

Priceless

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COASTAL FISHMAN

VOLUME 36 • •

• MAY 11, 2011



Some larger flounder are starting to hit the scales along the coast, and none have been heavier this year than the 8 lb. 13 oz. flattie weighed by Mark Lowman of Bethany Beach, DE. Mark caught the 28-inch flounder on a "super sized" minnow baited on a plain hook while fishing on the south side of the Indian River Bay by the VFW Slough and weighed his catch at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.



Fish Facts

Striped Bass

Morone saxatilis
(aka: rockfish)

Key Distinguishing Markings:

- Striped bass is a silvery fish that gets its name from the seven or eight dark, continuous stripes along the side of its body.
- The body is compressed, dorsal fins are well separated, caudal fin is forked, olive green, blue, or black dorsally.

Size:

- Striped bass can grow as long as 60 inches.
- The current world record striped bass weighed 72 1/2 lbs. and was caught by Albert McReynolds in 1982 while fishing off the Vermont Avenue Jetty in Atlantic City, NJ.
- The largest recorded striped bass was a 125 pound female caught on the North Carolina coast in 1891.

Migration:

- On the Atlantic coast, striped bass range from St. Lawrence River, Canada to St. Johns River, Florida.
- Mature resident and migratory striped bass move into tidal freshwater in early spring to spawn.
- After spawning, migratory fish return to the coast.
- Most spend the summer and early fall months in middle New England near-shore waters.
- During the late fall and early winter, coastal striped bass migrate south to winter off NC/VA Capes.

Habitat:

- Striped bass inhabit coastal waters and are commonly found in bays but may enter rivers in the spring to spawn. Some populations are landlocked.

Food Preference:

- Larvae feed on zooplankton.
- Juveniles take in small shrimps and other crustaceans, annelid worms, and insects.
- Adults feed on a wide variety of fishes, crustaceans, squids, mussels, and worms.

Spawning:

- Female striped bass can mature as early as age 4; however, it takes several years (age 8 or older) for spawning females to reach full productivity.
- Males can mature as early as age 2.
- Once a mature female deposits her eggs, they are fertilized by milt ejected from a mature male.
- Spawning is triggered by an increase in water temperature and generally occurs in April, May and early June in the Chesapeake Bay.
- They usually remain in Chesapeake Bay for two to five years, and then migrate to the Atlantic Ocean.
- With warming water temperatures in the spring, mature fish start their spawning runs in freshwater rivers and streams to complete their life cycle.
- The Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries are the primary spawning and nursery area for 70-90% of the Atlantic coast stocks of striped bass.

Fun Facts:


- Striped bass (Rockfish) is Maryland's official state fish.
- A moratorium was placed on striped bass from 1984-1989.
- Striped bass were so plentiful at one time, they were used to fertilize fields.

Reference: www.dnr.state.md.us



July 1982 - Kathleen Harman of Ocean City, MD was fishing with Virginia Jenkins and Capt. Buckshot on the "Calypso II" when she landed this 72 lb. white marlin in the Baltimore Canyon. It only took Kathleen 10 minutes to get the white marlin to the boat. Pictured at the weigh station at the old Marlin Club on Talbot Street in downtown Ocean City.


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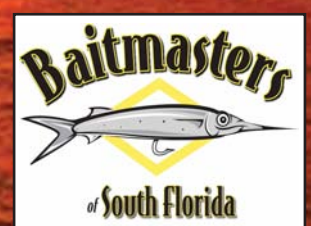
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On April 30th, Sean Widgeon of Berlin, MD was fishing off Shipwreck Island with Jay Phillips when he landed this Grand Slam, consisting of a black drum, a striped bass and a red drum. All of the fish were caught while using crab for bait.



Ocean City Marlin Club

2011 Tournament Series

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info@ocmarlinclub.com www.OCMarlinClub.com

2nd Annual Memorial Day Bluefish Tournament

NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE

Chairman: Franky Pettolina

Registration: May 27, 6:30 p.m.

Fishing Days: (1 of 2) May 28 & May 29

Awards Banquet: May 30, 1-3 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: (1 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.

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: (1 of 2) August 5 & August 6

Awards Banquet: August 6, 6:30-9 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

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, 1-3 p.m.

FREE TO ALL OCMC BOAT MEMBERS

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.



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Bill Kelly, mate on the "Get Sum", boated this 21-inch flounder after hooking it on a pink Gulp! Alive Swimming Mullet in the Thorofare. Bill was fishing with Greg and Dana Zapcic and Capt. Nick Clemente. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.






Surfcasters fishing from the beach along the coast have had a good run of black drum this spring. Here, Ed Jackman of Lock Haven, PA is pictured with the 28-inch he landed from the surf off Fenwick Island while using clams for bait. Photo courtesy of Fenwick Tackle.


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Paul Till of Bishopville, MD caught this 29-inch black drum on a sand flea/Fishbite combination while fishing south of the Bullpen off Assateague Island.



Alex Levantovsky of Philadelphia, PA was targeting tautog while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder when he hooked into this 7 lb. 7 oz. bluefish. The bluefish ate a crab at an inshore wreck.

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Jim Gunsallus from Lock Haven, PA muscled in this 36-inch striper while fishing from the beach in Fenwick Island. The linesider was hooked while using clams for bait. Photo courtesy of Fenwick Tackle.



Bob Slater took advantage of some clean water while fishing off the Rt. 50 Bridge when he landed this 22.5-inch flounder. Bob hooked the flattie while using shiners for bait and is pictured at Alltackle Ocean City on Rt. 50.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



It was one of those weeks where you really could write the fishing report on a napkin. For some reason, it just seems like nobody is fishing. You look out at the bay and it is empty. Fish are there, but not many are fishing for them.

Now, that doesn't mean that fish weren't caught...

Tautog

Tog were the star of the show this week with several bruisers caught. You have to head to inshore wrecks to get them, but they are definitely there. The largest tog we saw this week was the 17 pounder caught at the Star Wreck by Jerry Scruggs on the "Fin Chaser". Capt. Monty Hawkins on the "Morning Star" also returned with some big blackfish last week, weighing up to over 15 lbs. On Sunday, Steve Hoffman caught and released a tog that weighed 15 lbs. Nice!

As always, crabs were the bait of choice, with the boys from up north (NJ & NY) having success with white crabs (also known as rock crabs), and locals mainly using green crabs.

Some tautog were also caught along the rocks just south of Gudelsky Park.

Sheepshead

The first sheepshead of the season was caught on Sunday by Sheldon Thomas during a trip to



Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder on the "Morning Star" have been putting anglers on some nice tautog lately as shown by this catch on Friday, May 6th. Augie Johnson from New York, NY (11 lbs.), Alex Levantovsky of Philadelphia, PA (10 lbs. 9 oz.), Bob Key from Stevens, PA (15 lbs. 4 oz.) and Constantine Mitsopoulos of Ocean City, MD (11 lbs.) landed their fish while using green crabs and white crabs on ocean wrecks and reefs. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

Winter Quarter Shoal.

Flounder

It was a fairly slow week for flounder fishing.

The majority of the flatties being caught are coming from the flats, north of the Thorofare, although the bay behind Assateague is also producing some keepers.

The majority of keepers are in the 19-inch range, with a lot of throwbacks still being recorded.

It looks like the hot bait right

now is the Gulp! Alive Swimming Mullet. Some anglers are finding luck combining the Gulp! bait with a minnow or shiner.

Striped Bass

The striper action, especially at night from the Rt. 50 Bridge was sporadic last week, but when it was hot, it was hot! Some nice fish were landed, with several over 30-inches hitting the deck. Mike Cenci stopped by the office on Friday with a 40-incher he caught the previous night on a spec rig. The fish fought so hard, it broke Mike's rod. Pretty fish!

Boat anglers fishing with spot also had good luck pulling nice fish from the pilings.

From the Surf

It looks like the good striper run surfcasters experience every

spring is starting to take place with several nice linesiders landed off Assateague this past weekend. Several fish over 40-inches were reported. Anglers still had to weed through annoying dogfish sharks, skates and some snapper bluefish.

The bite off the beaches in North Ocean City and up into lower Delaware also heated up towards the end of last week. On Thursday, Nathan Follmer beached himself a couple of beauties, measuring 37.5 and 38-inches. On Sunday, Lenny Potenzo caught a 40-incher from the surf in North Ocean City.

The bait of choice for stripers in the surf continues to be fresh bunker, although we saw a few hooked on clams.

In addition to striped bass, we also saw a few black drum caught, although the numbers are down from what they were in previous weeks.

Cod

The "Morning Star" continues to bring back some nice catches of cod.

On Saturday, a group of four anglers returned with 9 cod in their cooler and threw back another 15 during the trip. The fish were caught in 51-degree water on clams.

So far, this has been a very good year for catching cod and Capt. Monty on the "Morning Star" attributes it to the work done by the New England Fishery Management Council over the last three years who have identified and protected the essential habitat needed for the fish under their jurisdiction to survive.

With water temperatures warming up into the 60's and the striper run starting to form, I'm sure I will see more of you at the scales. If you want a picture taken of your catch, just give us a call at 410-213-2200.

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Regina Slater caught this 8 lb. 8 oz. bluefish while fishing off of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Regina was using a shiner/Gulp! combination and weighed her catch at Alltackle Ocean City.

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Nathan Follmer from Ocean City, MD caught 2 stripers from the 140th Street surf in Ocean City while using bunker for bait. The larger linesider measured 38-inches and weighed 16 lbs. 15 oz. while the second striper measured 37.5-inches and tipped the scales at 15 lbs. 10 oz. Weighed at Oyster Bay Tackle.



Scot Anderson from Lewes, DE muscled in this 4 lb. 10 oz. *Paralichthys dentatus*, otherwise known as a summer flounder, while drifting live minnows in the Lewes Canal. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina, the home of the "Lewes Harbour Stretch".



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Jim Steel used fresh bunker to fool this 15 lb. striped bass while fishing from the beach in South Bethany. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em Outfitters.



Walter Yip from Pots Net, DE caught his limit of tautog while fishing on the "Judy V." with Capt. Roger Meekins. The fish were all caught on green crabs at Site 10. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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Miguel Hernandez (right) of Queens, NY caught a 13 lb. tautog while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Eddie Santiago and Michael Addimando, both from Bronx, NY, Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mate Mike Kinder. The fish was caught at an artificial reef while using crab for bait. Eddie caught himself a nice 12.5 pounder during the trip. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Jerry Scruggs from Waynesboro, PA was fishing at the Star Wreck aboard the "Fin Chaser" with Capt. Dan Stauffer when he hooked into this 17 lb. tautog while using crabs for bait. Pictured at Fisherman's Marina in West Ocean City.

