

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

NOVEMBER 2025

What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Speckled Trout Fishing with Keith Nuttall

Fishing Tips: Day/Night Broadbill Swordfishing with Stan Simmerman

Fishing Reports;

- Chesapeake Bay/CBBT: Tautog, Black Sea Bass, Flounder, Sheepshead, Triggerfish
- Little Creek Inlet: Flounder, Speckled Trout
- Lynnhaven: Speckled Trout, Flounder, Red Drum
- Elizabeth River: Red Drum, Speckled Trout
- James River: Black Drum, Bluefish
- Chuckatuck Creek: Black & Red Drum, Flounder, Speckled Trout, Rockfish
- Offshore/Norfolk Canyon: Blueline Tilefish

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Welcome to Fall Fishing! The past month has given us some nice fishing days, some windy/rainy days, and more in between fishing days. Drum fishing has gotten better and there's reports of an improving fall speckled trout bite. Don't forget our Speckled Trout Tournament closes out at the end of this month.

The Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) Project has completed installation of the 176 Monopiles in the project area. Scour rock protection placement is continuing and work continues with placement of the third Offshore Substation (OSS) platform. Anglers can expect to see lots of other activities in all areas of the project. Cable laying/joining, transition piece and wind turbine tower installation activities requires that mariners exercise extreme caution while transiting in the vicinity.

Will



On The Cover: Capitán Alex Perez releasing tagged Sheepshead for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program.

Meeting

Guest Speaker: Speckled Trout Fishing with Keith Nuttall

This month we're very fortunate to have Keith Nuttall joining us to talk about an area favorite, Speckled Trout fishing. From Ware Neck Gloucester, Virginia Keith is a lifelong angler who fishes speckled trout with artificial lures for more than 30 years. He's active in promoting and protecting our natural resources by sharing his fishing expertise in articles, seminars, engagement with Fisheries Managers, and a member of the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program.

Important:

November 17th, 2025 at 7:00pm

**NAC Meeting at Boil Bay
Seafood City, Norfolk, VA**

Publishers NOTES

Editor:

Wendy Bransom

NorfolkAnglersClubEditor@gmail.com

NAC OFFICERS

President:

Will Bransom

Vice President:

Henry Troutner

Treasurer:

Mike Hubert

Awards Program:

Ike Eisenhower

Events Coordinator:

Assistant Events Coordinator:

Wesley Waters

Membership:

Member at Large:

Alex Perez, Sr.

Webmaster:

Pat Hirsch

pfhirsch@yahoo.com

Contact us at;

NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com

Norfolk Anglers Club

P.O. Box 8422

Norfolk, Virginia 23503-0422



Club Calendar

November

Thur, Nov 13th; VMRC Crab Management Advisory Committee (CMAC) Meeting at 4:00pm, 380 Fenwick Rd, Ft Monroe, VA

Mon, Nov 17th; Norfolk Anglers Club Regular Meeting, Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk

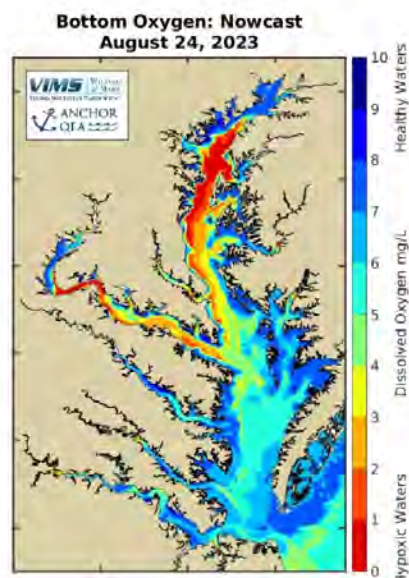
December

Tue, Dec 2nd; Virginia Marine Resources Commission meeting, 380 Fenwick Rd, Ft Monroe, VA

Mon, Dec 15th; Norfolk Anglers Club Member's Holiday Party
Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk

Chesapeake Bay Environmental Forecast System

Use our forecasts and real-time "nowcasts" of temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, harmful algal blooms, waves and other environmental factors within the Chesapeake Bay to help plan your fishing! Based on observations and computer models developed by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and partners, these tools accurately predict the current status of important environmental variables and how they are likely to change in the short-term. Check out this free resource to have a more productive day on the water!



<https://www.vims.edu/cbefs/>



SEA TOW®

BUILT TO RESPOND™

Offshore coverage

Unlimited towing with no
distance or dollar limits in
your home area

Are you a member?
seatow.com

Priority service for members

Service for every boat
a member owns, rents,
or bareboat charters

Sea Tow Hampton Roads
757-496-1999

JOIN OR RENEW TODAY. RECEIVE \$30 OFF MEMBERSHIP.

Promo code: FCD30

Offer only valid through December 31, 2025. May not be combined with any other offer.

We ♥ our Volunteers

Do you practice careful catch and release fishing and have great fish handling skills? Do you want to share data to help us learn more about our recreational species and improve your fishing? JOIN US!

The Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program (VGFTP) has been a cooperative project of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) and the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) since 1995. We train experienced recreational anglers who volunteer their time to tag and release fishes and share data with fishery managers. We tag black drum, black sea bass, cobia, summer flounder, red drum, sheepshead, spadefish, speckled trout, tautog and grey triggerfish. Interested in learning more? Visit www.vims.edu/vgftp/. Interested in joining the waitlist for our next class of volunteers? Send an email with your name, mailing address, email and phone number to : susanna@vims.edu



Mary Troutner



Henry Troutner



Alex Perez



Chris Harris



Will Bransom

Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish Entries 1 January - 31 October 2025

Freshwater	
Species	Name (#Entries)
Crappie	James Eisenhower (8) Bill Seemueller (1)
Largemouth Bass	Bill Seemueller (3) Mike Rheinhardt (11)
Chain Pickerel	Bill Seemueller (1) Henry Troutner (1)
Gar	Bill Seemueller (1)
White Perch	Bill Seemueller (5)
Yellow Perch	Bill Seemueller (3)

Saltwater	
Species	Name (#Entries)
Red Drum	Mary Troutner (1)
Black Drum	Henry Troutner (3) John Curry (1) George Langdon (1) Mary Troutner (1)
Sheepshead	Henry Troutner (2) Alex Perez, Sr. (1)
Wahoo	Greg Rogers (1)
Blueline Tilefish	Mike Hubert (3)
Flounder	Bert Sainz (2)
Triggerfish	Jere Humphrey (1)
Golden Tilefish	Wes Waters (1)
Speckled Trout	Will Bransom (1)

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



Speckled Trout Club Members Tournament May 1st - November 30th 2025



- This is a Norfolk Anglers Club Members tournament running from May 1st until November 30th
- Targeted Species is Speckled Trout (any length)
- \$10 Entry Fee due *before* fishing
- For fish caught in Virginia and/or North Carolina waters only
- This is a Total Length Tournament Only
- Winner determined by; 1. Total Length of fish, 2. Date of Catch, 3. Date of entry submission
- 1st Place \$50 Gift Card and 2nd Place \$25 Gift Card
- All fishing must be in accordance with State fishing regulations for recreational anglers
- Entries must be submitted via the Norfolk Anglers Prize Fish Entry Form (Available at www.NorfolkAnglersClub.com) and submitted by email to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com

Club Members Tournament for 2025



Redfish "Spots" Tournament Rules

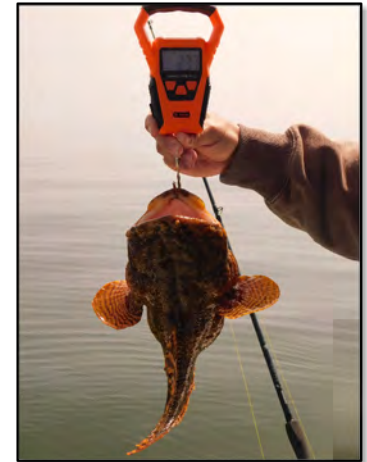


- Must be a Norfolk Anglers Club Member
- Tournament for fish caught between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025
- Must have the Norfolk Anglers Club decal in the photo with the fish on a measuring device* showing the total length of the fish. See NAC Prize Fish Contest Rules for measuring info. *Entries received with decal and no measurement can only be judged by number of spots. Photo entries without a decal or measurement tape are not accepted.
- Red Drum/Redfish up to 26 inches in length only and caught in Virginia and North Carolina waters
- Awards determined by 1st: number of Spots (on one side), 2nd: Largest Fish up to 26 inches, 3rd: Date of Catch
- Entries submitted on the Club Prize Fish Entry Form with photo (can be sent electronically to; NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com)
- No entry fee except the cost of the decal (\$1)
- \$50.00 Gift Card to the 1st Place Angler, \$25.00 Gift Card for the 2nd Place Angler.

Entries to date: Alex Perez (1), Will Bransom (1), Mary Troutner (1)



Oyster Toadfish Tournament Rules

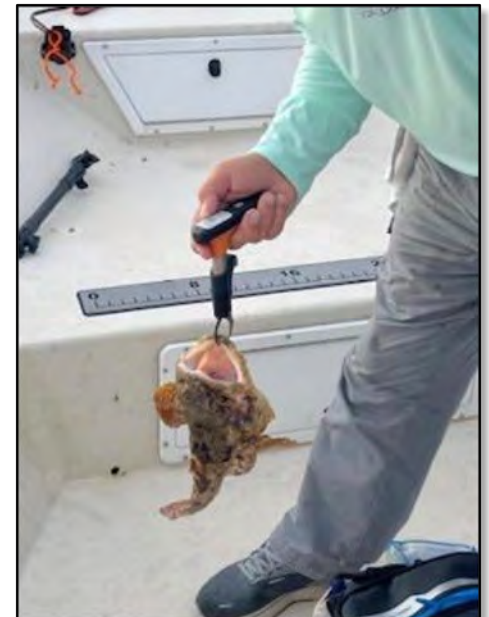


- Must be a Norfolk Anglers Club Member
- Tournament for fish caught between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025
- Awards determined by;
 1. Total Weight
 2. Date of catch
 3. Date of entry submission
- Additional Award for Best Oyster Toad Photo
- Entries submitted by email to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com in the form of a Fishing Report; who was fishing, stating total weight, with photo of the fish on the scale
- Weighing need not be on a certified scale and may be done by the angler, just try to avoid weighing fish on a pitching boat
- No entry fee (we would never charge a fee for catching Toads)
- Winners will be determined by our Tournament Director

Alex "AJ" Perez, Jr.

