

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

# WIRELINE

JANUARY  
2022



## What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Susanna Musick, Virginia Institute of Marine Science,  
Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program

### Fishing Reports;

- Lynnhaven: Speckled Trout
- James River Bridge: Stripers
- Elizabeth River: Speckled Trout
- Offshore: Black Sea Bass, Golden Tilefish, Black Belly Rosefish, Bluefish
- North Carolina/Oregon Inlet: Blackfin Tuna, Yellowfin Tuna

# Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Happy New Year! I wanted to thank all our members for another great year for the Norfolk Anglers Club. Despite the pandemic we've been able to grow our membership roles and shift from web based meetings to gathering in person. We're planning our Awards Banquet at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club for Saturday March 19, 2022. Save the date and I hope to see you there!

The Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boat Show is later this month at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Our club will be hosting a table and will be looking for volunteers to help out during the weekend. If you're available for a few hours and can help send me an email at [norfolkanglersclub@gmail.com](mailto:norfolkanglersclub@gmail.com).

With the new year brings an opportunity with the Virginia Fuel Tax Rebate Program. The Virginia Dept of Motor Vehicles allows qualifying fuel purchases for recreational and commercial watercraft. Applicants must save their receipts for fuel purchases greater than 5 gallons and can receive fuel tax rebates of 26.2 cents per gallon (Gasoline) or 27.0 cents per gallon (diesel). <https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/dmv-fueltax/#/>

Congratulations for Rusty Mitchell and Jerry Hughes on the Redfish Spots Tournament Entries. Rusty's 12 Spotted Drum and Jerry's 10 Spot Red Drum took top honors in the tournament.

## Meeting

**Guest Speaker: Susanna Musick,**  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

The Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program (VGFTP) is a cooperative project of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) and the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC).

Susanna is a Marine Recreational Specialist and the VIMS Coordinator for the Game Fish Tagging Program. Join us on January 17th to learn more about the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program.



**Important:**  
**JANUARY 17th NAC Meeting**  
**at**  
**Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk**

## Publishers NOTES

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## Club Calendar

### January

Mon: January 17th at 7:00pm, Norfolk Anglers Club  
Meeting, Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk,VA

Fri-Sun: January 28-30th, Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boat Show  
Virginia Beach Convention Center

### February

Mon: February 21st Norfolk Anglers Club Meeting

### March

Sat: March 19th: Club Members Awards Banquet

Mon: March 21st Norfolk Anglers Club Meeting



Earlier this year, we told you about the RecFish app being developed by Dr. Lisa Kellogg and colleagues at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. Its goal is to encourage recreational anglers to collect and contribute catch data to help improve fisheries science. Once it's fully developed, the user-friendly, free app will also tell anglers the species and length of their catch and whether it is legal to keep and safe to eat.

Dr. Kellogg says that, with the help of photos you submitted, the computer model can now identify 60 fish species with 95% accuracy and another 20 species are in the works. That represents thousands of submitted pictures!

You can help by going to [www.recfish.org](http://www.recfish.org) and uploading your fish photos. RecFish especially needs photos of:

- Kingfish (a.k.a. Roundheads, Kingcroaker, Whiting, Sea Mullet)
- Flounder and other flatfish

Phase 2 of app development is almost complete, and, when it is, you will be able to use the app to upload your fish photos directly from your phone. Until then, keep those pictures coming at [www.recfish.org](http://www.recfish.org)!



Photo: Joy Baber

## Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish Entries January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

Freshwater		Saltwater	
Species	Name (#Entries)	Species	Name (#Entries)
Crappie	James Eisenhower (10)	Red Drum	Kelly Hoggard (2) Alex Perez, Sr (1)
Chain Pickerel	James Eisenhower (2)	Tautog	Will Bransom (1)
		Blueline Tilefish	Greg Rogers (2) Mike Hubert (3)
		Shark	Greg Rogers (1) Kelly Hoggard (8)
		Black Sea Bass	Mike Hubert (1)
		Roundhead	Kelly Hoggard (6)
		Spanish Mackerel	Kelly Hoggard (1)
		Cobia	Tripp Seed (1)
		Flounder	Mike Griffin (1)
		Pompano	Kelly Hoggard (1)
		White Marlin	Kelly Hoggard (1)
		Speckled Trout	James Eisenhower (9) Will Bransom (2) Louis Glaser (1) Bert Sainz (1) Andy Reid (1)
		Blue Catfish	James Eisenhower (1)
		Gray Triggerfish	AJ Perez, Jr (6)

