



THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

# WIRELINE

FEBRUARY 2018

## What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Captain Daniel LeGrande, *Legrande Slam SportFishing Charters* on Coastal Virginia Marlin Fishing

Fishing Tips: Tuna Fishing with Captain Robert Smith, *Four Reel Sportfishing Charters*

### Fishing Reports:

- Offshore Tautog fishing and Black Sea Bass catching
- Offshore Deep Dropping; Golden Tilefish, Blackbelly Rosefish, Spotted Hake, and Alfosino Fish

### Angler Interests

- Black Sea Bass recreational season opens for February with special permitting & reporting



# Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Though the fishing hasn't been the greatest in January, this month is looking very good! Recreational Black Sea Bass will open for only the month of February with some special conditions.

Thank You to our Boat Show volunteers! February 9-11 will be the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Please stop by and visit the Norfolk Anglers Club table. We've got some really nice new hat designs to share.

The Club's Annual Awards Banquet at the Norfolk Yacht & Country Club is on March 3rd! You'll not want to miss this, with great food, a new venue, and plenty of raffle items. The last chance to sign up is at the February meeting.

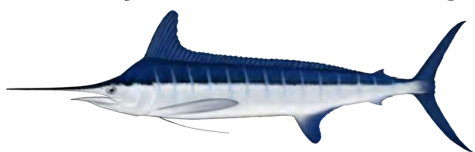
Time to renew your 2018 membership. We'll have applications at the Boat Show and the next meeting. Membership funds don't go far in supporting all our activities but it certainly helps.

- Will

## Meeting

**Guest Speaker:** Captain Daniel LeGrande, *LeGrande Slam Sportfishing Charters*, on Marlin fishing off the Virginia Coast

Join us on Monday, February 12th to hear Captain Daniel LeGrande share his experience catching Marlin off the Virginia Coast. He'll share how to rig for and target Marlin from smaller boats. Their charter vessel, *LeGrande Slam*, is a 27 foot Judge Yachts center console powered by a 250 HP Suzuki engine.



## Important:

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

## Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

## Publishers NOTES

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## Club Calendar

### February

Fri-Sun, Feb 9th-11th: 65th Annual Mid-Atlantic  
Sports and Boat Show

Monday, Feb 12th: Norfolk Anglers Club Meeting

Tuesday, Feb 27th: VMRC Commission Meeting

### March

Saturday, Mar 3rd, NAC Awards Banquet

Saturday, Mar 10th, GBFA Fishing Flea Market

Saturday, Mar 17th: Poquoson Kiwanis Club  
Boating & Fishing Flea Market

# DON'T MISS THE 3 MAR NAC BANQUET



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Country Club  
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Thanks to Mike Hubert for  
setting this up. You will get  
more info on the Banquet at  
the FEB 12th NAC Meeting,  
*last time to sign up.*



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|----------|---------|--------------|
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| SATURDAY | Feb. 10 | • 10am - 8pm |
| SUNDAY   | Feb. 11 | • 10am - 5pm |

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# Norfolk Anglers Club

[www.norfolkanglersclub.com](http://www.norfolkanglersclub.com)



FOUR REEL  
sportfishing

## Fishing Tips...



## Tuna Fishing with Captain Robert Smith, *Four Reel Sportfishing Charters*

When most anglers think about tuna fishing they're thinking about large charter vessels like they see on TV. Captain Smith explained it's more about having the right equipment, overall preparedness to be offshore, and intel than just a large boat. "Safety at sea" should be your first consideration and that means having sufficient safety equipment, *knowing how & when to use it*, as well as, general preparedness to be offshore and battling potentially large and powerful fish.

Where to fish for tuna? "On top of feeding tuna, of course!" Capt Smith added. Anglers should develop their intel before heading offshore. That intel can come from friends, satellite services, internet reports, local Charteroperators and their reports, as well as, logs of your previous fishing experiences. All of these inputs will help to develop a planned area to fish but as Capt Smith advised, anglers should modify their plan as more intel becomes available. During the offshore transit look for additional "Fish Signs" as Capt Smith added. These are changes in water temperature or color, grass lines, look for bait on your fish finder, structure on the chart plotter, mammals, and, of course, birds. Birds are often the key to success. High flying birds are doing the same as you, looking for fish. When you find birds lower to the water and circling or down near the water, they've zero'd in on their food source. When tuna feed they generally leave an oily slick on the surface and remnants of bait fish float to the surface. Birds will quickly target this and if you're looking for it, they guide you to feeding activity. The small black birds, often referred to as "Tuna Birds" are Petrels or Storm Petrels. They swoop down and skim the water collecting bits of food from the oily slick. Mammals, like whales (especially Pilot whales) and dolphins, feeding also indicate the presence of bait and that can also mean tuna.



Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia

Structure is another key factor to focus on when planning to target tuna. Structure can be a lot of things and not only wrecks. Anything that changes the bottom contour, such as hills, humps, ledges, canyon walls will attract fish. It can also be weather buoys, lobster and long-line buoys. Don't discount the important role structure provides in attracting bait.

Water color and temperature change is another big factor anglers should pay attention to when transiting to your planned fishing area. Using satellite services is good for planning but often cloud cover will obscure data or the temp break has moved from the time the data was derived and when you arrive. You should look for changes in the water color and monitor the water temp readings on the way out. Rises in water temp signal the break between warm and cooler water and this is an area to concentrate on. Cooler water will appear somewhat green, while the converging body of warmer water will be a darker blue. This sometimes forms a visible line that is detectable with the naked eye. You'll find fish on one side or the other of temperature breaks, Capt Smith advised. Generally, Bigeye and Yellowfin Tuna will feed in the warmer water areas whereas Bluefin Tuna because of the unique metabolism can feed in much cooler water.

