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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 50 • ISSUE 6 • • • June 11, 2025



Congratulations to angler Neil Brosnahan, who reeled in the winning fish of the Battle For The Buckle tournament and set a new tournament record with this 300 lbs. thresher shark. Neil went out with team "Rooster," Capt. Jefferson Fort, mate Brett Glatfelter, Hayden Evans and Keith Romanowski. Neil made his catch using mackerel and a 50 out of the 'B Buoy.'



The "Action Jackson" had an action packed day bringing home this 530 lbs. thresher shark to Hook'Em and Cook'Em. Alongside this shark, the crew also caught sea bass, bluefish, bonita, spanish mackerel, and released a tautog. The large shark was caught in the Washington canyon and was biting fresh bluefish. Capt. Chris Keller was with Steve Lampert, Derek Burkert and his daughter Paisley, and Jodi Lutz.



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The "Bad Habit" went five-for-seven on yellowfin tuna. Fishing deep off Baltimore out of Sunset Marina, Capt. Jeff Rosenkilde and mate Alex Clark were joined by anglers Taylor Bakke, Dave Gladden, and Seth Conboy.



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Angler Jack Disney brought back the first bigeye of the season. Jack was fishing with Capt. Chris Huk of the "Restless Lady II" in the Baltimore Canyon. Alongside the honorary bigeye, the crew also brought back a monkfish and two small bluefins.



The "Marli" kicked off the season strong, returning with a solid haul of tilefish, blackbelly rosefish and one bluefin tuna. Capt. Mark Hoos along with mates Jake Pilkerton and Jax Moore showed that the summer season is beginning and offshore temperatures are starting to warm up bringing the coveted deep sea fish.



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Welcome back to another offshore report, things are finally starting to stir as this slow season begins to unwind. This week I sit watching the flag blow from a hard SW wind down here in Morehead City, NC as my team and 269 others prepare

to compete in the 67th Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament. By the end of the week at least one boat will be newly made millionaires and have their names etched into the wall at the landing. This Saturday was the 28th annual KWLA memorial tournament,

congratulations to "Carterican" on an amazing day of fishing with 3 blues, 3 whites, and a pair of sails bringing home first place and a check for \$111,563. Goodluck to everyone battling the weather and fishing this week, and everyone at home can stay tuned on both the Big Rock app and website as well as listening in live on the radio channel as captains call in to tell Mr. Randy that they're hooked up. At home this past weekend, a congrats is owed to team "Rooster" as their 300lb thresher shark took a bite of \$14,450 and top honors in the 3rd annual Battle for the Buckle tournament. Outside of the tournament, anglers were finally able to throw some fish on the docks with good catches of school sized

www.coastalfisherman.net bluefins coming from the Baltimore canyon. Ourselves, Boss Hogg, Wrecker, Talking Trash, Spring Mix, and Restless Lady to name a few were able to bring home the new charter vessel limit of two bluefins from 27"- 47" this past week as these fish gorged themselves on sand eels in the 59 degree water. Restless Lady II even managed to find a diamond in the rough with captain Chris finding a 170lb bigeye waiting for them, the first of the year in Ocean City. After tuna fishing, most boats shifted their focus to the mud and targeted golden and blueline tilefish as well as black-bellied rose fish to fill the box in the afternoon. The calm weather has also allowed several boats to make the run out to some of the warmer water that remains over 100 miles offshore but their journeys have been rewarded with catches of nice sized yellowfins. We can



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is published weekly from May through September and annually in January by Coastal Fisherman Magazine LLC at 12507 Sunset Ave Unit 32, Ocean City, MD 21842

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 continue to wait eagerly for this water to push into normal range as we watch the Oregon Inlet charter fleet to continue to bring home excellent catches of yellowfin tunas, mahis, wahoos and billfish releases. As you stock up and prepare for this summer don't forget about dad this weekend, as I heard all dads would love to receive a new fishing rod or some new additions to their tackle box. Tightlines to those fortunate to spend time on the water this week, and hopefully I can return next week to report of an Ocean City boat bringing home the gold from Morehead.

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Ethan McCready, of Bishopville, MD, shows off a solid 30" slot rockfish, caught on a ½ oz. root beer jig head near the Rt. 50 Bridge in Ocean City.



Kevin McNelis and his father finally got out to the Wrecks this year and found quite the catch! They scored 40 plus flounder – majority of them coming in at 16 to 17 inches. They kept four flounder, all between 18-19 ½ inches. They also caught sea bass and what might be the first triggerfish out of Ocean City this year.



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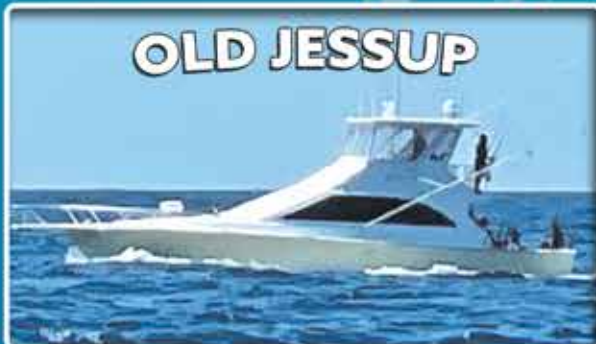
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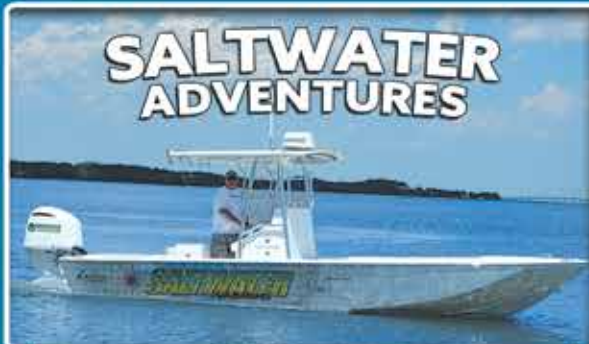
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OCEAN CITY

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



This past week in Ocean City brought more storms and high winds. A few days of passable conditions allowed anglers to get out early, only to bring a rough ride home in the afternoon. Sea bass on the deeper wrecks remain pretty stable, with limits being found if fished hard. Flounder have begun to show up on the nearshore wrecks, with many of those being caught below the legal limit. The surf has slowed considerably, with more sharks and rays than anything else being caught. The back bays are reporting much better catches of flounder, even with the larger minimum size of 17½". Clams and crabs continue to get better every day when the temperatures are over 80 degrees.

Back Bays and Inlets

The back bays and inlets remain the best location for flounder as the shallow water continues to get warmer. The back bays are averaging 65-70 degrees, with more fish arriving each day. The main channels are holding the larger fish, with the main thoroughfare and south side of the inlet being the best spots.

Fresh squid and minnows are the most productive baits, and Gulp baits are a close second. An incoming tide close to high tide appears to be the best tide for targeting fluke. Bluefish and rockfish are still being caught off the Rt. 50 Bridge during the higher tides as well as at night. These fish are being caught using cut bait as well as swim jigs and paddle tails. The "Miss Ocean City" had a great start to their season, landing a few keepers up to 18". They stated that although many fish were not legal, the action kept both crew and anglers busy during the trips. Their best angler this past week was Bianca Prosekova, who is an honor student at Worcester Preparatory School and a true local yokel, catching numerous fish with relative ease. Elmer U. Merino fished the south jetty and landed a nice keeper fluke. Jason Horst fished the inlet wall from land, and while tossing bucktails along the rocks, he caught a few undersized rockfish. Fish In OC reports the flounder bite has really begun to get better despite the poor weather. "Luck Break Charters" fished hard in the back bays,

landing several keeper flounder for its clients."

Nearshore Wrecks and Reefs

The nearshore wrecks are still producing good catches of sea bass, along with a few larger bluefish thrown in for good measure. The nearshore wrecks are also producing the first catches of spadefish and sheepshead. As the weather gets warmer, more of these fish can be found on the wrecks, allowing anglers a multitude of species to target. Sheepshead should be targeted using a sheepshead jig tipped with sand fleas or crab dropped down to the wreck. Spadefish are targeted using a small #1 or 2 hook tipped with shrimp or clam, dropped down about 10-15 ft below the surface and suspended with a small float. A light line of 10-15 lbs. works the best as these fish are very spooky and will shy away from heavier line. A chum slick can be used to further entice the spadefish up from the depths. If you are catching sea bass, you are fishing too deep. Wrecks on the Bass Grounds and the Fenwick Shoals are a great

www.coastalfisherman.net place to target spadefish as well as sheepshead and triggerfish. The "Ocean Princess" had a few good trips for sea bass. Many anglers returned to the docks with coolers full of the tasty fish. The "Princess" also had a tilefish trip in which they caught several blueline and golden tilefish. Captain Victor stated that despite the choppy water, anglers were able to catch some real nice quality fish, including their first monkfish of the year. The "Angler" headboat also had some nice trips despite the wind, catching boatloads of sea bass along with a few flounder. The "Angler" reported that the flounder they have been catching in deeper water have been well above the legal limit. Long squid strips have done the job as far as bait is concerned. The "Ocean City Girl" went out with the Graham brothers charter and brought home some decent fish. They even had their best day this year for sea bass when Tom Petr and sons were on board, boxing up the 75 fish boat limit in just a few hours. Captain Monty of the "Morning Star" had to fish in 20-25 knot winds many days this past week. Despite these conditions, they did make it out on a few full-day trips, catching several big bass along with a few bluefish and even a few early flounder. John Foreman said sharking has slowed down, but they still managed a few

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keeper sea bass and flounder on their 4-hour trips this past week. "Bad Wind Charters" went out with Bill and Cathy, and despite the rain, they did manage to land a good number of healthy sea bass. Later in the week, they hooked a few more big fluke as well as a big lobster off a nearby wreck. Matt Brown caught a 3-man limit while fishing the deeper wrecks off OC. He stated there were very few fish that even needed to be measured, demonstrating the quality of the fish he found. "Covered Up Sportfishing" had good action with tons of bites, allowing anglers to bring home tons of filets for tacos. "Ocean City Guide Service" found 3 keeper fluke as well as a nice trout despite the strong winds in the back bays. "Back Bay Adventures" caught a couple nice keeper fluke on their 2½-hour trips this past week. "Get Sum Charters" reported catching 4 nice keepers on his back bay trip despite the increase to 17½".

Surf Fishing

Surf fishing has slowed considerably in the past week. Catches of black drum are still to be found, but lacking the quantity and size as was present in past weeks. Lori Lynn-Hornberger had a great day on Assateague Island with family and friends, catching several slammer bluefish. The group used mullet rigs and cut bait. Debi Craig was out on the island and, using a mullet rig, caught a nice bluefish, which was safely released to be caught another day. Joshua Friedman caught a nice 17½" blue using a finger mullet. Mango used a fresh bunker to catch a nice 47" black drum. This is one of the few drums I heard of that was caught this past week. Tristan Archer fished with the boys late in the evening, and after landing a few rays, they hooked, landed, and safely released an 82" sand tiger shark.

