

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

JULY 2017

What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Jimmy Robinson, Fishing in Lynnhaven

Fishing Tips: Bill Gorham, Cobia fishing and Bowed Up Lures

Fishing Reports:

- Elizabeth River: Puppy Drum and Striped Bass
- Lynnhaven: Spot, Flounder, Puppy Drum
- Chesapeake Bay and Eastern Shore: Sight Casting and Chumming for Cobia
- Offshore: Yellowfin Tuna

Angler Interests:

- MAFMC proposal to open Winter Black Sea Bass fishery in 2019
- MAFMC seeking comments on adding Blueline Tilefish to the FMP with new regulations

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

There's good and bad news from the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC). The good; They're considering options to open the winter Black Sea Bass fishery in Jan-Feb of 2019. The bad, real bad; MAFMC has proposed adding Blueline Tilefish to the Golden Tile Fishery Management Plan with varying possession limits for Bluelines and only a 6 month season. For Virginia, if this is accepted, means Recreational Anglers get less than half their current possession limits and their season cut in half! Check out the Angler Interest section for a link to add your comments. Recreational Angler feedback is needed on this issue!

The Club *Members 5-Fish Tournament* and Picnic is Saturday July 8th. If you missed the opportunity to sign up, please let me know you're coming before the 8th.

Lastly, the Military Appreciation Day (MAD) Tidewater event is a fantastic way to show your support for our Military personnel. Consider volunteering to take our Military fishing or support the event at Willoughby Harbor Marina on Saturday August 26th.

Will

MEETING

Guest Speaker: Our own Norfolk Angler, Jimmy Robinson will be our Guest Speaker on Monday, July 10th. When it comes to fishing in Lynnhaven Inlet, Broad Bay, or Linkhorn Bay, not many anglers spend as much time fishing the area than Jimmy Robinson. He'll be sharing the what to catch when, rigging and tips to fishing Lynnhaven.



Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, July 10th at 7pm

Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

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Members 5-Fish Tournament

Saturday, July 8, 2017

Where: Ocean View Recreation Center Outdoor Pavilion
(9520 20th Bay St, Norfolk, VA 23518)

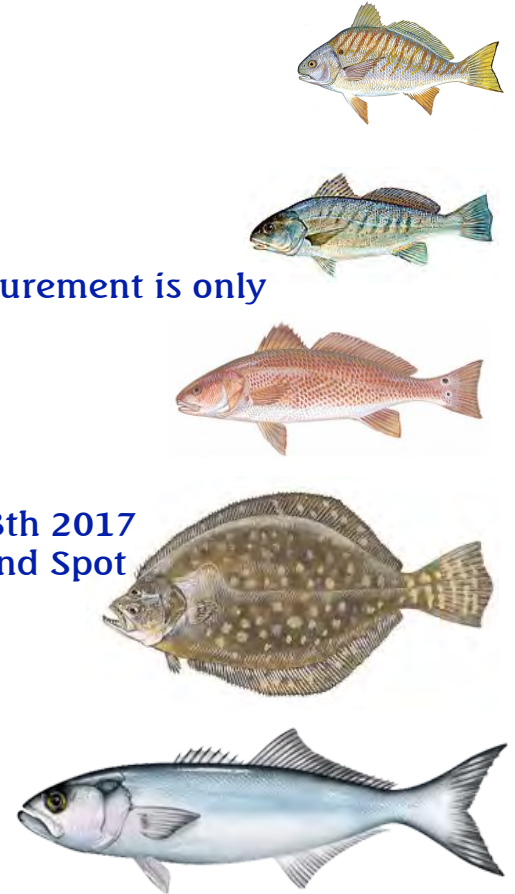
When: Anglers can fish from 6 AM to 2 PM. However, measurement is only from 1 PM to 2 PM. The Picnic begins at 1 PM.

Rules:

- Must be a NAC Member
- Recreational Hook & Line regulations apply
- May enter up to 3 Fish for each category caught on July 8th 2017
- 5 Categories: Bluefish, Croaker, Flounder, Puppy Drum, and Spot
- 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

Attention Club Members!

We've revised the Club's Prize Fish Tournament Rules to include Fresh Water Species and created our own Club catch and release standards.

Check out our Club Webpage at www.norfolkanglersclub.com for the revised standards and the Club Prize Fish Entry Form.

Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish Tournament

Saltwater Species

Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament			Norfolk Anglers Club		
Species	Weight	Length	Weight	Length	Weight
Amberjack	RELEASE	50"	RELEASE	38"	
Bigeye Tuna	70 lbs	n/a	53 lbs	n/a	
Black Drum	80 lbs	46"	60 lbs	35"	
Black Sea Bass	5 lbs	n/a	3 lbs 12 oz	n/a	
Bluefin Tuna*	100 lbs	60"	75 lbs	45"	
Bluefish	16 lbs	36"	12 lbs	27"	
Blueline Tilefish	10 lbs	n/a	7 lbs 8 oz	n/a	
Cobia	55 lbs	50"	42 lbs	38"	
Croaker	3 lbs	20"	2 lbs 4 oz	15"	
Dolphin	25 lbs	n/a	19 lbs	n/a	
Flounder	6 lbs	26"	4 lbs 8 oz	20"	
Golden Tilefish	30 lbs	n/a	23 lbs	n/a	
Gray Triggerfish	4 lbs	20"	3 lbs	15"	
Gray Trout	9 lbs	30"	7 lbs	23"	
Jack Crevalle	RELEASE	40"	RELEASE	30"	

Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish Tournament

Freshwater Species

Virginia DGIF Trophy Size Fish			Norfolk Anglers Club		
Species	Weight	Length	Weight	Length	Weight
Blue Catfish	30 lbs	38"	22 lbs 8 oz	29"	
Bowfin	10 lbs	30"	7 lbs 8 oz	23"	
Brook Trout	2 lbs	16"	1 lb 8 oz	12"	
Brown Tarot	5 lbs	25"	3 lbs 12 oz	19"	
Carp	20 lbs	34"	15 lbs	26"	
Chain Pickerel	4 lbs	24"	3 lbs	18"	
Channel Catfish	12 lbs	30"	9 lbs	23"	
Crappie	2 lbs	15"	1 lb 8 oz	12"	
Fathead Catfish	25 lbs	40"	18 lbs 12 oz	30"	
Freshwater Drum	6 lbs	24"	4 lbs 8 oz	18"	
Gar	10 lbs	40"	7 lbs 8 oz	30"	
Hybrid Striped Bass**	8 lbs	24"	6 lbs	18"	
Largemouth Bass	8 lbs	22"	6 lbs	17"	
Muskellunge	15 lbs	40"	11 lbs 4 oz	30"	

Norfolk Anglers Club

Prize Fish Entry Form

Please fill out the following information. All weights must be on certified scales, witnessed, and caught using Hook & Line.

Species: _____
 Date Caught: ____/____/____
 Lure or Bait: _____
 Weight: ____ lbs ____ oz Length: ____ inches
 Jr. Angler Adult Angler
 Fish Released ** Fish Tagged
 Angler's Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____
 Phone: _____

I/We certify that the information provided is correct.

Angler's Signature: _____
 Witness/Weighmaster Signature: _____
 Witness/Weighmaster Name (Print): _____

** Anglers fishing alone must provide a clear, sideview photograph of the fish on a measuring device, which clearly shows the entire length of the fish.

Membership must be in good standing at the time of the catch to be eligible.

Please submit your Prize Fish Entry form to the Awards Director at any of the Norfolk Anglers Club regular meetings, or mail it to:
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 Awards Director
 P.O. Box 8422
 Norfolk, VA 23503-0422

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Shown above is our 2016 Sponsor Banner which is proudly displayed at our event and available for our sponsors to display at their places of business after the event

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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 (madtidewater@cox.net)
- Food & Beverage Chair, Dawn M. West (dawninrealestate@gmail.com)
- Fund Raising and Marketing, Bill Drummond (william.drummond@kerneos.com)
- Chapter President, Jack Bartell (madtidewater.prez@militaryappreciationday.org)

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

One. Simple. Thanks”

Norfolk Anglers Club

www.norfolkanglersclub.com

Fishing Tips...

Cobia Fishing with Bowed Up Lures:

Bill Gorham, Bowed Up Lures

Virginia and North Carolina have some of the best, if not the best, Cobia fishing along the Atlantic Coast. From May through September Anglers can find Cobia along the beach, buoys, and other structure as Cobia migrate up and down the coast. Cobia are serial or batch spawners, which means they spawn over and over again throughout the summer when conditions are right.

Anglers can target Cobia by chumming or sight casting. Chumming involve placing out a chum bucket or bag and developing a chum slick to attract Cobia. It also draws all kinds of other game, like sharks and rays.