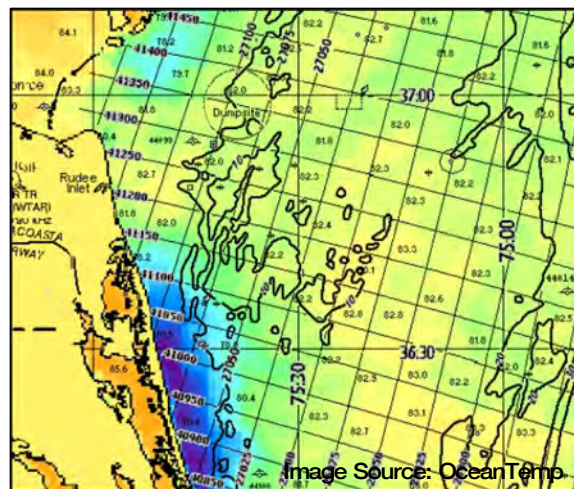


Image Source: OceanTemp

# Norfolk Anglers Club

[www.norfolkanglersclub.com](http://www.norfolkanglersclub.com)

## Fishing Tips...

Which lures or bait works best? Everyone has their preference, and lure combinations and technique varies greatly up and down the coast, Capt Smith explained. He added, what works for *Four Reel Sportfishing* is a combination of lures in the setup. Rigs include naked ballyhoo, skirted ballyhoo, Joe Shute or other fish-finder lures, Daisy Chains, Spreader or Splash Bars, Live or Dead Bait, and Bait Chunks.



*Four Reel Sportfishing's* #1 Bait is the naked ballyhoo. Rigged either as a split bill or skip bait everything's going to go after a ballyhoo. Capt Smith added that all his rigs are prepared with fluorocarbon leader material. While its more costly than using monofilament, its more difficult for leader-shy fish to see and its higher abrasion resistance is important. Sea Witch skirts can also be added to rigged ballyhoo to attract fish and entice a strike.

Joe Shute and other fish-finder lures are another favorite of Capt Smith. The Joe Shute lures come in three weights (1, 3, and 5 ounce) lure weights, as well as, a 5 3/4 oz keel weighted lure. "Fish-finder lures" fit a wide variety of lure types. They can be weighted lures rigged with skirts and include smooth rounded heads or shaped lure faces (concave, flat, or slanted). Others can be molded diving lures like the Bomber (CD30) Blue Mackerel lure (pictured left). Trolling a mix of these types of lures in your spread will put lures at differing depths and with varying action to attract fish. Once an angler experiences a number of strikes on a particular lure type or color combination the spread can be dialed in to what the fish are attracted to.



Daisy Chains are another tactic to entice strikes. Chains can be rigged with various colors of lures and lure types. Plastic squid heads are common but the choice is endless, from placing fish-finder lures in line, to stringing rubber flying fish in the chain. The purpose is to draw attention to a group of lures that resemble a small group of baitfish. The trailing lure is often rigged with a hook but daisy chains can also be used simply attract fish toward the spread.



The addition of Spreader or Splash Bars is a very effective method of bringing fish into your spread. The splashing and sound at the surface mimics baitfish on the surface or predatory fish in a feeding frenzy. Teaser birds, large and small, are used in front of lures or rigged to a spreader bar to draw fish toward the spread or bring them up from deeper waters.



For live baiting for tuna Spot works great. It's durable on the hook and keeps in the live well. Avoid the temptation to use Menhaden (Bunker) for live baiting. Generally they'll not survive long in the live well, unless the live well is properly designed with good water flow. For dead baiting, *Four Reel Sportfishing* prefers using Butterfish

chunks, Boston Mackerel or Spanish Mackerel brined heavily with BaitMasters Brine. Large Sardines will also work for drifting at night.



FOUR REEL  
sportfishing

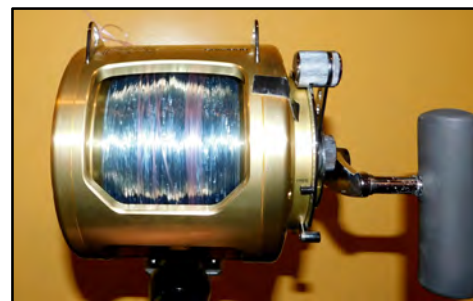


Technique in setting the spread and trolling the boat is important and will vary greatly depending on your boat's handling and configuration. Boats don't need to be equipped with outriggers to be effective targeting tuna. Anglers do have to have the right equipment before attempting to land a powerful fish like tuna. Reels for Yellowfin and Bigeye Tuna should be in the 30-50 class range and if you're deploying spreader bars upsize to a 80 class reel. For Bluefin tuna you'll want to start with an 80 class reel for recreational fishing and look to the 130 class reel as the norm. Bluefin tuna can range upwards of 500 pounds and the reel you choose must have the line capacity, gear ratio, and drag to effectively fight a large tuna.

Four Reel Sportfishing uses 800 yards JB hollow core braid as a backing and then a topshot of 80-220 pound monofilament. Capt Smith cautioned about overfilling the reel with topshot. If there's too much line on the reel during the retrieve the possibility exist to high-center the line. Once that happens you're likely to break the line as it chafes against the reel housing.

