THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

NOVEMBER 2026



What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Capt Ryan Rable, *Is That Right Sport Fishing*, Bluefin Tuna Fishing

Fishing Tips: Charlie Church, Targeting Big Speckled Trout and the new Big Buoy app

Fishing Reports;

- Lynnhaven Inlet: Speckled Trout
- Chesapeake Bay/CBBT: Citation Red Drum, Flounder
- Freshwater: Largemouth Bass
- Chuckatuck Creek: Rockfish
- James River: Speckled Trout, Rockfish, Black Drum, Flounder
- Bahamas: Silver Snapper, Queen Triggerfish, YellowTail Snapper,Grouper

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

The Fall fishing is upon us! We're hoping you all have been able to get and get on some fish. Reports are there's a strong presence of speckled trout around, though many be just under the minimum size, it's still a great time catching. As the month progresses it'll only get better! Get out and fish!

Heard from Jere when I was wrapping up the newsletter and he shared lots of Taugs on the CBBT pilings north of the 2nd Island. Mostly undersized but some keepers up to 18".

Please note that our Annual Holiday Party date has been moved to Monday December 14th. Same place as our meetings and we'll have the gift exchange as in past years (wrapped $20 gift to participant).

Will



On The Cover: A photo from Mike Brown fishing with his Son Grady fishing in Rainey Gut (Lynnhaven). Read more about their fishing trip in the Fishing Reports.

Meeting



Guest Speaker: Capt Ryan Rable,
Is that Right Sport Fishing,
Bluefin Tuna Fishing



Catching a bluefin tuna is the catch of a lifetime for many anglers. We've been fortunate in Virginia to have amazing fisheries, including bluefin tuna. Join us on Nov 16th to hear Capt Rable share his experience catching bluefin tuna.

Important:
November 16, 2026 at 7:00pm
NAC Meeting at Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk,

Publishers NOTES

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NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB
www.NorfolkAnglersClub.com

Club Calendar

November

Mon, Nov 16th; Norfolk Anglers Club Regular Meeting
Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk
Tue, Nov 17th; 4:00pm Finfish Management Advisory Committee (FMAC) meeting VMRC Building
380 Fenwick Rd, Ft Monroe, VA

December

Tue, Dec 8th; Virginia Marine Resources Commission meeting, 380 Fenwick Rd, Ft Monroe, VA
Mon, Dec 14th; Norfolk Anglers Club Holiday Party and Gift Exchange, Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk

Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish Entries
1 January - 31 October 2026

Freshwater

Species	Name (#Entries)
Crappie	Russell Willoughby (2)
Largemouth Bass	Russell Willoughby (2) Mike Rheinhart (11)
Chain Pickerel	Mike Rheinhart (1) Bill Seemuller (1)
White Perch	Andy Reid (1) John Curry (1)
Gar	Bill Seemueller (1)
Smallmouth Bass	Andy Reid (1)

Saltwater

Species	Name (#Entries)
Speckled Trout	Stan Simmerman (2) Chris Harris (1)
Red Drum	Chris Harris (2) Bill Seemueller (1)
Rockfish	Henry Troutner (1)
Sheepshead	Jere Humphrey (2) Mary Troutner (1)
Flounder	Mike Reinhart (3) Mike Hubert (1)
Black Drum	Mary Troutner (2) Henry Troutner (1) John Curry (1)
Cobia	John Curry (1) Henry Troutner (1) Andy Reid (1)
Triggerfish	Jere Humphrey (13)

****Virginia Saltwater Tournament (Saltwater) or Department of Wildlife Resources (Freshwater) Citation paperwork, North Carolina Dept of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) Citatiion Program paperwork, or the Norfolk Anglers Club Prize Fish entry form must be submitted to;
NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com



