

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

JULY 2018

What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Captain Ben Shepherd on Cobia Fishing

Fishing Tips: Captain Rudy Levasseur, Flounder Fishing

Fishing Reports:

- Tower Reef: Gray Triggerfish, Flounder, Tautog, Black Sea Bass, Spadefish
- CBBT: Cobia, Citation Red Drum, Flounder, Spadefish, Black Drum
- Lynnhaven: Puppy Drum
- Eastern Shore/Cape Charles: Citation Red Drum, Cobia
- Offshore Wrecks/Norfolk Canyon: Black Sea Bass, Golden Tilefish, Blueline Tilefish
- Near Shore Wrecks: Flounder, Black Sea Bass
- Lake Prince: Largemouth Bass
- Chesapeake Light Tower: Spadefish
- Florida: Red Snapper, Gag Grouper, Amberjack Tuna, Red Snapper

Angler Interest:

- Military Appreciation Day (MAD) Tidewater event Saturday August 25, 2018

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

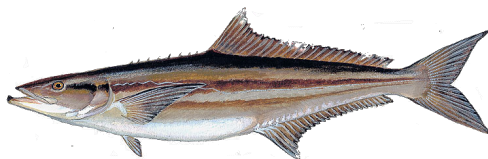
Thanks to everyone who came out to the Hunt for the Hardheads club challenge. It was another fantastic event and opportunity to socialize with the other clubs. Special thanks to Karen Schrader (Sea Tow Hampton Roads), Kathy Eisenhower, Wendy Bransom, and Bert Sainz for helping with setup, cooking, and cleanup.

Cobia season is underway and more fish are showing up in the bay each day. Don't forget your Virginia Cobia Landing Permit from VMRC. It's free, available online, and comes with required reporting. Check out the back cover for information on an acoustic tagging effort by VIMS and NC State University. Your reported catch whether through the Virginia Saltwater Journal, Virginia Gamefish Tagging Program, required Cobia permit reporting, or the Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (AP AIS) is valuable input to our fishery managers.

The Military Appreciation Day (MAD) Tidewater chapter is sponsoring their 6th Annual MAD event on August 25th at Willoughby Harbor Marina. Check out their info in this *Wireline* edition and support those who serve our Nation with a day of fishing.

Don't forget, the Norfolk Anglers Club never stops collecting nonperishable food and other items for the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore. Bring along something to donate at the next meeting for those who could use your help.

- Will



Meeting

Guest Speaker: Captain Ben Shepherd - Cobia

Cobia fishing is the topic this month and we're fortunate to have Capt Shepherd joining us. Capt Shepherd is one of the initial group of anglers and charter Captains who introduced sight-casting cobia to our area. With more cobia arriving each day this is a fantastic opportunity to learn from the best.

Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, July 9th at 7pm

Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

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Club Calendar

July

Saturday, July 7th: Club 5-Fish Tournament &
Cookout at Vinings Landing

Monday, July 9th: Club Meeting

Tuesday, July 24th: VMRC Commission Meeting
in Newport News

Members 5-Fish Tournament **Saturday, July 7, 2018**

Where: Vinings Landing Marine Center
(8166 Shore Dr, Norfolk, VA 23518)

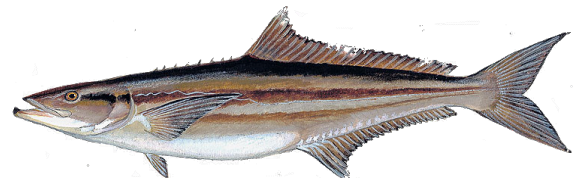
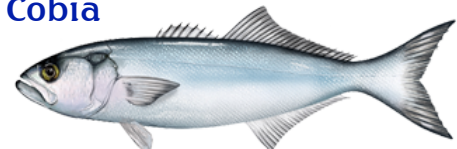
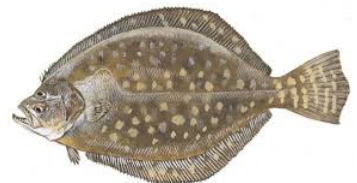
When: Anglers can fish from 6 AM to 2 PM. However, measurement is only open from 1 PM to 2 PM. The Picnic begins at 1 PM.

Rules:

- Must be a NAC Member
- Recreational Hook & Line regulations apply
- May enter up to 3 Fish for each category caught on July 7th 2018
- 5 Categories: Bluefish, Croaker, Flounder, Puppy Drum, and Cobia
- Measured by LENGTH only

Awards: 1st and 2nd Place for each category
get a \$50 (1st) & \$25 (2nd) Gift Card

Entry: \$10 per Adult Fishing/Picnic, \$5 Picnic only



Contact the Wireline Editor if you have not signed up and want to attend

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6th Anniversary

August 25th

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Questions? Email us at contact@madtidewater.com

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Donations and expenses associated with the event may be tax deductible



Shown above is our 2017 Sponsor Banner which is proudly displayed at our event and available for our sponsors to display at their places of business after the event

MAD – Tidewater Chapter is a 501c (3) Non-profit organization

For your tax records: MAD Tidewater TAX I.D. # 81-3558648



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Web Site: <http://militaryappreciationday.org/wp/mad-chapters-tidewater-va/>

If you have questions, please contact:

General Questions can be sent to (contact@madtidewater.com)
Food & Beverage Chair, Dawn M. West (dawninrealestate@gmail.com)
Fund Raising and Marketing, Bill Drummond (william.drummond@kerneos.com)
Chapter President, Jack Bartell (info@hvacteacher.com)

Thank you for your support in making this a joyous day for our troops!!