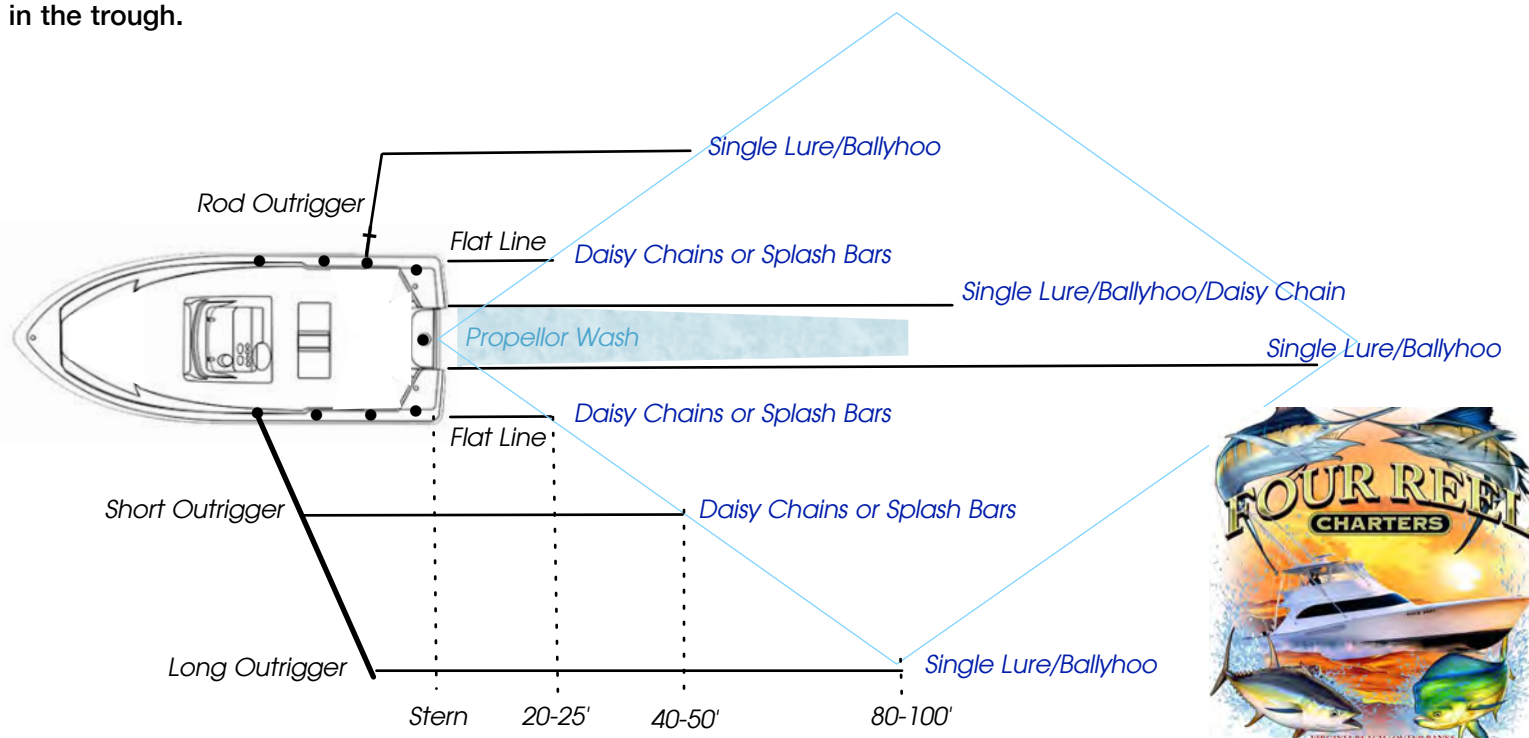
Configuring your spread is really about trial and error on your boat. If you have outriggers, they help tremendously in opening up the area where you can place bait. No outriggers = No problem. Anglers can use a Rod Outrigger to get their rod away from the boat and increase the spread some. The diagram below shows two methods to rig a small boat for tuna fishing; with outriggers and without.

Place your Daisy Chains or Splash Bars off the Flat Lines at the stern corner and run the line through a release clip near the water. You want to keep your rigs out of the propellor wash and be mindful of the line position when maneuvering the boat. Think of placing your spread using a ◇ pattern with lures spaced diagonally from the stern. Make adjustments in lure placement depending on your boat's handling and prevailing conditions. Capt Smith recommends trying a heavier lure weight on the upwind side of the spread on windy days and try to adjust your rig to keep the lure placement in the wave/swell and not in the trough.



### Four Reel Sportfishing Rigging Guide

|                | Yellowfin<br>& Bigeye | Bluefin  |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Reel Class     | 30/50/80              | 80/130   |
| Topshot (Mono) | 80-100#               | 180-200# |
| Fluro Leader   | 80-130#               | 180-220# |
| Leader Length  | 20ft                  | 20ft     |
| Hook (Jobo)    | 7/0-8/0               | 8/0-10/0 |





The 2017 65th Annual Mid-Atlantic Sports & Boat Show is coming up fast. Come by the Norfolk Anglers Club Booth. We love to talk about fishing. We'll be selling Hats, T-Shirts and Fishing Tips Books.

