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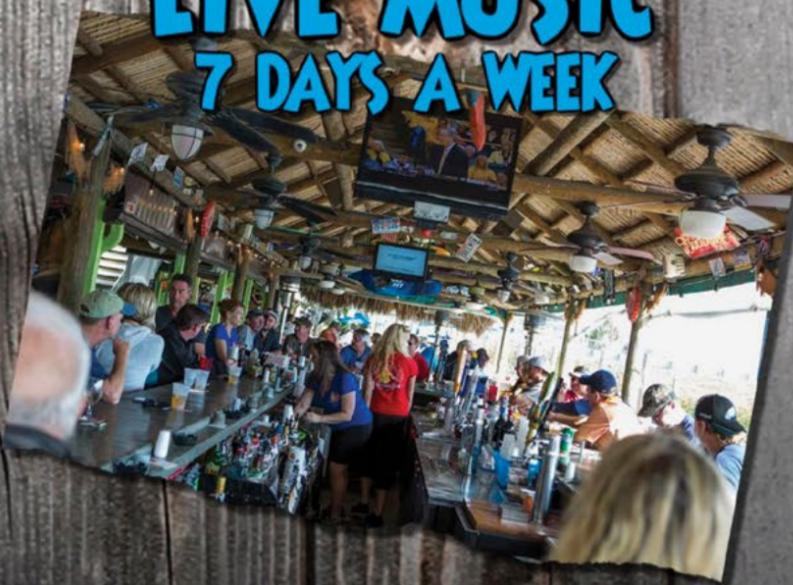
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SO YOU THINK THAT YOU WANT TO START FISHING?

You have been picking up fishing magazines and watching fishing shows on TV for a while now and you finally said to yourself, "self, I want to stop living vicariously through the fishing exploits of others and I'm ready to actually go out on the water and try it for real". You are becoming what the tackle and boat manufacturers and sellers call a prospect.

We here in Florida are lucky to have a myriad of different types of fishing available for you to try. There is excellent fresh-water and saltwater fishing all around you. In the fresh water you can fish for everything from trophy bass to catfish and if you go to the southern part of the state, there are even some very exotic freshwater opportunities including peacock bass, snakehead, knifefish, cyclids and many more. In salt water, we have a wealth of great gamefish that includes anything you could want from Marlin to Snook. We also have lots of very tasty salt-water fish for table fare including Grouper, Snapper and Mahi Mahi.

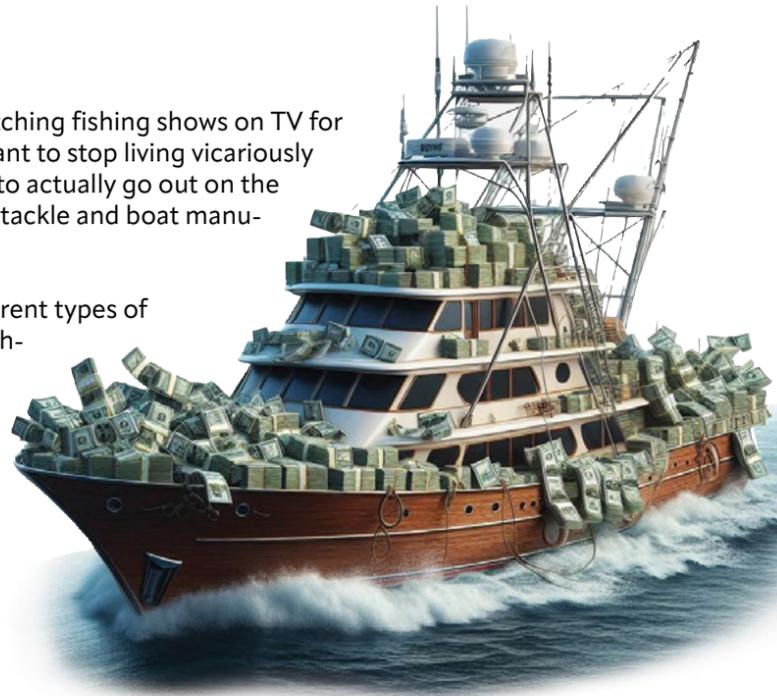
So the first decision you have to make is what do you want to fish for? Most of us just can't afford to go and tell the friendly tackle store owner that you want to start fishing, could he/she please sell you everything that you need to fish in Florida. While this would be nice, there is so much completely different equipment needed for all of the varied fishing opportunities that we have, you could clean out your 401K and still not make a dent. In addition to tackle and bait, many of the fishing opportunities require a specialized sort of powered fishing platform called a BOAT (break out another thousand). BOATS are varied in size and power to reflect the size and location of the fish and some would say the size of the owner's private parts. These can range from a \$200 kayak to a large sportfishing powerboat that costs as much as the Gross National Product of most Central American Countries. Clearly, the choice of what to fish for is determined by a combination of your hopes, dreams, aspirations and the size of your wallet.

Once you have decided what type of fishing suits your needs, you can then begin researching what you need to succeed. The Internet is a great source of information about fishing techniques and equipment so you may want to start there. We all know that the Internet police make absolutely certain that nothing untrue ever gets posted there; therefore you can be sure that you can count on any information that you find. Your local bait and tackle shops are also a great source of information and most of them are more than happy to provide free guidance to a novice. Guides are another great source of hands on experience. A guided trip for your chosen quarry will cost you a few bucks, but it is well worth the money. Your guide will provide all of the necessary equipment and give you a chance to try out different rigs to see what you like. A guide will also provide a BOAT and they will take responsibility for any of the thousands of dollars worth of things that can and do break.

Fishing is a great way to relax and spend some leisure time with friends and family. The key to having fun is picking the type of fishing that best suits your personality and pocketbook. I'll see you out there.

If you want to go fishing but are not ready to take on the expense of a BOAT, stop by Belle Harbour Marina and rent one of our great boats; leave the fuss and the thousands to us.

Merle & Flip



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ON THE COVER:

She's back! Former cover model, Terri B. Huffmaster, with a beautiful Redfish caught jigging a local creek mouth on a recent falling tide. Nice catch indeed!

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HAVE IT MADE IN THE SHADE

by Captain George Hastick

September is usually the month that starts to cool off a little after the peak heat that we had in August in Tampa Bay.



