

FREE The Original Weekly **Fisherman**

& the Keys Boat Exchange

Key Largo • Islamorada • Marathon • Big Pine • Key West

Vol. XI • Issue 25

Serving the Keys Fishing Community Since 1998



Main Attraction

L-R Brendon Huwar, Ariel Modero, Marty Lewis, Mac Stone, Jamie Platt.

Contact Us: 305-766-BOAT (2628) • www.weeklyfisherman.com

Pathfinder Bayboats
20', 22' & 24'

Maverick HPX Family of Boats
15', 17' & 18'

Hewes Redfishers
16', 18' & 21'

PURSUIT
CONTENDER
GRADY WHITE
HEWES
YAMAHA
PATHFINDER
MAVERICK

Owning a boat is the fulfillment of a dream. Visiting a dealership an purchasing a good boat and motor package is the beginning of relationship...one that shouldn't end when you hand over your hard earned money. Choosing a dealer with experience is a good place to start that relationship.

For the last 60 years, Caribee Boat Sales has proven to be that deal offering the world's best power boats - Grady White, Contender Pursuit, Boston Whaler, Pathfinder, Hewes and Maverick. Caribee's sales team brings years of experience as avid boaters and fishermen themselves. Their experience will help you select the right boat. An when it's time for service, Caribee's service technicians average 14 year experience...all factory trained and certified. It's no mistake Caribee has earned the prestigious 5-Star Yamaha Dealer Award, the Boston Whaler Master Dealer Award, the Mercury Premier Service Award and Grady White Admiral's Circle Award - the industry's highest rankings for superior customer service. Come and visit Caribee, located at mile marker 81.5.

Caribee - where our experience insures fulfillment of your boating dream where you can expect the best.

Maverick, Hewes and Pathfinder:
Flats, Backcountry and Bayboats, built with an uncompromising commitment to quality and utility. All three boat families are quite feature-filled, built strong, and powered by dependable YAMAHA outboards.

Visit us online - www.caribeeboats.com
Caribee Boat Sales and Marina
MM 81.5 • PO Box 1029 • Islamorada, FL 33036
305.664.3431 • Fax: 305.664.2838

Dec. 17th, 2008

Volume XI, Issue 25

In This Issue . . .

Special Features

Captain's Cup Sailfish Tourney results 2 & 7
 Southeast – New Restrictions Address
 Overfishing of Gag Grouper. 19
 NOAA Designates Critical Habitat for
 Threatened Elkhorn and Staghorn Corals 19
 Atlantic HMS Permits Available for 2009 19

Regular Features

Keys Fishing Roundup 3
 Fishing Reports 4-9, 12-16
 Tournament Listings (through June '09) 10
 Tide Tables 18
 Captain & Guide Directory 20



Due to the Islamorada Captain's Cup Sailfish Tournament coverage, "At the Helm" does not appear this week . . . See you on the water!

Advertisers

Bartender's Islamorada Sailfish Open - 28th Annual 10
 Bluewater Tiki Bar 11
 Capt. Mike Bassett Charter Fishing - Islamorada 5
 Capt. Steve Murray Backcountry Fishing - Islamorada 16
 Caribee Boat Sales & Marina BC
 Custom Swimming Pools 5
 DoubleTree Grand Key Resort 11
 DJ's Reel Repair 19
 Exit Realty - Stacie Kidwell 10
 Fish Tales Charter Boat - Islamorada 8
 Garrison Bight Marina 6
 Holiday Isle Marina & Resort 19
 Keys Boat Exchange 16
 Keys Custom Rods 15
 Keys Plastic Shop 15
 Key West Marine Hardware 6
 Main Attractions Charter Fishing 6
 Papa Joe's Backcountry Marina 8
 Prop Doctor 7
 Robbie's of Islamorada 15
 Tiki Huts 14

Published by Hot Toddy & Family

Contact Elizabeth at 305/766-BOAT (2628) or,
 info@weeklyfisherman.com for sales and all other information.

**Phenomenal Sailfishing with 17 Releases
 Main Attraction wins the Islamorada Fishing
 Clubs' 6th Annual Captain's Cup Sailfish
 Tournament**

The 6th annual Islamorada Fishing Clubs Captain's Cup Sailfish Tournament hosted 26 anglers on 13 boats all fishing for \$20,000.00. The Main Attraction reeled in and released the first Sailfish of the tournament at 8:13 on December 11th 2008. They never looked back. Anglers Mac Stone from Tavernier FL and Jamie Platt from Marathon released a total of 17 Sails in the one day event. Captain Marty Lewis with Mates Ariel Medro and Brenden Huwar kept a steady pick of Sails behind the Main Attraction right up until lines out at 4PM. The Reel McCoy put the pressure on later in the day but the Main Attraction always stayed one step ahead. The Main Attraction took home hand painted Captain's Cups by Pasta Pantaleo and the big check for \$20,000.00. The Islamorada Fishing Clubs' Captain's Cup Sailfish Tournament is also a qualifying event for the IGFA Offshore Championship Series and this team is headed for Cabo San Lucas next year!

The Reel McCoy from Bud N Mary's Marina in Islamorada did their best to catch up. Captain George McElveen fishing anglers Bobby Tassell of Grand Rapids MI and Sean Smith from Pompano FL stayed with the fish all day. In the end the Reel McCoy would land in second place with 16 fish.

Third place went to Wet Dream with anglers Kevin and Jill Clark. This team from Islamorada captained Glen Miller with mates Sam Worden and Chris Barron never gave up. The Sails were biting all day for the Wet Dream and at 4PM they had released a total of 13 fish.

The weather was rough with winds blowing from the South and later from the North West at over 40 miles per hour. Even with the rough weather the one day Sailfish tournament released a total of 129 Sailfish with 155 called in hookups. The Islamorada Fishing Club put on another fantastic event. Huge thanks goes out to our major sponsors: Caribee Boat Sales and Marina, Contender Boats, Yamaha Outboards, Ivory International, Regan Insurance, TIB Bank of the Keys, Hawk Associates, and everyone else involved for making this another successful year!



Myra Russo shows off a hogfish caught on a patch reef. She and her husband, Capt. Bill Russo, live here in the winter and in New York in the summer. She's happy she's not in New York now!

Florida Keys Roundup

Capt. Greg Eklund owns and operates the CLOUD NINE in Islamorada out of Bud n Mary's Marina. You can reach him at (305) 360-7476, email: info@islamoradafishingtrips.com, or visit him at: www.islamoradafishingtrips.com.



Capt. Greg Eklund Throughout the Keys

Welcome to the Fabulous Florida Keys, the home of the Sportfishing Capital of the World and the original Weekly Fisherman newspaper. In this week's issue you will find a quick overview of what has been biting Keys wide, what to expect in the upcoming week, and who the stand outs were in the fleet this week past. Also make sure to check out the fishing reports from each of the contributing Captains for detailed fishing information from their area.

Yet again this week the Sailfish bite has been excellent. The two tournaments out of Islamorada this week both posted large numbers of Sailfish releases. The Main Attraction out of Marathon with Capt. Marty Lewis and crew released 17 Sailfish in one day to win the Islamorada Fishing Club's Captains Cup tourney. They were followed closely by the crew of the Reel McCoy out of Bud N Mary's Marina in Islamorada with 16 releases. The 15 boat fleet released a total of 130 Sailfish in the one day tournament. This quality of fishing continued last weekend for the Don Gurgiolo



A nice wahoo caught by Bailey Hypes from North Georgia and held by mate Mike Nichols on the Cloud Nine.

lately. The last cold front was followed up by a period of light Northeast breezes and the fish have been piling up along the reef from Key Largo to Key West. Last week I reported the early arrival of monster masses of sardines and cigar minnows along the deeper ledges of the reef. Well the good news is that they are still here in large quantity and they are providing some excellent forage for several of our winter time species here in the Keys. Sailfish, Wahoo, Dolphin, Blackfin Tuna, and King Mackerel have all been caught this past week by the fleet Keys wide. The King Mackerel fishing has been consistent this week and with the arrival of the next cold front due by Friday we should continue to see good numbers of these fish in our waters Keys wide. Some of the Kings the last few days have been up to 40 pounds and they have averaged 15 to 20 pounds. Cigar minnows have been the bait of choice but Blue runner and speedos have taken their share as well. Several packs of Dolphin have been using the deeper ledges of the reef the last few days and they should continue to be evident this week as the weather man is calling for some

Sailfish Classic. The crew of the Carib Sea led by Capt. Kenny Spaulding released 17 Sailfish to take top honors. The Kalex led by Capt. Alex Adler took second place and were followed in third by Capt. Paul Ross and the Relentless team.

There is no doubt that the weather patterns have been a major part of the great bite the Keys has been experiencing

stiff breezes out of the SE early in the week before the arrival of the next cold front. The Cobia bite this week is still improving and a few fish to forty pounds were found along the shallower edge of the reef on the ocean side and on several of the wrecks back into the Gulf of Mexico. The Blackfin Tuna have been busting the large masses of sardines and cigar minnows in 180 to 240 feet of water. These fish have average 8 to 12 pounds and been as large as 20 pounds this past week. All of this fishing action mentioned above should continue to thrive this next week as we welcome the arrival of the Holidays guests to the Keys.

Inshore several Snook and Redfish are gathered up on the flats and creeks in Everglades National Park. The warm weather early this week should elevate the water temps on the flats and get these fish really happy. The Bonefish will also benefit from the warmer water temps and should be good this week. Several guys reported solid bonefishing on the Ocean side flats this past week. The Spanish Mackerel bite continues to be excellent. These fish have set up residence in the Gulf off of Islamorada, Marathon and Key West. There has also been several Pompano, Sea Trout and Goliath Grouper caught in the back waters of late. As we cycle yet another cold front later this week look for the inshore fishing to pick up as the winds settle out and go back to the NE.

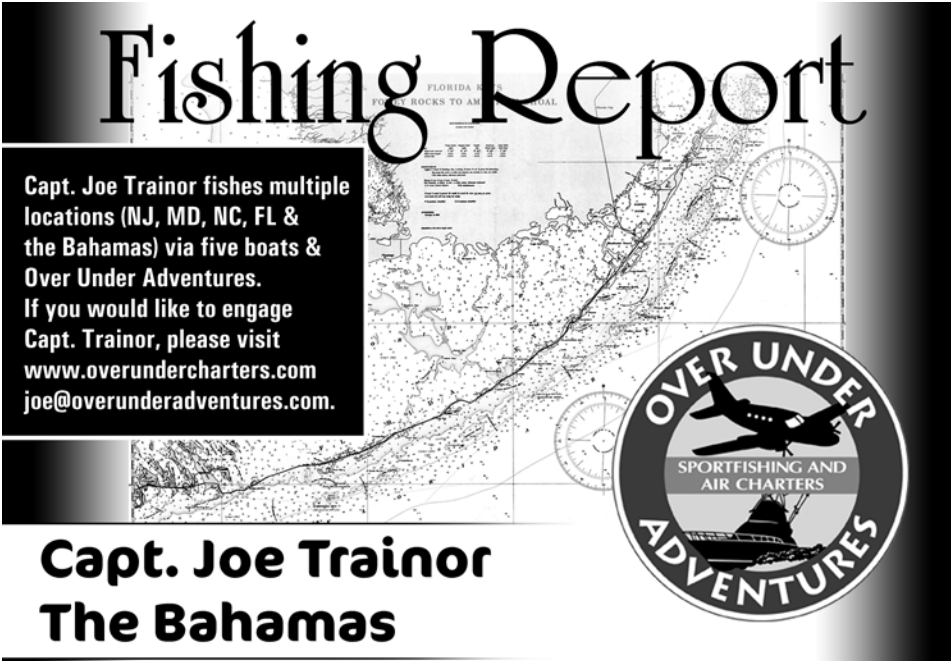
The arrival of the Christmas Holiday crowds early next week are no doubt going to be welcomed by the Keys residents with open arms this year. Most of the Fishing fleet will be on the water over the next 7 to 10 days and with all of the great fishing we should have some extremely happy visiting anglers. I would like to wish everyone Happy Holidays and if I can help you book a charter in the area or answer any questions please feel free to contact me at the above number. Enjoy your week here in fishing paradise! Capt. Greg



Approximately 91 lbs. of wahoo caught at Hawk's Nest by Randy Holder.

