Kick Off

Tournament

NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE

Chairman: Franky Pettolina

Registration: June 30, 6:30 p.m.

Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 1, July 2, & July 3

Awards Banquet: July 4, I-3 p.m.

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32nd Annual Small Boat Tournament

NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE

Chairman: Bill Regan Registration: June 24, 6:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 25 & June 26 Awards Banquet: June 26, 6:30-9 p.m.

3rd Annual OCMC Ladies' Tournament

NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE Chairmen: Alison Sappington & Franky Pettolina Registration: August 4, 6 p.m. Fishing Days: (I of 2) August 5 & August 6 Awards Banquet: August 6, 6:30-9 p.m.

53rd Annual Labor Day **White Marlin Tournament**

NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE

Chairmen: Bob Wimbrow & Bill Fenwick Registration: September 1, 6:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (2 of 3) September 2, 3, & 4 Awards Banquet: September 4, 6:30-9 p.m.

7th Annual Kids' Classic

NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE

Chairmen: Bill Regan, Annette Cropper, & Pat Svehla Registration: July 22, 6:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (I or 2 of 2) July 23 & July 24 Cook-Out: July 16, 6:30 p.m. for Wish-A-Fish Kids Carnival & Awards Banquet: July 24, 5-8 p.m.

33rd Annual Challenge Cup

Chairmen: Jon Duffie & Pat Svehla Registration: September 15, 7 p.m. Fishing Days: (2 of 2) September 16 & September 17 Italian Night: September 16, 6:30-9 p.m. Awards Banquet: September 17, 6:30-9 p.m. BY OCMC INVITATION ONLY



























FARLOW-TAYLOR



















Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Fishermen typically spend a lot of time and resources setting themselves up to catch fish. We study and learn about where to go and what baits, lures, tackle and techniques to use to catch our intended species. But one step in the process that's often overlooked is being prepared with the skills and tools to actually land the fish that has been successfully hooked and brought to the boat, pier, or shoreline. Nets and gaffs are two of the most important have anglers successfully seal the deal when they land a keeper, but they can also be a source of sorrow if improperly.

The most common mistake I see anglers make is trying to use a net to "scoop" the fish up from behind. Most fish can't swim backwards but they sure can move forwards more quickly than anyone can ever hope to scoop a net through the water. So two rules to remember are:

- 1. Fish should enter a net headfirst so that if they try to dart away they're more likely to swim "in" rather than "out" of the net.
- 2. Never "scoop" with the net. The mesh of a typical landing net creates so much resistance that it's impossible to move it through the water fast enough to catch up to an evading fish. Instead of trying to chase a fish down, the net should be positioned in the water such that the angler can maneuver the fish over the opening and then the net is simply lifted up and around the fish.

Anglers shouldn't fooled into thinking that fish don't see the net coming. Fish are typically very aware of the presence of a net and, if they still have the strength, will make whatever maneuvers are necessary not to end up in the middle of it. This in itself sometimes fosters the need to keep the net somewhat concealed until the fish is right up to it. This can be done by holding the net up against the hull of the boat until the fish is brought in close, at which time the net can be rotated 90degrees and right into the fish's path. Another way is to keep the net completely out of

the water and just above where the fish is being led to. At just the right time the net is plunged down in front of the fish. While this method can prove effective, it can also lead to disaster if the fish spooks, dodges the net and the fish fouls on the frame or mesh, causing a break-off.

It's also helpful to avoid netting the terminal tackle along with the fish. A lot of flounder and sea fishermen have learned the hard way, that anytime a twohook bottom rig ends up in a net with a fish, it's going to be a long process to get the tangled up mess cleared so they can get back to fishing. Often it's impossible to keep from netting the hooks, but by all means anglers should avoid getting the sinker in there too. Sinkers just seem to have a knack for clinging to the inside of a net. There's nothing worse than having a net tied up in a tangle when it's needed for another fish. Netting the fish without the entire rig can save a lot of time and aggravation.



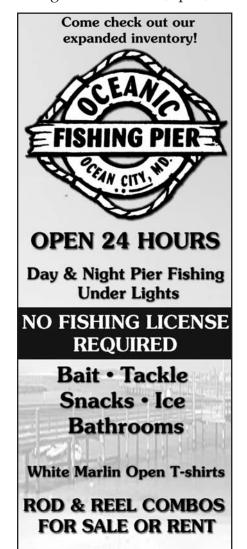
More of a strike than a trap, the action of gaffing a fish is much different from netting one. The angler still needs to get control of the fish and bring it in close to the boat, but it doesn't have to be totally whipped into submission before the gaff can be used. Once the fish is brought to the surface, the gaff is used in one fluid move to stick the fish and sweep it directly into the boat. A common mistake made by fishermen is to put the gaff in

the water and try to lift it up and into the fish. Just like nets, gaffs have too much drag in the water to keep up with evading fish. Gaffs should be brought down over the top of a fish, The catch should be impaled in or just behind the head and then brought directly into the boat. If the fish is left wiggling over the water too long there's always a chance that it will twist off gaff and be lost. Experienced fishermen will prepare ahead of time by having the fish box open and ready to accept the catch which can then be swung out of the water and deposited directly into the box.

