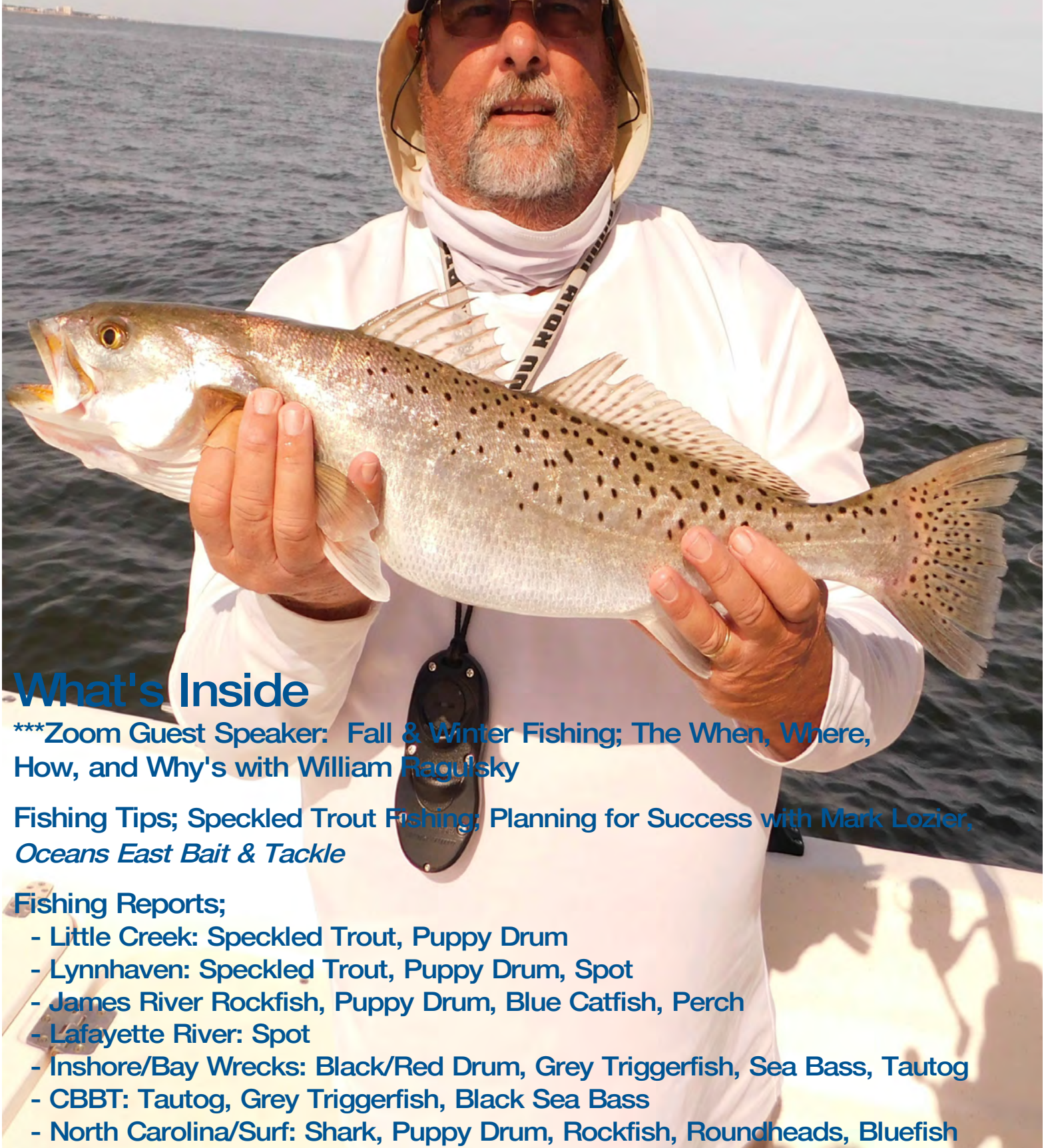


THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

NOVEMBER 2020



What's Inside

*****Zoom Guest Speaker: Fall & Winter Fishing; The When, Where, How, and Why's with William Ragulsky**

Fishing Tips; Speckled Trout Fishing; Planning for Success with Mark Lozier, Oceans East Bait & Tackle

Fishing Reports;

- Little Creek: Speckled Trout, Puppy Drum
- Lynnhaven: Speckled Trout, Puppy Drum, Spot
- James River Rockfish, Puppy Drum, Blue Catfish, Perch
- Lafayette River: Spot
- Inshore/Bay Wrecks: Black/Red Drum, Grey Triggerfish, Sea Bass, Tautog
- CBBT: Tautog, Grey Triggerfish, Black Sea Bass
- North Carolina/Surf: Shark, Puppy Drum, Rockfish, Roundheads, Bluefish

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Over the past few years our local angler clubs and businesses have contributed generously to the Marine Corps Toys-for-Tots campaign through toy donations and contributions. This year has been difficult for many and I'd like you to help make the holidays better for many of the children in Hampton Roads by donating to the program through a link Sea Tow Hampton Roads has created on their FaceBook page. All donations remain local and benefit the children in our area. So please visit the Sea Tow Hampton Roads FB Page and give generously.



On the Cover: Norfolk Angler Club member Bert Sainz with his 22 inch Speckled Trout release. Bert caught this nice trout fishing in Little Creek Inlet on his Carolina Skiff.

Club members can submit their prize fish catches, Saltwater and Freshwater, to the club at NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com. Entry information is on our website and Club Prize Fish don't need to be Virginia Citations. Check it out!

Meeting

Our next Club meeting is scheduled for November 9 will be a video networked meeting on Zoom.

We've got a great fishery in Virginia, our coastline, bays, rivers, and canyon provide angling opportunities nearly year-round. Many anglers only fish the warmer months but there's lots of fishing to be done in the fall and winter months. This month we have William Ragulsky joining us to share his expertise with our Fall & Winter fishing.

Important:
November NAC Meeting will
be on Zoom *November 9th*

Publishers NOTES

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NorfolkAnglersClubEditor@gmail.com

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Vice President:

Henry Troutner

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Norfolk Anglers Club

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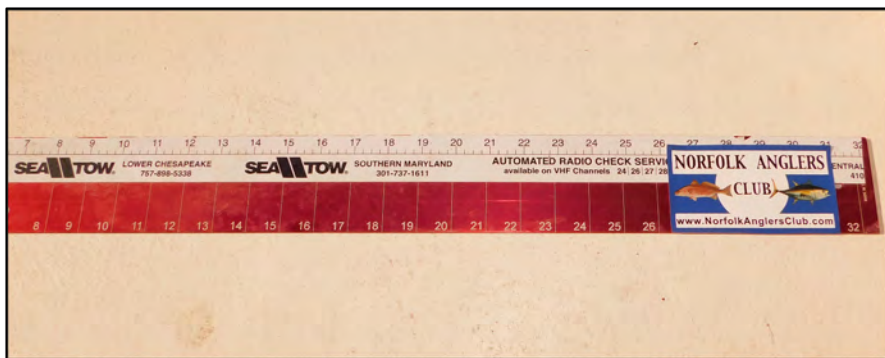
Norfolk Anglers Club - Redfish "Spots" Tournament

Rules

- Must be a Norfolk Anglers Club Member
- Tournament for fish caught between **March 1, 2020 and November 30, 2020**
- Must have the Norfolk Anglers Club decal in the photo with the fish on a measuring device* showing the total length of the fish. See NAC Prize Fish Contest Rules for measuring info. *Entries received with decal and no measurement can only be judged by number of spots.
- Red Drum/Redfish up to 26 inches in length only and caught in Virginia and North Carolina waters
- Awards determined by 1st: number of Spots, 2nd: Largest Fish up to 26 inches, 3rd: Date of Catch
- Entries submitted on the Club Prize Fish Entry Form with photo (can be sent electronically to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com)
- No entry fee except the cost of the decal (\$1)
- \$50 Gift Card to the 1st Place Angler, \$25 Gift Card for the 2nd Place Angler and presented at the Club Holiday Party in December

