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Vol. XI • Issue 32

Serving the Keys Fishing Community Since 1998



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Feb. 11th, 2009

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Matecumbe Historical Trust

February Lecture & Social

Rafael Penalver, president of Key West's historic San Carlos Institute, will speak on the history of the San Carlos Institute and on issues affecting Cuba and the Florida Keys. Penalver, a native of Cuba, came to the United States in 1961. He graduated from the University of Miami Law School and practices law in Florida and Washington, DC.

The San Carlos Institute, founded in 1871, is one of Florida's most beautiful and historic landmarks. The Institute served as cradle of Cuba's independence movement in the 19th Century and is considered "sacred ground" by the Cuban people. Jose Marti, Cuba's legendary patriot and poet, spoke at the San Carlos in 1892, in his effort to gain the support of Key West's exile community in his effort to free Cuba of Spanish rule. Marti so loved the San Carlos that he called it "La Casa Cuba".

The present San Carlos building, designed by prominent architect Francisco Centurion and completed in 1924, housed the Cuban consulate and the San Carlos' school, one of the first bilingual and integrated schools in the South. The building was closed and fell into disrepair after diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba was severed in 1961. Some called for the building's demolition after part of its façade collapsed in 1981. In 1985, Penalver led a statewide effort to save the San Carlos. He was assisted in this effort, among others, by Islamorada resident Irving Eyster, noted Keys' historian and former chairman of the Historic Florida Keys Preservation Board, who still sits on the San Carlos' Board of Directors.

The beautifully-restored San Carlos Institute reopened in 1992 after a \$4 Million renovation. The building serves as a museum, library, art gallery, theatre, and conference center.

Monday, February 16th, at 6:30 P.M.

The Islamorada Public Library, Mile Marker 82

Refreshments will be served. Admission is Free & Open to the Public. For more information please call Irving or Jeane Eyster at (305) 664-9504.

Capt. Ron Wagner

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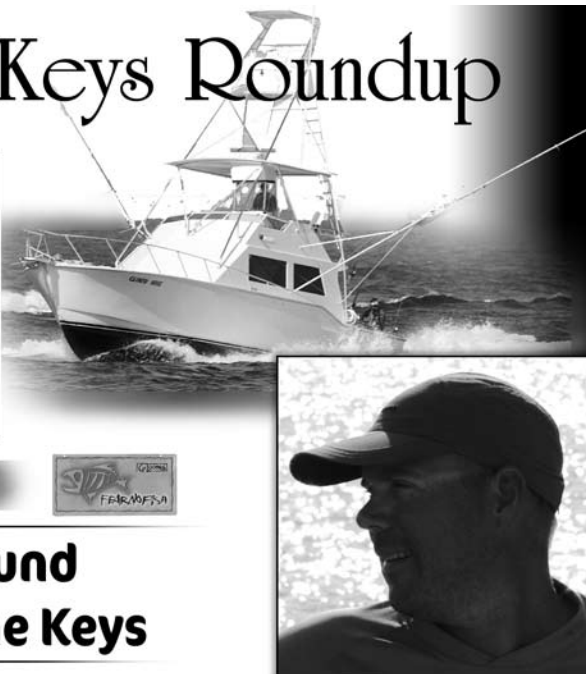
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Weekly Fisherman's Captain & Guide Directory reaches 1000's of locals & tourists each week via our distribution sites from Florida City to Key West, plus, of course, www.weeklyfisherman.com. Your info is available worldwide, as folks plan their Keys vacation! Call (305) 766-BOAT (2628) to start your listing today! Each Listing: \$5.50/week (\$286 annually) Send your pix to photos@weeklyfisherman.com • NOTE: .com

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 Sportfishing Capitol of the World and the Fabulous Florida Keys. In this weeks addition of the Weekly Fisherman you will find everything you need to know about what is biting, who is catching, and what fishing events are happening this week in the Keys. Make sure to check out the area detailed fishing reports for more details. Here you will find my roundup of what is happening in our fishery here in the Keys this week. If I can help you get hooked up with a local guide or crew to do some fishing during your visit please contact me at the above information.