The Fishing Tips contain advice from Hampton Road's finest Anglers and Charter Captains. We've improved/added more information to this year's edition. The proceeds benefit the our Head Boat Fishing Trip/Picnic on the Chesapeake Bay for 50 of the East Ocean View Rec Center summer participants; some of these kids have never fished before. The Boat Show is a



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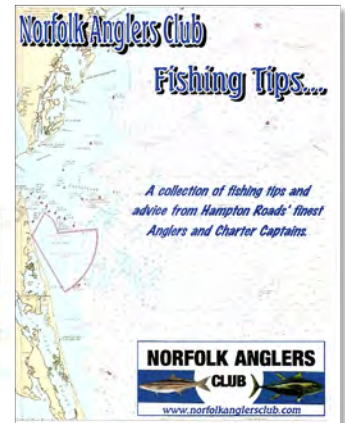
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Children 12 and under –  
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## When

Friday, February 9th, Noon-8pm

Saturday, February 10th,  
10am-8pm

Sunday, February 11th,  
10am-5pm

## Where

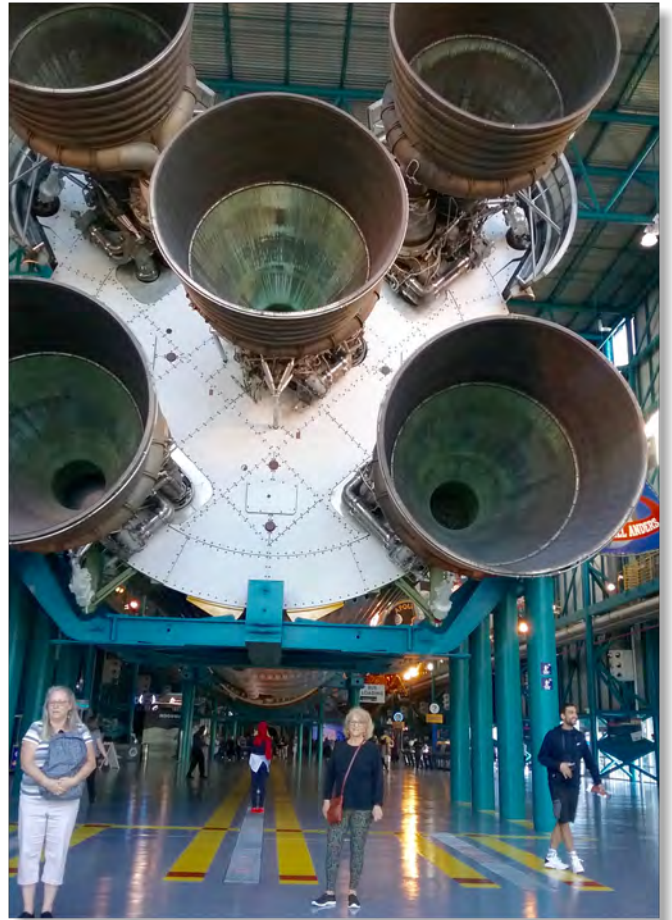
Virginia Beach Convention  
Center 1000 19th St.,  
Virginia Beach VA 23451  
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# Fishing Reports...

**DAYTONA BEACH!** In the middle of January, Michel and I went down to Daytona Beach to enjoy a week + with our friends (Bob and Jerri). We visited the Kennedy Space Center, Daytona Race Track and a Turtle Rehab Center. All were worth seeing, especially the Space Center. While Bob and I were fishing in Halifax River, we saw a rocket launch from Kennedy and Michel and Jerri watched it from the balcony of their condo with a wine cooler. The launch was 30 miles away. SPECTACULAR!!!

The first four days were cold (29 degrees) in the morning and 15 to 25 NE winds. Later in the week it warmed up a bit and the wind laid down. Bob and I planned to fish 2 evenings with a guide but only got in one. We caught 15 to 18 Sheepshead (nothing bigger than 2 pounds) using sandfiddlers and 2 small Specks on DOA glow shrimp. The guide told me that he saw some Snook almost motionless in the river a few days before. Water temp was 54 degrees. - Ned Smith



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**Capt. Mike Griffith  
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757-687-9093**



Jan 27: With the weather forecasted to be near perfect, we decided to head offshore for a Tautog trip. Along for the ride were Greg Rogers, Mike Delbridge and John Ermalinski. We planned to fish the deeper offshore wrecks for Taug and if everything went well we'd also add in some deep drop fishing for Golden Tilefish. We brought along assorted cut bait and plenty of green crabs.

We had a nice ride out and had the first wreck all to ourselves for awhile. Seas were calmer than forecasted and winds light. There was hardly a drift to be had but we decided to anchor up so all of us could fish.

We had a couple of very good Taug hits but didn't get the chance to land any Taug. I brought the only Spiny Dogfish shark aboard for the day. The day wasn't without some catching as we landed quite a few Black Sea Bass. With Sea Bass season currently closed, I tagged the fish for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program and released them at the bottom using a SeaQualizer Release system.



We're already planning on getting back on the Sea Bass when a limited season opens on February 1st. The Sea Bass we caught were a real nice quality fish with MANY over 5 pounds! All caught while using green crab, I can only imagine if we'd switched over to cut bait.

If you're planning on fishing for Black Sea Bass in February be sure to review the recreational permitting and reporting requirements on VMRC's webpage.  
- Will Bransom

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27 Jan: Kevin and I arrived at the Norfolk Canyon at 9 am. First drop yielded 4 fish, a large GoldenTile and a nice sized what appeared to be a Hake fish on my line. Kevin had two nice hakes. We continued to produce with every drop, many drops producing 2 fish at a time and cranking those in at 900 plus feet, that's some serious muscle burn. We caught a total of 12 of large Hakes and one that Kevin caught was jumbo sized. So I was curious if there was a world record for this species?

