



THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

SEPTEMBER 2020

What's Inside

***** September meeting on ZOOM, Guest Speaker Captain Alex Perez on fishing for Spanish Mackerel**

Fishing Reports;

- Chesapeake Bay/CBBT: Spanish Mackerel, Cobia, Flounder
- Little Creek: Speckled Trout, Puppy Drum, Flounder
- Lynnhaven: Puppy Drum, Spot, Croaker
- James River/MMBT: Spanish Mackerel, Spot, Croaker
- Chesapeake Bay/Eastern Shore: Cobia
- Inshore/Wrecks: Bluefish, Cobia, Sea Bass, Ribbonfish, Mahi
- Rudee Inlet: Puppy Drum
- Lynnhaven: Puppy Drum, Spot, Croaker

Angler Interests;

- Federal Permitting required for Recreational Tilefish fishing
- Reminder: Recreational Cobia Permitting and Reporting requirements

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

For our September meeting we're planning on putting it up on Zoom, a popular social video networking program. In the next few weeks, Wendy will contact you via email with information and the process to use the video networking program. She'll set up a few practice video conferences for those who would like to try it out before the meeting. Zoom is free to download and use at <https://zoom.us/> If you've got questions about how to use and access ZOOM, get in touch with Wendy (her email is listed to the right ↗)

We plan to run the meeting much as we've done in person and include a Guest Speaker. This month we have our own Captain Alex Perez sharing his expertise with Spanish Mackerel.

Remember to submit your Freshwater or Saltwater Citations or Club Prize Fish entries. For more information see page 3 for the current submissions and how to enter your prize fish.

- Will



On the Cover: Flounder photo compliments of Norfolk Angler Club member Bert Sainz. Bert was fishing along the Chesapeake Bay Bridge when Michel Smith caught this nice flounder. Michel & Ned Smith's fishing report is in this edition of the *Wireline*.

Congratulations to Katelynn Van Zile on her fantastic speckled trout catch. Katelynn was fishing with her Dad and Louis Glaser in Little Creek on August 19th.



Meeting

Our next Club meeting is scheduled for September 14th will be a video networked meeting on Zoom

Important: September NAC Meeting will be on Zoom

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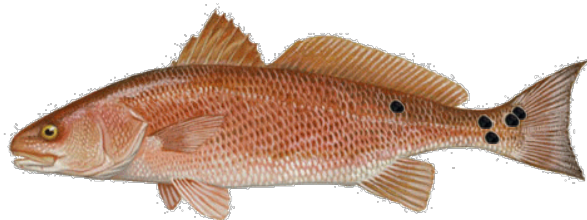
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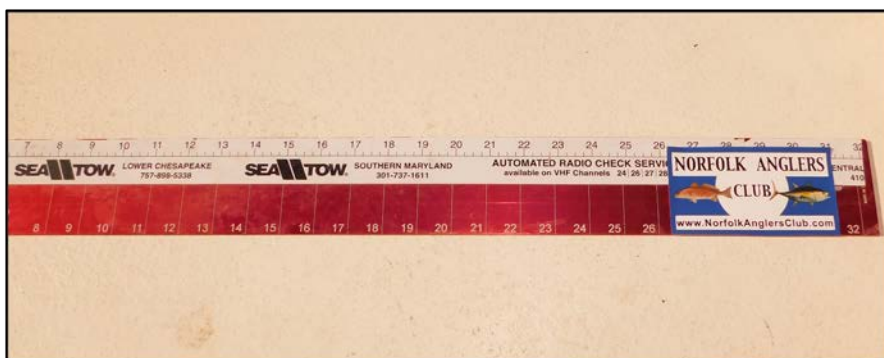
Norfolk Anglers Club - Redfish "Spots" Tournament

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 August 31, 2020

Bert Sainz (2), James Eisenhower (3), Will Bransom (2), Alex Perez (2)



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

Freshwater		Saltwater	
Species	Name (#Entries)	Species	Name (#Entries)
Blue Catfish	Mary Troutner (1)	Shark	Greg Rogers (1)
	James Eisenhower (1)		
Largemouth Bass	James Eisenhower (1)	Blueline Tilefish	James Eisenhower (2)
	Russel Willoughby (1)	Speckled Trout	James Eisenhower (1)
Crappie	James Eisenhower (3)		

****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

Fishing Reports...



