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From The Publisher: Speakin' Englis

## Spanish Mackerel World Championship A Family Event



Every year, on the weekend prior to Labor Day Weekend, anglers from all over join together in Murrells Inlet for one of the best events of the year. Formerly the Spanish Mackerel Derby and originally founded by Capt Robert(Rube) Thompson. This event has been lovingly supported by locals and out of town anglers for being a fun event that actually has an incredible pay day. After Covid, the tourney was reinvented as The Spanish Mackerel World Championship and with that we have

tried to carry on many of the great aspects that Rube put in place almost 15 years ago when this tourney was first launched. The shorter fishing day is one thing that makes this event one of the family friendly fishing events in the Southeast. With lines in at 8am and weigh in closing at 4pm, it is an event for all the family to hop on the boat and go try to win the coveted title. The



tourney also has another great aspect that appeals to all sizes boats and that is the boundary of 20NM from the entrance to Murrells Inlet jetties. This really has given us winners from as far away as the tip of the jetty, Myrtle Beach Rock, Three Mile Reef, and some undisclosed locations. But it allows for all size boats to have an opportunity at getting out to chase these little rocket ships. The techniques range from trolling spoons, live bait, kite fishing, and more. While catching a Spanish seems to be elementary the art of catching big ones is one that takes a little research and work and almost every team has their own formula for success.

There is one thing that remains constant and it is that the event from the Raffle Party, Captains Meeting, Weigh-In's and awards are a party within themselves. To allow a better choice of calm seas, Crazy Sister Marina has agreed to offer a captains choice format on Saturday Aug. 24th and Sunday Aug. 25th. The fact that so many incredible businesses also jump in and support the event and the raffle is why it has continued to be so successful and we hope to see this, end of Summer tradition, continue. We will go over all the rules at the captain's meeting, but they are almost identical to the first event all those years ago. We allow boats to come use the restroom, get more bait, go have lunch, or drop off or pick up young anglers that may not make it over the duration of the fishing day. We like to also think that our trophy designer is the best in the business. Every year our friends out at Father and Son's Services Welding and Metal Art create a one of a kind piece for our winners and top 3 finishing teams. We are so thankful that Scott, Mark, and the Todd family help create the most coveted trophy of the year. We also reward lady anglers and youth anglers in their own categories as well and this is all in part to some great businesses that jump in to support these categories with their own prizes above and beyond the general tourney.

The price of the general entry has continued to be \$50 a boat and this is completely due to the reverse raffle that we run prior and during the event. We reward one lucky raffle winner with \$5000 and we fund the first place prize completely off of that raffle. You can find the tickets at the following locations from now until they sell out. Crazy Sister Marina, Inlet Rocks Bait and Tackle, Perry's Bait & Tackle, and Murrells Inlet Fishing Charters. You can also reach out to us through our Facebook page to find more info and to get most of your questions answered. We hope that this year, we are blessed with incredible weather and we look forward to seeing all of our friends that have supported this event since its inception. As serious as some of us take this event and winning the title of World Champion, we all enjoy the comradary and friendships that the event helps to nurture. Grab your friends and family and get your tackle ready to roll and join us on the 23rd to register. Tight Lines, Capt E



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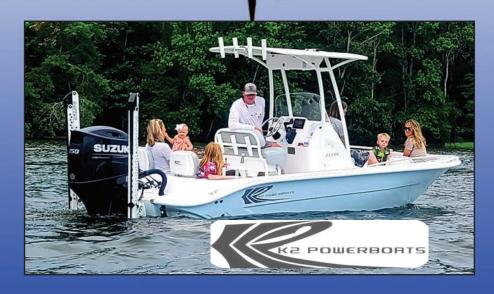




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## My Reel Joy in Fishing

By Capt. Fred Rourk

Sweet Tea Charters

I was asked by one of my anglers yesterday if guiding for many years has ruined my hobby. My joy for fishing and creation, is it still something I love? The answer was completely answered in the shared fishing experience on the trip.

Did the normal things like any other trip, stop at gas station, ice, put the plug in, put gear on boat. The past week had been soggy, Debby soaked mess and concerns for flooding. Fishing out of Georgetown, flood water can be a issue with 5 rivers inundating the saltwater estuary system with fresh water and pushing fish to saltier areas. It does affect the captain's confidence, what is going on with bait and fish. Ran a charter day before and really didn't know what to expect. Caught bait pretty quick and fished 3 places without a bite, small places in creeks. Made a big swing and decided to try larger systems. It paid off. Bumped into larger redfish, working bait. All were over 28 inches and largest over 36. Large, hard pulling.

Had scheduled to take Adrianna Lawrence, local TV reporter and guest on Trilogy Outdoors Radio show to broaden her perspective on fishing the Grand Strand. Adrianna's saltwater fishing experience has been mostly Murrells Inlet and targeting flounder. The North Inlet area is in stark contrast to Murrells Inlet. Adrianna had invited her friend Ashley and they commented on how few boats we saw and how quiet it





was. The day was almost a repeat of the day before, tried 2 places without a bite. Haven't seen tarpon since the storm, thought I spied some and ran over to check. We never saw one but were in the area I had success with the big reds the day before.

