



THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB
WIRELINER

JUNE 2017

What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Bill Gorham, Cobia Fishing with *Bowed Up Lures*

Fishing Reports:

- Carolina Fishing; Outer Banks and Atlantic Beach
- CBBT Flounder
- Puppy Drum bite in Lynnhaven
- Offshore Virginia; Tilefish, Sea Bass, and Dolphin
- Red Drum on Nautilus shoals

Angler Interests:

- Virginia Spring Trophy Striped Bass reporting due
- ASFMC Tautog Fishery Management Plan amendment

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

One of the benefits of belonging to the Norfolk Anglers Club is the sharing of information among our membership. Your fishing reports are an incredible source of information for seasoned anglers as well as those new to our area or just starting out. Thanks to all who contributed their reports this month.

On the Federal Fisheries front there's two pieces of good news from the ASFMC. The first is the proposed amendment to the Taugtog FMP to create four regional management areas. This is a movement away from coastwide management and will bring about *regional solutions for regional issues*. The second is continuation of 2016 Black Sea Bass Recreational Harvest Limits for 2017. In essence, there's no change for Virginia.

Will



MEETING

Guest Speaker: Bill Gorham, Cobia Fishing with *Bowed Up Lures*.

The 2017 Cobia season has begun with a BANG! Large Cobia are being caught off our coast primarily by sight casting. Bill Gorham is an avid Cobia Angler and will be joining us to share his expertise on fishing cobia and the types sight casting jigs produced by *Bowed Up Lures*.



Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, June 12th at 7pm

Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

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Thank You to USCG Aux Flotilla 5-9 from Smithfield, Virginia for coming out to the Boaters Warehouse event and performing Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) for our boaters. Your professionalism, dedication, and support makes us all safer boaters.



Cover: Cobia season has begun! Capt Austin Hayne with *FINAO Sportfishing* captured the cover photo of a Cobia on May 27th. The Cobia landed at just over 60 pounds and caught sight casting from his 24ft Cape Horn fish-catching machine.

If you're looking to charter a Cobia trip, Captain Hayne is one of the very best Cobia Anglers in Hampton Roads. He operates *FINAO Sportfishing* out of Vinings Landing Marine Center (Little Creek Inlet) and is only minutes away from the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. Call or book your charter online today!



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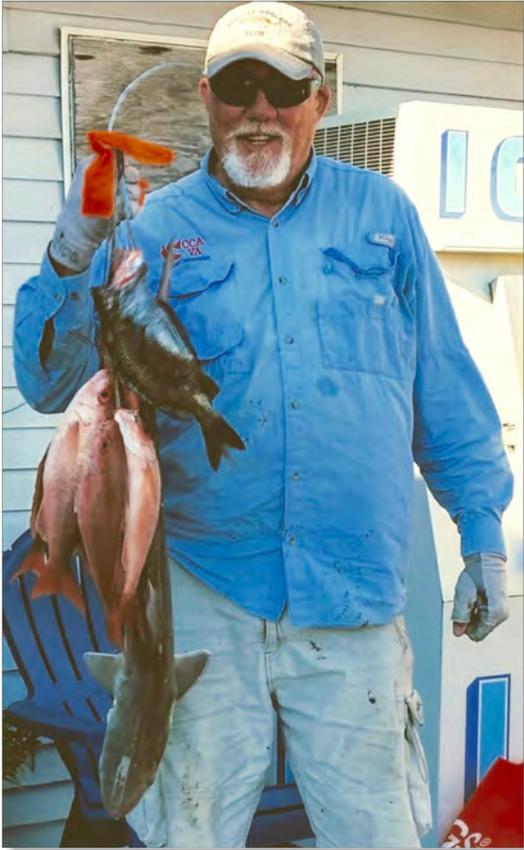
- General Questions can be sent to (madtidewater@cox.net)
- Food & Beverage Chair, Dawn M. West (dawninrealestate@gmail.com)
- Fund Raising and Marketing, Bill Drummond (william.drummond@kerneos.com)
- Chapter President, Jack Bartell (madtidewater.prez@militaryappreciationday.org)

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

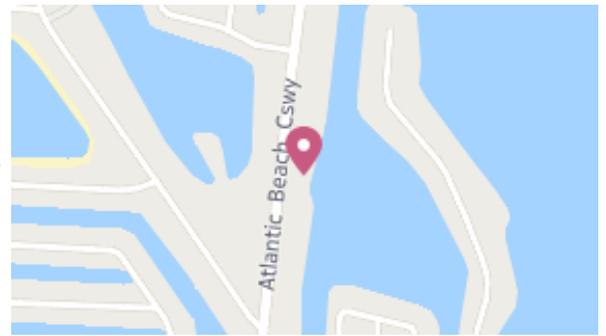
One. Simple. Thanks”

Fishing Reports...

