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August 2023

Formerly Waccamaw Outdoors Magazine

Volume XIII Issue VI

Trashman from Savannah, Cleans Up 2023 Governor's Cup Billfish Series

The 2023 Governor's Cup Billfish Series began on May 13 at Bohicket Marina on John's Island before moving up to Georgetown on May 27. A coastal low affected the weather in Georgetown so badly, that they only got in one fishing day, and that wasn't until May 29. The Caroline Billfish Classic (CBC) in Charleston was fished in June. Trashman, and Capt. Ben Wall, finished in first place at both Bohicket and the CBC and were the leaders heading into the final tourney in July at Edisto. A hot sailfish bite at Edisto saw many boats release multiple billfish, but Trashman scored enough release points to win the title of 2023 Best Billfish Boat.

Day One of fishing at Edisto on July 20 saw longtime participant Benchmark go out and release eleven sailfish, setting a new record for most billfish releases in a single day of fishing in the history of the S.C. Governor's Cup. The very next day Benchmark went back into the deep blue sea looking for a similar result, but on Day Two the sailfish proved much more elusive, and the Sweet Spot team overtook Benchmark's Day One lead. Sweet Spot, captained by Chris Kubick, went on the win the Edisto tourney, while Benchmark finished in second place. Third place at Edisto went to



The crew of Pistol with winning Mahi at Edisto docks

Sportin' Life, captained by Mike Glaesner, and this team from Charleston took second place overall in the 2023 S.C. Governor's Cup Series.

The meatfish bite at Edisto was particularly good for late July fishing. The boat named Pistol was HOT in this regard, winning both the heaviest wahoo category and the heaviest mahi category. Unbelievably it was the same angler, Hal Turner, that reeled in both winners. The HOO went 53.1-pounds at the scales, and the Mahi was a respectable 38.4pounder that blew away the competition, considering no other mahi weighted more than 20-pounds. Lots of blackfin tuna came to the docks at Edisto too, and the 38-boat fleet experienced good fishing.

Charles Yeomans and wife Laura are the new owners of the marina at Edisto Beach. "I was proud to be the tournament Director for the Edisto Billfish tourney, and to work with SCDNR," said Yeomans. "Our community of Edisto Beach really enjoys and supports the Governor's Cup each July, and we look forward to hosting future competitions to decide the Billfish Series. The excitement generated when a sportfisher comes back to port with eleven billfish release flags is going to be hard to duplicate."





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From The Publisher: Speakin' Englis The Dog Days of Summer



Here comes the hottest days of the summer and with the looks of what the end of July was, we are in for it. With water temps touching the 90's in the creeks and the river is even close to that, it can make fishing tough. Not only is the fishing typically a little slower, the enjoyment level for the angler is teetering on miserable and torture. But, we as anglers also know that the signs are here that the near future holds some of the best fishing of the year as we come out of the oven. The fact that normally in just a month, we will see our first signs of fall with the cooler nights and much lower humidity levels. Is enough to keep our eyes on the prize and to pick our days this time of the year sparingly. I always say that if it is more comfortable to us as the angler, then it is probable a lot better on the fish as well. That involves being on the water before sunrise and being willing to get out late and fish into the sunset. This time of the year can place us in the right spot at the right time while paying attention to a bunch of factors. I remember years ago when all of a sudden the birds, sea gulls and shore birds, were concentrated at a creek mouth where the water was rolling over a very shallow sand bar. When we started fishing the area we noticed some (toilet flushes) on the surface

and quickly switched up to some top water with Spools Jr's and Whopper Ploppers. We began to get hit after hit and eventually started landing chomper blues and speckled trout. These fish were there feeding on the bait that was getting washed over the sandbar and I think there were a lot of shrimp that had gotten caught in the crossfire as well. In a recent trip out in Murrells Inlet, I looked for this very thing at the same tide (one hour into the rise) and the area was quiet. We decided to go catch some live mullet and ended up blacking out the bottom of the livewell with both shrimp and mullet. The shrimp were awesome size

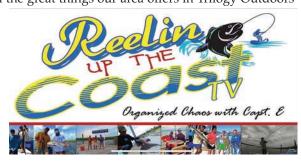


and I can only imagine that the full moon at the time had sent them into the inlet. We began bouncing around and hitting some flounder spots and with very little success we threw one last hail mary and landed right where the fish wanted to be. We proceeded to catch a number of flounder and rat reds and were able to keep 3 fish around 19 inches for dinner. I would guess that of the 20 plus flounder, 12 were all over 15 and just under the legal 16 inch minimum. This is a great sign as we move into year 3 of the flounder regulation changes and I think that most will agree that the flounder fishing has been incredible this summer. We chose an area because of the heat and his water temps that was near a deep hole that led into a shallow flat and would give the fish some cooler water to hang while they ambushed bait moving in to the shallow areas. I also pick an area that has a rip or some strong current in near vicinity because I feel it also holds cooler water.