Evans family and a Spanish.

31 July: I fished with the Evans family out of Lynnhaven Inlet and started trolling Clark spoons parallel to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT). Fishing was slow as we caught one Spanish Mackerel and one Bluefish. We fished until the end of the ebb tide and began catching Spot and Croaker using Squid FishBites.

We used a couple of the Croaker for bait on the CBBT Second island to see if any Drum would be coming through. No Drum but the Skates kept the crew busy. Overcast conditions never allowed us to sight fish so we went back to trolling spoons and finished the trip with a few more Spanish Mackerel being caught.

1 August: The Cottingham family and I fished the ocean front out of Rudee Inlet heading South in 30 foot of water. Spanish Mackerel started biting slowly on spoons as the North current pushed cleaner water into the area. Off of Sandbridge, I sight casted a bucktail jig at two Cobia, one at 46 inches and another at 38 inches. We kept the 46 inch fish and released the other. - Alex Perez



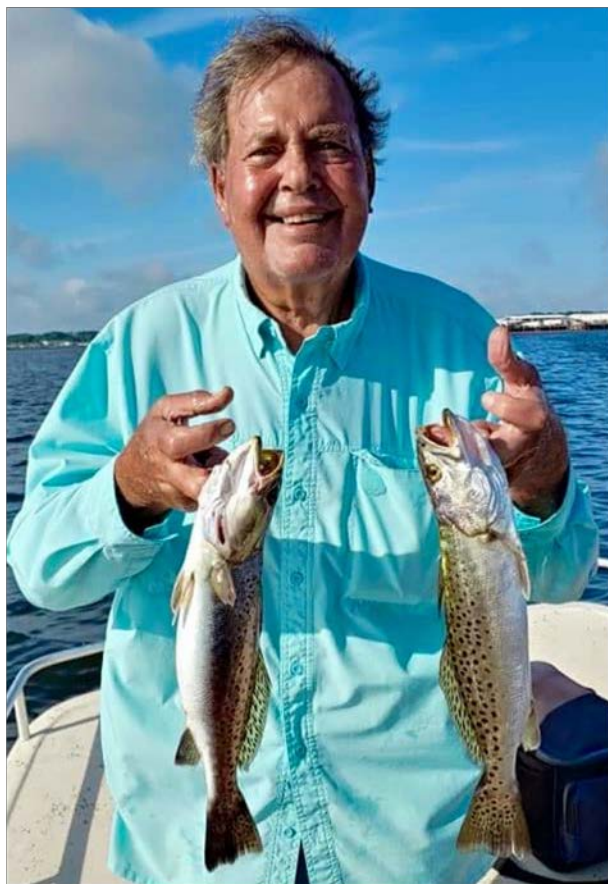
Cobia tagged and released



Cobia and Spanish Mackerel for dinner!

3 August: Early Morning at Little Creek; Louis Glaser and I have been going out fishing at Little Creek at sunup fishing a few hours for two weeks just to beat the heat, that has been making fishing a miserable experience this summer. Most of the time we have been skunked but over the last week the spot have been bigger and we've stumbled on a school of nice speckled trout in the 14-15 inch range and an occasional puppy drum. But this morning, I finally got some puppy drums!

On my first cast I hooked up what seemed like a big red drum, with line pulling even with my drag set tight. The fish came to the surface at one point and we could see it was a puppy but it was too far away to get a sense of size. But the fight took a while with it pulling drag despite my gaining line at each run. Finally when I got it to the boat, we found it was two puppies one hooked on the tail hook and one on the front hook of my 27MR MirrOlure (see netted pups). WOW!! I've never had that happen before. Both were 21 inches long and about 3.5 lbs. each. So once I got them in the live well, I casted at the same place and hooked two more puppies the same size. Then Louis started catching speckled trout on a 52MR. Likewise, I also started bringing in trout. The reds were no more for the day. We ended up catching about 15 speckled trout, 8 of which were 15-16 inch keepers and were off the water by 8:45 AM. - Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower





15 August: At daybreak, I again went fishing with Louis Glaser. Using topwater lures I caught a 21.5" speckled trout which made it a club minimum as I released it. We caught two more keepers and several throwbacks until after about an hour of raining hard on us, we called it a day.