Don't get me wrong, it is still going to be very hot, especially in the afternoon, but the water temperature will drop a few degrees into the mid 80s, which is still hot. This is where fish like Snook, Redfish, Mangrove Snapper and more (just like people), will

look for shade to try and stay a little more comfortable during the day and in an area where moving water will bring them food. Moving water always creates a better bite.



Shade for fish can be found in many different areas. The multiple docks that are all over the bays and canals provide great shade. When looking at docks, look for old docks that have a lot of barnacles on them, this is what I call an established dock. Also docks that have a large footprint which have a lot more shade or ones that have rubble under them. When fishing these docks try to get your bait under the dock or at least right at the edge of the dock for your best chance at getting a bite. When fishing structures like this have a tight drag and be ready for an instant hit when you make a good cast under the dock.



Scaled Sardines, large Shrimp and a Saltwater Assassins 4" Sea Shad are all good choices depending on whether you like fishing with live or artificial baits. You can also use cut bait as well. I like to



freeline the live baits as much as possible but sometimes due to current, weight must be added. I use just enough weight to keep the bait in the target zone and down in the water column.

Another great source for shade and food is mangrove tree areas. Mangroves are low to the water and create great shady overhangs for the fish to stay cooler and ambush bait as the current brings it to them. Again, good casts will make the difference on the amount of hits

you get. A float with a bait set just above the bottom drifting in front of a mangrove tree line can work great. Free lined, you can try to cast under the mangroves.



Another area to fish in, that is not so shaded but gets a lot of moving water that is cooled off, are the multiple dams and runoff pipes that drain into the bay after a hard rain. That rain will cool the water off, flush bait into the water where fish will sit, since it will turn into a feeding station and the fish know it.

Last, but definitely not least, are all the large and small bridges of the Tampa Bay area. These can be a goldmine with a variety of species and also keep you cool during the hottest part of the day.

So get out there and take advantage of knowing where to fish and get into it! 🎣

Captain George Hastick of "Fish Hunter Fishing Charters" in St. Petersburg has been fishing the waters of Tampa for over 35 years. From novice to professional; Captain George will make you feel as if you have been fishing buddies for years. Contact him at 727-525-1005, www.FishTampa.com or email CaptGeorge@TampaBay.rr.com.



A HINT OF CHANGE

by Captain Justin Searcy

September on Florida's Gulf Coast always feels like a turning point of the season. The water is still hot, afternoon storms are still rolling in and bait schools continue to push through the passes. But, there's also that first hint of change. The fish know it, and so do we.



This past month, I had the chance to break away from the usual grind and test out the all-new Blackfin 262 Hybrid Bay Boat with my good friend Kyle from Boat & Motor Superstores. Anytime you get behind the wheel of a fresh build, especially one designed to bridge inshore agility with offshore muscle, it's a special



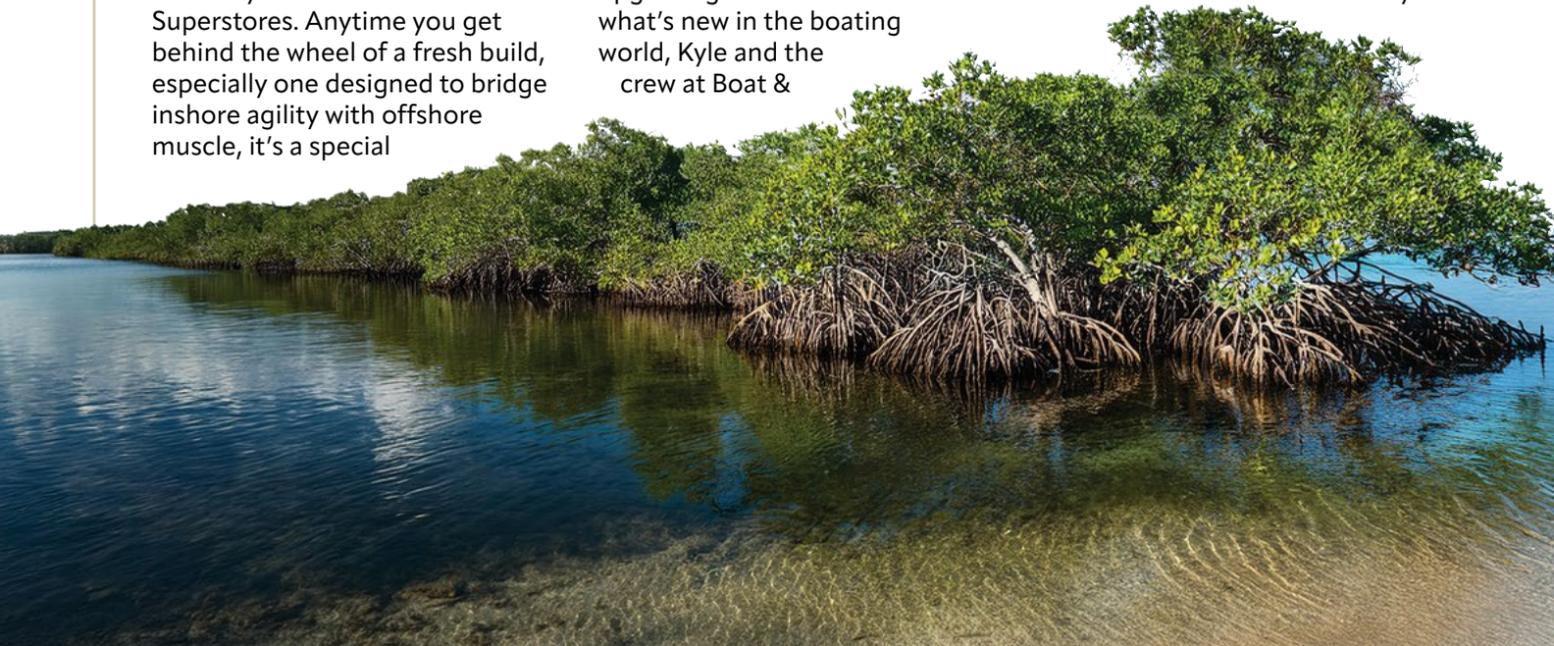
day. And let me tell you this; boat did not disappoint.

We launched out of Tampa Bay on a calm mid week morning. It gave us the perfect opportunity to put the 262 through its paces. The hybrid ate up the chop, tracked steady, and gave us the confidence to stretch further offshore than we originally planned.