I also think that these same areas and the signs are exactly where I would go set up at sunrise to get out and chase the topwater bite. These areas in Murrells Inlet, include mouth of Oaks Creek, mouth of Charlie Cut, both the north and south entrances to Whale Creek, and several areas back

in Oaks Creek that connect with Austin Creek as well as the Shell Landing. I would also concentrate some time out around the jetties if the tide and ocean permitted and look for the action on top and let that dictate where and how I fish. Of course, we as anglers should always let the fish dictate how we target them. They are always willing to give away the goods on how to catch them when we open our eyes and pay attention to every factor involved and also pay attention to what they want. You can also repeat these things in the evenings if you enjoy the thrill of that top water explosion and I have to be honest that I even enjoy a good tug from a big blue fish every now and then. This is also when fish love to feed and be prepared over the next month for the possible opportunity at a tarpon. They are following all the bait that is now making it's way down the beaches and in the inlets and they can make their presence known in the evenings as they feed on large schools of mullet and menhaden. We are blessed to live in such an incredible area and its been a blessing to share all the great things our area offers in Trilogy Outdoors

Magazine. I also thoroughly enjoy sharing the reports of fishing in the Carolinas on Let's Fish TV on Ballys Southeast and also available at www.letsfishtv.com. This week and in the last month I have had a bunch of people as if there is ever a chance that I will bring back Reelin Up The Coast TV. The answer to that is never say never. We had some great times over the 10 years of the show and I loved to take the time and have our guides not only show off our fish and where we were. But, I had them and myself try to explain exactly how we do what we are doing in each episode. As the host of a local television program, we do not do it for the wealth. We do it because we love it. We had some changes go on over at CW21/WPDE and the pricing was just too much for us to continue on. We know that local programming is once again gaining popularity and I



would promise to give our audience 26 new shows a year if I am blessed with the opportunity to once again share Reelin Up The Coast on Sunday mornings with you. But, I need a favor from any of you that were fans and I need you to write a letter to the station and let them know that you enjoy local programming and that you would love to once again see a couple outdoor shows on their station. I would greatly appreciate it and I promise to send each and everyone that writes a letter a RUTC hat when we get back on the air. You can direct your email to (trilogyoutdoorsmedia@gmail.com) with the caption. We would love to see more local programming showcasing our area. Thank you to all of our readers for taking the time to pick up the magazine or to read it online at our website and we look forward to educating and entertaining you for years, or as long as our resources allow it. Tight Lines, Capt E



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SCDNR Saltwater Fishing Clinics By Jeff Dennis

The first of several free surf fishing clinics held at Huntington Beach State Park and Botany Bay WMA took place in June and July A serious How-To saltwater fishing clinic is held on dry land by SCDNR instructors, before everyone caravans to the beach to cast a line into the ocean. Fishing rods and holders are provided for anglers, plus several kinds of bait like shrimp and squid. The first clinic at Botany Bay WMA produced calm waves for the surf anglers and everyone caught at least one whiting before the day was done, making the clinic well worth the effort.

Pamela Corwin is the Saltwater Recreational Fishing Outreach Biologist for the S.C. Department of Natural Resources. "We just held another surf fishing clinic up at Huntington Beach State Park and the weather was tough for fishing, so no fish were caught," said Corwin. "During our clinics we meet for a hands-on learning class, which includes knot tying, and fish species identification. Anyone fishing in the clinic must possess a valid SC saltwater fishing license, but other than that we provide all the necessary gear. Attendees are welcome to bring a chair or cooler with them to the beach if they like."

Several youth anglers were present at Botany Bay WMA, and some of them only had experience fishing in fresh water. Besides the SCDNR staff



Surf Fishing Clinic at Botany Bay WMA Boneyard Beach Photo by Jeff Dennis

present, there was a significant amount of volunteers ready to assist the surf anglers with casting tips and to oversee the inevitable tangling of



fishing lines. Dave Rapp is one of the volunteers, and these instructors must complete training classes with SCDNR before attending saltwater clinics to help out. SCDNR conducts a survey at the end of the day to gauge the effectiveness of their outreach.

Bess Kellett is the SCDNR Volunteer Coordinator for Botany Bay WMA. "These summer clinics attract folks that are visiting Edisto on vacation and they dovetail with SCDNR's mission to raise awareness about our marine resources here on the coast," said Kellett. 'Plus, there's a good chance that those who caught a fish, will want to return to try their luck another day. We also offer saltwater fishing in a pond here called Jason's Lake, where anglers need a saltwater license, and we have a requirement that one angler must be a youth."

The SCDNR Saltwater Calendar has plenty of options in August including Aug. 3 at Huntington Beach State Park, August 5 at Murrell's Inlet, Aug. 10 at Georgetown, Aug. 12 at Myrtle Beach State Park (Women Only), Aug. 19 at Murrell's Inlet, Aug. 26 at Georgetown, and Aug. 31 at Myrtle Beach State Park. Pre-registration on the SCDNR website is required to attend.





One afternoon coming home from work, I noticed a killdeer leaving the center of our gravel driveway. I didn't think anything of it until it happened again the next day. I then knew to check and see if there was a nest — sure enough, there were four eggs in the center of the road. I blocked off that part of the road so my wife and I would have to drive around the ground nest. As the days went by, every time we came home the mother killdeer would run off the nest. She eventually realized we were no threat and would remain each time we came by. Through heavy downpours and searing heat, we watched as she endured with the male serving as a Sentinel. This went on for 20-some-odd days.

I was leaving for work one morning, and I noticed the mom and three little ones in the front yard. I knew there had been four eggs, and sure enough, one did not hatch.

We have greatly enjoyed watching the mama raise her three babies. Keeping them in the shade in the heat of the day and under her wings or our vehicles during rain storms, she is a good mother. We also kept little shallow water dishes out to help as much as we could. The little killdeers enjoy bathing and drinking from them. We made sure they would be able to enter and exit with ease. It's amazing how smart the mother killdeer is. One afternoon I watched a rabbit and all three baby killdeer feeding together just feet from one another. She must have known there was no danger there. One day I was bush hogging the field in front of our house when five crows perched in one of the pecan trees. I got concerned because I have seen crows snatch up tiny killdeer. Nothing against crows — but nature will be nature and there is an order and balance. No sooner than I became worried, I instantly became relieved. The crows left in a hurry with a mockingbird in pursuit. The mockingbird resembled a British Spitfire (a famous WWII fighter), chasing and harassing the crows out of sight.