Speckled Trout
Club Members Tournament
March - December 2026



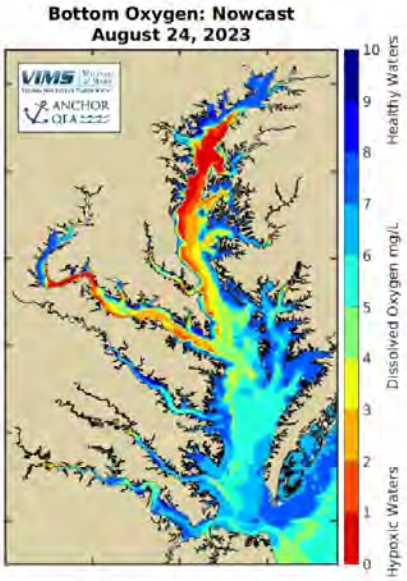
Revised Tournament Dates for 2026

- This is a Norfolk Anglers Club Members tournament running from March 1st until December 31st
- Targeted Species is Speckled Trout (any length)
- Total Length Tournament Only
- $10 Entry Fee due *before* fishing
- For fish caught in Virginia and/or North Carolina waters only
- Winner determined by; 1. Total Length of fish, 2. Date of Catch, 3. Date of entry submission
- 1st Place $50 Gift Card and 2nd Place $25 Gift Card
- All fishing must be in accordance with State fishing regulations for recreational anglers
- Entries must be submitted via the Norfolk Anglers Prize Fish Entry Form (Available at www.NorfolkAnglersClub.com and submitted by email to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com

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Chesapeake Bay Environmental Forecast System

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



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



Club Members Tournament for 2026



Redfish "Spots" Tournament

Rules

- Must be a Norfolk Anglers Club Member
- Tournament for fish caught between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026
- Must have the Norfolk Anglers Club decal in the photo with the fish on a measuring device* showing the total length of the fish. See NAC Prize Fish Contest Rules for measuring info. *Entries received with decal and no measurement can only be judged by number of spots. Photo entries without a decal or measurement tape are not accepted.
- Red Drum/Redfish up to 26 inches in length only and caught in Virginia and North Carolina waters
- Awards determined by 1st: number of Spots (on one side), 2nd: Largest Fish up to 26 inches, 3rd: Date of Catch
- Entries submitted on the Club Prize Fish Entry Form with photo (can be sent electronically to; NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com
- No entry fee except the cost of the decal ($1)
- $50.00 Gift Card to the 1st Place Angler, $25.00 Gift Card for the 2nd Place Angler.

Entries:







Oyster Toadfish Tournament

Rules

- Must be a Norfolk Anglers Club Member
- Tournament for fish caught between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026
- Awards determined by;
    1. Total Weight
    2. Date of catch
    3. Date of entry submission
- Entries submitted by email to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com in the form of a Fishing Report; who was fishing, stating total weight, with photo of the fish on the scale
- Weighing need not be on a certified scale and may be done by the angler, just try an avoid weighing fish on a pitching boat
- No entry fee (we would never charge a fee for catching Toads)
- Winners will be determined by our Tournament Director

Alex "AJ" Perez, Jr.
Oyster Toadfish Tournament Director (TOTTD)



Entries: John Curry (1), Marty Schriebel (1)

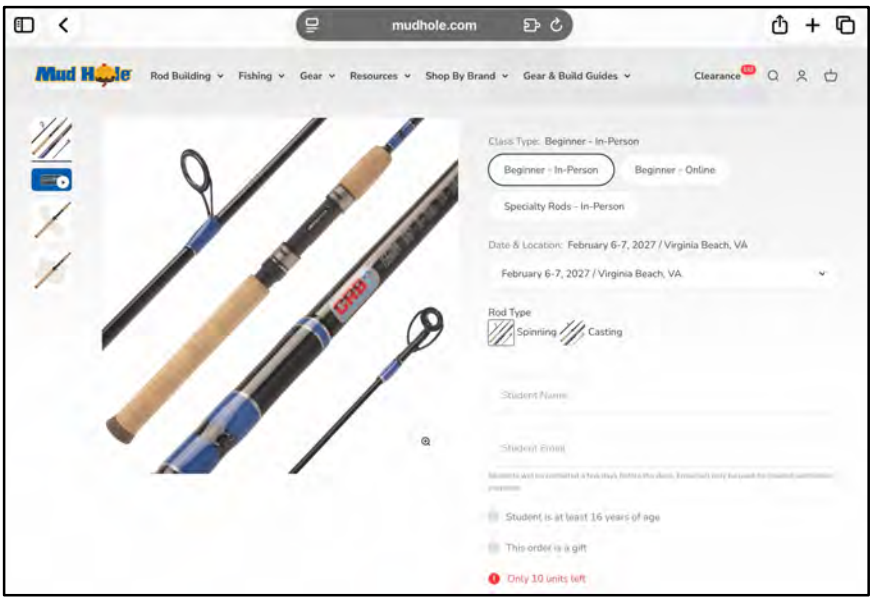
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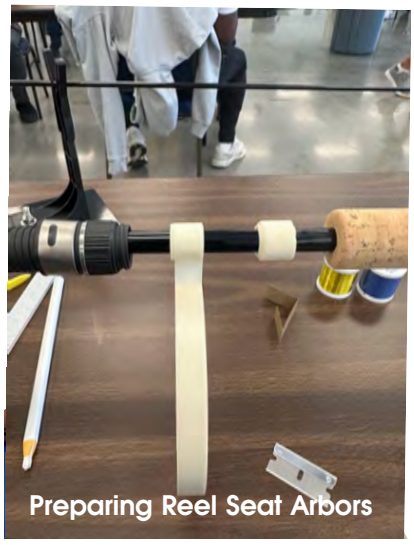
Want to learn how to build your own fishing rod? Replace a rod guide? Replace a handle?