3 May: Kathy and I went down to Atlantic Beach, North Carolina near Morehead City for the week since she has off the whole month between jobs. While there, I went fishing on the Capt Stacy, a headboat out of Atlantic Beach. Luckily that day was the only fishable day since winds were consistently 25-30 the rest of the week. This was the 4th time I've fished this headboat and it's one of the best I've been on. All day fishing produced Vermillion, Snapper, Grunts of all kind, Triggerfish and some edible Sharks. I hooked a Grouper at one point but he managed to get back in the wreck and cut me off eventually. I also hooked an Amberjack and fought with him for quite awhile until he managed to get under the boat and foul too many lines so we cut him off. Fished 50-100 feet on multiple wrecks. Using typical two hooks rigs provided by the boat. I'd recommend this headboat any time. Great mates and a real comfortable boat, \$95.00 for whole day trip. - Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



Capt Stacy Fishing Center
Atlantic Beach, NC. 28512



10 May: Had a drone following me on a great Wednesday. No secrets in Lynnhaven. No Flounder for me but did get a little Bluefish and some Puppy Drum. Tagged a couple small ones and at two keepers - Jimmy Robinson



29 May: We were able to enjoy a nice morning on the water but fishing was a little slow for us.

At the beginning of the month we fished the Elizabeth river and HRBT with AJ and Nicholas catching Puppy Drum, small Flounder, and Bluefish. We used 3/8 jig heads with Gulp mullet and Clark spoons.

Nicholas' 18 inch Puppy Drum



13 May: I was out with Nick Wright for 6 hours to do some Flounder fishing. Winds were low and water was clear and 70 degrees. We bottom fished near the 1st Island and pylons with minnows and bluefish combos. We had a few flounder bites and caught one Flounder that was 22 inches.
- Ned Smith

Memorial Day morning we fished out of Rudee inlet south to Sandbridge looking for Spanish Mackerel. The oceanfront was quiet with very little bait. The water temperature read 67 degrees and we had zero bites using pink and green Clark Spoons. I'm looking forward to the water temperature getting up to 70 degrees. We did see three Cobia within 20 minutes racing to the bay. - Alex Perez



Throwback
16 inch
Flounder

16 inch Bluefish



VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS!

Both the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the United States Power Squadrons have certified vessel examiners who will perform a free Vessel Safety Check at your boat, at a time of mutual convenience. There is no charge and no consequences if you don't pass. If you are interested in a courtesy vessel safety check at your boat, go this website: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=i-want-a-vsc>

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary also has an online virtual vessel safety check to use if you'd prefer to do a self-inspection, go to this website: <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=v-dept&category=virtual-safety-check>

OBX Fishing Report

5 members of the Norfolk Anglers Club (Ray Sexton, Levon Mott, Gregg Rogers, Tim Wheeler and me-Mike Hubert) rented a cottage in South Nags Head NC from 20 to 27 May. We took my SL5 Seacat and had Fishin Frenzy booked for May 24 and 25 with high hopes of Mahi, Tuna and countless inshore species stretching our line and gracing our table. Optimism ran high!



We had horrible weather for the whole week and wound up leaving a day early managing only one day on *Fishing Frenzy* (Wednesday) and a few casts from shore into the Western Atlantic. *Frenzy* put us on some nice fish and the shore casting yielded some seaweed.

Fishin Frenzy Captained by Greg Mayer and Mated by Billon Hollingsworth were the highlight of the week. The five previously mentioned and Ray's son Jason were on the boat.

We left the dock at Oregon Inlet Fishing Center shortly after 5 AM. It took an extra 30 minutes to get lines in due to the weather. Wind and seas were rough as could be and we still made it to the fishing grounds.

Tim and Gregg R were the only people not fighting seasickness. Once lines got wet, it only took about 10 minutes to hook up, and 2 1/2 bonita went into the box.