Until next week,
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Craig Cropper went out on the water to try out a new motor on his boat and managed to catch this 32" red drum. Craig was fishing by the Rt. 50 Bridge with friend Shaun Flaherty.

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Emi and Oliver had a great day fishing out of the Lewes Harbour Marina – they even outfished their dad in the canal! Emi ended the day proudly, with this 22” flounder.



Chris Ragni and crew went out on the “Tips Up” and landed a bunch of yellowfin tuna. They caught 12, killed 11 and unfortunately, lost one at the dock.

2025

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Hammerhead*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"
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Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size	100 lbs.
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Beach Talk

by Skylar Snead and Chris Taylor



Once spring begins to end, a lot of the better surf fishing that most of us love ends with it. The run of migrating black drum and striped bass in the surf by the end of May is slowing down, and by June it's over. By then, you would have noticed all the little tiny fish stealing your bait that have started to invade, along with stingrays and the more toothy critters like sharks and bluefish. Targeting these fish can be even more challenging than the black drum and striper run. You either have to beef your gear up and go for the bigger sharks and stingrays, or you can move things

down quite a few sizes and target the smaller fish.

We've talked about the sharks, so I'm not going to get very in-depth with that. Heavy mono shock leaders as rub leaders and steel at the hook will catch sharks and rays. But know your limits and don't go targeting sharks with rods, reels, or line too light to land it in a timely manner. An extended fight on tackle too light can lead to a dead shark, even if it's not gut hooked. So please know the limits of your gear and have the proper tools for targeting sharks, and always have a plan for landing one before you go

out.

Now to downsizing... A lot of people enjoy this time of year because it's a little more fast-paced than the spring run, and you can use much lighter tackle. Some days, if it's calm enough, you'll find us out there with 4'6" ultralight, fast action, Ugly Sticks with 10 lbs. braid, casting 1 oz. sinkers with #10 hooks for kingfish and spot. (I know 1 oz. is heavy for that light of a rod, but this is where knowing the limits of your tackle comes into play and knowing how to cast it properly.) If you find the right hole at the right tide, it can be non-stop action until they move with the tides – and on light tackle, it is a blast! Just like with all surf fishing, they can be hard to find at first and even hard to hook. That's why going as light as possible helps us sometimes, along with us just plain enjoying fishing with light tackle. We don't put a rod that small in a rod holder; this is something you'd see us holding in our hands, walking the beach with. Sometimes this is the easiest way to find the fish – just parking in an area and walking up and down it, casting a very, very light, small rod. Getting close to the water with it basically at your toes gives you a better perspective of the structure. You can find points on the beach you wouldn't see from where you drive. So parking and walking 75–100 yards away from your vehicle and back can help

www.coastalfisherman.net you find structure while casting smaller tackle that won't wear out your arms. That time walking back and forth also gives the swells time to do their sets and will give you a better idea of the structure of that area with the breaking waves. Just driving by a spot only gives you a brief look at the structure. You don't know what the next set of waves could do.

For the kingfish, spot, and croaker, while using rods in a sand spike, we use anywhere from 8–12' rods – but not the same ones we'd use for the drum, sharks, and rockfish. These are lighter power rods, usually fast action, and using lighter lines. Which means they're more sensitive and rated to cast much less weight than the ones we'd use in the spring/fall run. The rods we put in a sand spike normally have a little bit bigger hook than the very light tackle approach. They'll swallow the hook much easier if the rod is in the spike, so going to a #2 hook in the spike can be helpful. If I took out my drum rods to catch kingfish, I would miss a lot of hits. So having different setups for different applications helps greatly.

Finding these small fish can be difficult at times because they can be so concentrated in an area, and if the sharks or bluefish move through, they can scatter. Finding places where the outer bar is very close to shore with a deeper trough between can be a good place to start. Deep doesn't have to be 10' or more. I've found these fish in holes where my rig would go just out of view. A couple of feet is all they



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need, but a good pinch point with a hole is always a place we like to start looking. Casting directly on the outer bar can also be a good place to try to locate them. They love the whitewater being churned up or where the whitewater stops and the deep begins—it makes for easy feeding; they don't have to dig around. Don't be afraid to cast close sometimes. A couple of feet off the beach can be the hot spot some days. With these small fish, think small: baits, water, rigs, rods. They can be found in deep, deep holes and big water too.

The key here is to downsize. Don't be afraid to downsize even the water you'd normally fish if all you want is a little tug on the line, which the end of spring and beginning of summer can be a great time to get.



Angler Mackenzie Wincovitch, of Hagerstown, MD, reeled in a dusky shark over 10 feet long from the Assateague State Park Beach using a cow nose ray head. She was joined by Andrew Harries, of Chambersburg, PA, and Shane Meyer, also of Hagerstown.

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Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE	Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE
Bluefish 		May 11 Ronin Jehl Fenwick Beach 10 lbs 14 oz.	Weakfish 		January 8 Jim Hitchens Roosevelt Inlet 2.4 lbs.
Black Drum 		May 8 Billy Mister Delaware Bay 64 lbs.	Bigeye Tuna 	June 8 Adam Messer & Robert Smack Poor Man's Canyon 214 lbs.	
Cobia 			Bluefin Tuna 	January 1 Kenny Schoen Hambone 442 lbs.	
Flounder 	June 4 Ryan Edsell East Channel 7.3 lbs.	May 17 Isaac Mitchell Lewes and RB Canal 4.34 lbs.	Longfin Tuna 		
Sea Bass 	May 26 Eli Hasco Great Eastern Reef 4.06 lbs.		Yellowfin Tuna 	May 25 Matthew Abbonizio Poor Man's Canyon 58 lbs.	
Sheepshead 			Dolphin 	May 25 Francesca Gessler Poor Man's Canyon 8 lbs.	
Striped Bass 			Swordfish 		
Tautog 	March 28 Kevin Twilley Ocean Structure 16 lbs.	May 17 Eamonn Carey Indian River Inlet 17 lbs.	Blue Marlin 		
Wahoo 			White Marlin 		

To report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200 or email to coastalfisherman@comcast.net



Angler Ryan Edgell, of Ocean Pines, MD, displays the new heaviest flounder for Ocean City coming in at 25 1/2", 7.3 lbs. This flattie was caught while drifting the East Channel with Capt. Tanner Adkins using a 6-inch Pink Shine Gulp.



The large flounder can't catch a break as angler Brandon Hoey brought in a 6 lbs., 25" flounder. He caught this doormat using a CJ Tackle flounder rig on the Old Grounds. (Pictured at Rick's Bait and Tackle).

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FISHING CHARTERS



These two anglers had a great day aboard the "Ocean Princess" – earning themselves a sizable bluefish. Despite challenging drifting conditions for part of the day, the charter wrapped up with an excellent catch of bluefish and golden tilefish. Multiple anglers aboard the charter reached their limits on bluefish tile up to 13 lbs., and one dedicated passenger even landed a double limit of both bluefish and golden tile!



It was a picture-perfect day aboard the "Angler" with flat seas and plenty of action. One happy passenger landed a nice sea bass!

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On the "Angler," Ben Moses won the largest fish pool in "Angler" history. Ben's 3¼ lbs. sea bass ended up earning him a whopping \$660. Ben tipped the entire pot to mates Steve and Jack for their great work during his fishing trip.

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Austin Dundore holding a nice 22" flounder on the docks at Bahia. Austin was with "On The Run" Charters using gulp when he reeled up this doormat. Be sure to always weigh your fish, as this is a strong contender for our heaviest fish board, but without a weight we cannot add it.



These two anglers had a great day with Lucky Break Charters. They landed some nice sheepshead.



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FISHING CHARTERS



This crew aboard the “Boss Hog” landed several keeper bluefin tuna, tilefish, and bluefin tuna releases.



“Primary Search” crushed it last weekend, reeling in a handful of golden and blueline tilefish out of the Baltimore Canyon. Capt. Austin Ensor and mate Brian Suschke took out Rob and Lisa Smeltzer, Kevin Smeltzer, Scott Sizer, Jamie List, ‘Wild Bill’ Stafford and Casey Cameron.

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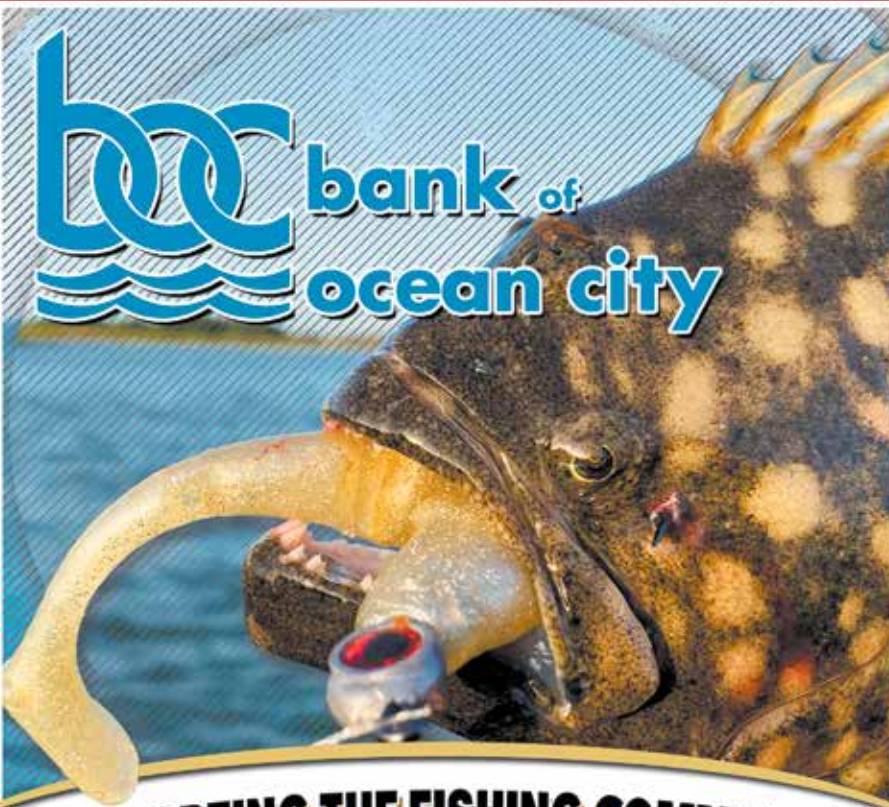



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The crew and anglers of the "Loaded Up" surrounding their 214 lbs. 70" bigeye tuna. Anglers Robert Smack and Adam Messer brought this fish into the boat. Robert and Adam were fishing with Capt. Brian Smack and mates James Smack, Brad Friedman and Brody Friedman. The crew was using a blue and white Sterling Tackle daisy chain when they caught this fish.