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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



Anglers are used to fish sizes going up. It's an exciting year (2011) when a fish size goes down! Maryland size limit was 19-inches last year and Delaware was 18 1/2. Both Maryland and Delaware will have a size limit of 18-inches this year because both states "under caught" last year.

"What about the creel limits?"

Maryland has a three fish creel limit and Delaware has a four fish creel. If you are fishing on the water in Maryland and returning to Delaware, three fish is all you better have in your cooler as long as you are in Maryland waters!

"Where should I go fishing for flounder in my boat?"

The first part of the season always produces good catches far away from the Inlet. Drifting the main channel in front of the Route 90 Bridge is always good in the spring. The sun warms the waters up in the estuaries and on the outgoing tide. These warm shallow waters move back through the bay and stir the flounder to bite. Water in the far reaches of the bay is usually

always warmer than water close to the Inlet. Look at your depthfinder and find depths that are 6 to 8 feet. Don't bother with water that is much shallower than that. There are several little cuts and dips on either side of the channel, close to the green light that signals the main channel on the Route 90 Bridge. Drift or "slow troll" to find the biting flounder. You want to be moving about one knot.

"What side of the Rt. 90 Bridge should I fish on?"

Well, consider which way the tide is going. On the incoming tide, fish the north side of the bridge. On the outgoing, fish the south side of the bridge.

The Thorofare, the body of water on the west side of the bay opposite Captain's Hill has been a "hot spot" this spring. The whole area from Buoy 16 to Drum Point (the northern end of Captain's Hill) is often called the Thorofare. This is really a broad area. The "real" Thorofare is the deep water in front of the bulkheaded area close to the houses in Captain's Hill. The large Phillip's house can be seen through the green

marshes and field just north of the Thorofare. This is where the deep water, over 20 foot, can be found. When you drift from the deep water to the shallow water, or vice versa, you will find flounder biting as you move back and forth over these underwater slopes. There's an old boat down there too, which attracts flounder and also some "snags."

To the north of the Thorofare are two small channels that are not as deep that anglers call "the flats." A lot of flounder are caught in these areas on the high, flood tide. You want the tide to be moving, so two hours before and two hours after high flood tide is usually good when fishing on the "flats."

Anglers follow the buoys on the west side of the bay near the green marshes from #10 to #16. Or they fish the small unmarked channel slightly right of the Thorofare. This can be tricky and you can run aground if you are not familiar with the waters. Look and watch other boats. It is usually smaller boats navigating this unmarked territory!

The bay behind Assateague has become a local's favorite over the last couple years. The bay party boats have discovered it as well, thus this area has become very popular for flounder fishing. With the Worcester County boat ramp closed this May for repairs it will become even a more popular fishing hole since there is a boat ramp right there at Assateague Island.

Drifting the buoys between numbers #8 and #13 is always good. Anglers can see Frontier Town and Eagle's Nest Camp Ground as they drift the buoys, between the sand bars and the green marshes or along the green marshes themselves. When the water is clean in these backwaters you can really tear the flounder up! Anglers find that an easterly wind is best. A hard south or north wind usually stirs up the slur and makes fishing unproductive in the bay

behind Assateague.

If the water is dirty, flounder anglers do better closer to the inlet as long as the water temps are not too cold. Drifting in front of the Ocean City Airport is a popular spot. So is the drift in front of the big houses between the bay behind Assateague and the mouth of the inlet.

On the east side of the bay, anglers like to drift the buoys around 32nd Street. They call this area the Convention Hall channel. THEN, if the water temperatures are temperate enough, anglers drift in the main East Channel from 14th Street (Harbor Island) to the draw of the Route 50 Bridge.

For anglers in small boats, there are some secret holes in the bay close to Hooper's Crab House, but that area is not marked and channels come and go. You have to be real careful if you mess around there!

"Where can I fish for flounder from the shore?"

Well, the usual haunts are the Route 50 Bridge, the Oceanic Pier, the 9th Street Pier, the Inlet and cement wall along the Inlet area and the bulkhead along 2nd through 4th streets. Anglers can also go to the west side of the Route 50 Bridge to the Homer Gudelsky Park. Flounder can also be caught from the Ocean Pier and the surf.

Flounder fishing is a lot of fun. They are site feeders and like clean, clear water. That's what you need to look for. The optimum temperature range for summer flounder is between 62 and 66 degrees. They like the water temperatures to be at least 56 degrees for a decent "bite." So in the spring, look for those nice sunny days to warm up the water, to get those flounder "hopping on the hook!"

Good fishing....

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

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Tony Burr has an interesting way of holding a fish, as shown while posing with this 23-inch, 9 lb. 10 oz. tautog caught while fishing at the Washingtonian. The tog was caught on a clam and was one of 4 tautog and 10 cod Tony caught this day. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.



Mike Kurtz of Selbyville, DE just keeps putting the keeper flounder in the cooler. Here, Mike is shown with the 2 lb. 12 oz. flattie caught on a live minnow in the Thorofare. Weighed at Oyster Bay Tackle.

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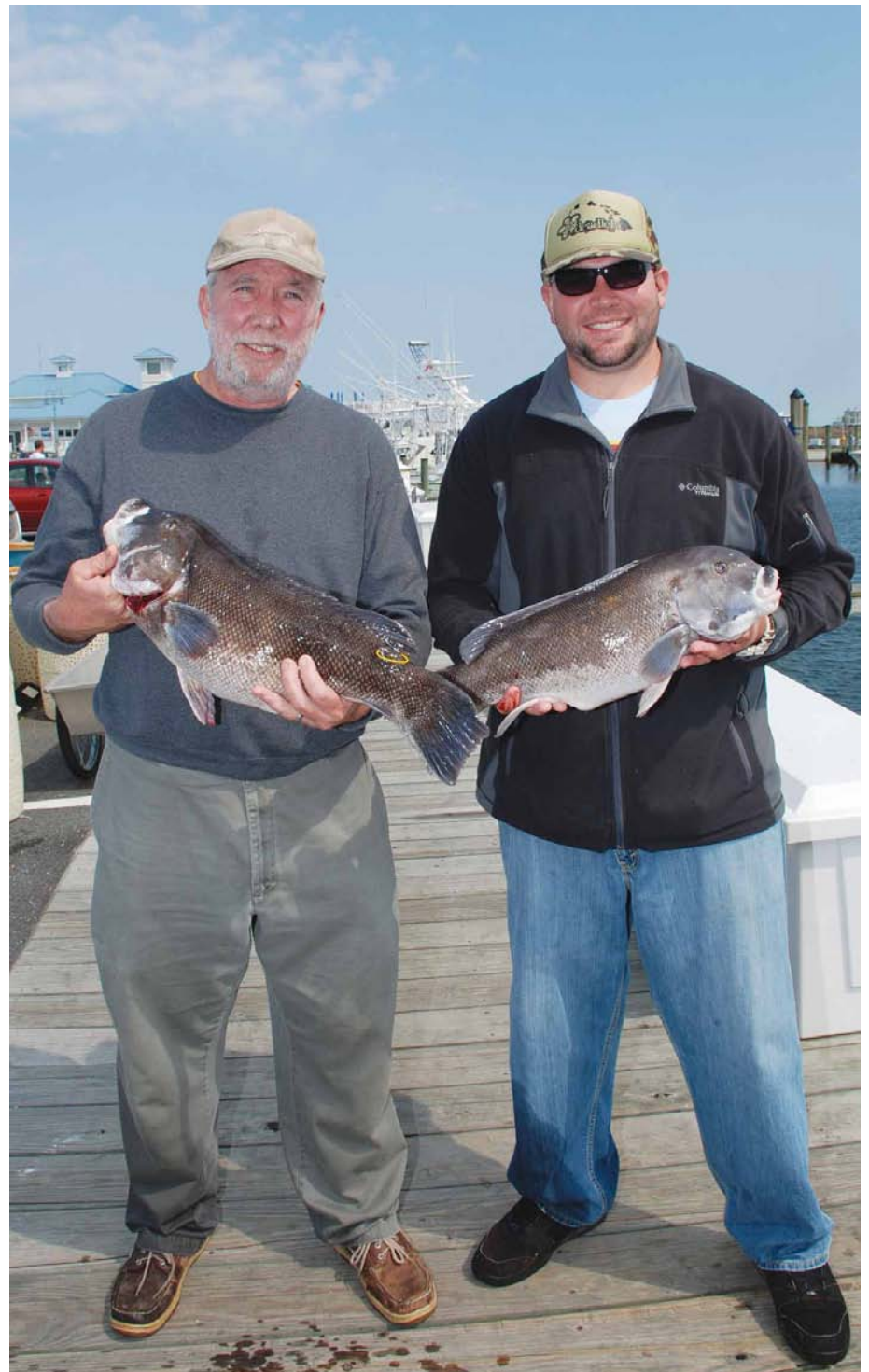
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Cog Coughlin from Ocean City, MD was joined by his son, Chris Coughlin who flew in from Hawaii for a trip aboard the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. The duo was rewarded with some nice size tautog, caught on green crabs at an artificial reef. Cog's tog weighed 9 lbs. 7 oz. while Chris' tipped the scale at an even 8 lbs. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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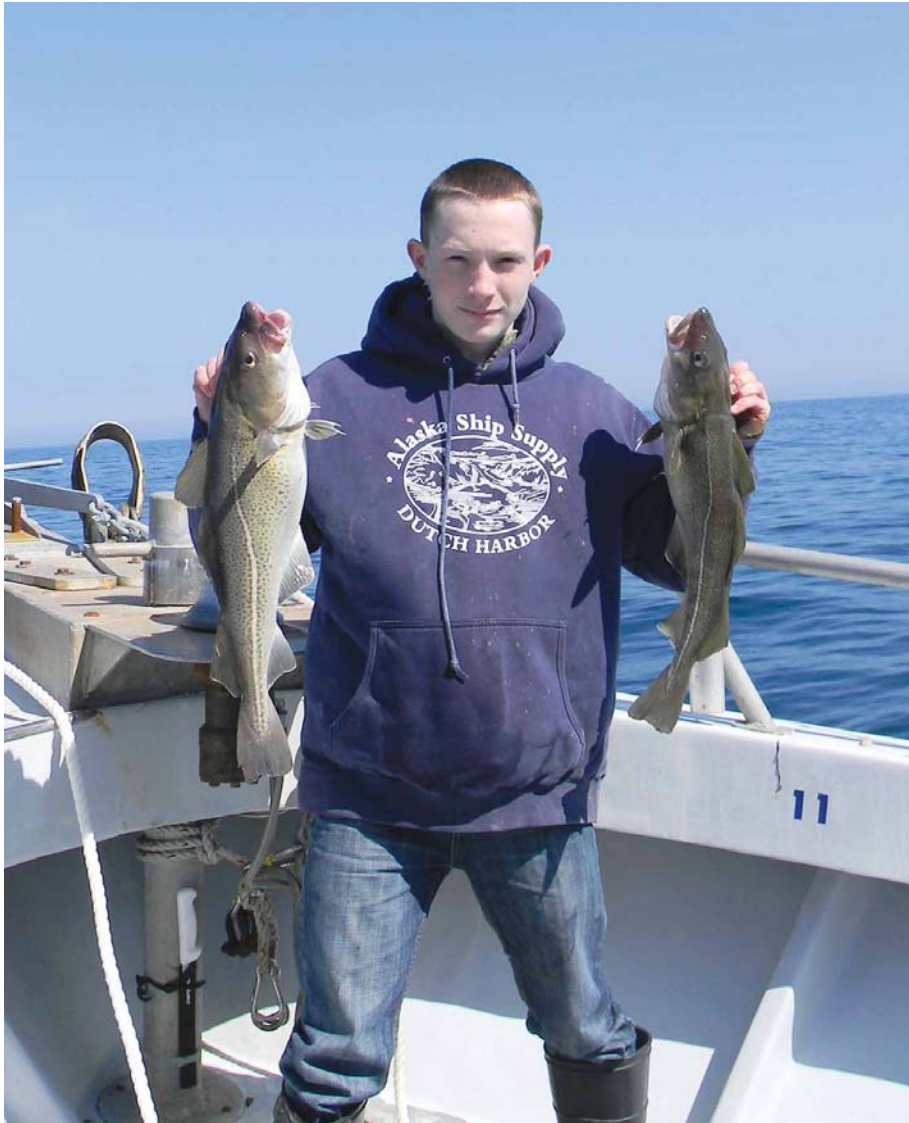
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Jonah Crisanti took advantage of a good cod bite in March and landed this double header while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. The fish were caught at an ocean wreck while using clams for bait.