Entries received as of October 31, 2020

Bert Sainz (2), James Eisenhower (3), Will Bransom (2), Alex Perez, Sr. (2), Ned Smith (1), Bob Stuhlman (1)



Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish Entries January 1, 2020 - October 31, 2020

Freshwater	
Species	Name (#Entries)
Blue Catfish	Mary Troutner (1)
	James Eisenhower (1)
Largemouth Bass	James Eisenhower (1)
	Russel Willoughby (1)
Crappie	James Eisenhower (3)

Saltwater	
Species	Name (#Entries)
Shark	Greg Rogers (1)
Blueline Tilefish	James Eisenhower (2)
Flounder	Louis Glaser (2)
	Alex Perez, Jr. (1)
Cobia	Alex Perez, Sr (1)
Speckled Trout	Bert Sainz (1)
	James Eisenhower (2)

****Virginia Saltwater Tournament (Saltwater) or Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (Freshwater) Citation paperwork or the Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish entry form may be submitted to James "Ike" Eisenhower at the regular meetings or send via email to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com



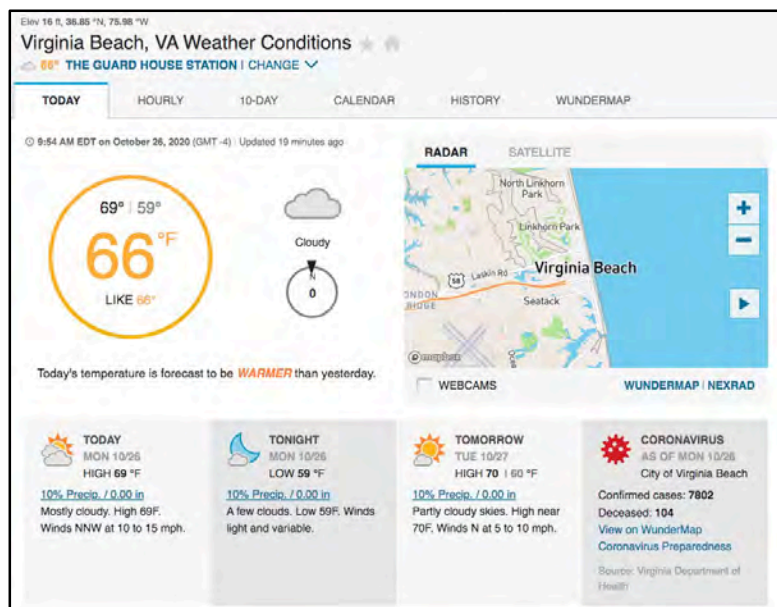
Speckled Trout Fishing; Planning for Success with Mark Lozier, Oceans East Bait & Tackle

There is a lot more to think about before getting on the water that can make your next trout fishing trip a success. Getting advice from fellow anglers and local bait & tackle shops and applying those lessons learned is good practice for understanding the local fishing circuit. Looking elsewhere for trout fishing techniques and advice is also recommended. Mark shared that Texas has a phenomenal Speckled Trout fishery and while it's a different area of the country with its own challenges (weather patterns, temperature, hurricanes, etc) there's lots of great information available that can improve your local game. Using local advice, techniques from other areas, and gaining a good understanding of how trout feed, what conditions they prefer and how they migrate will improve your trout fishing experience.

Mark shares that probably 70-80% of a good fishing trip is done before you go. Using multiple online information sources can identify conditions that favor a certain area. Mariner focused weather forecasts are important as they may differ greatly from a typical news program "community forecast." He adds, lean toward safety and always go with a conservative forecast. Here are a number of information sources Mark uses to prepare for a trip;



<https://www.wunderground.com>



Along with detailed weather forecasts for selected areas Wunderground allows users to select specific weather topics of interest. Active Radar maps, Satellite maps showing cloud cover, Severe Weather Warning areas, Frontal Boundaries, and much more. Users can layer each map to provide as much detail as desired.

Wunderground can be used from their website or downloaded as an APP. It's easy to use and provides a great deal of information, far more than most other weather sources.

While not specifically designed for the marine forecast the information on Wunderground is extremely useful for evaluating conditions in your area. It does have a feature to review Sea Surface Temperature however, it's not detailed enough but does provide a "big picture" view of temperature differentials.

Station Location	Temp	Windchill	Heat Index	Dew Point	Humidity	Wind	Precip.	Elev.	Updated
Cape Fear Regional	50.0°F	50.0°F	50.0°F	48.4°F	94.2%	North at 0.0 mph	0.0 in	---	9:55 am EDT
Oceanic Nasa/Apollo Soucek Field	86.0°F	86.0°F	86.0°F	83.0°F	89.8%	NNW at 10.4 mph	0.0 in	---	9:55 am EDT
Alantown Virginia Beach, VA	63.5°F	63.5°F	63.5°F	62.8°F	97.0%	NNW at 0.4 mph	---	43.0 ft	9:55 am EDT
Cherltonham Square, Virginia Beach, VA	62.9°F	62.9°F	62.9°F	61.7°F	96.0%	North at 7.0 mph	---	12.0 ft	9:52 am EDT
Great Neck, Virginia Beach, VA	64.0°F	64.0°F	64.0°F	64.0°F	99.0%	NE at 10.0 mph	---	7.0 ft	9:47 am EDT
Great Neck, Virginia Beach, VA	63.5°F	63.5°F	63.5°F	62.1°F	95.0%	SE at 2.9 mph	---	23.0 ft	9:56 am EDT
Great Neck, Virginia Beach, VA	64.2°F	64.2°F	64.2°F	63.9°F	99.0%	WSW at 4.7 mph	---	16.0 ft	9:54 am EDT
Kings Grant, Virginia Beach, VA	63.3°F	63.3°F	63.3°F	61.8°F	96.0%	NNW at 6.7 mph	---	12.0 ft	9:54 am EDT
Linkhorn Park, Virginia Beach, VA	64.0°F	64.0°F	64.0°F	63.7°F	99.0%	---	---	36.0 ft	9:51 am EDT
North End, Virginia Beach, VA	64.0°F	64.0°F	64.0°F	61.0°F	90.0%	NW at 2.0 mph	---	26.0 ft	9:58 am EDT

www.norfolkanglersclub.com

Fishing Tips...