If you've been thinking about upgrading or are curious about what's new in the boating world, Kyle and the crew at Boat &

Motor Superstores are the people to see. They don't just sell boats they stand behind them and that makes all the difference.

We set down over hard bottom and didn't have to wait long. Kyle dropped a pinfish and got slammed almost instantly a textbook Red Grouper bite. From there it was steady action, with a mix of Gag and Red Grouper bending rods. Grouper fishing this time of year



isn't always easy, but when the tide lines up and you drop a good bait in the right spot, it can feel like the gulf is on your side.

On the Gulf Coast, Gag Grouper have a defined season, while red grouper remain open year-round. That combination makes late summer into fall a great window for targeting both. We kept a few quality fish for the table and released plenty more, enjoying the steady action that comes when the tide, bait, and structure all line up.

Back at the dock, there's nothing better than cleaning fish with friends and sharing stories of the day. Kyle showed off a few knife skills while we got our catch ready for the grill. It's all part of the cycle; boat, fish, clean, cook, and enjoy what the Gulf provides.

If you're local or planning a trip, be sure to check out our social media pages, as we'll be posting footage from this run on the Blackfin and plenty more. And, if you're looking for a great local charter in the Tarpon Springs, Dunedin, or Clearwater area, I can point you in the right direction. Friends like "Daisy Mae Fishing Charters" definitely know how to put you on Grouper, Snapper, and other fresh Gulf catches

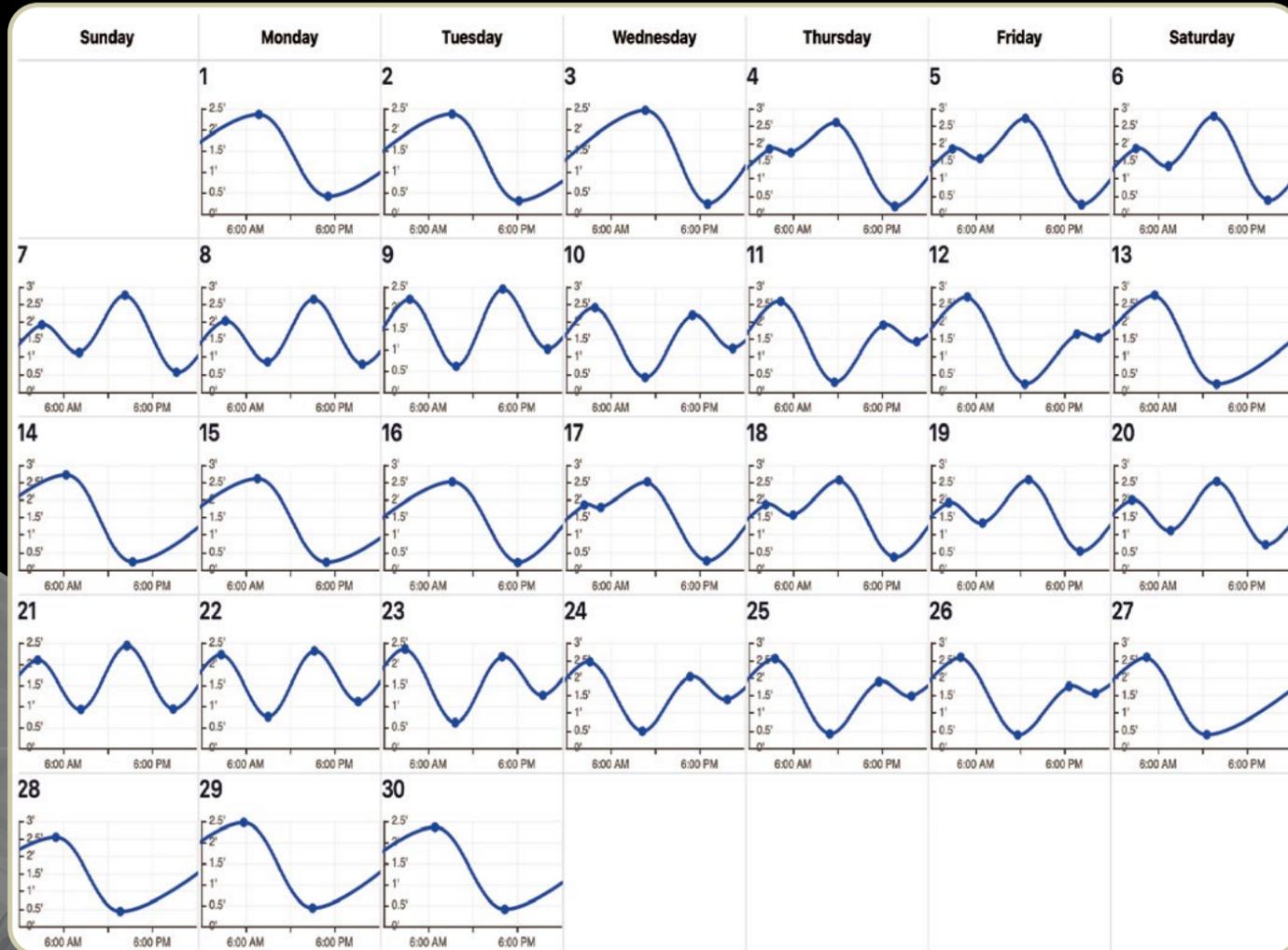


Days like this remind me why I love what I do. It's not just about putting fish in the cooler. It's about time on the water with friends, learning what new boats and gear are capable of, and staying connected to the rhythms of the Gulf waters.

September will continue to offer great opportunities both inshore and offshore. For anglers looking to push out for grouper, watch for those calmer mornings, bring plenty of live bait, and be patient as fish stack tight to structure. Inshore, expect snook and redfish to feed aggressively on the tides as we ease toward fall.

Whether you're running offshore on something like the all-new Blackfin 262 Hybrid Bay Boat from Boat & Motor Superstores or sneaking along the mangroves in a technical fishing skiff, this is a month that rewards effort and time on the water. 🎣

Captain Justin Searcy
Tarpon Springs, Florida



Conversions are based off of the St. Petersburg Pier. They are published strictly for reference and are not designed for navigational aid. Onshore-Offshore assumes no responsibility for their accuracy.