Tide was incoming, but lower than I originally planned to try the spot. Put three rods out, placed them in rod holders, that kind of confused the lady anglers. I could hear their brains clicking, "we aren't holding the rods, how will we know when we get a bite?" These big reds let them know really quick when rod bent in half. Believe me, these ladies were expecting to pick up the rod, turn the handle a few cranks and the fish would come to boat. Take a few photos and release the fish. Not how it worked at all. There was a large amount of laughing, excitement, confusion, coaching and patience. These fish pick up pretty easy and pull like they are much smaller, add a little pressure and the big pull is on. If the ladies never knew a thing about reel drag, they do now. Before the first fish was landed they were not sure what was pulling so hard on the other end. Some of the fish took them on a 360 degree tour of the boat, under other rods. around anchor line, this side and that, and back to starting point. Some burning arms and finally getting close to the boat and it would start all over. "Okay ladies reel down, pull up slow. only reel when going down, now pull up easy," were my words of encouragement. Those handles were turning full time and pulled up hard. After a couple of fish their hearing returned and they actually started using this



technique and saving their strength. It tickled me. The harder they worked at showing this fish who's boss, the longer the fight lasted. Lost a couple to cut offs but did manage a double hook up and landed both. We were on a good bite. But with rain coming across the bay we caught one last big fish and decided to run back to beat the weather. Perfect ending to a perfect trip!

Began with the question, do I enjoy my career? Oh yea! I think the folks on the boat can give you that answer now. It is such a pleasure, to see a kid get hooked on fishing, holding a fish grinning like a mule eating briars. The ladies faces, their fascination with creation, and the blessings that surround us. It's more than just fishing going on, it's life. We live for these times and sharing the experiences with friends. Things you won't find on a inch phone screen or an iPad for certain. Take a beginner fishing!



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## Get Ready for Fantastic Fall Fishing

By Capt. Cefus McRae, Nuts & Bolts of Fishing Series



It's been a hot summer and we're all ready for break from the heat. Fall is right around the corner, bringing cooler water temps, friskier fish and more comfortable conditions for us anglers as well.

September and October bring environmental changes to the underwater world. The thermocline will begin to dissipate while the lakes go through the fall turnover. Then we will start to see fish in virtually all water depths as the stratified layers blend together. And now is the time you can really take advantage of just about everything in your tackle box, from bottom crawling football jigs to topwater plugs.

For most lakes in the southeast, that magic

begins to happen when the surface temperature drops to the mid-70's. Some of our lakes saw surface temps well above 90 this summer, but you'll be surprised how quickly it can drop. A few cool nights, some rain, and a few cloudy days can have a significant impact.

The fall turnover is heralded by a couple distinct sensory signs. The water will take on a bit of a cloudy color and most of the time you can smell it too. That's the decaying debris on the bottom mixing up with the upper water column. And it can slow the bite for a few days. But when this is over, get ready. To some degree it's a mirror of the pre-spawn bite in the early spring. Fish can be anywhere, from the

backs of skinny creeks to 90 feet. As usual, the key is finding bait. Turn up the gain on your Simrad just a little so you can see structure that is holding bait. And here's a tip...the increased gain will now let you see broken up schools of bait. Tight balls of bait can simply be traveling from point A to point B. But broken up schools usually indicate something has been marauding them recently and there's probably game fish around.

So swap out those rusty hooks for some super-sharp Daiichi Bleeding Bait hooks, tie on new leader, and grease up your reels. The fall is on the way and it's one of the best times of year to hear a screaming drag.







Owning and operating a boat is fun. It's a great way to get out and enjoy the outdoors, spend time with family, and discover new fishy destinations. It also carries some responsibilities, that are not to be taken lightly. Safety being at the top of the list.

No matter who owns the boat, the person behind the wheel is 100% responsible for the safe operation of the vessel, and 100% responsible for any damage done by the boat OR the boat's wake. So let that sink in a little bit.

On a beautiful day, when the water is like Teflon and there's hardly any boat traffic, you can crank her up and just enjoy a pleasant ride. But on busy summer weekends, even the typically calm waters of our regional reservoirs can get churned up like the Gulf of Mexico due to the wakes from 100's of boats. And with no traffic signals or marked highways on the water, it's crucial that everyone knows and practices navigation Rules of the Road. Never heard of that? You should. These rules set the procedures to follow when you two boats are approaching from opposite directions... when entering or leaving a channel...who has the right of way...and so much more. They are in place to keep our busy lakes, rivers and waterways from becoming even more chaotic.

As the operator of a boat, you are also responsi-

ble for carrying certain Coast Guard Required Safety Gear on board. I know, you've heard me say this a thousand times. But it's worth mentioning again. As a matter of fact, I recently had an encounter with a Florida Wildlife Officer who stopped me at a boat ramp for a random vessel inspection.