*This represents the final tally of the Club Prize Fish entries for 2021. If you believe one of your entries has not been considered contact James "Ike" Eisenhower.*

*For the 2022 Tournaments, ALL entries need to be submitted to [NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com](mailto:NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com)*

*Documentation from Virginia or North Carolina Fisheries or Wildlife agencies, as well as, the Club Prize Fish paperwork is acceptable.*

\*\*\*\*Virginia Saltwater Tournament (Saltwater) or Department of Wildlife Resources (Freshwater) Citation paperwork or the Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish entry form must be submitted to James "Ike" Eisenhower via email to [NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com](mailto:NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com)



### Virginia Fuel Tax Refund Program

<https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/dmv-fueltax/#/>

A refund of the Virginia fuels tax paid on purchases of fuel in quantities of five gallons or more is available to any person provided that they have paid the fuels tax and that the fuel was used for an Eligible Use. What's an eligible use? Some of the eligible uses that qualify for a fuel tax refund are; used in operating or propelling recreational and pleasure watercraft, used in operating or propelling commercial watercraft, and diesel fuel used in a passenger car, pickup or panel truck, or truck having a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. The refund amount for diesel fuel tax is equal to the difference between the tax rate for diesel and the tax rate for gasoline.

#### How do I apply for a refund?

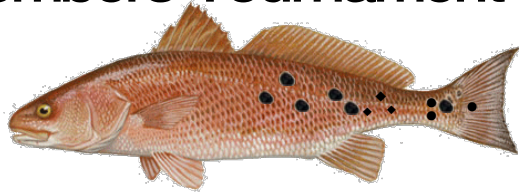
Registration is required the first time you use the Fuels Tax Online Refund system, thereafter, logon with your email address and the password you have chosen for your account. Read the system prompts carefully. First the claim is created then users must go to "Pending Claims", to add the claim(s) to the cart and check out.

#### What information do I need to file a fuels tax refund claim?

To submit a refund claim, you will need to provide the refund claim period, number of gallons, fuel type (gas, diesel, etc.), how the fuel was used, and other information required for the type of refund claim you are submitting. The system will guide you through the application process and display messages when the fuel receipts or other documentation is required to be submitted to DMV.



# Club Members Tournament for 2021



## Redfish "Spots" Tournament Results

Rusty Mitchell, 12 Spots, 20 April 2021



Jerry Hughes, 10 Spots, 4 May 2021



## Oyster Toadfish Tournament Results

Congratulations to Henry Troutner and Bob Stuhlman for their winning entries in the inaugural Club Oyster Toad Fish Tournament. Although Captain Alex Perez and Captain Will Bransom hoped to crush the competition with their early season entries, the late season Toad fishing was superb. Henry Troutner caught his 2.52 pound Toad on November 21, 2021, to further his standings after netting a 2.40 pound fish on September 7, 2021. One week later Bob Stuhlman caught his 2.40 pound Oyster Toad fishing the Chesapeake Bay on September 14, 2021.

Each will get to select a choice of OysterToad non-tipping can coolers at the January meeting. Congratulations!

"AJ" Perez  
Oyster Toad Tournament Director





# NAC 2021 Holiday Party











**Good Luck in 2022!**





# 69th Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boat Show

## Virginia Beach Convention Center

January 28-30, 2022

Friday noon to 8 pm  
Saturday 10am to 8 pm  
Sunday 10am to 5pm



Tickets \$10

Children  
under 12  
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# Fishing Reports...

13 DEC: Grant Mott set up a fishing trip out of Oregon Inlet, North Carolina. Our group was Grant, Levon Mott, Dave Steel, Mike Hubert, Bobby and Scott. He had scheduled several trips prior to this one. Some were canceled due to bad weather. Some were cancelled due to the shoaling in the basin between the OIFC and the new bridge earlier in the month.

The boat was Skirt Chaser, a 55-foot Buddy Cannady that is well appointed and comfortable. Barry Daniels was the Captain and the Mate was Billy; I didn't get his last name. The Captain and Mate were friendly, professional and knowledgeable with all of the gear needed to fish for everything from spanish mackerel up to blue marlin.

The morning was cold. Dave and I carpooled. We left at about 3:10 am. About an hour into the drive, I realized I'd left my warm cloths and gear on my front porch. Bummer! We got to the boat at 5:30 am and chatted with Barry and Buddy a short time before the rest of the group showed up.