Here's your chance to learn in
Virginia Beach February 6-7, 2026
Holiday Inn Virginia Beach
(5655 Greenwich Rd, Virginia Beach)

I took this Beginner Rod Building Course two years ago in Oviedo, FL just to learn how to replace some rod guides. What I got was so much more! The Instructors with Mud Hole are the very finest you'll find. At the end of the course you will have built your own Spinning or Casting Rod and have the skills to make repairs to rods and a much greater understanding of rod construction and application. All the materials you use building your rod are yours to continue your rod building hobby.

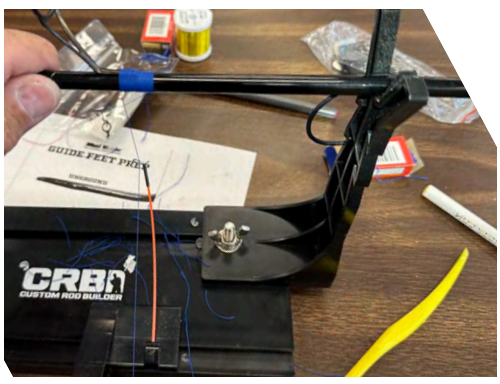
- Will Bransom




Preparing Reel Seat Arbors


Reel Seat Arbors


Epoxy applied - ready for a Reel Seat





Guide Foot Wrapping


Reel Seat in place - ready for the foregrip

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Fishing Tips...



Charlie Church, Targeting Big Trout

Many speckled trout anglers aspire to catch their personal best large trophy class fish but can't get past landing the typical school class or even citation sized trout. Large trout are one of the most enjoyable fights an angler can have. They fight hard, thrash, and truly test an angler's commitment to find them and get them to the boat. Speaking about the "Class" of fish, Charlie would classify trout under 14 inches as the "Rookie" class. These are fish that are barely over a year old, hence "Rookies". Trout are very fast growing and it's not uncommon to see them grow 12 inches in a year. School size trout fall into the 14-19 inch range and "Adults" 20-23 inches. Once a trout gets to 24 inches it's qualifies as Virginia Citation and fish 24-26 inches are the "Citation Class". Then there's the Trophy Class larger than 27 inches.

Big speckled trout can be found in just about every area around Hampton Roads, along the coast, Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Understanding their behavior and what drives them to do what they do is an important step to locating the fish. Trout behavior changes during the year depending their want at a particular time. These behaviors include the need to spawn, to feed, migration, or safety & comfort.



Spring fishing is fish on the move and characterized by a quick bite as they transit through our area to what's driving them. These fish are migrating to their spawning habitat from wintering over areas to the south. A class of fish caught one day are typically gone the next. To successfully target these fish an angler should stay near the bait for when the fish decide to stop and feed.

Summer trout fishing Speckled Trout (Spotted Sea Trout) will spawn from late April through September with the peak spawning activity over during warmer months. Trout will spawn multiple times over the late spring and summer in water temps ranging from 70° to 90°. Females look toward shallow grass or sandy areas and primarily spawn at night. Charlie shared that when actively spawning the trout don't seem to feed as well so you'll need to get after they spawn and before the heat turns on during the day. A good conservation practice is to release speckled trout over 20" in total length. These make up the majority of prolific spawning fish of the species. Charlie shared that during the hot summer months an angler's best opportunities targeting big trout is very early in the morning when the water temperature is lower. Likewise a good time to fish is after a strong thunderstorm when heavy rainfall will cool the water slightly. Over the summer you can fish trout in any water depth and don't think the large trout can't be found in very shallow water. Their natural camouflage with a dark green back and speckles makes them difficult to see in shallow grass beds.