For me, that is just another way that wildlife benefits directly and indirectly from other wildlife — hence the order and the balance. As I wrote this, I was watching them in the front yard, and they are more than half grown and are doing great. I have always been amazed at God's creations. Thank you for reading, and I wish y'all the best (John 3:16).



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Keep your boat safe from the storm

By Capt. Cefus McRae, Nuts & Bolts of Fishing Series

This summer's weather has been crazy for most us here in the southeast. The past few week's mid-day air temperatures make me feel like we're about four miles from the sun. And then, later in the day...what might normally be a cooling rain shower, becomes a deluge that drops inches of rain in just an hour or so. Crazy. But not unheard of. We go through cyclical weather patterns; every 10 years, every 25 years, every 50 years and every 100 years. Or it could simply be a 'wet' summer.

Nevertheless, it's the weather we're having right now that we need to deal with. And for those of us who own boats, it's the rain and wind we need to prepare for.

If you keep your boat in the water, rain and wind can cause considerable damage to your boat. Even on rivers and lakes hundreds of miles from the coast, a stiff wind can cause sizeable waves. Imagine someone throwing a 2 or 3 foot wake at your boat for 5 or 6 hours, or even longer. Although your boat might be tied securely to the dock, it's still rocking and banging against the dock edge. Fenders can offer some protection, but the constant rubbing against



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Keep your boat safe from the storm!

your gelcoat can leave bad marks or even scour your hullsides. And while your boat is rocking, it could potentially get leveraged under the dock planking become lodged under the dock. That's not good.

Another issue that can have even worse consequences is this... Let's say you decide to keep your boat in the water. You secure it so there's no way it can slam against a dock or come loose from its mooring. Wave motion doesn't bother it too much. But then comes the 4 or 5 inches of rain in just a few hours. If your boat has a self-bailing cockpit and the scuppers are above the waterline, then you're probably fine. If you have a boat with scuppers below the waterline, then you have the potential for water to accumulate in the bilge... fast. That's why your automatic bilge pump should be connected directly to your battery, versus requiring the ignition to be on, or the battery switch to be engaged.

That leaves another problem to address. A substantial amount of water accumulation will cause your bilge pump to run for hours, and possibly drain your battery. If the rain continues, you'll have a deck full of water in no time, and no way for it to be removed. The net result could be a swamped boat, or worse, you find it sitting on the bottom. Even if the boat is still afloat, all your gear will be water-soaked, and electrical connections in the bilge area could wind up corroding. Not to mention what that water will do to your engine.

Here's my suggestion. At the first indication of some major weather on the way, pull your boat from the water. Secure it on its trailer, or have your marina put it in dry storage for a few days. If you're bringing it home, park it in an open area, away from trees or power lines that could come down during the storm. Be sure to pull the drain plug, and elevate the bow so water naturally drains out. I've actually seen deflated trailer tires that resulted from the weight of a boat filled with rain water.

Hurricane season is right around the corner. So, if you get notice of a potential storm headed your way, first, take care of your family. Then take care of your house. And when that's done, don't forget to take care of your boat. It will thank you for it.

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What great times I've had of late!

By Bouncer Smith



My grand nephew Jamie and Doug with the 18 pound striper

About the first of July I drove to Indian Pass, about 20 miles southeast of Port St Joe, Florida. I met 67 year old twin brothers Cal and Conrad from California whom I had met over the telephone while discussing swordfish methods. They had picked up a rebuilt 25 foot center console in Beaufort, N C.

They want a first ever tarpon. Fishing live pinfish they caught bull redfish every drift while tarpon put on a show all around us. At 5 PM they suggested throwing in the towel. I responded by pointing out a solunar minor at moon rise about 5:40 PM. They agreed to stick it out till then. After casting lures all afternoon without a bite. At 5:35 I decided to catch a redfish with a live pinfish. The guys told me we were nearly out of bait, but they passed me a beat up half dead pinfish.

Two minutes later I was hooked up with a huge tarpon. I fought it a few minutes and decided to let them enjoy fighting this big girl. When we release her almost 3 hours later, i'm not sure they got the good end of that deal.

My next adventure was down to Cedar Key. For the second year in a row Darrell Keith of HydroGlow fish lights skunked me. Two years in a row he has caught snook and other quality fish before rain killed the day. Jim Keith last year and Jimbo Keith this year did their best, but you can't control luck or rain.

I had a great time at ICAST. It is the greatest gathering of fishing industry people you could



Doug Youngblood and I with a nice stripe

dream of. This year was extra special spending time with the StarBrite group, Derek Redwine and Dennis Friel, two great artist creating one beauti-



Darrell Keith from HydroGlow outfished me again at Cedar Key

ful piece of art and a wild party with Tony DiGulian and the Pelagic crowd.

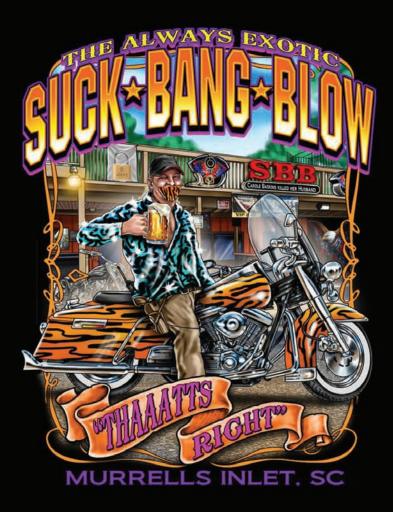
From there it was off to Melbourne. There I spent some quality time with the Arnoldys and at Harry Goodes Outfitters. We held an after ICAST party Saturday and chased a lot of tarpon on Monday. All Nathan kept repeating was the tarpon were biting great on Sunday. Tuesday and Thursday I fished with Glyn Austin, a long time Sebastian Inlet guide. Tuesday I caught a big tarpon on an R and R Slidebait and Glyn's grandson caught one on a live croaker. Thursday I caught a nice snook and my old friend Steve Nichols and I caught a bunch of big jack crevalles. It was crazy trying to keep our catches away from the big goliath groupers siting next to the boat. That day it was Steve who caught the big tarpon.