Cobia have tough mouths and during a hard fight the lure has to hold up. As a lure manufacturer, Bill Gorham and Bowed Up Lures use a 9/0 Mustad #3407 Hook on their Cobia Jigs. Bill advised Bowed Up Lures uses the #3407 hook because they're tougher than a Cobia and he's never had one straighten out. He's got a variety of jig heads and color combinations and recommends chartreuse and orange earlier in the season (May/June) and a pink/white combinations later (July/August). The natural (photo right) has worked for him throughout the season. The most common jig weight is 1 ounce and 2 ounce, the 2oz being the most preferred. He often gets requests for heavier 3-3 1/2oz jig heads from Gulf of Mexico Charter Captains and explains the water is much cleared in the Gulf and the heavier jigs work in their conditions.

A unique aspect of Bowed Up Lures is they continually make improvements to their lure combinations based on Angler input. Bowed Up Lures is a local lure manufacturer focused on providing Anglers with the highest quality lures in combinations that work in their local area.



Sight casting is the most used tactic fishing Cobia in Virginia. Once Anglers locate a Cobia they cast a jig, or live bait ahead of the fish and entice a strike.

Bill Gorham advises when looking for Cobia to check out buoys and along the edge of channels. Bottom structure that holds bait fish is another good area to find Cobia. Often you'll see Cobia swimming with Cownose Rays. Bill looks for three things when fishing for Cobia and call it his Trifecta; Tides, Cownose Rays, and swimming Crabs. Areas where the tides meet other current or bottom contours will cause an upwelling of water and with it comes bait. Anglers will find Cobia where their food source is.

When it comes to sight casting large and powerful fish, you've got to have a jig that can take the fight a fish like Cobia will



Norfolk Anglers Club

www.norfolkanglersclub.com

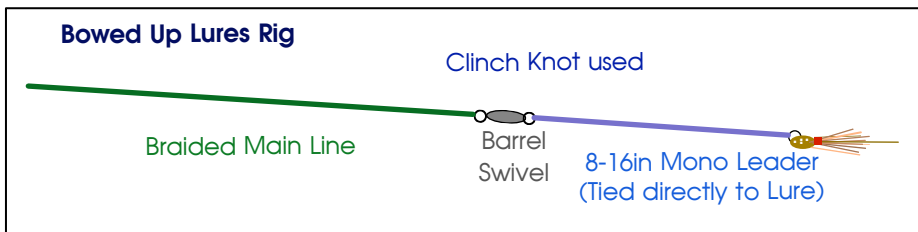
Fishing Tips...



Bowed Up Lures are hand-painted airbrush, top-coated with a durable holographic glitter, and final finish coated with U/V epoxy. They come with silicone skirts, natural, or feathered tails in colors that work. To care for your Bowed Up Lures simply rinse them in fresh water after use and let them dry completely. Bill doesn't recommend using any soap or salt rinsing agent. He added that he wasn't sure if any of those products left a residue on the lure, and that would make them less appealing to the fish.

Rigging Bowed Up Lures is easy as well. Bill uses Clinch Knots to secure the barrel swivel and lure. The mono leader length is kept short to enable accurate casting. A long leader can make it challenging to cast and get the fish alongside the boat. Keep the leader short, tie directly to the lure, and use a barrel swivel to eliminate line twists.

In addition to Cobia lures, Bowed Up Lures produces three sizes of Trolling Spoons with 4/0, 5/0, 6/0 hook sizes each rigged with split rings and swivels as well as surface plugs. All rigged with VMC Permasteel® hooks for superior corrosion resistance in salt water.



Bill Gorham grew up in coastal Virginia and resides in the Outer Banks. An avid Cobia Angler who founded Bowed Up Lures to deliver the highest quality lures to the fishing community. Since creating his line of Cobia lures, he's expanded into trolling spoons and surface plugs, all created with meticulous attention to quality and performance.

Bill's a member of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (SAFMC) Cobia Sub-Panel Advisory Committee and actively supports Recreational and Charter community on Cobia issues.



Fishing Reports...