Fall fishing finds the trout feeding before migrating south to their wintering over habitat. This can be the best fishing our area has to offer, cooling weather and actively feeding trout. However, fall fishing has two faces; early on the trout will feed and later they'll start migrating. Once the trout start to move away from feeding behavior an angler will likely find fish moving through an area instead of congregating in one location as the cooler months set in. Charlie recommends finding an area where the fish will be swimming by and give that a try, like along the shoreline. Late fall and winter weather often brings wind events. Remember that wind also drives fish, both baitfish and trout. It can move them out and away from the marshes and either toward or away from the shoreline

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Fishing Tips....



Winter fishing is challenged by the trout's natural slowing metabolism beginning in mid-December and lasting through February. Their feeding activity slows as they settle into their wintering over habitat. Charlie describes their driven behavior as seeking to be "Comfortable". The fish can survive in very cold water without expending lots of energy. They'll seek out areas which have a small temperature change over time and this could be the more stable deeper water. They'll feed occasionally but these fish are in a conservation of energy mode. Charlie explained you cannot work these fish hard with lures, very slow action is needed as these fish won't expend energy chasing a meal. How cold is too cold water? Charlie shared he's caught speckled trout in as cold as 39° water.

The Bite will vary depending on the season an angler is fishing and the behavior that's driving the trout. Charlie explained you can tell a lot about how the trout are feeding by where you hook them. If using a trailing treble hook and are consistently hooking the rear hook, it could mean the trout aren't feeding aggressively, may not be overly interested in your lure selection, or a weak/poorly timed reaction strike. Conversely, if you're hooking fish on the forward treble it likely means you've got the right lure (size, color, style) in front of them, they want it, and hitting it aggressively. It can surprise many anglers in the size of a bait a speckled trout will hit but sometimes it's good to downsize your lure. If trout are hitting your lure consistently but not full committing try downsizing your lure from a MirrOlure size 27 to a size 17, for example.

Watch for other signs trout are around feeding or stalking bait fish. If there's mullet around watch their behavior Are they swimming in schools and occasionally "greyhounding" across the water? If you see mullet popping out of the water or jumping in a non-greyhounding pattern, there's likely a large trout making them go crazy. Keep an eye out for "slicks", they're a sign of feeding activity and shouldn't be ignored. When the predatory trout partially eat the shrimp or baitfish it will release the fish oil and produce a fish oil slick on the surface. When shrimp are around in the late summer early fall it usually means smaller trout are feeding on them. If there's baitfish around and slicks are observed it indicates there's probably larger trout feeding. The smaller slick represents more recent feeding in the area as it hasn't disapated by wind and waves.

Artificial lure selection is an angler's choice. Topwater lures are a great early morning/low light lure for large trout in calm waters. In waters as cool as 50° they'll work fine for drawing a strike from large trout. Twitch Baits like MirrOlures, Yo-Zuri, Paul Brown, Steve's Lures are good all season lures. How they're fished will change depending on the season and how aggressive the fish are. Twitch baits (either floating, suspending, or sinking) work best if they're fished with a retrieve that's paused and an action that mimics a distressed baitfish. In the warmer months a pause may not be necessary if the fish are overly aggressive. Plastic tails are also a great choice and come in as many styles, shapes, and colors imaginable. The lure presentation with all of these lures is the same, to mimic a distressed/injured baitfish that represents an easy meal for a hungry speckled trout.



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Fishing Tips...



No matter which lure you present it's important to let the trout get the bait before you set the hook. A hard hook-set isn't needed even with larger trout. Set the hook with a down and to the side motion and once hooked keep a steady pressure on the fish during the retrieve. Practice good angling techniques which include; minimize the fight, don't exhaust the fish, handle with wet hands/towel, land with a rubber knotless net, practice a quick release, and release the large spawning fish over 20 inches. These are good methods to preserve our trout fishery for generations.