This officer was extremely professional and polite. We started with checking there were enough PFD's on board for the number of people we had, and they were properly sized to fit each person... adult or child. Then on the Type IV throwable device. Then fire extinguisher.. (I have two). Then he asked for my registration...check. All good so far. Then, he asked to see my visual distress signals (flares). No problem. And as I was getting them out, I realized I had not checked the expiration date on them for some time. Oh my God! I'm really hoping these had not expired. He looked at them and then showed me the expiration date was two months ago. Suddenly, I was not in compliance. I owned up to the fact that I had not checked them recently, and it was totally my fault. Fortunately, this kind officer didn't write a citation, but did say he expected me to correct the problem immediately. And I did.

Visual distress signals are something that's easily

overlooked by recreational boaters and anglers... just like me. And that's especially true for folks who only boat on freshwater lakes. If you are boating on a federally-controlled body of water, regardless whether it is fresh or salt, you are required to have Coast Guard approved visual distress signals on board, and they must be within the serviceable dates stamped on the flare itself. Flares are not just for offshore saltwater folks. That means if you are boating on lakes like Lanier, Allatoona, Hartwell, Clark Hill, Okeechobee, Kerr and others, you must visual distress signals on the boat. Quite frankly, if you ask me, you should have them on board regardless of where you are boating.

So stop what you're doing, walk out to your boat and check that you have the correct, required safety gear on board, and check the expiration dates on your flares. While you're at it, make sure your bilge pump is functional, your battery connections are good (and not corroded), and your navigation lights work properly. Not only will this quick check save you some potential issues with the authorities, but you'll also have peace of mind knowing you have the right gear on board if you should ever need it.

Tight lines and calm seas, Capt. Cefus and Buck, the Wonder Dog.

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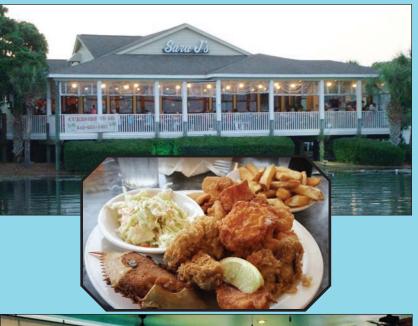




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## It's Too Hot to Cook!

#### Creamy Cucumber Salad

2 large cucumbers, sliced

1/4 cup red onion, sliced

1/4 cup greek yogurt (or sour cream or mayo or combination)

1 lemon, juice and zest (or 1/4 cup white vinegar)

2 tablespoons dill, chopped salt and pepper to taste 1 clove garlic, grated (optional) Mix everything!

#### Crunchy Poppyseed Chicken Salad

1- 12 ounce bag broccoli slaw

1 large bell pepper, diced

2 cups shredded carrots

1-8 ounce can pineapple chunks, drained

2 cups cooked chicken breast, diced

1 cup creamy poppyseed dressing

1/3 cup sunflower seed kernels

black pepper, to taste

Combine all ingredients except dressing and sunflower seeds in a large bowl.

Add dressing, toss to coat.

Sprinkle with sunflower seeds. Refrigerate until serving.

#### Shrimp Avocado Corn Salad

8 oz raw shrimp, peeled and deveined

1 large diced avocado

1 Jalapeño pepper, seeded and sliced

1 cup cherry or grape tomatoes, halved

1 cup fresh corn kernels

1/2 red onion, minced

Freshly chopped cilantro or you can substitute parsley

2 tablespoons butter, melted + 1 tablespoon

butter at room temperature

1 tablespoon lemon juice

1 tablespoon olive oil

Salt and fresh cracked pepper

Melt 1 tablespoon butter in a skillet over medium-high heat. Toast corn, stirring regularly for a couple of minutes until slightly

charred and set aside.

Toss the shrimp with 2 tablespoons melted butter in a bowl until well-coated. Add shrimp to the same skillet in a single layer, cooking for a minute or until it starts to become pink around the edges, then flip and cook until shrimp are cooked through, less than a minute. Don't overcook the shrimp. Place the shrimp on a plate and allow to cool while you prepare the other ingredients for

the salad.

Add all ingredients for the salad in a large mixing bowl. Combine the olive oil, lime juice, salt and pepper and drizzle over the salad and toss everything together. Season with more salt and pepper, as needed. Serve immediately!











James "Jay" Garner

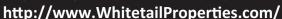
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#### **PRESENTS**



#### 10 Quick Tips To A Safe Day Of Boating

- Take a boating safety course. Gain valuable knowledge and on-water experience in a boating safety course with many options for novice to experienced boaters.
- Check equipment. Schedule a free vessel safety check with local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadrons to make sure all essential equipment is present, working and in good condition.
- Make a float plan. Always let someone on shore know the trip itinerary, including operator and passenger information, boat type and registration, and communication equipment on board before you leave the dock.
- Wear a life jacket. Make sure everyone wears a life jacket every time. A stowed life jacket is no use in an emergency.
- Use an engine cut-off switch it's the law. An engine cut-off switch is a proven safety device to stop a powerboat engine should the operator unexpectedly fall overboard.
- Watch the weather. Always check the forecast before departing on the water and frequently during the excursion.
- Know what's going on around you at all times. Nearly a quarter of all reported boating accidents in 2021 were caused by operator inattention or improper lookout.
- Know where you're going and travel at safe speeds. Be familiar with the area, local boating speed zones, and always travel at a safe speed.
- **Never boat under the influence.** A BUI is involved in one-third of all recreational boating fatalities. Always designate a sober skipper.
- **Keep in touch.** Have more than one communication device that works when wet. VHF radios, emergency locator beacons, satellite phones, and cell phones can all be important devices in an emergency.