"One. Simple. Thanks"

Norfolk Anglers Club

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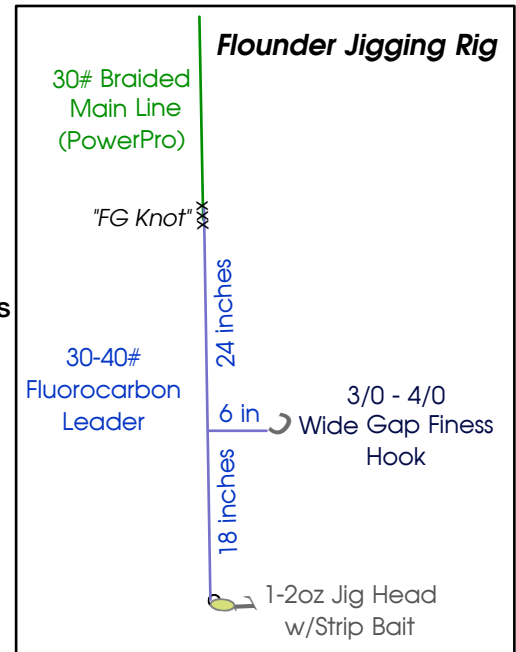
Fishing Tips...



Flounder Fishing *Captain Rudy Levasseur*

Summer and early fall are the best times to fish for one of the most recognizable and sought after catches around the bay; Summer Flounder. Late spring and early summer anglers can find the summer flounder moving in from offshore. According to Capt Rudy Levasseur, one of the best places to jig for flounder early season is the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel span.

There are two primary methods to fish for flounder; Jigging and Live Baiting. Jigging rigs are made up of 30-40 pound fluorocarbon tied directly to the PowerPro braided main line with a FG Knot. There can be a single length of leader directly to the 1-2 ounce jig head or a second hook placed above it. Capt Levasseur uses the two hook rig depicted right. The first hook is positioned about 24 inches below the knot on a 6 inch leader, then another 18 inch drop to the jig head. He uses 1 or 2 ounce jig heads and baits them with a strip bait or a gulp artificial bait. He prefers the Gulp 6 inch curly tail or the Gulp Nemesis artificial baits in white or chartreuse colors. The first hook is generally a smaller hook like the Gamakatsu Octopus J-Hook (3/0 - 4/0) or the wide gap Finesse (4/0). the second hook is the jig-head and a lighter weight jig is preferred over heavier. You'll want to select a jig weight that allows you to get to the bottom and fish the jig as nearly vertical as possible. If the current is too swift jigging on the bottom may be impossible and you may have to shift to a bottom rig.



Bottom rigs offer a number of possible bait combinations. Dead bait (bait strips), artificial baits (Gulp, etc), and live baiting with Spot, Croaker, Mullet or Gudgeons are all good techniques for flounder fishing. Capt Levasseur explained live bait fishing for flounder involves fishing around structure, bridge pilings, islands, and inshore wrecks (like the Cape Henry Wreck). He added that live bait works generally better on the inshore wrecks than those further offshore. The challenge is keeping your collection of Spot and Croaker alive when you're not fishing and buying live bait can be expensive.

Fishing Structure for Flounder

Along with a number of inshore wrecks we have one of the longest constructed artificial reefs in the world, the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT). Anglers will find the rocks around each of the islands and the washouts or scoured areas behind the islands (around the bridge) are great places to fish flounder. Flounder are ambush and sight feeders who lay in wait for their next meal to swim by. The edges of channels, drop-offs, rocks, and pilings are ideal ambush spots for flounder. The original CBBT bridge span on the ocean side has more rocks piled up around the pilings than the newer bay side span. Along with rocks around the pilings you'll find rocks scattered under the bridge span as well. All of these areas should be explored for flounder. When the current is strong the flounder will tend to lie in wait on the down current side of the structure.