Andrew Deubert next to his daughter Reese, with her mom Nichole, ready for the next catch in the background. Andrew is holding their 19½" flounder that was caught behind De Lazy Lizard using white Gulp.

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The "Marli" landed several blueline and golden tilefish and blackbelly rosefish out of the Baltimore Canyon. Capt. Mark Hoos, mates Jack and Jackson took out Bruce Watkins, Dave Kerrigan, Paul Sins, Mike Collins, Jerry Burch and Bob Panzone. The crew was using Penn Fathom electric reel battery rods.

2025 MARYLAND REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - September 30 October 10 - December 31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH 8" minimum 3 per person/day or 5 per person/day Charter</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day up to 6 per boat/day</p>	 <p>COBIA 43" minimum 1 per person/day 6/15 - 9/20 Boat limit 2 for up to 2 anglers</p>
 <p>CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18-27" minimum 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD 4 per person/day 12" minimum</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 4 per person/day</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28-31" Less than 3 miles from shore 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/31 - 16" 6/1 - 12/31 - 17.5"</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 2 per person/day 7/1 - 10/31 4 per person/day 11/1 - 12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>


eregulations.com



The "Ro Sham Bo," headed by Captain Willie Zimmerman, has been busy offshore, check out all these tilefish they landed. They have also gotten a nice mix of sea bass and tuna so far this season.



Flounder finder Lamont Hilbert holding one of his 10 flounder caught aboard the "Seabum". This flounder ended up being 22". Lamont also caught some bluefish that measured up to 24". Lamont was using gulf and minnows and fished the South Bay.



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DELAWARE

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



This past week in Delaware brought strong winds and storms. Despite these conditions, many anglers braved the conditions and headed out in search of fish. Back bays and the inlet are producing better catches of flounder as the water warms to its summertime temperatures.

The nearshore coral grounds and wrecks are still holding good numbers of keeper bass and are showing signs of summer life, with a few flounder being caught. In the DE Bay, the first couple of sheepshead have been caught off the ice breakers and wall. The Fenwick Shoals are loaded with bluefish, which should mean that the Spanish mackerel and spadefish are not far behind.

Back Bays and Inlets

The Indian River Inlet continues to produce keeper flounder during the day, as well as blues

and rockfish in the evening hours. Further back in the bay near Massey's Ditch, the action has started to get better, with anglers catching a lot of short fish along with the occasional keeper. Small Gulp and squid strips are proving to be the most reliable baits recently. The Delaware Bay still has a few black drum on the shoals, but most of these big fish have left the area after spawning and are further north, out of our area. Michael L. Marcon fished the rocks of Indian River Inlet using live minnows and captured a nice flounder. Greg Allen also fished the inlet and caught his first sheepshead of the year while using sand fleas. Buddy Bragg fished his 16 Jon boat at the inlet and brought two fluke to Hook'Em and Cook'Em Tackle to be weighed in. The fish were 3.5 and 4 pounds. Thomas Cline fished with friends Scott and Cheryl last week and

found a doormat flounder to invite home for dinner. Daniel Hamm fished off the south side rocks of the inlet, only managing to catch a 15-inch flounder. The fish was safely released. Daniel Hamm fished the south side of the inlet, catching a few small rockfish on live sand fleas. Stephen Seewald spent his birthday on the jetty of IR and was rewarded with a big blue as a birthday present.

"MandaLu Sportfishing" fished the DE Bay and started out catching drum, but only managed a few rays. The group ended up landing several croakers and a few undersized flounder. Chase Hyser was fishing in Rehoboth Bay when he caught a big 34-inch, 10.6-pound bluefish. Nice work, Chase. Emi and Oliver outfished their dad in the Lewes Canal and ended up landing a 22-inch fluke, which was brought to Lewes Harbour Marina to be weighed and

photographed. Randy also fished the canal, landing a big flatty on Gulp. "Salty Boys" YouTube channel fished the Lewes Canal targeting flounder with Gulp and squid. The duo of Cody Reeves and Nate Seeley hooked fish after fish when filming their show about lower Delaware, including several keeper flounder. Check out their channel for a variety of local fishing and instruction. Wiker Restoration group fished the canal, reeling in a limit of flounder, even with the size change. The biggest fish was 5.4 pounds. John Spence caught 20 flounder and a striper in the canal, catching a total of 34 flounder with 9 keepers in two days. It's really sounding like the canal is still on fire.

Nearshore Coral and Wrecks

The deeper wrecks, such as the NJ/DE reef, are still producing limits of sea bass along with a few slammer blues. The nearshore coral grounds are continuing to show signs of life as the flounder begin to show up. Many of these fish are undersized;

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however, the steady action makes the day enjoyable. Small sea bass are also on the coral, with a few keepers thrown in as well. Bobby Knight fished the Old Grounds and checked into Rick's Bait and Tackle with a pair of flounder up to 24.5 inches. Brandon Hoey was fishing the Old Grounds when he hooked a big 6-lb, 25-inch flounder on a CJ Tackle flounder rig. Nice fish for this early in the year! Captain Brin, out of Fisherman's Wharf, had a great drift on his first trip of last week and caught a decent amount of keeper fluke, with most being around 20 inches. Captain Ikelli had some quality fish last week, despite the wet weather, bringing home some big sea bass for his clients. Steve Kuhlman stated that fishing is improving. He fished Site 11 and hooked 25 short sea bass with a ratio of 13 to 1. He also caught 4 short flounder and a few sea robins. Ocean Arsenal Tackle reports their squid thing is getting the job done on both sea bass as well as flounder on the nearshore coral grounds. After limits of fish in the past, "Action Jackson Sportfishing" stated they could not crack the code on fish this past week. They did manage a few nice keepers for their clients with some fluke making the 17.5 minimum. "Jay Sea 2" ended their day with 15 flounder and 15 sea bass. Despite sorting through several undersized fish, the group had a plethora of fish to bring home for dinner.

Surf Fishing

Surf fishing is steady but slower than the past few weeks. Many anglers are reporting a lot of sharks

and rays in the surf, which are more aggressive than the targeted species. Bluefish are the main catch right now, and mullet rigs are the best bait. Adam T. Solum fished 3 Rs for the first time and caught an undersized flounder and ray, both of which were safely released. Patrick Skelly fished the DE beaches last week, landing 3 nice-sized bluefish on Fishbites. John Bolduc fished 40 minutes after low tide at Navy Crossing using a Hi-Lo rig, landing a nice rockfish, which did not make the slot. Brent Douglas talked his son into his first surf fishing day and despite catching only dogfish and skates, he says his son is now hooked and can't wait to go again. Mike Asborne went 4 bites on 10 casts, catching undersized stripers from the beach. He stated that, as fast and furious as the bites were, when the blitz ended, he did not get another bite the rest of the day.

Clams and Crabs

Clamming continues to remain strong with rakers pulling up tons of steamer clams along with their larger chowder clams around. The Rehoboth Bay, as well as the sand bars near the inlet, are the best spots for the smaller clams. The larger chowder clams are prevalent throughout the bay. Crabbing is getting better with larger males being caught in traps and pots. Many pots still contain pregnant females, which must be released; however, the catch ratio is around 6-8 keepers per pot.

Until next week,
Tight Lines and Fins Up



Buddy Bragg hooked two flounder weighing 3 ½ and 4 lbs. while fishing the Indian River Inlet from his jon boat. He weighed them in at Hook'em and Cook'em.

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Bobby Knight landed a pair of flounder up to 24½", caught at the Old Grounds. (Pictured at Rick's Bait and Tackle).

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Ralph and Nick of Shorts Roofing and crew had a solid day aboard the "Jay Sea II." They boxed up a nice catch of flounder. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Fisherman David Moore shows off one of six red drum that he caught off Assateague, including a beast over 50"! He also landed two blacktip sharks.

2025

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3-200 Miles

 <p>BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	 <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>GOLDEN TILEFISH No minimum • 8 per person/day</p>
 <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p> <p>NOTE: Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Roundscale Marlin combined 250 Limit</p>	 <p>BLUEFIN TUNA 27" to <73" curved fork length 1 per vessel/day or trip 27" to <73" curved fork length 1 per Charter/day or trip 27" to <73" curved fork length 1 per Headboat/day or trip</p>	 <p>SWORDFISH 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter) 1 per person / 15 per Headboat</p>	 <p>BLUELINE TILEFISH 5/15 - 11/14 3 per person (Recreational) 5 per person Uninspected (Charter) 7 per person Inspected (Charter)</p>
 <p>DOLPHIN No minimum Length Boat Limit 54 Limit Daily 10 per angler</p>		 <p>SAILFISH Minimum Length 63" • No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>WAHOO No Minimum Length • 2 per person/day</p>

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Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead

54" Minimum Fork Length
Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose

78" Minimum Fork Length
Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead

NOTE: Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose, 1 Bonnethead and 1 Oceanic Whitetip may be retained per person per trip. If a hammerhead shark is retained, no tunas, billfish or swordfish may be retained.

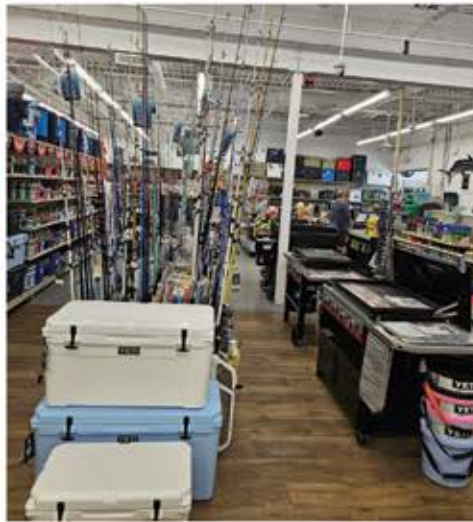
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 spending an extra night to explore the city.

The next morning, we boarded a domestic carrier for a 2.5-hour flight to the islands. Hotel Katarma is about a

An Island Less Traveled

The Rosa Blanca Bank was firing off as we approached. We watched with anticipation as birds were torpedoing into the ocean, diving out of site to find their prey. There were

Booby birds, Frigates, gulls, albatrosses and numerous others, all gorging on sardines.

We observed sea lions and striped marlin balling sardines for their breakfast.

The spread was set when I spotted three towering dorsal fins a few hundred yards

away.

"ORCAS! 300 yards at 11:00 o'clock, go to the Orcas!" I shouted.

The crew giggled at me and put their eyes back on the spread.

"I'm serious, we never see Orcas."

Our mate shook his head and called the captain.

"They want to see the Orcas," he said.

The captain shook his head and laughed while he turned the wheel slightly to the left.