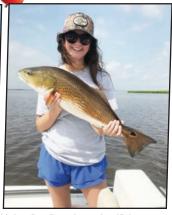


## Michelob ULTRA FISH PHOTO OF THE MONTH

"Mich Ultra is proud sponsor of the photo of the month page. Let your day on the water end with great pictures and stories shared while enjoying the Superior In Light Beers. Southern Crown Partners and Mich Ultra want you to have a safe day on the water and we ask that you designate a sober skipper on each trip so that everyone returns from a wonderful day on the water."

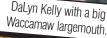






Adrianna Lawrence of WBTW with her first flounder and redfish. She's starting out strong!







Carson Crowe with a nice velvet buck on youth day.



Team Keepin' It Reel with a 39.7 kingfish took home the James Island Yacht Club tourney!



Ethan Stephenson took advantage of his youth day hunt with this nice buck!





#### **New To The Trilogy Outdoors Media**



A Weekly Podcast That Digs Into The Life Of Charter Captains And Guides Across The Southeast.

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## Announcement From Our Friends At SCDNR





The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) has made some changes to its deer hunting regulations, including:

#### • Antlered buck limit

In Game Zones 1 and 2, the base limit for antlered bucks is now three, with the option to purchase two additional antler restriction buck tags.

#### • Antlerless deer

The approach to antlerless deer is more conservative in Game Zones 1 and 2, but the same as last year in Game Zones 3 and 4.

#### • Doe tags

The number of doe tags available to each hunter is determined annually based on management needs. The current recommendation is four doe tags per hunter in Game Zones 2–6, and three in Game Zone 1.

#### • Open season

In Game Zone 1, the open season for hunting antlered deer with archery equipment and firearms is October 11 through January 15.

The SCDNR also requires hunters to electronically report their harvests through the state's Department of Natural Resources app. Hunters must still physically attach a double-coated paper tag to the animal.

The SCDNR publishes new legislation on its website and in local newspapers. The 2024–2025 Regulations Book will be available online in mid-July and in print in early August.



2024 FALL FISH 'N FEST

## **Get Ready for** a Weekend of Fishing & Fun!

By Capt. Cefus McRae, Nuts & Bolts of Fishing Series



We had an awesome event last month at Port St. Joe, and it was great to re-connect with everyone that attended. We crowned two new Kahunas on Saturday night. John Wooten for a monster redfish to claim the Inshore Kahuna honors, and Capt. Ward Lang became the new Offshore Kahuna bringing a monda red snapper to the scales and some tasty filets to the table.

Currently, we are in the planning stages for the Fall Fish 'N Fest, and Crystal River, FL is a prime fall location. Our headquarters will be The Plantation at Crystal River... and it is fantastic! Snook season will be OPEN. If you've never been to Crystal River, it's everything you would want in a shallow water fishery. Gin-clear water, lots of redfish, speckled trout, and snook! There's lots of other cool things to see and do as well, including the opportunity to swim with the manatees. The Plantation is a place where you can park your car, and not get back in it until it's time to check out. Great restaurant, cool bars, big pool, and of course the views are outstanding.

We are looking at the weekend of October 10-13th. That's Columbus Day weekend and a holiday for a lot of schools, so we should be able to have a good showing of younger anglers.

I need to get a straw poll on how that week-

end works for everyone, so I can start booking guides, and get a block of hotel rooms for us.

So send me an email to this address for more info and to give your input Cefus@NutsAndBoltsFishing.com A simple Yes, or a No if you think you would like to join us for a fantastic weekend of Fishing, Food and Fun!

And if you have buddies that you think would be interested in joining us, please share this info with them as well.

We'll have details coming out soon, so stay tuned!



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## Tips and Guidelines On Safe Firearm Handling

Firearms safety begins with understanding and carefully following the rules of safe gun handling.

Before handling any firearm, familiarize yourself with these safety procedures:

- Know how the firearm operates — including safely opening and closing the action of the firearm, and removing ammunition from the gun or its magazine. For free safety and operating instructions, write to the manufacturer or visit its website.
- Always keep a gun pointed in a safe direction, even when handling an unloaded gun — so



that if it were to fire it would not result in injury.

• Never assume that a firearm is **unloaded**. Immediately open the

action and look into the chamber(s) for ammunition, or if the gun has a magazine, carefully remove it before opening the

action.

 Always keep your finger off the trigger, even when handling an unloaded gun. Your finger should rest outside the trigger guard or along the side of the gun. The only time you should touch the trigger is when you are ready to safely fire.