Along with understanding speckled trout behavior during the year there's other factors and conditions to consider; Bait, Water Clarity, Solar/Lunar periods, Biomass, Bird activity, Current, and Wind

Charlie shared his preferences when using bait. Number one is mullet, one of the most prevalent baitfish in the area and everything eats it! Second is adult menhaden, on the larger size. A trophy class speckled trout will have no problem taking down a large adult menhaden. Third would be the smaller menhaden then shrimp, and last on the list silversides. Even if you don't use natural baits you should be paying attention to the bait that's present. The adage "Match the Hatch" applies. If the trout are feeding on something that looks like mullet, throw an artificial lure that looks like mullet!



Water clarity is another condition that may influence your lure selection. Charlie prefers "Trout Green" water (photo left) but trout can be fished in dirty or clear water. Look to lighter color lures and fluorocarbon leader in clearer water if your line preference is monofilament. Darker lures like the "808 Halloween" color that includes black, gold, and orange work well in cloudy/dirty water.

Solar/Lunar tables are developed to highlight when Major and Minor feeding times prevail. They can be very helpful when environmental conditions aren't as great an influence on fish behavior such as when it's not overly hot or extremely cold. Charlie's experience is fishing before a big moon is best and the half moon is least favored.

Speckled trout hang in their size class. Small fish hang with the small fish, etc. If an angler is hooking into lots of 10 inch trout it's highly unlikely there's a trophy class trout swimming with them. Big trout eat little trout, If you're targeting large trout move on.

Birds behavior is another good indicator. Watch for the pelicans, they'll hang around a food source. Diving birds are good too however trophy sized trout aren't usually taken by predatory birds. Charlie cites an example of an osprey circling overhead, clearly interested in the fish below but without diving on them. Likely it was an oversized fish (Rockfish?, Red Drum? Trophy Trout?) the osprey couldn't take. If the fish hawks and predatory birds are interested in the area, an angler should be too.

Current is the directional movement of the water and as Charlie mentioned, big trout like moving water. Current is influenced by river flow, stormwater runoff and tidal action. Tides are predictable and reverse flow twice each day with a slack period between tides. Winds can create wind driven surface action which drive bait and fish into or away from areas, they are unpredictable in their influence until an angler is in the area and can assess conditions.

For anglers in search of a catch of a lifetime, Charlie recommends using all the environmental influences and understand what drives trout behavior during the year, and position yourself for success.

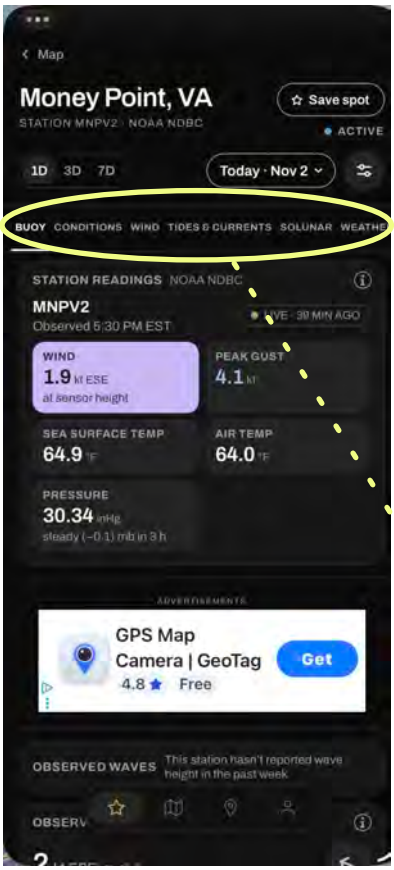
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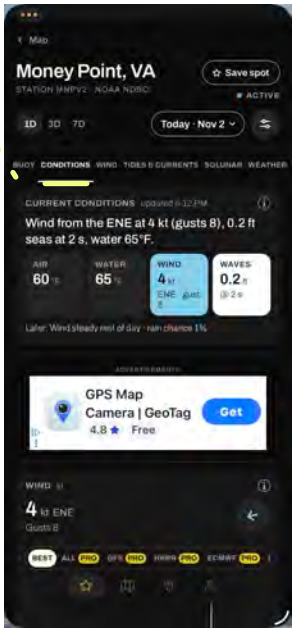
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Fishing Tips....