Oyster Toadfish Tournament Director (TOTTD)

Entries to date: Jere Humphrey (1), Mike Rheinhardt (1), Mary Troutner (2), John Curry (1)



Day/Night Broadbill Swordfishing with Stan Simmerman

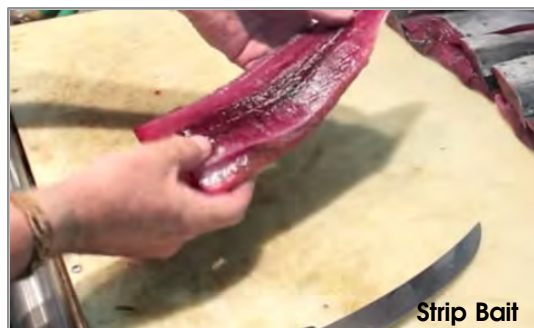
The first thing Stan Simmerman will tell you about fishing for broadbill swordfish is they're an incredible fish with a long broad bill that can be quite sharp, a powerful fish that ranges the full depth of the water column depending on time of day. He shares they're also a fisheries management success story with stock increasing and not being overfished.. They're found worldwide in the deep waters of offshore canyons and along the continental shelf.

Swordfish are opportunistic feeders that will eat almost anything available. Because they prowl the depths from thousands of feet below to the surface at night, anglers need to prep their bait for the swordfish feeding habits. Stan explains that at night when the swordfish come up from the depths to feed squid is their primary diet. During the day when the swordfish remain deep their diet is almost anything they can find, strip bait, whole fish like mackerel or a sewn up mahi or mackerel belly works extremely well. He added that swordfish caught deep generally have been found with snake

mackerel in their stomachs along with crabs and cephalopods octopus cuttlefish, squid). Snake Mackerel isn't like the typical Boston or Tinker Mackerel you might think of. They are thinner, much longer, and more closely resembles a ribbonfish. Rigging squid with a J-Hook requires the hook be securely sewn into the squid with the hook exposed behind its head.



Sewn mahi belly

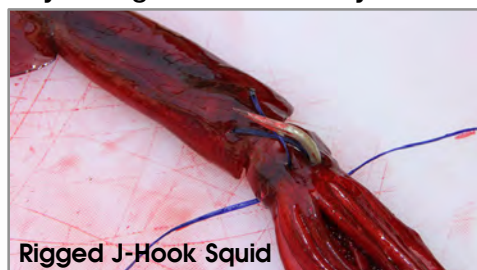


Strip Bait

For Circle Hook rigging squid the hook would be sewn to the front of the squid. Whichever bait type selected the bait needs to swim naturally.

For hook selection, Stan prefers the Fathom Offshore Premium Stainless Hooks size 10/0 or 12/0 for his J-Hooks. For Circle Hooks he likes the Eagle Claw

Lazer Sharp Circle Sea Big Game Hook, size 18/0. These are high quality and high strength hooks needed to land a powerful swordfish. Achieving a good hook set is vital if you're going to get the swordfish to the boat. Stan explains that there's a lot of soft flesh around the mouth and head of the fish. Hooked in these areas a hook will quickly pull out. The goal is to set in a boney area in the mouth or into the broadbill itself. This is why a strong durable hook is needed, it's going to hold the fish during the fight. Expect long fights once hooked and don't be surprised when the fish takes long runs toward the deep and then makes a return run toward the surface, especially at night.



Rigged J-Hook Squid



Lazer Sharp Circle
Sea Big
Game Hook

18/0

to resist the temptation of grabbing the bill without wearing heavy leather gloves. When landing a swordfish he recommends having a plan; clear the rods and prepare the cockpit, decide who is going to do what alongside the boat, a person or two for gaffing, a leaderman, someone to secure the bill. He shared the broadbill can be 3 feet in length and has very sharp edges which can easily slice flesh. A swordfish can do a lot of damage to anglers and the boat if not controlled.

Daytime Deep Drop Sword Rigging



Mainline
65# Braid

Topshot
200 yards
130#
Monofilament

Bimini
Twist

Loop
To
Loop
Connection

Longline Clip
to 15ft
drop to weight

Flossed
Loop

150ft 300# Monofilament Leader "Long"

15' ↔

SPRO
Swivel
(Crimped)

15' ↔

15ft 300-500#
Monofilament
Leader
"Short"

Bait on
J-Hook or
Circle Hook

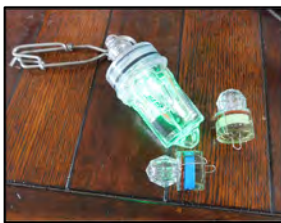
* Steady Light (Blue or Green)

While the rigging details between Day and Night swordfishing remain nearly the same, daytime sword fishing means your bait is deep down near the bottom and fewer lines out. It takes a talented crew to deploy two swordfish rigs while avoiding entanglements. Both lines are rigged the same however, the first line deployed is floated well astern of the boat on a float while the second line is deployed directly off the stern.