I could not find much data about it online but we had one here that was easily over 12 lbs. I boated 2 Golden's and a large Blackbelly Rosefish Kevin landed a Blackbelly Rosefish

and a beautiful Alfonsino that weighed 8 lbs 2 ounces at the Virginia Beach Fishing Center.

The current world record Alfonsino is 8 Lb 5oz. We head backed early and left the fishing grounds by 1 pm to ensure we could get back safely before the predicted wind increase/ inclement weather predictions kicked in. What an fantastic day on the water!

*From the Canyons to the Creeks... We've got you Covered!*



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Multiple people suggested that what we caught was a Red Hake including our good fishing friend Eric who stopped by and saw the fish the night before.

Kevin went to the tackle shop the following day and had his Hake weighed. It weighed 12 Lb 15 oz and measured almost 35 inches. Current IGFA all tackle world record for Red Hake is 12 lbs 13 oz. So I started the process of paperwork, and contacting appropriate personnel including a suggestion from a Dr. Ken Neill to take the fish to VIMS.

I thought that really a good idea to get a fish ID because of the various types of Hake species. So Monday, I took the Hake in question, and met up with Dr. Eric Hilton, an ichthyologist At VIMS. The Hake fish was given to Dr. Eric Hilton who assessed it. He said it is definitely not a White Hake and its not a Red Hake. It is a Spotted Hake. One of the biologists who has seen these before says she has only seen them in the foot to foot and a half range. They all agreed that they have never seen one this big. This Spotted Hake fish was almost 35 inches and

weighed almost 13 lbs . Dr. Ken Neill responded back for us to continue to submit the forms to the IGFA for the fish to be considered for IGFA All tackle world record in this species.

And I am also happy to announce that both the Hake and the Alfonsino fish have a new permanent home at VIMS for further research!

- Beth Synowic







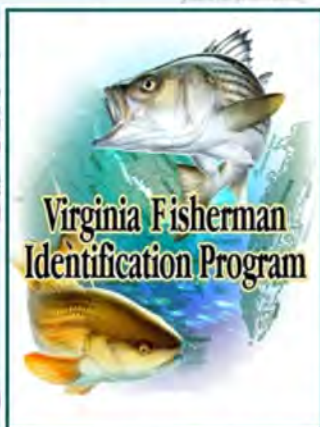
[www.mrc.virginia.gov](http://www.mrc.virginia.gov)

Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC), whether you've been fishing for decades or just starting out, is a great online resource. Want to check fishing regulations, find out about the many artificial reefs in Virginia, keep your own personal fishing journal? It's all available online at [www.mrc.virginia.gov](http://www.mrc.virginia.gov).



Get the latest updates on Saltwater Recreational Hook & Line Fishing Regulations, Recreational Crabbing, and Non-Hook Fishing Regulations or Shark Identification Information. You can also use a link from here to get your Grouper/Tilefish Landing Permit, Spring Striped Bass Trophy Permit, Cobia Landing Permit, and the 2018 Black Sea Bass Permit. All permits are FREE and available online.

Fresh and Saltwater fishing licenses are still sold under the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and can be purchased online or at a Virginia Marine Resource Commission Agent in the Hampton Roads area.



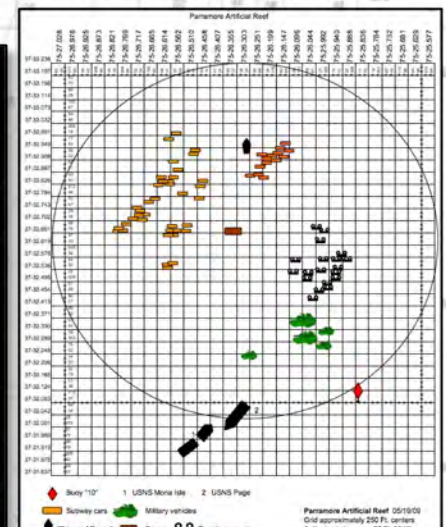
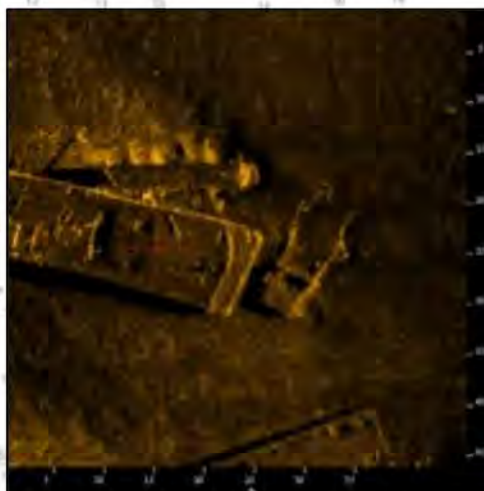
Do you fish on a boat that has a recreational saltwater boat license? While you're not required to have a saltwater license, if you're over age 16 you're required to register under the Fisherman Identification Program (FIP). This is a free service Virginia provides to comply with National Marine Fisheries Service requirement under the National Saltwater Angler Registry and exempts Virginia anglers from paying the annual federal registration fee.

Other common reasons to register with FIP are; if you fish from a licensed public fishing pier, or from private property, or if you're age 65 or older.

If you have a Virginia Saltwater Fishing License you're already covered and don't need to register under FIP.