James Prudente

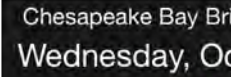
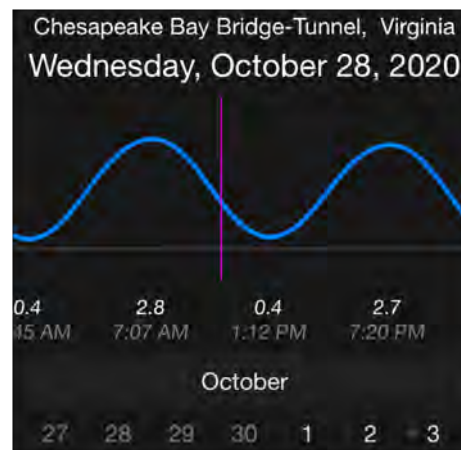
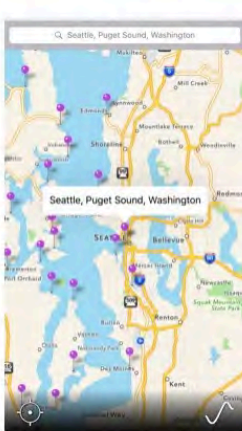
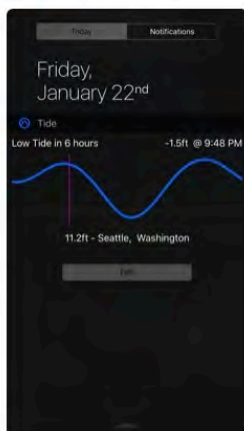
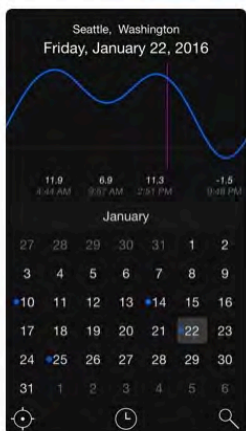
★★★★★ 4.6 • 508 Ratings

Free

Ebb Tide APP

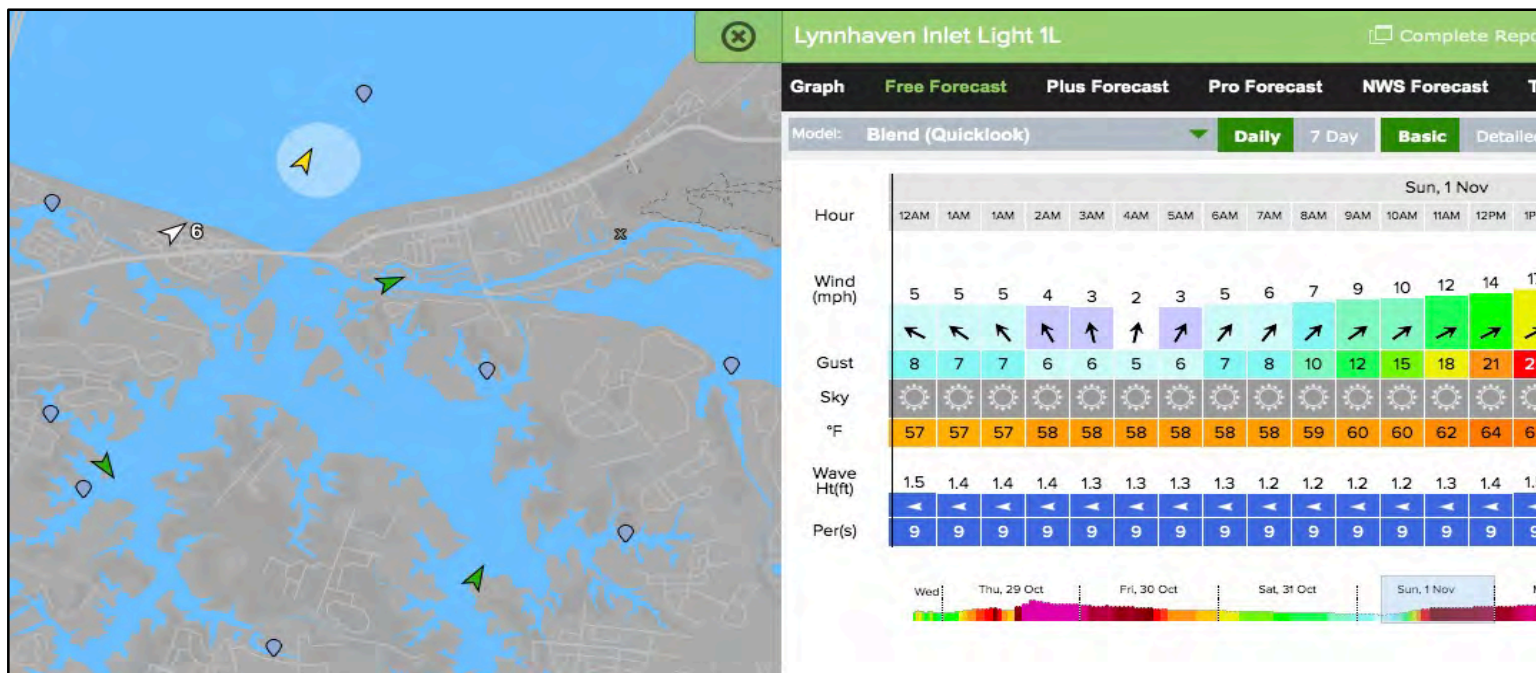
(iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch)

For those anglers looking for a quick and easy tide information source, the Ebb Tide APP is a good selection. Ebb Tide easily displays your current location tidal information or a map location selected by you. You can quickly assess where you are in the tide range and the height (ft) of rise (Flood) or fall (Ebb) as well as the time.

A screenshot of the Ebb Tide app interface. At the top, it displays the location "Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, Virginia" and the date "Wednesday, October 28, 2020". Below this is a graph with a black background. A blue line represents the tide, showing two peaks and a trough. A vertical pink line is positioned between the two peaks, indicating the current time. The text "Ebb Tide" is visible in the bottom right corner of the app screen.Screenshots [iPhone](#) [iPad](#) [Apple Watch](#)

<https://www.fishweather.com> or APP
(iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch)

FishWeather is another great source for both wind and wave information. Anglers can use the Free membership level (no sign up required) or choose three levels of paid membership for additional features, like Sea Surface Temperature information. FW gives you the wind direction, speed, weather conditions, wave height and wave periodicity. The free membership level provides a seven day forecast.



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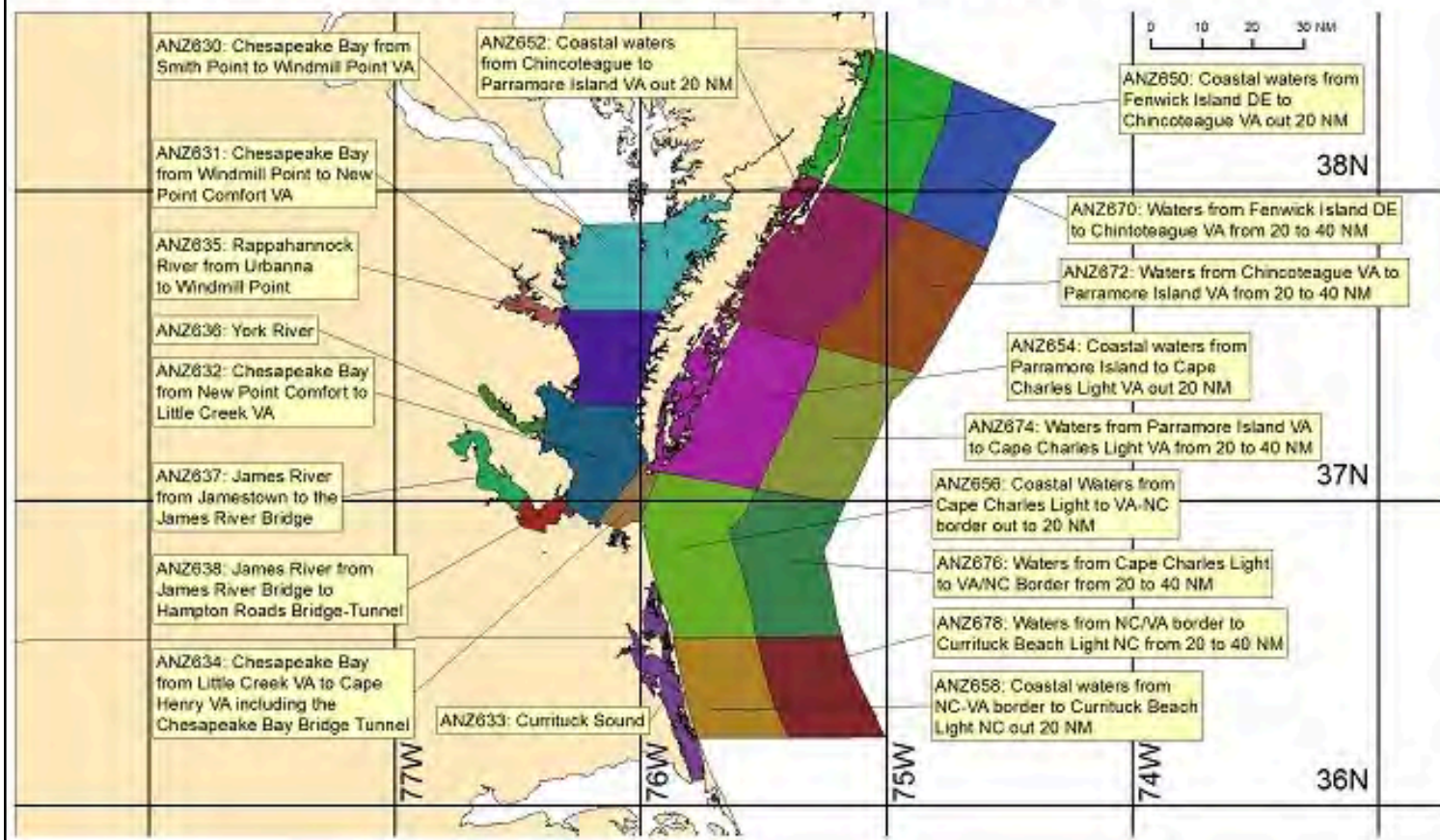
Fishing Tips...