During the day swordfish are near the bottom so the goal is to get your rig placed approximately 150ft off the bottom. The depths you're fishing range 1,000 to 1,500 feet, perhaps even deeper. The key is to bring the bait far enough off the bottom to not allow it to contact the bottom. Look for bottom contours like undersea mounts and canyon ridges/valleys and setup to the leeward side. The drift is going to be very slow with the rig being held down by a 10-15# sinker on a short drop attached to the "long" monofilament leader with a longline clip snapped onto a flossed loop. The longline clip is attached to the leader directly, the purpose of the flossed loop is to keep it from sliding along the leader (photo right).



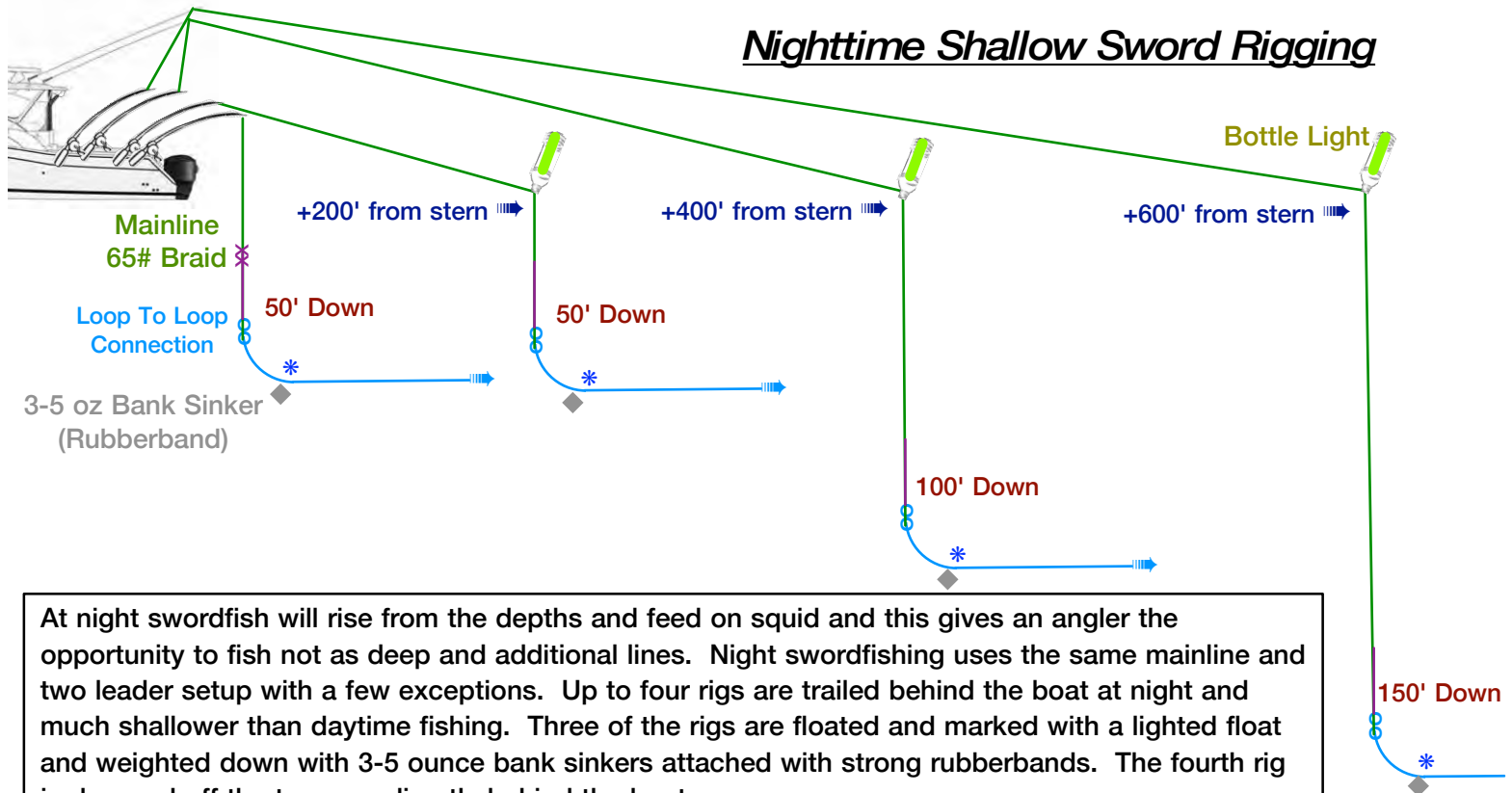
Stan's swordfish rig starts with a 50 wide class reel spooled with 65# braid with a 200 yard topshot of 130# monofilament. The swordfish leader is actually two leaders, the first being a 150' 300# monofilament wind-on leader and the second is a shorter leader to the rigged bait. The shorter leader is 15' 300-500# monofilament connected to the longer leader with a small SPRO swivel with crimped connections. The longer leader is attached to the mainline topshot with a loop-to-loop connection. Along the leader combination Stan will attach three lights, the first two are 15' and 30' from the bait secured with rubberbands for quick removal. The third light is attached with a longline clip near the loop-to-loop connection. These are steady illuminating lights to attract swordfish (photo below left).