16 August: We fished the same place, same time as the days before and caught 14 keeper speckled trout with Louis catching the biggest one 21.5 inch. The big one hit the first cast with a topwater Spook Jr. Could not find any reds but not complaining since the action with MirrOlures was so active. Louis caught 5 on topwater lures whereas mine were mostly caught on 17MR's. - Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



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10 August: It was a very early Monday morning when Ned, Bert Sainz and I headed to the CBBT to fish for flounder. The guys usually take me along for luck and Bert was the first to feel the luck. He caught a good-sized flounder (Ned will share the statistics) and then another. In the meantime, Ned and I got nothing but nibbles. Finally, a whopper clamped on to my hook. After 10 minutes or so of fighting this guy, I pulled up a 4 foot eel. He was huge and it took a lot of work for the guys to get him off the hook and back into the water. I was convinced it was a Moray Eel but the guys convinced me he was American.....you could have fooled me he was a monster!!!



Ned and I finally began to catch. Mine was a pretty big one...they said around 23 inches. In total we had 6 nice flounder in the box. We used live and cut bait. Got back to the dock around 1:30 pm and cleaned the fish and the boat. It felt great to be out on the water. Thank you Bert for the ride.

- Michel and Ned Smith



10 August: John Curry and I sight fished for Cobia with my nephew Christian and his brother. Christian has a new 26 foot Boston Whaler Outrage with twin Suzuki 225 and a tower, what a great set up. We fished from the CY buoy north to the town of Cape Charles and saw plenty of Cobia, I lost count at 12.

Most of the fish were smaller but there were a couple of good size ones. Unfortunately the cobia were being very finicky, possibly because of all the boat traffic from other sight fisherman.

Although most of the fish we cast to would chase our jigs or eel only one came tight. John landed our only fish which measures 38/39" and went back.

- Henry Troutner



9 August: I went with Billy Ragulsky and Ted Crumb to fish a couple of local wrecks. We left Rudee Inlet and headed to the Gulf Hustler and Brass Spike wrecks. We arrived at the Gulf Hustler first and made a couple of drifts over the wreck for Flounder. Flounder never bit but Billy caught a decent Black Sea Bass so we decided to anchor on the wreck. Using diamond and flutter jigs with Squid, we started catching more Black Sea Bass along with Scup, Ribbon fish, Bluefish, and Skates. While on anchor, a school of smaller Mahi swam through. We ended up catching three of the Mahi and released the smallest fish of the three. On our way to try the second wreck, we saw a large school of False Albacore that wouldn't bite. On the Brass Spike, we caught a few more Black Sea Bass with only a couple being of legal size. We passed a buoy on the way in which had a 30 inch Cobia that ate a bucktail jig. - Alex Perez



Ted and a Bluefish.



Tagged and released Cobia.



Scup (Porgy)



Black Sea Bass.

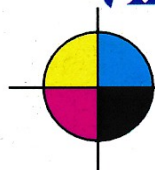


Billy and a mini Mahi



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25 Aug: Alex Perez and I headed out to Rudee Inlet in the afternoon for a few hours of fishing in the Carolina Skiff. We fishing for about 4 hours trying the oyster bed in the middle of Lake Rudee, the Bridge, and a couple of places in Lake Wesley. We had a number of "hits" and signs small bluefish were around (ate the tails off the gulp mullet). Water temps were a bit warm at 82 degrees.

For the last hour we headed to the creek behind the Aquarium and fished a feeder creek and the drain channels on a falling tide. Alex landed a couple Puppy Drum on a jig-head with a gulp tail.