Ever have the flounder bite going pretty good and then have it slow way down? When fishing around structure Capt Levasseur recommends checking your fluorocarbon leader frequently. Fluorocarbon is great leader to fish with, it's nearly invisible and stiffer than monofilament. However, when fluorocarbon gets nicked up or abraded on

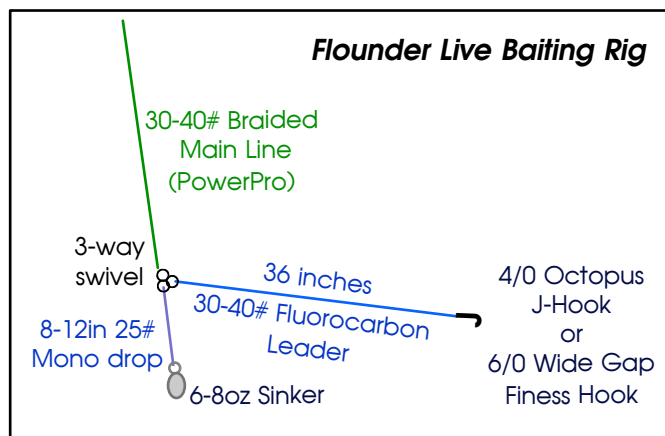
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Fishing Tips...

the structure you're fishing it loses its low visibility. If the flounder are leader-shy, it may explain why the bite just died off. Have replacement rigs ready for re-rigging when you snag in the structure or scrape them up.

Capt Levasseur's live baiting rig is rigged with a 3-way swivel attached to the PowerPro mainline. The drop to the sinker is 8-12 inches and is a lighter weight line than the leader and main line. The reason is when you snag you want the drop to the sinker to break-off before the leader. The leader length will vary depending on fishing conditions. When there's lots of current a longer leader up to 36 inches is used to allow the live bait to swim around and present naturally. When you've got little to no current shorten up the leader to 12-14 inches to avoid tangling everything up. Another tip Capt Levasseur shared was to closely trim the tag ends of your knots. When dropping down your rig or in the current those small tag ends will catch and tangle the leader making for a mess that won't catch fish.



Hook placement also varies depending on the size of the bait. For small 2-4 inch sized Spot Capt Levasseur will rig the hook up from under the jaw. For larger baits he'll rig the hook downward through the nose. Flounder will often grab a small bait and eat it but large baits they tend to grab and hold on until they can eat. The downward hook rig on a larger bait is more likely to hook the lower jaw of the flounder.

Hook, Line, and Sinker

Capt Levasseur favors small wire and wide-gap hooks like the Gamakatsu Octopus J-hook and their Finesse Wide-Gap hook. Larger or heavy hooks aren't necessary, remember, flounder are sight feeders. The smaller hooks work great and are perfect for live baiting and fishing with strip bait. Line size is generally 30-40# PowerPro. Its thin diameter helps get the rigs to the bottom without much difficulty. In stiff current monofilament will have too much drag and require more weight. Use the least amount of weight possible to get the rig down and stay on the bottom. Jig-heads in the 1-2 ounce range and sinkers 6-8 ounces are typical.

Feeling the Bite and Dealing with Oyster Toadfish

Detecting the bite and patience is the real challenge when fishing flounder especially when fishing in a heavy current or with heavy weight. On many occasions you won't feel the initial bite or see the rod tip move. When you check your line, slowly lift the sinker off the bottom, if there's more weight to the rig than normal, something's eating on your bait! Lower the rod tip down slowly and wait, and wait some more to give the flounder an opportunity to eat. When you're ready, raise the rod tip and begin a steady retrieve to the net. Sometimes you'll get a flounder bite that's more of a quick tap, tap, tap. Let them eat and then retrieve.

Then there's the oyster toadfish...and there's plenty for everyone at the CBBT. A toadfish bite is usually more like a couple of heavy bends in the rod tip. A tip Capt Levasseur shared with toadfish while jigging was to slowly and gently raise the bait without allowing a hookset. Many times the toadfish will tug on it but when coaxed out of its natural hiding place it'll let go and retreat to the safety of the rocks.





Hunt for the Hardheads 2018





Fishing Reports...

2 June: On a nice Saturday, I fished with Steve Baumann and Ken Eshleman with hopes of catching Cobia. From 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, we sight fished the incoming tide between the Fourth Island of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel to Kiptopeke with live eels and 2.5 ounce bucktail jigs. We saw numerous small Cobia swimming around and caught four up to 38 inches.

Right before heading in, approximately a mile West of the Fourth Island, we came across a very large school of bull Red Drum catching three at 44, 45 and 47 inches.

One Red ate a live eel and the other two were on the bucktail jigs. Two of our Cobia and two of our Reds were tagged and released. All fish were released healthy!!