Ever wanted those GPS numbers for the Triangle Reef ships? Here's were to get them and a lot more! There's Sonar reports showing sidescan images of the many artificial reef structures, and grid layouts of each of Virginia Artificial Reef projects.





# VIRGINIA SALTWATER Fisherman's Journal



www.vasaltwaterjournal.com

Since 2007, the Virginia Saltwater Fisherman's Journal has been serving anglers in recording their catch and providing Fisheries Managers with data. After creating your log-in you'll be able to create your own journal of your fishing experiences, using it to log what you caught, when, how, and other information. You can decide to share your info with other anglers as a public record or keep it confidential.

The Saltwater Journal is also the easiest way to make your required reporting for Grouper/Tilefish landings and Spring Striped Bass Trophy catches.

## Record Trip Info

### \* Required Fields

\*User Name:

\*Date of Trip(YYYY-MM-DD): 2016-01-25

\*Fished From:

Launch Site/Pier/Shore Name:

Weather:

Seas:

Wind Speed:

Wind Direction:

Time of Day:

Moon Phase:

Air Temp (F):

Water Temp (F):

\*Number of Anglers Reporting For:

Hours Fished:

Notes:

Identification of launch site will allow fishery managers to evaluate and update the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey(MRFS) and thereby improve the data collected by the angler interviews.

## Record Your Catch

### \* Required Fields: Species, Qty, Length

You may add an unlimited number of fish for each trip. To add additional fish, just click either of the "Add Fish" button

#### (1) Kept Fish

\*Species:  \*Qty: 1 \*Length(inches): 0.0 \*Weight(lbs):

Method:  Bait:  Tide:  ☐ Make Public

\*WATERBODY:  Comment:

#### (2) Released Fish

\*Species:  \*Qty: 1 \*Length(inches): 0.0

Method:  Bait:  Tide:  ☐ Make Public

\*WATERBODY:  Comment:



Recreational anglers who catch fish meeting established minimum weight or who catch and release fish meeting the Tournament's criteria may submit their entry to the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament. Official Weigh Stations are located throughout Hampton Roads at local Tackle Shops and Marinas. There's no fee to participate in the Saltwater Fishing Tournament!

## Virginia Recreational ASSESSMENT PROGRAM



Donating select filleted fish carcasses for research helps us all! Check out the back cover of this month's Wireline for targeted species and locations to donate.



# The Basics of Cold Water Safety

When planning a fishing trip we think about all the things to make the trip successful. There's all the rods & reels, fishing tackle, bait, fuel for the boat, food & drink, and the list goes on. And, while we'll give a thought to the outside temperature and dress for it, seldom do we consider how cold the water is and what it means IF you find yourself in it.

**1 - 10 - 1** is the US Coast Guard's Cold Water Survival Rule and it helps to understand the phases of cold water immersion. Simply put, it's 1 (first minute and Cold Water Shock), 10 (Ten minutes and Cold Water Incapacitation), and 1 (One hour to succumb to Hypothermia).

## 1 Minute - First Minute and Cold Water Shock

Rapid immersion in cold water causes the body to gasp and hyperventilate. The risk of breathing in water during this initial and uncontrolled phase is high and accounts for roughly 20 percent of deaths from drowning.

## 10 Minutes- Cold Water Incapacitation

The next ten minutes is critical for a person in the water to self-rescue. As the body decreases blood flow to the arms & legs to preserve body heat to vital organs you lose meaningful arm & legs movements. Your ability to self-rescue diminishes and if you're not wearing a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) that will float you head up, you drown.

## 1 Hour - Hypothermia

Hypothermia is the cooling of the body core temperature. It happens more slowly that you might imagine and varies among individuals depending on a number of factors such as, physical conditioning, body fat, etc. Hypothermia symptoms can range from confusion to unconsciousness and develops in the hour after immersion.

So, how cold does the water have to be? Well, our fishing grounds are already very cold with 39.9 degrees (Cape Henry water temperature on 31 Jan). Though generally, water colder than 60 degrees is considered cold.

There's another Coast Guard Rule to think about...the 50/50/50 Rule; In 50 degree water for 50 minutes you have a 50 percent *better* chance of surviving wearing a Personal Flotation Device (PFD).

It's important to remember if you've gotten dunked you must get dry and warm as soon as possible. Toughing it out because the fishing's good can spell disaster. Hypothermia can quickly become a medical emergency. Calling the Coast Guard on VHF Channel 16 is one of your best options for getting assistance quickly.





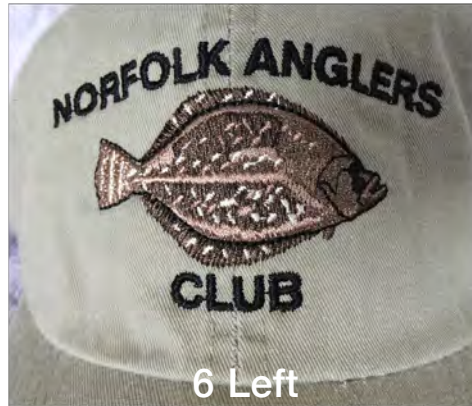
# NAC BALL CAPS



Choice of Velcro  
or Metal Clasp on  
back



5 Left



6 Left



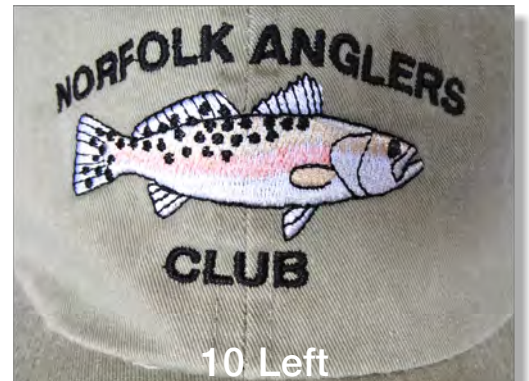
6 Left



9 Left



5 Left



10 Left



7 Left



11 Left



12 Left



# NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB MEN'S SHORT SLEEVE COTTON T-SHIRTS



2(L), 1(XL), 3(2XL)