The Sailfish action heated up of Key Largo and Islamorada last weekend after the passage of our latest round of cold fronts. The Islamorada Ladies Sailfish Tournament angler experienced some excellent Sailfishing.

regularity the last ten days. Several schools have produced fish in fifty pound range. These hard fighting fish are best taken on live baits such as grunts, cigar minnows, and pinfish. They can be targeted along the gulley and sandy areas along the edge of the reef and found more often than not following the large black southern stingrays that frequent these areas. February and March are the best months to catch Cobias in the Florida Keys and the early signs for this season look exceptional. The King Mackerel bite rebounded from the cold snap of last week over the weekend. The Kings have ranged from 5 to 40 pounds lately with the larger fish holding on the deeper ledges of the reef. This coming week should produce some good fishing for the speedy predators as

Congratulations to the team of the Sweet Release on their victory, Sailfishing should continue to be excellent this week as we crown the full moon on Monday and the weather forecast calls for moderating temperatures. In addition to the Sailfish several other species have been caught along the Keys reef line lately.

The Cobias have been showing up with

we return to more normal temperatures and wind direction. The Snapper fishing turned off with the cold temp of last week but should rebound this week. Both the top edge of the reef and the rocky patch areas closer to shore are holding several species of snappers right now. In addition to the snappers the red and gag groupers are starting to show up in the patch reef areas in the northern Keys and this is a good indicator that the black groupers are soon to arrive.

The inshore fishing on the Gulf side suffered a bit last week with the cold temperatures but with the current warming trend and the rising water temperatures this week fishing should recover quickly. The Snook, Redfish, and Trout fishing should be good by weeks end. There are also Spanish Mackerel, jacks, pompano, and a variety of other fish that will benefit from the increasing water temperatures. Closer to the main island chain the Bonefishing has been good on the incoming tides lately.

This is an amazing time of year to fish the Florida Keys and experience some of the best fishing we have to offer. Whether your pleasure is chasing Sailfish along the reef or a wide variety of fish in the backcountry you couldn't be here at a better time. We have one of the greatest collections of fishing captains and crews in the world here in the Keys so make sure you take advantage and go fishing during your visit. Enjoy your week and feel free to contact me if I can help you with questions or arrangements.

Great Fishing! Capt. Greg



Mutton Snapper at the Seven Mile Bridge, fishing with Captain Don Cooper of Marathon.



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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



No matter where you live, last week was a cold one! We saw the upper 40's for overnight lows and we had a hard time cracking the 60 degree mark for a high. Out of towners are laughing after reading this but those temps are tough on us thin skinned islanders. The winds that brought these cold days came out of the north and northwestern part of the compass and they blew upwards of 20 mph for some time.

Due to the lay of the island chain here in the Upper Keys those winds with a northern accent don't really affect the nearshore waters of the Atlantic. This makes for some great patch reef fishing for local guides. Bay boats and poling skiffs alike can take full advantage of the calm side of the islands and cash in on the patches. Capt. Fred Ferreira and Capt. John Gargan both fish out of Whale Harbor Marina in Islamorada hit the reefs in very shallow water this past week and they were on fire! They

both reported good catches of tasty hogfish, groupers and snappers and the surprise is that they never went deeper than 10 feet of water. John fishes a poling skiff and said that it was very fishable on the Atlantic side, the backside of the Keys or the Bayside was rough and tumble due to the northwest winds. These patches hold a vast selection of fish from speedy mackerels to bottom loving groupers and all it takes is a live well full of shrimp and some chum. You will find all the fresh cut bait you need swimming up in your chum slick in the form of ballyhoo. Chunk these guys up for bait or drift a whole live one behind the boat on some wire for good mackerel action but don't be surprised if a big mutton snapper or grouper blows up on this bait.

The cold weather dropped the Bay waters down into the low 50's and put the brakes on a good redfish bite around Flamingo. Some guides were able to put together a bite out west at the East Cape Canal by sticking live shrimp down on the bottom and praying for a black drum bite. Drum don't mind the colder waters and if you find one, you probably found them all. In this cold, when you find fish don't leave them to find others. Never leave fish to find fish! The cold water will slow down the trout bite but as soon as you find 60 degree water you will find a good trout bite. Trout go looking for the deepest water they can find and they prefer slow to no current at all as well, so go looking out in the deeper basins with mullet muds or just off color water. Do this and you will find trout. Live shrimp on a 1/4 ounce Hook Up Lure jig head worked under a popping cork or just bouncing the grass will find these fish. I like the 1/4 ounce weight better than a 3/8 ounce jig simply because it will sink slower into the grass and a slower moving bait will appeal to these fish due to the cold. A slow sink rate will keep the bait in the strike zone longer.