I tried to keep my eyes on the Orcas, but out of my peripheral vision, I spotted the quivering dorsal of a striped marlin behind the Squidnation Flippy Floppy teaser. Then another appeared on the right long. The left flat popped. Two more were fighting for the left teaser, and my friend Kim bellowed, "I'm bit on the left long!"

We managed to hook a quad of striped marlin when I heard the captain call to the mate,

"Cut them all off, Bill wants to see the Orcas!"

We all got a good laugh at the thought. Then Carlos, our mate, put his hand on my shoulder and said,

"Welcome to the Galápagos."

The Galápagos Islands marlin trip is high on the list of the most remote places I've visited. It's also one of the most rewarding. The Island chain is situated 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador. It's known



for its biodiversity and, of course, for inspiring Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. The isolation of this volcanic archipelago has given rise to species not found anywhere else. The Galapagos giant tortoise, marine iguanas and blue-footed boobies are just a few of the animals that have evolved to thrive in this harsh environment.

We were visiting the Galápagos for a species of fish that pass through this nutrient-rich oasis on their pelagic voyage around the Pacific Ocean. This island chain hosts some of the largest striped marlin in great numbers from January through June.

We typically fly from BWI, connecting in Miami for a flight to either Quito or Guayaquil, Ecuador. We chose to overnight in Quito, as it's situated in the mountains and is rich in history and natural beauty. An overnight stay is mandatory due to the flight schedules to San Cristobal, Galápagos. I encourage

five-minute, \$2 taxi ride from the airport. This quaint, art-filled hotel offers simple, comfortable rooms with good A/C, hot water, Wi-Fi, cozy beds, and a pool. There are budget hostels and \$600/night hotels also available to fit any budget or preference. Almost everything you need is walkable from the hotel. The malecón (seawall) is just a short walk from the hotel.

San Cristobal has a population of 6,000 and is one of only four inhabited islands in the Galápagos. It might be the safest fishing destination I've ever visited. It's common to see kids playing in the streets at 10 p.m. Our closest encounter with danger was from an unruly sea lion standing his ground under a park bench, unwilling to vacate his napping spot.

Most restaurants are located along the malecón, as well as souvenir shops, grocery stores, pharmacies and tour agencies. We found the food outstanding. There are sushi restaurants, pizza shops, local



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grills and seaside outdoor
bistros to suit any palate.

There are about eight charter
boats on the island. Most of
the boats are comfortable,
open-bulkhead, 38-foot
Ecuadorian-made vessels
with twin or triple outboards.
The operation we fished
has top-of-the-line Shimano
tackle, from 25 lb stand-up
outfits to 50 and 80 lb chair
rods and fighting chairs. Our
boat was also equipped with
an LP dredge reel and Ledge
Logic Dredge booms.

Fishing is typically done with
dead ballyhoo on pitch baits
and lures on the longs. Our
outfit also specializes in fly
fishing for marlin. Jigging
and popping are also popular
with guests. There are plenty

owner and operator of
Ecuador Fly Fishing Tours,
puts together custom
packages for groups. His trips
are

all-inclusive, except for
airfare, park entry fees,
alcohol at dinner, and tips.

Aside from not having to
worry about all the logistics,
Javier is also a professional
photographer and will
be on the boat with your
group. His videography and
photography are absolutely
fantastic.

I have a top-10 list of fishing
travel destinations that I will
cover in a later issue, but
suffice it to say, Galápagos
stands at the top of that lofty
list.



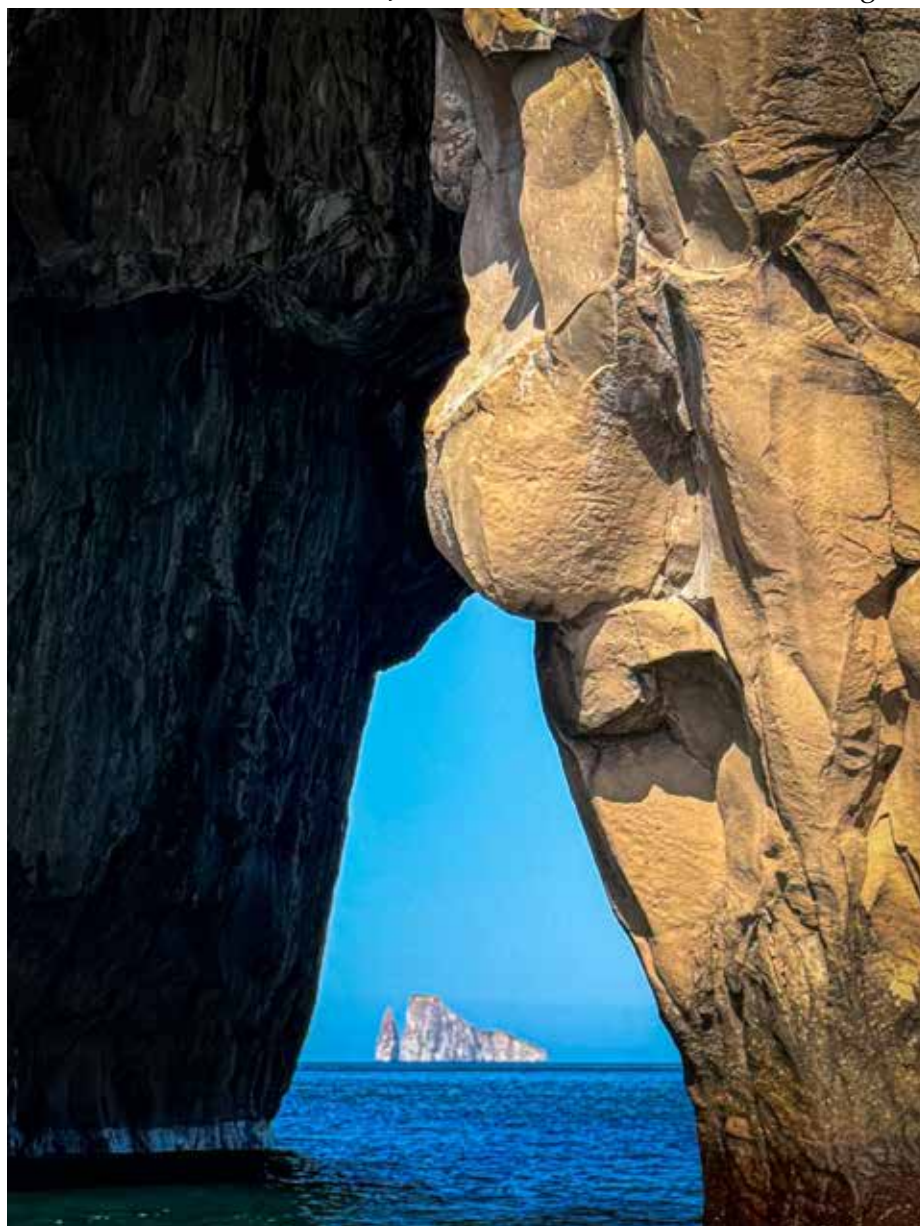
of yellowfin tuna, wahoo, and
ground species to target.

I typically prefer planning my
trips myself and rarely use a
tour operation, but for

Galápagos Islands, I strongly
recommend it. Javier Guevara,

I hope to see you on the
Malecón one day.


If you're ready to take on
this adventure, contact Javier
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Bacon Wrapped Shrimp With Maple Butter:

Sweet, smoky, and sizzling – the ultimate crowd-pleaser for dockside dinners.

Ingredients:

- 1 lb shrimp, peeled, deveined
- 8 slices center cut bacon
- 1/2 tsp paprika
- 1/2 tsp onion powder
- 1/4 tsp ground mustard
- 1/4 tsp kosher salt
- 2 tbsp maple syrup
- 2 tbsp light butter
- Optional: herbs for garnish

Directions:

1. Tip: Soak wooden skewers in water for about 30 minutes prior to cooking to avoid burning.
2. Preheat oven to 400F.
3. Pat the shrimp dry.
4. Combine the paprika, onion powder, ground mustard, and salt.
5. Season the shrimp with the spices.
6. To wrap 24 pieces of shrimp (typical for one pound of large 20-24 count shrimp): cut each bacon slice into thirds. To wrap more or less shrimp, cut your bacon smaller or larger, respectively.
7. Wrap each shrimp with a cut piece of bacon, and secure with

the skewer; keep the bacon in place around the shrimp by using the skewer.

8. Skewer equal amounts of wrapped shrimp onto each skewer.
9. Line a baking sheet with foil, and lay the skewers on top.
10. Bake for 15 minutes.
11. Turn the oven to broil, and broil for two minutes. Flip, and broil for another two minutes.
12. Combine the maple syrup and the butter in a small bowl. Microwave to melt the butter.
13. Plate the shrimp and pour the maple butter on top.
14. Garnish with herbs, if desired.

For The Health Nut Low-Carb, Gluten-Free Flounder Piccata

Light, lemony, and packed with protein – this flounder dish won't weigh you down.

Ingredients:

4 flounder fillets, about 20 oz. total

Freshly ground black peppers

2 large egg whites

2/3 cup seasoned bread crumbs, or gluten-free crumbs

Olive oil spray, about 1 tbsp worth

1 tbsp whipped butter, or regular butter

2 lemons, 1 juiced with squeezed lemon halves reserved, the other sliced for serving

1/4 cup dry white wine

1/2 cup chicken broth

1 tbsp caper, drained

2 tbsp chopped fresh parsley, for serving

Directions:

1. Season fish with salt and pepper. Heat the oven to 200F.
2. In a shallow bowl, beat the egg whites. Place the bread crumbs in another dish. Dip each fish filet in the egg whites, then bread crumbs.
3. Heat a large skillet over medium to medium-low heat. Spray a generous amount of olive oil spray on one side of the fish, and lay it in the pan, oil side



down. Spray the other side of the fish generously to coat and cook for 4 to 5 minutes on each side, until the fish is opaque and cooked through.

4. Set aside on a platter in the warm oven until you make the sauce.

5. Over medium heat in the same pan, melt butter, add the lemon juice, wine, chicken broth and the reserved lemon halves, salt, and pepper and bring to a boil.

6. Boil over high heat until the liquid is reduced to half, about 3-4 minutes.

7. Discard the lemon halves, add the capers and spoon the sauce over the fish; place a slice of lemon on each filet and top with fresh parsley.

For The Hostess With The Mostess

Creamy Seafood Lasagna:

A show-stopping, seafood-packed comfort classic that'll reel in the compliments.