As would plague us and the rest of the fleet, sharks were taking a lot of fish that were slow to be reeled in. It looked like the fish were thick and we'd be busy all day but the bite was cooled off until about 11 AM. Thankfully the seas laid down about that time too.

Gregg and Billon put a planer rod out with balyhoo which saved the trip! As soon as the planer rod was mentioned, a nice 20 lb Mahi was boated by Tim. I was next and had a nice Tuna that was taken by a shark. Mott was next up and sharks got his fish too.

Next up was Jason with a fish on the shotgun (the line farthest from the boat about 100 yards back) It would be a 151# citation bigeye -the biggest fish of the day which he struggled with for an hour.

Billon then put out another planer rod with a #3 1/2 drone spoon. Both of which got bit regularly until about 2:30 PM. putting 4 nice Yellowfin in the box and loosing 3 more to sharks.

The ride back was swift and we were back by 5 PM. The weather turned ugly again and it would stay either wet, windy or both the rest of the week, except for 2 brief teaser windows, Thursday and Friday. - Mike Hubert

fishin' frenzy
OREGON INLET, NC



29 May: I took John Ghetty (retired Marine) and his family, wife Joy, Daughters Carol and Jackie and Granddaughters Summer and Savanna out for a little fresh air and maybe a fish or two. Jackie, Summer and Savanna are in town for a few days to visit from Mississippi

We met up at Vinings Landing at 9 AM and went to the second island to troll up some Bluefish. With some success, we managed 4 Taylors in about an hour. We then switched over to Croaker fishing because they like hook and bait fishing better than trolling.



We put a bunch of 8 to 10 inch fish in the cooler that will make some good crab bait and tasty table fare for the Ghetty family. The big angler of the day was Jackie with 20 or so fish with Savanna right on her heels with 17. The rest of the bunch had about 10 each. Everybody had a good time and we hope to do it again soon.
- Mike Hubert

31 May: Will Bransom took me (Mike Hubert) and 3 other NAC members (Levon Mott, Tim Wheeler and John Ghetty) deep dropping and Black Sea Bass fishing at the Norfolk Canyon.

We met at Owls Creek at 6:30 AM and loaded the boat with ice, fishing rods and some lunch. John Gehtty brought Hardee's biscuits for everyone and life was good!



By 6:50 AM we were clearing the Rudee inlet and making our way east. The skies were over cast and the seas rough due to the wave and swell periodicity making for a rough 2 1/2 hours until drop time. On the bright side, the sun didn't blind us on the way.

When we got to the canyon there was a large Sportfisher where we wanted to fish so we went deeper, fishing between 600 and 1400 feet looking for Golden Tilefish with no joy. We only had to contend with two small Spiny Dogfish during the entire day.

We then went to Blueline Tilefish fishing. This started out slow but got hot when

the sun came out and we all caught fish with a few citation size; and a world record smallest Blueline Tilefish ever caught on hook and line by me. The bite was was hot for an hour or two, time flies when you're catching fish. We rigged up with Gamakatsu 6/0 Octopus Hooks and cut squid strips on a typical double dropper rig.

Next Will took us Black Sea Bass fishing where we all had a blast and loaded up on the tasty rascals. Most of the fish we kept were good size fish over 14", some were close to 20". We tagged and released 23 undersized Black Sea Bass with SeaQualizers to live another day. The Seaqualizer is a sort of combination pressure release mechanism and lip gripper all in one. You lip grip the fish and set the release device to the depth desired and it pops open when it reaches depth.

We boated 17 Blueline Tilefish and 44 Black Sea Bass and left the fish biting at both places.

Many thanks to Will and his Parker 2820 Freedom for an unforgettable day on the water!