Anglers often make the mistake of trying to gaff a fish that is too deep. Long gaff handles are to help anglers reach "out" not "down." Stick a big fish that's too deep and it could have enough power to pull the gaff right out of your hands! Whenever possible, the person wielding the gaff should be positioned on the proper side of the angler so that he doesn't have to reach out over the leader or line with the gaff to strike the fish. Many fish have been lost when they surge forward and pull the leader into the gaff before it's planted. The gaffman must be patient and wait until the fish is at the surface within easy reach before taking his shot. It can also help if the fish is angled slightly away because as it kicks its tail to swim away it will help drive the gaff deeper.

A net or gaff and the ability to use them properly is pretty much what stands between a fish brought to the boat and one put "in" the boat. The successful use of either one can be a source of great while a foul-up can unimaginable lead to disappointment.

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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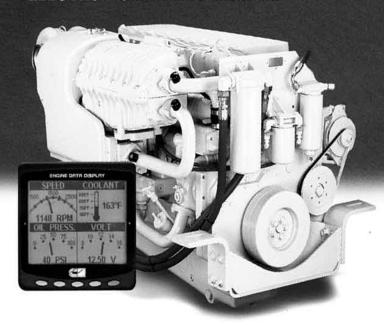
Matt Donahue from Ocean City, MD boated this 102 lb. mako shark while fishing with Bobby Layton on the "Dolphin Runner". The mako ate a bluefish fillet at the Fingers and was weighed at Sunset Marina.



Stacy Till from Bishopville, MD was fishing from the beach on Assateague Island with her husband Paul when she caught this 32-inch striped bass while using peeler crab for bait.

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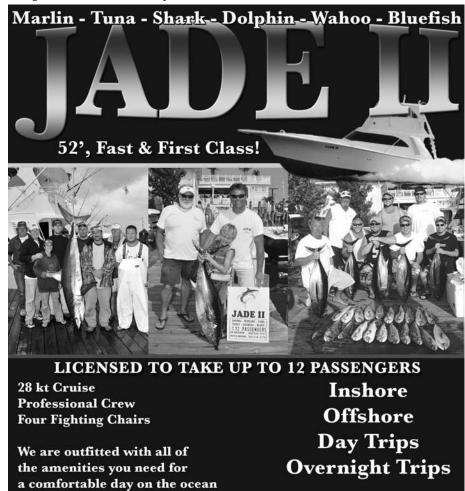
Denny Blessing of Oyster Bay Tackle was fishing with his grandson Ben Blessing of Hartford County, MD when they boated these 2 flounder, measuring 18.5-inches each, while fishing in the Thorofare. The duo used minnows and Gulp! for bait and are pictured at Oyster Bay Tackle.



END OF ANGLER'S RD. ON THE LEWES CANAL - TAX FREE SHOPPING IN LEWES, DE



The crew on the "Spectacle" trolled the 12 Fathom Lump and returned with 20 chopper bluefish, averaging 10 lbs. each. Pictured are Lex Robertson of Lewes, DE, Harry Lewis of Rehoboth, DE, Kenny Vincent from Dewey Beach, DE, Dave Kratch from Ocean View, DE, Don Stewart from South Bethany, DE and Capt. Doc Peoples. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.



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Tim Kane, Mark Thomasson and Sam Chmar teamed up to land a good catch of sea bass and some tautog while fishing with green crabs, squid and minnows at the Bass Grounds. The anglers were fishing with Capt. Chester Sadowski on the "Jezebel" and are pictured at Sunset Provisions.



These anglers came down to Ocean City to throw a bachelor party and fish on the "Restless Lady" and "Muff Diver" with Captains Todd Kurtz and Joe Riley and mates Sean Welsh, Brandon Baiocco and Wayne Bradford. They ended their day with 3 bluefin tuna in the box and a load of bluefish. The bluefins measured 42, 43 and 55-inches and were caught while trolling at the Sausages. The heaviest bluefin weighed in at 94.4 lbs. Pictured are Dan Youngblood, Pat Myers, Ridge Banks, Brian Eveleth, Gary Baker, Mason Lenhard, Dan Mousetis, Matt Eveleth, Jeff Eveleth, George Pollock and Matt Herrington. In addition to their good catch, the anglers also released 55 bluefin tuna during the trip. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.



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Erin Raderstorf of Fairfax, VA caught her first keeper flounder, a 19.5-incher on a squid and shiner combination in the Thorofare. Erin was fishing with Jim Gale and weighed the 2 lb. 12 oz. flattie at Oyster Bay Tackle.