Charlie Church, Big Buoy app

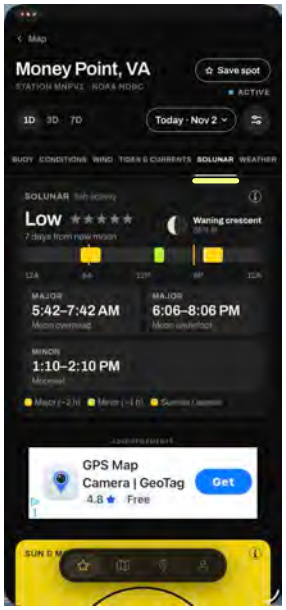
There's a ot of applications or apps available for just about every bit of information someone could imagine. For anglers, it means searching multiple sites for wind data, tide tables, wave predictions, weather, and countless others when planning a day or night on the water. The Big Buoy app was designed and fielded to make consolidating and presenting numerous sites of interest to anglers into a single source for planning. Designed for speckled trout fishing and specifically for our area. The Big Buoy app may be downloaded directly from www.Big-Buoy.com, the App Store (IOS), or Google Play Store (Android). There's a free download and access to many informative features and a fee for service/subscription option for BigBuoyPro ($39.99/year or $4.99/month). BigBuoyPro version provides for increased forecast range to 16 days, provides a best match for weather forecasting models, a 12 month planning calendar, predicted tides, year-out conditions, map overlays, nautical charts, and is Ad-free.













The BigBuoyPro map overlays feature includes detailed depth and nautical charts, chlorophyll, sea surface temperatures, and ocean current information. No other app consolidates such a wide range of environmental and predictive information.

No matter which version of Big Buoy you select anglers can save their favorite fishing spot within the app and get detailed information for that location and is only shown on your log in account.

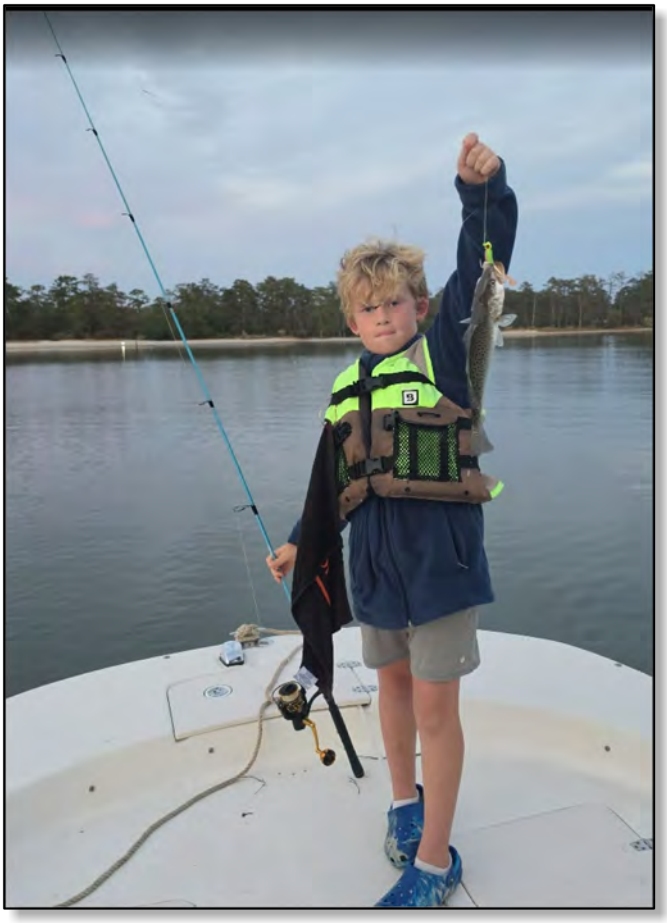
One truly unique feature for either version is the ability to set triggers for desired conditions in your saved locations and get notifications when those conditions are met and get a weekly update on your locations giving you the information what will be fishable that week.

Big Buoy has future updates planned expanding information available to anglers to plan their fishing days on the water. Download it today and give it a try!

Fishing Reports

Oct 21:Trip 1: Fishing Rainey's Gut for about an hour and a half with my Son Grady. Casting 1/4oz jig heads: Salt Water Assassin 4" Electric Chicken (most productive); SaltStrong 2.0 Slam Shady F.R.E.D. was also productive but electric chicken outfished easily 2 to 1
We tried casting towards grassy areas and cuts, very slow retrieve & pause along the bottom and landed 12 speckled trout 12-13".