Remember, nearly all firearms accidents in the home can be prevented simply by making sure that guns are kept unloaded and locked up, with ammunition secured in a separate location. These and more safety tips can be found at www.projectchildsafe.org





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\*Boundary (Within 20NM of MI Jetty Entrance)

\*No ocean travel outside of the boundary during fishing hours



Thursday Aug. 22nd Uncle Tito's 6:30PM Raffle Party

Friday Aug. 23rd

**Uncle Tito's 5:30PM Capt Meeting/Registration** 

**CRAZY SISTER MARINA** 

Captains Choice Fishing Days Saturday August 24th and Sunday August 25th

**AWARDS SUNDAY AUGUST 25th at 6 PM** 

This Is A Family Friendly Event

However, all entries are subject to approval by tournament committee!

Tournament Committee Englis Glover, Sean Bond, Robert Strickland, Winston Glover, Kimi Glover, Sondra Glover
Official Weighmaster Capt. Fred Rourk and family







## The Swiss Army Knife of DNR

The number one question I get is, what does a DNR officer do By Officer Tommy Buchannon



I do not think there are enough words to describe what it is exactly, SCDNR officers do. Our officers are in all 46 South Carolina counties, available 24 hours a day all year-round. Whether it is a major summer holiday weekend or the start of a game season, game wardens have some of the most unpredictable schedules and hours than that of any other law enforcement officer, which brings me back to what is we do.

This past July 4th around 10pm after the Cherry Grove fireworks, myself along with two other game wardens

nessed a boat strike the south jetty rocks. Almost immediately each of us took a position on the boat, without even having to be told, one officer keeping her focus solely on the boat and waters around surrounding the rocks. Myself and my supervisor were navigating, talking on radios, coming up with a plan. You must remember; we had no idea what we were going to find. Two hours later, after numerous emergency response agencies came together, all the occupants on the boat were rescued with minimal injuries. Thank you to Horry County Fire/Rescue, North Myrtle Beach Rescue Squad, North Myrtle Beach Police, USCG and Towboat US.

Game Wardens are like Swiss Army Knives, there's a little bit of everything on that knife to get the job done. Between our regular duties, patrolling our rivers, lakes, waterways, oceans, fields, forests, and various terrains, we often find ourselves assisting other law enforcement agencies, fire/rescue

were making our way back into Little

River Inlet from offshore, when we wit-

agencies, conducting public presentations, assisting with large scale events, and attending training. The SCDNR officer can get called out at all times of the day and night to solve problems and helps anyone needing assistance.

Ice/Snowstorm? We are out on the Interstates patrolling for stranded motorists and accidents. Hurricane? Our officers are on our Interstates assisting with lane reversals, and on our waterways advising mariners of the impending storm. Also don't forget we are ready to deploy during and after the storm. Floods? Our officers are patrolling neighborhoods that are inaccessible by foot and car, patrolling for looters and if needed, arresting those that take advantage of flooded homes. Assisting other agencies? Our officers are there providing whatever assistance we can to help the agency calling for assistance, whether that is our K9 team being deployed, our airplane assisting with a search, or in offshore waters, lakes and rivers looking for missing boaters. We are there. Our officers also have traveled the country assisting other DNR law enforcement agencies when their state experiences natural disasters.

Game Wardens are state law enforcement officers. We have statewide jurisdiction, with federal credentials to enforce federal migratory bird laws, and fishery laws. Full disclosure, we can arrest people too. We patrol areas to enforce game and fish laws. Meaning we are not the traditional law enforcement officer answering calls that you may think of when thinking about your local police or sheriff's deputy. What we do is, wade thru the cold swamp at 5:00am checking for duck hunters, investigate boating and hunting incidents, walk thru a dove field checking licenses and bag limits, patrolling fields for late night poachers, patrolling marshes, and waterways for late night flounder giggers or set hook

This is a brief writing of what a game warden does, there are so many things we do that we would not have enough space for this article. Our goal is to help anyone and any agency in need. We do it because we love the resource, and we strive to protect the resource for all South Carolinians and those that visit our great state.

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## **Student Angler League Tournament Trail**

## **Virtual Tournaments**

(Adults must be on the boat for liability)

https://www.salttfishing.com/

Virtual Tourneys August 24 and Sept 16 with kickoff of the trail Sept 30



We wish to use this check in format during the season when we offer alternative sites due to a Windy Winyah Bay. IF not, on trail dates, then like before, we will expect all teams check at the home boat landing at Carroll A. Campbell first. Then, if we offer alternative sites, those trailering cannot leave until 30 minutes before first light. It is important to practice this method if we plan to use it.

t Angler League Tol

Everyone must be registered for the 24-25 season to participate. -The day before the event (if not sooner) everyone pre-registered a time based on "safe light" to begin submitting videos

-The day before the event (if not sooner) everyone pre-registered will be given the password to put on the index card

SALTT is all about the KIDS.....to celebrate our 11th season, the registration is only \$10 per angler until September, then it is \$40

Each trail tourney has over \$1,000 in our free Big Prize Raffle provided by our partners

Each trail tourney has over \$2,500 in gift cards for our winners Each trail tourney has over \$1,000 in fishing products for our kids that are





Registration is always open so you pay one time and it lasts the entire school year with the 4 trails plus 2 virtual tourneys.