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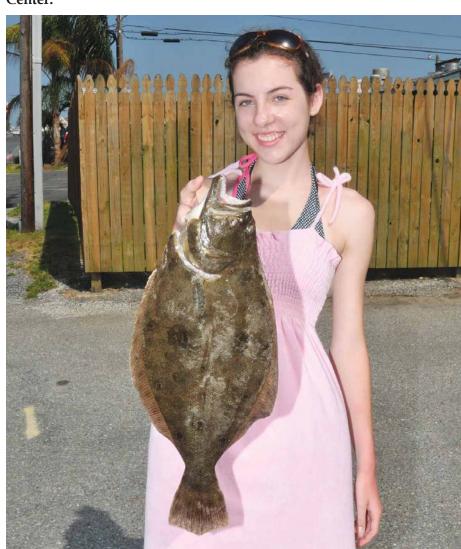








Junior angler Zack Odachowski landed his first yellowfin tuna during a trip aboard the "Off Limits". Zack was fishing with his dad Wayne Odachowski, Jon Elms and Dan Hagan. The group ended up with 4 tuna, all caught in 800 fathoms near the Rockpile. The heaviest yellowfin weighed 31 lbs. on the scale at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Olivia DiCarlo from Bel Air, MD caught her first flounder while fishing with her uncle P.J. DiCarlo on the "Rylie & Boomer". The 20inch flounder was hooked on a minnow & Gulp! combination in the West Channel off Gudelsky Park.



Cog Coughlin of Ocean City, MD stopped by the Coastal Fisherman office to have his picture taken with the 27-inch black drum caught while drifting near the Assateague Bridge. Cog hooked the drum on a peeler crab.



Aaron **Brommer** from Rehoboth Beach, DE drifting a bucktail tipped with a white worm in the Indian River Inlet when he hooked into this 22 lb. 6 oz. striped bass. The fish was weighed at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.

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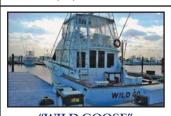
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Virginia Fishing Report

Dr. Julie Ball I.G.F.A Representative



The Memorial Day weekend provided a great start to the summer fishing season. With the decent weather, anglers had the opportunity to target a variety of fish.

Many were very interested in the newly arriving cobia. Although a few cobia have been boated, the action has not really taken off yet. Chummers off of Grandview and Bluefish Rock caught scattered fish





Jay Huhn, Chris Huhn, Michael Trzonkowski and Billy Jeagers teamed up to land this 15-foot thresher shark after hooking it on a bluefish while fishing on the "Skirt Chaser" outside the Lumpy Bottom. There wasn't a scale big enough in Chincoteague, VA to weigh the fish, estimated at over 575 lbs.

ranging to around 45-pounds this week. A few sight casters have also managed a few fish, with some going to around 50-pounds. This trend will only heat up over the next few weeks. The word from Carolina anglers also indicates the best is yet to come, with acres of cobia reportedly headed this way.

Red drum are providing good action right now. According to the folks at Chris' Bait and Tackle, boats are still releasing nice bulls from the Eastern Shore barrier islands. Large schools of reds are also cruising the surface along the oceanfront. The Virginia Beach Fishing Center reports that the crew aboard the "Waterman" released over 17 large reds from a school they encountered off of Rudee Inlet last week. A few black drum are still taking clam offerings near Buoys 10, 13 and 16 off the Eastern Shore, but most are now schooling around the islands of the CBBT.

Flounder pounders continue to sift through many shorts, but the bite is picking

up. For those drifting strip baits near the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, Buoys 36A, 40, 42, and the Cell areas, mostly throwbacks are the norm, but a few doormats are also in the mix. Live baiters are finding much more consistent action with the respectable flatfish, with many ranging from 22-24-inches along the Bay Bridge Tunnel. The lower Bay Inlets, and back waters of Oyster and the ditch to Magothy Bay are giving up a smattering of keepers, with a few pushing to over 5-pounds. Some speckled trout are also responding in these same areas.

Tailor blues are still available within the local inlets, and a few puppy drum and croaker are also coming from within Rudee Inlet. Pier anglers along the oceanfront and the southern section of the Bay are picking through a few small flounder, croaker, Tailor bluefish and nice sea mullet. Croaker are now an easy target as decent hauls come from all over the lower Bay, with larger hardheads hitting in the back waters of Lynnhaven. Another summertime favorite, Spanish

mackerel, debuted this week. In the Bay, a few boats fishing off of Grand View found a few Spanish mixed in with bluefish.

Anglers are watching the spadefish closely. With the water temperatures inching up, they should begin biting soon, along with sheepshead. Spades are schooling around the Chesapeake Light Tower, the CBBT and other inshore and Bay structures.

Striped bass are still available for those live-baiting over the tubes and near the rocks of the artificial islands of the CBBT, as well as at the curve approaching the 3rd Island.

For those venturing a little further offshore, keeper-sized sea bass are biting on many wrecks. The Triangle Wreck area is a popular sea bass destination this time of year. Even further out, deep dropping is still a good choice. For those fishing on the bottom near the Norfolk Canyon, tilefish, with a smattering of grouper, wreckfish and black bellied rosefish are available. Jamal Esfahani and Whitney Bennis of Virginia Beach each scored with a 17 lb. 10 oz. and a 16 lb. 4 oz. blueline tilefish while deep dropping off Virginia Beach aboard the "Just Right" captained by Justin Wilson out of Lynnhaven last week.