If you know a guide that knows the Whitewater Bay area -- that is a treasure to find. This time of the year this area comes to life and is a

Cont. on pg. 17


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



There was no lack of sailfish excitement this week as the blowing winds and cool temps kept the sails moving through our waters all week. The bite has been better in the early morning or late afternoon so plan accordingly. As of this writing the GENESIS and Capt. Jeff Fraser from Whale Harbor were leading the women's sailfish tournament with seven releases after day one. The RELENTLESS and Capt. Paul Ross were close behind with six fish. Of course The KALEX and Capt. Alex Adler are always within striking distance with five fish. Either way it looks to be a great tournament with plenty of action and an exciting finish guaranteed for day two. The sailfish should remain strong in the weeks to come so come on down and enjoy this fantastic sail catching season. It is a great time to get away from the frozen north and enjoy

75 degree temps and sunny skies. Another benefit is a longer day with plenty of vitamin d. If you are suffering from S.A.D. the only cure is a big dose of Islamorada complete with all of the snappers, groupers, and jacks your arms can stand. Mix that with a sailfish and a few king macks and you will be back again and again every winter for the rest of your adult life! The fishing has remained strong on the Oceanside from the patches all the way out to 200 feet. The cold water temps in the gulf have temporarily stalled the bite for Spanish and kings out back. As the temps come back to the 65-68 degree mark, the bite will take off again. Meanwhile, for those looking for calmer waters, focus efforts on the patch reefs for keeper yellowtails and schoolie muttons. There have also been grouper, porgies, hogfish, and lane snappers biting. All that is required is live shrimp for a great day of variety and fun for the dinner table. Use a light spinning outfit loaded with 20 or 30 lb braid with a 3 foot 20 lb fluorocarbon leader for best results. This outfit has plenty of pulling power should you hook a keeper red or black grouper while working the shallows. I also like a 3/8 once green Hank Brown Hook-up jig with a shrimp. It is pretty hard to beat on the patch reefs. Get out and enjoy the ocean this week. The temps will be warming all week. Another big tip for the would-be fisherman: do not rely on the weather man to dictate your trip. They were wrong 100% this week. Ask your captain and leave it to his judgment. We are paid to be professionals and expert at interpreting the weather. Do not let the weatherman scare you away from a trip of a lifetime. GOD bless and have a wonderful week "catching". 

Fishing Report

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 you are into yellowtail fishing this was most definitely not the week for you. The water temperature dipped below 65 degrees most days and this totally shut down the 'tail bite. I'd say we caught a grand total of 50 yellowtails all week long and they were a hard to come by.

The mangroves snappers bit much better than the yellowtails, which was a pleasant surprise for me because I prefer the mangroves on the dinner table as opposed to the yellowtails and I find that they are a bit easier to catch too.

The big bite was the kingfish again. I have been saying this for about a month now and it's the same report again. They are biting like crazy everywhere you go on every bait you present them. One of the best bites we had was actually in about 35 feet of water on Friday with a very

strong current running to the southwest. Our prime bait was a whole ballyhoo but they were also biting on gotcha plugs, bucktail jigs and minnow plugs such as rapalas or yo-zuris. We even caught some of them on strips of squid on bottom rigs. Most of those bites came while the bait was being dropped down or reeled up, but none-the-less it was a means of putting fish in the boat.

As for the bottom bite the number one fish this week was the porgies. We caught porgies all the way from 18 feet of water out to 190 feet. I'd have to say that the hottest bite we got into was in about 25 feet of water and the best bait was squid. I absolutely love porgies! They aren't a commonly talked about fish because they aren't numerous enough for a commercial fishery to revolve around, but they are fantastic to eat and when you get into them you tend to catch a ton. In fact, I fish 6 or 7 days a week of my life and I have the opportunity to eat grouper, snapper, dolphin, tuna, cobia and everything else available all the time and of all the fish out there I would rather eat a porgy than any of the others.