During the 1st week of June, Bert Sainz, Andy Reed and I went over to the Elizabeth River twice fishing and put the boat in at the Jordan Bridge Ramp. We didn't have great days but in total we caught 9 Pups and a dozen Striped Bass 9 (4 Pups were 19 to 21.5 inches and 2 Striped Bass were 20 and 21 inches). Both days we fished 5 - 6 hours on incoming and outgoing tides. Winds were generally low and water clarity was good. We used Red Fish Magic and Gold Spoons; but all the fish were caught on Red Fish Magic! - Ned Smith



13 June: I had to venture into the bay to get a keeper. Beautiful day for a short run!



14 June: Nice size spot and round head in the inlet. Round head full of roe. I haven't seen them this big and a long time. - Jimmy Robinson



21 June: Four for Four: I caught 4 fish at 50, 48, 42, 41 at the 12 mile marker, while chumming. I caught three on the outgoing tide and one on the incoming tide. Fresh and frozen Menhaden! - Jerry Hughes

26 June: The catch of the day. The Puppy in the middle broke off earlier but ate again and I got the rig back. Note the fishing line! Fat 19" Flounder. Dinner!!!
- Jimmy Robinson



9 June: After trying for over an hour to find the elusive Flounder in the Lynnhaven, I gave up. However, the bite was on for Puppies. I caught 7 in under 2 hours. I kept two, 19 and 20 inches. You gotta love the June Moon !! - Jimmy Robinson



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1 June: My buddy Steve and I fished Buoy 13 on the Eastern Shore, while anchored, using bunker and caught skates and rays with one short Cobia to bring in the first day of the season.



3 June: Bill and I fished the Chesapeake Light Tower for Spadefish using chowder Clams and caught a couple before more fishermen, both above and below the water line arrived turning off the bite.



At least we caught a couple to take home. After that we ran into the ocean front and switched over to sight fishing Cobia in 20-25 ft of water.



We caught three Cobia up to 38 inches, which happened to be Bill's first.

12 June: We snuck out for two hours, sight casting at the third island of CBBT and caught two Cobia using a bucktail one at 33 inches and one at 42 inches.



26 June: I went out with the Markham family and saw many smaller Cobia along the CBBT pilings between the second and third islands. We caught five on bucktails before switching gears to trolling Clark spoons for Spanish Mackerel. Trolling found only small Bluefish.



Sherry with her 39.5 inch Cobia.



Nicholas with his first 34 inch Cobia!



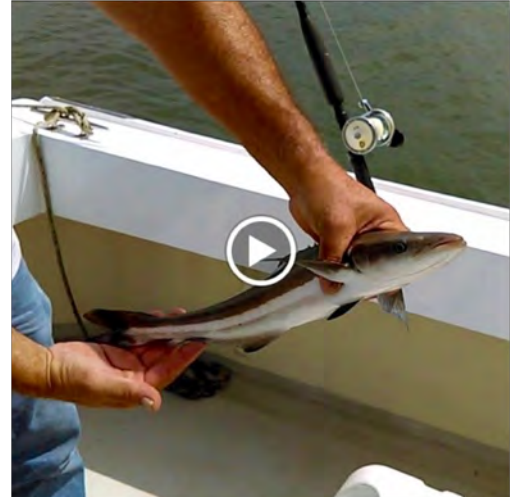
Nicholas and his Bluefish!

Nick with a 32 inch Cobia!



- Alex Perez

25 June: I went Cobia fishing with a few friends. We chummed on the flats in the bay outside the entrance to the York River. We had live Croakers and Crabs along with fresh frozen Bunker and Spot for bait and a fine chum slick of ground bunker and bunker oil that attracted most of the Sharks and Rays in the Chesapeake Bay. The only Cobia we caught was on a small rod we were using to trying and catch more bait . The smallest Cobia I ever saw.



(Editor: JPEG thought it was a Video)

One of the sharks was very upset with me about dealing with mankind, see photo. ➡ Be aware, he was released unharmed and now roams the oceans attempting to satisfy its taste for human flesh.



At the same time I was fishing, I had a friend chumming at Latimer Shoal. He had the same results; sharks and rays.

The Marine Police were out in full force. Two boats checking almost everyone out there. **My crew must have been very honest looking because I think we were the only ones they did not board.** Several of the boats pulled anchor and left right after being boarded so I guess they were in violation of something.