National Weather Service - <https://www.weather.gov> or APP

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has the most comprehensive weather forecasting and alert system available. The NOAA Wakefield, VA office provides weather forecasting for our region with their Coastal Marine Zone Forecasts (see image below). These are forecasts for our coastal areas including any severe weather events or predictions, temperature, wind, and wave information, including a four day outlook.

Coastal Marine Zone Forecasts by the Wakefield, VA Forecast Office - click on the area of interest



6NM SW Chesapeake Light VA

Marine Zone Forecast

...GALE WATCH IN EFFECT FROM THURSDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH LATE THURSDAY NIGHT...

Synopsis: ANZ600-290315- 1021 AM EDT Wed Oct 28 2020. Synopsis for Fenwick Island DE to Currituck Beach Light NC out 20 nautical miles including Virginia portion of the Chesapeake Bay, Currituck Sound and portions of the James, York, and Rappahannock Rivers... A frontal boundary will linger over the area tonight before lifting back north as a warm front Wednesday. The remnants of tropical cyclone Zeta will approach from the southwest Wednesday night, then track across the region Thursday afternoon and evening. Another low pressure system and strong cold front are expected to move through the area Friday. \$S

Rest Of Today	SW winds 10 to 15 kt. Seas 2 to 3 ft with a dominant period of 7 seconds.
Tonight	SW winds 10 kt. Seas 2 to 3 ft. Mainly E swell with a dominant period of 8 seconds.
Thu	S winds 10 to 15 kt, increasing to 20 to 25 kt with gusts up to 35 kt. Seas 5 to 6 ft with a dominant period of 7 seconds. a chance of showers in the morning, then rain likely in the afternoon.
Thu Night	SW winds 20 to 25 kt with gusts up to 35 kt, becoming NW 15 to 20 kt after midnight. Seas 5 to 6 ft with a dominant period of 8 seconds. Rain likely.
Fri	N winds 15 to 20 kt, increasing to 20 to 25 kt with gusts up to 35 kt in the late morning and afternoon. Seas 6 to 8 ft with a dominant period of 10 seconds. Rain likely in the morning, then a chance of showers in the afternoon.
Fri Night	N winds 20 to 25 kt. Seas 6 to 8 ft with a dominant period of 8 seconds.
Sat	NE winds 15 to 20 kt, diminishing to 10 to 15 kt in the afternoon. Seas 6 to 7 ft.
Sat Night	E winds 5 to 10 kt. Seas 5 to 6 ft.
Sun	SW winds 5 to 10 kt. Seas 4 to 5 ft.
Sun Night	W winds 15 to 20 kt, becoming NW 20 to 25 kt after midnight. Seas 5 to 6 ft.

Topographic

Click Map For Detailed Forecast

Disclaimer Esri, HERE, Garmin, FA... esri

Requested Location Forecast Area

ABOUT THIS FORECAST

Last Update: 1021 AM EDT Wed Oct 28 2020

[Forecast Discussion](#)

Selecting one of the bay forecast areas or the near coastal areas will get you a day-to-day narrative forecast describing the area covered and conditions forecasted. Other options available on the NOAA website include tidal information, wave forecasts, and Marine observations from their network of instrumented buoys along the coast.

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Fishing Tips...