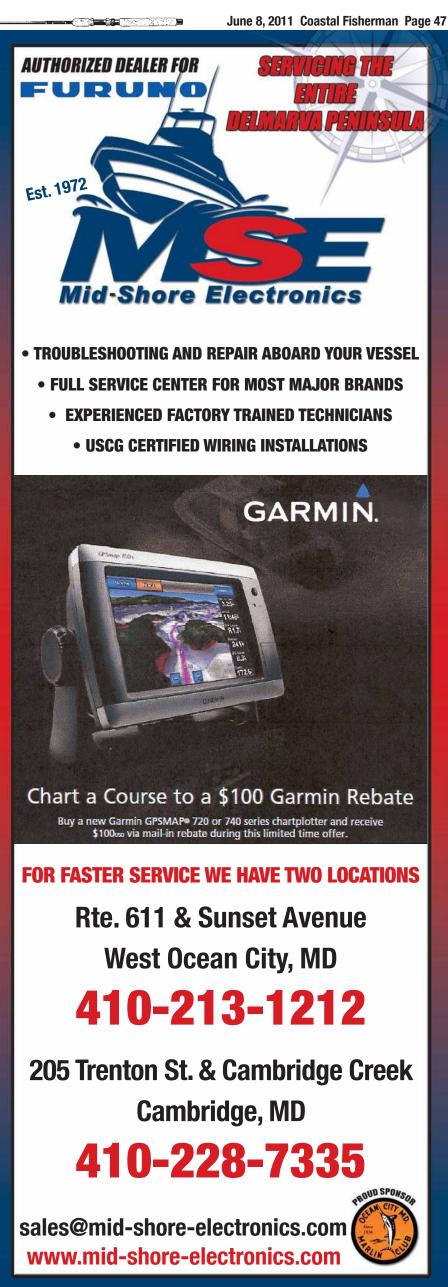
Offshore, good water is becoming more approachable from Virginia, where decent catches of dolphin and yellowfin tuna are happening. Boats are busy deciding which way to go since bluefin and yellowfin tuna are already to our north at the Washington Canyon and big mahi and yellowfin tuna are more predictable to our south, along with a shot at a wahoo or a billfish. 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.



Deb and Terry Myers from Lancaster, PA caught these 2 flounder, measuring 19.5 and 21-inches, while fishing on the "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford. The fish were hooked on Gulp! artificial baits in the bay behind Assateague Island. The "Lucky Break" runs out of Frontier Town on Rt. 611 in Berlin, MD.







Ricky Chorman landed this 24 lb. 8 oz. striped bass while fishing in the Indian River Inlet. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.





On Saturday, Dae Kim of Timonium, MD captured a 4 lb. 1 oz. sea bass and Tony Chiarizia of Stafford, VA boated a 5 lb. 5 oz. codfish, both while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Tucker Colquhoun. The sea bass was hooked on a squid and Gulp! combination and the cod was fooled with a chunk of clam. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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On Memorial Day, Alex Capozio boated this 487 lb. thresher shark after it ate a mackerel bait northwest of "DB" Buoy. Alex was fishing on the "Pirate King II" with Beau Fibelkorn, Toni Tipton, Brandy Reh Kamp, Tara Gimian, Izzy Capozio, Gia Capozio, Maggie Capozio (not pictured), Brian Wazlavek, Chris Ragni and Capt. Ted Moulinier. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Don Bouchelle ventured down from Perryville, MD to do some surf fishing off Fenwick Island and was rewarded with this 34-inch, 15 lb. 12 oz. striper. Weighed at Fenwick Tackle.



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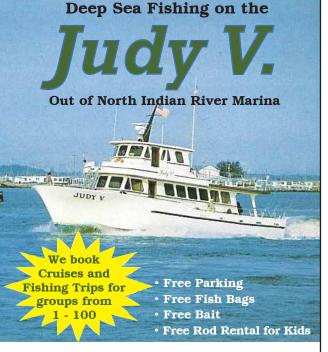
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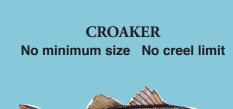
COBIA 37" minimum 1 per person/day