The Coast Guard and Sea Tow were busy responding to various calls. There were 2 mayday calls from the CBBT of boats taking on water. One apparently found the motor's sea water hose broke and after shutting the sea cock had it under control but still needed a tow in. - Henry Troutner



14 June: I went fishing with the VB Anglers Club's sponsored Spadefish fishing trip aboard Steve Wray's Ocean Pearl with mate Cheryl and VB Anglers Ronny Hillin, Dave Anderson, Victor Minak, Ken Copenhaver, Rob Stummel and Marshall Weather. While this trip was first scheduled as a Tautog trip, then a Black Sea Bass trip the weather just didn't work out those times so we ended up going after Spadefish which was fine with me. I love fishing Spadefish. We launched from Long Bay Point at 6 AM. The the water was a little choppy but it settled down as we traveled first to the 3rd Island. No joy there for two hours so off we went to the Anglo-African Wreck which also didn't produce. Finally we headed to the 4th Island, ocean side, NE corner. As soon as we set up free lines and some with bobbers with a 1/0 hook fluorocarbon leader tipped with chowder clams, the action was on. We ended with a 9 man limit of 4 Spadesfish of various sizes mostly around 5-6 lbs, 19-10 inches. We went back and forth between bobbers to free lines as the current picked up. Finished fishing leaving them still biting around 1 PM. It was a great day, thanks Kelly Hoggard for setting this trip up, sorry you had to work instead of fishing with us. Thanks Steve Wray and Cheryl for putting us on quality Spadefish! - Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower

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THE COBIA HUNT- STILL IN THE SKUNK Sometimes it is all about the experience of trying something new.....even when success has not happened

Attempt 1: Cobia: 4 Fisherman: 0

For me, I have been wanting to land a keeper Cobia in a kayak since last summer. I had my chances last summer and did land a small 22 inch one while Flounder fishing. Despite the Navy's schedule, it has given me less time outside of work, I try to get out there as much as possible.

On June 10th I decided to Kayak out from the oceanfront of Sandbridge, VA. This is a more quiet resort town in comparison to the party atmosphere of Virginia Beach. I got reports from tackle shops that some Cobia were still on their migration into the bay. I figured I might be able to bump into one while cruising along the oceanfront. Luckily for me, I had this Saturday off and the weather lined up. Armed with 5 live eels, 1 Bucktail Rod, and a Bluefish Rod- for catching entertainment while I troll along, I launched my Hobie Revolution into the surf and pedaled south. I did see a Sea Turtle surface, but never got visual of where it was on the horizon. I heard that Cobia often hang out under turtle, rays, and apparently kayaks (I learned this later). There were plenty of boats with Cobia Towers cruising along as well.

In the far distance I saw one boat take a fast turn. About a minute later, I could see the rod bend in the distance. They hooked up! Another boat near me takes a hard turn. It turns out a Cobia was about 50 yards away from my yak, but I couldn't get visual due to my low profile. It refused their bucktails. Seeing that I had a live eel rigged up, these guys were nice enough to guide me towards the fish. I took 3 casts and this stubborn brown thing would not open her mouth. On the last cast, she swims right behind my kayak and followed it for about 15 seconds before going down. I had the eel dangling about a foot in front of her face! She swam by my metal ruler which maxed out at 48 inches. Without doubt, she was a 50 inch plus. I believe it was a female because of how wide the body was. I ended up covering about 8 miles and hooked 3 Bluefish and 1 Spanish Mackerel on the got-cha plug while drifting and jigging

Attempt 2: Cobia: 0 Fisherman: 0

I got an early day off work. It does happen in a blue moon. I decided to go chumming near Buckroe Beach. A few days ago, 5 Cobia were decked from that short pier. It is a traditional hotspot. I got 4 eels and 9 pounds of chum for my short 3 hour outing. I took my Ocean Kayak Trident 13' instead of the Hobie since I only needed to paddle like a quarter mile offshore and anchor. After I set up 2 eels- one on top, one on the bottom, I started bottom fishing with my light rod for Croaker (more live bait). I average a Croaker bite once every 2 to 3 minutes. Sometimes when I didn't pay attention and had the rod in the holder, I had doubles. These Croaker are average at a mere 8 inches. Virginia does not have minimum size on them. However, I see no value for them as food until they get bigger. I had one good run on the eel. For 30 seconds, I was excited. Then the thing surfaced and turned out to be a nice clearnose skate..... at least I got the adrenaline rush.

I finished with 2 more rays - all released and 4 keeper Roundhead/Sea Mullet/Whiting, whatever you want to call these tasty bottom panfish. I gave the 4 rounds to an elderly couple who were about to fish on the pier and headed home.

Maybe next time!