Ingredients:

For the Cream Sauce:

4 tbsp unsalted butter

¼ cup all-purpose flour

1 (8 oz) bottle clam juice

3 cups whole milk

1 1/2 tsp kosher salt

1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper

For the Lasagna:

1 pound dried lasagna noodles

Olive oil

1/2 bunch fresh parsley

1/2 medium lemon

4 cloves garlic

4 tbsp unsalted butter

1/2 cup dry white win, such as Sauvignon Blanc

1 lb tiny raw, peeled, and cleaned shrimp (70-90 per lb)

1 1/4 tsp kosher salt, divided, plus more for the pasta

3 cups part-skim ricotta cheese

1 1/2 oz Parmesan cheese, finely grated (about ¾ cup or scant 1/2 cup store-bought grated)

1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper, plus more as needed

8 oz lump crab meat

8 oz cooked and chopped lobster meat

1 lb low-moisture mozzarella cheese, shredded (about 4 cups)

Cooking spray

Directions:

1. Arrange a rack in the middle of the oven and heat the oven to 350F.

Make the Cream Sauce:

1. Melt 4 tbsp unsalted butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Add 1/4 cup all-purpose flour and cook, stirring, until very lightly toasted, about 2 minutes. While whisking, slowly pour in 1 (8 oz) bottle clam juice, then 3 cups whole milk. Season with 1 1/2 tsp kosher salt and 1/4 tsp black pepper. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat, stirring frequently. Reduce the heat to medium and simmer until thickened, 8-10 minutes more. Taste and season with more kosher salt and black pepper as needed.

2. Meanwhile, cook 1 lb dried lasagna noodles in a large pot of salted boiling water according to package directions until al dente. Drain, rinse under cool water until cool, and drain well again. Arrange the noodles in an even layer on a large baking sheet, coating them with olive oil and overlapping them slightly if needed.

3. Pick the leaves from 1/2 bunch fresh parsley and finely chop until you have ¼ cup for the sauce and 1 tbsp more for garnish. Juice 1/2 medium



lemon until you have 1 tbsp juice. Finely chop 4 garlic cloves.

4. Melt 4 tbsp butter unsalted butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the garlic and cook, stirring, until golden brown, about 3 minutes. Add 1/2 cup dry white wine and

boil until the wine has almost evaporated, about 3 minutes. Add 1 lb raw tiny shrimp and cook, stirring occasionally, until the shrimp are pink and just cooked through, about 4 minutes.

5. Remove the skillet from the

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heat. Add the 1/4 cup parsley, the lemon juice, and 1/4 tsp of the kosher salt, and stir to combine. Taste and season with more kosher salt as needed.

6. Place 3 cups ricotta cheese, 3/4 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese, the remaining 1 tsp kosher salt, and 1/4 tsp black pepper in a medium bowl and stir to combine. Taste and season with more kosher salt and black pepper as needed.

Assemble the Lasagna:

1. Spread 1/2 cup of the cream sauce in the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish. Arrange 1/3 of the noodles over the cream sauce, overlapping them as needed. Spread half the ricotta mixture over the noodles. Evenly arrange half the shrimp mixture, half the lobster, and half the crab over the ricotta. Sprinkle with 1 cup of the mozzarella.

2. Dollop and spread 1 cup of the cream sauce over the cheese. Repeat layering half the remaining noodles, the remaining ricotta mixture, and the remaining shrimp mixture, lobster, and crab. Sprinkle with 1 cup of the mozzarella cheese. Dollop and spread 1 cup of the cream sauce over the cheese. Top with the remaining lasagna noodles, spread with the remaining cream sauce, and sprinkle with the remaining 2 cups mozzarella.

3. Coat a large sheet of aluminum foil with cooking spray. Loosely cover the baking dish with the foil spray-side down. Bake for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake until golden-brown and bubble, 20 to 25 minutes more. Let cool for at least 15 minutes before slicing. Garnish with the reserved parsley before serving.

For When You Need a Quick Delicious Meal In a Pinch

Blackened Tuna Bites:

Bold tuna bites with a zesty kick in just 13 minutes. Perfect on

their own or tossed over rice.

Ingredients:

Tuna Bites:

1 lb piece tuna steak

2 tbsp grapeseed or olive oil

3 tbsp Paul Prudhomme Seafood Magic or blackening seasoning that you enjoy best

Aioli:

1/2 cup mayonnaise

1 tbsp relish

Few dashes Worcestershire sauce

A squeeze of fresh lemon juice

A dash or two of Cayenne pepper

Directions:

1. Lightly coat your tuna in a bit of oil.

2. Cut the tuna steak into bite sized cubes.

3. Gently press tuna cubes down into the seasoning mixture and coat all sides with it.

4. Place coated tuna pieces on a plate.

5. Heat 1 1/2 tbsp of oil in a non-stick griddle or skillet until very hot but not smoking.

6. Place tuna pieces into the



pan and cook over high-med heat until each side of the cube is cooked and golden brown/blackened.

7. You need to move quickly so the tuna doesn't cook all the way through. Total cook time should not exceed 2-3 minutes if you still want your tuna pink inside.

8. If you want it rarer, you need to cook it even less.

9. Remove each tuna piece (based on size) as soon as it is done and plate.

10. Combine all ingredients in a small bowl and mix until smooth and creamy.

11. Eat the tuna alone or with some of the sauce.

For The Foodies

Cheesy Cajun Crab Potato Skins:

These loaded potato skins are buttery, cheesy, and bursting with crabby Cajun flavor.

Ingredients:

4-5 small russet potatoes

4 oz lump crabmeat

1-2 tbsp chopped green onion

1/2 tsp old bay or cajun blend seasoning

1/4 tsp garlic powder

1/4 tsp paprika

1 cup grated cheese (Gouda and cheddar used in recipe)

2 oz softened cream cheese

1/8 tsp salt

1-2 tbsp chopped green onion for topping

Parsley to garnish

Sour cream or greek yogurt for topping (optional)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400F.

2. Rub freshly scrubbed potatoes with olive oil to crisp the skin.

3. Place potatoes on a baking



sheet and bake on center rack for 45-60 minutes or until tender on the inside and crispy on the outside.

4. While your potatoes bake, combine softened cream cheese with crab, chopped green onion, cajun (or old bay) seasoning blend, garlic powder, and paprika in a medium bowl. For an extra kick, you can add red pepper flakes or ground cayenne pepper to the mix.

5. Stir in about 3/4 cup of your freshly grated gouda and cheddar, reserving the rest for topping.

6. Once your potatoes are ready, allow them to cool, then slice each in half lengthwise.

7. Scoop out the majority of each center and set aside, leaving a small portion of the potato around the edges to help them maintain their shape. You could score an oval in the center using a knife before scooping to ensure pretty potato boats every time.

8. Brush the edges of each potato skin with olive oil and fill with the crab mixture.

9. Top with the remaining cheese, a teeny pinch of red pepper flakes and a little extra

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paprika, to taste, and bake on the center rack for

15-20 minutes until they reach cheesy, crispy perfection.

10. Garnish with chopped parsley (optional) and green onion and drizzle with sour cream or greek yogurt.

For When You Need To Take The Edge Off

Spicy Pineapple Mule:

Spicy, tropical, and perfect alongside the blackened tuna or shrimp.

Ingredients:

2 oz vodka

2 oz pineapple juice

1/2 oz lime juice

Ginger beer to top

Dash of hot sauce or slice of jalapeño

Directions:

1. Combine vodka, pineapple juice, and lime juice in a shaker.
2. Pour over ice and top with ginger beer.
3. Add jalapeño for heat if desired





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Anglers Branden Gessler and Liam Emmert standing next to a good sized yellowfin tuna. The two boys were aboard the "Boy's Toy" with Matthew Abbinizio when he caught this fish. This yellowfin came from the Poorman's Canyon.



Richard Hoenes' sons were kind enough to let their dad reel one in. Richard caught this bluefish the tip of the jetty. After getting his catch in the boat Richard found three previous baits that he had used, after the bluefish threw them back up.

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- 3 - Catch 54 - 302.436.8600
- 4 - 38 Degrees Bayside - 302.988.2680
- 5 - Hammerheads Indian River Marina - 302.752.8010

LEWES

- 6 - Wheelhouse Bar & Grill - 302.291.2163
- 7 - Irish Eyes Pub & Restaurant - 302.645.6888

MARYLAND STATE LINE



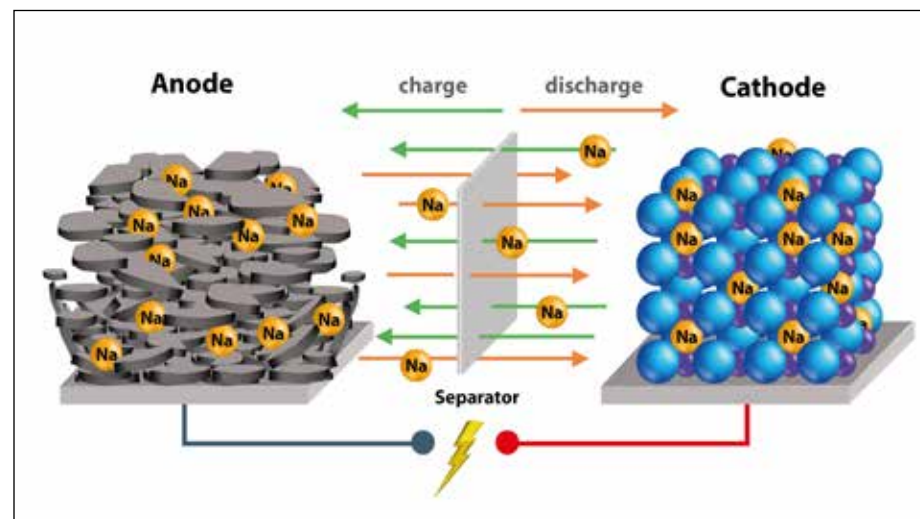
Sodium-Ion Batteries: The Next Frontier in Energy Storage

As the global demand for energy storage surges—fueled by the rise of electric vehicles (EVs), renewable energy systems, and grid-level storage—the limitations of lithium-ion batteries are becoming increasingly apparent. Enter sodium-ion batteries, an emerging alternative that could transform the energy landscape with their promise of lower cost, abundant materials, and enhanced safety.

What Are Sodium-Ion Batteries?

Sodium-ion batteries (Na-ion) operate on the same basic principles as lithium-ion batteries (Li-ion). Both involve

the movement of ions between a cathode and an anode through an electrolyte, generating electrical energy in the process. However, sodium-ion batteries use sodium (Na) instead of lithium (Li) as the charge carrier.



Sodium is far more abundant and widely distributed in the Earth's crust than lithium, which

is concentrated in a few regions such as South America's Lithium Triangle and parts of China and Australia. This abundance makes sodium significantly cheaper and less geopolitically sensitive.

Advantages of Sodium-Ion Batteries

1. Abundance and Cost

Sodium is one of the most common elements on Earth and can even be extracted from seawater. This abundance translates to significantly lower raw material costs and improved supply chain stability.