No minimum size 10 per person



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



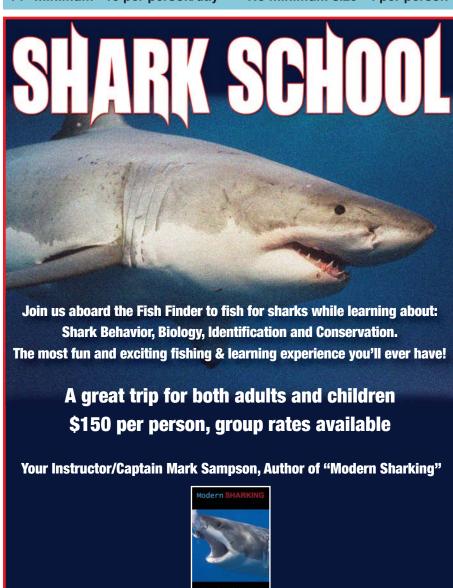
SHEEPSHEAD No minimum size 4 per person



SUMMER FLOUNDER 17.5" minimum 4 per person/day



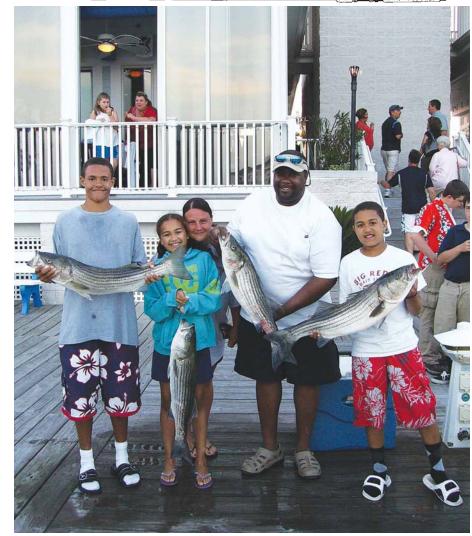
WEAKFISH 12" minimum 1 per person/day



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Robert Harris, Jr., Tres Harris, Michael Harris, Tristan Harris and Kim Harris all took the trip down from Prince Frederick, MD to go fishing on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham. The family was rewarded with 4 striped bass, all caught on live spot at the South Jetty. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

June 8, 2011 Coastal Fisherman Page 51

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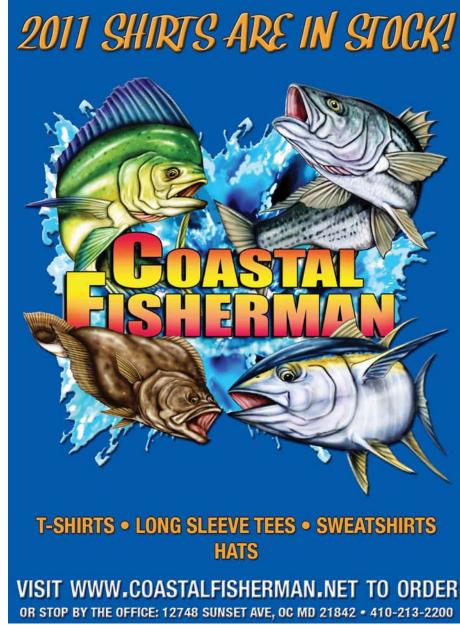
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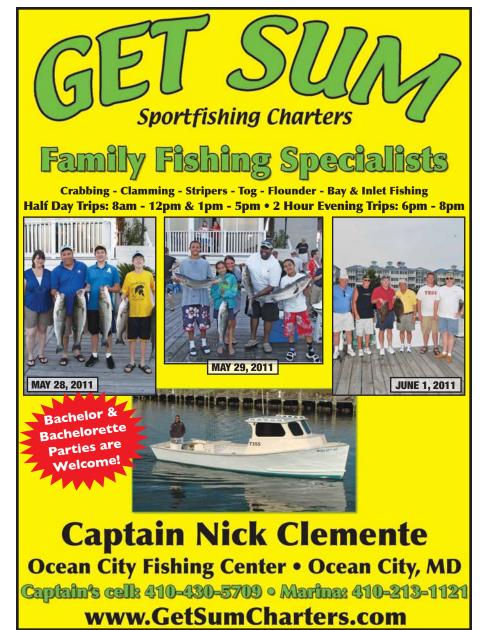
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Straight from the Maryland DNR Fisheries Service

Marty Gary
Assistant Director - Fisheries Ecologist

Interesting Dynamics Offshore

An interesting trifecta of conditions offshore provided for a diverse array of opportunities for anglers venturing offshore Memorial the Surface weekend. water temperatures in the upper 60s and low 70s in the offshore waters of the Washington and Baltimore Canyons to the Rock pile provided an early bite for yellowfin. Several boats did extremely well, and the 1st white marlin was caught. What a great way to start the season off after last year's record setting stretch in late August and early September.

A little further inshore at locations like the Fingers and the Hambone, sharks are turning up in cooler waters right on schedule, with threshers, makos, blues and duskys among the species turning up. Meanwhile, divers at the offshore wrecks and reefs from the Great Eastern Reef, the Gordon Cook and the subway cars are reporting bottom temperatures of 44-46 degrees, and Atlantic cod are turning up along with nice catches of black sea bass and some tautog. The weekend's pressure and warm temperatures finally chased most of the large, migrant stripers north, and with a long forecast of warm temperatures, the focus will shortly be turned to summer

flounder, bluefish and Atlantic croaker in the coming weeks.