On a side note, if anyone wants to do a Cobia sightcasting charter in the Virginia Beach or Outer Banks area, I am more than happy to chip into a group. They rarely offer walk-ons because most charters are well booked and I am always just one person. - Brian Tsai



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27 June: I made another trip back to my old stomping grounds along the Severn River, Maryland. After checking the traffic conditions for my 4 hour journey from Chesapeake, Virginia to Annapolis, Maryland, I decided to drive in the middle of the night to avoid traffic. At 1:30 AM Saturday morning, I left Virginia for Maryland. Upon arrival, I took a quick nap at a friend's place and quickly got to work. I have some co-workers counting on me to bring them some White Perch. This should never be a problem!

I walked out to my Perch hole (docks along the Severn) armed with a light spinning rod rigged with double jigheads. I tie the first jighead in the middle of a dropper loop and another jighead at the end of the leader. I like to use combinations of straight stinger tails like Bust Em's or any "crappie baby shad" lure and a crappie tube on the other jighead. This set-up is more for dock jiggling versus casting. After 2.5 hours, my friend and I ended up with 35 White Perch 9 inches or better with an average size of 10.5 inches. There were no monsters, 12 inch plus but plenty of quality Perch.



That afternoon towards the evening, I took my "new" used Hobie Revolution 13 into the upper Severn in hopes of getting into some keeper Striped Bass. Traditionally, the lower Severn over the past 4 years just does not seem to hold keeper Striped Bass with the exception of areas right at the mouth. My friend confirmed this to be false that same evening. I ran just 2 rods rigged with 4 inch Z-man Diezelminnowz on 1/4 oz jigheads. I focused on areas about 20-50ft away from docks. I ended up with 2 dozen plus Striped Bass, but only one was even worth measuring. There were lots of small Menhaden all over the creeks and coves. I also landed quite a few large Perch that managed to mouth my striper lures.

This was one of my few out of state fishing trips where I found myself under-armed. I probably should have ran larger lures like 4-5 inch swim shads or full size minnow plugs to weed out all the 10-14 inch dinks

because I know fish up to the mid 20's have been caught in that area recently. My friend ended up with a limit of 21 and 22 inches on topwater from his shoreline

stretch. I am willing to bet Striped Bass were using the deep-cut shoreline as structure to pin all the Menhaden.

The following morning, we went out on the Rockin Robin, a 27' Judge and found an epic topwater bite. Birds hinted at baitfish being pushed to the surface and we found fish breaking. Most fish were small. However, *the three of us managed to release at least 100 Striped Bass* and limited out with fish up to 27 inches. The key pattern was a shallow shelf rip with fish right on the edge of the shelf feeding. Dolphins were working around us, but the Striped Bass bite lasted for about 2 hours.

Unfortunately, I had to return to Virginia that evening. Nevertheless, this was probably my best Maryland return trip. As much as I wished there were more variety in Maryland waters, the consistency of this fishery is pretty amazing!

- Brian Tsai



Magic Carpet has only been out 3 times in June. The first trip was on 5 June, I had Gregg Rogers and John Ghetty with me. We'd planned to catch some Bluefish for crab pots and maybe bait while the current was moving then go look for Sheepshead and Spadefish as the tide slacked off and maybe Flounder. We had success trolling up some Bluefish and Spanish Mackerel (6 blues 1 spanish) at the 3rd Island. As usual we trolled a #1 silver Clark Spoon and a O Drone spoon with gold flash with 18 feet leader to a #1 and #2 Old Salty planer.

We never got our act together on the Sheepshead or Spadefish. I had trouble positioning the boat for Sheepshead and we didn't find the Spadefish. We had fun anyway and will just have to work on the Sheephead techniques.

The 2nd trip was on 11 June. I took Jen Lang, Mike Delbridge and Rob Slaton. The plan was to Sheephead fish toward the High Level Bridge and work our way back south. The current was moving but we were able to see some Spadefish and Sheepshead near the surface. I was positioning the boat so the guests could get on the fish when a steering hose burst and ruined the day.