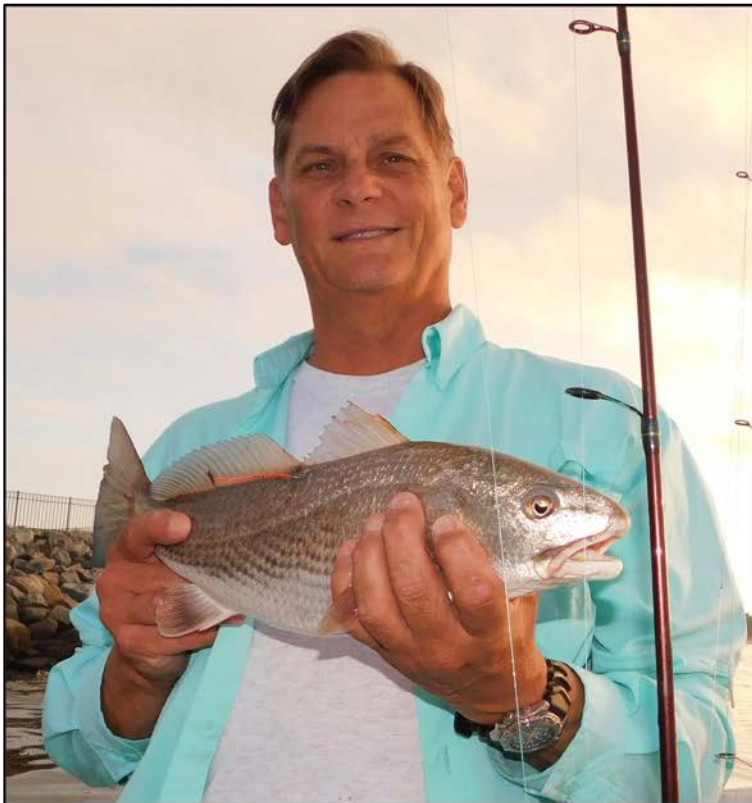
We tagged and released the Reds for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program
- Will Bransom



9 Aug: Headed out of JEB Little Creek/Ft Story before sunrise to pick Ike up at MorningStar Marina. The news from fellow Norfolk Anglers had the Speckled Trout and Puppy Drum bite was pretty good but the water temperature was steadily rising.

We fished the edge of the rocks and some of the grass beds with MirrOlures (17/27MR) and jig-heads with gulp tails. Most of our succes came from the jig-heads and around the rocks. We caught and released a few Puppy Drum, Speckled Trout, and Flounders. All our fish were tagged and released for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program

- Will Bransom



14 August: I fished with Louis and Jack Spollen from sun up till 9:00 am. While fishing with Hadden Spook Jr topwater lures, we caught four keeper puppy drum and four keeper size speckled trout. It's a blast watching those fish hit your lure on the surface. One of mine had five spots on one side. I tried to take a good picture but he didn't want to stay on the measuring tape.



But at least you can see the spots, he was over 19.5 inches long. Watching these reds and specks hitting a topwater lure and even missing the lure a couple of time before finally hooking up is a great visual fishing experience. Of course, the reds really take off once they realize they are hooked. This is another entry into the Norfolk Anglers Club red drum spot contest. Which is whomever has a drum with the most spots and the longest wins the \$50 gift card. - Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower

27 August: I caught a few!

- Jerry Hughes



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Back in June 2020, during a freak internet conversation on the Cabo web site I sold my 31'er. The same week Mary and I were contacted by old friends in Pennsylvania. They had a 20 Shamrock CC and asked if I wanted it, just haul it away, as they had not used it for a couple years.

After I got it home I found it fit in my pole barn perfectly and went to work. It's been about 2 months but, after going over ever system on the boat Mary and I went for our 1st shake down cruise and it ran great. Looking forward to a great fall fishing season.

Can't help but love the picture of Mary, NN Ship Yard and the new J.F. Kennedy Aircraft Carrier being built in the background.

- Henry Troutner



26 August: Sunset Puppy Fun!

I fished at Little Creek at sunset with Louis Glaser and Burt Whitt. Once the sun went down the reds turned on.

Using topwater Haddon lures I hooked 5 and netted 3 that were 19-24 inches. The biggest one fought hard and went almost in the anchor line. Twice the reds were herding the glass minnows towards us and my cast in the minnows triggered a hook up. It was awesome to see that!

Calm conditions as the sun set were needed in order to work the topwater lures properly.

We had great fun. I never thought I'd love any fishing more than a catching big reds. But the action of a large puppy drum on a topwater lure is awesome on light tackle. They fight hard!

- Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower

FROM FACEBOOK

Keith Nuttall

Totally agree. Some crash on it from the side. Some roll on it from behind, and some are down right awkward in trying to eat it. Very visual fishing and even better when sight casting to them.



21 AUG: I had a quick limit on puppy drum in the morning. The biggest 24 inches. A few decent spot and lots a little croaker.