A Quick Visit

After coming down to help our licensing staff set-up new agents with the paper-based fishing licenses, I came back into town Thursday afternoon to drop off extra supplies to the tackle stores for the Memorial Day weekend. It was a good thing I did, as Sue Foster at Oyster Bay and the other stores indicated a brisk sales pace for licenses. I took the opportunity to speak to Chris at the Oceanic Pier and to set the pier up as DNR's 93rd sport fish citation award center. Citation awards are given out to fishermen whose catches of over 40 species categories on the coast exceed a threshold minimum size. Chris indicated that the first citation award was given to an angler who caught a 43-inch striper off the pier. Striped bass (rockfish) must be a minimum of 40 inches to qualify. I also made a visit to the OC Fishing Pier up on the boardwalk and had a nice visit with proprietor David Horn and his wife Sue. They agreed to become the 94th DNR sport fish citation award center. Sharks are often caught off the OC Fishing Pier on the boardwalk, and in order to get a citation award for any shark species, they must be released and a photo submitted of the catch. Be

sure to bring your camera or a smart phone with a camera on your fishing trip. For a complete list of award centers and the minimum sizes to qualify for thousands in prizes, please visit the Maryland DNR website:

http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/challenge/index.asp

As I stopped by Alltackle on Rt. 50 in West Ocean City to drop off their supply of fishing guidebooks, I ran into fellow DNR colleague Mike Naylor. Mike is our Shellfish Division Director, and is an avid fishermen for everything from trout to bass to offshore species. He was in town to fish with Captain extraordinaire, Captain Mark Sampson. They wound up having a great day at the Fingers catching duskys and blue sharks and even had a giant thresher come through the baits at one point. Our staff enjoys getting out and fishing as much as anyone, and you'll see more of us out and about on the waters around Ocean City throughout the summer.

Question on Weakfish & Spotted Sea Trout

Lee Dochtermann of Ocean City wrote to us: "I have a question for you which I think would make a very interesting article for your readers! Sea trout or weakfish are my favorite ocean going sportfish! I used to catch many of them throughout the years, in and around Ocean City Maryland. The Route 50 Bridge and Shanty Town dock were favorite places for me to find them on incoming tides. I would even catch them in the surf. However, for the past 10 years I have not caught one!? I have heard all sorts of theories. One that seemed to make some sense was that the resurgence of rockfish population throughout the years has been a problem for the weakfish population...that rockfish are

eating all the baby weakfish? As it is I would really like to know:

- 1. Why have weakfish seemingly disappeared from the waters around Ocean City, Maryland?
- 2. Is anyone within the Maryland DNR working on this problem or researching it?

I hear that sea trout (at least spotted sea trout) are in and around the North Carolina coast and even Virginia. But what happened to them around the Ocean City area?

ANSWER: I can sympathize with you Lee. I can vividly recall fishing off Kent Island in autumn of 1998, jigging on immense schools of weakfish. At the time, it looked very much like that would be the next species success story striped bass, but each year thereafter, the catches diminished. The story was the same everywhere, from the Delaware Bay to North Carolina. To answer your question, there are two species that are commonly referred to as "sea trout". One is weakfish, also known as "gray trout" or "yellowfin trout", and there is the spotted sea trout, also known as "specks" or "speckled trout". Weakfish stocks fell dramatically in the mid-to-late 1980s, but started to rebound in the mid-to-late 1990s along with Atlantic croaker, only to sharply decline once again from 2000 on.

hypotheses have been offered up and tested for why this decline has occurred. range from overfishing (both commercially recreationally), to by-catch of young weakfish in commercial shrimp trawls, to predation and climate shifts. The latest Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) stock assessment indicates that throughout the 1980s and early stocks 1990s, weakfish experienced unsustainable high fishing mortality rates, which led to a decline in abundance into the 1990s. Fishing mortality rates declined during the early 1990s, and an increase in biomass was evident during the mid-to-late 1990s. Available evidence indicates that factors other than fishing mortality were the primary cause for

For weakfish, a number of

Continued on page 55





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4.20.11 3:34 pm

by Larry Jock

FISHING REPORT

squid and minnow combination.

WEDNESDAY, April 20, 2011 - The "Get Sum"

returned from their morning trip with an 18-inch keeper flounder and 8 throwbacks. They were fishing

west of the Thorofare. The keeper was caught on a

TUESDAY, April 19, 2011 - Flounder were reported hooked in the Thorofare, but not many keepers. The fish were around Dog and Bitch Islands.

Thorofare including a 5 lb. 10 oz. fish that measured 25-inches. All the fish were caught on live minnows.

Mate on the "Morning Star" landed a personal best tautog while fishing at an artificial reef today. The tog tipped the scales at 10 lbs. 3 oz. and was hooked on

Tom Hart emailed me to say that he caught 3

throwback flounder, but no keepers during the 3

hours he fished in the bay behind the northern end of

Mike Kurtz did catch his limit of flattles in the









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More info and video

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More info and video

Marina: Ocean City Fishing Center - Ocean City, MD Phone: 410-430-5709 Website: www.getsumcharters.com



Morning Star

More info and video

Marina: Ocean City Fishing Center - Ocean City, MD Captain: Capt. Monty Hawkins Phone: 410-520-2076

MONDAY, April 18, 2011 - Saw one flounder today, a 20-incher caught by Paul Vreeland down near the Assateague Bridge. Paul used minnows for bait.

Assateague Island.

Jake Emche landed a 31-inch striper in the Thorofare

Hear an interview with the Captain **500 0** virtual tour of the boat!



and a video!

biomass decline. ASMFC's Weakfish Management Board has accepted the following five points for management use:

- 1. The stock is declining
- 2. Total mortality is increasing
- 3. There is little evidence of overfishing occurring
- 4. Something other than fishing mortality is causing the stock decline, and
- 5. There is a strong chance that regulating the fishery will not, in itself, reverse the stock decline.