2. Safety

Sodium-ion batteries tend to be more thermally stable than lithium-ion counterparts, reducing the risk of overheating and fire. They also don't require expensive cobalt or nickel, which are not only costly but also raise ethical and environmental concerns.

3. Cold-Temperature Performance

Recent research shows that sodium-ion batteries can outperform lithium-ion cells in colder environments, making them ideal for use in colder climates and aerospace applications.

4. Sustainability

With simpler and more recyclable chemistry, sodium-

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ion batteries are potentially more environmentally friendly throughout their life cycle.

Sodium-ion for Marine Applications

Lithium Pros of Knoxville Tennessee seems to be the first to market a sodium-ion marine battery and it is capable of being used as an engine starting battery (whereas not many lithium ion batteries can be used for starting due to the BMS and amp draw) The S2460 is designed primarily as a starting battery. Sodium-ion batteries have grabbed attention for their temperature flexibility, tolerance for deep discharge, and improved raw materials availability. Although it is the early days for these batteries only time will tell if they become mainstream in marine applications.

Here are some advertised specifications for the S2460 battery:

The S2460 is the world's first sodium-ion battery made for outboards!

- Advanced Sodium-ion technology
- Made for 12V engine start
- Compatible with all 12V alternators and stator charging systems
- Works in the cold
- 800 MCA Eq*
- Wide voltage range: 6~15.6V**
- Works down to -4°F
- 108 Reserve Minutes
- BCI Group 24 size (10.25" L x 6.61" W x 8.24" T)
- IP67 watertight
- 17 lbs

Challenges Facing Sodium-Ion Technology

Despite their promise, sodium-ion batteries are not without drawbacks. The primary challenge is their lower energy density compared to lithium-ion

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batteries. This means that for the same size and weight, sodium-ion cells store less energy—an issue particularly important in electric vehicles and portable electronics.

Additionally, sodium ions are larger and heavier than lithium ions, which can result in slower charge/discharge rates and structural stress on battery components. Finding suitable materials for stable, high-performance anodes and cathodes continues to be a major research focus.

Market and Industry Developments

In 2023 and 2024, some manufacturers began integrating sodium-ion batteries into electric bikes, stationary storage systems, and even small EVs in pilot projects. These applications, where weight and space are less critical than cost and cycle life, are likely to be the first mainstream uses of the technology.

The Road Ahead

Sodium-ion batteries are not expected to replace lithium-ion across the board. Instead, they are likely to complement existing technologies, carving out niches where their unique advantages—cost, safety, and sustainability—offer clear benefits.

As research continues to close the performance gap and improve scalability, sodium-ion batteries could become a key player in the global energy transition, helping to decarbonize transportation and stabilize renewable power grids.

Conclusion

Sodium-ion batteries are no longer a laboratory curiosity. With industry giants investing in development and pilot-scale production already underway, the sodium-ion revolution is inching closer to reality. While challenges remain, the potential for a safer, cheaper, and more sustainable battery future makes this technology one to watch closely.



Angler John Allen scored with this 28" rockfish off of the Fenwick Island surf. John was using cut mullet to reel in this monster. (Pictured at Fenwick Bait and Tackle).

BATTERY COMPARISON CHART			
	Sodium-Ion	Lithium-Ion	Lead-Acid
ENERGY DENSITY	★★★★ (100–150 Wh/kg)	★★★★ (150–250 Wh/kg)	★★★ (30–50 Wh/kg)
RAW MATERIAL COST	★★★★ Abundant	★★★★ Expensive metals	★★★★★ Cheap & common
CYCLE LIFE	★★★★ (1,000–2,500)	★★★★★ (1,000–3,000+)	★★★ Very stable
SAFETY	★★★★ Stable chemistry	★★★ Risk of fire	★★★★ Very stable
COLD TEMP. PERFORMANCE	★★★★ Low footprint	★★★ Mining intensiv	★★★★
RECYC-ABILITY	★★★	★★★ Highly recycled	★★★★ Highly recycled
COST PER kWh	★★★★ Low, Improving	★★★★ Moderate to high	★★★ Low, but short life
IDEAL USES	Grid storage, low-cost EVs	EVs, phones, power tools	Backup systems, legacy uses

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Julie Stevenson, of Millsboro, DE, proudly holds her 19" flounder, caught aboard "Julie's Joy" with Capt. Mike Fischer using Gulp and minnow on a sea bass rig from Rick's Bait and Tackle















Angler Stephen Seewald landed this bluefish on an early morning during sunrise on his birthday. Stephen made his catch using Berkley swim bait. What a great start to his birthday!

2025

DELAWARE REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - September 30 October 10 - December 31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH No minimum size 3 per day / 5 per day Charter</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 3 per person/day</p>	 <p>COBIA 43" Minimum • 2 per person or 2 per vessel</p>
 <p>CROAKER 8" Minimum • 50 per person/per day</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 20-27" minimum 5 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No limit</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 12" minimum No creel limit</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28-31" except 20-25" only from 7/1 - 8/31 in DE Bay 1 per person/day Catch & Release only from 4/1 - 5/31 on Spawning Grounds</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/31 - 16" 6/1 - 12/31 - 17.5"</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 4 per person/day 7/1 - 12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

eregulations.com



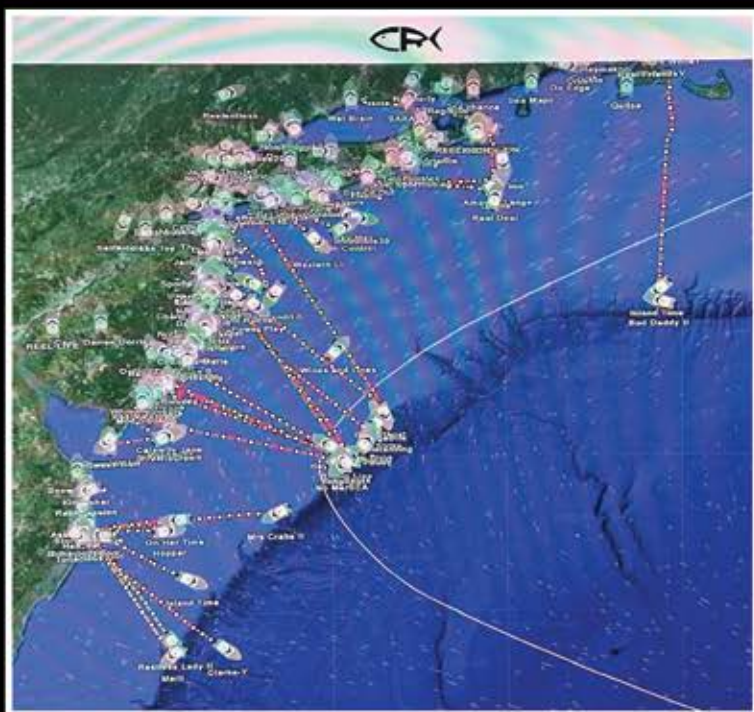
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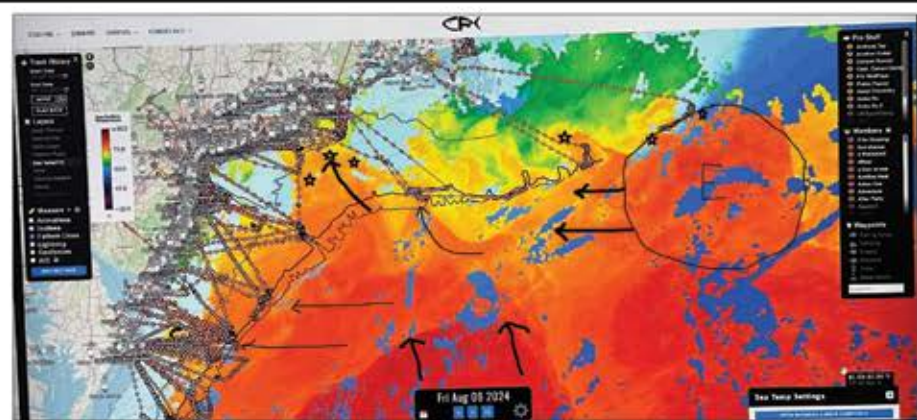
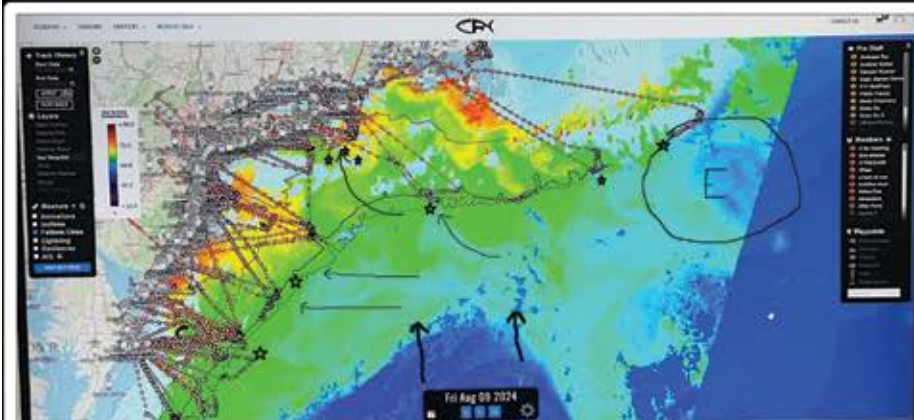
- Average Member Owns a 28 - 32' Center Console & Fishes Mid-Shore & Inshore most of their Trips.
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CAPT. AUSTIN ENSOR - "PRIMARY SEARCH"
CAPT. JEFF WARFORD - "WOLFPACK"
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KID'S FISHING DERBY 2025



At the Kid's Derby fishing tournament, 11-year-old Cooper Dorsey caught this flounder from the Oceanic Pier. Cooper reeled in his catch using minnow and an ugly stick rod. Cooper traveled all the way from Harpers Ferry, WV to fish in the tournament. Congratulations on your catch, Cooper!



Congratulations to 9-year-old Katheryn Davis, of Baltimore, MD, on her horseshoe crab! Katheryn made her catch using shiners.



Check out David Burt with this monster tarpon! David was fishing with his brother Michael as well as his son Sammy who is better known as "Captain Pop-Tart". David, Michael, and Sammy caught three out of the four tarpon that they hooked up. David reeled in this beast using swim-baits while kayak fishing.

FISH N PADDLE

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7TH ANNUAL

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Two men are standing outdoors, holding a large check from the Fish N Paddle Saltwater Slam. The check is dated 6.23.24 and is payable to Robert English for \$4,000. The man on the left has long dreadlocks and is wearing a blue shirt. The man on the right is wearing a white shirt and a cap. The background shows a waterfront with buildings and a crane.

JUNE 21 & 22

2025

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CONTACT THE CAPTAINS OR CALL 1-877-514-FISH TO BOOK.