When fishing two swordfish rigs during the day, the first rig is sent down and once its depth is set Stan will attach a float and begin trailing it behind the boat. This rig is floated far away (100-200 yards) from the boat so it won't tangle with the rig set off the transom.

When dropping down the rigs care must be used to not allow the leader to float up vertically and tangle with the mainline. Stan's solution to avoid tangles and get the rig down quickly is to attach a sacrificial heavy weight (window sash weight) with a coat hanger. Placing the hook on a small bend at the end of the wire allows it to fall away with bottom contact (photo right).





At night swordfish will rise from the depths and feed on squid and this gives an angler the opportunity to fish not as deep and additional lines. Night swordfishing uses the same mainline and two leader setup with a few exceptions. Up to four rigs are trailed behind the boat at night and much shallower than daytime fishing. Three of the rigs are floated and marked with a lighted float and weighted down with 3-5 ounce bank sinkers attached with strong rubberbands. The fourth rig is dropped off the transom directly behind the boat.

Stan will position the farthest rig about 150 feet deep and more than 600 feet from the boat. The next rig deployed is about 100 feet deep and spaced away from the last rig to avoid entanglement. Remember each of these rigs have 165 feet of leader trailing from the mainline connection (150ft Long + 15ft Short leader). The third rig out is positioned around the 50' depth and 200 feet from the boat with the last rig off the transom. Depth and spacing of the rigs is the angler's choice. Some anglers decide on deeper drops and greater spacing. The important point is to keep the leaders from tangling. Stan will also put the two farthest rigs lines in the long rigger clip with a very light release setting to keep the mainlines separated.

When deploying floating swordfish rigs and once its depth is set Stan will attach a chemical light (cyalume) inside a clear water bottle with a rubberband (photo right). This rig is floated far away from the boat so it won't tangle with the rig set off the transom.



Whether day or night a swordfish strike is usually very light. The fish will usually strike the bait with its bill before and that initial strike can often be missed if not focused on the rod tip. Once the fish is hooked, then you'll feel the power of the swordfish. A steady retrieve is recommended and no hard hookset is needed. Stan advises to be prepared for a swordfish's initial runs that can often go very deep and then run back toward the surface.

A note about safety while swordfishing. Have a plan once you hook up with a swordfish. who is doing what during the fight and more importantly while landing the fish. Have a line cutting tool at the ready in case a reel locks up and the line must be cut quickly, consider using a lanyard securing the rod/reel to the boat, at night have two anglers watching the gear and ready to respond. Never underestimate the power of these fish and always use leather gloves when getting the swordfish bill under control.

6 Oct: Phenomenal day fishing! John Curry, Mary & I left John's dock at 9AM to a beautiful morning with just a light breeze. First stop, troll the Chuckatuck Bridge where we immediately caught a keeper Striper. On the second pass Mary & I both hooked up but mine got off at the boat. With 2 Stripers in the boat, we headed for the mouth of the creek where we ran into a school of small Speckled Trout. We were catching them every cast and I had to stop fishing just to keep up with tagging John & Mary's fish. After tagging/releasing 30 Specks we headed to the JRB. We made one pass trolling for Stripers with no luck, then anchored for Black Drum. Wasn't long before Mary had a 34" in the boat. I caught the next one at 35". While landing my fish, Mary's rod was in the holder and took off so hard with a fish she couldn't get it out of the holder. John went to help her just as the line broke. Stripers caught on red/white Bandits, Specks caught on Z-man paddle tails and minnows, Black Drum caught on Blue Crabs. October fishing at its best.