Luckily-wisely really - I have Sea Tow insurance so the tow was free!, *Thank you Ed and Karen Schrader!* If you don't have Sea Tow, I highly recommend it, it is very cheap peace of mind! *Many thanks to Henry Troutner and Will Bransom for helping me get the steering fixed, and John Ghetty helping with the general maintenance.*

The 3rd trip was on 23 June. I took John Ghetty and Mike Douglas with intentions to fish for Sheepshead and Spadefish and maybe try for Flounder depending on conditions. We started off catching Bluefish for Flounder and crab pots using the usual gear. That turned out to be a mistake because we missed the slack current at the High Level Bridge and everywhere else too. Another mistake was drifting for Flounder before we went to the north side of the CBBT. We got anchored in our Spadefish spot at the 3rd but had no love from the Spadefish - every body else seemed to but not us! One problem might have been the lack of a chum source onboard. I will not make that mistake again. There is still time in June and I'm hoping to go fishing again around the 26th.

- Mike Hubert

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OFFSHORE TUNA FISHING WITH NORFOLK ANGLERS

June: On a nice Sunday, we departed Rudee's Inlet around 5:30 AM on a private "36" LUHRS named "Jessabel III". We headed southeast being driven by the owner John Burnette. Also along for the trip were Jerry Pearman, and Norfolk Anglers Lavon Mott and myself. Sea conditions were 2 to 3 feet on the way out and in approximately 3 hours we were in the fishing grounds about 65 to 70 miles from shore. LETS FISH!



The rest of the morning we continued to get multiple hook ups. We had this area for the most part to ourselves with very few boats around.

For the day we had approx. 13 strikes which resulted in Team "Jessabell III" gaffing seven 40+ pounds with one Tuna topping 50+ pounds which we caught during the afternoon bite.



Soon the outriggers were lowered and we promptly had six 50 Internationals out in the spread with 2 long riggers, 2 short riggers, and 2 flatlines both medium ballyhoo on sea witches, I had rigged and salted the night before.

We also had one bent butt 2 speed 80 International down center shotgun back about 150 yards with a squid spreader bar pulling a large ballyhoo behind. Soon a release clip popped and "fish on"! We lowered the 40+ pound YellowFin Tuna in the fish box. Shortly thereafter, 4 reels went off at once, we lost 2 and landed 2 more, also 40+ pounds apiece.



Everything was beautiful with the deep blue water, whales, fish box full, clear skies and lots of "high fives"! We reeled lines in at 4:00 PM heading back to Rudee Inlet; we were back to the dock around 7:30 PM. It was just a Fantastic Time!

- Greg Rogers



3 June: I left out of Cove Marina at 5:30 AM enroute to the 4th Island of the CBBT with light winds, slack tide and cool temps for the first Flounder trip of the year. I took fellow anglers Norman Cunnanan and Dave Hayes with me.

We arrived about 1 mile beyond the 4th Island as the tide transitioned to the outgoing tide. The water was slightly stained with visibility around 6 feet – 8 feet down. We fished the bridge the whole way back to the channel between the 1st and 2nd Islands.

We picked up 11 Flounder with the only legal Flounder caught by me that measured 22 inches. I caught that one near the bend past the 3rd Island.

We were mainly using gudgeon and different gulp baits on bottom rigs. We caught over 20 undersized Speckled Trout and the usual mix of small Blues, Toads and Croaker.

We saw 2 Cobia near the boat with one I would put in the 50 lb class. I believe if the water had been more clear and the small stuff would of left our baits alone, we would of caught more Flounder.

I'll be back at it again next weekend.

- Gary Waddell



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22 June: I had a mixed bag in the inlet on a very hot Thursday. I caught two Puppies on the first two casts and pulled one off on the next. No more bites at that spot. Moved around looking but I lost the tide. I continued drifting on Long Creek for the bottom fish.
- Jimmy Robinson

Angler Interests

Norfolk Anglers Club Canned Food Drive.....We never stop collecting



The Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore was pleased to receive the non-perishable food items we've been collecting at the meetings. As a club, we can certainly do more for those who could use our help.

Items always in need; Lean Canned Protein (Peanut Butter, Tuna, Chicken, Turkey, Beans), Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Fruit Preserves and Dried Fruit, Whole Grains (Pasta, Oatmeal, Rice, Crackers), Other Meals (Stew, Boxed Meals, Canned Pasta), and Baby Products (Formula, Baby Food, Diapers, and Wipes).

We'll have a box for your donations at the door. So take a moment while you're out shopping to pick up a few of the items and bring them to the meeting. We'll take care of getting them to the Food Bank. Thank You for all you've contributed so far.

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council requests comments on proposed Amendment to the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) to further limit Blueline Tilefishing



MAFMC is asking for comments on a proposed rule to add blueline tilefish to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Golden Tilefish Fishery Management Plan.