- Mike Brown



Oct. 26 - Mary & I fished with John Curry, leaving his dock at 8AM in some heavy fog. We trolled the Rt. 17 Bridge for Stripers, no love. We moved to the mouth of the Chuckatuck for Specks while we waited for the fog to lift for our run to the JRB. We had tagged & released about 25 Specks when it was finally clear enough to run to the JRB. We set up for Blk. Drum but after 45 minutes with no bites we started to troll for Stripers. One pass in each direction, no hits, and we were back for Blacks. 2nd drop I got a Ray but that was it. We stopped on the way in and caught another dozen Specks before we ran out of water.

- Henry Troutner





Oct 22: George Langdon called to see if I wanted to do a repeat of yesterdays stripper on his boat. It was a little breezy and we did hook up with this 21 inch stripper at the Chuckatuck bridge once again using a red and white bandit.

- John Curry



Oct: We fished the CBBT for bull reds seeking fish over 40 inches to tag with 45 day satellite tags. We had seven bull reds with 5 being large enough to tag. The tags are to study red drum mortality. A timer was started as soon as the fish was hooked. After netting it was measured and the tag inserted, held hung from a boga grip for 30 seconds and then placed back in the water to ensure a safe release. Dr Hamish Small from VIMS is doing the study and was hoping to deploy 25 tags over several different days. It will be very interesting to see his results.

- Stan Simmerman



VIRGINIA GAME FISH TAGGING PROGRAM



VIMS | WILLIAM & MARY
VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE

Oct 26 & 28: Broad Bay (Narrows) Fished a two hour trip with Grady in the Broad Bay area on 1/4oz jig heads: Salt Water Assassin 4" Electric Chicken (most productive); SaltStrong 2.0 Slam Shady F.R.E.D. was also productive but electric chicken outfished again; SaltStrong Prawn Jr. Natural fished nearly as well as Electric chicken
Worked the rocky points and coves with a very slow retrieve, however the fish seem to be getting more agressive and would hit a steady slow retrieve as well as retrieve and pause. Landed 40 speckled trout 10-13.5".

The specs are definitely here and all over the Broad Bay area. The action definitely picked up in the 5 days between the first trip to the following week. No keepers have been seen yet, but I have heard of a few being landed around the area. Soft plastics on any 1/4oz jig head seemed to be the ticket. Trout eyes were used as well as regular unpainted lead heads. The pink and chartreuse combo seemed to be the most favorable on all trips, although other colors caught fish too. No other species were caught on the trips. All trips were late afternoon fishing from 4:30pm until dusk.

- Mike Brown







Oct 21: 9:30 am John Curry and I ran down to the Chuckatuck bridge 2 hours after the high tide. A stiff breeze out of the north almost too much but do able. Caught this 22" striper on a red and white bandit and was back home by 10:30.

- George Langdon

Oct 29: Mary & I launched the Skiff at Tylers Beach and ran across the James to fish the banks of Mulberry Island. We had a slow but steady pick of under slot Stripers all morning. At about 12:30PM we ran into a school of 21" fish. We hooked 4 and landed 3. Using ultra-light tackle it was a blast. About 25 fish total. All caught on Z-Man paddle tails.

- Henry Troutner





What happens to the fish you release?

Ask a VIRGINIA GAME FISH TAGGING PROGRAM volunteer!

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

The **Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program (VGFTP)** trains volunteer anglers to tag and release fish and report data. When a fish is tagged, released and recaptured, we can learn where it's moved to, how much it's grown, etc.

Visit **www.vims.edu/vgftp/** to learn more.
Want to volunteer? Email : susanna@vims.edu
with your name, mailing address, and phone number to join the waitlist.

Photo: Alex Perez

Oct 13: John Curry Asked Mary & I to accompany him on an adventure up the James River to Mulberry Is. We left his dock at 9AM, made a couple unsuccessful passes for Stripers at the Rt. 17 bridge than stopped at the JRB for Blk. Drum. On the first drop I landed a 31.5" Black. We fished for an hour with no more fish than headed up river. Mulberry Island area is one of the "Fishiest " spots on the James. Grass banks and islands, 3' -6' on the edges. The bite was non stop, over 60 small Stripers 10" -17", a dozen Specks 11" -14.5", 8 Flounder 6" - 15.5". Mary & I fished with Z-Man paddle tails, while John used minnows. Although the fish were small our Ultra-light tackle and their vicious strikes made for an exciting day.