Fishing Report

Capt. Joe Trainor fishes multiple locations (NJ, MD, NC, FL & the Bahamas) via five boats & Over Under Adventures. If you would like to engage Capt. Trainor, please visit www.overundercharters.com joe@overunderadventures.com.



Capt. Joe Trainor The Bahamas

Wahoo Bite: With limited weather windows to get out, we were only able to fish for pelagics once this week. On our only day out, we had an excellent Wahoo bite with 4 hook ups at the end of the falling tide in front of Man O War cut. We went 3 for 5 on Wahoo. None of the Hoo's were larger than 25 pounds, except of course, the one that got away. One of the Hoo's in the 40# range spit the hook right near the boat. We have found the 30 to 80 pound Hoo's get their second wind near the boat! Everyone knows the feeling. It's always a bummer to have a fish so close, only to watch it swim away. That Hoo will be out there for us next time though!

Another Wahoo report came from our friends on Cat Island. They have been doing extremely well with the Wahoo and boated a 91.3 pounder this week. Talking with Randy and JR at Hawks Nest, we all agree how much colder than normal it is this year. We're all hoping it continues, because it seems that each passing cold front gets the fish going better and better.



Bottom Fishing: While the Pelagic fishing was hampered by the wind, we were able to do some bottom fishing. The yellowtail fishing is very productive here in the Abacos. The reef systems of the Abaco Cays are superb, and far better than anything I have experienced in other parts of the

Islands. We have been told that the barrier reef system of the Abaco's is the third largest barrier reef in the world. We are trying to perfect our yellowtail spots, looking for the coral heads and depth ranges that produce the largest tails. We're working a lot of structure and getting a good feel for the reef. We are releasing most of the tails, only keeping the ones that swallow the hook and would end up being barracuda or shark food. Needless to say, the dock masters at Orchid Bay on Guana Cay have been eating well. While tailing, we have been dropping some grouper bombs and larger baits out for Muttons. We have managed to bring in a few Groupers and Muttons, but would have liked to have seen

a couple more that lodged themselves in rocks!

Next week we plan on trying some deep dropping. While Wahoo fishing the edge, we have seen some spots that have great potential. It is always fun to deep drop. The taste of deep water snapper is unmatched. Another goal next week is to try grouper trolling at a couple of spots that were recommended to us by a friend. All reports indicate that the Grouper trolling is very productive here. Stand by!

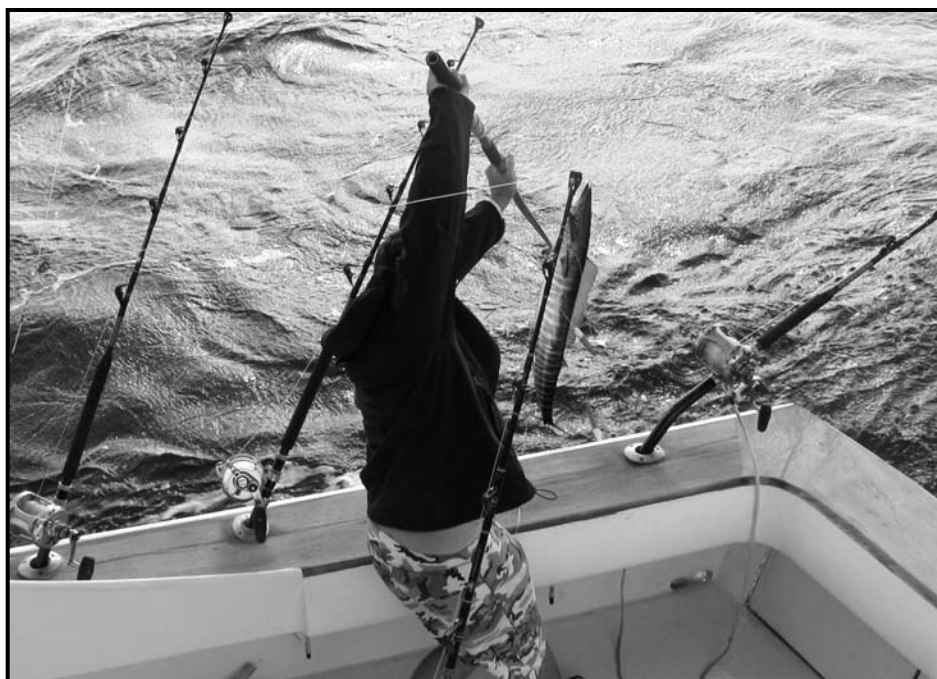
Rigging spotlight:

We caught our first Wahoo on our cedar pug chain this week. Our chain is always out run way, way, way, back, in the shotgun position from up on the bridge. All species of pelagics fish love this lure. It's especially easy to run, since the lure rarely snags up weed. We build our chains in two sections, to be easily fixed. In the first section, we use 6' of 130# mono. About 4' down, slide on a crimp, and then crimp it on the mono to act as a stopper for the first plug. Then string on a blue and white cedar plug so the crimp stops the plug. Going to the end of the first section slide another blue and white cedar plug and crimp on a 130# Spro swivel. The second part of the chain is take 2' section of 130# mono ended with a mustad 10/0 Needle Eye Hook. Slide a natural cedar plug down and crimp the second section to the swivel at the end of the first section. When sharks, cudas or wahoo end up cutting off or damaging the chain, it is almost always the last section that gets wrecked. We always have full spares ready to go, but usually all you have to do is crimp on a new natural plug (trailing lure), as opposed to re-rigging the whole chain. The chain of plugs seems to attract fish much better than the single plug. The downside is that sometimes toothy critters will attack the plugs ahead of the hooked lure, leading to cut offs. This is a risk we've decided to take over the years, as we catch so many more fish using the chains than singles. We do buy our cedar plugs in bulk quantities though. Usually 100 at a time! So expect to loose some, it's just part of the game over here.

Here in the Abaco's, we run our cedar plug daisy chain on a Penn 50 rod and reel combo, with a wind on swivel. The sharks are less of a nuisance here than down in the Southern Islands. When we are fishing San Salvador and Cat Island, we usually run our chains on a Penn 70 rod and reel combo with a 250# Spro snap swivel, due to the "shark problem". You only have so much time to work a fish in those areas before the sharks move in. We use the "3 minute rule". If your fish isn't in the boat in 3 minutes, you are at risk!

Wrap Up: All in all, the fishing continues to improve throughout the islands of the Bahamas. The water temperature is hovering around 76 degrees - a two degree drop in just a week! We suspect, that with each passing cold front the Wahoo will continue to be on the chew!

Capt. Joe Trainor - aboard the Low Profile



Fishing Report

This Islamorada Backcountry report is brought to you courtesy of Capt. Matt Bellinger, of Bamboo Charters. Capt. Matt operates out of Holiday Isle Resort & Marina in Islamorada. To reach Capt. Bellinger, call (305) 393-0909, or visit www.bamboocharters.com.



Capt. Matt Bellinger Islamorada Flats

This past week it seems as if there has been a struggle between our two seasons: summer and winter. There is not a huge difference between the two really. Mostly it seems to be a wind issue, direction and speed of the wind that is or a temperature thing. Winter seems to have won the battle this past week. The winds have been up in the high teens to the mid twenties and the air temps have swung from the high seventies down to the south side of the sixties. So what does this do to the fishing you ask?

The winds have been swinging the compass and playing havoc on the tides, so we have been dealing with dirty water and big low tides. Around Flamingo in the Everglades National Park there are numerous channels cut through the shallow flats that dominate the Park. The big low tides brought on by this months full moon have concentrated snook and redfish in these channels. Finding these guys is a matter of finding deep water, here the fish will set up around drains off of the flats and feed on shrimp and other bait fish that pour out with the tide. Using Hook Up Lures 1/4 and 3/8 oz. jig heads and shrimp, I've been finding good numbers of reds and snook by working the edges of the channels.

If you are looking for big catches of plenty of fish, the spotted sea trout bite is really heating up in front of Flamingo. The main channel leading to Buoy Key and on to the Keys is holding plenty of trout from 12 to 22 inches as of late. Capt. John Gargan and Capt. Fred Ferreira of Whale Harbor have been putting their clients on some big catches of these fish as well as the snook and reds. Gulp! shrimp on a jig will put you on the bite in short order as long as you are in moving water that is somewhat dirty. Use this with a popping cork to find fish then just about any offering will be attacked by these fish.

Winter brings sheepshead and black drum into the area and a live shrimp or just fresh cut shrimp will do when kept close to the bottom, chumming with a handfull of shrimp chunks will help you locate them. Once you find a couple of fish, work the area over and it should pay off. You will find young black drum with their black and silver stripes as well as adult fish mixed together. Larger drum have been found out west in the East Cape canal. While you are out there and the wind is right, go looking for tripletail and big schools of spanish macks in the Gulf.

The action is all around out there, just go on out and get in amongst them. Take a look at our listing of guides and find one to take you out for a super day of fishing.



Fish with a True Keys Native!
Born and Raised Backcountry Fishing Charters
Capt. Mike Bassett

Tarpon, Snook, Redfish, Bonefish, Snapper, Sea Trout, Baracuda, Shark

Full Day, Half Day, and Evening Trips
Whale Harbor Marina MM 83.5

305/853-5541 305/394-0013 Cell
Email: Cwbmab206@cs.com
U.S.C.G. Licensed & Insured



Teresa Leonia with the first of a triple header (all caught and released in good shape). Caught aboard the Styx and Brix, captained by Keith Leonia.



Custom Swimming Pools
from Concept to Completion

Design • Build • Remodel
We also install Pavers

305-664-1010

A division of Advanced Construction Corp. Lic# CG C059321

Fishing Report

The Islamorada Offshore Fishing Report is brought to you by Capt. Joe Petrucco of Killer Instinct Charters, located at Papa Joe's Marina, MM79 bayside. If you are interested in fishing with Capt. Joe, call (305) 304-4580, or visit www.killerinstinctcharters.com.



Capt. Joe Petrucco Islamorada Offshore

The sailfish continue to reign supreme here in Islamorada. We are right smack in the middle of sailfish tournament season. It has already been one for the record books as the number of releases soar. The Captain's Cup sailfish tournament was a huge success with 129 releases. The MAIN ATTRACTION and Capt. Marty Lewis ended on top with 17 fish and the 20,000 prize. Close behind was THE REAL MCCOY and Captain George McElveen with 16 fish and second place. Watch for Capt. George and crew to win a big tournament this year like the World Sailfish Championship. They are always on top and overdue for yet another victory. Good luck George we all hope to see you in the winner's circle this April.