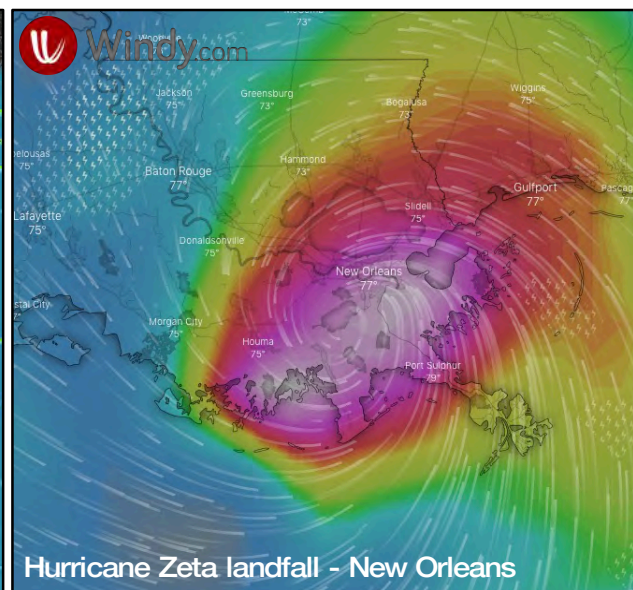
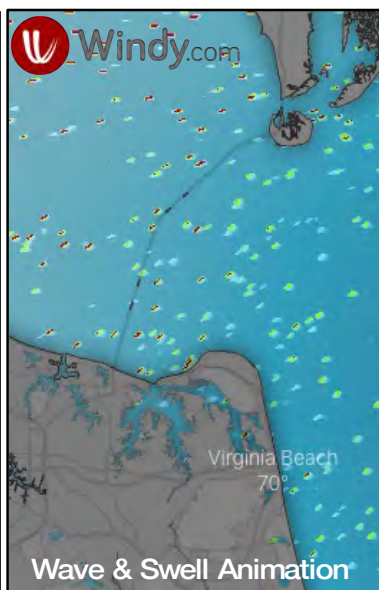
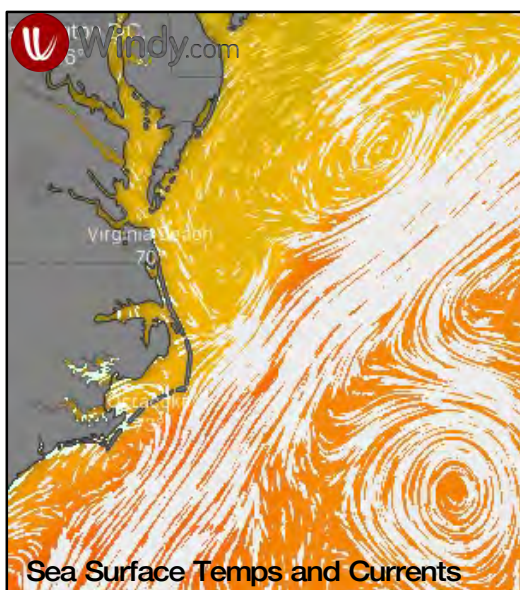
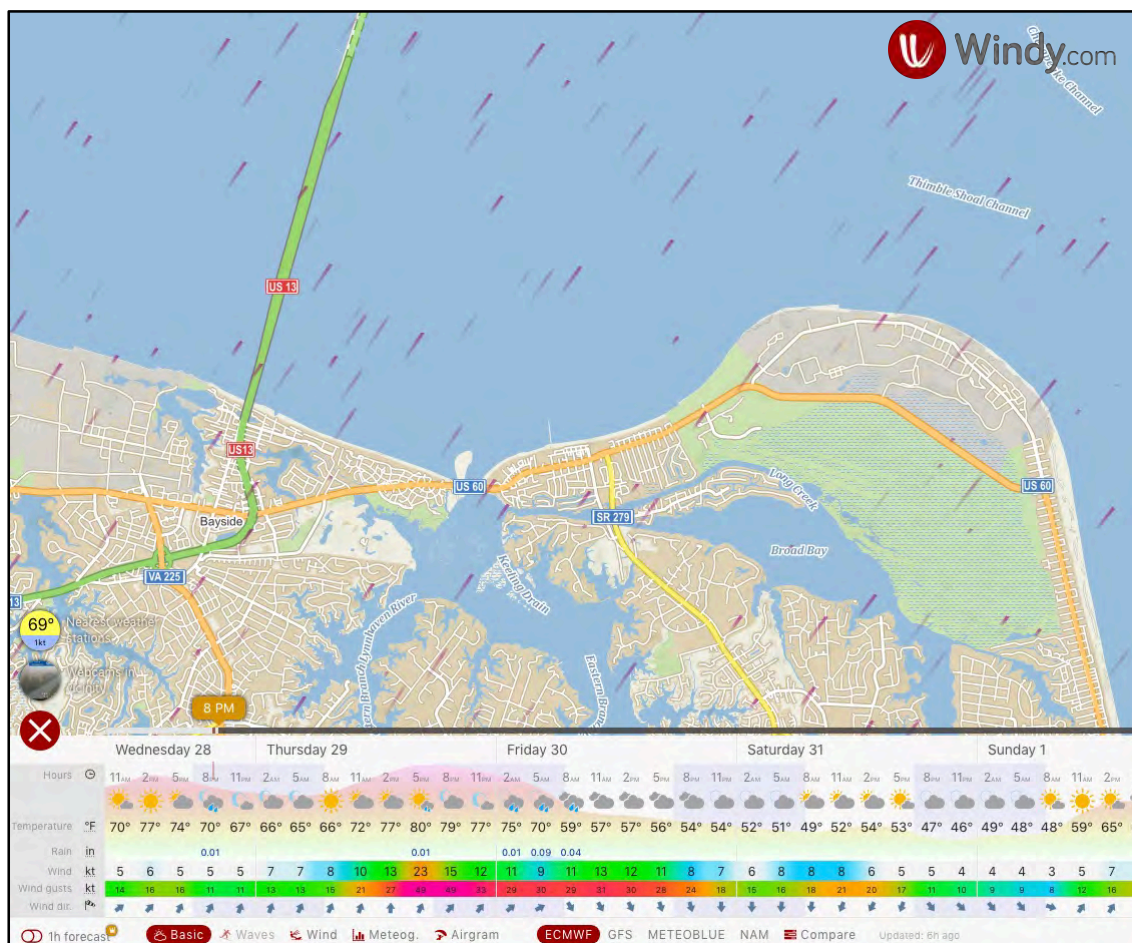
Windy.com

(<https://www.Windy.com>, Apple and Android APP)

Windy.com is a unique weather source that provides an animated visual depiction of weather information. User may select to view wind information and view multiple wind vectors indicating wind direction and strength (compare curren local wind information {below} with Hurricane Zeta [below right]). Similar animated information is

available for rain, wave intensity and direction, sea surface temperature and ocean currents {below left}.

Windy.com offers a ten day forecast period and permits users to scroll the forecast timeline to visualize varying weather conditions. It's a free APP available for Apple IOS and Android users or accessed directly through their website. The site is easy to navigate and presents the information in an easy to understand animated form.



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Fishing Tips...

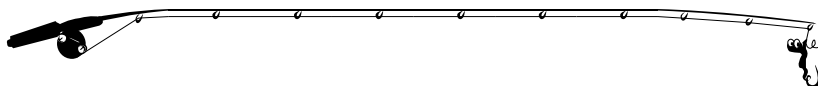


iSolunar

(<https://www.i-solunar.com>, Apple and Android APP)

Being aware of the Solar/Lunar cycles and how they interact and affect hunting and fishing is something hunters have traditionally relied on. So why doesn't it work for fishing? Well, it does and should be a factor you consult but don't live by it. Solar/Lunar cycles are independent of any weather or environmental condition. They only reflect the relationship of the Sun and the Moon and the forces between the two. The iSolunar application will prove you with a "Major" and a "Minor" feed time. Fishing an hour before and after the Major/Minor feed times reflect the most active a fish will be, without considering any other factors.

Want to know more about Solar and Lunar cycles and how it influences fishing behavior, visit the iSolunar website. The iSolunar app is available on Android and Apple devices.



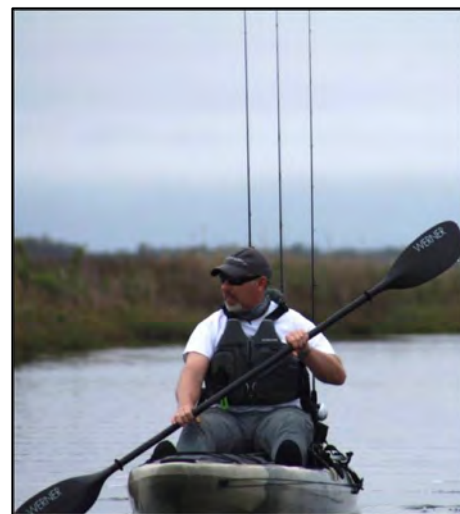
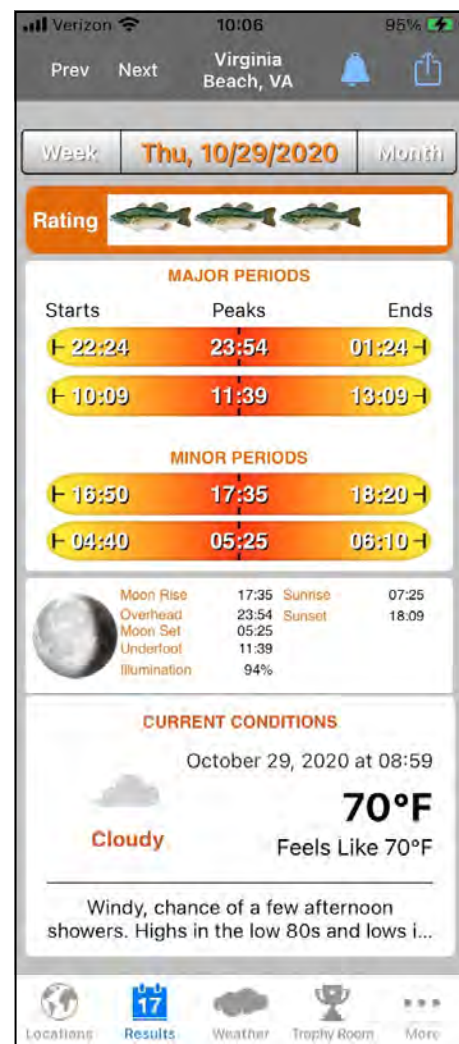
Rod & Reels, Soft Plastics versus Hard Bait, Braided Line or Monofilament, Live Bait or Artificial Lure?