- Henry Troutner



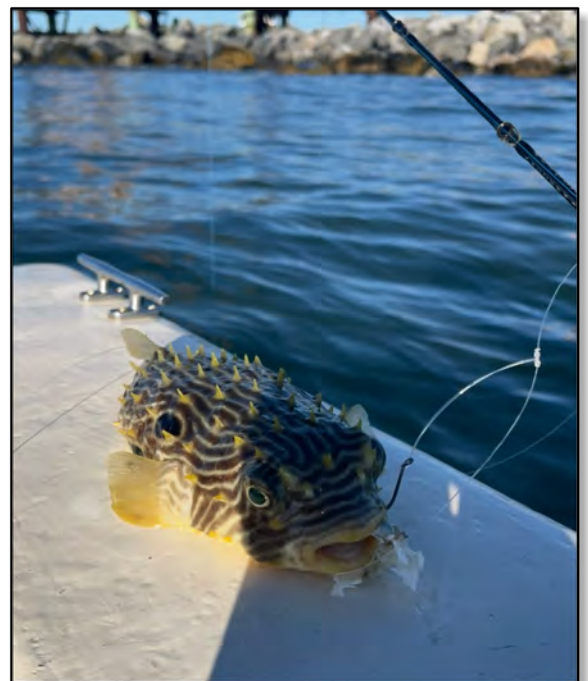
5 Oct: Bert Sainz invited Ned Smith and I to fish the Little Creek Jetties on a beautiful morning. The speckled trout bite had been improving and we wanted to try our luck on the falling tide. We fished artificial lures, MirrOlures and Jig-heads, all being successful. We tagged and released speckled trout, an undersized flounder, and managed to bring in a pufferfish and a lizardfish. All the speckled trout were tagged for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program (VGFTP), including the nice 21.25" in the photo.

- Will Bransom



4 Oct: I took a half dozen blue crabs to the second island rocks of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT) at the end of the incoming tide. As the current was slowing down, I fished a piece of crab on a dropper loop rig with a three ounce weight and a 3/0 size hook. I fished through the tide change and until the current was back up to speed, which is when what little bite there was, turned off. I was able to catch two Sheepshead up to 17 inches, five Black Sea Bass up to 11 inches, an 11 inch Tautog, and a Porcupine Fish. I was fishing in 12 feet of water.

- Alex Perez



7 Oct: Mary, John Curry, his neighbor Dan, and I launched the Shamrock at Huntington Park at about noon to catch the outgoing current for some Black Drum fishing. We trolled the JRB for Stripers with yet another strike out. When the current started moving we set up for Black Drum. Once again, Mary started the action landing a 33". Shortly afterward Dan landed a 32". Afterward, Dan said he was thinking Mary was a bit of a Sis when she was fighting her fish but, after landing his he thinks she's pretty tough. All the Black Drum we've been catching is thanks to John Curry keeping us supplied with fresh Crabs caught from his dock.

- Henry Troutner



For opening day of striper season I took John Curry and Marty Schriebl out on my Tidewater. We struck out on the stripers but John did hook up with this nice 33" Black Drum at the JRB bait dropping. Marty hooked up twice on the troll with what was probably Stripers but they never made it to the boat. I too lost several really large, fast fish at the JRB on bait. Live crab at the JRB got the action while live eels were left untouched. We also did get the complimentary Toad.

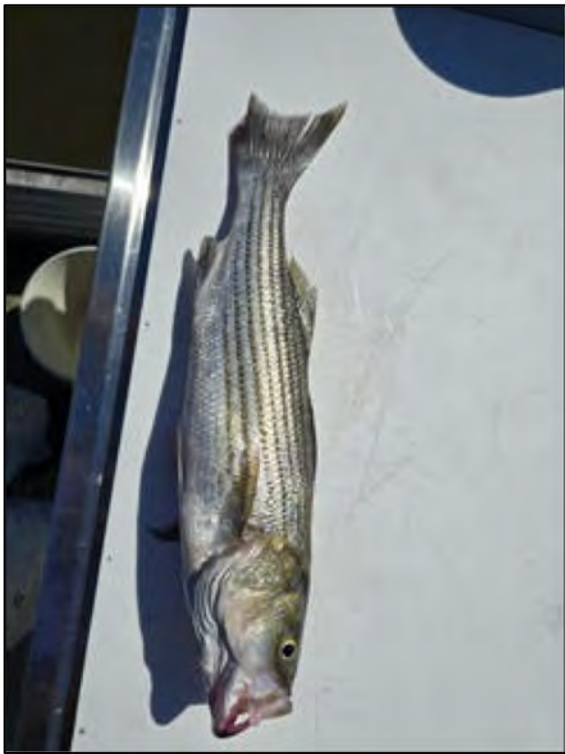
The good looking Troutner boat was getting their action one piling over.

- George Langdon



18 Oct: I fished in the Elizabeth River, just off Norfolk International Terminals (NIT) in 8-10 feet of water. While fishing the top of the out going tide, I used smoke gray sparkle or chartreuse, three inch curly tail grubs on a 1/8 ounce jig head to catch 15 Speckled Trout from 11 to 21 inches. The trout were active and in the area for about an hour before moving on.

- Alex Perez



6 Oct: The weather was too nice to stay home. I jumped in my 11' dingy and ran down to the Chuckatuck bridge for a short pass. I was hit on the 1st pass but he got off. I came around to the same spot and picked up this nice 22" striper on a red and white bandit. Being solo I headed home. I was out and back in under an hour.

- George Langdon

4 Oct: Opening day of Striper Season. Mary, my Daughter, Son-in-Law, and I fished the JRB in the Shamrock. We spent some time trolling Stretches and some live lining Spot and bottom fishing Crabs. No Stripers were caught. We caught several Bluefish in the 5 lb. class while trolling and a few Cownose Rays and Toadfish while still fishing. Weather was beautiful.