- Alex Perez

My 44 inch Red



Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program

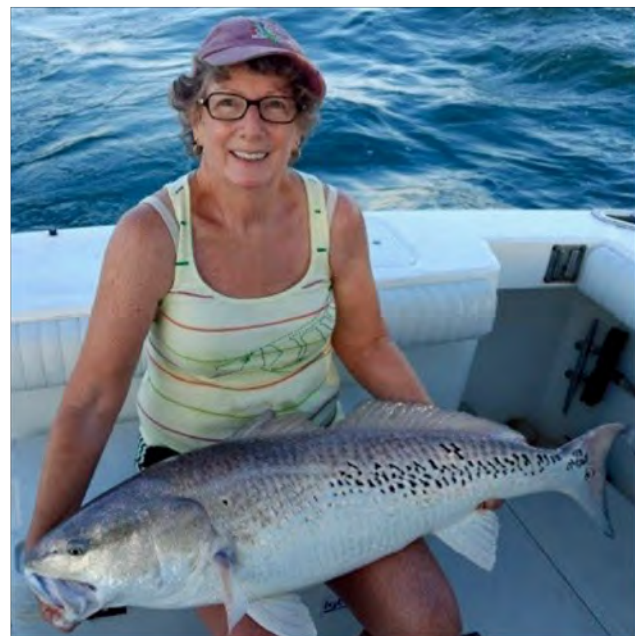
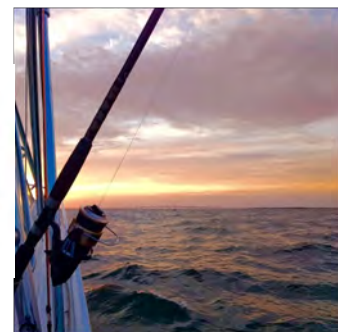
Steve with a 38 inch Cobia



Ken and his big Red



5 June: Henry and Mary Troutner invited Russell and Ike to a Red Drum trip on Henry's 35 ft Cabo to the Nautilus Shoals off of Fisherman's Island. The Bay was calm but the ocean side and Nautilus Shoal was pretty choppy with a strong outgoing tide. We quickly found that the winds were SE about 10-15 once we got past the 2nd Island of the CBBT. But on Henry's boat, it was still a pretty easy trip. We began to set up our lines at 6:30 pm. After getting Mary's rod in the water, before Henry could get his in, they had a fish on but it got off after a short fight. During this first encounter, Russell quickly hooked up and landed a fish. For the next 3.5 hours we pretty much had 2 fish on constantly. This was epic Red Drum fishing. We caught 16 Red Drum (lost 6 others) ranging from 38 inches to 49 inches which was Henry's. It was wild action and very tricky netting of the fish since the winds increased that kept us always having to hold on because of the rocking of the boat. Russell ended with 5 Red Drum, the biggest 47 inches. Ike caught 4 Red Drum 38-44 inches. Mary caught 4 Red Drum, the biggest being 47 inches. Henry finished with 3 Red Drum but had the biggest of the night with his 49 inch. Bait was 1/2 a Blue Crab. All in all, a great trip with all fish being at least a NAC club minimum. *Russel, Mary and Henry all obtained release citations!* - Mary & Henry Troutner and Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



16 June: Mary, Kate, Senior Chief Mullen of USCG Station Portsmouth and myself made a late day trip to a near shore wreck and the Chesapeake Light Reef. We caught a mixed bag of Triggerfish, Flounder, Tautog, Black Sea Bass, Eel and of course Toadfish. The Triggerfish bite was going good but we only had a few fiddlers and ran out. They weren't interested in squid. We then moved off the wreck and drifted the C.L. Reef. We caught 2 keeper Flounder with the biggest being 22 inches. We didn't see any Spadefish but there were plenty of boats at the tower which I didn't check out. - Henry Troutner



6 June: Jimmie Kolb and I went Flounder fishing with Nick Wright at CBBT's 1st Island and 2nd Island. The water was clear and 75 degrees and the wind was a bit breezy out of the NE. We fished jigs and bottom rigs; all the Flounder were caught on bottom rigs. We had 4 Flounder (3 keepers 17 - 21 1/2 inches) and 1 throwback. - Ned Smith



13 June: Nick Wright and I went north of the 4th Island and worked the pylons for Flounder. The wind was 10 to 12 mph coming out of the SW. The current was slowing down on the incoming tide so we could work between the pylons. We were both jigging 2 oz jigs with cut bait and gulps. In 2 1/2 hours, we caught 5 keepers ranging from 17 1/2 to 21 1/2 inches (no throwbacks), We also picked up four toads. The bite stopped when the outgoing tide started ripping. - Ned Smith

16 June: I fished with my good friend Steve Baumann out of Cape Charles for Cobia. Using live eels and 2 ounce bucktails, we were able to spot 12 Cobia throughout the day and catch five of them. All but one at 42 inches were tagged and released.

18 June: I went out with the Markham family with Cobia and Spadefish on the agenda. After realizing I had forgotten the clams at home, we stuck with looking for Cobia. I did have one lucky clam in the cooler that was used to catch one small Spadefish. We sight fished along the Baltimore Channel seeing plenty of Cownose Rays, Houndfish, Bluefish, but no Cobia. We downsized our tackle and returned to the bridge pilings that were holding smaller Cobia. We caught three of five Cobia. The largest was 28 inches.



A 38 inch Cobia released healthy but wearing someone else's colors.

9.5 inches, tagged and released.