- Henry Troutner















Oct ■■: [redacted]

Portions of this fishing report were redacted - Bill Seemueller

Oct 5-10: Bahamas Fishing report. Me and Jennifer fished last Monday and Wednesday at Fowl Cay Bahamas. Caught grouper, silver snapper Lang snapper, queen trigger, piggies, and yellow tail snapper and reef sharks. Had a BLAST!!

- Jere Humphrey

[Editor: What could they possibly be thinking? Give Jere a boat, unlimited fuel, unlimited bait, and show him areas to fish in the Bahamas...for a week]

















Oct 30: Marty Schriebl asked Mary & I to fish the James River. I had gotten some Blue Claws for Black Drum bait yesterday. This morning I stopped at Wilcox's for Eels, for Striper bait, b ut they were sold out. First stop the JRB for Black Drum. I hooked one but the hook broke and I lost it. Shortly after I hooked and landed a 29.5". At noon we moved to Mulberry Island. There we tagged 10 Specks and released ab out twice as many small Stripers. Blue Claw's for Drum bait and Z-Man paddle tails for Specks & Stripers.

- Henry Troutner



Sep 9: Mike Rheinhart, Dave Steele and I went fishing targeting flounder. Our plan was to troll up some bluefish for bait then drift for mister flattie.

Our usual set up for bluefish is a #1 and #2 Old Salty planer trolled at about 4 kts (this method has never failed!). We let the #1 planer back a little more than twice as far as the #2. The baits are about 10 and 15 feet deep. My leaders are about 20' of 30# or less with a ball bearing swivel in the middle. The swivel keeps line twist minimized but blues and macks WILL hit it! When we find fish, we concentrate on that area as best we can. I am of the opinion to catch fast and get the baits back out fast because the bite sometimes turns off in an instant.

Tight turns can be made successfully by turning toward long bait side and speeding up a little. Increasing speed is mandatory in water 20' or less, don't and the planers sink too deep and you get to buy new ones and spoons too not to mention rerigging the whole setup.

The conditions were an outgoing tide and south wind about 12kts. I like wind without east in it for the most part for bottom fish.

Dave and I were using standard flounder rigs, Mike R was using high-lo rigs with Burkley Gulp and stripped bluefish.

Mike R was the hot hand this day catching 2 fish close 22" in about 15 minutes. Our drift at first was predominantly wind driven moving us right down the bridge at about 3/4 of a knot. The current changed and I couldn't get back on the fish. We did manage 2 more keepers and 6 or so shorts.

- Mike Hubert





[Editor: Sorry Mike, I missed this one in last month's newsletter]

Angler Interests

Sector Virginia
Marine Safety Information Bulletin
24/7 Sector Command Center (877) 722-5727
Email: VirginiaWaterways@uscg.mil

MSIB 088 - 26

WATERWAYS ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (WAMS) REVIEW

United States Coast Guard

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October 27, 2026

WATERWAYS ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (WAMS) REVIEW

VA – LOWER CHESAPEAKE BAY AND ENTRANCE – WATERWAYS ANALYSIS ANDMANAGEMENT SYSTEM (WAMS) REVIEW

1. PURPOSE: The U.S. Coast Guard is conducting a Waterways Analysis and Management System (WAMS) review of the Lower Chesapeake Bay and Entrance. The purpose of this review is to focus on the area's aids to navigation system, waterborne commerce, marine casualty information, port / harbor resources, emergency response plans, routine and emergency communication capabilities, and future development projects.

2. WATERWAY DESCRIPTION: This review encompasses the following geographic areas and channels: South from the VA / MD state line south to the Southern Entrance to Chesapeake Bay Southern Approach Lighted Buoy CB (LLNR 410) and North Chesapeake Entrance Lighted Buoy NCA (LLNR 385). This will include the Thimble Shoals Channel west to Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, the Chesapeake Channel, and west to York River Entrance Channel Lighted Buoy 13 (LLNR 13470).

3. HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Any interested organization, company, or individual wishing to provide comments or participate should use the attached WAMS Stakeholder Survey or Waterway User input form. Mariners and stakeholders may submit their comments, insights, or structural recommendations through the following method:

• Email Submission: Send completed forms to LTJG Mark Yacone at Mark.E.Yacone@uscg.mil or BOSN Jason Brisson at Jason.M.Brisson@uscg.mil or Sector Virginia Waterways WAMS at VirginiaWaterways@uscg.mil.

NAVCEN Port Status Page: Virginia

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