Conversions for Clearwater Beach Area

High	Low	Location
-0:02	-0:10	Dunedin, St. Joseph Sound
-0:05	-0:15	Anclote Key, South End
+0:42	+0:42	Tarpon Springs, Anclote River
-0:07	-0:03	North Anclote Key
+0:41	+0:39	Old Port Tampa
+0:33	+0:53	Gulf Harbors
+0:42	+1:05	Hwy 19 Bridge, Pithlachascotee River
+0:50	+1:35	New Port Richey, Pithlachascotee River
+0:36	+0:43	Hudson, Hudson Creek

Conversions for St. Marks River Area

High	Low	Location
+0:23	+1:18	Everglades City
-1:17	-1:03	Cape Romano
-1:04	-1:08	Marco Island
-1:59	-2:04	Naples
-0:46	-0:09	Indian Bay
-0:59	-0:42	Bayport
-0:25	+0:23	Withlacoochee River

Conversions for Tampa Bay Area

High	Low	Location
+0:49	+0:58	Gandy Bridge
+1:38	+1:55	Courtney Campbell Cswy.
+1:38	+1:55	Safety Harbor
+0:20	+0:22	Ballast Point
+0:07	+0:26	Hillsborough Bay
+0:21	+0:29	McKay Bay Entrance
+0:41	+0:39	Old Port Tampa
-2:27	-2:24	Egmont Key
-2:53	-2:46	Anna Maria, Bradenton Bch
-2:10	-2:19	Anna Maria, City Pier
-1:24	-0:55	Bradenton, Manatee River
-0:30	+0:14	Redfish Pt., Manatee River
-2:22	-1:58	Mullet Key Channel, Skyway
+0:08	+0:17	Shell Point
-0:22	-0:29	Point Pinellas
-1:34	-1:30	Pass-a-Grille Beach
-1:32	-1:05	Gulfport
-1:18	-0:44	St. Pete Beach Causeway
-2:14	-2:04	John's Pass
-1:40	-1:18	Madeira Beach Causeway
-2:00	-1:25	Cortez, Sarasota Bay
-1:38	-0:58	Sarasota Bay
-2:02	-1:38	Venice Inlet
-0:57	-0:40	Englewood, Lemon Bay
-1:27	-0:59	Placida, Gasparilla Sound
+1:38	+1:56	El Jobean, Myakka River
+1:52	+2:30	Shell Point, Peace River
+1:06	+1:27	Punta Gorda, Charlotte Hbr.
-1:12	-1:56	Boca Grande, Charlotte Hbr.
-0:19	+0:26	Pineland, Pine Island
+0:43	+1:28	Matlacha Pass
-0:55	-1:14	Redfish Pass, Captiva Is.
-0:46	-0:20	Captiva, Pine Island Sound
-2:20	-2:28	Captiva, Gulf Side
-0:25	+0:16	Galt Isle, Pine Island Sound
-0:30	-0:44	St. James City, Pine Island
+2:08	+2:44	Fort Myers
+1:15	+2:02	Cape Coral Bridge
+1:08	+1:40	Iona Shores
+0:51	+0:42	Indian Rocks Beach, ICW

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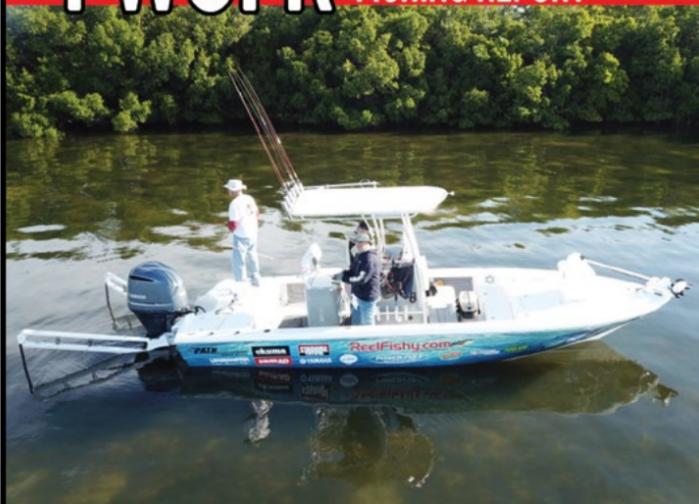

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FWCFR FLORIDA WEST COAST FISHING REPORT



HOST: Capt. Sergio Atanes • CO-HOST: Capt. George Hastick

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THE WAIT IS OVER; WHITETAIL SEASON IS HERE

by Misty Wells

For this issue, I wanted to put together some hunting tips to make that transition from the water to the woods a bit easier and help you get some quality Venison in the freezer this year.

No matter where you are hunting make sure you check your local regulations to get dates for Bow, Rifle and Muzzleloader season because regulations change from season to season. I know the Florida heat is still here so it's hard to get into the mood for hunting season but these tips will help. A lot of us hunters don't have access to private lands and we are hunting on public land or if you have a lease, most of us have zero time to prep for season.



Let's get ready by going over some refresher hunting tips and a few reminders to getting in the woods and being successful this season.

Now is the time to setup your ground blind or tree stand in staging areas near game trails, bedding areas, pinch-points or established travel patterns. When you go in the woods to setup your game cameras or your blinds, please remember to use scent control. A lot of hunters

only use scent control when they are going in the woods to hunt, not realizing you already ruined your area by spreading human scent.

Here are a few tips on scent control:

Step 1: Don't put on your hunting clothes until you reach your destination; your truck has a lot of odors. Put your hunting clothes in a non-scented plastic bag or something similar and dress outside when you arrive.

Step 2: Spray from your boots up then be sure to spray and cover your head.

Step 3: Remove your hunting clothes after leaving the woods and put them in a non-scent bag or hang outside in the open air until the next day. Think about it, we don't get much time to hunt. On average, we get about 6 to 10 days a year. Doesn't it make sense to do everything you can to be successful? Something as simple as scent control can make a difference between going home successful or with nothing.

"The Silent Treatment"

Make sure you check your ground blinds, stools,



chairs, and climbers for noise when they move. There is almost nothing worse than getting ready to take that shot on a nice buck; you move slightly and your chair or climber makes a noise that alerts the target and they leave.

One thing to think about also when you are choosing your outer wear.

Walk around in it; does it make noise when you walk and move around? If so, you may not



want to purchase that item. When you are setting up your blinds or stands, some of the best locations will be along heavy traveled corridors like game trails, ditches, ridges and draws between primary bedding and feeding areas. Try not to "over trim", cutting away brush and limbs around your stands or blinds giving away your location and cover. Sit in your stand or blind and draw your bow or shoulder your gun in all directions to be sure you have a clear line of fire when the critical time comes.