Nicholas and his 28 inch tagged and released Cobia.
- Alex Perez



9 June: I went fishing with Caleb at the CBBT on a nice morning. We worked hard for the Flounders. We had two throwbacks and one keeper 23 inches. The Flounders were caught on 3 oz jigs with gulps and cut bait. The tide was ripping out.
- Louis Glaser



7 June: Slow start in the Lynnhaven this year. I managed one 20" puppy.
- James Robinson

8 June: With a perfect weather forecast predicted fellow Norfolk Anglers Mike Hubert, Greg Rogers, Bert Sainz and I headed out of Rudee Inlet for a deep drop fishing trip. We made our first stop at the Ocean Venture Wreck for Black Sea Bass. The bite was slow and the class of Sea Bass smaller than expected for early season fishing. We then moved further east to prospect for Blueline Tilefish at two additional spots before moving on to a very productive fishing area.

We baited with cut squid on 5/0 Circle hooks and fishing 275-300 feet of water. Within an hour and a half we'd limited out on Blueline Tilefish ranging 19-25 inches.

Moving on to the Norfolk Canyon, we dropped for Golden Tilefish fishing in 600-1,000 feet of water. We caught Golden Tilefish and Hake before heading back to the Ocean Venture.

We made drifts to cover just about all of the Ocean Venture's debris field and high spots. Greg reeled in a Conger Eel and we put more fish in the box for the next few hours. When fishing in deep waters I use a release mechanism call the SeaQualizer to release the fish near the bottom and minimize the effects of barotrauma. The SeaQualizer is a simple device to use and is a combination of a boga grip and pressure release device that opens at a preset depth. I also tag for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program and release Sea Bass under 13.50 inches. So..., during one of my releases, the tagged Sea Bass is headed down and in the clear blue water you can easily see the fish down more than 50 feet. All of a sudden a shark swoops in from under the boat and takes my fish, SeaQualizer and all! If anyone catches a shark with a tagged Sea Bass and a SeaQualizer in its belly, report the tag to the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program for a free tee-shirt, I just want to get my SeaQualizer back, you can keep the 24oz sinker.



Thanks to my fellow Norfolk Anglers for another great day of fishing offshore.

- Will Bransom

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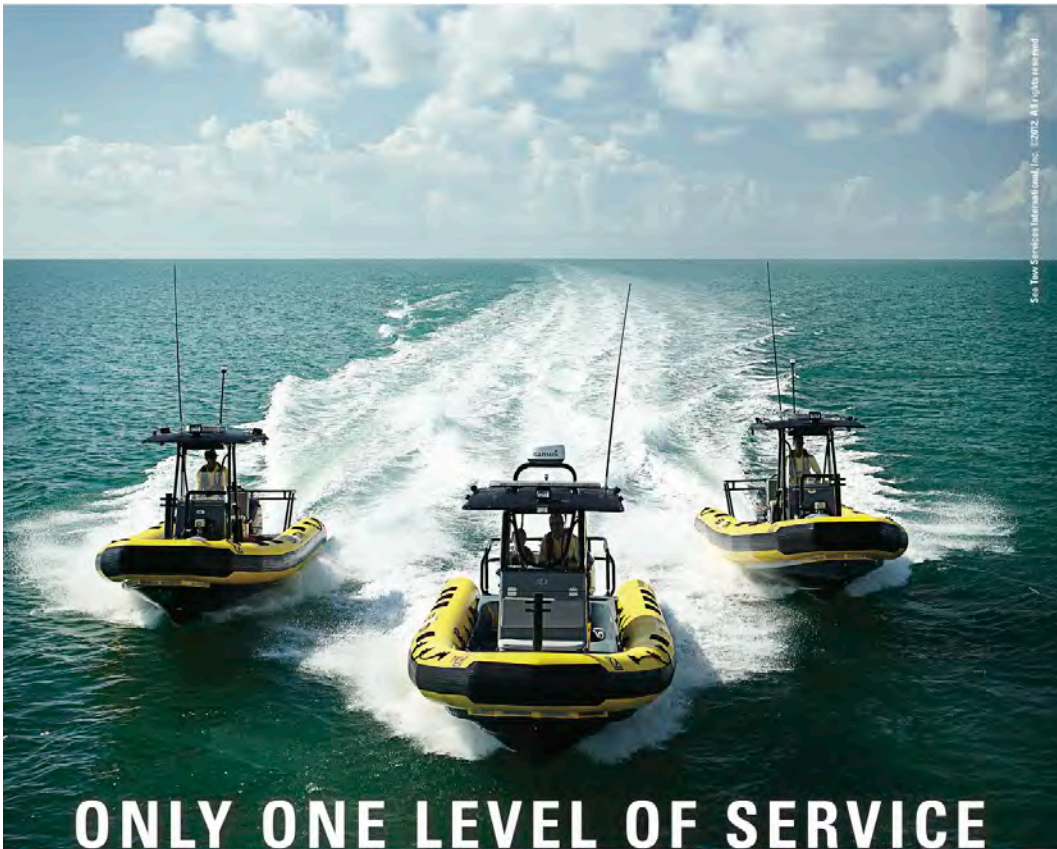
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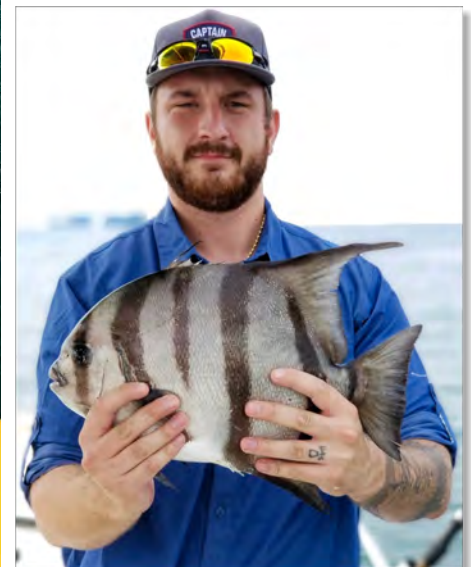