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Mark Swift and Terry Myers were fishing north of Brandywine Shoal in the Delaware Bay when they hooked these stripers while using clams for bait. The anglers were fishing on the "Screamin' Seaman" with Capt. Mole Barnes. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



Cornelio Vidro took the trip down from Philadelphia, PA to go fishing on the "Judy V." with Capt. Roger Meekins and was rewarded with this 6 lb. 10 oz. tautog. Cornelio hooked the tog on a green crab at Site 9 and weighed his catch at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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The Galley

by Mama Jock



Pecan Trout

1/3 cup chopped pecans
10 saltine crackers
1 clove garlic, chopped
1/4 tsp. salt
3 TBSP. milk
2 trout fillets
Cooking spray
2 tsp. canola oil, divided
Lemon wedges

Place first four ingredients in food processor and process until finely ground.

Place mixture in a shallow dish.

Place milk in a separate shallow dish.

Dip fish in milk; then dredge in cracker mixture.

Coat fish with cooking spray.

Heat 1 tsp. of oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium high heat; add one fillet and cook 2 to 3 minutes on each side.

Remove fillet from pan and

repeat procedure with other fillet.

Serve with lemon wedges.

Serves 2.

Barbecued Sea Bass

4 fillet portions
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/4 tsp. paprika
8 slices bacon, divided
1 TBSP. plus 1 tsp. lemon juice, divided

Rinse fillets in cold water; pat dry and sprinkle with salt, pepper, and paprika. Set aside.

Place 2 slices bacon on a large piece of heavy-duty aluminum foil.

Place a bass fillet lengthwise on each bacon slice.

Sprinkle 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice over each fillet.

Fold foil edges over, and wrap securely.

Repeat procedure with remaining ingredients to make 3 additional packets.

Grill packets over hot coals 10 minutes.

Turn packets, and grill an additional 10 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.

Serves 4.

Cod Italiano

2 TBSP. olive oil
1 onion, thinly sliced
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 (14 ounce) can stewed tomatoes
1/2 cup black olives, sliced
1 TBSP. parsley, minced
1/2 tsp. Italian seasoning
1/2 cup dry white wine
1 pound cod fillets
Salt and pepper to taste
Rice, cook separately

Heat oil in large fry pan.

Saute onions and garlic until softened.

Stir in tomatoes and rest of ingredients; simmer 10 minutes.

Place cod fillets in sauce and simmer 5 more minutes or until

fish turns white.

Serve over rice.

Serves 4.

Tautog Baked in Tomato Sauce

1 1/2 pounds tautog fillets
1 cup onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 TBSP. olive oil
1 (8 ounce) can tomato sauce
1 (28 ounce) can crushed tomatoes
1 bay leaf
1 tsp. dried basil
1 tsp. dried thyme
1 tsp. dried marjoram
1/2 cup dry white wine
1 TBSP. parsley, minced
Salt and pepper to taste

Cut fillets into bite size pieces; set aside.

In a soup pot, sauté onion and garlic in the olive oil just until tender.

Add tomato sauce, tomatoes, wine and rest of ingredients except parsley.

Simmer 20 to 30 minutes.

Add the fillet pieces and cook 10 minutes.

Add parsley and serve over rice.

Makes 7 cups.

Fish Tacos

Vegetable oil, for frying
1 1/2 cups thinly sliced red or green cabbage
1/2 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
Juice of 1 lime, plus wedges for serving
2 TBSP. honey
1/2 cup mayonnaise
Salt to taste
12 corn tortillas
3/4 cup flour
1/2 tsp. chili powder
Pepper
1 1/4 pounds skinless flounder fillet, cut into 2 by 1/2 inch pieces
1 avocado, skinned and sliced
1/2 cup salsa

Heat 3 inches of oil in a medium pot over medium-low heat until a deep thermometer registers 375 degrees.

Toss cabbage, cilantro, lime juice, honey and mayonnaise in a bowl; season with salt.

Warm the tortillas in a skillet

over medium-low heat or wrap in a damp cloth and microwave 25 seconds. Wrap in a towel to keep warm.

Mix the flour, chili powder, salt and pepper to taste in a shallow bowl.

Dredge the fish in the flour mixture, then fry in batches until golden, 2 to 3 minutes.

Drain on paper towels.

Fill the tortillas with the fish, avocado, slaw and salsa.

Serve with lime wedges.

Serves 4.

Italian Baked Clams

1 dozen littleneck clams, scrubbed
1 cup plain bread crumbs
2 cloves, chopped fine
3 TBSP. fresh oregano leaves, finely chopped
2 TBSP. parsley, finely chopped
Pinch crushed red pepper flakes
Salt to taste
2 to 3 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil
1/2 to 3/4 cup chicken stock

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees.

Place the clams on a sheet tray; bake for 2 to 3 minutes or until the clams just begin to open a little.

Using a butter knife, pry the clams open and remove the top shell and discard. Completely pull the clam away from the bottom shell and place it back in the bottom shell.

Preheat the broiler and adjust the rack to the top shelf.

In a bowl, combine the bread crumbs and the next 5 ingredients.

Add the olive oil and stir until well combined.

Add the chicken stock until the mixture is quite wet.

Taste to check if more salt is needed.

Fill each clam full of the bread crumb mixture.

Pack the bread crumbs down to secure the edges. This will keep the clam moist. Place the clams on a sheet tray and add 1/2 cup of water to the tray. Put the tray under the broiler for 5 to 6 minutes or until the bread crumbs are brown and crispy.

Makes 1 dozen.

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Guy Sterlichi of Wilmington, DE caught this 29-inch, 8 lb. flounder while drifting a live minnow in the VFW Slough. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle on Long Neck Road.

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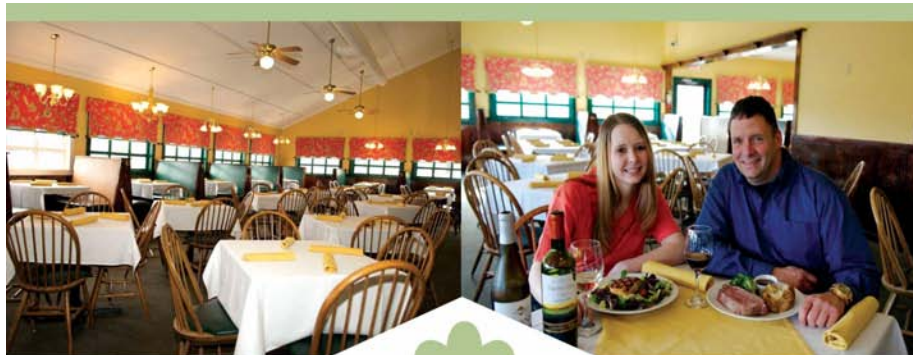
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Alex Levantovsky of Philadelphia, PA has been burning up the gasoline, making the trip down to fish on the “Morning Star” with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mate Mike Kinder. Alex has been hot, landing this 13 lb. tautog while fishing at an artificial reef using white crab (rock crab) for bait. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Paul Skibicki of Ocean View, DE was surf fishing off a VA barrier island when he hooked into this 45-inch, 40 lb. striped bass. Paul was using peeler crabs for bait.



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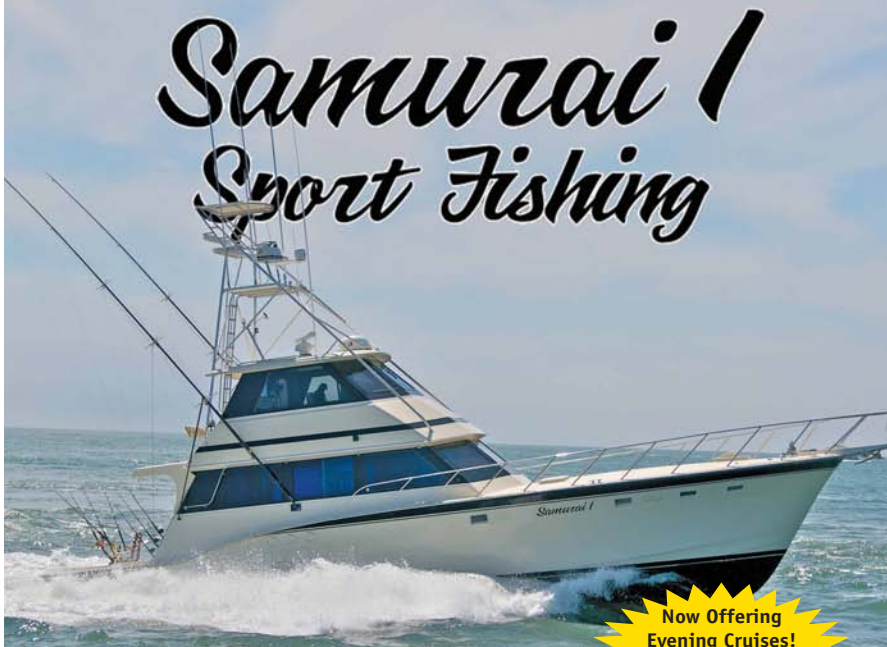
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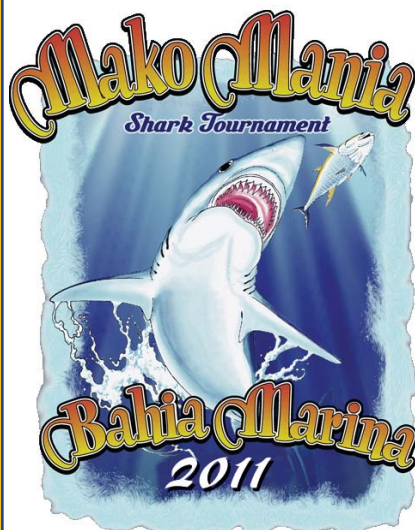
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Species	2011	2010	Species	2011	2010
Sea Bass 	None Reported	April 18, 2010 George Henning "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	Mako Shark 	May 1, 2011 Brett Coakley "Wrangler" Washington Canyon	May 20, 2010 Josh Dolan "Nontypical" Washington Canyon
Tautog 	January 6, 2011 Mike Grybos "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	January 7, 2010 John Smith "Morning Star" Offshore Wreck	White Marlin 	None Reported	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 	None Reported	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 	None Reported	June 11, 2010 Tom Zapf "Darlin" 461 Lump
Bluefish 	May 1, 2011 Alex Levantowsky "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 	None Reported	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 	None Reported	June 8, 2010 Tina Boykin "Lucky Duck II" Poor Man's Canyon
Thresher Shark 	None Reported	May 16, 2010 Tenille Schrier "Hookin' Wubbas" Jackspot	Wahoo 	None Reported	None Reported