- Mike Hubert

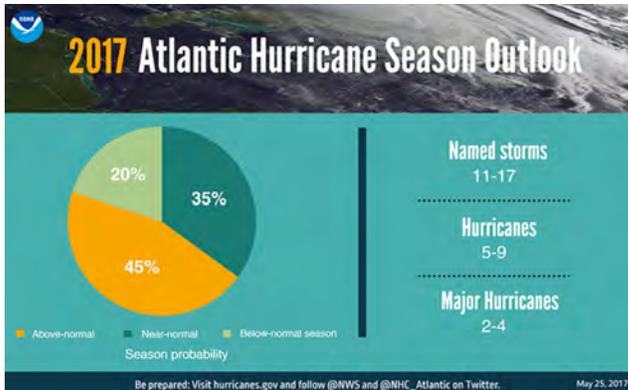




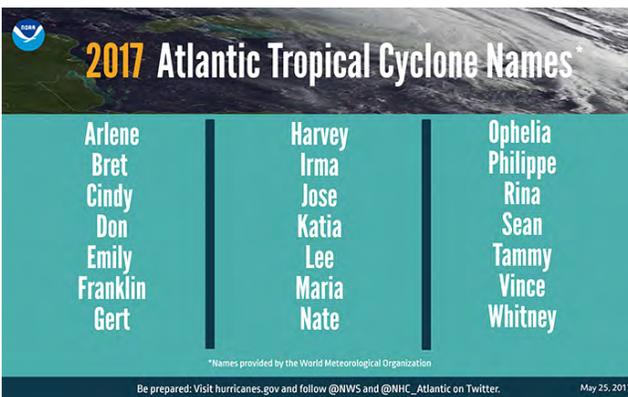
16 May: Mary's niece, Corrine, was down to visit from Pennsylvania. She is a pretty avid hunter and angler so we wanted to get her out for the Red Drum bite. We went out on a Tuesday evening and caught a couple nice ones. We let her get the first which measured which was 44 inches. Then Mary got a 42 inch Red Drum. It started to get rough about 10:00 PM, so we called it a night. Half crab was the bait of choice. - Henry Troutner

The 2017 Atlantic hurricane season officially began June 1, 2017. It runs through Nov. 30, according to the National Hurricane Center. Refer to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) [Ready.gov/hurricanes](https://www.fema.gov/hurricanes) for comprehensive information on hurricane preparedness at home.

Here is the link to the 2017 Hurricane Guide: <https://lintwavy.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/hurricane-guide-2017.pdf>



Virginia Department of Emergency Management Hurricane Information <http://www.vaemergency.gov/prepare-recover/threat/hurricanes/>



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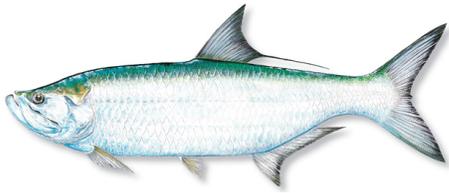
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22 May: I took my nephew down to Florida to fish the famous Boca Grande Pass to check off Tarpon from my to-do list. We had a good couple of days getting 4 solid strikes resulting in getting an estimated 100 lb'er to the boat; an estimated 130 lb'er to the boat that we quickly broke off when some huge Bull Sharks showed up; and an estimated 150 lb'er that managed to wind up on the line and break off during some spectacular jumps. Just the views of watching schools of large Tarpon rolling on the surface, breaking the surface while feeding and even watching the jumps from other boats hooked up was well worth the trip. I would highly recommend it to anyone who also needs to check this awesome fish off their list!

- Mike Griffith



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22 May: I had a nice Drum bite on a great morning, they didn't mind the sprinkles!

- Jimmy Robinson



23 May: I fished offshore about 15 miles southeast of Norfolk Canyon at 1000 fathoms with 2 friends from Richmond. We caught 1 gaffer as soon as lines went in and had 2 knockdowns that did not keep tight. Calm ride out. Wind turned NE at noon and made for a long ride home. - Jack Salvant

25 May: 1st Spot of the year while Drum fishing. Hope it's a good omen! Love the blue tail and heart shaped tail spot. It's a real sweetheart. I only got 3 and they shut off after the rain. Fast hour and half. - James Robinson

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17 May: Bob Stuhlman wanted to guarantee that we could get his brother-in-law, Jerry Frye, a big Red Drum so he set up a charter with on *Finao Sportfishing* with CAPT Austin Hayne and invited me and Russell along for a trip in the evening. Winds were light out of the SW with an outgoing current when we cruised across a beautifully calm bay. This was Jerry's first trip on the Chesapeake so we gave him the royal tour guide info as we cruised by the CBBT and how to fish for Reds. We set up anchor off of the fleet of boats already there between Nautilus Shoals and the lumps near buoy 10. No bites on our halves of blue crab until after sunset then the first rod went off. Since Jerry was a Red Drum virgin, he got the first fight and quickly boated a 47 inch Red for his first Virginia Citation. Austin and his mate Alex kept the bait fresh on the hooks so in no time Russell had a fish on. It was landed at 45 inches. I was next with a 47 1/2 inch Red that really had shoulders and was a fight but the current was light by then. After a little wait, one that got off as Bob cranked it tight, Bob boated a 47 1/2 inch Red. Then the current died around 10 PM and no more were hooked. We did attempt to catch some Striped Bass over the second island tube but none were available. "In all it was a great trip for all of us! Thanks Austin and Alex for putting us on fish and Bob for booking the charter."

- Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower

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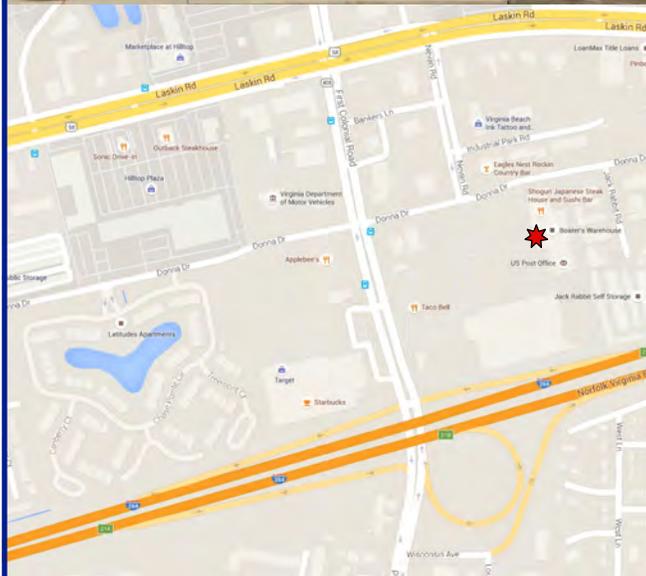
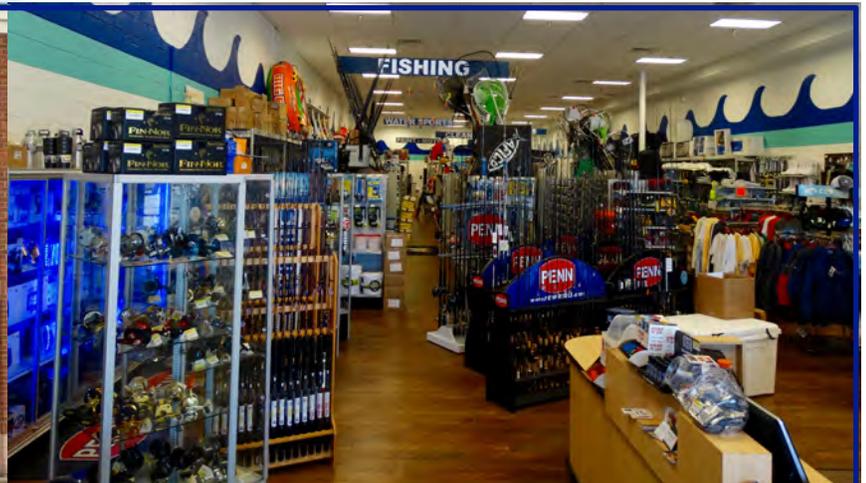


Unfortunately the bite didn't start until about 9:30 PM; we could not stay out to late. We ended up with Mike catching a 47 inch Citation Drum and Mary getting a 44 inch Drum!



19 May: My wife Mary had some friends in from Pennsylvania, Mike and Elaine Slusser.

The guy really wanted to catch a a big Drum so we went out on a Friday night. After riding out a pretty big lightning storm for about an hour, things calmed down pretty nicely.