- Henry Troutner





5 Oct: I took John Curry and my wife Linda out for a short run to the Chuckatuck. Linda hooked up with this nice 23" striper for the 1st legal one of our season. Red and white bandit worked this time.

- George Langdon



I've been fishing for Specs in Long Creek, and slot reds in the eastern branch of the Lynnhaven River. Spec fishing has been a bit of a picky bite, but quality fish are available if you put in the time. Gulp jerk shads and any type of paddle tail have worked along with the venerable MirrOlure. I'm a bit of a Neanderthal when it comes to pup fishing, so chunks of mullet on the bottom is my go to there. I also caught a lonely 18 inch flounder a week or so ago on a slow fished white gulp jerk shad.

- Rich Califf



26 Oct: Mike Brown, Mike Burton, Mike Hubert and Greg Rogers joined up for an offshore trip in *Hoosier Cruiser*. We wanted to target Blueline and Golden Tilefish and Swordfish in the vicinity of Norfolk Canyon. Once offshore we quickly found the weather much rougher than predicted (both wind and waves higher and period much shorter). We did get our limit in two drifts on Bluelines, including four right at the state citation weight (10#). Goldens did not cooperate and weather deteriorated to the point we couldn't drift for swords. We'll have to try them next time!

- Mike Davis



Oct. 24 - John Curry, Mary & I left John's dock at 1PM to catch the high tide and outgoing current. We made a couple passes for Stripers at the Chuckatuck Bridge, but no bites. We moved to the mouth of the Chuckatuck for Specks.

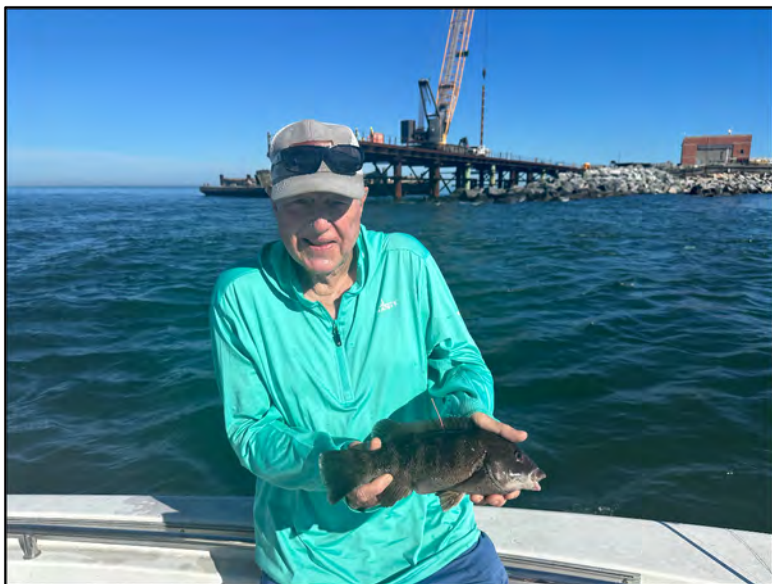


The water was very clear, which I have found not very productive in this shallow water; 3 /12' at high tide. As I was casting off the bow a large school of Red Drum came racing in and surrounded the boat. I immediately hooked up with a 30" using a MirrOlure and Mary nailed a 25+ on a Z-Man paddletail. By the time we landed, tagged & released these fish the school had disappeared. We then went to the MMBT and trolled from the rock island to the small boat channel without a bite. Too much excitement having that school of Reds in such shallow & clear water.

- Henry Troutner

18 Oct: Dave Steel and I went out to tog fish on 18 Oct . It was a good day to use the Rhodan but the main engine had fouled plugs and I didn't have any replacements on the boat. We decided to stay in LC and troll for speckled trout using the casting rods we had on the boat. I didn't think it would work but Dave insisted it would, so we trolled up and down LC with the Rhodan for about 4 hours. We caught about 15 specs with 3 keepers which astounded me! All of the specs were caught inside the Pretty Lake bridge in various holes and channels.

The Rhodan worked great and I learned a lot about its operational in modes other than its anchor function which I use regularly. Dave cleaned the fish for me, and I cooked them a couple of days later. It was my first speckled trout ever. It was great! - Mike Hubert



7 Oct: Joined Mike Hubert and Dave Steel aboard Mike's Sea Pro for a day fishing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. We set up on the CBBT 2nd Island spline for tautog fishing with cut blue crab on the flood tide. Dave hooked up on a 12.5" taug right away and then the bite turned into a black sea bass feed-a-thon. One small sea bass after another! We tagged and released all we caught and drifted along the island for bluefish before heading over to the CBBT 3rd Island. We fished the bridge pilings and caught more sea bass and our share of oyster toads before heading back to Little Creek. It was a nice day fishing with fellow Norfolk Anglers.