There's no "magic lure" combination! It all works!, Mark advises. It's more about you learning how to work your lure in different conditions and gaining confidence using it than anything else. He added, "Think Small" meaning get confidence in your lure selection and avoid retying different lures types and colors constantly.

For Rod & Reel combinations the sky is the limit, select a light fast action rod with a light tackle reel and go fishing. As you gain experience trout fishing you'll have a better idea of what you like.

Mark primarily uses Braided line with an 18-24 inch leader. Braid can be as light as 12 lbs but 20 lbs is average. He doesn't recommend heavier line. His leader material is monofilament in the 12-20 pound test range. In cloudy or dark water he'll use up to 20# mono. When the water is clear he'll downsize to light as 12 pound test.

He cautioned about handling trout during the retrieve. Speckled Trout have soft mouths so you can't work them too hard. He recommends setting the drag to allow the trout to swim but able to continually retrieve the fish.



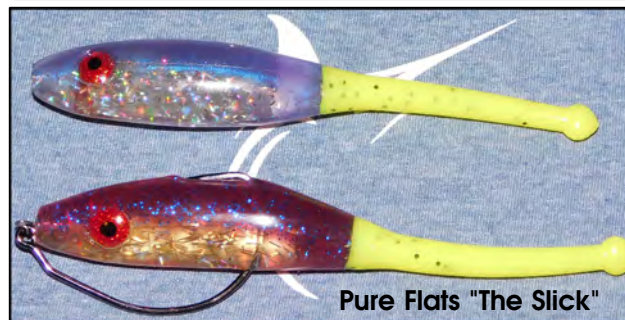
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Fishing Tips...

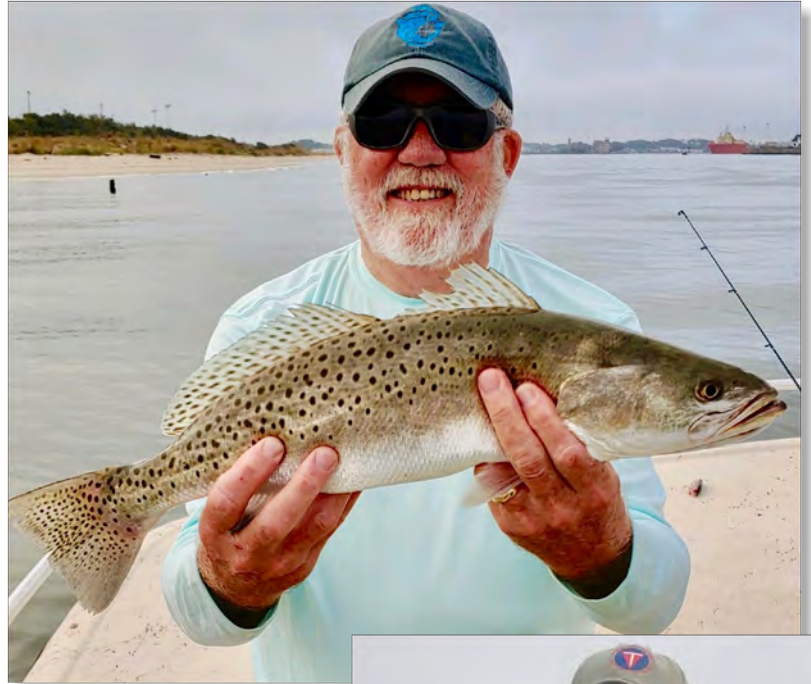
Mark shared, if you put too much pressure on the trout, the hook will often wear a hole in their mouth, then all it takes is a bit of slack in the line and a head shake or twist and the fish is gone. Once hooked, keep consistent pressure on the fish all the way to the boat. Slack line loses fish!, he added. For topwater lures mark will use monofilament leader because it floats, fluorocarbon sinks and that's his choice for sinking or suspending lures, like the MirrOlure® 27mr lure.

MirrOlure® makes a wide variety of lures for topwater, suspending, and sinking. If you find a color combination you favor Mark recommends you remember to code on the reverse. You can look up and purchase that color in another lure type. He shared the Paul Brown Corky or Fat Boy lure is another good lure to work with a Twitch-Twitch-Pause action. "The Slick" lure from Pure Flats is another good choice for trout. Rigged with the Owner® Beast™ Hook with the hook point barely exposed on top makes for a great speckled trout bait.



Fishing Reports...

OCT: Fishing with Louis Glaser and Doug Wilburn in Little Creek, Louis and I fish from pre-dawn to around 10:00 am to 11:00 am almost every day. High winds and heavy rain and doctor appointments are about the only things that keep us off the water. This month was a hard month to catch trout. Maybe it was the warm 68-69 degree water or whatever. So some days we got skunked for keeper size 16-23 inch fish and other days the bite was on. The pictures of me fish holding fish were both days I caught 20+ inch release club minimums. The picture of Doug Wilburn and me holding fish was also a great day with a lot of shorts caught and 10 keepers up to 20 inch. The picture with Louis holding fish was when we caught 15 fish and kept our limit on 23 October. A super day of three to four hours fishing, 5 were caught on topwater baits and 10 on 27MRs. The water temperature was 68 degrees and the depth was five feet



I always start the day with topwater until the conditions of wind and current mess up my "walking the dog" and I switch to 27MRs. Louis and I are very aware how lucky we are having the freedom of retirement that affords us fishing so often. But the catching can always get better this late in the season. -

- Dr. James W. Ike
Eisenhower and
Louis Glaser





1 OCT: I caught a puppy drum with 9 spots in Lynnhaven. It was 22.5 inches long.

- Bob Stuhlman



19 OCT: I caught my first legal size rockfish on this day. There are scattered puppy drum in the James River as well. I've been releasing lots of rockfish, 12-18 inches.- Jackson B. Salvant Jr., M.D.



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6 Oct: John Curry, Al Coke and I hit the JRB for stripers. Trolling a chartreuse tandem jig (5oz and 1 oz), I had 3 doubles and a single in no time. Al was using a Stretch and not having any luck, so I leant him a tandem rig. I could not believe when he caught a toadfish while trolling. We ended up catching 10, only keeping our 3 fish limit. - Henry Troutner



4 OCT: On the opening day of striper season, it was cloudy, windy and cool for this time of year. I met with John Curry and Troy Lane at 8:30 am with plans to fish the JRB, but the wind was blowing pretty hard. We settled for a few passes at the Chuckatuck Bridge and were back at the dock by 10:00 am with our 3 man limit. Fish were 21, 24 and 25 inches long with a short that went back. Hope this is signs of a good season. Fish were caught on bright color Stretch's with the exception of the biggest which was caught on a drifted crab. - Henry Troutner

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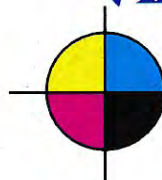
OCT: Striper season is here, the guys I fish with, John and George from the C.G.AUX, are out there almost everyday. With my project boat still a project, I'm lucky they invite Mary and I a couple days a week, so much so that I'm consolidating the last couple of trips. With a 1 fish limit, it's easy to say we limit out 99 percent of the time. All fishing is done between the M & M Bridge/Tunnel and the JRB. Most are caught trolling stretches, color doesn't seem to matter much and some are caught on jigs and occasionally live bait.
- Henry Trountr