From Conch reef to Tennessee reef the sails are on fire. There are also many other reef species biting well at this time. King Mackerel are thick on many of the wrecks and reef edges. Cigar minnows or speedos will work the best for them. The best bite has been coming from the bottom so drop them down for best results. Mutton snapper have also been strong on the same structures so fishing an area well will result in



Mike from Michigan with his first sailfish caught onboard the Killer Instinct with Capt. Joe Petrucco.

a great variety of high quality species. This time of year a great trip will include sailfish, king mackerel and several species of snapper including yellowtails and muttons. You may also catch a wahoo or amberjack while working the wrecks. The best bite is on the reef edge just a few miles out so take advantage of this great time of year. The business is usually slow these next two weeks so you may get out and be all alone on one of the many "hot" spots. A full day is always better but a half day will still give you plenty of fishing time right now. The winds should come down this week making it more comfortable to be on the water. Get out and enjoy the red hot reef action.

The Gulf of Mexico is getting better and better. The Spanish mackerel are still swarming and many other species are starting to show up. More and more cobia and king mackerel are moving into our waters. This will improve steadily throughout the winter. The kings like something big to eat like a ladyfish or bluefish and the cobia like a pinfish or shrimp. They will rarely turn down a crab too so it is a good idea to have a variety of live bait to present to any willing fish. The cobia will also be moving on the rays Oceanside this month so be on the lookout.

Merry Christmas to everyone and have a Happy New Year. Remember to enjoy your families this holiday and most importantly let's remember the reason for the season, Jesus Christ.

Till Next Week - Capt. Joe



KEY WEST Marine Hardware Inc.

- Complete Line of Marine Supplies
- Charts and Publications
- Sailboat Hardware
- Largest In-Stock Inventory In The Keys
- Marine Hardware
- Fishing Tackle

305-294-3519 **305-294-3425**

818 Caroline St., Key West

NO FISH NO PAY FULL DAY

MAIN ATTRACTIONS

305-289-0071
mainattraction.org

WE FIND 'EM YOU WIND 'EM!

KEY COLONY BEACH MARINA

Key West Boat Center at

GARRISON BIGHT MARINA

SELECT FOUR STROKE YAMAHA MODEL ENGINES

COME WITH FREE 6 YEAR WARRANTY

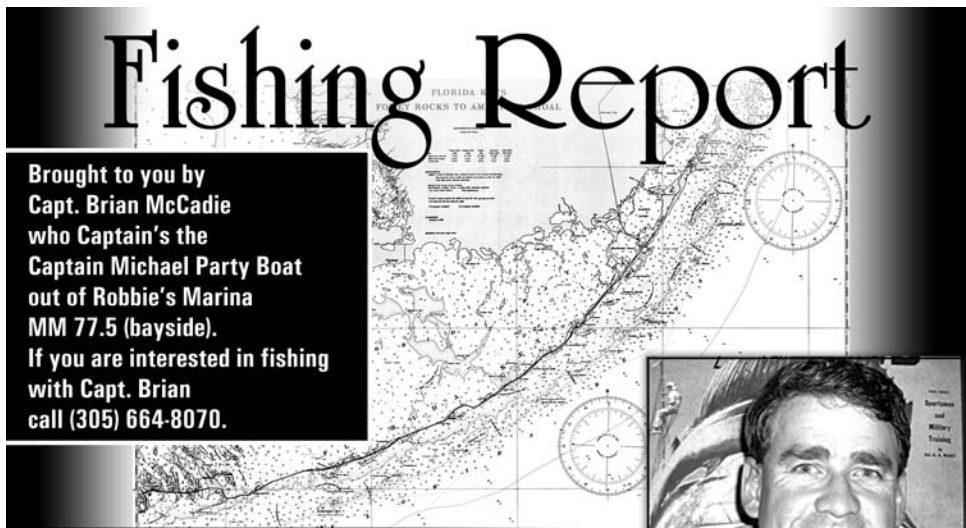
Open Daily 7-5:30pm

YAMAHA

Boat & Motor Sales
Complete Certified Mechanical Service
Largest Stock Of Engine Parts In Key West
Covered Open & Dry Storage & Dockage
Ships Store • Fuel Dock
Bait...Live & Frozen • Boat Rentals

Garrison Bight Marina is located next to Charter Row in Key West, FL

LET US BOOK YOUR CHARTER...OFFSHORE OR BACKCOUNTRY



Brought to you by
Capt. Brian McCadie
 who Captain's the
Captain Michael Party Boat
 out of Robbie's Marina
 MM 77.5 (bayside).
 If you are interested in fishing
 with Capt. Brian
 call (305) 664-8070.

Capt. Brian McCadie Islamorada Reef



If the business had been half as good as the fishing this week we'd all be sittin' pretty, but unfortunately the winds (or something) kept customers away. The fishing though, has been quite amazing! I'm gonna lay off the sailfish thing for a week here because I can only imagine that the charter boat Caps' are going to have a ton to report in that category.

For us on the party boat the kingfish got big and stupid this week (the perfect fish)! The most productive depth for them was about 120 feet it seems, and they were eating anything you put in the water that had any flash, silver or blue on it. Sometimes we opt to fish with no wire leader because if you use the wire you don't get many bites, but this past week you could have put a ballyhoo on the end of an anchor chain and they would have eaten it. With live bait you can usually get away with wire because that live cigar minnow or pilchard is so attractive to them that they ignore the wire. On the party boat we maybe fishing with anywhere from 10 to 50 people so live baits just aren't a very viable option. We could stop and spend an hour of our 4 hour trip catching cigar minnows and fill the live well, but we would still run out of bait if the bite is hot. Plus, making 50 people watch the mate throw a cast net on baits while they don't get to fish just wouldn't work out so well. For these reasons we stick to dead ballyhoo for the kings.

Capt. Arek on the "Fishin' Pole" charter boat out of Robbie's Marina had a great day of near shore patch reef fishing on Thursday. His customers were able to go home with nice yellowtail snappers, mangroves, mutton snappers up to 9 pounds, cero mackerels and a ton of pictures of groupers that just didn't make the legal size limit. The variety and quantity of fish were quite impressive!

Speaking of cero mackerels, they are one of the most commonly underrated sport fish out there. They get up into the 15 pound range,

with the Florida record being 15 pounds, 8 ounces. This makes them a prime target for light tackle. Take it from someone who's out there basically every day of his life... there is nothing more fun than targeting ceros on 6 pound test with live ballyhoo from an anchored boat! You can catch these fish a hundred different ways, but if you were come to me today and charter me to show you a fun day of fishing with loads of drag screaming action my first choice would be to go net some ballyhoo and chum up the ceros. I'd bring the lightest tackle I could get my hands on, a box of small treble hooks and a spool of light wire. If the water is dirty and the wind is blowing hard out of the east or southeast you get a bite on almost every cast! It's absolutely a blast. As far as edibility they are no snapper or grouper, but they are much better than any kingfish or spanish mackerel. For this reason they make a great target for the sport fisherman who is not out there just to stock his or her freezer with meat. On this type of trip I prefer to release the fish once boated so they'll be there again for the next angler. Using treble hooks and wire I prefer to bring the fish in and de-hook it as opposed to letting it go with all that hardware in it's mouth. Not to mention it can get expensive if you don't!

Ceros can be targeted in so many ways that almost any type of angler can enjoy them. You can take them on anything from a hand-line to a fly rod. They eat dead bait, live bait, jigs, plugs, flies, poppers... you name it and they'll hit it when they are chummed up and feeding heavily. As with the kings and spanish, watch out for their teeth. They are sharp as a razor and the mouth is completely encircled with them.

The busy season is right around the corner, so get out there and enjoy a vacant reef while you can . . .

Capt. Brian



PROP DOCTOR of KEY WEST

ONLY "M.R.I."
LOCATED WITHIN 100 MILES
 NO NEED TO SEND YOUR PROP TO THE MAIN LAND
 AND WASTE VALUABLE FISHING TIME!

**LARGE SELECTION OF HUBS FOR
 YOUR OUTBOARD PROPS**

NEW LOCATION
 6003 PENINSULAR AVE - STOCK ISLAND
 CONVIENLY LOCATED BETWEEN KINGS POINT
 AND YACHT CLUB OF AMERICA (YCOA)

**OVER 1000
 USED PROPS
 IN INVENTORY**

YA KNOW WHAT THEY
 SAY, "AN EXPERT IS
 SOMEONE 50 MILES AWAY
 WITH A BRIEFCASE."
 WELL, DON'T BELIEVE IT
 'CAUSE YOU MIGHT HAVE ONE
 RIGHT ON YOUR
 OWN STOCK ISLAND.

305.292.0012

Islamorada Fishing Clubs' 6th Annual Captain's Cup Sailfish Tournament

TOTALS

Number of Boats	13
Number of Anglers	26
Number of Hook-ups	155
Number of Releases	129
Wind	25-35 out of the S
	30-40 out of the W later in the day
Seas	5'-7' growing to 10'-12'

Grand Champions
(Sponsored by Contender Boat & Yamaha Outboards)
 Winner of the coveted Captain's Cup
 Hand-painted by Pasta Pantaleo
 Anglers: Mac Stone, Jamie Platt
 Home Town: Tavernier, FL & Marathon, FL
 Boat: Main Attraction
 Captain: Marty Lewis
 Mate: Ariel Medro, Brenden Huwar
 Releases: 17 Sailfish

Champion Captain
(Sponsored by Caribe Boat Sales)
 Winner of the coveted Captain's Cup
 Hand-painted by Pasta Pantaleo
 Boat: Main Attraction
 Captain: Marty Lewis
 Releases: 17 Sailfish

Champion Mate
(Sponsored by TIB -Mimi)
 Boat: Main Attraction
 Mate: Ariel Medro
 Releases: 17 Sailfish

Second Place
(Sponsored by Ivory International)
 Ask Bob Lodge to help present trophy
 Anglers: Bobby Tassell, Sean Smith
 Home Town: Grand Rapids, MI & Pompano, FL
 Boat: Reel McCoy
 Captain: George McElveen
 Mate: Kiki Ferrer and Jamie Allen
 Releases: 16 Sailfish

Third Place
(Sponsored by Regan Insurance)
 Ask Bob Regan to present trophy
 Anglers: Kevin Clark, Jill Clark
 Home Town: Islamorada, FL
 Boat: Wet Dream
 Captain: Glen Miller
 Mate: Sam Worden and Hunter Barron
 Releases: 13 Sailfish

Fishing Report

Capt. Lain Goodwin fishes the inshore waters of the Upper Keys Everglades National Park and Biscayne Bay. Capt. Lain is on the Pro Staff for Hook Up Lures, Berkley, Abu Garcia and Fenwick Rods. To book a trip with Capt. Lain, call (305) 304-2212, or visit www.dirtywaterscharters.com



Capt. Lain Goodwin Key Largo Backcountry

Fishing has been spectacular in the backcountry. The channels around Flamingo have been producing some impressive catches for anglers; snook, redfish, trout, jacks, goliath grouper, sheepshead, black drum and even a few tarpon. It's a long run from Key Largo, but the run has been more than worth it. But, I must advise that the water in Florida Bay is very low due to the North winds we have around the cold fronts this time of year. Even some of the channels are extremely low on the way over. There's some great fishing over there but it's a long way from Key Largo. If you are unfamiliar with the waters between Key Largo and Flamingo make sure to pick up the Florida Bay Map and Guide. The Map and Guide shows the channels and depths throughout the bay. It's a great supplement to your GPS and printed charts and can be found at just about any tackle shop or marina throughout the Upper Keys. You can always find them at the Yellow Bait House at MM 101 in Key Largo. While you're there take advantage of their Customer Appreciation shrimp sale on Thursday-Sunday the next few weeks. As a thank you

to their patrons you can get live shrimp for .99 cents a dozen. Pick up a few packs of 1/4 oz chartreuse HookUp Lures and you're in business. The bite over in Flamingo has been red-hot in just about any creek or channel. Once in the channels use your trolling motor to cover ground as you work the edges of the channels. The most productive methods have been live shrimp or Berkley Gulp shrimp on a 1/4 oz chartreuse Hook-Up Lure. Hook the shrimp from the chin up through the horn. The design of HookUp Lures keeps the shrimp from spinning as you bounce the bait along the channel edges. Pay attention to your surroundings and you will find ambush points where fish can sit behind a current break and wait for bait to get swept by. Snook are notorious ambush feeders and will sit behind a point or downed tree in an eddy without having to expend much energy. Find one of these feeding stations and you can expect to catch some fish when there's bait moving through. Once you catch a fish, stake out and work the area thoroughly as the smaller snook and reds have been moving in schools and you should be able to pick-off a few more.