The boat got underway at about 5:45 am as expected. It was a fairly smooth ride to the fishing grounds. Unfortunately, because of the blow for the previous three days, the fish had moved and the warm water was rolled under. By 1:00 pm, we had only one small blackfin, a short strike on the planer rod and a foul hooked sunfish. There were a lot of false albacore, porpoise and whales, but not many fish were hungry.

The captain had Buddy pick-up lines and moved south which started producing fish. We had three lines come tight with yellowfin on them. Dave Steel was first in line and chose to fight his fish standing up. All three were boated. Fifteen minutes later, we got hooked up again and after a brief fight that fish was in the box.

- Mike Hubert



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From Facebook:  
15 DEC: Today

Chris Kimmons: Captain Jim, I thought them Big Boys done headed south for the winter, that will put me back out in the creek tomorrow! 👍👍👍

James Robinson: I take it you were back under the bridge again, that always seems to be the only place to catch the big boys. 🤙👍

Byron Farlow, I'm going to give it a shot tomorrow probably between tides. 👍👍👍

- James Robinson

13 DEC: Took my boat out with my friend George Langdon. We wanted to get in some end of year striper fishing. Stopped at the Chuckatuck for a couple of passes and no luck. Went to the JRB and in a short time, caught two stripers both 34 inches. Caught on red and white Bandit, slow troll up current side of bridge, ebb tide.

After catching the first one, we circled around and caught the second one in about the same place.

- Germaine Curry







4 DEC: Mary and I fished the Elizabeth River in the skiff trying to catch some Speckled Trouts. They seem to have abandoned the Chuckatuck. We fished a couple hours and caught four; two short and these two nice ones.



Each fish was caught on a different lure, Yo Zuri Crystal Minnow, Yo Zuri SP, Mirrolures MR27 and Z Man jig.

- Mary and Henry  
Trouter



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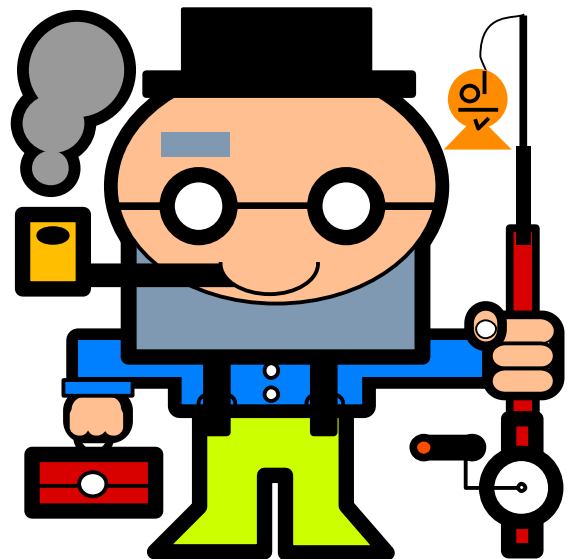
14 DEC: Fished with Scott Diggs and he caught a nice 27-inch Striper on a bucktail. Towards the end of the outgoing tide, I thought I hung a piling and then major head shaking gave us sigh of relief!



The fish stayed down in the current for a while and I had to keep the drag set light as the braided wire line had a few frays. Finally, we were able to land a healthy 35-inch Striper. Marked plenty of bait and some fish in the water column. Water temperature was 51 degrees and we enjoyed beautiful weather on the water!  
- Steve Anderson

13 DEC: Fished with Bert Sainz and Ned Smith in the Elizabeth River. We ended up catching about twelve speckled trout using MirrOlures. Water temperature was 51 degrees and the water depth was 10 feet.

- Louis Glaser







14 DEC: My friends (Jim, Chris and Darryl) and I went off shore sea bass fishing on a Tuesday. We got a four-man limit of jumbo bass. Many were well over 20 inches. We also got a few trigger fish and blue fish. We went to two locations, the last being the mother lode.

We had quadruple hook ups and three at a time. Great day on the water!

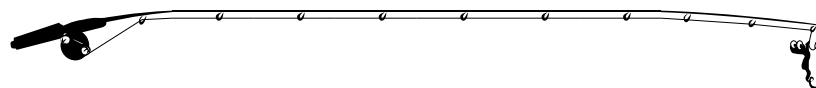
- Andy Reid



14 DEC: Fished with Bert Sainz and Ned Smith in Elizabeth River. It was slow fishing, had three with the largest 23 inches.

They were caught and released by Bert. They were caught on 52MR Mirrolures. Water temperature was 50 degrees and the depth was 9 feet.