We are featured in Best Catch 2020 as one of the "Best" 60 fishing events in not only the United States, but in North and South America http://bestcatch2020.com/

Director is Captain Rayburn Poston so you can contact him best by email at <u>rayburnposton@gmail.com</u>

Your school does NOT have to have a team or club for you to participate. You will need a boat and an adult 21 or older to drive.



## When Fish Won't Bite

By Capt. Cefus McRae, Nuts & Bolts of Fishing Series

Raise your hand if you've ever spent the entire day on the water without getting a bite. Be honest. Now look around the room at other people who are reading this Angler Magazine and see who else has their hand in the air. Probably all of them.

It's nothing to be ashamed of. Deer hunters spend countless hours in the woods, waiting patiently for a big buck to come along, and often never get to pull the trigger. It's certainly happened to me. But we still come back for more, and that's a good thing.

So what can you do on those days when the fish simply don't want to bite? The obvious answer is, 'Pack it up and go home'. Before you throw in the towel, there are actually some tricks you can try that can fire up the bite, and here are a few that have helped me put a fish or two in the boat.

Now let me start of by saying some days are just going to be fish-less... no matter what you do. But remember, if you're down to these maneuvers, you really don't have anything to lose...do you? You can still go home feeling good about the fact that you weren't stuck in the office all



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To me, there are three key components to re-igniting the bite... Location, Presentation and Bait Choice.

The first one... Location, is pretty obvious, but you'd be surprised how many people will sit on a spot and continue to flail the water because they 'know' there should be fish there. Well maybe there is, but after 152 casts beside the same stump, that fish is probably not going to bite on cast 153. So move. But before you crank the engine, get a game plan. Look at your chartplotter and pick a spot that you feel has a high percentage of being fishy. Creek mouths, structure, river bends, etc. Set your waypoint based on some intelligent thought and then hit the throttle.

The second factor to triggering bites is Presentation. Remember, what worked yesterday, may not work today. Consider water clarity when choosing the color of your lures. Clearer water typically calls for lighter colored lures, and dingy, darker water calls for dark colored lures. Again, this isn't always the case, but it's a good rule of thumb. Also remember, as you go deeper, light penetration diminishes. It could be a

bluebird day, but 50 feet down, it might be quite dark where the fish are at. Speed and action go hand-in-hand. Extremes in temperature can make fish sluggish. Super hot or super cold water will slow down fish activity, and you have to do the same with your presentation. When conditions are perfect, you can really 'work' a lure and fish will travel great distances to attack a plug or bait.

Finally, in my top three, it's Bait Choice. Whether you are fishing in a farm pond or 50 miles offshore you need to determine what the gamefish are eating. Crustaceans? Minnows? Bugs? And then mimic those food sources with your lures. Trout anglers will look under rocks in a stream to see what's hanging around and then match the hatch. If you know threadfins are thick in the area, tie on something small and shiny. Just because the lure is small, doesn't mean you can't catch big fish. Remember, elephants eat peanuts. And, if you have the option to fill your baitwell with frisky, local, live baits...do it.

Some days fishing is easy. You can load the boat in no time. But on those days when fish won't bite, change up your tactics and it may just change your luck.

Tight lines and calm seas.

Capt. Cefus McRae - Nuts & Bolts of Fishing

#### "STAY AFTER EM"

## Fishing Report

with John W Hurst



Hello Everyone, Fishing reports have varied this season. The inshore continues to be on fire. Flounder and Redfish have been the top fish. The Georgetown report was great on Big Reds. It seems the sharks have been a problem eating the fish off the lines. I can only hope this is a short term problem. We actually had a Blackfin

partially eaten earlier. The offshore fishing has been on fire for billfish. We missed the dolphin migration this season. They must have passed us on the eastern side of the gulf stream. We had a lot of west wind this early season. They either passed then on the west side or completely bypassed us on east side. It is a complete mystery. One thing is for sure ....they are still being caught in North Carolina in numbers. Hopefully we get them back next season.

The billfishing world has changed to more sophisticated electronics. Furuno and Simrad have dominated that market. The old way of reading water has gone by the wayside. If you do not have one you are in the minority. Oh well time changes and so do we. I resisted change more than anyone you know and I was the one who lost in the end. The inshore and freshwater has the same electronics. Active target lets you watch your bait fall to the fish and the watch it bite. There is no end to technology.

There will be no end to all the new gadgets that man gets to improve on fish and game. The problem I see is that fish and game still react to the surroundings the same since the beginning days of Genisis. Back in my day it was the 9010 rule. 90% of the game were caught by 10 percent of the people. That does not hold true today. If you are of average intelligence and you can access info on a smart phone and absorb it, you automatically have a 5050 playing field. The problem that I see is the extra help from the information age compounds the pressure on the resource. More and more rules will be needed to protect the resource. I really don't know where it stops. I can only imagine!