Fishing in the Key Largo area has been steady over the past few weeks. If you are looking for some rod-bending action you can find plenty in the Northeast portions of Florida Bay. There are lots of trout, jacks and ladyfish in the many mullet muds around the basins in the northern portions of the bay. The most productive way to catch these fish is a popping cork with a Berkley Gulp shrimp or baitfish on a HookUp Lure. I have done side-by-side comparisons and found that the Gulps are more productive than the live shrimp when fishing mullet muds. When using live shrimp the smaller-quicker trout will knock the shrimp off the hook before the larger trout have an opportunity to get it. Each Gulp bait can catch 10-20 fish without being changed allowing you to spend less time baiting the hook and more time catching fish.

"Til next time, light winds and good fishin' . . .

Capt. Lain




Papa Joe's Backcountry Marina



PAPA JOE'S BACKCOUNTRY MARINA MM 79.5 IS NOW OPEN FOR ALL YOUR FISHING NEEDS

Whether your a serious die hard angler or just want to get the family out on the water for some fishing fun...
WE ARE THE MARINA FOR YOU!



For all the best in Backcountry, Offshore, Fly or Spin call
Papa Joe's Backcountry Marina
305-664-5599


NIGHT TARPON TRIPS ALSO AVAILABLE

LOOKING FOR A GUIDE OR CHARTER?

Look to page 20 for our Captains and Guides directory to help ensure that perfect day on the water!

Fish Tales

Located at Whale Harbor Marina MM 83
Captain Ron Allen, Owner/Operator
(305) 664-0050
50' Custom NC Boat
AC, Clean & Comfortable,
Fun, Friendly & Professional




This is Nicole Herbert from Chesterfield, VA with her First Sailfish! Another great catch aboard the Fish Tales out of Whale Harbor Marina (MM 83) with Capt. Ron Allen and Mate Jeremy Pfaffendorf.

Fishing Report

Brought to you by Capt. George Clark, Jr. of RODEO CHARTERS and the 43' "Gotta Mon" sportfishing charter boat located at Key Largo Fisheries docks, 99.5 Oceanside. Capt. George can be reached at (305) 522-2638 & his website www.rodeocharTERS.com.

Capt. George Clark, Jr. Key Largo Offshore



Even now the wind keeps on blowing and cold breezes from the North are working their way into South Florida, fishing only gets better. It definitely looks like a banner year for sail fishing. Perhaps maybe one of the best in the past twenty years! Waves of snooters are following these fronts into the keys and setting up shop on the edge of the reef. Bait is very thick right now and ballyhoo populations are extremely dense blanketing large portions of the reef. Along with the hoo's we are seeing abundant supplies of cigar minnows and sardines, blue runners, pilchards and Speedo's. All this food fuels these waves of sailfish that are here visiting. From now thru February you can tune into the vhf radio on every weekend and listen to Captains calling in hook up and

releases while we all compete to win these events. The difference though will be the amount of fish each and every boat catches per tournament. When you drive by all the marinas every afternoon take a gander at the flags on the outriggers and you can also get an idea how many fish were caught and released. I've got sailfish on the brain right now and who wouldn't get excited when you can catch double digits daily. Sails aren't the only game in town either. Tuna fishing has been exceptional lately and if you are live bait fishing you may bump into a few fat black fins. Today we got covered up a few times with some healthy Mahi too. Even though dolphin prefer a little warmer water, we do get our fair share during the winter months. King fishing is excellent too and Cerro macks are in the shallows chasing bait. The large bait balls we have been fishing around since last week are still popping up in as shallow as 30 feet. Today we found a couple and not only Mackerel were blasting big holes thru them, but tunas, Bonitos and sails had them on the run while black birds and terns attacked from above. It is crazy fishing when you locate one of these spheres of sardines. You just never know who will be cruising down deep around it. Wahoo are here as well. We always drag a couple of rigged baits this time of year just in case and the Wahoo are hanging from 130 feet out to 250 especially around the bullet Bonitos and Speedo's. So I'll give fishing a big thumbs up right now. It really makes it worth going even when the wind blows and it seems cold. Besides, it's much more frigid up North and we don't have to cut a hole in the ice to get it done.

Good luck guys and girls and go get bent . . .

Capt. George Clark, Jr.



Fishing Report

This report is brought to you by Capt. Steve Lamp. He & his wife Gennifer operate out of Key West. If you would like to fish with Capt. Steve, please call: (305) 292-7212, or visit: www.fishingkeywest.com www.keywestfishingteam.com

Capt. Steve Lamp Key West Flats



Wow, still blowing - is that a bad thing? Not really. The consistency of the cool fronts we have been getting in the past few weeks has actually helped the fishing in more ways than one can imagine; with the constantly alternating wind directions ushering in these fronts mixing up the waters for both inshore, offshore, wrecks and reefs. We are (as usual) experiencing some great fishing here in Key West. With the fuel prices down and this being slow season, now is the time to call and go fishing in Key West. Avoid the crowds and support your local fishing guide.

Offshore the report has been mixed with numerous catches of some nice sized Kingfish right on the reef line. Venture out a bit and the full moon offered some great shots at Wahoo on live bait and fast trolled lures. Some reports of Sailfish right on top of the reef have been

prevalent with these fish showering the ample amounts of schooled up ballyhoo.

The reef has been on fire with great Yellowtail and Grouper fishing. On the wrecks south of Key West with enough live bait an angler can enjoy the Blackfin tuna bite that goes on this time of the year. The bite has been good but the sharks have been terrible. Many half hit fish and cut offs have occurred with charters targeting the tuna. Hint, in the numbers of sharks we have also been seeing some Cobia cruising with them as well. On the deeper reefs we have gotten into some incredible Red Snapper fishing mixed with Large Black groupers, Yellow eyed snappers and Mutton snappers out towards the west. One does not have to run far to get into some fantastic bottom fishing right now off Key West.

Inshore the flats and backcountry fishing is exactly the way it should be this time of the year.. FUN! With the numbers of species inshore, an angler does not have to go far or take much of a beating to get to constant rod bending excitement. Species like Trout, Jacks, Bluefish, Spanish Mackerel, and Pompano will keep anglers happy and smiling for hours on end casting plugs and jigs as you drift along in our beautiful backcountry.

Sight fishing is also a great way to spend your winter day fishing the inshore waters. We have been finding huge Barracudas sunning themselves on the flats waiting for a plug or fly to entertain them. Permit are not afraid of cooler waters so we have been watching for them as well, along with Cobia and Large jacks tailing up after a sting ray or possibly following a shark.

The slower season here in Key West is almost over and most guides are setting their sights on Tarpon season as their "bail out" from a long, slow time. Be sure you give your favorite fishing guide or charter a call and book your days of killer spring fishing. I am sure they will be delighted to hear from you - Capt. Steven Lamp





TOURNAMENTS

We want to hear about your tournament!
Have it listed here for FREE by calling
Elizabeth at (305) 766-BOAT (2628), or via
e-mail: info@weeklyfisherman.com.

Fishing Tournaments coming up in 2009 . . .

The Florida Keys Gold Cup Championship Series second leg of the series is the Cheeca Lodge Presidential Sailfish Tournament January 15th thru 17th 2009. The Islamorada Fishing Clubs' Sailfish Tournament on January 21st and 22nd 2009 is the final leg of this trifecta. Each tournament has their own set of rules and entry fees. Each angler competes on an individual basis for the Championship Ring that includes bragging rights for the entire year. Teams compete for the coveted Gold Cup Trophy that is displayed at the Islamorada Fishing Club, headquarters for the final event. There are also team awards for second and third places. The Gold Cup guarantees \$10,000.00 in cash prizes.

The tournament raises money for the Islamorada Charter Boat Association a 501-C-3 organization. For more information please visit us on the web at www.islamoradasailfishtournament.com or call Dianne Harbaugh 305-852-2102.


The Islamorada Fishing Club is having the following events. They are all limited to the first 30 paid entries:

Islamorada Fishing Clubs 2009 Sailfish Tournament has a January 21st kickoff with fishing on Thursday January 22nd 2009. This is the final leg of the Florida Keys Gold Cup Sailfish Championship. This is a one day all release sailfish tournament. A winner takes all event with a \$30,000.00 payout based on a full field of 30 boats. Entry fee is \$2500.00 per boat and each boat is limited to two anglers. Please visit us on the web www.theislamoradafishingclub.com.

Contact IFC: 305-664-4735.

E-mail: fishing@theislamoradafishingclub.com.

Islamorada Fishing Clubs Captain's Cup Dolphin Tournament has a June 3rd kickoff with fishing on Thursday June 4th 2009. The combined weight of three Dolphin determines the winner. This is a winner takes all event with a \$30,000.00 payout based on a full field of 30 boats. Entry fee is \$2500.00 per boat and each boat is limited to two anglers. . Please visit us on the web www.theislamoradafishingclub.com. Contact IFC: 305-664-4735.

E-mail: fishing@theislamoradafishingclub.com. 

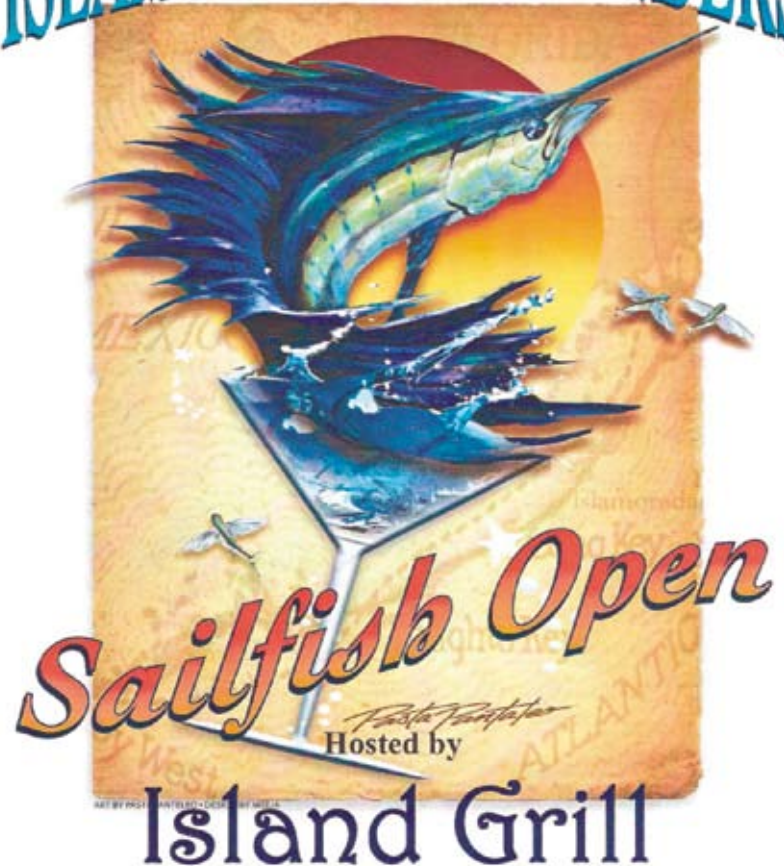


Stacie Kidwell
Realtor[™]



EXIT REALTY FLORIDA KEYS
Gulfside Village, Suite 17
5800 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, FL 33050
Fax: 305-743-4227 Cell: 305-731-9075
stacie@yourkeysconnection.com
www.YourKeysconnection.com

28th Annual ISLAMORADA BARTENDERS



Kick-Off Party

Sunday, January 11th
4pm - 8pm

Awards Dinner

Monday, January 12th
7pm - ???