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



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Jim Mayberry from Mechanicsburg, PA boated these two striped bass while tossing bucktails tipped with white Mister Twister worms in the Indian River Inlet. The stripers measured 33 and 35-inches. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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	Rt. 50 Bridge	OC & DE Surf		-----	-----

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Patti Ribinsky from Millsboro, DE seems happy with her 20-inch flounder and Joe Ribinsky has to be smiling on the inside after catching a 27-inch flattie while drifting a jig head tipped with a Gulp! artificial bait in the VFW Slough. Joe's big flounder tipped the scales at 7 lbs. 10 oz. at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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Janice Hildebrand from Hunlock Creek, PA took a trip to the Keys this past winter and caught her first billfish, a 6-foot sailfish while fishing on the "Boo Yah" with Howie and Morgan Hildebrand and Capt. Nick Borricino. Janice also caught a blackfin tuna, a yellowtail and a grouper during the trip.



Jim Thompson of Wilmington, DE used a bunker head to fool this 37-inch, 19 lb. 8 oz. striper while fishing from the surf off South Bethany. Weighed at Fenwick Tackle.



Skip Youngblood from Freeland, MD took a trip aboard the "Karen Ray II" with Capt. Curtis Johns and Mate Curt Johns and was rewarded with this 43.5-inch striper.

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Capt. Willie Zimmerman



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Capt. Franky Pettolina
Capt. Frank Pettolina



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45' Ricky Scarborough
Capt. Wade Lober



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42' Ocean
Capt. Mark Radcliffe



RANGER
41' Viking
Capt. Jason Norton



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Capt. Mike Conner



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40' Jersey Dawn
Curtis Macomber
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WAVE DANCER
39' Venture
Capt. Gary Sappington



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36' Topaz
Capt. Dale Lisi



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35' Cabo Flybridge
Capt. Steve Martin



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Delaware Fishing Report

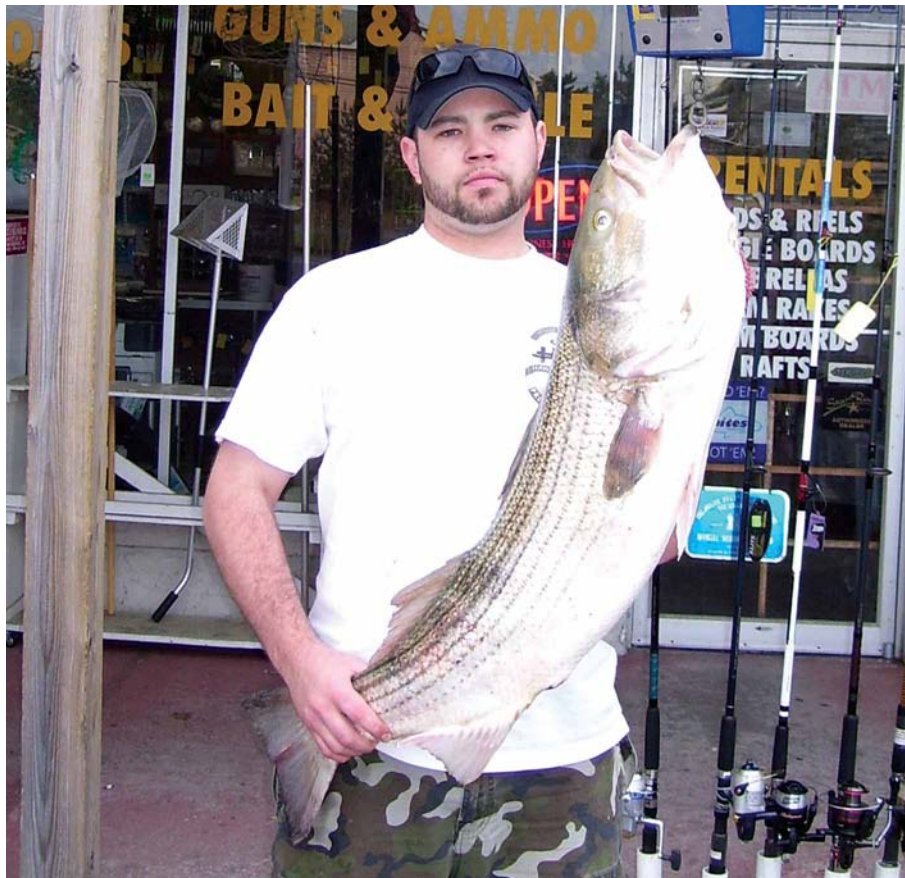
by Rick Willman



Hi folks! Fishing this past week seemed to slow a bit, probably due to the wind conditions. Flounder action in the back bays should be on the upswing and if the wind stops blowing we could get a better picture of things to come.

A few nice flatties have been caught during the past week. Joe and Patti Ribinski fished the VFW Slough where Patti landed a 20-inch flounder and Joe banded his 27-inch, 7 lb. 10 oz. citation flattie using a GULP! artificial bait on a jig head. Guy Sterlich III also fished the slough, but used a minnow to fool his citation 8 lb., 29-inch flattie.

Capt. Chuck Cook of "First Light Charters" took Chris Bledsoe to Delaware Bay to tangle with two stripers of 37-1/2 inches and 34-inches.



Richard Frankton from Pasadena, MD caught this 30 lb. striped bass while fishing from the beach off Fenwick Island. The fish was one of 3 caught during the trip. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em Outfitters.

Bill Snover and Bill Steward fished the Outer Wall using green crab to boat a limit of tog weighing up to 6 lbs. I fished on the "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Weist and Mate Paul for a fun day of tog fishing. We came up a little short of our limit but sure had a bend in the rod most of the day. Capt. and Mate worked hard for us, but it was just one of those days when the bigger fish would not eat. Don't forget that tog season closes May 11.

Massey's Ditch is still giving up some flounder and stripers. Most of the fish are short but a few keepers are being taken. When fishing Massey's Ditch, keep in mind that all fish found in the Rehoboth Bay and Indian River will travel back and forth through the ditch. This gives the opportunity to snag almost any species at any time. You should also note that while water temperatures are still a bit low, the outgoing tide should be more productive

due to the water being a bit warmer.

Some of our reporting stations checked in with the following reports:

Capt. Bruce McGuigan at Capt. Mac's on Rt. 54 said that stripers measuring up to 38-inches are being caught along the beaches. Cut bunker seems to be the ticket when choosing your bait. Bluefish and black drum action is also beginning to provide action to anglers fishing from the surf. Those fishing the back bays are seeing increased activity for flounder and bluefish.

Capt. Bill at Bill's Sport Shop provided us with the following report. Sergejs Romaseckins fished the Cape Henlopen Pier and caught a nice 20-inch flounder while using a Gulp! artificial bait. Adam and Javier from Harrisburg fished the Indian River Inlet and picked up 3 keeper flounder measuring 20, 22 and 24 inches. All were caught on Gulp! artificial baits.

Ben Shamburger, aboard the "Wreckstalker", fished an offshore wreck and had a great day. His party came back with 20 cod weighing up to 10 lbs., 1 ling and a pollack. They also caught and released 6 seabass. All the fish were caught on clams. Chris Wagner went fishing on Monday with family and friends in the Lewes Canal and came away with a 23" flounder caught on a Gulp! artificial bait. The rest of the crew caught 3 more keepers for the day.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said the black drum bite turned on in the Delaware Bay. Some crews reported double digit catches while anchored in shallow water off Slaughter Beach on Saturday afternoon. Boats that set-up near the submerged pilings and baited with surf clams did well on Saturday evening too. Rebecca Hollingsworth had a 70.5 lb. boomer during her first drum trip aboard the "Martha Marie". Drummers on the "Pirate King" scored four nice fish between 25 and 35 lbs. T.J. Dodge caught his first drum on Saturday aboard the "Grizzly". Will Wiedmann landed a pair of drum weighing up to 20.2 lbs. while soaking clams in the surf from Broadkill Beach. Drum action should continue through this month, with peak catching around the full moon. Joe said he'll be carrying surf clams, but suggests reserving bait early in the week.

Togging was good before the season closure on May 12th. Captain Carey on the "Grizzly" returned with limits of tautog both mornings this past weekend. Captain Pete's toppers on the "Top Fin" had a limit of tautog and were back at the dock by 10 am this past Saturday. Don Straughn sneaked in his citation tog before the end of the season, boating an 8.97 lb. bruiser at the Outer Wall. Sheila Stohler got a 7.16 lb. tog at the Wall. Chip Kelly captured a 16.6 lb. blackfish. The 30-inch brute ate a green crab at Reef Site 6.

Small boaters drifting in the Lewes Canal caught

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flounder during the week. Most flatties bit during the warmer water of ebb (incoming) tide, and it was better with clean water. Minnows, shiners and Gulp! were popular offerings. Scot Anderson decked a 4.63 lb. fluke from the Canal. Jay Fleming pulled a 4.33 lb. flatfish from the pilings of the Cape Henlopen Pier. The annual Lewes Harbour Canal Flounder Tournament takes place Friday May 20th.

Surf fishermen had a few stripers at Cape Henlopen on bunker and clams. Curt Stephens checked in a 16.3 lb. striped bass he beached while using clams for bait. Nice rockfish showed along the Outer Wall as well. Chad Tingle and friends drifted between the Lighthouse Eddy and the Elbow on Saturday night and hooked numerous rock measuring up to 38 inches while casting Storm Shads.