Mon - Sat: 9:00am - 6:00pm
Sun: 10:00am - 5:00pm



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27 May: Mary, Ike, Russel, Bob and Henry spent a stormy evening Drum Fishing. We launched from Henry's slip in the Little Creek at 5:30 PM and headed out to the Nautilus Shoals in Henry's 30+ ft Cabo equipped with 4 dozen female blue crabs expecting to catch a few Red Drum citation sized. We had heard the reports of thunderstorms coming but if you stay off the water because of storms, you never get to fish in the spring. The SE winds were 10-15 as we crossed the bay, the sky got darker as we neared Fisherman's Island. We set up with lines in as the tide was shifting from outgoing to incoming. Despite frequent

bait changes no fish hit until almost dark when my line of the Baitcaster rod went off ripping. I found I was fighting a nice Red that felt bigger than he was since he produced tangled lines until we pulled him in. He was a few inches short of state citation but eligible for both Norfolk and Virginia Beach Fishing Clubs trophy fish. Only one other knock down occurred on Bob's rod, it didn't come tight. As the dark settled in, we were entertained through the remainder of the night with a lightning show like none other that I've ever seen. We had 6 hours of thunder, lightning and wind. But the storm went mostly southeast of us and despite an increase of winds and sprinkling of rain we were safe and sound just rocked to death with a wind blowing abeam. Then sea grass started collecting on our tackle which likely stopped all further catching. I've never caught Reds when the sea grass is bad. We called it quits about 11 PM and headed in for the night frustrated but anxious to try again as determined by the wind. - Henry Troutner & Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower

27 May: Louis and I headed out Saturday morning for the First Island, CBBT to fish for Flounder. The Bay was calm, winds light from the North to begin the incoming tide. Nothing there using three ways and jigs using croaker and spot strips for bait. Near the spine of the 2nd, we still found no joy as we also found the same behind the 2nd. By then the wind shifted to the SE and increased producing whitecaps around the 2nd and 1st. We got a report about nothing being caught on the 3rd, so we headed to the Ocean View area off Greenies which has usually been a good spring time target for Flounder. We only caught one 14 inch Flounder, which was a throwback. So we called it an early day since I was fishing with Henry later in the day for Red Drum. - Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



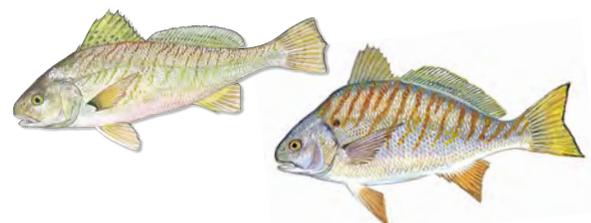
29 May: The weather was too nice to resist fishing. I joined the boat parade in Lynnhaven and went fishing for Spot. I got a couple and gave up in favor of their big brothers.

- Jimmy Robinson



26 May: I went fishing with Louis on his skiff into Pretty Lake looking for Puppy Drum that were reported to be biting on the outgoing tide with minnows. We found the water flood high and while we watched a couple of undersized Puppies being caught on minnows with a Chesapeake rig from a shore fisherman, we just couldn't connect with them. We did get a great many Spot and Croakers, perfect sized for bait to use the next day for Flounder.

- Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



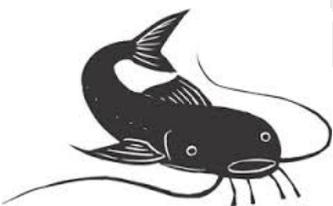
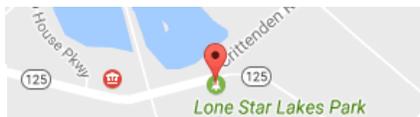


29 May: Rich, Doug, Jon and I fished on my boat Black Swan. All fish were caught in 67-69 degree water at 900-1100 fathoms ESE of the Cigar. We hooked 10 but lost one at the boat. We were hoping for Tuna but no bites. Great kickoff to the summer!
- Jack Salvant

Editor: "From Rudee Inlet, popular billfish and tuna hot spots are Norfolk Canyon, 70 miles east, and the Cigar, a seamount 65 miles southeast"



29 May: Summer chores kept Mary and I around the house on Memorial Day but, we did get out for some afternoon fresh water kayak fishing. The Lone Star Lakes are only 5 minutes from our house, so mid-afternoon we took a break and went fishing. Nothing serious, just drifting worms (live and rubber) for a couple hours. We caught at least 10 Catfish but really weren't keeping count, just having fun. It was a shame they weren't Puppy Drum, all were about 18" to 22". Beautiful afternoon on the water. - Henry Troutner



I continued to fish Rudee many times over the past month. Unfortunately, it has only gotten slower. I limited out on Reds on rainy afternoon and proceeded to skunk on Reds for 2 outings in a row. The Flounder have started to show up consistently, but with all the boat traffic on weekends, it is no longer a place I will fish on weekends until the fall. - Brian Tsai



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.