Entry Fee:

\$125 per angler

Contact:

Dianne Harbaugh

(305) 852-2102

ditournaments@aol.com

**Log onto: www.weeklyfisherman.com
for Rules & Entry Form**



First Place

L-R Pasta Pantaleo, Ariel Medro, Brenden Huwar, Marty Lewis, Mimi Young(TIB) Tournament Director Dianne Harbaugh, Jamie Platt, Mac Stone



Second Place

L-R George McElveen, Bobby Tassell, Sean Smith, Bob Lodge, Dianne Harbaugh, Kiki Ferrer, Jamie Allen



Third Place

L-R Back Row: Hunter Barron, Tourn. Dir. Dianne Harbaugh, Sam Worden
Front Row: Jill Clark, Glen Miller, Pasta Pantaleo, Kevin Clark

Best Wishes & No Dishes for Christmas



Come join us from noon to 9 pm on Thursday, Dec. 25 at Doubletree Grand Key Resort for a sumptuous Christmas feast. Our buffet offers an enticing array of holiday classics with local flair including Creamy Leek Soup with Brie, Bahamian Conch Chowder, Caesar Salad, Caprese Salad and Herbed Pita Crisps, Prime Rib Au Jus with Horseradish Sauce, Pork Loin with Savory Mushrooms and Sausage Stuffing and Cider Marsala Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Island Rice, Grandma's Sweet Potato Casserole, Green Beans Almandine, Fresh Squash Medley, Cointreau-Glazed Baby Carrots, Cheesecake, Chocolate Cake, Pumpkin Pie and Apple Pie.

All for \$28.95 per person
Children 12 & under - \$14.50
Children 5 & under - FREE

Reservations are required.
Please call 305-293-1818, ext. 7537

3990 South Roosevelt Boulevard, Key West



DOUBLETREE®
Grand Key Resort
KEY WEST, FLORIDA

Enjoy Christmas on the Beach



ISLANDER RESORT, DECEMBER 25, 2PM - 8PM

All entrees include choice of soup or salad and dessert.

- SOUPS** Guinness and Cheddar Soup with Roasted Garlic Croutons or Bahamian Conch Chowder
- SALADS** Arugula with Roasted Wild Mushrooms, Crispy Prosciutto Ham, Cherry Tomatoes, Parmesan and White Truffle Vinaigrette or Islander Traditional Caesar
- ENTRÉES** Rack of Lamb, Chocolate Mint Demi Glace with Duchess Potatoes and Grilled Asparagus \$32
- Pork Loin Roulade Stuffed with Caramelized Apple and Bacon Stuffing, Apple Brandy Demi Glace with Roasted Fingerling Potatoes and Grilled Asparagus \$32
- Onion Encrusted Yellowtail Snapper, Key Lime Beurre Blanc and Scallion Oil with Red Pepper Rice Pilaf and Chef's Vegetable \$35
- DESSERTS** Brioche Bread Pudding with Warm Bourbon and Vanilla Cream Sauce or Key Lime Pie

Regular dinner menu also available.

Reservations Suggested. 305-664-2031 Ext. 705

ISLANDER RESORT, MM 82.1 Oceanside, Islamorada

BLUEWATER TIKI BAR
Oceanfront Dining



Fishing Report

Brought to you courtesy of
Capt. Chris Lembo
of Incognito Charters, Key West.
To fish with Capt. Chris,
call (305) 292-0067, or visit
www.incognitolighttackle.com
incognitocharters@comcast.net



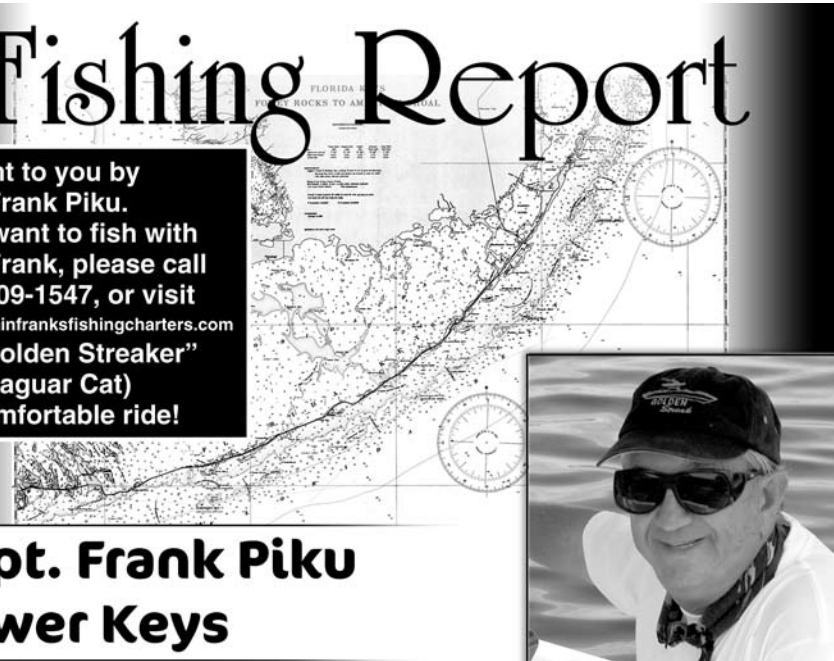
Capt. Chris Lembo Key West Offshore

We have had some sorry weather the past few weeks and it takes good timing to get out on the water. When you do get out the fishing has been exceptionally good. A good chop on the surface is always good for fishing and locate the current and you will have good luck. The current varies daily along the reef but seems to be a little more favorable to the west of Sand Key.

Offshore has been excellent for Dolphin, Sailfish and Wahoo. The approach of the full moon seems to turn on the Wahoo and we had plenty of fish around last week. A deep trolled bait or live bait at anchor will get them to bite. Dolphin seem to be on a never ending run this year so take advantage while the fishing is good. Sailfish are moving in thick and covering some ground is always a good way to start the day. Once you find fish the area should be productive and switching to a kit and

Fishing Report

Brought to you by
Capt. Frank Piku.
If you want to fish with
Capt. Frank, please call
(305) 509-1547, or visit
www.captainfranksfishingcharters.com
The "Golden Streaker"
(a 35' Jaguar Cat)
is a comfortable ride!



Capt. Frank Piku Lower Keys

The winds do let up some of the time but they started blowing again. In the strong Northeastern winds the Sailfish bite gets hot. Many Captains reported sailfish hook ups and many landings too.

Wahoo was hot off the end of the Bar and the early morning bite had some nice Dolphin catches too. After the early morning bite you had to move farther offshore to find them again.

If you stay inside Hawks Channel the seas are smaller and some good fishing is to be found. Around the patch reefs, they are loaded with Red Groupers, Some nice Mutton Snappers, and a good variety of other species, too.

Just this Monday I had a warm party of 4 ladies and 2 men anglers. With my Fly rod method the ladies had a great time and out did the men

live baits will increase the bites.

Reef fishing has been excellent. Deep wrecks and structure has been producing plenty of Grouper and Mutton Snapper. Mangrove Snapper and the vast array of misc. reef fish that cruise the lower keys are about as hungry as you will see all year. African Pompano, Kingfish, Amberjack, Margate, Porgies..you name it and it will eat a Pilchard, Pinfish, Squid strip or Bonito strip.

The Gulf has been productive the past couple of days with the south wind. Look for Cobia, Kingfish and the Groupers and Snappers to feed on any wreck or rock-pile.

Deep Dropping was good last week. Plenty of Rosies and Tilefish on the top of any humps and big Snowies and Yellowedge on the edge just before the drop-off.

Swordfishing has been good and any break in the weather will be a perfect opportunity to make a few drifts. A 20 pound weight will get you to the bottom in 1600-1800 feet. Leave it on as long as you can and then break it off and let the bait drift up. Most bites are coming within 100 feet of the bottom.



using standard rods and live bait. The ladies out-fished the men at least 3 to 1 and didn't have to use live bait, either. This method really works you need to try it. If you want to learn more about this method, go to my website where I offer a free DVD video on "HOW TO CATCH GROUPER AND SNAPPER ON A FLY ROD". This DVD is FREE, you just need to pay for shipping and handling.

If you want to catch the BIG Monster SWORDFISH you need to go offshore in 1,400' to 1,550' of water off the wall. Daytime fishing for Swordfish is a challenge, but has been successful, too.

Again, let me introduce you to my NEW DVD "HOW TO CATCH SWORDFISH DAYTIME AND NIGHT TIME AND WHAT TO USE" This 30 minute DVD video does not contain a lot of fishing, but it is an instructional show on how to do it.

Visit my web site: www.captainfranksfishingcharters.com to get the video.

Or call me for a swordfish charter (305) 509-1547 . . .
 Capt. Frank



Fishing Report

Brought to you courtesy of
 Capt. Andrew Tipler.
 To fish with Capt. Andrew,
 call (305) 744-9796 or visit
www.lastcastcharters.com
scarpa1@bellsouth.net



Capt. Andrew Tipler Lower Keys

The winds picked up at the end of the week keeping most people off the water. There was also a drop in air temperature. A full moon coincided with this weather likely making for a slow bite. After a few days things should pick back up and the bite take off.


A lot was going on out on the water with a variety of fish willing to join the fun. When headed out I like to have multiple outfits rigged for every situation. When headed to the reef and further offshore I keep a few live bait outfits at the ready. I also have a vertical jig rod on board for any tuna that happen by. It is not a bad idea to keep a buck tail jig or some other artificial. This can be tossed at mackerel, dolphin or cobia.

Sailfish were on most people's minds if they were headed off shore this past week. There were decent numbers of fish out there making live baiting a good bet. The fish will come right on top of the reef when conditions are right making for fun sight fishing. Look for the sails from the reef out to about 250ft of water. Some dolphin have been out with most being in the 8-12lb class. Trolling is a good way to find them but if they happen by while you're live baiting it is a guaranteed hook up.

Blackfin tuna have been pushing through with very little consistency. Some days the tuna were busting all along the reef line and the next day they were gone. If you have a downrigger it is a good time of year to put it to use. I received some reports of wahoo but we did not get into them.

Bottom fishing was great be it on wrecks or the deep edge of the reef. Big grouper were holding on just about every spot we stopped. We got up some and had a few head back home on us. We actually caught two that had previously broken us off. Rig heavy and lock down the drag, you catch them or loose them in the first 15seconds. Live pinfish, blue runners, and grunts don't last long on the bottom. Some muttons were also out and willing to eat. Lighten up your leaders to get better attention from the muttons. Big amberjacks were stacked up on a few wrecks making it difficult to do much else. I don't care for amberjack on the table but they are great for putting smiles on faces.

I did not spend a whole lot of time on the reef this past week. We found some large yellowtails but the bite was slow. We left them alone in favor of the bottom bite. Try putting a whole (legal sized) Yellowtail down on your stoutest rod. Cero mackerel rounded out the reef bite with a lot falling victim to sebile lures. I did not get into any kings but they should show up at any time.