FIRST

2025

Fish of the Year

(AS REPORTED TO THE COASTAL FISHERMAN - MUST BE OF LEGAL LIMIT AND REPORTED WITH PHOTO)

Species	2025	2024	Species	2025	2024
Bluefish 	April 9 Mike Powers Fenwick State Park	April 19 Aiden Sparano Assateague	Weakfish 	May 8 Jim Hitchens Roosevelt Inlet	May 2 Jim Hitchens Delaware Bay
Black Drum 	April 6 Chris Taylor Assateague	March 31 Chris Taylor Assateague	Bigeye Tuna 	 June 5 Jack Disney Restless Lady II Baltimore Canyon	May 31 Tyler Lanza "Canyon Crew" S. of Poor Mans Canyon
Cobia 		June 1 Chuck Guerra OC Beach	Bluefin Tuna 	January 1 Kenny Schoen "Chasin' Tides" Hambone	May 31 Andrew Link "Marli" Poor Mans Canyon
Flounder 	April 4 Rick Gorsuch Thorofare	April 8 Paul Musser Jr. Thorofare	Longfin Tuna 		June 18 Mark Steiner "Don't Ask" Baltimore Canyon
Sea Bass 	May 15 Mike Depalma "Bet Sea Sport Fishing"	May 17 Bob Houser Ocean Structure	Yellowfin Tuna 	May 25 Matthew Abbonizio "Boy's Toy" Poor Man's Canyon	May 18 Chris Mentlik "Full Service" Washington Canyon
Sheepshead 	May 8 Mike Ahlfeldt Thorofare	May 7 Joe McNeal Ocean Structure	Dolphin 	May 25 Francesca Gessler "Boy's Toy" Poor Man's Canyon	May 28 Finbar Rishko Baltimore Canyon
Striped Bass 	January 29 Richard Harpel Indian River Bay	January 3 Brian Reynolds Rt. 90 Bridge	Swordfish 		June 1 Bobby West "Relentless" Poor Mans Canyon
Tautog 	January 6 Anthony Emerick "Chasin' Tides" Great Eastern	January 8 Anthony Emerick Ocean Structure	Blue Marlin 		June 12 Tom Healy "Elizabeth Ann" Poor Mans Canyon
Wahoo 		June 17 Greg Stansky Poor Mans Canyon	White Marlin 		June 1 Jake Emche "Fish On" E. of Baltimore Canyon

To report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200 or email to coastalfisherman@comcast.net



Corey Glover landed the first cobia we have seen this year – measuring 28” – from the surf at Assateague on bunker. Despite being the first we have seen it will not be added to the list due to the fish not meeting the legal size. We know the cobia are out there though!



Brian Reynolds landed his first weakfish, measuring 17 3/4”! He also scored an 18 5/8” flounder and seven schoolie striper during an evening jetty bite, all caught on 4-inch swimbaits.



UPCOMING TOURNAMENT!

46th ANNUAL SMALL BOAT TOURNAMENT
Registration: June 20, 6:30-8:00pm
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 21 & 22
Weigh-Ins: June 21 & 22, 3:00-6:30pm at Sunset Marina

TOURNAMENT SERIES — 2025 SCHEDULE —

*** You do NOT have to be a Member to Participate in this Tournament**

43rd ANNUAL CANYON KICK OFF *
Registration: July 3, 6:30-8:00pm
FREE TO PAID OCMC BOAT MEMBERS
Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 4, 5 & 6
Weigh-Ins: July 4, 5 & 6
5:00-7:30pm at Sunset Marina

 **21st ANNUAL KID'S CLASSIC ***
To benefit the Wish-A-Fish Foundation
Registration: July 18, 6:00-8:00pm
Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 19 & 20
Weigh-Ins: July 19, 3:00-6:30pm and July 20, 3:00-6:00pm at Sunset Marina

17th ANNUAL FRANKY PETTOLINA "HEELS & REELS" TOURNAMENT *
To benefit the Marlin Club Crew of OC Scholarship Fund
Registration: July 31, 6:00-8:00pm
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 1 & 2
Weigh-Ins: August 1 & 2
5:30-7:30pm at Fisherman's Marina

2ND ANNUAL LABOR DAY INVITATIONAL
Registration: August 28, 6:30 - 8:00pm
Fishing Days: (1 of 3) August 29, 30 & 31
NO WEIGH-INS:
This is strictly a release tournament.
Release reports MUST be turned in to OCMC Clubhouse on your fishing day BY 8:00PM

45th ANNUAL CHARLES KRATZ & SCOTT SMITH CHALLENGE CUP
Registration: Sept. 10, 6:00-8:00pm
Fishing Days: (2 of 3) Sept. 11, 12 & 13
NO WEIGH-INS
Release reports turned in nightly to OCMC Clubhouse 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Check for Updates on our WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

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Reel Women

by Loren Manzione



'Tis the season! Another fishing year is underway and I don't know about you all but I could not be more excited. The group chats are buzzing—who wants to fish, followed up by estimates on the cost to do so. Even though it is still early in the fishing season, many ladies are already teaming up to see what boats are available for the upcoming tournaments. There's something about friendship and fishing go together. You want to get all your gals out for a fun filled day on the water—whether or not you are excited to drink all day or you're in search of the next winning fish.—because the bond you all share is to make memories with one another. That's when the planning starts. You come up with a team name, figure out payments, decide who's

bringing what to eat that day (not a 5 course meal by any means, but who does not love a good snack?), what to wear, what day you will be going out, and, most importantly, what time to be to the boat (always set multiple alarms so you do not oversleep). Some ladies may not be in on these group chats and that's okay because there are a lot of teams always looking for more to join via tournament platforms. Teams can consist of multiple anglers ranging from juniors to seniors. Most tournaments have a six-person maximum, so do not worry if you are short because there is a great possibility someone else is looking to join. That's the beauty of a ladies tournament as well, women supporting women who want to share the same interests.

With that being said, we are just two days away from the 5th year of the Tunas and Tiaras Tournament (June 13-14). This is the only ladies' tuna tournament in the world. Created by a lady angler herself, Pam Taylor had a vision and executed it precisely. Here is a brief background and what she had to say about her upcoming tournament:

"When COVID hit in 2020, tournaments were canceling and charters were losing trips. I, with the backing of local fishing enthusiasts, decided to save as much as possible. Rebel's Release was born as a ladies' marlin release tournament with homemade catch cards and trophies on the docks at each boat individually to keep social distancing and safety a priority. Looking forward,

Ocean City didn't have room for another Marlin Release tournament and I love catching tuna. So, I had a wild idea of a ladies-only tuna tournament. One day while folding laundry, the name Tuna and Tiaras hit me. I hollered it to my husband, he loved it, and it was on!

Since then, we've had four years of Tuna and Tiaras, with 2024 proving successful with 64 boats. Humbling numbers to say the least. What started off as my husband and I working hard, has developed into a community of support for each other. Our tournament director, Megan Schulte, makes sure we have vendors to visit, amazing tournament bags full of the best goodies, and so much more.

Kicking off ladies' fishing tournaments for the season, our fifth year is starting June 12, 2025. Our anglers, volunteers, and sponsors make our world go 'round. Pohanka of Salisbury presents Tuna and Tiaras, brought to you by Suzuki Marine USA at

5TH ANNIVERSARY



TUNA & TIARAS

Ladies Tuna Tournament

Ocean City, MD

LADIES ONLY TUNA TOURNAMENT

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Thrones Marine, supported by The Jennifer Burnett Lending Group, Evolution Marine Electrics, and Duffie Boatworks. What an honor and a blessing.

I've fished all over the world and grabbed ideas I loved and fixed parts that weren't great to ultimately create a fun and welcoming environment for ladies.

My goal with Tuna and Tiaras is to promote ladies in offshore fishing. We wrote the rules so everyone has the same playing field. From our small boats to our big boats, our experienced anglers and first-timers, we've got everyone covered, all while raising money for a local nonprofit Women Supporting Women, where our donations are only supporting our Delmarva peninsula and really makes an impact.

And for our outboard motor boats, Rt 113 Boat Sales and Service offers Tuna and Tiaras a \$5,000 jackpot to the heaviest tuna weighed by an outboard motor boat if entered into the single heaviest tuna winner take-all calcutta!

Looking forward, I'd like to see more new anglers come out and give it a try. Possibly hosting an entry-level "What to expect" class for ladies who haven't been offshore, to understand what's happening and how to react. We'd cover safety, what to bring, what NOT to bring, what to do with a reel in your hand, what you can be doing without a reel in your hand, what you're looking at, etc.. It's my idea to make that first time a little more comforting and get girls out there.

My first time offshore, I was SEASICK for 13 hours and swore I'd never go out there again. I'm so glad I gave it another shot. It changed my life.

I'd like to share with the ladies who are considering their first trip to just do it! Reach out to me personally if you're nervous and have questions. If you had a bad first trip, do it again!! Look at my experience! Tuna and Tiaras has won tournaments in the US and internationally,

have made so many lifelong friends, and am able to donate back to our local community, all because of a passion built off a second chance.

To pick one favorite offshore story is impossible. But here's two

2019:

We went tuna fishing in a 30' Grady express. It was early June, so it was foggy as expected. We were trolling, and it was boring (which is why Tuna and Tiaras has a photo competition because that's tuna fishing sometimes). Then all of a sudden, pure chaos, like shot guns going off around us, we had six reels screaming. Four anglers, me? The only female. So, we started cranking. All bigeyes over 100 lbs. I was bound and determined to reel one in alone. With just a belt, no chair, I eventually caved. what a fight these things gave us! We landed four that day, and everyone cried uncle. We went home early! Chests puffed high, a quick trip, a butt-kick, and homeward bound!

Most recently, in Costa Rica, I was invited to fish on a boat I hadn't even heard of before, with people I had never met. I was nervous and intimidated when I got on the boat. First two sailfish bites of the day? Yep. Came to me. I missed them both. Got the nerves out, and in that two-day tournament, we ended up placing third, bringing home a trophy! I consider these folks friends and can't wait to fish with them again. We found a school of sailfish and couldn't even get the spread back out before someone was getting bit again. Pure magic of a day! Take the chance. Fish with strangers. You already have lots in common with them if you want to fish!

All in all, Tuna and Tiaras is here to inspire you. New or experienced. How can we help move you to share our passions?

With that being said, follow your dreams, ladies, young or old, because you never know what could happen. Anything is possible if you just believe in yourself!



Ocean City local Moriah Phillips caught this 18" flounder aboard the "Christian Lee" using Gulp.



Angler Karli Glatfelter, of Berlin, MD. boated this 44" red drum. Karli was aboard the "Reel Islander" at Tangier Sound when she caught this fish. The bait that brought in this good sized drum was cut peeler.