Game Trails & Cameras

In a perfect world you have been able to setup your game cameras and been able to collect data for months, however in the real world, probably not. First, try not to enter the woods to scout during dusk or dawn as this is when the Whitetail are moving the most. Don't break their pattern and alert them to your presence.

Once you get into the woods, look for some heavily used game trails with fresh tracks and scat. Study the tracks to see if it is mainly Bucks or Does. Great camera locations are trails, food plots, water sources, salt licks or over bait stations, if it's legal. And, check your camera angles. Be sure your target area is at least 5 to 10 yards away, you have a clear line of sight and that you have pre-checked your camera settings. Make sure to format your memory card, re-check your settings on the game camera, and use scent control when hanging your cameras. If you are hunting public land, be sure to bring a ladder to put your cameras up high out of arms reach so they don't get stolen.

Scrapes & Rubs

A great sign, but don't judge a Buck by the size of his scrapes or rubs. Bucks use scrapes to make their declaration of dominance by leaving scent from his nasal, pre-orbital and forehead glands. When the scraping work is done the Buck will paw the ground and urinate to excite



and draw in Does while trying to deter any Bucks from his claimed area. Keep in mind Does look for these areas and urinate in the Bucks scrapes and paw areas to let the Bucks know what stage of the breeding process she is in. The size of the tree can help determine the size of the Buck, pretty much all Bucks will rub a tree that is 1-3 inches in diameter, however, larger trees generally will be rubbed by Bucks three years old or older. Rub lines reveal routes; note the side of the tree they are on and note they can also show the way to crucial bed-to-feed travel patterns.

Buck Tip: Take note of the direction of the scrape, if all the scrapes are on the South side of the tree, the buck most likely is traveling North for his pattern.

Practice Firearm Safety

Wear the right clothes and let someone know where you are hunting and when you will be back. If you are hunting in a tree stand, DO NOT leave the ground unless you properly have on your safety harness. Never carry equipment up and down the tree, use a haul line to raise and lower your gear. Do not modify your stand, wear gripping boots, and take your time moving 10 to 12 inches at a time.

Using these tips should help get you in the right place to safely harvest your deer and spend some time unplugging in the woods. Just like you, I am ready to kiss the heat of summer goodbye and get into the woods. 🎯

Misty Wells Producer & Host of Award Winning "Let's Take It Outside" TV show airing to 220 million on Discovery & Discovery GO & Plus & 17 other networks. Bass Pro-Outdoor Pro & Outdoor & Outdoor, Travel Writer. Founder of "A Reel Future" non-profit devoted to teaching the passion of fishing & conservation to foster children, over 4,000 children & counting. Watch at www.mistywells.com.

FISHBRAIN

FISHBRAINTV: THE HOGFISH PILOT

by Quinlyn Haddon | FishBrain ID: Quinlyn | Photography by Hunter Ledbetter



I recently started volunteering as a Florida Ambassador for a neat social media app for anglers called FishBrain. The Swedish based app was looking for ways to get exposure in Florida, which is arguably the fishing capitol of The United States. Naturally, as a person with crippling stage fright, I took it upon myself to create a fishing show for them. With no budget and no experience, I set out to pull together the best crew determination could buy.

I called Captain Jason Sherrill of Bad Habit Sport Fishing Charters, who was excited to take us out and show off his skills. He suggested that we should go after hogfish on hook and line in Sarasota Bay. He assured me that they would be in these waters from November through March. I had no doubt that Jason could put us on the targeted species, but others were skeptical.



The hogfish, known for being an easy target for spear-fishermen, seemed to have eluded even the saltiest of anglers. It was the general consensus that hogfish were rarely a lucky by-catch for many bottom fishermen.

Once I had found a Charter, my next seemingly impossible task was to find a film crew who would donate their time for this project. My search was short, however, as my photographer and friend, Hunter Ledbetter, was excited at the challenge of trying his hand at videography and he had an arsenal of recording devices at his disposal. I was able to sweeten the deal

with some advertisement for him through FishBrain, so he made the trek up from Key West to join the project.

The wonderful team of volunteer crew members assembled in mid-January to film episode one. I have never been as intimidated as I was that day as I watched everyone arrive at the dock to help me with a project I had only dreamed up two weeks before. The Captain, the photographer, the three guest fishermen and the first mate, Captain Milton Bontrager, were actually all happy to be there. I was humbled to my core and I choked through the opening scene as the world's most terrified TV host. We then loaded up all of the filming equipment onto "The Barely Legal" charter boat and set off into the bay.

We stopped along the way to sabiki-fish for bait so that we could throw some grouper fishing into the mix. After a few

minutes, we had filled our live-well with pinfish and other bait fish so we continued on our adventure.

We anchored on a ledge in 38' of water, just a few miles offshore, and the game was on. Using light tackle, we ripped the tails off of live and dead shrimp, slid a 3/8 ounce jighead through their bodies and dropped them down. We let the bait sit on the bottom and it wasn't long before we were hooking up with all sorts of species. There wasn't a moment when someone wasn't reeling in a fish; Flounder, mangrove snappers, gag groupers, red groupers, porgys, triggerfish, grunts

and bonito were being pulled out of the water so fast it was hard to know where the camera. The vibe on the boat was buzzing with excitement, but nothing could have topped seeing that bright red and orange alien fish come to the surface on the end of my line. Not only had I never caught a hogfish, I had never even seen one. When I saw the fish with a jaw that could open to the size of its whole body, from back to belly, I understood why jigheads were the key to hooking them.

We hit two or three more nearby ledges and feeling satisfied, we decided to head in early. It had only been a few hours and we had thoroughly stocked our 'kill-box' with fish, including seven fat hogfish.

Back at the dock, we lined the back of the boat with our catches to film our last scene. One of the red groupers was still alive and somehow squirmed its way off of the boat and into the water as we all watched as if it were happening in slow motion. The fish went under as we scrambled to grab the gaff. We tried scraping the bottom and we came up with nothing, then the fish popped up to the right of us, we had it, we lost it, where

was it?then it popped up to the left. As we chased this belly up grouper playing whack-a-mole with us, it could not have been stranger. Finally, we actually hooked it and had it back on the boat. We had done it all, made the world's most inexpensive and greatest improvised fishing show equipped with its very own blooper reel.