Flats fishing was good but took a hit from the weather. I had a fun day with Capt. Scott of Sight Fish Charters and we found good numbers of permit and loads of baby tarpon. As always the tarpon were more willing to eat the fly than the permit. Big schools of jacks and spanish mackerel are still hanging out on the edge of the gulf. When you get into the big schools just about anything that hits the water will get eaten. We threw a six weight fly rod to add a little sport to fishing that borders on too easy. A little further out in the gulf expect to find cobia and maybe a few kingfish. Good luck and good fishing. 

Proud of your catch? Show it to the rest of the Keys!
Send us that picture - info@weeklyfisherman.com!



Kerry Howard of Fort Lauderdale who caught her first sailfish on 12/12 fishing with Captain Paul Ross on the Relentless. She caught three more saifish that day, and the boat finished with seven sailfish, three kingfish, a blackfin tuna and a bonita.



Last Cast Charters

ARE YOU READING THIS?
 If you are, so are thousands of other people.
 Why don't you advertise today in
The Original Weekly Fisherman?
 Call (305) 766-BOAT (2628) for details!

Fishing Report

Captain Nick Borraccino
Noreaster Sport Fishing (.com)
508-769-4189
Best Bet Sport Fishing (.com)
305-395-1376



Capt. Nick Borraccino Marathon



Many boats sat idle this past week, at least from what I could see. We are currently in the anxious transitional stage between off-season and in-season. Charter boat captains are dotting their i's and crossing their t's this week (I know, it's a joke), hoping the Holiday week will bring with it the tourists. Relentless wind has left many landlocked... and unhappy about it. The good news is that the fish are doing their part. Those that did leave the dock found some excellent fishing.

No better example is the result of this past week's one day Islamorada Fishing Club Sailfish Tournament. Marathon's own Main Attraction out of Key Colony Beach brought home the gold with a fantastic 17 fish caught and released, while loosing another 6 to 8 (did I mention it was ONE DAY tournament?). Capt. Marty Lewis reported, in a nut shell, "the fishing was great but the weather was crap." Most would agree who fished that day, battling high winds and rough seas to search out feeding sails. Most of their fishing was done in the area around Alligator light, where anglers found groups of sails corralling up large balls of bait. The fish weren't shy that day, happy to take a lone live bait cast into the mix. Making the whole thing even more impressive is that anglers, by rule, were restricted to 12 pound test main line! Congrats to the crew on the Main Attraction on a job well done.

While we haven't seen the influx of these large schools of smaller bait here in Marathon, we're confident they're on their way south! Regardless, we still have plenty of sails. Most of the action has again been in that 140-160 ft depth range. Many anglers and captains (myself included), simply can't stand to sit home on a nice day, so charter or no charter, we're going fishing! Last Sunday morning presented a small



An authentic Borraccino sailfish.

window of nice weather to sneak out and bend a rod. Alex and Jason Bell (students at MHS) borrowed dad's charter boat Blue Magic to go out and catch a few sails. They saw six and caught two. Nice job boys. I managed the same, in again, 140 ft (seeing a pattern here?). There were more than a few boats that got out last weekend and had some fun with the sails, unfortunately the wind is going to play spoiler to any hopes of doing the same this weekend (13th & 14th). I would also expect to see fewer and fewer dolphin as the wind continues to come from the north.

The reef and bottom report has changed little since last week. Patch reefs and channel humps are very active with mangroves, yellowtails, mutton snappers, black and red groupers, cero and king mackerel, and lately quite a few small cobia. Hawks channel should be pretty stirred up by now so expect water to be dirty there, but on the reef most areas should still be clean. The deep wrecks are active still with big mutton snappers and groupers. A group of Marathon locals proved that you just need to find the right spot to catch big muttons! Billy Turnbull, Mike Nealis, Mike Biffell, and Bucko Platt didn't let the weather keep them from fishing this past Friday. Originally intending to find some sailfish, their game plan changed when they realized the muttons were really biting. They boated 4 over 15 pounds and another 5 or 6 in the 5-10 pound range. I'll take that any day. Nicely done.

Hopefully this week upcoming will deal us a few good fishing days, because we all know they're out there!

Until next week, good luck!
Capt. Nick



Muttons L-R Mike Nealis, Billy Turnbull, Bucko Platt.
A Borraccino boat ride for all!



**NEW
&
REPAIR**

State Certified Thatching Contractor cyc

(305) 664-0099

Fishing Report

Brought to you courtesy of Capt. Dave Navarro. He is a life-long resident of Marathon, owns the world-class Angler Bait & Tackle store in Marathon (MM 50.5), plus the charter boat "Dave's Dream". To fish with Capt. Dave, call: (305) 743-6139.



Capt. Dave Navarro Marathon



You know how lately I've been saying the locals don't call it windy unless there is a name attached? Well this past weekend was pretty darn close, at least as far as the ability to fish was concerned. There were areas to be fished and those that took advantage of them, did quite well. Area bridge channels have been red hot as well as quite a few of the outer islands in the bay that provide protection once you get there.

With this strong of winds, the waters will cool quite quickly as they are turned over with the waves releasing the warmth. This is particularly true for the shallower waters of FL Bay. It is also where the bottom gets so stirred up clouding all of the waters near our islands. If you have traveled over any of the area bridges, you may have noticed the huge patches of weeds on the surface washing through. This carries with it numerous tiny fish which baitfish seek. In turn, the larger predators will follow as well. These events always seem to move quite a few fish around.

This will fire up the fishing just past the reef for anglers searching for sailfish. Not to say that it has been slow prior to the front. It has been some of the best action of the year lately on sails.

The cooler waters to the north of us should be enough to bring that big push of kingfish into out waters. There have been large numbers of

them off Lauderdale and Miami for several weeks now. They should be headed south as well as more sailfish.

The reef fish should also be picking up on the new baitfish that will be pushed into their area. The yellowtail have been hot as a firecracker as of late and the mutttons as well as groupers should be moving into a little shallower water to feed on the newly arrived bait fish that this front should provide. Look for more king fish activity along the patch reefs as well.

The bay has been a last resort for anglers for a while. Those that took advantage of this venue were rewarded with nice catches highlighted by the big numbers of mackerel. Nice snappers have also been into many of the white spots or small holes that dot the bay bottom well out. The islands and shoals that provide protection from the winds also have been producing a wide variety of fish as of late.

The cooler water temperatures along the West Coast of the state will push the cobia farther south as well as plenty of mackerel. The groupers that have been out in deeper water should be coming in to feed on all of the bait that these other species are following. Pilchards and glass minnows are moving in by the millions. For the best mackerel activity, head north about 8 to 10 miles and put out a good chum line. Once they show up, you can use anything that moves to catch one. This along with a variety of barracuda, sharks, jacks and other species has made plenty of targets for light tackle enthusiast. Most of the recent trips prior to the heavy winds have had very happy anglers that have had great catches of mixed bags of fish.

If you are in a small boat, or without a boat at all and you do not want to charter a boat, most likely, you will be fishing around or on one of the area bridges. This is a good time of year for this as there are plenty of fish moving through these channels. Live bait has been tops for the snappers and jacks that are feeding on the huge push of baitfish that have been coming through. Nighttime has been the best.

A reminder of this week's free fishing seminar will be kings, mackerel and more along with a piece on working in the wind. We will be showing ways to rig baits, leaders and other tackle for fishing these species. There will be discussions, as well as presentations available. That's this Sunday at 6pm in our outdoor amphitheater at our Marine Educational Center located at our new location at 3740 Overseas Highway.

Keys Custom Rods



Bionic Chum
\$31.00 case

30% OFF all items
except Custom Rods & Reels
12/24/08 • 9am to Closing
Only!

**Avet, Crowder, Daiwa, Fin-nor,
Penn, Quantum, Shimano, Star & Ricky Rods**

Deep Drop Supplies * Electric Reels * Bait * Ice

Corner of Aviation & 107th

(305)

743-3054

Marathon, FL www.keyscustomrods.com



FRIENDLIEST BOAT RENTALS IN THE KEYS!

MM 77.5 - ISLAMORADA
AT LIGNUM VITAE BRIDGE

ROBBIE'S BOAT RENTALS
305-664-9814

Keys Plastics Shop

Custom Fabrication of:
King Starboard • Plexiglas • Lexan • PVC

- Consoles Doors
- Windows
- Tackle Centers



Boat Windshields

- Dash Panels
- Hatches
- Display Cases

FAST Turnaround!

Replace Your Teak with Starboard Forever!
MM 90.8 Tavernier Creek Marina, Tavernier • (305) 852-0100

Fishing Report

Capt. Dave Schugar of Sweet Enuf Charters is located at Castaway's Restaurant/Marina in Marathon. If you would like to fish with Capt. Schugar, call (305) 610-4778, or e-mail: sweetenufcharter@aol.com

Capt. Dave Schugar Marathon



High winds sometimes mean high rewards. The offshore bite hasn't been letting up one bit. Even though the seas have been high, the bite has stayed phenomenal. If you're waiting for the seas to calm down, you are missing some of the best fishing all year. Of course, you know your limitations, but if you can get out there you won't regret it. The sailfish are biting great if you can keep your baits away from the dolphin and tuna. Yeah, I said it; the dolphin and tuna are ravaging our baits like a pack of wild dogs. I was successful on keeping the dolphin and tuna down to a minimal by not going past 125 feet of water.

I took Cal Sutphin and Capt. Matt Bellinger out to shoot the Reeling In The Keys TV show. Cal called me up last week to set up the date for the show. We were having great conditions to shoot a sailfish series; North and North East winds all week. On the day we shot the show it switched and the winds were coming out of the South East. The morning of the shoot I was a little nervous, because the wind had suddenly changed and the water near shore had murked up over night. I had a hell of a time trying to catch bait; so brought a twenty-four chin-weighted ballyhoo for the spreader-bar teaser. I was worried we weren't going to find any live bait because of the water conditions and I would be forced to dead-bait troll. I had every right to worry; I had to produce for the TV show.

We shot out to the closest ballyhoo spot, which was Washer Women Shoal and the surf was up. We had six-foot rollers breaking on the shoal. That spot wasn't going to produce if we would have stayed there. So, I ventured out in front of Key Colony Beach on a rock pile where I have



The photo is John, and Buck Foster, with a pair of 30 pound cobias, 30 pound king fish and a 25 inch Gag grouper.

been catching ballyhoo on a consistent basis. We stayed there for thirty-five minutes with not one ballyhoo insight. Now, I was really starting to get worried. We left there to hit another spot off of Coco Plum and fished it for thirty minutes or so with still no ballyhoo in our well. I made up my mind to run all the way up to a great spot East of Tennessee Light which produced, but after all the other spots we fished and used up most of the chum. (We only had one and a half blocks of chum to catch the bait for the show.) We started catching bait and my nerves started to calm. I got a throw at some hoo's as I threw into the wind. I was able to capture two dozen, plus the other baits which we hair-hooked, we had enough to fish for the rest of the day.

From the bait spot we shot strait South into the seas, which were now peaking at 6-8 feet. We took it slow so not to beat up the camera equipment, and the hosts of the show. It wasn't twenty minutes before three sailfish swam into the spread. Capt Matt and Cal both hooked up with some decent sized sails. After about ten minutes Capt Matt's fish pulled the hook. We cleared everything out of the way and we charged after Cal's fish, which was tail-walking out of control. His fish was running so fast that his line was headed East while the fish jumped South with a huge belly in the line. This is why we use such light drags while sailfishing, the fish are so fast and when they change directions, the belly in the line increases the pull on the fish which can cause the line or the leader to break. After bringing Cal's fish boat-side we popped the leader and the fish swam off, confused but happy.