- Louis Glaser



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1 DEC: There was rare weather window between to approaching cold fronts and after reviewing the offshore forecast we decided to try our luck in the deep water. Along for the trip was Mike Hubert, Jere Humphrey, David Steel, and I. We couldn't have asked for a nicer day 70nm offshore. The weather was clear and the seas were perfect for deep dropping. We set up initially targeting golden tilefish in about 600-800 feet along the south wall of the Norfolk Canyon. Dave was the first to land a nice sized black belly rose fish, and then everyone seemed to be bringing them aboard with an occasional golden tile. The golden tile bite was slow but the rose fish made up for it.

We landed 5 golden tiles and 21 rose fish before experiencing the "spiny dogfish bite" (ugh). We moved to the SE corner and targeted black sea bass in 400 feet and were rewarded with loads of black sea bass. We lost a few sea bass to an occasional big bluefish bite off.

We had a nice box of fish and moved west to the Ocean Venture wreck to top off the box with sea bass. We caught a few more in 30 minutes of fish and will the sun low we turned toward Rudee Inlet.

During the day we were able to tag 14 sea bass for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program and release them at 100 feet with a SeaQualizer Descending Device.

- Will Bransom



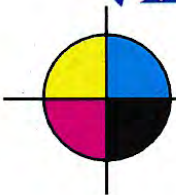


14 DEC: After John and George had an epic day of striper fishing at the JRB on a Monday, Mary and I hooked up with them for a repeat on Tuesday. We fished the outgoing tide, trolling blue Stretch 25's and red/white Bandits. I've fished the JRB for seven years now; this is the largest class of stripers I have seen.



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We had several "Net Releases" (fish got off because lure was caught in net) including two in the 40-inch range and a couple 30-35 inches. We did manage to boat our 4-man limit with three of the fish into the 30-inch range. A total of eight fish brought to the boat and a couple of others that got off early in the fight.

- Henry Troutner



14 DEC: Fished with Russell Willoughby in the Elizabeth River in my boat, a Superglide V14 Bass Tracker with a new Mercury 4-stroke on it. With 49-50-degree water on an outgoing tide, we found about 15 speckled trout while trolling with Salt Assassin Fire Tigers.

Seven were keepers, 17-20 inches. I released this 20-incher pictured. This was the best catch I have had in a month.

Thanks, Russell, for helping me out with the trailer and gas issue.

- Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



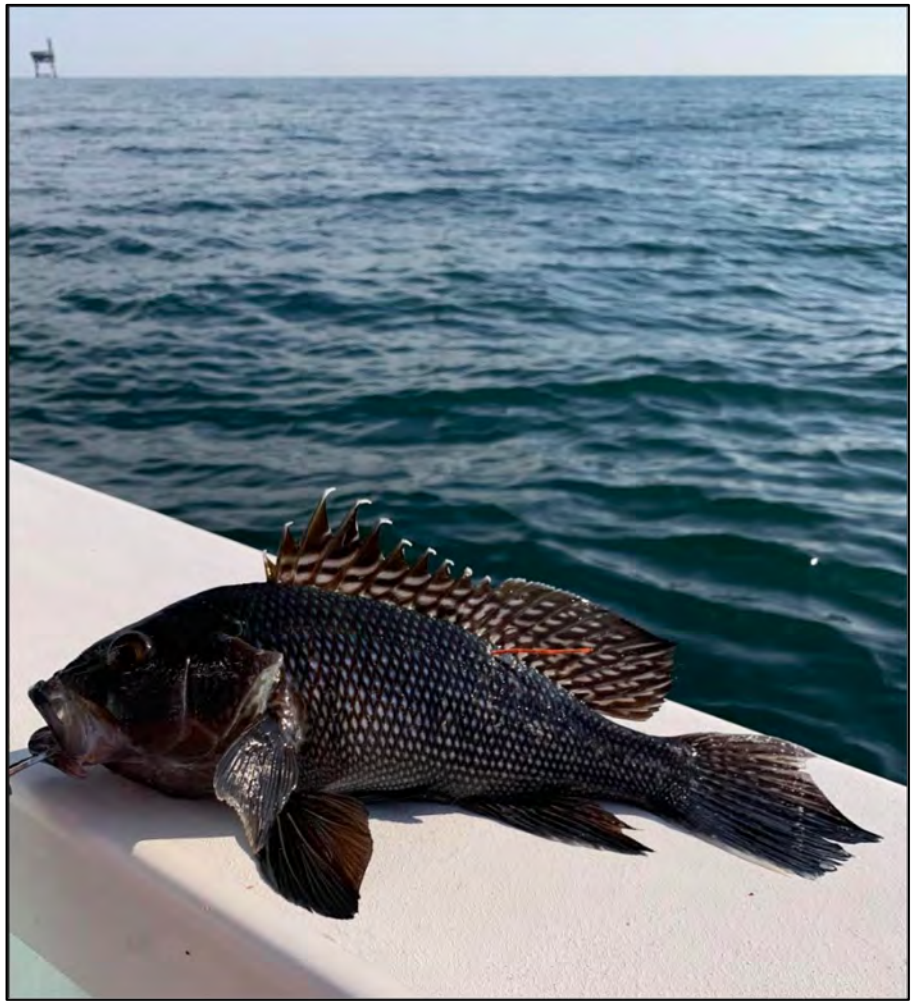
8 DEC: Had a chance to have Louis Glaser and Alex Perez join me for a speckled trout trip on the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. We fished the falling tide near the Veterans Bridge in Chesapeake and caught and released 15 speckled trout ranging from 12.00 to 19.00 inches. We primarily fished a slow retrieve with jig heads bouncing the bottom. Water temperature was 53 degrees. All the fish were tagged and released for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program.