I truly cannot be stress enough, how incredible people who have a passion for fishing are. Any of those involved could have easily asked for more and made the project impossible, yet they chose to be involved, for whatever it was worth, and make it a fun adventure. I cannot imagine this sort

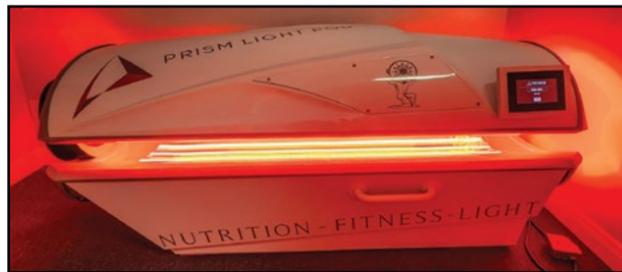
of thing being accomplished in too many other arenas of life. My hats off to you, "fisher-people"!

Check out the free mobile FishBrain app and find out how to win a fishing trip and be on a future FishBrainTV episode with some of the finest folk in the industry. 📺

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TALES FROM THE OLD GUY

by David Mallory

Our "go to" fishing guide, Captain George, likes to say he is a "fisherman down to his bones". I say, "I am a fisherman down to my genes."

My grandfather Mallory lived close to the Winooski River in Burlington, Vermont. After work, he would walk home and, if the weather was right, he would change into fishing clothes and walk down the hill to the Winooski to fish for the family's evening supper. (He never owned a car.) He caught Walleye, Rainbow Trout, Bass, Pike and even a few Musklunge. They ate fish for dinner almost every night. (That would explain why my father never cared for a fish dinner!)

As time went on, my dad would join his father for the walk to the river. They usually dug a few worms in the garden, when my grandmother wasn't looking, or went to the nearby golf course to pick some nightcrawlers after dark for the next day.



As time went on, my dad left his job as a meat cutter at the A&P store and, with the help of his National Guard Commander, Dr. COL Kent, became the medical photographer at the University of Vermont (UVM). The pay was better at UVM but, at that time he still didn't own a car.

In 1958 I was a junior in high school; Dad bought a 1957 Chevy from my mom's dad and we became more "mobile" in our fishing expeditions. Fishing outings then became more frequent as we could travel to streams for Brook Trout and rivers, like the Huntington River and the Browns River for Rainbow and Brown Trout.

In the early 1960's, Dad bought a 14 foot Starcraft boat with a 25 horse power Evinrude motor, an anchor, oars and trailer. By that time, I had graduated from high school and had a summer job mowing the grass at the Shelburne Museum. I planned to attend UVM, which was convenient as I could still live at home. Dad and I could only fish one or two weekends per month because I was in the Vermont National Guard which took one or more weekends a month away from fishing.

My Mom and my younger sister didn't care to fish so they stayed home. My Mom loved to read and sew so she enjoyed being at home. She was a bug magnet also, so she was happier at home taking care of my sister who eventually left home to join the Sisters of Mercy Convent.

Dad bought me a spinning rod and reel so I didn't have to use the only rod I owned - a short casting rod and reel. Now we were all set!



We would fish for trout or walleye in April and May and fish Monkton Pond and Lake Champlain for Bass, Northern Pike and Perch in the Summer.

We eventually learned how to fish with downriggers and planer boards, so we became quite good at lake fishing also. We did not keep any fish to eat. (Remember my dad ate his limit of fish in his youth?) This practice stopped abruptly when I met my wife; she was aghast when I caught Walleye and didn't bring them home to eat!

As time went on, we bought a little bigger boat and began to enjoy many days of stream and lake fishing, catching literally thousands of fish (just over 30,000 including fresh and salt water since 1959) We had kept track of every fish since 1959 until Dad passed in 2001.

My wife, Pauline, is now included in this tradition. She has her own story of "fish genes" being passed to her from her father. Pauline and I have continued this fish passion while vacationing in Vermont, on fishing trips to Mexico, Canada or the USA, and now in Florida with our favorite guide, Captain George Hastick.

We won't stop fishing as long as we can hold a fishing rod in our hands and pull in the big ones! ☑

- David Mallory



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AHOY MATES! IT'S THE TAMPA BAY BOAT SHOW!

by Dave Labell

Chart your course the Florida State Fairgrounds on Sept. 26, 27, 28 Enjoy walking around millions of dollars of inventory on hand from Tampa Bay's leading boat dealers. The Tampa Bay Boat Show is a grand event showcasing area boat dealers/manufacturers, the latest in boating and fishing supplies.



go and explore the many exhibits of the clothing, sunglasses, boating and docking accessories and so much more.

The event is open to the public, and admission is free so bring the family and make a day of it. You could be on the water before the weekend is over.