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9 - 10 June: We went to CBBT on a couple of days to try our luck for Spadefish.

Accompanying me was Norman Cunanan and Jeff Martin. Over the next two days, we landed numerous Spadefish. With the biggest fish weighing in at 8 pounds 6 ounces. The bait of choice was clams as usual.

- Gary Waddell



15 June: I was invited to fish with Mike Hubert on his Sea Cat 25 with Greg Rogers. We departed Little Creek early in the morning to get to the Chesapeake 2CH buoy early enough to fish the last part of the tide on the wreck of the Chilore (aka Cape Henry Wreck). The Cape Henry Wreck is a large ship lost in WWII that was demolished after it sank while under tow. It's got lots of structure, a large debris field, and is a great place to fish with the right conditions (it can sometimes have a strong current). Unfortunately for us, we didn't have the right conditions on the wreck so we moved over to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel.

We fished various pilings and structure along the CBBT fishing for Flounder, Gray Triggerfish, and pretty much whatever else we could catch. Greg netted a nice 18.5 inch Flounder fishing a combination squid strip, jig head gulp swim shad, and flashy thing (I wish I had a photo of it, truly a work of art, but IT WORKED). We also caught Gray Triggerfish, Grey Trout, lots of Croakers, and of course a few Oyster Toadfish. What would be a day on the CBBT without a few Oyster Toads?

- Will Bransom



Ray Sexton fishing his Classic Donzi



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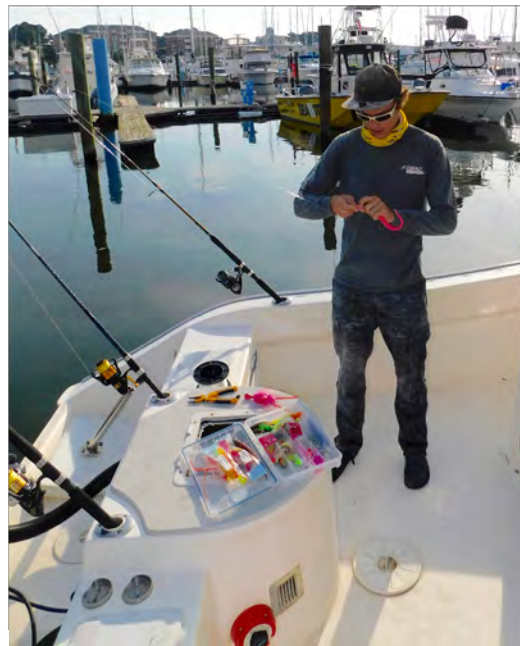
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25 June: Mike Hubert, Greg Rogers, John Nagel, and I left out of Little Creek early with Capt Austin Hayne (FINAO Sportfishing) for a day Cobia fishing. This was the trip Mike had won with the all-inclusive Cobia Charter Trip raffle. It wasn't ideal conditions to fish with mostly cloudy conditions forecasted for mid day and partly cloudy condition for the start and finish of the trip. Winds averaging 15 kots gusting to 20 and seas up to 4 feet made for tough fishing. With the bay churned up and a NW wind blowing down on the eastern side of the bay water clarity was a problem. Spotting Cobia far enough from the boat was almost impossible. Still, we saw sixteen Cobia, we were able to cast on nine of them and land four in the boat. Cobia under 40 inches were tagged and released for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program.

Thank you Mike for inviting us along on your charter trip. Despite the tough fishing conditions we had a fantastic time. - Will Bransom



2 June: With a combination diving/fishing trip in early June, Mike Delbridge took an opportunity to dive and fish a few of the near shore wrecks. They speared one 19 inch Flounder and another 4 more over 21 inches. Along the way they grabbed a 2 lb lobster. Afterwards they fished the wreck and landed 6 Black Sea Bass 17-20 inches jigging.
- Mike Delbridge



21 June: We left the dock at 4 am aboard my boat Black Swan with friends Paul as well as father and son Rich and Will, and Doug and Alex. This was the first offshore trip of the year for Rich and I, it was the first ever for the rest of the crew. The conditions were excellent and we hit the 100 fathoms line just south of Washington Canyon at 6:45 am. The day before, numerous Yellowfin Tuna catches were reported in the area, but they apparently had

moved on. After a couple hours with only one knockdown I picked up lines and ran to 500 fathoms southeast of the Norfolk Canyon where satellite shots showed promising conditions. Only a few minutes passed after resetting the spread when 3 rods went down and we boated 3 nice gaffers. The largest was 48 inches. We had the boys bring in the first 2 fish while I lined them up for Rich to gaff. We kept searching the rest of the day but never connected with any more fish. Most boats had a difficult time locating fish but one Captain reported 5 Tuna and 5 Mahi. With a 1 foot swell, the ride back was pleasant and we made great time coming in. - Jack Salvant