At Hook'em & Cook'em Bait and Tackle in the Indian River Marina, Deanna reported that fishing around the area continues to be on the same pace as last week. Just when you think it is going to start to get good it slows down again... then it picks up... then it slows down. We received reports of nice size sea bass being hooked at ocean wrecks and reefs. Too bad you cannot keep them yet, but just wait until May 22nd.

Tautog are still around on the wrecks but the numbers of keepers seem to have dropped some. Most are getting 1 or 2 keepers, some if they are lucky will get their limit of three. The "Miss Ene III" went out on Saturday and came back with around 20 lbs of tog. The headboat "Judy V." went out as well and had a few keepers in addition to a cod.

A few cod in the 3-5 lb. range are still being picked up on the wrecks too.

A few hard-core fishermen are heading out to try their luck at either shark fishing or tuna fishing. They are heading south....way south....to get to the warmer water, but there have been no fish of that kind

brought back to us yet. We will have to wait until the water temperature gets somewhat warmer.

The surf is producing some nice sized rockfish when you are lucky enough to hook up on one. We have weighed in a 38 pounder and a 19 pounder, both caught from the Fenwick surf last week. We have also heard of a few being caught from 3-R's and off Dewey Beach. They were caught with fresh bunker, which we have at both of our locations. Just cut the head off and throw it out there on a 6/0 hook. Small blue fish are also being caught in the surf.

Some days are better than others for people fishing in the Indian River Inlet. One day anglers will come in and say the fishing overnight was good, mostly on flies for rockfish. Then there are days when they'll say, "nothing is biting out there". Successful anglers are jigging white or chartreuse buck tails with white twister worms under the Bridge. They are also casting flies up by the Coast Guard station.

Fishing in the back bays for flounder has been slow but not too slow for Mark Lowman, of Bethany Beach. He caught an 8.8 lb., 28" flounder while fishing on the south side of the Indian River Bay. He was using a super sized minnow on a plain hook. Along with that big flattie he also landed a 20" flounder. He did tell me that there were other boats around him that had netted a couple of nice sized fish as well.

Some fishermen are also finding success using fresh herring or Gulp! artificial baits on a jig head to catch flounder. Flounder are still 18.5" and 4 keepers per day, per person. This regulation will change on May 11th when the size drops to 18".

Until next week, have fun and be safe!

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



Curt Stephens from Millsboro, DE pulled this 16 lb. 5 oz. striper from the surf at Cape Henlopen State Park. Curt fooled the linesider with a chunk of clam and weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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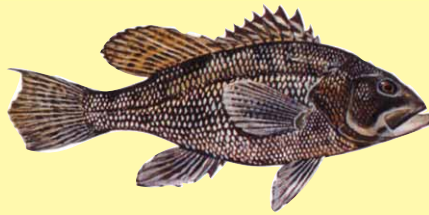
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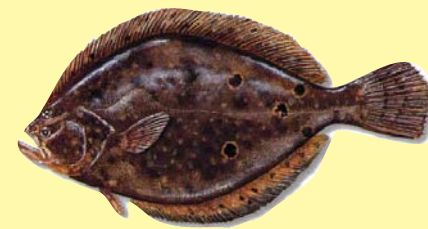
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14" 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15
14" 2 per person/day 5/16 - 10/31



WEAKFISH
13" minimum 1 per person/day



COD
22" minimum 10/person/day



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



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Anglers on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder have had exceptional days this spring catching cod, and here is another great day by anglers Ashley McGinty, Donna McGinty, Pam Maus and Bob Houser. The group ended up with 9 keeper cod (8 pictured) in addition to the 15 they threw back. The fish were caught in 51-degree water at an artificial reef while using clams for bait. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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10 per person/day



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



TAUTOG
Closed 5/12 - 6/30
14" 10 per person/day 7/1 - 8/31
Closed 9/1 - 9/28



BLUE CRAB
5" minimum 1 bushel/person



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



SHEEPSHEAD
No limit



SPECKLED TROUT
12" minimum No creel limit



BLACK DRUM
16" 3 per person/day



CROAKER
8" minimum No creel limit



WEAKFISH
13" minimum 1 per person/day

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Saturday, June 4th, 2011

Entry Fee: \$100/Boat (up to 4 people) & \$25 per additional person
Registration: May 1st - June 4th

Register at the following sponsor locations:

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Sportsman's Liquidation Outlet - Delmar
21st Century Oncology - 200 East Vine St., Salisbury or 314 Franklin Ave., Berlin

The Chesapeake Bay and all its tributaries are opened for the tournament.
50% of all entry fees will benefit cancer patients through the non-profit organization 21st Century
C.A.R.E. Foundation; the remaining 50% of entry fees will be issued as prize money:
Heaviest Rockfish: 40%; Heaviest Bluefish: 20%; Heaviest Perch: 20%; Heaviest Hardhead: 20%
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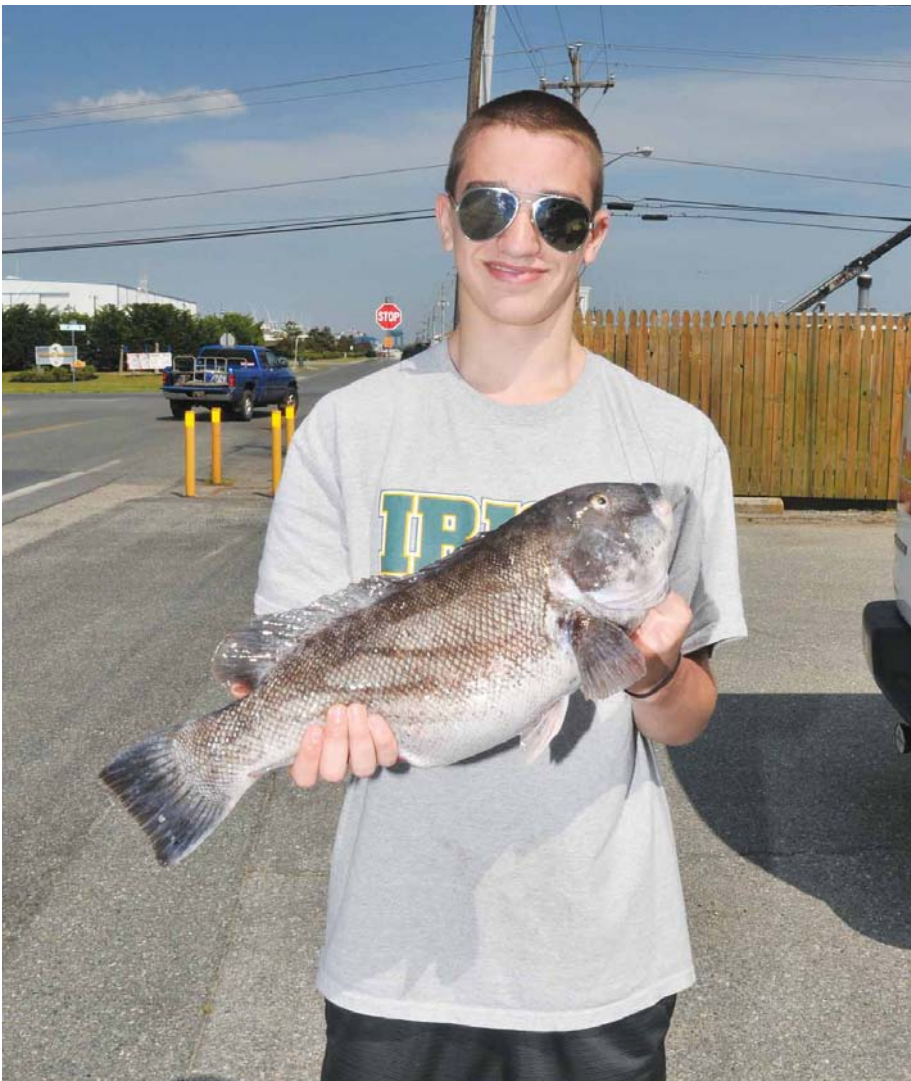
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On Saturday, Sheldon Thomas from Bear, DE landed the first sheepshead of the year while fishing on the “Kimberly Ann” with Eric Mihaly and Eric Ansel, both from Ocean City, MD. The sheepshead weighed 3 lbs. 3 oz. and was caught on a green crab at Winter Quarter Shoal. The group also caught their limit of tautog while using green crabs, clams and even minnows for bait. The largest tog tipped the scales at 8 lbs. 3 oz. at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Chase Neiderer from York, PA landed this 20.5-inch, 6 lb. 1 oz. tautog while fishing with green crabs off the bulkhead on 3rd Street in Ocean City.



Vince Benedict of Ocean City, MD caught his first sailfish on a fly rod while fishing 25 miles offshore of Quepos, Costa Rica this past winter. The fish was hooked on a pink popper and took less than 15 minutes to get to the boat.

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Ship To Shore

by Pat Schrawder



Just when you thought there wasn't anything else they could do to a basic old GPS unit, along comes Furuno with its new GP33 and RD33. They aren't old and they sure aren't "basic". For not being a video chart plotter, it has just about all their features except the cartography display.

The GP33 main unit is waterproof and measures roughly 6" by 5" with a 4.3" "sunlight viewable" color LCD screen. Its large digital readout and high resolution make it much easier to read than many other units on the market.

It is a conventional 12 channel GPS receiver with WAAS correction, but it has so much more. Let's look at some of its impressive features:

- Stores up to 10,000

marks/waypoints, 100 routes & 3,000 track points.

- 7 display modes including two "user definable".

- It supports both NMEA0183 and the newer CAN bus interfaces.

- Both graphical and digital display options showing range and bearing, highway steering approach, speed over ground, course over ground, current position, track line, estimated time of arrival, cross track error, compass ribbon, date, time, satellite status, digital compass, and digital speedometer. Seven of these are preset and there are two remaining that the user can customize.

The RD33 has the same size, shape and controls as the

GP33 and it also has a color LCD. It can be fed and display much of the above information the GP33 has getting its data from another source such as your radar, chart plotter, etc. making it a great remote display. In addition, you can run a transducer directly to the unit making it a multipurpose sounder and data display.



Let's look at some of its features:

- Customizable display format from full-screen to a 6-way split screen presentation.

- Like the GP33, it supports both CAN bus and NMEA0183 interfaces.

- Two independent CAN bus input and output ports incorporated for daisy chain networking.

- Simultaneous alarm monitoring capabilities for

water temperature, depth, speed, arrival, anchor, XTE, trip, odometer, timer and countdown timer, roll & pitch, wind speed, wind direction, and battery.

To summarize, the GP33 is an enhanced GPS with WAAS that stands alone or can feed position data to other pieces of equipment on your boat. One particular feature I like is the color screen. You can set up track lines in different colors and erase them by color. This would be very useful for a boat setting out pots or lines of tackle.