We didn't catch any sailfish this week on the party boat but I did see all of the charter boats in Robbie's Marina fly sailfish flags almost every day. The Islamorada Lady II had a couple of really good days with sails and kings. Capt. Jeff found an area holding tons of big kings in addition to sails and muttons on the bottom.

This past week was definitely a cold one so it dropped the water temp extremely low which will make the yellowtailing quite tough for a while. If you like the reef I would recommend targeting kings, groupers and sailfish. I'm not telling you that you can't catch them right now, but pound for pound you'll be far more productive shooting for the cold water fish.

Best of luck, Capt. Brian



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,
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Lain, call (305) 304-2212, or visit
www.dirtywaterscharters.com

Capt. Lain Goodwin Key Largo Backcountry



Brrrrr!!! It has been cold and windy in the Florida Keys after the past two cold fronts and accompanying winds dropped the mercury to the 40's. When water temperatures start getting down in the 50's the snook go into survival mode and the bite slows down. It's hard to report on fishing this past week because unfortunately there were few if anyone out there. I know that Capt. George Clark got out for a day in the backcountry and reported a good bite of snapper and jacks in the creeks. He also reported some black drum and sheepshead in the channels over in Flamingo. This week's weather report looks to bring better news with a warming trend and lighter winds expected by the end of the week. The bite should get better this week after the sun gets the water temperatures back up to the 60's.

The good news is that the Miami Boat Show starts this Thursday and Feb. 11th, 2009

lasts until Monday. The boat show will have just about any type of vessel and all the latest gadgets for fishing and boating. If you are in the market for a new boat there's no better time than the Miami show which will allow you to make comparisons and ask questions all in one place. Buying a new boat can be an overwhelming experience if you are unprepared. The internet has a wealth of information and gives you an idea of what prices to expect. Many manufacturers will be offering incentives to coax buyers into pulling the trigger. You can expect to get a few free extras when you purchase at the show especially this year with the industry struggling along with the economy. Extras may include extended engine warranties, add-ons and accessories like GPS, trolling motors and/or Power-poles. If you can't make the trek up to the big city, don't worry, many local boat dealers here are offering the same deals in the Keys during the month of February. The best way to ensure a good outcome is to create a list of important items you are looking for in a boat. This list will help keep you on track during the decision process. The list should include things that are important to YOU, and not the salesperson. Some things to consider are of course length, draft, person capacity, engine type, warranty and most importantly the servicing dealer. Many people get caught-up in the moment and forget to think about the dealer that will be servicing the boat. Service is a HUGE factor, whether its scheduled maintenance or warranty work. A new boat can quickly become a headache if your servicing dealer is not customer oriented after the sale. Take it from experience there's plenty of nice looking boats out there in every size and class but there are few good servicing dealers. You can avoid getting a bad one by talking to local boaters and fisherman to find out what type of reputation a dealer has in the community. But, learn from my mistakes, do your homework and research to ensure a positive experience and years of enjoyment.

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



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.rodeochararters.com.

Capt. George Clark, Jr. Key Largo Offshore



This week I have some great reports of nice fish being caught by angler's ice fishing in Florida bay. Well maybe not ice fishing, but man has it been cold on the water. We have gone out there during this cold snap and I would prefer staying indoors if we see it this cold again. Unfortunately, our clients are from the North Pole and this is t-shirt weather to them.

Thanks guys!

Anyhow, even with these cold windy conditions we have proved to ourselves that the fish just don't seem to care much and that there are plenty of fishing opportunities for fishermen to bend the rods. One of my good clients, Evan Whitson got out with us a couple days this past week and brought his buddies from New York State. We mixed things up and bounce from reef fishing to some of the wrecks and even dragged some

lures around on the surface. Reef fishing seems to be steady and the last couple of trips we have boxed some really nice mutton snapper while we were sailfishing. We always intend on having at least one bottom rod down when we live bait and two if possible. These muttons have been abundant right on the edge starting in 120 feet to 140. Deboned ballyhoo or even plugs work very well for this and in between getting shots at sails, it can keep everyone busy. The muttons are 4 to 10 pound fish and you also have the chance at a red or black grouper and maybe even a bruiser yellow tail, too. King fishing has also been productive in these same depths.