Fifteen minutes later, after we got the teaser and the baits back in the water, we had another double-header on. Only one fish got hooked and Capt. Matt, who has never caught one himself, had a second chance. His fish was an absolute superstar. That fish jumped, tail-walked, and pirouetted, as line peeled off the reel. Capt Matt released his first sailfish in about twenty minutes. Now we weren't trying to get numbers, we wanted to put on a nice show for the camera; and besides not to many people like catching a sailfish in 30 seconds. Having the captain barrel down the jumping fish even before he has gotten to show you what he is made of, unless your fishing in competition.... Tournaments are another story all together. We got our baits back into the water and thirty minutes later two more fish swam into the spread and my buddy Andy had his turn, which became short lived as the sailfish pulled the hook after about five minutes. We had our last bit of live bait out when dolphin came in like a pack of dogs, chewing everything in sight, including the teaser. We had a mess, three lines tangled and the fourth that got missed by all the dolphin. We got one dolphin to the boat and a ball of monofilament. The reason why the forth line didn't get eaten was because during all the chaos a kingfish had chomped the hook off. With no more live bait we headed home to Castaways where I birth my boat and had a few cocktails and reminisced about the great trip.

This trip couldn't have been any better. I got to fish with a couple of my good friends while making a new friendship with Capt. Matt Bellinger. Capt Matt writes for the paper from up in Islamorada. He has fished for years down here and has caught many angler's their first sailfish, but has never caught one for himself until now. That's amazing.

Have a great week fishing, if this weather ever stops blowing.

Capt. Dave



BACK COUNTRY FISHING

Tarpon, Bonefish, Permit, Snook,
Redfish, Trout, Snapper, Shark
FULL DAY, 3/4 DAY, 1/2 DAY TRIPS
NIGHT TARPON TRIPS
MILE MARKER 84.1 OCEANSIDE
@ HOLIDAY ISLE RESORT & MARINA

Capt. Steve Murray
(305) 852-8323 • (888) TARPON4

QUALITY PRE-OWNED BOATS, MOTORS AND ACCESSORIES FOR SALE THROUGHOUT THE KEYS

LISTINGS
One-Time Fee \$60
UNTIL BOAT IS SOLD!
- Print & Web -
Holiday Special!

THE KEYS BOAT EXCHANGE

WE'LL TAKE
PHOTOS AT
NO EXTRA
CHARGE!

VIEW LISTINGS ONLINE AT WWW.WEEKLYFISHERMAN.COM



The "No Slack"
A proven keys fish
catching machine.
32 ft. Albermarle, 2004
with 1200 hrs. Twin
Yanmar 370 turbo Ds,
Sherman custom tower.
Mint condition \$199,500.

Call Capt. Kenny Spaulding at
305-664-3121 or 305-587-8934

10/31

87 Topaz Express

37.5', 3208TA's,
Rupp Riggers, Eazy
Pull Anchor puller,
Fresh Bottom Point,
In the water and
ready to fish. \$90,000. Call 305-731-6949.



11/13



1995 GradyWhite Chase 26, 26'11" with twin 200 Yamahas

1300 hrs., Full tower with controls. Lower station includes Garmin 182C. Color GPS/Chart-plotter, Furuno FCV-582L Color Depth Finder and Icom M45 VHF radio. Other features include: 35 gal live well, saltwater washdown, freshwater shower, E-Tec Outriggers and clear glass enclosure. This boat is in good condition for its age and the engines are still strong. Service records available. **Priced at wholesale only \$14,995.** Call (954) 610-6740 or email: timhaines@bellsouth.net

11/06

Maverick flats boat - hpx Kelvar 17ft., Located in Islamorada, Fl

Excellent condition, 155 hours on 4 stroke yamaha engine, Trolling motor, Power pole, Custom poling platform with backrest, 2nd casting platform for bow casting, Extra cleats, Thru hull lifting eye in bow, Spare prop, Trim tabs, Vhf radio, Boat rack with wheels, Extra rod holders, 2 new batteries, New shore power battery charger, Cushions, anchor,, etc., Length 16'9", Dry weight with engine 1,115 lbs., **305-607-4136 owner direct**, \$17,500



11/06



2006 31 luhrs open

Fighting lady yellow, twin Cummins diesels, special ordered with pocket drives for the shallow water of the Keys, 239 hours, loaded with every available factory option, beautiful teak cabin, a/c, hot water, generator, dual Raymarine e120, radar, auto pilot, dual station, Lee spreaders, dive platform, to many options to list

MUST SEE. just took delivery of our new luhrs 46. So this one **MUST GO - \$289,000 obo.** Boat is in Tavernier. Call Mike or Robert 1-877-4RMS-444 or 954-274-4993 or www.rmsoilandgas.com

11/13

Advertise your boats, engines, etc. here!

Your ad will reach up & down the Keys!

Call (305) 766-BOAT (2628)

- info@weeklyfisherman.com -



2004 Conch 27 with Trailer, less than 250 hrs. on Twin 200 Yamaha engines with Furuno Bottom Machine, Furuno Radar, Search Light, Garmin Chart Plotter, Excellent Condition. Price \$90,000. Call John @ 305-744-0291



2005 18ft.. ActionCraft with Trailer, 150HP Yamaha with Garmin Chart Plotter and Fishfinder. Low Hours, Excellent Condition. Price \$22,000. Call John @ 305-744-0291



Tide Tables Brought To You Courtesy Of...



info@charterboatassociation.com
P.O. Box 462 Islamorada, FL 33036



Florida Keys Fishing Guides Association Inc.

Captains...Join Today And Receive A Free Listing In The Keys Captain & Guide Directory

KEY LARGO (OCEAN REEF)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height
Dec 17	Wed		05:50 / 0.01 ft	12:05 / 2.73 ft	18:27 / 0.15 ft	
Dec 18	Thu	00:33 / 2.54 ft	06:50 / 0.20 ft	13:01 / 2.58 ft	19:26 / 0.19 ft	
Dec 19	Fri	01:38 / 2.44 ft	07:52 / 0.37 ft	13:58 / 2.43 ft	20:26 / 0.21 ft	
Dec 20	Sat	02:43 / 2.37 ft	08:55 / 0.50 ft	14:55 / 2.32 ft	21:24 / 0.21 ft	
Dec 21	Sun	03:46 / 2.34 ft	09:56 / 0.58 ft	15:50 / 2.25 ft	22:19 / 0.19 ft	
Dec 22	Mon	04:44 / 2.35 ft	10:53 / 0.60 ft	16:42 / 2.21 ft	23:09 / 0.15 ft	
Dec 23	Tue	05:35 / 2.37 ft	11:44 / 0.60 ft	17:29 / 2.19 ft	23:55 / 0.10 ft	

BIG PINE (W.SIDE PINE CHANNEL)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height
Dec 17	Wed	01:00 / 1.04 ft	09:12 / 0.00 ft	14:15 / 0.67 ft	20:54 / 0.18 ft	
Dec 18	Thu	02:02 / 0.90 ft	09:58 / 0.08 ft	15:05 / 0.73 ft	22:16 / 0.18 ft	
Dec 19	Fri	03:14 / 0.75 ft	10:44 / 0.15 ft	15:55 / 0.79 ft	23:41 / 0.15 ft	
Dec 20	Sat	04:37 / 0.63 ft	11:31 / 0.20 ft	16:47 / 0.84 ft		
Dec 21	Sun		00:59 / 0.10 ft	06:06 / 0.56 ft	12:18 / 0.24 ft	17:36 / 0.87 ft
Dec 22	Mon		02:06 / 0.04 ft	07:22 / 0.52 ft	13:06 / 0.25 ft	18:24 / 0.90 ft
Dec 23	Tue		03:01 / -0.02 ft	08:21 / 0.50 ft	13:53 / 0.24 ft	19:09 / 0.91 ft

ISLAMORADA (WHALE HARBOR)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height
Dec 17	Wed	00:01 / 1.54 ft	06:38 / -0.05 ft	12:32 / 1.57 ft	19:14 / 0.03 ft	
Dec 18	Thu	01:00 / 1.47 ft	07:38 / 0.08 ft	13:25 / 1.48 ft	20:14 / 0.04 ft	
Dec 19	Fri	02:01 / 1.41 ft	08:40 / 0.20 ft	14:18 / 1.39 ft	21:13 / 0.05 ft	
Dec 20	Sat	03:03 / 1.37 ft	09:42 / 0.28 ft	15:14 / 1.32 ft	22:09 / 0.05 ft	
Dec 21	Sun	04:04 / 1.34 ft	10:40 / 0.33 ft	16:09 / 1.27 ft	23:02 / 0.04 ft	
Dec 22	Mon	05:02 / 1.34 ft	11:34 / 0.34 ft	17:03 / 1.25 ft	23:52 / 0.03 ft	
Dec 23	Tue	05:54 / 1.34 ft	12:23 / 0.33 ft	17:53 / 1.24 ft		

CUDJOE KEY (PIRATES COVE)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height
Dec 17	Wed	04:29 / 1.53 ft	10:14 / 0.01 ft	17:44 / 1.00 ft	21:56 / 0.33 ft	
Dec 18	Thu	05:31 / 1.33 ft	11:00 / 0.16 ft	18:34 / 1.09 ft	23:18 / 0.33 ft	
Dec 19	Fri	06:43 / 1.11 ft	11:46 / 0.29 ft	19:24 / 1.17 ft		
Dec 20	Sat		00:43 / 0.28 ft	08:06 / 0.94 ft	12:33 / 0.38 ft	20:16 / 1.24 ft
Dec 21	Sun		02:01 / 0.18 ft	09:35 / 0.83 ft	13:20 / 0.44 ft	21:05 / 1.30 ft
Dec 22	Mon		03:08 / 0.07 ft	10:51 / 0.77 ft	14:08 / 0.47 ft	21:53 / 1.33 ft
Dec 23	Tue		04:03 / -0.03 ft	11:50 / 0.74 ft	14:55 / 0.46 ft	22:38 / 1.35 ft

MARAHON (BOOT KEY HARBOR)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height
Dec 17	Wed		06:35 / -0.01 ft	12:48 / 1.44 ft	18:24 / 0.48 ft	
Dec 18	Thu	00:33 / 1.89 ft	07:23 / 0.19 ft	13:35 / 1.55 ft	19:46 / 0.44 ft	
Dec 19	Fri	01:40 / 1.56 ft	08:11 / 0.37 ft	14:24 / 1.66 ft	21:08 / 0.34 ft	
Dec 20	Sat	03:06 / 1.30 ft	09:00 / 0.53 ft	15:13 / 1.76 ft	22:21 / 0.20 ft	
Dec 21	Sun	04:59 / 1.15 ft	09:50 / 0.65 ft	16:03 / 1.85 ft	23:23 / 0.06 ft	
Dec 22	Mon	06:30 / 1.12 ft	10:39 / 0.72 ft	16:51 / 1.92 ft		
Dec 23	Tue		00:17 / -0.06 ft	07:29 / 1.12 ft	11:27 / 0.73 ft	17:39 / 1.98 ft


KEY WEST (S.SIDE HAWK CHANNEL)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height	Time/Height
Dec 17	Wed		06:50 / 0.01 ft	13:02 / 1.38 ft	18:32 / 0.39 ft	
Dec 18	Thu	00:49 / 1.84 ft	07:36 / 0.19 ft	13:52 / 1.51 ft	19:54 / 0.39 ft	
Dec 19	Fri	02:01 / 1.55 ft	08:22 / 0.33 ft	14:42 / 1.63 ft	21:19 / 0.32 ft	
Dec 20	Sat	03:24 / 1.30 ft	09:09 / 0.45 ft	15:34 / 1.73 ft	22:37 / 0.21 ft	
Dec 21	Sun	04:53 / 1.15 ft	09:56 / 0.52 ft	16:23 / 1.80 ft	23:44 / 0.08 ft	
Dec 22	Mon	06:09 / 1.07 ft	10:44 / 0.54 ft	17:11 / 1.85 ft		
Dec 23	Tue		00:39 / -0.03 ft	07:08 / 1.03 ft	11:31 / 0.53 ft	17:56 / 1.88 ft


Moon Phases

New: 12-27-08 **First Quarter:** 12-21-08 **Full:** 12-12-08 **Last Quarter:** 12-19-08

All tide predictions may not be accurate. The Weekly Fisherman, The Islamorada Charter Boat Association and The Florida Keys Fishing Guides Association accept no liabilities associated with these tidal predictions listed above



info@charterboatassociation.com
P.O. Box 462 Islamorada, FL 33036



Florida Keys Fishing Guides Association Inc.