- James Robinson



24 August: I took my pals Rodger and Sonny puppy drum session in the morning. They got four with two puppy drum, being keepers. The largest was 22 inches. We also caught some nice size spot. - James Robinson



21 August: I went fishing on a Friday afternoon! Puppy Drum Bytes



16 August: Caught our limit.
- Jerry Hughes

Mary's Sister-in-law and Grand-daughter were visiting. Although they are not really into fishing they did want to get out for a couple hours. Mary and I took them on our skiff to the JRB. We all had a good time, the croakers and spot cooperated biting on fish bites. The highlight of the day was Emma catching one of the biggest Spanish Mackerel I've seed. Unfortunately, not having a net, it flipped off as I tried to pull it into the boat. Strange place for a Mackerel. - Henry Troutner



21 August: Heard they were bailing Dolphin offshore at a super secret spot. My Buddy Troy Lane was interested so Mary, John Curry and I headed out of Owl Creek on 21-20 on his 24' Edgewater. We were not disappointed. As usual Mary hooked up first and from that point on we were steady into fish, sometimes having 3 on at once. The fish were not large but plenty big enough for the freezer. Although we caught over 40, we kept 33 (40 = 4 man limit) for dinners. Weather was great. Tackle was 4000 spinning gear, a 6/0 hook and a chunk of squid, no sinker. Oh, that's my nephew in the Whaler trying to jump on our fish but, I couldn't complain since he was the one that told me about the bite.

- Henry Troutner



Angler Interests

Non-offset, non-stainless circle hooks required for Recreational Striped Bass fishing with bait:



July 28th Commission Meeting: Proposal to amend Chapter 4 VAC 20-252-10 et seq., "Pertaining to the Taking of Striped Bass" to require the use of non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing for striped bass recreationally with bait, to clarify that the captain or operator of any recreational boat or vessel shall be responsible for any minimum or maximum size limits, and to repeal section 4VAC 20-252-115 Exemptions



from size limits and closed fishing seasons for recreational striped bass fishing tournaments. The Commission voted unanimously to approve amendments to require the use of non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing for Striped Bass recreationally with bait, to clarify that the Captain or Operator of any recreational boat or vessel shall be responsible for any minimum or maximum size limits, and to repeal Section 4VAC 20-252-115 Exemptions from size limits and closed fishing seasons for recreational striped Bass fishing tournaments.

Federal Permitting & Reporting required for all recreational tilefish trips



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Beginning August 17, 2020, NOAA Fisheries will require private recreational tilefish vessels, fishing north of the North Carolina/Virginia border, to have a federal recreational tilefish vessel permit and file catch reports. These changes were approved in Amendment 6 to the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan. This action is being taken to better characterize and monitor the recreational fisheries for both blueline tilefish and golden tilefish.

Apply for your federal private recreational tilefish vessel permit through the NOAA [Fish Online](https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/apps/login/login) website (<https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/apps/login/login>). You must apply for this permit using our online system, we are not providing paper applications for this permit. This new permit is required even if a vessel already holds a for-hire tilefish permit.

Private recreational tilefish anglers must also fill out and submit an electronic vessel trip report within 24 hours of returning to port for trips where tilefish were targeted and/or retained. Reports can be submitted through any NOAA Fisheries approved electronic reporting system. See the NOAA website for information on electronic reporting options at (<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/resources-fishing/vessel-trip-reporting-greater-atlantic-region>)

Reminder: Cobia Permit Holders, report your harvest or lack of participation in the Cobia season



If you have not had an opportunity to take a trip or report a trip, this is just a reminder of the reporting requirements of the Recreational Cobia Permit. There is plenty of time to submit a trip report either with or without cobia harvest OR to report your lack of participation in the 2020 cobia season before the October 21, 2020 deadline. The reporting requirement for this permit can be found in regulation Chapter 4 VAC 20-510-10 et seq., "Pertaining to Amberjack and Cobia" (<https://www.mrc.virginia.gov/regulations/fr510.shtm>).

VMRC will accept reports only by form (<https://www.mrc.virginia.gov/Forms/>) or through the Virginia Saltwater Journal. VMRC will not accept any reports by phone. If you submit a report on the Virginia Saltwater Journal, you will receive an auto-generated confirmation email of the report that we encourage you to keep for your records. If you have technical issues submitting reports on the Virginia Saltwater Journal, please call VMRC staff for assistance before the reporting deadline.

If you hold a 2020 Recreational Cobia Permit, you MUST report by the deadline. If you do not report by the deadline of October 21, 2020, you will NOT be eligible for a Recreational Cobia Permit in 2021. Your ineligibility will expire in 2022. There are no exceptions.