It was too hot to fish beyond 10 AM so I returned to my home in Georgia.

This past Monday I fished Lake Lanier with my grand nephew and a great guide by the name of Doug Youngblood. We had a super morning catching 15 striped bass, including an 18 pound stud caught by my grand nephew.

My next adventures will be fishing Morehead City, NC, Little River, SC and then Murrels Inlet SC. I hope to see plenty of redfish and flounders and maybe even some offshore bottomfish.

Who knows, with a little luck I might run across some friends around the MIFC.



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Aug. 12	DEVIL'S CUT	8pm
Aug. 19	SUICIDE COMEDY SHOW	7pm
Aug. 26	EnRAGE THE MACHINE	8pm

Check Out Our Menu

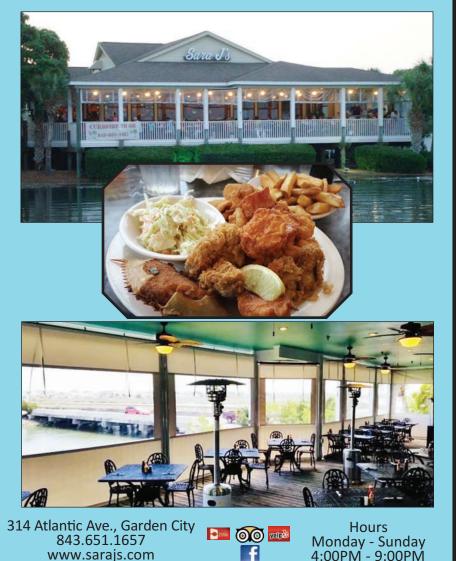
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Good Food Check Out Our Menu



Sara J's is a family-owned restaurant that enjoys serving fresh quality seafood. We also enjoy sharing our fishing adventures with you and your family.



It's Too Hot to Cook!

Creamy Cucumber Salad

2 large cucumbers, sliced
1/4 cup red onion, sliced
1/4 cup greek yogurt (or sour cream or mayo or combination)
1 lemon, juice and zest (or 1/4 cup white vinegar)
2 tablespoons dill, chopped salt and pepper to taste
1 clove garlic, grated (optional)
Mix everything!

Crunchy Poppyseed Chicken Salad

1- 12 ounce bag broccoli slaw
1 large bell pepper, diced
2 cups shredded carrots
1- 8 ounce can pineapple chunks, drained
2 cups cooked chicken breast, diced
1 cup creamy poppyseed dressing
1/3 cup sunflower seed kernels
black pepper, to taste
Combine all ingredients except dressing and
sunflower seeds in a large bowl.
Add dressing, toss to coat.
Sprinkle with sunflower seeds. Refrigerate
until serving.

Shrimp Avocado Corn Salad

- 8 oz raw shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 large diced avocado
- 1 Jalapeño pepper, seeded and sliced
- 1 cup cherry or grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 cup fresh corn kernels
- 1/2 red onion, minced

Freshly chopped cilantro or you can substitute parsley

- 2 tablespoons butter, melted + 1 tablespoon
- butter at room temperature
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

Salt and fresh cracked pepper

Melt 1 tablespoon butter in a skillet over medium-high heat. Toast corn, stirring regularly for a couple of minutes until slightly charred and set aside.

Toss the shrimp with 2 tablespoons melted butter in a bowl until well-coated. Add shrimp to the same skillet in a single layer, cooking for a minute or until it starts to become pink around the edges, then flip and cook until shrimp are cooked through, less than a minute. Don't overcook the shrimp. Place the shrimp on a plate and allow to cool while you prepare the other ingredients for the salad.

Add all ingredients for the salad in a large mixing bowl. Combine the olive oil, lime juice, salt and pepper and drizzle over the salad and toss everything together. Season with more salt and pepper, as needed. Serve immediately!









Virtual Tournaments

(Adults must be on the boat for liability) <u>https://www.salttfishing.com/</u> Virtual Tourneys August 19 and Sept 16 with kickoff of the trail Sept 30

Pre-season virtual tournaments allow teams to practice planning, organization and checking in whereas the check in is a method we can practice this summer that will help us during the season when we have the alternative site option. -For this event, you must launch from a public boat ramp along the rivers Waccamaw, Pee Dee (both little and big), Black and Santee. -For this event, you must launch from a public boat ramp along the ICW from Little River to Charleston plus Murrells Inlet is an option.

We wish to use this check in format during the season when we offer alternative sites due to a Windy Winyah Bay. IF not, on trail dates, then like before, we will expect all teams check at the home boat landing at Carroll A. Campbell first. Then, if we offer alternative sites, those trailering cannot leave until 30 minutes before first light. It is important to practice this method if we plan to use it.

Everyone must be registered for the 23-24 season to participate. -The day before the event (if not sooner) everyone pre-registered a time based on "safe light" to begin submitting videos -The day before the event (if not sooner) everyone pre-registered will be given the password to put on the index card

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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August Bass Fishing Tips

From The Bassmater (Tony Carter)

OK folks, let's just get into it. It is August, it is hot, and it is the dog days of summer. Everybody wants to know what to do in the dog days of Summer to catch more fish. Well, from many years of trials and successes, I have come to the conclusion that it doesn't matter. Fish are fish and they are going to eat no matter what the conditions. Whether it is freezing outside or scorching hot and 115° heat index. They are fish and they have to eat to survive.