We have been feeding the kings live small runners, but pilchards and cigar minnows work equally. Wahoo alley has started to come to life too. Although not many fishermen are working the hoo's off the reef there are some fish showing up and although the water has been dusty all it's gonna take is a little easterly wind for a while to clean things up and the Wahoo will snap.

Wreck fishing seems steady also and the jacks are continuing to stack up over the structure. Live baits and a variety of cut bait will continue to get you action around these spots and you may even want to try a little jigging for something different. Tuna and mahi fishing has been hit or miss, although we have seen fish consistently throughout the winter so far. The mahi can range from peanut size fish that are traveling in schools to packs of gaffers.

Up off of ocean reef, Capt. Zane Albury reports steady sailfish action and plenty of mackerel from the whistle north. Capt. Chan reports steady snapper bites and also better numbers of bottom fish this week too. If you are looking to get out this week and have some fun catching some of these wonderful fish, give us a call at or e-mail at the information above

Thanks, 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) 304-0497, or visit: www.fishingkeywest.com www.keywestfishingteam.com

Capt. Steve Lamp Key West



Wow, what a week! Totally put everything in perspective. As if the bad economy doom and gloom were not enough for fishing guides to give it up, we finally get a bunch of people to go fishing with a semi prosperous week on the books and then the weather pulls the carpet out from under us. I know I have said before that the consistent weather patterns with cold fronts really help the fishing and I like consistency; I am not sure mother nature looked over the play book. At the peak of winter (hopefully) this week we never got the lull between cold fronts as we usually do. I wonder if she (mother nature) has a stimulus package for us in the spring. We can only hope. Looks like this next week may be part of it as the weather is looking fabulous.

During this past consecutive blow we had many trips to fish offshore and the folks opted out of them on our trip cancellation policies hoping

for better weather next time. So I really cannot share anything super exciting on that front. No worries though I really did not want to brave the windy cold weather and shiver my native Florida bones to the core trying to catch a fish. When those kind of weeks show up we always gear up for when things get good again by catching up on maintenance. Taking that time to fix rods and reels along with changing oil and fixing those nagging little issues is a huge help when the weather turns sweet and life is non stop fishing.

Inshore the fishing has been great! Considering the conditions. We have had some folks decide that the winds and cold were nothing compared to back home and got out there for some fun catching all sorts of fish. Trout, Reds, Jacks and Barracudas have been the cast for the backcountry show this past week with the guest appearance of Sharks and the occasional disoriented cobia. Our folks have been having fun in spite of the conditions on 4 and 6 hour trips.

The flats have been a bit stirred up with challenging conditions for sight fishing on some of the days. Keep in mind though, when the wind stops it takes about 2 tide changes (24 hours) to clean things up well enough for those hungry fish to get back up on the flats and feed.. That's Game time for sight fishermen planning the right weather day to get out there and catch a trophy.

Be sure to take advantage of the free time that your local fishing guide has for you to get out with him and enjoy.

From my crew and I here at Dream Catcher Charters enjoy your week. Come see us soon.



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 visit: www.sweetenufcharters.com sweetenufcharter@aol.com

Capt. Dave Schugar Marathon




Wow - what a week of fishing. I have been doing a lot of bottom dropping for muttons and grouper. The shallow wrecks have been on fire such as the Thunderbolt and the Seven Mile bridge rubble. I have been taking lots of amberjacks and a few grouper and a whole mess of muttons. The bite has been on even through this rough weather, which has kept most people at home. I haven't seen too many boats out, but I guess I can't blame them. I have been catching some vermilion on the 200+ wrecks, but the wind has really made it tough to hit them good. While dropping for the muttons we picked up a nice African pompano which was close to 40 pounds and a red snapper around 8 pounds or so.