1(M), 1(L), 2(XL), 1(2XL)



2(M), 2(L), 3(XL), 1(2XL)



2(M), 2(L), 2(XL), 1(2XL)



2(M), 2(L), 1(XL), 1(2XL)



1(M), 3(L), 1(XL), 1(2XL)



1(2XL)



1(M), 3(L), 3(XL), 1(2XL)



2(L) & 2(2XL)



1(XL)  
1(2XL)



1(2XL)



1(L) & 1(2XL)



2(M), 2(L), 2(XL)



1(M)  
1(2XL)



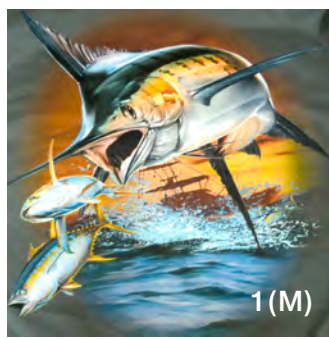
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3(L),  
(5)XL,  
3(2XL)



1(XL), 1(2XL)



1(XL)  
Dip Dye



1(M)



1(M)



1(L)



# NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB MEN'S LONG SLEEVE COTTON T-SHIRTS



2(M), 2(L), 2(XL), 1(2XL)



1(M), 1(L), 2(XL)



3(M), 2(L), 1(XL), 1(2XL)



2(M), 1(L), 1(XL)



1(M), 2(XL), 1(2XL)



1(M), 2(L), 2(XL), 1(2XL)



2(M), 1(L), 1(XL), 1(2XL)



1(M), 1(L), 3(XL), 1(2XL)



2(M), 2(XL)



4(XL),  
1(2XL)



1(M)



# Angler Interests



## Recreational Black Seas Bass Season Opens for February 2018

The Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC) will open the recreational Black Sea Bass Season on February 1st to February 28th. Participation in the limited Black Sea Bass recreational opening requires anglers to obtain a Black Sea Bass Recreational Permit (free and online from VMRC) and make a landing report to the VMRC Marine Operations Station prior to returning to shore.

### BLACK SEA BASS (SEA BASS)



Regulation 4 VAC 20-950-10 et seq.

Regulations for black sea bass caught in federal waters are subject to change. Please contact NMFS.

It shall be unlawful for any person fishing recreationally to take, catch, or possess any black sea bass, from February 1 through February 28, without first having obtained a Recreational Black Sea Bass Permit from the Marine Resources Commission. It shall be unlawful for any black sea bass permittee to fail to contact the Marine Resources Commission Operation Station at (800) 541-4646 before returning to shore at the end of the fishing trip during the February black sea bass season. The permittee shall provide the Operations Station with his name, VMRC ID number, the point of landing, a description of the vessel, and an estimated return to shore time. Permits can be obtained online [here](#) or at an [MRC Licensing Agent](#). Reporting can be done online through the [Saltwater Journal](#) or using forms provided by the VMRC.

Minimum Size Limit: 12.5 IN.

Possession Limit: 15 per person

Season: Feb 1-Feb 28, May 15-Sept 21, Oct 22-Dec 31

Capture Citation: 5 Lbs

Release Citation: NOT ELIGIBLE

State Record: 10 lbs 4 oz, 2000, Allen P. Paschall

### 2018 Recreational Species Permits (cobia, trophy striped bass, grouper/tilefish)

A limited number of no-cost, recreational species permits are available here for direct issue. You may also visit one of our [Authorized Agents](#) to obtain your recreational species permits. [Oyster Aquaculture Shellfish Permits](#) are not available below.

Please note that recreational species permits are most often required in addition to regular licensing. Please visit our [license requirements page](#) to more fully understand what licenses are required to fish in Virginia saltwater areas. **These permits are valid for the 2018 calendar year and must be renewed each year.** The permits with a prerequisite requirement must have the prerequisite license purchased at a VMRC authorized agent before the recreational species permit can be issued here.

For individuals fishing for any of the permitted species from a recreational vessel, the captain or operator of the vessel must possess the appropriate species permit and report for everyone aboard. All of the permits below require reporting of all fishing trips for permitted species, even if no fish were caught. If no trips were taken for species of a given permit, it is required to report "no activity" at the end of the season. The reporting regulations are outlined in their entirety in [regulation](#) as well as the email you will receive as part of the permitting process.

| Gear | Description                      | Prerequisite License                                       |
|------|----------------------------------|--|
| 476  | BLACK SEA BASS REC PERMIT        | Recreational Saltwater Fishing Licenses Requirements Apply |
| 473  | COBIA RECREATIONAL PERMIT        | Recreational Saltwater Fishing Licenses Requirements Apply |
| 471  | SPRING TROPHY ST BASS REC PERMIT | Recreational Saltwater Fishing Licenses Requirements Apply |
| 475  | TILEFISH/GRPR REC LANDING PERMIT | Recreational Saltwater Fishing Licenses Requirements Apply |

Your VMRC ID can be found on your VMRC licenses and permits. If you have ever been issued a VMRC commercial license, recreational permit, or oyster ground lease, then you have already been assigned a VMRC ID. **Your VMRC ID number is different from your saltwater license or FIP number.** If you do not have a VMRC ID, answer "NO" and complete the form below so we may assign you a VMRC ID. Your VMRC ID is between 4 and 7 characters in length: (ex: N001234). Zeros may be included in your VMRC ID, but not the letter "O". If you have forgotten your VMRC ID, please turn-off your pop-up blocker and use the [VMRC ID Lookup](#).