- Will Bransom





28 DEC: Captain Alex Perez fishing with friends on a rare warm and beautiful December day headed out to the Tower Artificial Reef area. They hooked up with a number of black sea bass but only a few in the 14 inch range. Thrity-five Sea Bass were tagged and released for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program. They also were entertained by a few breaching whales during the day.





# ANNUAL Fishing Flea Market

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## March 12, 2022

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# Angler Interests

## MAFMC and ASMFC Approve Changes to Commercial and Recreational Allocations of Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass

**Changes Expected to be Effective January 1, 2023**

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board (Board) approved changes to the commercial and recreational allocations of summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass during a joint meeting this week in Annapolis, Maryland. These changes are intended to better reflect the current understanding of the historic proportions of catch and landings from the commercial and recreational sectors. The modified allocations are provided in the table below.

	<b>Current Allocations</b>	<b>Revised Allocations</b>
Summer Flounder	<b>60% Commercial; 40% Recreational</b> Landings-based	<b>55% Commercial; 45% Recreational</b> Catch-based
Scup	<b>78% Commercial; 22% Recreational</b> Catch-based	<b>65% Commercial; 35% Recreational</b> Catch-based
Black Sea Bass	<b>49% Commercial; 51% Recreational</b> Landings-based	<b>45% Commercial; 55% Recreational</b> Catch-based

Note: Landings-based allocations are based on each sector's harvest only. Catch-based allocations are based on each sector's harvest plus dead discards.

The current commercial and recreational allocations for all three species were set in the mid-1990s based on historical proportions of landings (for summer flounder and black sea bass) or catch (for scup) from each sector. The Council and Board developed this amendment partly in response to recent changes in how recreational catch is estimated by the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP), which resulted in a revised time series of recreational data going back to the 1980s. This created a mismatch between the data that were used to set the allocations and the data currently used in management for setting catch limits. In addition, some changes have been made to commercial catch data since the allocations were established.

The amendment contained a range of allocation alternatives, with options that would maintain the current allocations and a variety of options to revise the allocations based on updated data using the same or modified "base years" (the time periods used to set the current allocations). The Council and Board ultimately voted to revise the allocations using the original base years updated with new data. This approach allows for consideration of fishery characteristics in years prior to influence by the commercial/recreational allocations, while also using the best scientific information available to understand the fisheries in those base years. For all three species, these changes result in a shift in allocation from the commercial to the recreational sector. However, because the summer flounder and black sea bass fisheries will be transitioning from landings-based to catch-based allocations, the current and revised allocations for those species are not directly comparable.

The Council and Board also approved an option to allow future changes to commercial/recreational allocations, annual quota transfers, and other measures addressed in the amendment to be made through framework actions/addenda. The Council and Board considered but did not recommend an option to "phase in" the allocation changes over a period of time. A phase in period was deemed unnecessary given the relatively small magnitude of allocation changes. They also considered, but did not recommend, an option to allow transfers of annual quota between the commercial and recreational sectors at this time.

The Council will forward the amendment to the National Marine Fisheries Service for review and rulemaking. The Commission's Business Session, which represents its 15 state members, will consider final approval of the amendment, based on the Board's recommendations, at its Winter 2022 Meeting in late January. These changes are expected to take effect on January 1, 2023.

Additional information about this amendment is available at <https://www.mafmc.org/actions/sfsbsb-allocation-amendment>.