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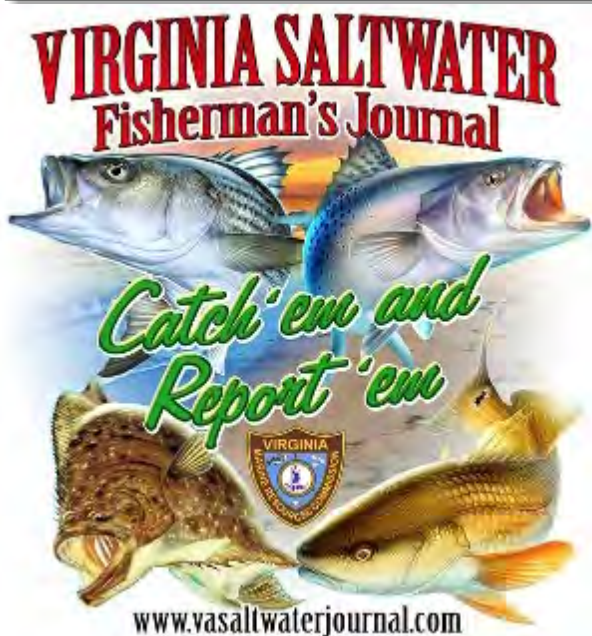
6610 E. Virginia Beach Boulevard • Norfolk, Virginia 23502

6 Oct: Bert Sainz took fellow Norfolk Anglers, Ned Smith and myself on his Carolina Skiff to Little Creek on one of those cool crisp fall mornings. We started with the topwater lures (Heddon Super Spook) and as the sun rose higher we shifted to suspending lures and jig heads. Ned quickly outpaced Bert and I at the jetties with landing one fish after another. Then Bert landed a nice 14" Speckled Trout followed by my own. Nearly all the fish caught that day were undersized, averaging 10-12 1/2 inches for most of the day. We moved around a bit each of us casting something different until we zero'd in on what was working. What worked at Little Creek on this day was jig heads and soft plastic tails. We threw Z-Man tails, Gulp Mullets, and other soft plastics, and they all caught fish. Ned landed the largest Puppy Drum at 17.00 inches and the largest Speckled Trout at 18.00 inches casting his red jig head and a white soft tail.

Late morning we moved in to Pretty Lake and found plenty of small Speckled Trout hungry for jig heads. It was a good day for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program (VGFTP) as I had the opportunity to tag and release 48 trout and drum. The VGFTP is a great program for anglers to participate in as Taggers or in reporting a tagged fish. So, if you catch a fish with a salmon colored tag (like the one in the photos) report it to VMRC. Reporting a tagged fish helps Fisheries Managers collect data on the biology of the fish and movement patterns. In fact, one of the earliest Speckled Trout caught was caught and released again later the same day. Reporting is easy through VMRC and the Virginia Saltwater Journal.

Thanks to Bert Sainz we had a great day on the water!

- Will Bransom



24 Oct: Ran into Norfolk Anglers Club member Chris Webb and his family in the Lafayette River fishing from their 21 Sport Cat. Chris' Son, Lasalle (photo) reports they caught about a half dozen Spot. He added that they may be on the small size "They're just right eating size for me!" Chris is easy to spot with the colorful family artwork on his Sport Cat. - Will Bransom



27 Oct: This is one of those Good Luck/Bad Luck fishing reports...

Chris Webb and I had the chance to venture out in dense fog to fish the Little Creek Jetties. Fishing was slow, but we were able to reel in about 10 undersized Speckled trout, a Red Drum, and a few small Bluefish using 27MR lures and mostly jig-heads. End of the Good Luck portion of the report.

Our trip almost didn't happen when I noticed the right rear trailer tire wasn't exactly right. While coming onto the Naval Station, the axle spindle weld partially failed. What to do? I launched the boat and picked up Chris to go fishing! We fished for about 3 1/2 hours before admitting we had to do something about the trailer. If you don't know Chris, he's a get-it-done energetic guy and a tremendous help with the repair. He was calling local trailer shops while I was disassembling the axle. After talking with the trailer shops, he exclaimed "This just isn't happening." The quotes he was getting and delivery times were NOT good news. He located an axle at Northern Tool & Equipment and off we went! Arriving at NT with measurements for what we needed, I turned to see Chris wheeling the entire axle into the store! We found almost everything we needed, the axle being the most important piece and all the attaching hardware.



Back to Cove Marina we went. With Chris' help we were able to get the entire job completed, from the time we initially arrived at Cove Marina to the time we finished in two hours.

I could not have gotten this job done so quickly without Chris' assistance. Thank You, Chris! It was fun fishing with you and I'm very appreciative for the trailer help.

- Will Bransom



26 Oct: This Monday was a cloudy cool day. Mary and I headed to the Chuckatuck in the kayaks to try some casting for stripers. We arrived at the very end of the outgoing current and things were dead. About 1 1/2 hours later the incoming picked up and the bite was on. We hooked 6; losing 2, 2 shorts and 2 keepers including a 24 inch. All were caught casting a red/white stretch. - Henry Troutner



28 OCT: After providing proof I was not the Jonas, Mary and I fished with John and George at the JRB. Although the day started out with a very slow pick of shorts, it picked up and boomed for the finality.

Overall, we caught over a dozen stripers and two catfish trolling red/white stretches. We ended with our limit of nice fish up to 24 inches. Amazing how we trolled over schools of fish with very little action until the bite started, then it was one after another.

Note: We have been having a lot of trouble with the split rings on the front hook of the stretches pulling out. Because of the way a striper feeds, it is always the front hook that is in the mouth. On this day, we lost two nice fish because of this. We have replaced them with better ones and it still occasionally happens.

- Henry Troutner



27 OCT: Fishing on the James is picking up with lots of perch occasionally a puppy drum and larger and more numerous striped bass like this 23" taken on the fly rod. - Jackson B. Salvant Jr., M.D.



Jerry and one of his Black Drum.



Jerry and one of his Reds.



Chris and a Triggerfish.



Chris with his tagged and released 42.5 inch Black Drum.

27 OCT: I fished with Jerry Mariano and Chris Schneider on the Cape Henry wreck during the outgoing tide. Using live Blue Crab, Tautog fishing was slow with only two short Togs being caught. We were able to catch four Black Drum up to 42.5 inches, two puppy Drum up to 25.5 inches, Grey Triggerfish, and eight Black Sea Bass up to 12 inches. Once the current picked up speed, the action slowed down, and we moved in to the second island of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT) where the action continued to be slow for the rest of the trip. - Alex Perez



3 OCT: Tried to impress the pretty lady in Little Creek going for specks. Ended up catching 1 trout. Never go out with a strong North wind. It will humble you quick. - Louis Glaser

29 OCT: Before the storm which will shut us down for a few days, Mary and I got out with John the Striper King for an hour before the tide went slack. As usual Mary got her fish, a 22 1/2 inch, right away. Don't know what my problem was but I had 3 shorts before we headed in. Again Red/White stretch. - Henry Troutner



On Oct 8, Sheldon Arey and I headed out to the jetty in the early morning and got into some high quality speckled trout. We had many over 18 inches and I landed a fat 24 inch speckled trout.



5 -24 OCT: I fished with Bert Sainz eight times and Sheldon Arey one time during October. During this period of time the winds was reasonably calm and the incoming and outgoing currents were good. We used top water lures, 27MRs, 18MRs, and 52MRs, Paul Brown originals and fat boys, and gulps. Almost all of our fishing time was hanging around the Little Creek jetty. Bert, Will and I started the October marathon fishing trips by catching between 40-50 Speckled trout and I caught a puppy drum. Our catch included some nice 20 plus speckled and a good-sized pup. All the fish were tagged by Will and released.