The 2009 stock assessment for weakfish went on to state that the preponderance of evidence statistical given supports a predation hypothesis involving enhanced predation by striped bass and spiny dogfish as the primary factor behind the recent and unexpected decline in weakfish productivity. Is someone at DNR working on it? In short, yes. Each of the coastal states within of range weakfish populations has a member assigned to ASMFC's Technical

committees and management boards. For Maryland, that is Jim Uphoff on the Technical Committee and Fisheries Service Director Tom O'Connell on the Management Board. Resources in the form of DNR staff time, funding, and the data that yields is being contributed to the process of trying to solve the riddle of the decline of weakfish. Maryland is doing its part, but if the consensus agreement of predation is true, a sharp increase in weakfish stocks may not be something we'll see in the near future.

For spotted sea trout, there is no current stock assessment that can tell for sure what their status across their full range is. It is officially listed by ASMFC as "unknown". However, over the last 28 years, the recreational catch of spotted seatrout along the Atlantic coast has shown a strong upward trend, increasing from 1.1 million fish in 1981 to 5.5 million fish in 2009, with a peak of 8.1 million fish in 2007. The recreational harvest of spotted seatrout has remained relatively stable around the time

series average of 1.3 million fish.

I can tell you that I miss the days of jigging on large schools of weakfish as much as anyone, and hopefully we'll see this species come back in greater abundance in the future. We continue to monitor the stock along with states along the Atlantic seaboard, and updates are available on the ASMFC website at: www.asmfc.org

Questions From Coastal Fishermen Readers?

I welcome any questions you may have on fisheries management, sport fishing licenses, or any other fisheries related questions. Please e-mail your questions to:

mlgary@dnr.state.md.us

Until Next Week......Good Fishing!

Marty Gary is Assistant Director/Fisheries Ecologist at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Service.



Hannah Kellett used a Gulp! artificial bait to fool this 19-inch flounder while fishing in the Lewes Canal. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.





2011

FISHERMAN



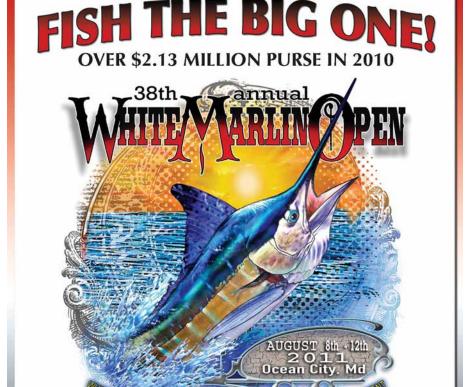
Heaviest Fish of the Year

(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 1, 2011 Zack Smith Washington Canyon 280 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Tautog	March 30, 2011 Scott Allison Ocean Wreck 19 lbs. 8 oz.	April 26, 2011 Sam Green DE Bay Reef 10 lbs. 2 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	June 3, 2011 Dan Youngblood "Muff Diver" 94.4 lbs.	May 27, 2011 Joseph Cangianelli Poor Man's Canyon 75.2 lbs.
Weakfish	June 1, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel 4 lbs. 6 oz.	No Weights Reported	Yellowfin Tuna	June 4, 2011 Mark Bowen Baltimore Canyon 79 lbs.	May 26, 2011 Phil Falgowski Wilmington Canyon 37 lbs.
Speckled Trout	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Longfin Tuna	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder	May 28, 2011 Bob Spetzler East Channel 8 lbs. 8 oz.	May 7, 2011 Mark Lowman Indian River Bay 8 lbs. 13 oz.	Bigeye Tuna	May 31, 2011 Aaron Saulsbury Washington Canyon 172.4 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Bluefish	May 21, 2011 Alexa Lamplugh Fingers 14.8 lbs.	June 2, 2011 Lex Robertson 12 Fathom Lump 10 lbs.	Dolphin	No Weights Reported	May 22, 2011 Daryl Bathelmess Lindenkohl Canyon 17.8 lbs.
Sheepshead	May 7, 2011 Sheldon Thomas Winter Quarter Shoal 3 lbs. 3 oz.	No Weights Reported	Wahoo	No Weights Reported	May 22, 2011 Dave Woods Lindenkohl Canyon 11.9 lbs.
Cobia	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	White Marlin	Most Release May 29, 2011 "Marli" 1 release	es in One Day None Reported

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

On Saturday, Mark Bowen caught this 79 lb. yellowfin tuna while fishing on the "Backlash" in the Baltimore Canyon with John Brazell, Bruce Chaney, Dan Verrette, Mike Tryon (not pictured) and Andrew Tryon (not pictured). Weighed at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Chuck Coverdale captured this 3 lb. 9 oz. sea bass while fishing at Reef Site 11 aboard the "Angler" with Capt. Don Churchill. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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2011 BAHIA TOURNAMENTS

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7TH ANNUAL

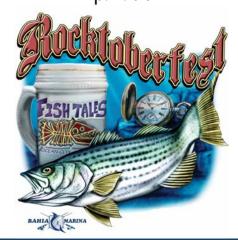
Flounder Pounder Sunday, Sept. 11 10 a.m. Bimini Start at Bahia Marina

Captain's Meeting & Sign - up Sun. 8 - 9:30 a.m.