The RD33 is a stand-alone remote display that needs position information fed to it from other sources on your boat, but can also act as a digital sounder. Its best feature is that it reads to very shallow depths.

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

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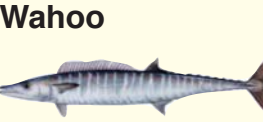


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Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
Sea Bass 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Mako Shark 	May 1, 2011 Brett Coakley Washington Canyon 133 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Tautog 	March 30, 2011 Scott Allison Ocean Wreck 19 lbs. 8 oz.	April 26, 2011 Sam Green DE Bay Reef 10 lbs. 2 oz.	Thresher Shark 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Striped Bass 	April 20, 2011 Robert Remo Rt. 50 Bridge 36 lbs.	April 27, 2011 Brian Ramaley Fenwick Island Surf 38 lbs. 5 oz.	Bluefin Tuna 	May 1, 2011 Mike Sears Washington Canyon 35 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Weakfish 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Yellowfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Speckled Trout 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Longfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder 	NEW April 19, 2011 Mike Kurtz Thorofare 5 lbs. 10 oz.	NEW May 7, 2011 Mark Lowman Indian River Bay 8 lbs. 13 oz.	Bigeye Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Bluefish 	NEW May 1, 2011 Regina Slater Rt. 50 Bridge 8 lbs. 8 oz.	No Weights Reported	Dolphin 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Sheepshead 	NEW May 7, 2011 Sheldon Thomas Winter Quarter Shoal 3 lbs. 3 oz.	No Weights Reported	Wahoo 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Cobia 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	White Marlin 	Most Releases in One Day None Reported	None Reported

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



Melson MaGee from Selbyville, DE beached this 18.2 lb. black drum while fishing with frozen soft crabs in the suds off Fenwick State Beach. The 34-inch black drum was weighed at Fenwick Tackle.

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2011 Maryland Saltwater Fishing License

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 rate of \$5.

• 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?

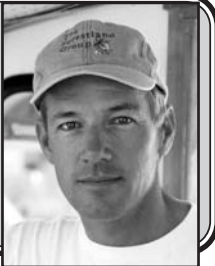
- Online at www.dnr.state.md.us/service/fishing_license.asp or by phone (800) 918-2870 through a third party vendor. Additional fees apply.
- Your local tackle shop may provide sale of a Maryland license online through a third party vendor.
- Any regional service center; the closest location to Ocean 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

Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



For a long time, most tournament directors relied solely on the weight of dead fish at the dock to determine the winners of their event. But today, as more and more fishermen recognize the need for, and benefits of, catch-and-release fishing, many tournament directors are responding by increasing the emphasis on release categories in their events. But properly running a release

tournament, or even just a release division, is no easy task.

In conventional tournaments, determining who wins is usually as simple as seeing who brings the biggest fish to the docks. But for a release division where no physical evidence of the fish will be brought in, there needs to be rules and procedures to ensure the validity of each catch. Understandably, winners need to be properly verified just as losers need to be assured that they lost fairly.

Equally important is the need for anglers who engage in catch-and-release fishing (tournament or not) do so with due regard to the survivability of their catch - there's not much point in releasing a fish that's going to die anyway! This is particularly true in tournaments that result in a sudden increase in the amount of fishermen targeting species of fish that might already be highly pressured from other sources. Since tournament anglers will likely be fishing at the top of their game with a higher level of proficiency and a stronger incentive to catch as many fish as possible in a limited time than they would if they were just out for a casual fishing trip with friends and family, it's probably safe to say that the catch-and-release rates per average angler go up during tournaments and, therefore, the need for proper release techniques is never more important.

With all this in mind, on Saturday May 21st, myself and the other directors of the 31st Annual Ocean City Shark Tournament will be conducting a Shark Release Clinic on the docks at the Ocean City Fishing Center

from 4 pm to 7 pm. The three-hour event will give the public the opportunity to learn first-hand how to fish for and handle sharks in a manner that's safe for both fish and fisherman. During the clinic we'll review the rigging and use of circle hooks, fighting techniques, tagging, in-water measuring, de-hooking, photographing and identification of sharks. We'll also take the opportunity to discuss and answer questions about tournament rules and procedures.

Whether they're fishing a tournament or not, anglers should keep in mind that despite the hype, shark fishing is really no more dangerous to anglers than any other types of big-game offshore fishing, as long as they remember Common Sense Rule #1: "stay in the boat!" The inherent hazards of dealing with any very large fish at the side of a boat cannot be ignored. Whether it's a blue marlin, big tuna, or a big mako, when you're holding the leader and playing tug-o-war with a few hundred pounds of upset fish from a slippery and rolling deck it can get dicey, and occasionally fishermen are suddenly surprised to find that they have quite unintentionally broken that first rule. While a requirement to stay in the boat has not been adopted as an official OC Shark Tournament rule, at the Release Clinic we'll discuss how anglers safely can work with sharks and avoid any unintended bites, bruises, or baths.

Since fishermen release far more sharks than they actually bring back to the dock, it's important that the animals they send home have the chance to swim away with the best chance for survival. Overall, sharks are pretty tough critters, but like any fish, they can succumb to excessive stress and trauma if proper release techniques aren't followed. Anglers have

to keep in mind that just because they see a fish swim away doesn't guarantee it survived the encounter unscathed. At the Release Clinic we'll discuss and demonstrate techniques, and the proper use of tackle and tools that will increase the odds of survival of the fish they turn loose.

The big news this year is that the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation has signed on as a major sponsor of the OC Shark Tournament Release Division. Through his foundation's involvement, Guy Harvey hopes to provide an increased level of shark conservation while demonstrating to the fishing industry that release tournaments with large cash payouts can be both successful as well as a wise alternative to traditional events that result in dead fish being brought back to the scales. To help achieve their goal, the GHOF is providing funds that will more than double the Release Division's guaranteed cash payouts, as well as prize packages for top release point winners.

With some new Release Division categories and so much money up for grabs, we've obviously had to tweak tournament rules and procedures to ensure that everything runs smoothly and fairly. These new rules will be discussed at the Release Clinic.

With the Release Clinic happening May 21st and the actual Ocean City Shark Tournament not kicking off until June 15th, anglers will have plenty of time to hone their skills and practice newfound techniques so they'll be in top form for the competition and the rest of the fishing season.

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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DE Anglers Must Get NJ Registration Number to Fish in NJ Waters

The Division of Fish & Wildlife advises Delaware anglers who fish in the New Jersey portion of the Delaware Bay and River, or in New Jersey's coastal waters, that they are now required to sign up for New Jersey's Saltwater Recreational Registry Program.

The New Jersey registry, which is free, went into effect May 4, and anyone fishing in the state's marine or tidal fresh waters, or landing their catch in New Jersey, must have the new registration certificate. The only exceptions are anglers under 16 years of age or anyone fishing on a New Jersey-registered for-hire vessel (charter or head-boat). Regardless of what license or permit an angler may hold from another state (including Delaware), or from the federal government, they still are required to register with New Jersey when fishing there.

The only way to register for the certificate is through the website of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection: www.saltwaterregistry.nj.gov. (Please note: Unlike with the Delaware F.I.N. program, there is no toll-free number to call for anglers without Internet access.) Anglers who register will need to print out their registration certificate and have it available for inspection should they be asked by New Jersey enforcement officers.

Fishermen who are unfamiliar with the state boundary lines in adjoining waters like the Delaware Bay should consult navigational charts or refer to electronic navigational aids like chart plotters to determine their exact location. The state boundary line in the Delaware River and Bay generally follows the federal shipping channel. Delaware anglers

should be advised that all of the Delaware Bay shipping channel lighthouses except "Fourteen Foot" light are situated in New Jersey waters.

In the Delaware River (waters above Liston Point) Delaware's waters extend to the New Jersey shoreline above the northern end of Artificial Island (where the nuclear power plant is located). If anglers anticipate fishing in or near New Jersey, it is recommended that they obtain the free New Jersey Saltwater Recreational Registry certificate.

Delaware Sets 2011 Flounder Regulations

DNREC's Division of Fish & Wildlife has formally adopted new recreational fishing regulations for summer flounder in Delaware which go into effect May 11. The new regulations retain a four-fish creel limit for summer flounder, or "fluke," while reducing the minimum size limit from 18½ inches to 18 inches.

Besides the new minimum size, this year's regulations include a closed season on flounder from October 24 through December 31. The Division of Fish & Wildlife also reminds anglers that, until May 11, the current 18½-inch minimum size limit (and four-fish creel limit) for summer flounder remains in effect.

According to Fish & Wildlife fisheries administrator Craig Shirey, recent increases in summer flounder abundance have allowed a liberalization of management measures for the 2011 fishing season. The new regulations are designed to maintain Delaware's compliance with the coast-wide summer flounder management plan and allow for the continued rebuilding of the summer flounder population.

Shirey was hopeful that, "should our coastwide summer flounder management efforts continue to be effective, further relaxation of the regulations may be warranted in future

years." However, he also pointed out that changes in a fishery's management are dependent on many factors including spawning success, natural mortality, and annual harvest.

Maryland Revises Striped Bass and Bluefish Advisories

Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) revised advisories increase the recommended meal limits for striped bass for nearly every population group for fish caught in the Chesapeake Bay or in Maryland's Atlantic coastal waters. The new recommendations stem from recent test results that showed a significant decline in levels of contaminants in striped bass from Maryland waters. Also, MDE data suggest that contaminant levels are even lower in striped bass fillets prepared, as the Department has long recommended, without fatty portions of the fish.

"Maryland's fish consumption advisories help us make the best choices about what fish we eat and how often we eat them as part of a healthy diet," said MDE Acting Secretary Robert M. Summers. "Contamination has decreased in the striped bass we tested, and although we do not have the data to identify a specific explanation for the decline, PCBs have been banned in the United States since 1979, and we're encouraged by this positive indication of the improving quality of our waters."

The revised advisories also include recommendations on the consumption of bluefish caught in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Coast.

Under the new advisories, the recommended meal limits for the general population for smaller striped bass caught in the Chesapeake Bay increased

by 50 percent, from two per month to three per month. Also, the advisories no longer include the "avoid" recommendation that had existed for women and children for certain striped bass.

The differences between the old and new advisories reflect a significant decline in the level of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in striped bass analyzed by MDE. Median PCB levels fell by more than half between fish analyzed from 2001 to 2005 and fish analyzed in 2009 and 2010. MDE does not have the information needed to draw specific conclusions about the factors that led to these results, but the Department is encouraged by this data and will continue to track contaminant levels in striped bass and other fish.