There are several ways that you can approach the hot days of summer with your fishing strategies. Most want to say go early in the morning or late in the evening for your Best chance to be successful. That is true, but only to a cer-



tain point. Tidal fish dictate their feeding times by the water movement and the fluctuation of the tide. But there is good news for people about the dog days of summer. Our deer season starts mid August and a lot of people will return to the woods instead of the rivers. This will open up the waters and not put near as much pressure on the fish.

As I said earlier, a lot of people say, go early in the morning or late in the evening, That can often work and present you with your best shot. But, there are other ways to combat the hard fishing in the dog days of Summer. We all are bank beaters by nature because of running water and the water



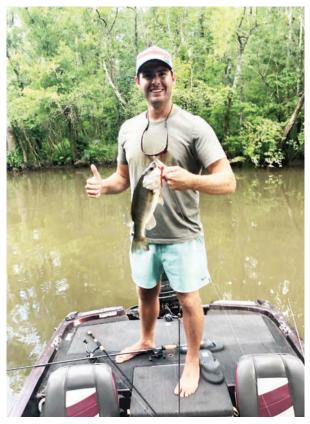
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breaks create things for fish to to get behind that causes a eddy. As the sun gets up and it gets hotter during the day, I tell people stop fishing towards the bank and start fishing where the boat is sitting. Fish move out to deeper water. It's cooler and not as much fishing pressure. If you change your normal routine from throwing to the bank. To targeting that 8 to 15 foot range, your success rate will climb dramatically. Also, you will probably see the size of fish will also increase.

Most people can't afford the new forward facing sonar with the live scope and things of that nature. These are very expensive, and definitely worth it. But chances are you do have depth finders on your boat. If you will pay attention to them as you are going down the banks. You will come across downed trees and and underwater structure. These are the things that break the water flow and cause eddys. These same areas are where the fish feel comfortable. Take the time to go back and revisit those areas that you mark in deeper water in the morning times or late in the evening during the middle of the day. Try your luck at throwing a deep diving crank bait or a Carolina rigged worm. I will promise you will find new fish that may have never seen a fishing lure.

Other methods include trying to find steeper banks and channels swings. These include areas such as the outside curve of the river shade lines, grass beds, and anything with quick access to deep water and shade. Just when you think you have exhausted all of your resources, change locations. Go somewhere that you have never been before. Someone found the spot you are already

fishing somehow. Go exploring and try out new water. You may be surprised at some of the things you will find by accident. Try to learn something new every time you are on the water. It will help your success rate go up dramatically. Most people don't take the time to change lures or presentation. They just keep using what they're comfortable with. Don't be afraid to switch up and try something new, in a new place, with a new technique. You may figure out something that is successful. Fish want to be comfortable just like we do, we want to be in the AC where it's cool. Fish are the same way. When they are comfortable they are far more likely to eat. Another fun fact is do not be afraid of the weather 90% of your best days of fishing will come when it's the worst weather possible. An old wise tale goes like this, "when the wind is out of the west, the fish bite best, when the wind is out of the east the fish bite the

least". I promise you that is just what it is, an old wise tale. Some of the best days and biggest bass I have ever caught, have come on days when nobody wanted to be on the water. It sometimes seems to amp up the fish and make them want to feed.

Not all people are the same. I don't believe in that and I hope you will not be scared to switch it up. Switch up places, switch up new lures, and switch up new people. You never know what you may learn from other anglers and you may become best of fishing partners. I hope this helps some of you out and makes for a brighter future in bass fishing. Remember it's hot and you should bring lots of patience with you. Take an extra minute to help someone out who might be having trouble getting over the hump in bass fishing. Please stay safe out there and have lots of fun! Sincerely the BassMaster!



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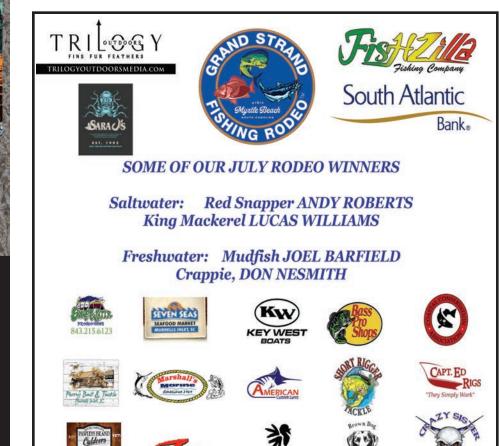
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The Grand Strand Fishing Rodeo

The rebirth of the longest running fishing tourney on the Grand Strand PRESENTED BY: Visit Myrtle Beach, Trilogy Outdoors, CCA of South Carolina, and Shi-awela Safaris



One of the longest running tournaments in the southeast is back. The Grand Strand Fishing Rodeo is going to be an annual event that culminates with a celebration of all of our monthly winners at a banquet and awards ceremony at a location along the Grand Strand in November 2023. This years tournament will begin November 1st and continue monthly through October 31st, 2023. Our annual banquet, celebrating fishing along the Grand Strand will follow completion where our overall winners will be decided and celebrated. Our presenting sponsors will be on hand to spotlight their services and products as well. Someone is going to Costa Rica or going on an African Safari from one of our many sponsors. Visit www.trilogyoutdoorsmedia.com to see each months results and to find out more on how you can weigh your catch and become the years rodeo champion. We are including all of our incredible freshwater fishing in this event as well and want everyone to have a fair chance at the grand prizes. Get signed up now and find your nearest weigh in location. The rules are available at www.trilogyoutdoorsmedia.com and you will also find the list of our current weigh/registration stations. You are going fishing! Why not try to become the 2023 Grand Strand Rodeo Champion and win some incredible prizes? Scan the code and enter today!!