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9 June: I fished with my buddy Paul and his friend Bruce on the "Double Play" on a Saturday. I got a nice catch of Spanish Mackerel plus some small Blues! - Jimmy Robinson



21 June: The Drum Beat! One Red and three fat Blacks, I had them going for a while. I lost five in a structure, no stopping them with our light tackle. Good to see some life in Lynnhaven for a change. - Jimmy Robinson



25 June: On a Monday, Mary, my daughters Kate and Jessica, Son-in-law Tim and Grand Daughter Blake went to the marina to do some fishing and crabbing from the dock for a couple hours. It was Blake's first time fishing/crabbing and she really enjoyed it. She caught Croakers, Spot, Perch and of course the mandatory Toadfish, along with 1/2 dozen



keeper crabs. We'll be getting her out fishing on the boat pretty soon.

- Henry Troutner

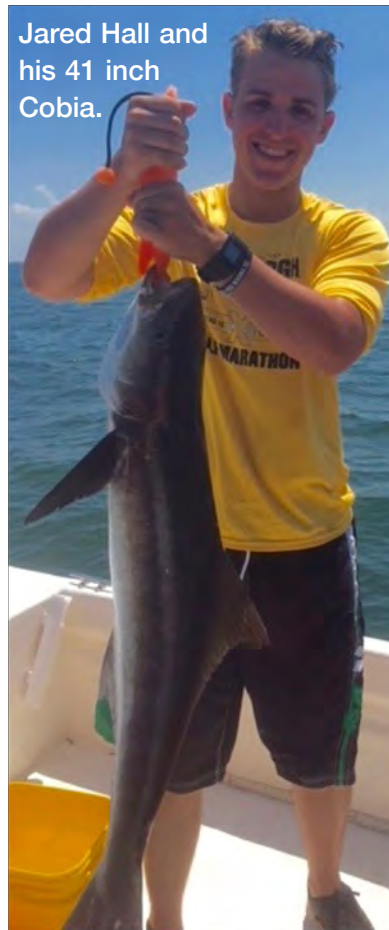


It was a good month for Cobia fishing on Latimer Shoals. We made 5 trips starting on the 10th catching 21 fish, keeping 6 and tagging the rest. We caught all our fish between 15'-19' on the lower end of the Shoal on the western edge. We used cut menhaden for bait. On 3 of the trips (16th, 17th, & 24th) we also fished for Flounder at the High Rise but did not get a single fish which is strange for this time of year.

- Mike Griffith



Jared Hall and his 41 inch Cobia.



24 June: We fished out of Cape Charles on a Sunday looking for Cobia. We saw up to 12 fish but couldn't get the right presentation to cast to them. Most fish were popping up at the boat last minute or moving at very high rates of speed. We did get a live eel to a 41 inch Cobia which gladly ate it. During overcast conditions, we trolled Clark Spoons and managed an "accidental" Cow Nose Ray on a spoon.

- Alex Perez

21 June: I was invited to fish with Rich McGuire of the Virginia Beach Anglers on his friend Pat Boyd's 26 foot Robalo with Pat's son Matt. After launching out of a Marina Shores wet slip, we headed to the Chesapeake Light Tower looking for Spadefish. When we arrived there was about 6 boats already catching small spades on bobbers and free lining with clams as bait. Setting up close to the tower we proceeded to do the same. I had 4 in the boat in no time but all were small, only one keeper size. We kept at it after re-anchoring several times trying to get in position where the big ones were. Once we did, Matt, Rich and Pat caught some nice size ones and I finally caught a bigger one also. I hooked one huge one which eventually broke my 20 lb Powerpro. It must have had a nick in it. We had to leave even with them still biting when we ran out of clams. We thought we had more than we brought. Matt ended up with the largest Spadefish of the day. Overall it was a nice day at the Tower. There were light winds but a raging current at the Chesapeake Light Tower. We saw some really large Spadefish caught, probably over 7 lbs. We ended up with 6 keeper fish, three of which were 5 lbs or over. It was great fishing with Rich, Pat and Matt. I hope to be invited again. - Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



26 June: I fished with Russell on his skiff on Lake Prince. Despite fishing in the early morning, the only significant fish was caught by Russell early as we fished for Largemouth Bass with shiners under bobbers. His fish was 19.5 inches and over 3 pounds but we didn't bother to weight it. It put up a nice fight on ultra-light tackle and was caught on a medium sized shiner. We fished the rest of the day for shellcrackers but were only rewarded with small ones. But it was cool and cloudy all day with light winds, very comfortable. Water was high in the lake. - Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower

29 June: Jerry Hughes and myself went fishing at the CBBT for Flounder and Spadefish. We had no luck on Flounder. We caught about 8 Spadefish, but none of them were large enough to bring in. Here is a picture of Jerry with a nice by-catch, Black Drum.