When filleting, MDE recommends removing fatty portions where PCBs tend to concentrate, including the belly flap and the dark meat along the side of the fillet. To evaluate this recommendation in striped bass, MDE compared PCB levels in non-fatty dorsal fillet samples to whole fillet samples. PCB levels were reduced by 75 to 91 percent in the dorsal samples, with the general trend being a greater reduction with increasing size of fish. These results support the value of the filleting recommendations and give Marylanders a good reason to consider how they prepare striped bass fillets, in addition to following the meal limits in the striped bass advisory.

MDE is also releasing an advisory for bluefish caught in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic coastal waters. MDE has been able to obtain PCB data on bluefish smaller than 15 inches and greater than 28 inches but not on fish between 15 and 28 inches. Based on the available data for bluefish, MDE recommends a limit of two meals per month for bluefish less than 15 inches in length, but to avoid consumption of bluefish 15 inches and longer. These advisories could change as MDE learns more about the medium-size bluefish.



Mike Cenci of Ocean City, MD used a spec rig to hook this 40-inch striper while fishing from the Rt. 50 Bridge at night. The 22 lb. linesider was caught during the incoming tide and actually broke Mike's rod during the fight. Weighed at Oyster Bay Tackle.

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Virginia Fishing Report

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



With stiff breezes coming from the south last week, the spring Mid-Atlantic fishing scene has taken a slight detour from the usual trend. The biggest interest is still in the emerging drum scene, which is motivating many anglers to gather crabs and head for the Eastern Shore shoals during calm spells.

Red drum are still providing some decent action among the shoals and sloughs near Smith and Fisherman's Islands, and the activity should pick up as we approach the full moon. The best action is still happening among the surf and breakers, where kayak anglers and surf anglers are taking advantage of this trend right now. Kevin Whitley (Kayak Kevin) of Norfolk released a nice 48-inch bull while casting among the breakers from his



In mid-January, Ryan McPhee landed this 35 lb. striped bass during a trip aboard the "No Vacancy" with Capt. Wes Laine out of the Virginia Beach Fishing Center. The fish was one of 85 stripers Ryan's group caught over two days of fishing off the Virginia and North Carolina coasts.

kayak, while Brandon Poulter of Virginia Beach also released two reds up to 46-inches from his kayak last week.

According to the folks at Chris' Bait and Tackle, smallish black drum up to about 35 lbs. are becoming more active along the Eastern Shore seaside

inlets, surf and near Buoys 13 and 16 on the bayside. The larger fish are still coming from the Quinby areas further north. This trend will also continue to heat up over the next few weeks and larger fish will become more common.

Many are taking advantage of the Bay's Spring Trophy Striped Bass season. Stripers are providing a good alternative for those looking for some variety. Anglers working top water lures along the rocks at the islands of the CBBT are content with hits from fish exceeding the 32-inch minimum size requirement. Storm Lures cast around the pilings of the CBBT are also working well. Reports of schools of rockfish ranging to about 40 lbs. are active within Magothy Bay lately.

Anglers fishing from the Ocean View Fishing Pier are still filling coolers with medium sized croaker and small spot. Sea mullet ranging to near a pound are also

providing some diversity, where bloodworms are working best for everything right now. The folks at Ocean's East 2 report that surf anglers are also finding good luck with spot and croaker from the shorelines off Ocean View and Little Creek.

The flounder scene is still slow within Bay waters and around the CBBT. The best numbers of keeper fish are coming from the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and back waters of Oyster. A few keeper flatfish are also coming from within both Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets, but be prepared to put in your time. According to The Fishing Center, anglers are also finding bluefish up to around 5 lbs. within Rudee Inlet and along the ocean front. Blues also showed up in Lynnhaven Inlet last week.

Scattered speckled trout are showing some activity within the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and the back waters of Oyster, with some topping 5 lbs. lately. Peeler crabs, live bait and Mirrolures are a good choice for the specks right now. Folks working the Elizabeth River are also still finding a few keeper specks along with healthy puppy drum.

Tautog are still very active on lower Bay and inshore structures, but these fish are only available for catch and release until late June.

Blueline tilefish ranging up to 18 lbs., wreckfish and other deep water species are still available in deeper water over 50 fathoms when the weather allows boats to reach them.

The upcoming opening of seabass season on May 22nd has many anglers excited about making the run, but the outrageous gas prices are making many of them think twice.

The Virginia fleet is anxiously awaiting the development of the spring offshore run. Right now they are still waiting.

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



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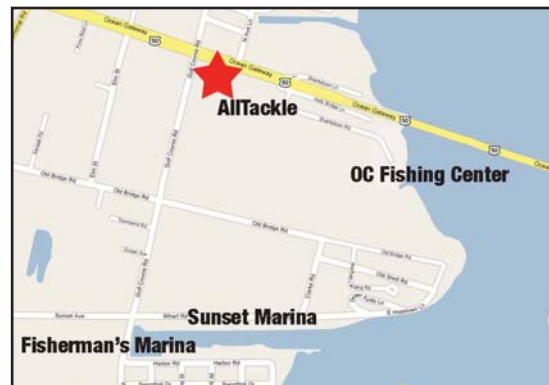
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Atlantic Coast

	<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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Roger Hoffman of Ocean City, MD, Nathan Sheirburn from Pittsville, MD and Steve Hoffman from Pittsville, MD had a great day tautog fishing on an inshore wreck. The trio returned with 8 tog in the box, all caught while using green crabs for bait. The largest tautog, a 15 pounder caught by Steve Hoffman, was released. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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BLACK SEA BASS
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CROAKER
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TAUTOG
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COBIA
37" minimum 1 per person/day



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



STRIPED BASS
(May 1st - 15th)
32" 1 person/day 5/1-5/15
28" 2/person/day 5/16 - 12/31



SPECKLED TROUT
14" minimum 10 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD
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This past winter, Bob Olden of Ocean City, MD was tossing a barbell popper in Drakes Bay on the coast of southwestern Costa Rica when he caught and released this dog tooth grouper. Bob was fishing with Vince Benedict, also of Ocean City, MD.

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Straight from the Maryland DNR Fisheries Service

Marty Gary
Assistant Director - Fisheries Ecologist

Maryland's Chesapeake and Coastal Sport License

Effective January 1, 2011, anglers 16 years of age or older fishing Maryland's coastal waters, including its back bays, the Ocean City Inlet and waters of the surf and out 3 miles are required to have a fishing license, with a few exceptions. That simple sentence sums up perhaps the most substantive change for sportfishermen angling the waters around the Ocean City area, ever, with perhaps the possible exception of the hurricane of 1933 which opened the Inlet. The new license applicable to the coast is technically called the Chesapeake and Coastal Sport License. As the name implies, the license covers recreational sportfishing in the tidal waters of Maryland's Chesapeake and coastal waters. Maryland has a reciprocal agreement with the State of Virginia and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, so anglers purchasing Maryland's Chesapeake and Coastal Sport License can also use this license if they go down to Wachapreague, Chincoteague, Quinby, Cape Charles or in the tidal Potomac River down river from the District of Columbia.

Why a License Now?

A saltwater fishing license requirement has been in effect over on the Chesapeake Bay since 1985. Ocean City has diverse fishery resources, which

require monitoring, assessment and the associated funding to accomplish those tasks. Summer flounder is one example of a coastal fish species for which DNR staff must conduct surveys, and collect and analyze data to ultimately develop proposals that become visible to fishermen in the form of season dates, creel limits and minimum sizes. There are significant funding needs to accomplish the required work to survey and manage this and other fishery resources. Previously, funds from Chesapeake Bay license sales were expended on the coast, but arguably not paid for by coastal sportfishermen. There is also the issue of compliance with the federally mandated National Saltwater Angler Registry which went into effect in 2010. The states were given a one year grace period to develop systems which can register their anglers who are 16 years of age or older. Virtually all states are using their existing sportfish license systems to provide compliant data to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). At the time of this writing, only two coastal states do not have saltwater sport fishing licenses. They are New Jersey and Hawaii. Also critically important is the role of fishing licenses and the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Fund, which is commonly known as the Wallop-Breaux Fund. The Wallop-Breaux Fund is divided

into two accounts, the Boat Safety Account and the Sport Fish Restoration Account. The Sport Fish Restoration Account is funded by an excise tax on fishing equipment. Overall, Wallop-Breaux monies and fishing license sales revenue account for the majority of funding for state fisheries management and access programs for anglers and boaters. The Wallop-Breaux Fund currently provides approximately \$450 million per year to the states for fisheries management and research; fishing and boating access facilities such as docks, piers, and boat ramps; and education and safety programs for anglers and boaters. Monies that accrue into the Wallop-Breaux Sport Fish Restoration account are apportioned to the states based upon their geographic size and population of licensed anglers. Larger states with larger populations of licensed anglers such as California and Texas get larger apportionments. Maryland is geographically small in size, but it is densely populated. As such, it receives minimal status for Wallop Breaux funding, or the smallest allocation. But, Maryland has diverse, accessible and high quality fishing opportunities within close reach of an enormous number of people. That would include Ocean City and all that it offers fishermen. If Maryland were to be able to increase its Wallop Breaux apportionment, there could be significant benefits to fishermen in the form of improved access, outreach and fisheries management. It is possible that an increase in license sales driven by Maryland's new Chesapeake Bay & Coastal Sport Fishing license could elevate Maryland from minimal apportionment status. Time will tell.

Other Benefits - A Seat at the Table.

Anglers who purchase a fishing license should have a voice in how those funds are

utilized. Maryland DNR values input from the fishing community and actively seeks to use the knowledge and experience of the community in its advisory process. DNR's Coastal Fisheries Advisory Committee (CFAC) meets quarterly at the Ocean City Marlin Club. The CFAC is composed of members of the coastal fishing community, including tackle shop owners, charter captains, sportfishing organization leaders, academic researchers, commercial fishermen and elected officials. Names such as Sue Foster, Captain Monty Hawkins, Captain Bob Gower, Roman Jesien and Bob Abele should be familiar names to the readers of the *Coastal Fishermen*. The public is encouraged to attend the meetings and provide input, and to reach out to the CFAC members. DNR also has a Sport Fish Advisory Commission (SFAC) which consists of representatives of Maryland's broader sport fishing community that are appointed by the Governor of Maryland. Val Lynch, a well respected Ocean City angler and member of the Ocean City Marlin Club and Ocean City Light Tackle Anglers Club is an appointed member of the SFAC who can address coastal issues for the SFAC. DNR has a proven track record of working with these advisory groups and the greater sport fishing constituency to address concerns, inquiries and in general, the ongoing fisheries management process. With the new fishing license in place, coastal fishermen not only have a seat and a voice at the table, but they are actively investing in the process that funds the fishery management process.

The Coastal License - What Are My Options?