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10 Quick Tips To A Safe Day Of Boating

PRESENTS

• **Take a boating safety course.** Gain valuable knowledge and on-water experience in a boating safety course with many options for novice to experienced boaters.

• **Check equipment.** Schedule a free vessel safety check with local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadrons to make sure all essential equipment is present, working and in good condition.

• Make a float plan. Always let someone on shore know the trip itinerary, including operator and passenger information, boat type and registration, and communication equipment on board before you leave the dock.

• Wear a life jacket. Make sure everyone wears a life jacket – every time. A stowed life jacket is no use in an emergency.

• Use an engine cut-off switch – it's the law. An engine cut-off switch is a proven safety device to stop a powerboat engine should the operator unexpectedly fall overboard.

• Watch the weather. Always check the forecast before departing on the water and frequently during the excursion.

• Know what's going on around you at all times. Nearly a quarter of all reported boating accidents in 2021 were caused by operator inattention or improper lookout.

• Know where you're going and travel at safe speeds. Be familiar with the area, local boating speed zones, and always travel at a safe speed.

• **Never boat under the influence.** A BUI is involved in one-third of all recreational boating fatalities. Always designate a sober skipper.

• Keep in touch. Have more than one communication device that works when wet. VHF radios, emergency locator beacons, satellite phones, and cell phones can all be important devices in an emergency.



Micheloo ULTRA FISH PHOTO OF THE MONTH

"Mich Ultra is proud sponsor of the photo of the month page. Let your day on the water end with great pictures and stories shared while enjoying the Superior In Light Beers. Southern Crown Partners and Mich Ultra want you to have a safe day on the water and we ask that you designate a sober skipper on each trip so that everyone returns from a wonderful day on the water."





August 2023

Trilogy Outdoors Media

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The Mystery of Cypress Knees

By Cara Schildtknecht Waccamaw Riverkeeper, Winyah Rivers Alliance

The swamps of the Waccamaw River are home to some of the most amazing trees in the world. Well, maybe I am a little biased, but I happen to think cypress trees are a wonder. Both bald cypress (Taxodium *distichum*) and pond cypress (Taxodium ascendens) populate our swamps. While there is some disagreement amongst botanists about whether pond cypress is its own distinct species or merely a variety of bald cypress, these two trees are an awesome sight throughout the Waccamaw River watershed.

What makes these trees so special? For me, it's all in the knees. Cypress knees are wood projections from the roots of the cypress trees within the subfamily *Taxodioideae*. Paddling through our swamps, you will see woody cone-like forms poking above the water line around the large buttressed cypress trees. They vary in size from several inches to more than eight feet tall! Near Old Dock in North Carolina, knees stand taller than humans!

The mystery of cypress knees is not just their strange appearance but also their function. No one really knows what cypress knees do. Are they a biological adaptation for the swamp-dwellers? Do they have a structural support function? No one knows.



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Paddling amongst old knees in the Waccamaw swamps in Old Dock, NC

A common theory suggests that cypress knees are pneumatophores, absorbing oxygen from the air and essentially breathing for the roots. However, a study in 1952 by Paul Kramer at Duke University found knees consumed oxygen at a very low rate and were not capable of playing a large role in aeration. Additionally, when knees are removed from a



Massive cypress knees in Old Dock, NC

living tree's root system, the tree survives and thrives. Other theories are more structurally focused. Knees could help to catch sediment and thus prevent erosion around the base of the cypress tree. The knees could also be anchors for the tree's root system in the soft, muddy soils of the swamp. But cypress trees growing in flood-prone areas often have wide, buttressed bases that lend support and stabilization.

Cypress knees are a mystery. But the cypress trees themselves play an important role in the ecosystem as well as in the culture and history of the southeast.

Our cypress swamps are responsible for the beautiful blackwater of the Waccamaw River. Tannins from decomposing cypress needles and other plan material stain the water a dark tea-color. Since the Waccamaw River is a slow moving coastal plain river with extensive cypress swamps, the water has longer to "steep" creating the dark water. Tannins also create a unique aquatic environment with lower dissolved oxygen and more acidic pH.

For the prothonotary warbler, or swamp canary, cypress trees can provide ideal nesting spots. Unlike most warblers, the prothonotary warbler nests in holes in trees and stumps in the wooded swamps of the Waccamaw. These tiny yellow birds are a beautiful sight for birders and naturalists alike. Other animals also use cypress trees for habitat. Amphibians like frogs, toads, and salamanders use cypress swamps for breeding grounds, catfish spawn in the submerged hollow logs, and even other birds including eagles, osprey, and wood ducks nest in their canopies.

The Waccamaw River and the communities around it have the cypress trees to thank for our culture and history. Native Americans were using cypress trees for canoes for over 4,000 years in our area. Earlier this year, a 28-foot dugout canoe was recovered in Lake Waccamaw. The canoe was constructed by Native Americans nearly 1,000 years ago from a single cypress log. The indigenous tribes to our area, like the Waccamaw Siouan, relied on these great trees to build boats allowing them to travel the Waccamaw River. Dugout canoes are constructed by scraping out the interior of large logs. Some of the last modern dugout canoe builders in the Waccamaw watershed were from Crusoe Island, an isolated community surrounded

Sharks By John W Hurst



Hello Everyone, The fishing report is a good one. The bill fishing off the North and South Carolina coast has been phe-

nomenal! The bite has been as good as anywhere on the planet Earth. Lots of multiple catches of blue marlins and sailfish. The sailfish are showing up in large numbers. The offshore meat fish bite has slowed down. Dolphins have migrated north. The wahoo bite has bee getting better. There is always some blackfins around. All species are biting in between the coast and the continental shelf. Overall fishing is great. The heat is a factor to contend with. Make sure to have plenty of fluids to drink, sunscreen, and protective clothing. The Tarpon are back in big numbers. Redfish, Spanish Mackerel, and Spadefish are biting. All the local tackle shops have the equipment to chase any fish you desire. I hope you get a big fish.