Recreational and commercial blueline tilefish catch has been increasing steadily in the Greater Atlantic Region (Virginia to Maine) since 2011. In 2014, commercial landings increased more than 20-fold from the previous several years' average. This rapid increase in unregulated harvest represented a risk to the long-term sustainability of the stock, and triggered the Mid-Atlantic Council to request emergency management measures in 2015. Interim management measures took effect in June 2016, while the Council developed this proposed amendment.

Amendment 6 to the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan would manage the federal waters blueline tilefish fishery north of the Virginia/North Carolina border. They are proposing these management measures for blueline tilefish as part of the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan.

Through this action, they are proposing a commercial possession limit of 300 pounds per trip.

Proposing a **recreational season from May 1-Oct. 31** and limits of:

- 7 fish per person on Coast Guard inspected for-hire vessels (party boats)**
- 5 fish per person on uninspected for-hire vessels (charter boats), and**
- 3 fish per person on private recreational vessels.**

The proposed rule would require fishermen to hold a valid Greater Atlantic Region open access tilefish commercial or charter/party permit to ensure adequate reporting and monitoring of blueline tilefish fishing activity. They also recommend requirements for new permits and catch reporting for private recreational fishermen.

***** Virginia already has required permitting and reporting system, a recreational possession limit of 7 tilefish (Blueline or Golden Tilefish combined), and NO closed season. MAFMC's proposal, in effect, cuts the Recreational season in half and reduces Blueline Tilefish possession limit to potentially LESS THAN HALF.**

The comment period closes for the proposed rule on July 28, 2017 and for the Notice of Availability on Aug. 14, 2017.

Submit comments on either through the e-rulemaking portal (<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=NOAA-NMFS-2016-0025>) or by mail your comments to: John Bullard, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Please mark the outside of the envelope: "Comments on Blueline Tilefish Amendment."

Angler Interests

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council considers opening winter Black Sea Bass fishery



MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

The Council discussed a motion from the May 2017 Council Meeting to initiate a framework that would consider re-opening the wave 1 (January – February) recreational Black Sea Bass fishery to any recreational vessel, provided that they obtain and adhere to any required conditions outlined under a Letter of Authorization (LOA) issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Noting that this action could not occur before January 1, 2019, the Council considered an alternative to open the fishery on January 1, 2018. The Council agreed to consider the possibility of opening the 2018 wave 1 black sea bass fishery when the Council meets jointly with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board in August. This action would occur through the normal specification setting process. The Council would then also continue development of the Black Sea Bass recreational LOA framework action for possible implementation in 2019.

Reminder: Report your participation in the Spring Trophy Stripers Season



Virginia Trophy Seasons is over and requires reporting your participation in the season if you had a Spring Trophy Striped Bass Season Permit. The season ran in Coastal Area (May 1-15) and in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries (May 1 through June 15). Failure of a Spring Trophy Striped Bass permit holder to report their participation, **even if they didn't fish** for Striped Bass during the season, may prevent you from getting a permit in the future.



Reporting is easy using the Virginia Saltwater Journal (www.vasaltwaterjournal.com)

Virginia Safe Boating Courses: www.dgif.virginia.org



Last July marked when EVERY MOTORBOAT OPERATOR was required to have a Safe Boating Education course. If you're new to boating or haven't gotten it completed you can still find a number of courses available in the Hampton Roads area. Finding them is easy through the Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries (DGIF) Website (www.dgif.virginia.gov). Follow the link to *Boating* and *Boating Safety & Education* to find a DGIF sponsored course in our area. Most courses are FREE or may include a small charge to cover the cost of materials. Here's a list of some of the available courses in our area with availability.

As of June 30th:

Hampton Bass Pro Shops: Saturday, July 8th 10:00am-5:00pm (1 Day) 11 of 25 Seats OPEN

Virginia Beach Rescue Station 14: Saturday, July 15th 8:30am-4:30pm 11 of 20 Seats OPEN

Virginia Beach Annapolis Yatch Sales: Saturday, July 22nd 9:30am-3:30pm 10 of 10 Seats OPEN

Hampton Bass Pro Shops: Saturday, July 29th 10:00am-6:30pm (1 Day) 22 of 25 Seats OPEN

Hampton Bass Pro Shops: Saturday, August 5th 10:00am-5:00pm (1 Day) 25 of 25 Seats OPEN