In August of this summer, George Poveromo came to Hampton Roads to tape episode 4 (2018 series) of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing (<http://www.georgepoveromo.com>) with local Pro Beth Synowiec. This show Airs on NBC sports at 4 pm on Tues Feb 6, 2018. There will be a open to the public celebration launch party at Murphy's Irish Pub located at 2914 Pacific Ave at Virginia Beach. Come join us.



### NBC SPORTS NETWORK:



World Fishing Network



George Poveromo TV



Click On The YouTube logo to access "George On Demand".

February 6 (Tuesday) - 4:00 p.m.  
May 8 (Tuesday) - 4:00 p.m.  
August 14 (Tuesday) - 4:00 p.m.

January 22 (Monday) - 6:30 a.m.  
January 25 (Thursday) - 9:30 p.m.  
January 26 (Friday) - 3:30 a.m.  
January 26 (Friday) - 9:30 a.m.  
April 16 (Monday) - 6:30 a.m.  
April 19 (Thursday) - 9:30 p.m.  
April 20 (Friday) - 3:30 a.m.  
April 20 (Friday) - 9:30 a.m.

George On Waypoint TV



Click On The Waypoint TV logo to access "George On Waypoint TV".

\*New releases will coordinate with the NBC Sports schedule airings



# Angler Interests

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



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

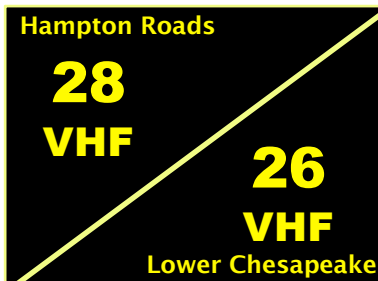
Items always in need; Lean Canned Protein (Peanut Butter, Tuna, Chicken, Turkey, Beans), Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Fruit Preserves and Dried Fruit, Whole Grains (Pasta, Oatmeal, Rice, Crackers), Other Meals (Stew, Boxed Meals, Canned Pasta), and Baby Products (Formula, Baby Food, Diapers, and Wipes).

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

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



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



## VMRC Public Hearings:



February 27th: Proposal to amend Chapter 4 VAC 20-960-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Tautog," to modify the recreational and commercial seasons and the recreational possession limit. To set the 2018 recreational season from Jan 1-May 15 and July 1-Dec 31, 2018 and increase the recreational possession limit to 4 fish per person. To also set the commercial Tautog season Jan 1-Jan 21, Mar 1-May 15, and Nov 1- Dec 31.



February 27th: Proposed amendments to Chapter 4 VAC 20-950-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Black Sea Bass," to establish the commercial back sea bass fishery quota to 664,000 pounds for 2018, and modify the bycatch trip limit.



March TBD: Proposal to amend Chapter 4 VAC 20-510-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Amberjack and Cobia," to adopt commercial and recreational fishing regulations consistent with the recently approved Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission management plan for cobia. Also to amend Chapter 4 VAC 20-995-10 ET SEQ., "Pertaining to commercial hook-and-line fishing," To make this regulation consistent with the code of Virginia.
















# THE VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION ***WANTS YOUR FISH.... TO MEASURE AND AGE.***



*You catch it, you fillet it,  
but instead of throwing the remains in the trash,  
please donate them to science.*

The Marine Sportfish Collection Project will focus on species of fish that are difficult to collect through the agency's normal sampling program. Anglers are asked to donate their filleted carcasses (head and tail intact) of legal and fresh-caught:

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <b><u>BLUEFISH</u></b><br>(GREATER THAN 36 INCHES)<br> | <b><u>TAUTOG</u></b><br>                                 | <b><u>COBIA</u></b><br>                                    | <b><u>RED DRUM</u></b><br>                              |
| <b><u>SHEEPSHEAD</u></b><br>                         | <b><u>SPADEFISH</u></b><br>(GREATER THAN 12 INCHES)<br> | <b><u>SPANISH MACKEREL</u></b><br>                        | <b><u>SPECKLED TROUT</u></b><br>(SPOTTED SEATROUT)<br> |
| <b><u>BLACK DRUM</u></b><br>                         | <b><u>TILEFISH</u></b><br>(BLUELINE OR GOLDEN)<br>     | <b><u>WRECKFISH, SNOWY GROUPE, WARSAW GROUPE</u></b><br> |  |

**In return for participating in the project, the agency will provide  
ONE FREE PROJECT TEE SHIRT, OR HAT FOR EACH PARTICIPANT,  
PER MONTH of the DONATION.**



## **Please visit these merchants to participate:**

Chris' Bait and Tackle (Capeville)  
Wallace's Bait and Tackle (Hampton)  
Port Messick Marina (Poquoson)  
Little Creek Marina (Norfolk)  
Long Bay Pointe Marina (Virginia Beach)  
Virginia Beach Fishing Center (Virginia Beach)  
Rudee Inlet Station Marina (Virginia Beach)