- Will Bransom

18 Oct: After 10 days of wind we finally got a break just as my daughter's friend, Chris, was in town. Mary, Chris, Marty Schriebl & I launched the Shamrock at Huntington Park. With the tide/current approaching high/slack we ran to the mouth of the Chuckatuck and fished for Specks for an hour or so. The Specks were thick but small 10"-13". After tagging & releasing 20+, we headed for the JRB to see if the storm had effected the Black Drum bite. They were still there and hungry. Between 10am & 1pm we hooked 7 and landed 5, 32" to 41". Specks caught on paddle tails and Drum caught on fish finder rigs baited with Blue Crabs. Thanks to John Curry & George Langdon for the crabs.

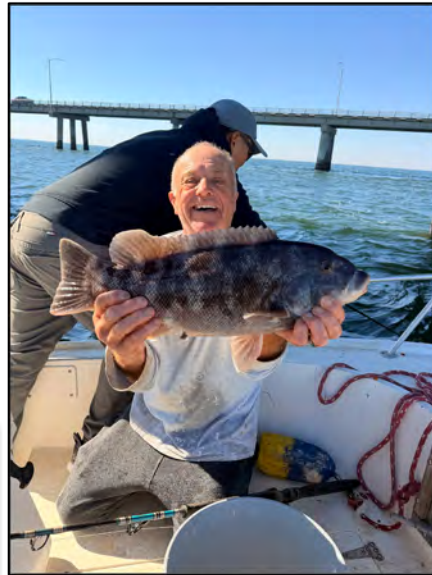


1 Nov: With the wind finally providing a break, at max ebb tide with the sun shining, on a lark, I snuck down to the Chuckatuck bridge by myself to see what might be there. On the very first pass I caught this 24". On a second pass I caught and released a 19". On subsequent passes I hooked up twice more. Red and white bandit seemed to be the pick of the day. Photo compliments of John Curry on the way home.

- George Langdon

1 Nov: Left the dock at MorningStar marina at 11 am. I fished 2 pilings around the curve near the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT) 3rd Island. The current was ripping but the togs were snapping. We caught around 30 togs. 10 keepers. We also had 2 keeper red drum, 1 trigger fish, and 1 keeper sea bass. Another great day fishing on the bay. I also had 2 friends with me. Eddie and Ryan. We had a blast

- Jere Humphrey



Angler Interests

Blueline Tilefish Season Closes Nov 15th



Anglers are reminded that Blueline Tilefish season in Virginia (MAFMC) closes on Nov 15th. Possession limits are three (3) fish per person on a recreational vessel; five (5) fish per person on a USCG uninspected for-hire vessel; seven (7) fish per person on a USCG inspected for hire vessel. Golden Tilefish season remains open year-round with a possession limit of 8 per person. South of the VA/NC line (SAFMC) both Blueline and Golden Tilefish seasons are CLOSED. Anglers are not permitted to possess tilefish even if returning to a Virginia homeport while fishing in the SAFMC area off North Carolina. An additional reminder is that tilefish trip reporting is required and can be accomplished easily through the NOAA eFin Logbook app.



Rudee Inlet Shoaling ALERT

An Alert to Mariners has been posted for Rudee Inlet due to serious shoaling conditions, based on a City of Virginia Beach survey, dated Oct. 28, 2025.

The survey indicates shoaling in the channel from the east end of the jetties extending west ward approximately 300 feet. Conditions reported are least depth from 6.0 feet MLLW (mean lower low water). The survey indicates shoaling in the channel from the east end of the inner south jetty extending eastward 450 feet. Conditions reported are 1.1 feet MLLW. Mariners are urged to exhibit extreme caution when approaching this area. Use idle speed when approaching the inlet and seek local assistance if unfamiliar with the inlet and its condition.



Virginia Junior Expert Angler Awards Program

Are you 15 or younger and love fishing in Virginia's saltwater? You could earn your very own Junior Expert Angler Citation Plaque - just by catching and releasing some of our amazing saltwater species.

Whether you're fishing off a pier, the beach, or from a boat leaving a Virginia port, your saltwater adventure could land you official recognition from the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament.

To earn your Junior Expert Angler Award, here's what you'll need to do:

- Be 15 or younger on January 1st of the year you're fishing
- Catch and release qualifying saltwater species with rod and reel
- Fish must be caught in Virginia Marine waters, the Chesapeake Bay, or the Atlantic Ocean (and boats must launch and return to Virginia)
- Get a witness to each catch and complete the Junior Citation Form
- Submit your form by December 31st of the same year
- There's no entry fee - just fun and recognition

Fish Species Youth Citation Length

Atlantic Puffer 8 inches, Oyster Toad, Spot, Pinfish, Hogfish 10 inches, Bluefish, Croaker, Kingfish 12 inches
Sea Robin 14 inches, Speckled & Grey Trout 16 inches, Red Drum, Houndfish 18 inches, Flounder 22 inches

Go to the VMRC Website and download your Junior Citation Form and mail or email it to;

Mail to: Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, Building 96, 380 Fenwick Road, Ft. Monroe, VA 23651

Email scanned form to: Virginia Saltwater Tournament Director at Matt.Hargis@mrc.virginia.gov



Norfolk
Anglers
Club