Mason Lewis caught and released this 24" juvenile black drum. Mason was fishing near the Verrazano Bridge and made his catch using a peeler crab.



Brian, Dave, and Seth, visiting from PA, brought this solid batch of flounder between 16 and 19 ¾ inches. They fished the West Channel and Thorofare using Pink Shine Gulp.



OCEAN CITY INLET TIDES & MOON PHASES

WED. JUNE 11 Full Moon	High 08:33 am High 09:16 pm	Low 02:51 am Low 02:15 pm
THUR. JUNE 12	High 09:17 am High 09:57 pm	Low 03:28 am Low 02:54 pm
FRI. JUNE 13	High 10:01 am High 10:37 pm	Low 04:06 am Low 03:35 am
SAT. JUNE 14	High 10:44 am High 11:17 pm	Low 04:46 am Low 04:21 am
SUN. JUNE 15	High 11:29 am High 11:58 pm	Low 05:29 am Low 05:11 pm
MON. JUNE 16	High ----- High 12:17 pm	Low 06:13 am Low 06:07 pm
TUE. JUNE 17	High 12:42 am High 01:09 pm	Low 06:59 am Low 07:07 pm
WED. JUNE 18 Third Quarter	High 01:30 am High 02:08 pm	Low 07:46 am Low 08:10 pm

source: usharbors.com

Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge.

Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide

Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide
- subtract 45 minutes to low tide

Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide - 21 minutes for low tide

Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

These tides are only meant to be a guide, as tides can be affected by storms and weather fronts.



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Anglers Brewer Landolt, Andy Landolt, and Cain Jagow had a great day deep dropping offshore, scoring some golden and blueline tilefish. They went out with Capt. Robert aboard "Reel Freedom Charters" out of Chincoteague Island, VA. The largest catch came in at 26 lbs.



MAKE THAT PHOTO A KEEPER!

Here are some Great Tips to submit a Quality Photo of your Catch!

- Have the angler(s) face into the sun to minimize shadows
- Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera
- When using a cell phone, make sure you send photos at the largest setting possible

SHOOT VERTICAL PHOTOS! (UP & DOWN FORMAT IS BEST, NOT SIDEWAYS)

- Be sure to SMILE 😊 Stone faces are bad luck for future fishing trips!

Or call us at the office and we'll come take your photo!

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AS ALWAYS, WE DO OUR BEST TO RUN THE PICTURES WE RECEIVE; HOWEVER, WE ARE SOMETIMES UNABLE TO RUN ALL OF THE PICTURES DUE TO SPACE RESTRICTIONS AND OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.

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Email your photo to coastalfisherman@comcast.net and be sure to include the following info:

- Angler full name, town & state
- Names and towns of others in photo
- Weight and/or length of fish
- Bait/Lure used & location of catch
- Name of boat, if any

Send

3RD ANNUAL BATTLE FOR THE BUCKLE FISHING TOURNAMENT



Team Rooster celebrating their victory on the Houseboat Stage at Sunset Marina. With the team's thrasher shark being the only qualifying fish crew took home \$14,450.



Battle For The Buckle supports the Believe in Tomorrow Charity and donated \$10,000 to their cause. Believe in Tomorrow helps critically ill children and their families.



Angler Jon Odachowski just missed qualifying for the Battle for the Buckle tournament by the skin of his teeth. Jon reeled in this 29½ lbs. bluefin tuna, just ½ lb shy of the minimum weight of 30 lbs. Jon went out on "Water Damage," located at the Ocean City Fishing Center, with Capt. Zach Odachowski, mate Ben Odachowski, Nick Odachowski and Robin Womack. The team "Infinity Environmental" were fishing out of the South Baltimore canyon. The tournament is hosted in remembrance of Wayne Odachowski.



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UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

JUNE

OC Smackdown Tuna Tournament

TBD • Atlantic Tackle • 410-289-7438

5th Annual Tuna & Tiaras Ladies Tuna Tournament

June 13-14 • Ocean City, MD • 410-212-7159

School's Out Tuna Tournament

June 18 - 22 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

10th Annual Indian River Kids Catch-All Tournament

June 20-22 • Indian River Marina • 302-227-3071

46th Annual OCMC Small Boat Tournament

June 21-22 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

7th Annual Fish N Paddle Saltwater Slam

Kayak Fishing Tournament

June 21-22 • Ocean City, MD • 410-868-5488

JULY

42nd Annual Canyon Kick Off

July 4-6 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

South Jersey Yacht Sales Offshore Showdown

July 9-12 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177

38th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament

July 11-13 • Ocean City Fishing Center • 410-213-1613

Jimmy Johnson's Atlantic City "Quest for the Ring"

July 13-19 • Atlantic City • www.QuestfortheRingAC.com

21st Annual Marlin Club Kid's Classic

July 19-20 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

11th Annual HUK Big Fish Classic

July 25-27 • Talbot Street Pier • 410-213-0325

Cape May Marlin Tournament

July 24-27 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177

For complete tournament coverage results, pick up the Coastal Fisherman every week from May through September or go to our website at

www.coastalfisherman.net



The "Reel Addiction" crew from Nazareth, PA, had another great outing. Here's Mike Orchulli with one of eight bluefish caught near the Rt. 50 Bridge, using Roy Rigs and Dredge deep divers. Fishing with him were Jake, Cade, and Maddox Campbell, along with family.

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Anglers Erik Dowell, Rick Stutzer and Josh Phippen found the bluefish at Rt. 50 Bridge. The three caught 11 in total alongside a flounder. The trio fished at the start of an outgoing tide and were using paddle tails.

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Anglers Brian Reynolds of Berlin, MD. and Sean Hitchens from Dagsboro, DE. holding their first and second place fish for the Blues For DU tournament at Bahia Marina. Brian Reynolds' first place bluefish weighed in at 10 lbs. 9 oz. Sean Hitchens' 2nd place fish came in at 7 lbs. 3 oz. The two were fishing aboard the boat "Walk On Water" and were fishing near the Rt. 50 Bridge using spot as bait.



TOURNAMENT RESULTS

June 6-8 2025

Benefiting Ducks Unlimited

1ST PLACE
 Brian Reynolds • 10.6 lbs. – \$2540

2ND PLACE
 Sean Hitchens • 7.2 lbs. – \$702

3RD PLACE
 Morgan Mericle • 7.1 lbs. – \$460

JUNIOR ANGLER
 Ashton Evans • 5.7 lbs.

13 Boats Participated • bahiamarina.com



Morgan Mericle from Gathersburg holding his bluefish caught on the third day of the tournament on the boat "Wreckless". Morgan Mericle's bluefish weighed in at 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was caught at the Rt. 50 Bridge while using a paddle tail.



The three winners of the Blues For DU tournament holding their checks. Brian Reynolds took home the largest sum with a total \$2,540, split between the first place prize and the winner take all calcutta. Sean Hitchens in second place brought home \$702 for his fish. Morgan Mericle fills out the podium in third place earning \$460.



Ashton Evans from Ocean City, MD. holding his 5 lbs. 1 oz. bluefish that won Ashton the Junior Angler division. Ashton found his fish at the Rt. 50 Bridge not unlike the other placing fish in this tournament. Ashton's catch awarded him a new rod and reel.

VIRGINIA

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. Matt Abell



As the month of May goes away June fishing is here to stay. Fishing, on the Lower Eastern Shore, is shifting to an early summer pattern. The red hot fishing action is a mere precursor of the hot and humid conditions to come. So grab a rod and enjoy the start to summer.

The Middle Chesapeake has continued to hog up the main stage with great action from several species. There has been a excellent grade of rock around structure and grass flats, with most (but not all) fish exceeding

the slot limit and offering spectacular striped action on both artificial as well as bait offerings. As long as we're talking spectacular... the spec bite has improved a good bit. Most fish are lured into the net by chunks of crab presented on the edges of the many grass flats of the Tangier and Pocomoke Sounds. However, others are lured by just that.... lures. We did great this week on the Sea Hawk "POP-A-LICIOUS" popping corks trailed with a 3/16 oz Freedom Bait jig head tipped with












a Gulp swimming mullet. The black drum have slowed (not stopped) a bit while bull reds continue to scarf up crab baits and make your drag scream. The only worry is the lack of pups to pacify the plate at the dinner table. Around some of the Chesapeake reefs we have scraped with some striped sheephead. These light biting but delicious dinner fare have taken tog jigs tipped with crab as an invitation to supper. Around some of these same reefs, some brutally aggressive blues

have bullied there way to the gunwale in pursuit of surface walking plugs and suspending baits like the Rap-10. A few of the Ariel acrobats have exceeded the 30" mark... a true Chesapeake Challenge!!

The lower bay has continued to produce reds, blacks, and lots of Sheephead on the piles of the CBBT. Fish are targeted with crab baits on tog / sweeper jigs. The new news comes from the "Man in the Brown Suit". Pre-season Cobia have started to show and are patrolling their typical haunts. From the CBBT to Cape Charles fishermen are encountering early yet eager cobes providing

2025 VIRGINIA REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - July 15 August 4 - December 31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH No minimum 3 per person/day or 5 per person/day headboat All Year</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>COBIA 43" minimum / Only 1>50" 1 per person/day • 2 per boat/day 6/15 - 9/20</p>
 <p>CROAKER No minimum 50 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18-26" minimum 3 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No minimum 4 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 5 per person/day All Year Only 1>24"</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28-31" 1 per person/day 1/1-3/31 & 5/16-12/31</p>	 <p>FLOUNDER 4 per person/day All Year 1/1 - 5/31 - 16" 6/1 - 12/31 - 17.5"</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1-5/15 & 7/1-12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 12" minimum 1 per person/day All Year</p>

eregulations.com

lots of fun! It hopefully will continue for opening day in the middle of the month.

The productivity of inshore seaside fishing has shrunk a bit as the flounder limit has grown. There are still plenty of fish, with a few keepers mixed in. The best tide has been the last of the flood and first of the ebb, and the best baits have been pink teasers tipped with gulp, big minnows or silversides. The nearshore bite has consisted of sheephead and a few flounder starting to show on shallow wrecks and seabass on deeper structures. Tiles have been prevalent in the deep. Hopfully, some

pelagic prey will swim into the picture soon.

This week I had the privilege of having my oldest son Ethan home from the USCG Cutter "Tiger Shark". E, his Mom and sister (complete with boyfriend) actually stole an afternoon and fished out of Crisfield. We had a limit of rock (with more to release), some huge blues, specs, and even some tog and sheephead. I noticed that despite E having the opportunity to fish all over the country, the Eastern Shore is still pretty much as good as it gets. So grab your family (while you can) and get out there and enjoy this wonderful place that we call home!!



Melissa Heldreth, of Millsboro, DE, caught a solid flounder at 21-inches – her new personal best! Her catch was made out in the Assateague Channel on squid and minnow.

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