I am going to end this article with a slight description of my life. At an early age I had a love for hunting and fishing. I fished with my parents at an early age. My Granddaddy was a farmer / professional hunter. Bobwhite quail was his specialty. All my off time from school I would hunt squirrels on the family farm. One day I jumped a pair of wood ducks out of the branch. I would never be the same to this day. Time went on and I ended up in

college. Still wondering what I would do. I got hired by Fludd's Sporting Goods. This would be the start of my life. Shooting wood ducks changed to calling mallards in point blank. I was also introduced to the offshore fishing world through the store. I those days we had plenty of mallards around. I was introduced to marlin fishing also. And in this period, I married the absolute greatest woman. Beautiful, smart, and completely good with my hunting and fishing. The stage was setting up for the rest of my life. In the mid 80's I became a sporting goods rep on straight commission. From there it was on. My territory was coastal. In 89 we had our first child. I was feeling the need for more income. I added the tshirt and ad specialty business to my crafts. I built a territory that lasts until this day. I got back interested in offshore and marlin fishing again. In 1995 I got my first tournament gig in the Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament. We finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and I got my first taste of tournament winning money. The same year I showed up in the Arkansas green timber. The stage was set. I have killed 9 blue ones and hung them in tournaments. I need one more for 10. Some where in this time I made to North Dakota. Eventually Canada. I have fished and hunted as hard as it could be done. Still do. Fishing and hunting have been great to me. This is who I am in a small nutshell. Last but not least I was in the 9010 era most of my life. When I hear those were the good old days ..... It really hits home.

God Bless and Stay After Em



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With deer season upon us, I want to wish everyone the best of luck for the upcoming season!



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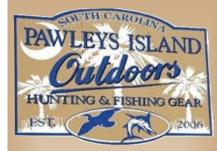
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#### TRILOGY OUTDOORS