Check your VHF Radio with SeaTow before you head out on the water



A functioning VHF radio on board is a must-have when you're out on the water. Checking your radio to ensure it is working should be done every time you head out. Sea Tow's Automated Radio Check system records your radio transmission and plays it back to you so you can hear how well your radio transmits and receives.

Hampton Roads	
28	
VHF	
	26
	VHF
Lower Chesapeake	

Reminder: Report your participation (or not) in the Spring Trophy Stripers Season



Virginia Trophy Seasons is almost 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 Stripers during the season, may prevent you from getting a permit in the future.



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

Recreational Mandatory Reporting

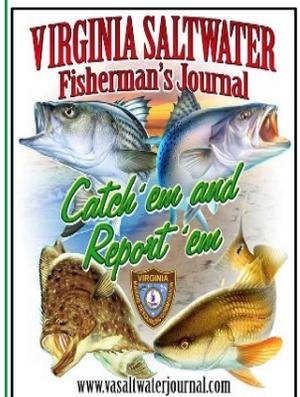
VMRC ID can be found on your VMRC Permits. The VMRC ID is between 4 and 7 characters in length: (ex: N001234). If you have forgotten your VMRC ID, please use the VMRC ID Lookup. If you wish to report for another angler, enter the angler's VMRC ID below.

All fields are required

If you targeted more than one species in a single trip, please enter separate trips for each species targeted so angler hours can be captured for each species. Recreational captains are required to report harvest by all anglers on a permitted vessel. For-hire captains are required to report via Charter Boat Online Reporting System. Please enter all trips where a mandatory reporting species was targeted, even those where no fish were caught.

Date of Trip: Apr 01 2017
 Target Species:
 Fished From:
 VMRC ID:
 Number of Anglers Reporting For:
 Target Fish Kept:
 Target Fish Released:

Submit Report >>



Angler Interests

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission hearings on Tautog Fishery Management Plan



May 22, 2017: The ASFMC has scheduled hearings to gather public comment on a Draft Amendment 1 to the Tautog Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

The Draft Amendment proposes a fundamental change in tautog management, moving away from management on a coastwide basis towards regional management. In addition, Draft Amendment 1 proposes the establishment of a commercial harvest tagging program, as well as new goals and objectives, biological reference points and fishing mortality targets, and a stock rebuilding schedule. Specifically, Draft Amendment 1 proposes delineating the stock into four regions due to differences in biology and fishery characteristics, as well as limited coastwide movement.

Proposed Four Region Management Approach

- 1) Massachusetts – Rhode Island
- 2) Long Island Sound (CT and NY LIS)
- 3) New Jersey – New York Bight
- 4) Delaware – Maryland – Virginia

Public comments to the Draft Amendment may be provided by sending them to Ashton Harp, FMP Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland St., Suite A-N, Arlington, VA 22201, by email at aharp@asmfc.org, or by attending the Public Hearing at the Virginia Marine Resource Commission, 2600 Washington Ave, Newport News, VA on Wednesday, June 14th at 5:30 pm.

ASFMC Finalizes 2017 Black Sea Bass Recreational Management Measures



May 12, 2017: The Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Management Board approved Addendum XXIX to the Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan.

The Board also reviewed the final 2016 black sea bass recreational harvest estimates and considered changes to current measures to meet the 2017 RHL. Based on the performance of the 2016 fishery, which indicated a reduction is needed to stay within the 2017 RHL, the Board set the possession limit for wave 6 (November/December 2017) at five fish in state waters from Rhode Island through New Jersey. All other state measures remain unchanged from 2016.

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council scheduled June meeting in Hampton Roads



The public is invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's June 2017 meeting to be held June 6-8, 2017 in Norfolk, Virginia. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Norfolk The Main, 100 East Main St., Norfolk, VA 23510

Meeting Materials: Briefing documents will be posted at <http://www.mafmc.org/briefing/june-2017> as they become available.

Public Comments: Written comments must be received by Wednesday, May 24, 2017 to be included in the Council meeting briefing book. Comments received after this deadline but before close of business on Thursday, June 1, 2017 will be posted as "supplemental materials" on the Council meeting web page. After that date, all comments must be submitted using an online comment form available at <http://www.mafmc.org/public-comment>. Comments submitted via the online form will be posted to the website and available for Council consideration.

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