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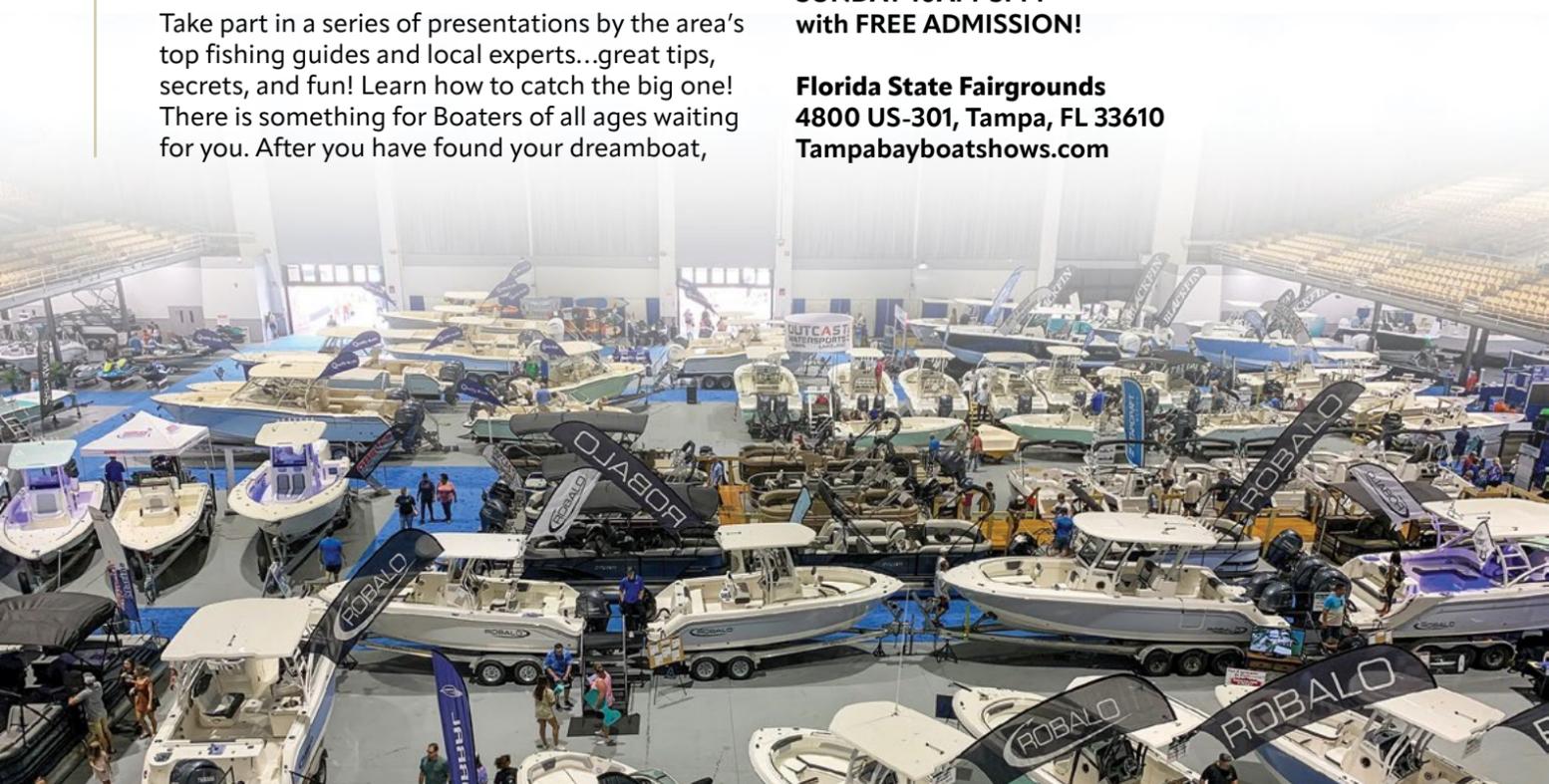
The Tampa Bay Boat show offers a great way to see and compare all available makes and models in one location. Pontoons, Cruisers, Center Consoles, Jet Skis, exhibits and more. Plus, you don't want to miss the Florida Fishing School Seminars Series each day.

Take part in a series of presentations by the area's top fishing guides and local experts...great tips, secrets, and fun! Learn how to catch the big one! There is something for Boaters of all ages waiting for you. After you have found your dreamboat,

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FISHING FORECAST

THIS MONTH'S OUTLOOK WITH CAPTAIN SERGIO ATANES



Change is in the air and the fish patterns are definitely changing with it. This month look for big Snook working their way back from the passes into the flats; ready to eat after a long spawning season. Best bet is cut bait on the bottom in early morning hours due to water temperatures that are still going to be high; so keep in mind that the best bite will be early. For the really big "Linesiders", fresh cut Threadfin Sardines or Ladyfish are my "go-to" baits this month for the bigger fish.

Switching things up, Mangrove Snapper will be feeding on incoming tides around the bridges also this month. Best bait setup is a live Shrimp using a #4 split shot or a

Yellowtail jig. Black Drum bite will be hot at night using fresh Blue Crab cut in quarters on a 3/0 Kahle hook with enough lead to hold the bottom.

ABOUT THE CAPTAIN

Captain Sergio Atanes fishes the Florida waters, specializing in and around the West Coast of Florida and Tampa Bay. His show, Fishing Adventures Florida, is about two captains sharing their knowledge and experience of the local waters...encouraging others to share in their love of what the outdoors has to offer. Their goal is to educate, entertain and share the experience of fishing opportunities in the area.

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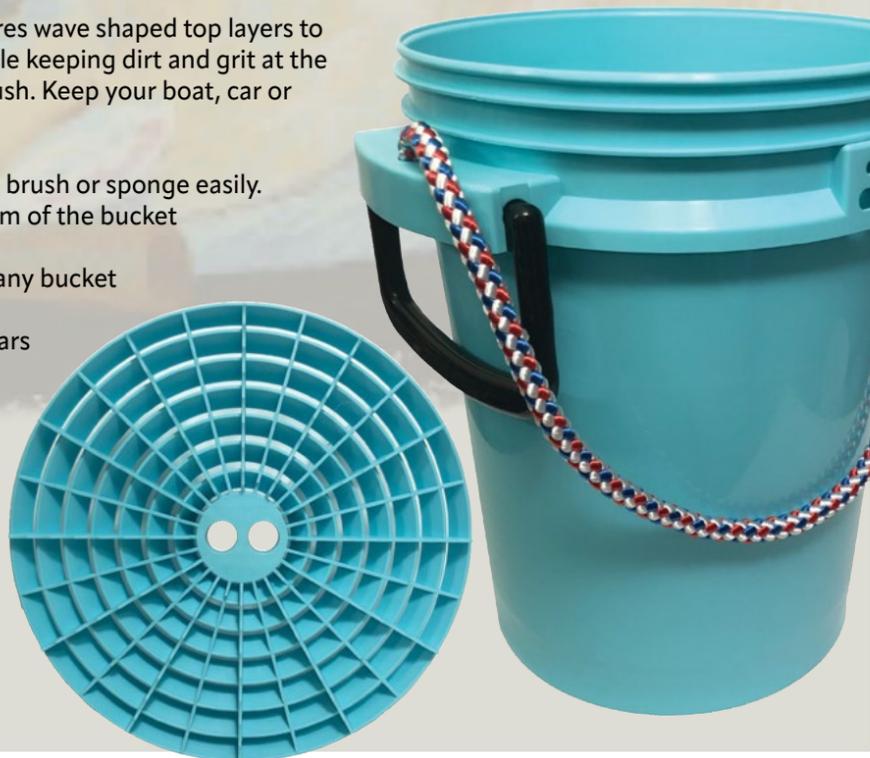
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LET'S TAKE IT OUTSIDE: SEASON 6

by Misty Wells

Big Announcement Onshore Offshore readers! Misty Wells here, letting you know that "Let's Take it Outside" Season 6 presented by "Live Wildy" is about to launch on Discovery Channel on August 24.