Bert and I had 2 consecutive days of good fishing a few days later catching 27 speckled trout between 18-22 1/2 inch, 1- 22 inch puppy drum, 1 22 inch striper and a lot of small speckled trouts. Michel and I went out with Bert on a late afternoon trip and caught a lot of small speckled trout and a few nice sized ones. I neglected to take a picture of Michel with her nice speck (My bad). Bert and I went out a few more times and always had success catching speckled trout whether in the morning or evening. - Ned Smith

7 OCT: I fished with my friend Jerry in Little Creek in the morning under windy conditions. Ended up catching 4 quality speckled trout. Two were caught on topwater and two on MirrOlures. It has been very spotty lately. I anchored in 2 1/2 feet and water temp 68 degrees.

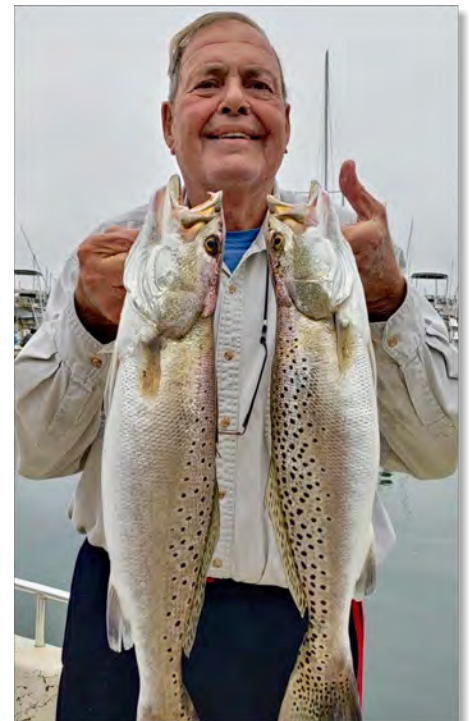
Louis Glaser



7 OCT: I fished in the morning in Little Creek with Bert Sainz for speckled trout. It was very slow and in three hours management to catch three speckled trout. Two were caught on MirrOlures and one on topwater. Water temperature was 68 degrees and depth was 2 feet.
- Louis Glaser



13: Oct: FINALLY, after three trips Hai got the nack and caught her first keeper 18 inch speckled trout. That has made my week. We had steady NW wind sitting in 5 feet of water using 27MR. Water temperature was still warm at 69 degrees. - Louis Glaser



26 October: I left Little Creek at 1:00 pm with friend Mike for a 2 hour trip. We ended up catching 15 speckled trout using 27MR fishing in 4 feet of water. Water temperature was 67 1/2 degrees. Better quality of speckled trout showing up! - Louis Glaser



Sunrise Tautog

24 OCT: The Ludwig family joined me for a few hours on the second island of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT).

Using live Blue Crab, we fished the rocks on both sides of the islands during the out going tide.

We were able to catch eight Tautog up to 17 inches, a Grey Triggerfish, and all the short Black Sea Bass we wanted.



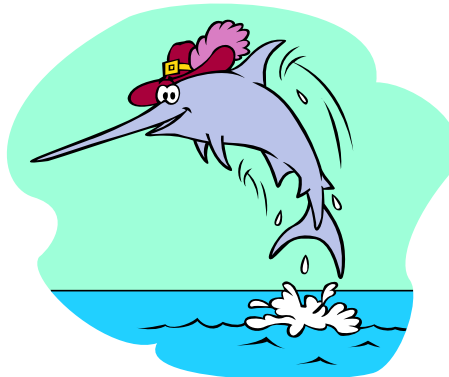
Another morning Tog



A female Tautog being returned with a new tag

Of course, a few Oyster Toadfish said hello as well!

- Alex Perez



Grey Triggerfish being tagged and released



7 OCT: I took Sonny and Jimmy spot fishing on a Tuesday. We caught a couple trout while waiting for the tide change.

- Jimmy Robinson



October Surf Fishing Roundup!

It's been a busy month but I've still managed to hit the beach a few days. A lack of nearshore storms and warmer than normal daytime highs have left us with unusually warm water temperatures since Hurricane Teddy passed us by. This has left a stagnant fall pattern that has fish scattered along the beaches rather than schooled up while moving down. Fish migrations have also seen similar patterns with catches being inconsistent from day to day. The best bite is always when you have cleaner and clearer water. Water temperatures from Cape May to Cape Hatteras are fairly uniform. On a cold night, look for pockets of deeper water in the surf if fishing early in the morning. The deeper water will provide resistance against cold weather. Fish are also looking for natural food sources. This time of year, shrimp is nearly a go to bait for all migrating species of fish.

I use slightly larger hooks this time of year to help land the larger by catches of puppy drum and red drum. In the changing seasons, I like to move from a size two (summer size) to a size one (spring and fall size) for my roundhead rigs. It's hard to tell when a beach is worth fishing or not. I usually try to fish areas that have multiple structural patterns. This allows me to target different surf conditions without having to move locations. The only consistent bite so far this fall has been the roundheads and taylor blues. There's some sharks, puppies, black drum, puffer, croaker, speckled trout and spots biting. The rare Spanish, bonita or Pompano is still possible if you're fishing a warm day or warmer, clean water beach.

With the pair of cold blows coming before election day, I expect much of our fall run to begin its peak or tail end. Roundhead, dogshark, bluefish, and speckled trout will all be running the surf until it gets to about 60 degrees. Once it crosses that 60-degree mark, the fish have either moved out deep or to the south.





In 2019, that 60-degree date was November 9th. While fish may still remain, the bite will be slow and the few remaining fish are swimming fast to get to their wintering grounds.

Can't catch fish on the couch! Check out few of my catches from recent surf fishing outings:

- Kelly Hoggard

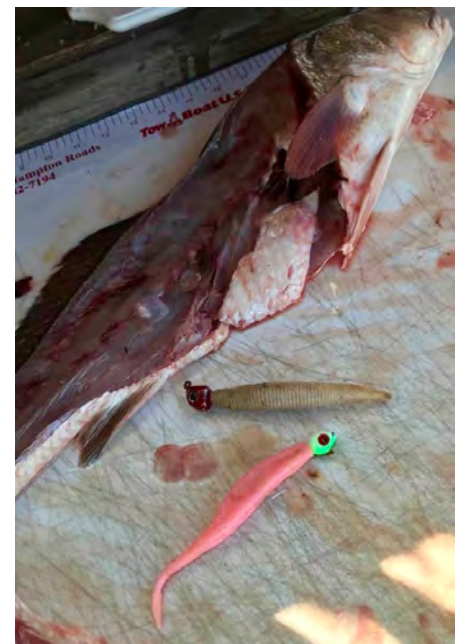


8 OCT: I caught a fat one on a Thursday in the Creek. It turned out it was full of gig heads. Only caught throwback speckled trout.



Post from Facebook by James Ike Eisenhower

"Boy what a bonus in your catch."





18 OCT: I had a nice catch of trout on this day in the Little Creek! - Jimmy Robinson



20 OCT: Finally after slow fishing last three days, we finally got into some nice speckled trout in Little Creek. We ended up with four using 27MR. The water temperature was 67 degrees and the depth was 4 feet. - Louis Glaser



23 OCT: Took my friend Taz out in the afternoon for a couple of hours.

We caught 20 throwbacks but Taz landed this 23 inch speckled trout on 27MR. We caught it in 6 feet of water. The weight of the speckled trout on my scale was 4 lbs 1/4 oz. - Louis Glaser



13 OCT: Fished in Little Creek in the morning with Doug and Ike for speckled trout. Started slow, but we ended up with ten. Three were caught on Topwater and seven on 27MR. Water temp was 69 degrees and depth was 5 feet. - Louis Glaser