- Russell Willoughby





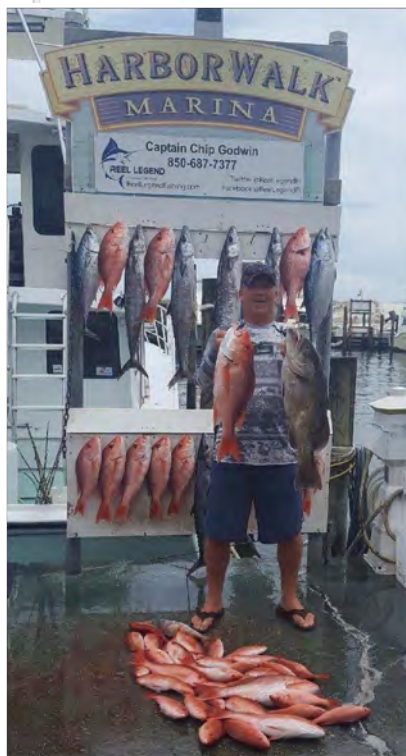
26 June: I found the Drum again. I kept two blacks and tagged two more. Plus we had a nice Puppy and a small Flounder. It's good to see action inside the inlet. The Black Drum or a pleasant surprise. - Jimmy Robinson



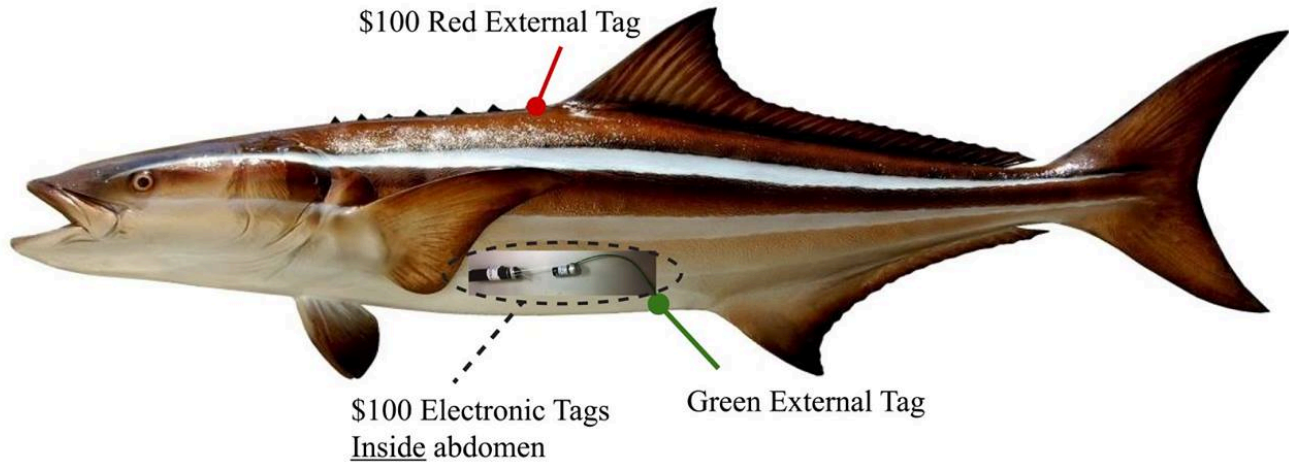
21 June: Dominic Loper caught this nice class of Spadefish at the Chesapeake Light Tower Reef on a very hot and humid day. Using a 3 foot fluorocarbon leader to a snelled 2/0 circle hook, he baited with small pieces of clam. He reported he'd used a bag of clam chum which brought large schools of Spadefish to just below the surface around 4-6 feet. Nice Catch Dom!



15 June: Mike Delbridge enjoying some Florida sunshine picked up a charter out of Destin. Lots of Gag Grouper, Red Snapper, Amberjack, and King Mackerel for everyone!



COBIA TAG REWARD



VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE RESEARCH

PLEASE RETAIN RED DORSAL TAG AND GREEN ABDOMINAL TAG WITH ELECTRONIC TAGS

In order to receive your reward please do the following steps:

1. Call us!
2. Record: -- total length -- date -- location of capture
3. Take photos
4. If harvesting find electronic tags in abdominal cavity:
pull on green external tag then clip off red external tag
5. If releasing please retain red tag for \$100 reward, and leave green tag intact.
6. Return all tags to us.

Researchers at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) and North Carolina State University are tagging cobia with surgically implanted electronic tags: acoustic transmitters and data loggers. The transmitters allow the fish to be detected by receivers that are located all along the East Coast. However, the data logger needs to be returned in order to download the data. You must follow all applicable state and federal fishing regulations. Not all fish have all tags. Thank you for returning tags.

If you have any questions about the project or would like to learn more, please contact:

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