Join me as I visit the State of Alaska for the first time, landing in Sitka, Alaska at the Wild Strawberry Lodge on the hunt for my first Halibut and Wild Koho Salmon. I take you all the way up North America to Niagara County where my daughter, Hudson, and I fish Lake Ontario for huge King Salmon and join in the annual "Smelt Festival."

If you are looking for a warmer location, my cost host Steve and I head back to the "World Famous" Crocodile Bay, Costa Rica and attempt to chase down my first Marlin and anything else that will bite. For the first time ever, I am teaming up with Batson Custom Rods and putting them to the test as I fish 100 miles offshore with Captain Tommy Laronge and the Batson team putting those rods to the test on some huge Yellowfin Tuna.

My son Brennan and I find a hidden gem in the State of Arkansas, Hot Springs where we catch our first Striper and go on the hunt for hidden gems in the local mines.



Of course, don't worry we will be hitting a lot of great locations in the State of Florida showing you some great destinations to "take it outside" for fishing and outdoor adventures.



I am proud to say "Let's Take it Outside" is airing on over 17 networks worldwide to over 220 million viewers. You can view my show in many different ways from standard TV to a number of digital channels for free and on demand. Look for all the seasons of "Let's Take it Outside" on Discovery Channel, Discovery GO & Plus, Waypoint TV, Carbon TV, Canada's Wild TV, Colorado's Mountain TV, Flow TV

in the Caribbean, Heartland TV, Discover Florida, and TCT network just to name a few.

Make sure to subscribe to my YouTube channel where you will get all the episodes for free and bonus videos throughout the year.

Thank you for being part of the "Let's Take it Outside" family of viewers, reach out directly to me if you have great ideas for my next season!

Tight Lines,

Misty Wells
misty@mistywells.com

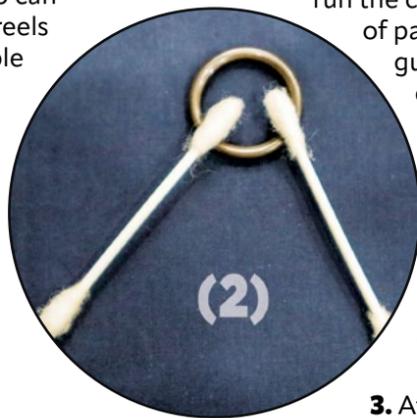
FALL FISHING TIPS

by Captain Sergio Atanes

Late September is the kickoff month of the year for fall time action and therefore my favorite month. This month is not just for fishing, but the best time to do all those "Honey Do's" you haven't done and work on preparing your fishing tackle for my startup time for fall fishing.

Here are a few tips:

1. Give your reels a good cleaning by loosening the drags and lubricating the gears. If you don't feel comfortable doing this there are several good tackle dealers in Tampa who can service your reels at a reasonable price.



2. Check your line guides on the rods for any scratches or nicks. Use cotton swabs or borrow a pantyhose from your wife when she's not looking and cut it into small strips. It will last a long time, so don't worry, she won't miss one pantyhose. Now



run the cotton swab or piece of pantyhose through the guide. If the pantyhose clings or the cotton sticks to the guide, replace the guide or risk losing a fish later. A slight scratch or cut on the guide will almost always cut your line under pressure from a pulling fish.

3. At the end of the day never put your hook on the guide, as this can and will scratch the guide. Use the one supplied by the rod manufacturer or make your own by taking an electrical

nylon tie with a screw hole built in and place it just above the top grip on the rod. This allows a place for the hook to sit.

4. Most anglers take too much tackle on a fishing trip. Remember the last time you went on a vacation with your wife and she brought half the closet along? There are many new small soft sided tackle boxes that can handle all your needs. I suggest you leave most of your tackle at home and replenish your tackle box as needed. In addition, many of those medicine bottles that you throw away make great hook and small sinker holders to keep on the con-



sole of the boat to use as needed. They also seal out salt and keep your hooks from getting rusty.



Now that the "Honey Do's" are done and your tackle is ready for fishing, remember that the fishing heats up as the water temperatures drop.

With that said, late September will bring lower water temperatures and an increase in fish activity. Look for Snook cruising the mangrove shorelines; Flounder will hit jigs tipped with shrimp bounced on the bottom around sand patches in the grass flats. Mackerel action steps up a notch and Redfish will move further out into the flats during high tides.

September is also the lead month for some of the best Cobia fishing around Tampa Bay. The range channel markers the action starts mid-September and finishes in late October.

Best bet for me is to target the Snook action as the big females are starting to make their way back into the bay after spawning season is done. They will be hungry and

aggressive; the best time to catch that trophy fish. Forget the live bait, as fresh cut Threadfin Sardines or Ladyfish on a 3/0 Kahale Wide Gap Circle Hook with a number four split shot about five inches from the eye of the hook helps keep the bait on the bottom. Just let it soak, they will come. Big females will be hungry but not much in the mood to chase down live baits. You will catch plenty of the small males, but I'd rather wait for the "Big Mama" to show up!

For more information, you can visit FISHING ADVENTURES FLORIDA on YouTube with weekly local fishing information and our "how-to" segment with the Captain Sergio Fishing Academy; teaching new techniques and tackle to help you catch more fish. 🎣



Captain Sergio Atanes is the host of Fishing Adventures Florida and Captain Sergio Fishing Chronicles on YouTube, Waypoint TV, Carbon TV, Outdoor Action TV and Angling TV. For info call 813-973-7132 or email: atanes@msn.com.





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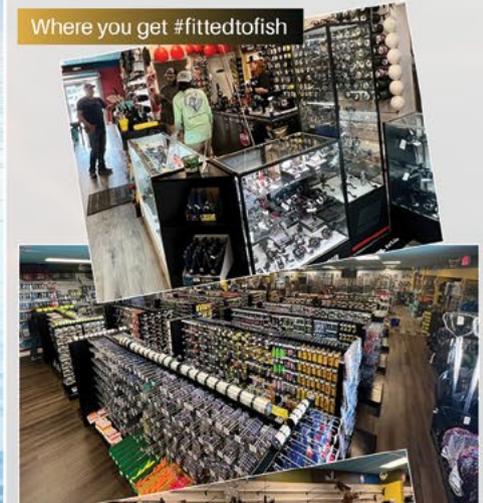
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