12TH ANNUAL

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Tyler Hoke, age 13, was fishing on the "Longfin" with Capt. Lance Smith when he boated this 145 lb. make shark. The shark, along with a 45 lb. bluefin tuna, were caught inshere of the Sausages. Weighed at Bahia Marina.



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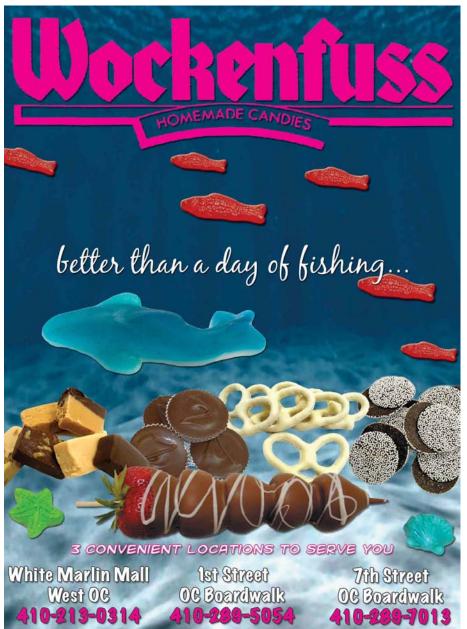


311 Talbot Street & the Bay • 410-289-3500 • 410-289-9125

Page 62 Coastal Fisherman June 8, 2011



Hugh Thomas Cropper and his sister, Myra, both from West Ocean City, MD teamed up to land this black drum after hooking it on a chunk of clam near Lattimer Shoal. The young anglers were fishing on the "Top Dog" with their mom, J.L. Cropper.





This 25-inch flounder was caught by Brandon Walker of Columbia, MD while fishing with Chris Fortner of Ridgley, MD. The duo was fishing with Gotcha Plugs from the Rt. 50 Bridge and are pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





Mickey Bremer from Dewey Beach, DE was fishing at Cape Henlopen State Park when he landed this 27 lb. 10 oz. striped bass on a chunk of bunker. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.



This 43.5-inch striper was muscled in by Tom Weiss of Fenwick Island, DE while surf fishing off of 3R's Road. Tom hooked the 28 lb. 6 oz. linesider on fresh bunker and weighed catch at Hook'em & his Cook'em.

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Chuck Wenzel from West Ocean City, MD was fishing aboard the "Martini Time" when he hooked this 29.5-inch striper on a live spot at the South Jetty. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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TIDES & MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. June 8	Low 07:33 am Low 07:54 pm	High 01:16 am High 01:52 pm
Thurs. June 9 First Quarter	Low 11:25 am Low 11:58 pm	High 02:12 am High 02:53 pm
Fri. June 10	Low 09:18 am Low 10:03 pm	High 03:12 am High 03:55 pm
Sat. June 11	Low 10:13 am Low 11:08 pm	High 04:14 am High 04:56 pm
Sun. June 12	Low 11:09 am Low	High 05:14 am High 05:53 pm
Mon. June 13	Low 12:11 am Low 12:05 pm	High 06:11 am High 06:47 pm
Tues. June 14	Low 01:09 am Low 12:59 pm	High 07:06 am High 07:04 pm
Wed. June 15 Full Moon	Low 02:02 am Low 01:51 pm	High 07:59 am High 08:31 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

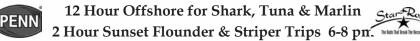
These tides are only meant to be a guide, as tides can be affected by storms and weather fronts.

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~ JUNE ~

31st Annual South Jersey Shark **Tournament** June 9 - 12 · Cape May, NJ 609-884-2400

53rd Annual Big Rock **Blue Marlin Tournament** Ladies Event - June 11 Tournament - June 13 - 18 Morehead City, NC • 252-247-3575

31st Annual Ocean City Shark Tournament June 16 - 18 • OC Fishing Center

410-213-2442 or 410-213-1121

22nd Annual MSSA Tuna-Ment June 24 - 26 • Sunset Marina

410-255-5535

32nd Annual Small Boat **Tournament** June 25 - 26 • Ocean City Marlin Club 410-213-1613

~ JULY ~

29th Annual Canyon Kick-Off July 1 - 3 • Ocean City Marlin Club 410-213-1613

22nd Annual Ocean/Viking Showdown July 13 - 17 · Cape May, NJ 609-884-2400

10th Annual Mid-Atlantic Tuna Tournament July 20 - 23 · Cape May, NJ 609-884-2400

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Heather Myers of York, PA boated this 19-inch flounder during a trip aboard the "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe. The fish was caught in the bay behind Ocean City. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

HAVE A PHOTO OF YOUR CATCH?

Email it to the Coastal Fisherman at

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

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

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