Now that we've talked about the background of the recreational sport fish license, what are the options for residents and visitors to Ocean City? The Chesapeake and Coastal Sport License has several options. For short term vacationers, there is a 7-day license available for \$6.00 for Maryland residents and \$12.00 for non residents. For more frequent anglers, an annual license for a Maryland resident is \$15.00 and \$22.50 for a non resident. If you have a boat, you



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might consider purchasing a decal you affix to your boat that covers everyone on the boat for their license requirements. The cost for the boat decal is \$50.00 for residents and non-residents alike. Finally, Maryland residents who are 65 or older can purchase a Senior Consolidated License for \$5. That is a comprehensive license that covers fishing license requirements anywhere in Maryland waters, including trout or crabbing on the Chesapeake Bay.

The requirement for fishing licenses is waived on three specially designated free fishing days we have each year in Maryland. The free fishing days are the first two Saturdays in June and July 4th.

There is no license requirement to recreationally crab in Maryland's coastal bays. Please note that waterfront property owners and their guests do not need a fishing license, and you don't need a license if you are fishing on a licensed charter boat or a licensed commercial fishing pier like the Oceanic Pier near the inlet. That is the condensed version of new license requirements, but we should not

forget the National Saltwater Angler Registry.

The National Saltwater Angler Registry.

On January 1st, 2010, NOAA implemented the National Saltwater Angler Registry. This is essentially a phonebook of saltwater anglers in the United States. We'll talk more about the reasons for the Registry in the future, but for now, it would be helpful to clear up the confusion swirling around what is needed for this year. The bottom line is that if you have purchased a saltwater fishing license, you will be automatically registered with NOAA. The fishermen that do need to register are those passengers fishing aboard a boat with the pleasure boat decal or waterfront property owners, their family and guests. And anyone with a Virginia saltwater license (remember we have a reciprocal agreement with Virginia) also needs to register. **So how do you register?**

All you need to do is go to the FREE registry on the Maryland DNR web site:

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/sregistry.asp>

Do NOT go to the NOAA registry. They will charge \$15.

Where do I buy my license?

Maryland Fishing licenses can be bought over the phone: 1-800-918-2870, or online: www4.wildlifelicense.com/md/. Licenses may also be purchased from an authorized agent. Many of you are aware that our new licensing system called COMPASS is currently delayed, and that the only agents that sell Maryland fishing licenses are those that have machines from the original system. At this moment, that means the Walmart in Berlin (Rt. 50 next to the Home Depot) is the only agent you can purchase from. No additional machines running on the old system are available, so we've discussed alternative ideas to come up with a solution until COMPASS launches. After last week's meeting with the Coastal Fisheries Advisory Committee and discussing the challenges facing the local bait and tackle stores, a decision has been made to allow a paper based license to be issued by the local tackle stores that are currently unable to sell licenses in the current system. DNR has scheduled a training session with all those interested in becoming an agent to sell Maryland fishing licenses.

That meeting will happen within the next two weeks. We expect to have the paper licenses in the shops and ready for purchase as quickly as possible after the training for the new agents occurs. If anyone is interested in becoming an agent to sell fishing licenses, please contact Tina Hurley from our Salisbury Regional Licensing Service Center. Tina may be reached by phone: 410-713-3842 or by e mail: thurley@dnr.state.md.us.

The licensing and National Saltwater Angler Registry issues are complex. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Martin L. Gary
Assistant Director
Fisheries Ecologist
MD DNR Fisheries Service
580 Taylor Avenue
Floor B-2
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-260-8289 (office)
410-279-0459 (cell)
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Marty Gary is Assistant Director/Fisheries Ecologist at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Service.

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

[More info and video](#)

FISHING REPORT

4.20.11 3:34 pm

by Larry Jack

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 squid and minnow combination.

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

Mike Kurtz did catch his limit of flaties in the 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 a green crab.

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 Assateague Island.

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.

Jake Emche landed a 31-inch striper in the Thorofare

Just click on a picture of a boat to see all details and a video!

Tackle Shop

by Larry Jock



If you are searching for the "Mac Daddy" of coolers, you will want to look at the ones made by Yeti Coolers and available in local tackle shops.



First, let me tell you that they are not cheap, but we will get into that later.

You can tell right when you lift the cooler that this is no Coleman. It is hefty, and you can easily see how well made these coolers are.

They feature:

- One-piece rotational molded walls, which means uniform thickness, thicker and stronger corners and enhanced durability.
- Material that is food grade UV resistant polyethylene that is dry-ice compatible.
- Walls that contain 2-inches of premium insulation.
- Heavy duty latches that are molded into the body of the cooler.
- Freezer-style sealing gasket that locks in the cold.
- A full-length, molded in, self stopping hinge that won't hyper-extend or break.
- Non-slip, non-marking feet.
- Nylon rope handles with textured rubber grips.

Tie down points and padlock holes that are molded into the cooler. In case you go to Alaska, the cooler, when locked, is certified as a bear resistant container.

A gasketed drain plug that is leak-proof and a cooler floor that is recessed near the drain so you can drain every last drop.

The coolers also come with some accessories such as, a tie down kit, a corner chock set, a cooler cushion, a cooler slide for

mounting under leaning posts, a cooler lock and a SeaDek lid grip in case you want to use the cooler as a standing/casting platform.

Like I said earlier, these coolers are not cheap, but you can see that you get what you pay for. The coolers retail for:

25 Quart -	\$219
45 Quart -	\$299
50 Quart -	\$329
65 Quart -	\$359
105 Quart -	\$429
155 Quart -	\$579
250 Quart -	\$789

Local company, Binnacle Tackle has formed an offshoot company called Marlin Mayhem, and it looks like it will be known for the same, high quality products that we have come to expect from Binnacle.



They have just introduced some new offshore dredges that are built on sturdy, Strike Point Tackle dredge bars and uses Strike Point double laminated holographic fish strips. These strips are combined with hand crafted bullet head lures that come in hundreds of color combinations. The lures are two oz. heads and tied with Binnacle Tackle's famous dyed crystal hair.

The standard model is rigged on the 24" fixed six-arm bar with six holographic, four-fish strips and twenty two lures. The fish

strips come in silver, pink, blue, and green. The lures can be customized with fourteen head colors, four eye colors, and any of the eighteen hair colors that can be tied in any color patterns you desire.

The standard model retails for \$259.99 but is currently on sale for \$199.99.

You can also upgrade to a 30-inch collapsible bar for an additional \$30.00 and add seven more holographic fish strips for \$70.00. This allows the dredge to be used without the lures as an all-strip dredge.

Custom models are available up to a 48" bar. An all-lure model is also available and is built on a 12" fixed-arm bar with twenty lures. This model is a little easier for use on smaller

May 11, 2011 Coastal Fisherman Page 55
boats. All models come in a sturdy mesh carrying bag.

Marlin Mayhem also offers the Tuna Slayer bar. It is built on a 12" bar and combines three lures rigged over a artificial ballyhoo and three single holographic fish strips. The bar is then trailed by a matching lure rigged to be skirted over a ballyhoo. These are available for \$59.99.

All of the dredges will be available at the Ocean City Fishing Center, Sunset Provisions, on-line at marlinmayhemlures.com or you can call Binnacle Tackle at 301-252-9840. Other tackle shops and retailers are being added, so check with your favorite shop to see if they carry the dredges.

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June 9-12

The Richest Shark Tournament in NJ • (\$288,410 paid out in last year's event)

22nd Annual Viking/Ocean Showdown

July 13-17

*Ocean & Viking owners go head-to-head in the "War Offshore"
Who will capture the bragging rights for the year?*

10th Annual Mid-Atlantic Tuna Tournament

July 20-23

*The Main Event for Tuna Fishermen. • New trolling format started last year.
(Prize money could top \$250,000)*

20th Annual Mid-Atlantic \$500,000

August 21-26

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Gunnar Zorn from Berlin, MD used a bucktail to catch this amberjack from the Wilkes Barre wreck in the Florida Keys. The wreck is located in 240 feet of water, south of Cudjoe Key. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Liquid Assets
Exxon Wine Rack
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7-Eleven - 28th Street
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Oyster Bay Tackle
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G&E Hardware
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Hocker's Deli - Rt. 26
Hocker's Supermarket - Rt. 26
Giant - Rt. 26
Bethany Auto & Marine

TIDES & MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. May 11	Low 08:52 am Low 09:14 pm	High 02:37 am High 03:13 pm
Thurs. May 12	Low 09:47 am Low 10:19 pm	High 03:39 am High 04:16 pm
Fri. May 13	Low 10:41 am Low 11:23 pm	High 04:40 am High 05:15 pm
Sat. May 14	Low 11:35 am Low -----	High 05:37 am High 06:10 pm
Sun. May 15	Low 12:24 am Low 12:28 pm	High 06:32 am High 07:03 pm
Mon. May 16	Low 01:21 am Low 01:20 pm	High 07:26 am High 07:56 pm
Tues. May 17 Full Moon	Low 02:14 am Low 02:10 pm	High 08:18 am High 08:48 pm
Wed. May 18	Low 03:06 am Low 02:59 pm	High 09:10 am High 09:39 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.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

~ MAY ~

Bill's Sport Shop Flounder Tournament

May 1 - June 10 • Lewes, DE
302-645-7654

Lewes Canal Flounder Tournament

May 20 • Lewes Harbour Marina
302-645-6227

2nd Annual Bluefish Tournament

May 28 - 29 • OC Marlin Club
410-213-1613

~ JUNE ~

15th Annual Mako Mania

June 3 - 5 • Bahia Marina
410-289-7473

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
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Before the bottom fishery closed down south, Joe Morris of Lewes Harbour Marina pulled this 30 lb. snowy grouper from 800 feet south of American Shoal in the Florida Keys. The fish was fooled with a chunk of false albacore. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour 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

Please send the photo file at full size.

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

KEYS TO TAKING A GOOD FISH PICTURE:

- Have the angler face into the sun to minimize shadows.
- Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera.
- Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size available.
- **DO NOT use a cell phone camera.**
- Shoot vertical photos
- Smile!

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

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Alpha Won ~ 55' VIKING 2001. Twin MAN 2842 LE404. 3 SR, queen master. New paint in 2008. Eskimo ice chipper, underwater lights. Very well cared for. Call John.



Front Runner ~ 61' SPENCER YACHTS 2006. 1650 C-32 CATs. 3/2 layout, teak interior. 2 gens, ice & water makers. Mezzanine with cockpit AC. Turn key and loaded! Call Jimmy.



Bandolero ~ 66' SPENCER YACHTS 2004. C-30 CATs, 40 kt top end. 3/3, interior refit, teak transom, new paint, enclosure, Veem wheels in 2010, mezz, large cockpit freezers. Call Jimmy.



Patsy Ru ~ 60' SPENCER YACHTS 2006. CAT C-32 1650 hp with 1200 hrs. 3SR, 3HD layout w/cherry interior. Bow thruster, 7 ft mezz seating w/ AC vents. Call Jimmy.



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