Making Your Florida Keys Fishing Experience The Best It Can Be!

Southeast – New Restrictions Address Overfishing of Gag Grouper

NOAA has announced temporary measures to reduce overfishing of gag grouper in the Gulf of Mexico. This final rule reduces the commercial quota for gag, establishes a gag bag limit within the grouper aggregate bag limit, and extends the recreational closed season for gag. In addition, if Federal regulations applicable to gag, red snapper, gray triggerfish, or greater amberjack are more restrictive than state regulations, this rule requires vessels with Federal reef fish permits to comply with Federal regulations regardless of where such fish are harvested. The intended effect is to reduce overfishing of gag and increase compliance with Federal regulations designed to end overfishing or rebuild overfished reef fish stocks in the Gulf of Mexico. This rule is effective January 1 through May 31, 2009.

Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m., Eastern Time, on January 2, 2009. For more information, contact Peter.Hood@noaa.gov.

NOAA Designates Critical Habitat for Threatened Elkhorn and Staghorn Corals

NOAA Fisheries Service has issued a final rule designating critical habitat for elkhorn and staghorn corals, which were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act on May 9, 2006. Four specific areas are designated: the Florida area, which comprises approximately 1,329 square miles of marine habitat; the Puerto Rico area, which comprises approximately 1,383 square miles of marine habitat; the St. John/St. Thomas area, which comprises approximately 121 square miles of marine habitat; and the St. Croix area, which comprises approximately 126 square miles of marine habitat. One military site is excluded, comprising approximately 5.5 square miles, because of national security impacts. For more information, contact Jennifer Moore or Sarah Heberling at (727) 824-5312 or visit <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/>.

Atlantic HMS Permits Available for 2009

NOAA Fisheries Service has announced the availability of Atlantic tunas, Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Angling, and HMS Charter/Headboat permits for the 2009 fishing year. These permits can be purchased at www.hmspermits.gov, by phone at (888)-872-8862, or by mail.



A big grouper caught on Capt. Frank Piku's boat. All of his parties are catching a variety of fun fish.



Danny Bates and Randy Fulmer with there Wahoo, caught in 110ft of water, off aligator lighthouse while Sailfishing. They also caught 3 medium size Dolphin, and one unsuccessful hook up on a sail.

D.J.'S REEL REPAIR

Penn • Daiwa • Shimano • Everol • All Others

Expert Service
Complete Line of Parts
Rod Repairs

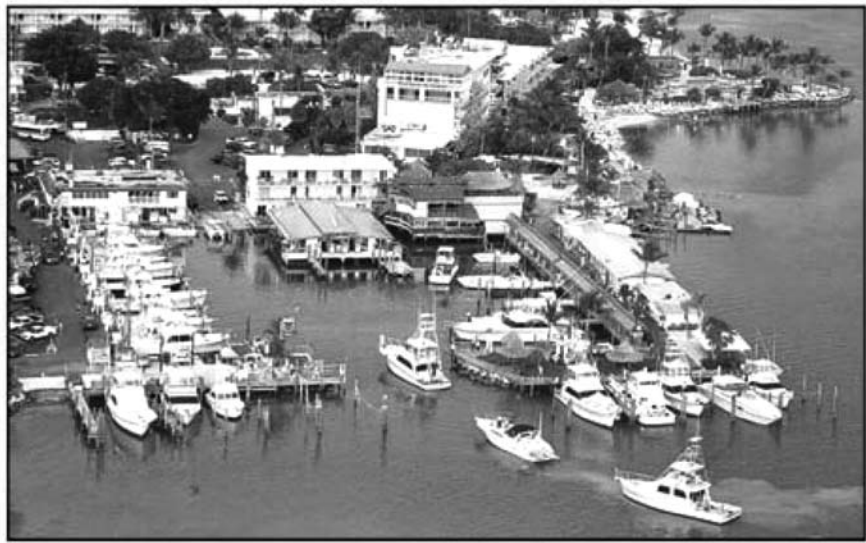



Tavernier (305) 852-5007
E-Mail address: DJREEL@POBOX.COM

Discount to all Charter & Commercial Captains

Holiday Isle

BEACH RESORT & MARINA



FISH WITH THE FINEST

Largest Fleet in the Upper Keys
Backcountry & Offshore Charters
Experienced Captains & Guides • Full & Half Day Charters • Split Bookings Available • Boat Ramp • Fuel Dock

Oceanfront Resort & Marina • White Sand Beach • Pools • Hotel Rooms, Suites & Villas • Home of The World Famous Tiki Bar, Rumrunners, Sportfish Grill plus 5 other Restaurants & Bars with Waterfront Dining • Dive Center & Charters Watersports • Chevron Gas Station & Mini-Mart

84001 Overseas Highway, (MM 84) Islamorada, Florida Keys 33036
305-664-2321 1-800-327-7070 TDD 305-664-2709 • www.holidayisle.com

KEYS CAPTAIN & GUIDE DIRECTORY



This Directory is a comprehensive list of the best shallow water flats guides & offshore charter skippers from Key Largo to Key West. Flats species of fish include: Bonefish, Permit, Tarpon, Redfish, Snook & Trout. Offshore species of fish include: Dolphin, Sailfish, Wahoo, Kingfish, Tuna Snapper & Grouper. Gulf species of fish include: Kingfish, Grouper, Snapper, Cobia & Tarpon.



**BC-Back Country • LT-Light Tackle • FL-Flats • OFF-Offshore • GF-Gulf Fishing
WR-Wreck • OVN-Overnight • MD-Multi-Day • TP-Tarpon • FLY-Fly Fishing**

Sponsored by the Islamorada Charter Boat Association and the Florida Keys Fishing Guides Association.

Join them and be listed for free.

Upper Keys Key Largo to Islamorada

Captain / Charter		Contact Info
Capt. Greg Eklund Cloud Nine Charters	OFF/REEF/WR/FL	(305) 360-7476 www.islamoradafishingtrips.com
Key Largo Fishing Adventures	OFF/BC/REEF	(305) 923-9293 www.keyssportfishing.com
Capt. Scott Keller	OFF/BC	(305) 664-6678 captscott@badhabitfishingcharters.com
Capt. Ron Moore	OFF/REEF/MD	(305) 304-9473 www.millertimesportfishing.com
Capt. Matt Bellinger	BC/GULF/REEF/WR	(305) 393-0909 www.bamboocharters.com
Capt. Joe Petrucco	OFF	(305) 403-4580 www.killerinstinctcharters.com
Capt. George Clark, Jr.	OFF/REEF/BC	(305) 522-2638 www.rodeocharters.com
Capt. Jef Pfister	BC/FL	(877) 362-5743 www.docksidecharters.com
Capt. Mike Makowski	BC/FL	(305) 481-0111 www.blackfootfishing.com
Capt. Wells Gable	BC/FL	(305) 522-2373 www.captwellsgable@msn.com
Killer White Charters	OFF/REEF/TP	(305) 522-0374 www.killerwhite.com
Capt. John Kohler	BC/FL	(305) 852-0369 jdkohler@bellsouth.net
Capt. Ann Holahan	BC/FL/TP/FLY	(305) 664-5891 www.boneranger.com
Capt. Lain Goodwin	BC/FL	(305) 304-2212 captain@dirtywatercharters.com
Capt. Tad Burke	BC/FL/GF/OFF	(305) 852-0739 (305) 451-7354
Capt. Kevin Brown	Golden Reserve Charters	(305) 394-0792 www.goldreservecharters.com
Capt. John Taskowitz	OFF	(305) 664-9202 www.suzannefishingcharters.com
Capt. Ted Benbow	FL/BC	(305) 393-0363 www.skinsandfinscharters.com
Capt. Bill Wert Whisper Charters	FL/BC/LT/GF/FLY	(305) 393-1910 mrbill54@bellsouth.net
Capt. Stephen Murray	BC	(305) 393-1641 stevemurray126@comcast.net
Capt. Ron Allen	Fish Tales Charters	(305) 664-0050 www.fishtalessportfishing.com
Capt. Butch Green	Sassy Lady Charters	(305) 394-4717 sassyladycharters@comcast.net
Capt. Jeff Van Derflue	BC	(305) 393-6940 flatitudecharters@hotmail.com
Capt. Don Clark	OFF	(305) 393-2788 www.seahorsecharters.com

Upper Keys (cont.) Key Largo to Islamorada

Captain / Charter		Contact Info
Capt. Juan Garcia Beats Land Charters	BC/GF/REEF/OFF	(305) 297-0438 www.beatslandcharters.com
Capt. Skip Bradeen	OFF	(305) 481-5151 www.bluechiptoo.com
Capt. Steve Friedman	FL/BC	(305) 393-3474 www.afishingguide.com
Capt. Larry Wren A Pirates Choice Charters	OFF	(305) 360-4900 www.apirateschoice.com
Capt. Dave Purdo	FL/BC	(305) 852-5989

Middle Keys Long Key to Marathon

Captain / Charter		Contact Info
Capt. Nick Borraccino Best Bet Sportfishing	OFF/REEF/WR	(508) 769-4189 www.bestbetsportfishing.com
Capt. Pip's Sportfishing	OFF/REEF/TP	(305) 743-4403 www.captainpips.com
Capt. Butch Hewlett	Live Bait Tarpon Only	(305) 743-4594 bnbfishing@bellsouth.net
Capt. David Schugar	OFF/REEF	(305) 610-4778 www.sweetenufcharters.com
Main Attraction	OFF/REEF	(305) 289-0071 www.mainattraction.org

Lower Keys Big Pine Key to Key West

Captain / Charter		Contact Info
Capt. Chris Lembo	OFF/REEF	(305) 292-0067 incognitocharters@comcast.net
Capt. Kevin Wilson	OFF/REEF	(305) 745-5634 www.fishmekeywest.com
Capt. Brad Nowicki	BC/FL/OFF/REEF/GF	(305) 481-7908 www.captainbradnowicki.com
Sightfish Charters	FL	(305) 304-6132 www.sightfishfloridakeys.com
Capt. Sandy Horn	BC/FL	(305) 393-6913 shorn2979@yahoo.com
Capt. Frank Piku	OFF/GULF/REEF	(305) 509-1547 www.captainfrankfishingcharters.com
Andy Griffiths Charters Night Swordfishing	OVN/MD/OFF/REEF	(305) 296-2639 www.fishandy.com
Capt. Bo Sellers	BC/FL	(305) 304-8442 www.sightfishingkeywest.com
Capt. Andrew Tipler Last Cast Charters	BC/FL/OFF/REEF	(305) 744-9796 www.lastcastcharters.net