Sharks have been newsmakers for the last month. The Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament provided the greatest shark story. The late trip to the scales on the last day by the Sensation brought the sharks to front page news. A multi million dollar fish

was disqualified because of shark bites. The Sensation filed a protest rejecting the decision. They hoped to gain public sentiment to hope support the protest. That's where this situation remains today as I write this article. This is where my personal opinion and thoughts weigh in. I have fished in billfish tournaments for well over 30 years. We knew every time our crew left the dock that if we had shark bitten fish to the scales, we would stand a high chance of disqualification. Most all fishermen I know agree and abide by these rules. It is highly unfortunate and is the proper call by the Big Rock Tournament Committee in my opinion. Fast-forward to another fishing day in the Outer Banks. We fished on the Waste Knot out of Pirates Cove for yellowfin tuna. We did better than most with our catch to lose ratio. We still lost 8 ½ fish to the sharks. It was amazing. This has been going on for sometime now. The problem is so bad until the Point has bee renamed the Shark Tank. This has been going on for several years now. The sharks are grouped up waiting for a hooked fish for his next meal. Fishermen not only are losing their client's fish, but large amounts of tackle to the sharks. I talked to a buddy who had just gotten back from San Salvador from a monthlong fishing trip. Again, I got a report of shark predation on his boat while trolling. He stated it was so bad that it took an immediate back down on any gamefish to get it to the boat. He also stated that the sharks would

on three sides by the Waccamaw River.

In more recent history, settlers felled cypress trees throughout the area to use them in boat hulls and decking. Cypress lumber is rotresistant and was in high demand for a variety of uses. Massive ancient trees were harvested to Today, cypress lumber is used for construction and furniture as well as mulch. While cypress mulch has many benefits, it is not an environmentally friendly option to other mulches as trees are often harvested specifically for mulch instead of using scraps from milling.

Cypress trees – and their knees – have been along the river since long before any of us. Evidence from logs recovered in the Pee Dee region show cypress trees existed here 45,000 years ago. Cypress trees are protected throughout much of the southeast to help preserve these amazing giants. I hope generations to come get to experience the wonder of our cypress trees, their knees, and our awesome swamps. And I hope they keep their secrets and the mystery continues. come up in the spread and check out the baits. I have some another personal events to report. All of us who bottom fish off the coast have been targets of sharks. I can remember on numerous occasions having to move because the sharks would not let us get fish to the boat. All these events lead me to think that the sharks are adapting to the sound of engine noise signaling that an easy meal could be close by. It is nature adapting to its surroundings. Or is it an overpopulation of sharks needing to be controlled? There again comes my opinion. I have believed that shark populations were out of control for some years now. I am not a scientist or a biologist. I can only report to you what I see personally on the water. Sharks are out of control as beautiful as these creatures are. At some point these situations will have to be addressed.

I hope everyone gets out and enjoys our great outdoors here in South Carolina.

Be safe and tight lines! God Bless All! John W Hurst



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8:38p 9:14p 9:47p

10:20p

10:53

11:29p

12:57p 4.7

1:56p 3:01p 4:08p 5:13p

6:14p 5.7

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TRILOGY O U T D O O R S MEDIA TIDE CHART