#### Murrells Inlet, Oaks Creek, SC July 2024

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Phase	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu 01		1:31 AM EDT 0.38 ft	6:37 AM EDT 3.83 ft	1:11 PM EDT 0.09 ft	7:06 PM EDT 4.92 ft		6:28 AM EDT	8:15 PM EDT	3:21 AM EDT	6:41 PM EDT
Fri 02		2:22 AM EDT 0.34 ft	7:32 AM EDT 3.91 ft	2:03 PM EDT 0.07 ft	7:57 PM EDT 4.93 ft		6:29 AM EDT	8:14 PM EDT	4:21 AM EDT	7:30 PM EDT
Sat 03		3:07 AM EDT 0.30 ft	8:22 AM EDT 4.00 ft	2:51 PM EDT 0.07 ft	8:41 PM EDT 4.93 ft		6:30 AM EDT	8:13 PM EDT	5:24 AM EDT	8:10 PM EDT
Sun 04		3:49 AM EDT 0.27 ft	9:07 AM EDT 4.07 ft	3:35 PM EDT 0.10 ft	9:22 PM EDT 4.88 ft	New Moon	6:31 AM EDT	8:12 PM EDT	6:26 AM EDT	8:43 PM EDT
Mon 05		4:27 AM EDT 0.25 ft	9:50 AM EDT 4.10 ft	4:18 PM EDT 0.17 ft	9:59 PM EDT 4.79 ft		6:31 AM EDT	8:11 PM EDT	7:27 AM EDT	9:12 PM EDT
Tue 06		5:03 AM EDT 0.25 ft	10:31 AM EDT 4.10 ft	4:59 PM EDT 0.26 ft	10:35 PM EDT 4.63 ft		6:32 AM EDT	8:11 PM EDT	8:25 AM EDT	9:38 PM EDT
Wed 07		5:37 AM EDT 0.28 ft	11:11 AM EDT 4.08 ft	5:40 PM EDT 0.37 ft	11:12 PM EDT 4.43 ft		6:33 AM EDT	8:10 PM EDT	9:21 AM EDT	10:01 PM EDT
Thu 08		6:10 AM EDT 0.33 ft	11:53 AM EDT 4.06 ft	6:21 PM EDT 0.50 ft	11:50 PM EDT 4.19 ft		6:33 AM EDT	8:09 PM EDT	10:16 AM EDT	10:25 PM EDT
Fri 09		6:43 AM EDT 0.40 ft	12:36 PM EDT 4.05 ft	7:03 PM EDT 0.64 ft			6:34 AM EDT	8:08 PM EDT	11:11 AM EDT	10:48 PM EDT
Sat 10	12:31 AM EDT 3.95 ft	7:17 AM EDT 0.49 ft	1:21 PM EDT 4.07 ft	7:47 PM EDT 0.77 ft			6:35 AM EDT	8:07 PM EDT	12:07 PM EDT	11:13 PM EDT
Sun 11	1:15 AM EDT 3.73 ft	7:53 AM EDT 0.57 ft	2:06 PM EDT 4.11 ft	8:36 PM EDT 0.88 ft			6:35 AM EDT	8:05 PM EDT	1:04 PM EDT	11:42 PM EDT
Mon 12	2:02 AM EDT 3.57 ft	8:36 AM EDT 0.64 ft	2:54 PM EDT 4.18 ft	9:32 PM EDT 0.96 ft		First Quarter	6:36 AM EDT	8:04 PM EDT	2:04 PM EDT	
Tue 13	2:52 AM EDT 3.48 ft	9:26 AM EDT 0.67 ft	3:44 PM EDT 4.28 ft	10:34 PM EDT 0.96 ft			6:37 AM EDT	8:03 PM EDT	3:06 PM EDT	12:15 AM EDT
Wed 14	3:44 AM EDT 3.46 ft	10:27 AM EDT 0.64 ft	4:36 PM EDT 4.43 ft	11:37 PM EDT 0.87 ft			6:38 AM EDT	8:02 PM EDT	4:09 PM EDT	12:56 AM EDT
Thu 15	4:40 AM EDT 3.53 ft	11:30 AM EDT 0.53 ft	5:31 PM EDT 4.65 ft				6:38 AM EDT	8:01 PM EDT	5:10 PM EDT	1:45 AM EDT
Fri 16		12:34 AM EDT 0.70 ft	5:38 AM EDT 3.70 ft	12:30 PM EDT 0.35 ft	6:26 PM EDT 4.92 ft		6:39 AM EDT	8:00 PM EDT	6:07 PM EDT	2:43 AM EDT
Sat 17		1:27 AM EDT 0.47 ft	6:36 AM EDT 3.95 ft	1:26 PM EDT 0.14 ft	7:19 PM EDT 5.22 ft		6:40 AM EDT	7:59 PM EDT	6:56 PM EDT	3:50 AM EDT
Sun 18		2:17 AM EDT 0.22 ft	7:31 AM EDT 4.26 ft	2:20 PM EDT -0.06 ft	8:09 PM EDT 5.48 ft		6:40 AM EDT	7:58 PM EDT	7:39 PM EDT	5:02 AM EDT
Mon 19		3:05 AM EDT -0.03 ft	8:24 AM EDT 4.59 ft	3:13 PM EDT -0.20 ft	8:58 PM EDT 5.63 ft	Full Moon	6:41 AM EDT	7:56 PM EDT	8:16 PM EDT	6:16 AM EDT
Tue 20		3:52 AM EDT -0.24 ft	9:15 AM EDT 4.89 ft	4:06 PM EDT -0.28 ft	9:45 PM EDT 5.64 ft		6:42 AM EDT	7:55 PM EDT	8:48 PM EDT	7:30 AM EDT
Wed 21		4:39 AM EDT -0.38 ft	10:06 AM EDT 5.11 ft	5:00 PM EDT -0.27 ft	10:34 PM EDT 5.49 ft		6:43 AM EDT	7:54 PM EDT	9:19 PM EDT	8:42 AM EDT
Thu 22		5:25 AM EDT -0.43 ft	10:58 AM EDT 5.24 ft	5:53 PM EDT -0.17 ft	11:26 PM EDT 5.21 ft		6:43 AM EDT	7:53 PM EDT	9:49 PM EDT	9:53 AM EDT
Fri 23		6:12 AM EDT -0.39 ft	11:54 AM EDT 5.27 ft	6:48 PM EDT -0.00 ft			6:44 AM EDT	7:52 PM EDT	10:21 PM EDT	11:03 AM EDT
Sat 24	12:22 AM EDT 4.86 ft	7:00 AM EDT -0.26 ft	12:52 PM EDT 5.23 ft	7:47 PM EDT 0.22 ft			6:45 AM EDT	7:50 PM EDT	10:56 PM EDT	12:15 PM EDT
Sun 25	1:21 AM EDT 4.51 ft	7:51 AM EDT -0.07 ft	1:53 PM EDT 5.14 ft	8:50 PM EDT 0.45 ft			6:45 AM EDT	7:49 PM EDT	11:36 PM EDT	1:25 PM EDT
Mon 26	2:22 AM EDT 4.23 ft	8:47 AM EDT 0.14 ft	2:54 PM EDT 5.02 ft	10:02 PM EDT 0.62 ft		Last Quarter	6:46 AM EDT	7:48 PM EDT		2:35 PM EDT
Tue 27	3:23 AM EDT 4.03 ft	9:51 AM EDT 0.32 ft	3:56 PM EDT 4.91 ft	11:16 PM EDT 0.69 ft			6:47 AM EDT	7:47 PM EDT	12:22 AM EDT	3:40 PM EDT
Wed 28	4:24 AM EDT 3.92 ft	10:58 AM EDT 0.41 ft	4:56 PM EDT 4.82 ft				6:47 AM EDT	7:46 PM EDT	1:15 AM EDT	4:38 PM EDT
Thu 29		12:22 AM EDT 0.68 ft	5:25 AM EDT 3.91 ft	0.42 ft	5:56 PM EDT 4.78 ft		6:48 AM EDT	7:44 PM EDT	2:14 AM EDT	5:28 PM EDT
Fri 30		ft	6:23 AM EDT 3.97 ft	0.38 ft	6:50 PM EDT 4.80 ft		6:49 AM EDT	7:43 PM EDT	3:16 AM EDT	6:10 PM EDT
Sat 31		2:02 AM EDT 0.56 ft	7:16 AM EDT 4.10 ft	1:48 PM EDT 0.34 ft	7:37 PM EDT 4.84 ft		6:49 AM EDT	7:42 PM EDT	4:18 AM EDT	6:45 PM EDT



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