South Carolina, Charleston, Bucksport August 2023 N33*38*/ WY97*05.7*												South Carolina, Myrtle Beach, Garden City Pier (ocean) August 202 N 33° 34' / W 78° 58'											
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31 18	121408 5.0	1:02p 2.7	71328 -0.4	7:47p -0.5	orbea	7146p	8:31p	71218	Part	31	10	8105a 6.1	8136p 6.8	21078 -0.5	2126p -0.6	61498	7:43p	8127p	71164	Pull			
outh Caro		n, Dunn Sound, Little	River Inlet					Aug	ust 2023		Carolin 1' / W 79"		inyah Bay Entranc	e (South Jetty)					Aug	ust 203			
Date Day		High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	Phase	Date	Day	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low Tide	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	Phase			
1 Tu			2:21a -0.2	2:24p -0.4	6128a	8:16p	8:45p	5:56a	Full	1	Tu	7137a 4.5	8:24p 5.9	1:49a -0.2	1:40p -0.6	6:33a	8:18p	8:47p	6:03a	Full			
2 We			3:12a -0.4	3:20p -0.5	6:28a	8:15p	9:25p	7:13a		2	We	8135a 4.8	9:17p 5.9	2:40a -0.4	2:44p -0.6	6134a	8:17p	9120p	7:19a				
3 Th	9:31a 5.2	and the second	4:02a -0.6	4:16p -0.5	6129a	8:14p	10:00p	0:29a		з	Th	9132a 5.0	10:09p 5.7	3:30a -0.5	3:40p -0.5	6135a	8:17p	10:03p	8:34a				
4 Fr	10:27a 5.3	10:56p 5.7	4:51a -0.6	5:12p =0.4	6130a	8:13p	10:31p	9+41a		4	Fr	10:28a 5.0	11:01p 5.6	4120a -0.5	4:35p -0.5	6136a	8:16p	10:35p	9:46a				
5 Sa	11:24a 5.3	11:52p 5.4	5t40a -0.5	6:08p -0.2	6:31a	8:12p	11:01p	10:51a		5	Sa	11:24a 5.1	11:52p 5.2	5:09a -0.5	5:32p -0.2	6:36a	8:15p	11:05p	10:55a				
6 Su	12:24p 5.3		6:20a -0.3	7:06p 0.2	6:31a	8:11p	11:31p	11:50a		6	Su	12:20p 5.1		5:59a -0.5	6:30p 0.2	6137a	8:14p	11:36p	12:01p				
7 Mo	12:50a 4.9	1:24p 5.2	7:18a -0.2	8:08p 0.4	6132a	8:10p		1:04p		7	Mo	12:44a 4.9	1:16p 5.1	6:49a -0.3	7:30p 0.5	6:38a	8:13p		1:07p				
8 Tu		2:21p 5.1	8:11a 0.1	9:16p 0.6	6133a	8:09p	12:02a	2:09p	3rd	8	Tu	1:36a 4.6	2:14p 5.0	7:42a -0.1	8:31p 0.7	6138a	8:12p	12:07a	2:11p	Jrd			
9 We	2:42a 4.3	3:17p 5.0	9:08a 0.2	10:27p 0.8	6133a	8:09p	12:36a	3:13p		9	We	2:30a 4.3	3:11p 5.0	8:35a 0.1	9:33p 0.8	6139a	8:11p	12:42a	3:15p				
10 Th	3:30a 4.1	4:13p 5.0	10:07a 0.4	11:30p 0.8	6134a	8:07p	1:15a	4:15p		10	Th	3126a 4.1	4:07p 5.0	9130a 0.3	10:33p 0.9	6140a	8:10p	1:22a	4:17p				
11 Fr	4:34a 3.9	5:07p 4.9	11:05a 0.5	1000	6135a	8:06p	2+00a	5:13p		11	Fr	4:21a 4.0	5:01p 5.0	10:25a 0.4	11:27p 0.9	6:40a	8:09p	2:07a	5:15p				
12 Sa	5130a 3.9	5159p 4.9	12:24a 0.8	11:58a 0.5	6136a	8+05p	2+50a	6+06p		12	Sa	5:16a 4.0	5:51p 5.0	11:17a 0.4		6141a	8:08p	2+57a	6:07p				
13 Su	6:23a 4.0	6:46p 5.0	1:10a 0.7	12:46p 0.4	6136a	8:04p	3:45a	6:51p		13	Su	6:07a 4.1	6:37p 5.0	12:17a 0.8	12:07p 0.4	6:42a	8:07p	3152a	6:53p	_			
14 Mo	7:11a 4.1	7127p 5.1	1:51a 0.6	1:31p 0.4	6:37a	8:03p	4:42a	7:31p		14	Mo	6156a 4.2	7:20p 5.0	1:02a 0.7	12:54p 0.4	6:42a	8:06p	4:49a	7:32p	-			
15 Tu	7:545 4.2	8:050 5.1	21290 0.6	2+14p 0-1	61380	R+02p	51410	8:040					and a second							4			

4298 Bus Hwy 17, Murrells Inlet, SC, 29576 (843) 651-1915

5.1

5.1

5.5

8:40p

11:01p 4.5

1:20p 4.7

2:14p 4.8

3:11p

4:11p 5:12p 6:11p

7:07p 6.1

8:00 6.3

0:51p 6.2

11:42p 4.3

9:15p 5.0 9:49p 4.9 10:24p 4.7

8:33a

9109a

9:44a 10:20a

10:59a 4.5

11:41a 4.5

12:28p 12:28a

1:21a 4.1

2:18a 4.0

3:20a 4.1

4124a 5128a 4.2

6130a 4.8

7:27a 5.3

4.4

4.5

Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu

3:04a

3138a

4:11a 4:44a

5:16a 0.5

51498 0.6

6124a 7104a

7152a

8+52a

10:01a 11:10a 12:12a

1+07a

1:58a

21488

0.5

6:384

6:39a 6:40a 6:41a

6141a

61428

6143a 6143a

61440

6145a

6145a 6145a 6146a 6147a

61478

61488

61498

2:55p 0.3

3:35p 4:15p 4:55p

5:34p 0.6

6:16p

7:01p 7:53p

8:55p

11:11p 0.7

2:12p -0.4 3:07p -0.5

10:041

12:15p

1:15p 2:12p -0.2

0.3 0.4 0.5

0.8 0.9 1.0 1.0

1.0

0.1

8:01;

8:00p 7:59p 7:58p

7156p

7:55

7:54p 7:53p

7152p

7:50

7:49p 7:49p 7:48p 7:47p

7:45

7:441

7:43p

6139a

7+36a

8:32a 9:27a

10:23a

11:20a

2128p

31361

4:415

5:41p 6:33p

7:17p

7:54

8:27p

8:33p

8:59p 9:24p 9:48p

10:12p

10,381

11:42p

12+24a

1:15a 2:17a 3:20a

4+44a

6:01a

7:16a

Hours of Operation 5:30am to 6pm DAILY



Full

Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su

Mo

Tu We Th

Offering the best in hand tied rigs, Live baits including Mud Minnows, Shrimp, Fiddlers, and more. Frozen Ballyhoo, Menhaden, Chum, Cigar Minnows, Shrimp, Squid, and more

6 : 44a 6 : 44a

6145a

6146a

6146a 6147a 6148a

6148a

6:49a 6:50a 6:50a 6:51a

61524

6:52a 6:53a

6:54a

8:04p 8:03p

8:02p

8:00p

7:59p 7:58p

71570

7:56

71551

7:52p

7:51p

7:50

7:48p

71461

6+45a 7+41a

0:37a

9132a

10:27a

11:24a

12:23p

1:25p

21301

3:37p 4:42p

5142p

61341

6134p 7119p 7157p 8131p

Come Visit Ronald Stalvey in his new location in Murrells Inlet! Located within a 1/4 mile of the public landing.

8+36p 9+03p 9+20p

9152p

10:17p

11:48p

12;31a

1+22a

2125a

3135a

4:51a 6:07a 7:21a

lst

Full



New To The Trilogy Outdoors Media Family Is Captain's Felonious Report

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