When targeting muttons I like to use 40-60 pound floro about 15-20 feet in length. The hook, which I have been using with great success, is the Demon circle 8/0 by Mustad. I use a swivel-bead-swivel method, which seems to allow you to feel the littlest of bites. I have been using 10 ounces of lead, which is about the norm with the type of current we have been having, or might I say, not having. I like to keep moving the bait around the structures, and I never go over the structure itself,

because you will most likely just get snagged anyways. If the conditions are windy like they have been this week I like to get up wind of the structure and put the baits down while moving forward, this helps from you leader getting tangled. Once the baits hit the bottom I put the boat in reverse to try and slow the drift down. This tactic can be very tricky but with lots of practice you should get it down. I basically just try to keep the boat square with the lines and trying to keep the lead bouncing the bottom every once in a while. If you don't have any wrecks, just go get a dive book with wrecks in it. These wrecks, which are in or over 100 feet are great places to start until you find the hidden wreck, kept secret by us charter guides. I would drift the outside edge of these wrecks; you just might be surprised how many fish live on the outside edge of these wrecks. If you get to close to these wrecks cudas might bite off your rigs or some really big Goliath grouper will eat your fish.

The kingfish bite and sailfish bite has been really good with many people having a chance to bend a rod. The kingfish have been small for the most part, but there are some big ones around in the forty-pound class. If you are interested on both of these species, just go fly a kite with a wire leader. We didn't seem to have any trouble hooking some sails with a small trace of wire. If you don't want to get any goggle eyes then use pilchards or blue runners. I couldn't get any pilchards because I haven't had time to peruse the flats, so I flew the kite with some threadfins and a bunch of blue runners and we went 3 for 5 the other day. I love to fly the kite because of the kings. When they skyrocket across your spread is just so cool, I just stand back with a grin from ear to ear.

I heard that there had been some decent size tunas at the hump, but I will believe it when I see it. It is close to the time when the larger tunas will start making their way back, but I still think it's a little early. And besides, it's been blowing so hard if you did make it out there, you might need some new kidneys. It's been rough and I'll tell yah, I had clients out this week who are die-hards and we braved the seas and came back with some nice fish every day.

With the weather letting up, get out there and get some dinner and a great time on the water. Be safe and always check your safety equipment and don't forget to check your fire extinguisher. 

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Fishing Report

This Key West Flats report is brought to you by Capt. Sandy Horn. If you would like to fish with Capt. Sandy, please call: (305) 393-6913, or e-mail: shorn2979@yahoo.com and make your reservation today!

Capt. Sandy Horn Key West Flats



Looks like the weather has been freezing pretty much the whole time I have been gone. I have heard from many fisherman that this is the coldest February they can remember in a long time. With that being said this week shows no cold fronts in the forecast with high pressure dominating our area for a majority of the week. This usually means lots of sunshine and high winds. By the time this report hits new stands we should be hovering around eighty degrees which means the fishing should be fantastic. Since winds are supposed to be around twenty to twenty five miles per hour I am going to be concentrating on permit for a majority of the week. I am sure there will be some tarpon around in various channels but the fish on the flats will probably be tough to fish for with all this wind. If you are spin fishing, try some of your favorite tarpon channels with a live pin fish and I bet there are a few around. I

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



In fairness to the readers I have to start things off by saying my report this week will be a bit limited. I had a couple of days out on the water but for the most part I was not able to get out. There were days that were doable but sometimes it is best to stay home and get a few chores done. The weather threw us for another loop this week and a full moon did not help the weekends fishing.

Offshore brought reports of a few dolphin and an occasional sailfish but the action was pretty slow. Generally a passing front brings excellent sail fishing but this week was not the case. There were ballyhoo up on the reef with a few showers of bait here and there but not a whole lot came out to play. Let's hope that as we get away from the full moon the offshore bite will take off. Plan on a mixed bag of dolphin and tuna with the occasional sailfish thrown in.

have been gone for two weeks as you all know and haven't been able to fish yet (my first day back on the water will be tomorrow), but after looking at my log book the permit tides are perfect. With the tides being the way they are and the wind being as strong as it is the fishing should be fantastic. I get many fly fisherman who will say they could never see themselves casting in a twenty-five mile per hour wind but this is some of your best chances to catch a permit on fly. The wind acts as a masking agent for you and you are able to get more quality shots at fish than on days with light winds. Of course, casting a heavy fly in strong winds can prove difficult for the most experienced fly fisherman but this is how you become a better caster. Lots of fisherman are accurate on calm days with a fly rod but its the ones who can cast in the wind that separate the men from the boys. Even though your probably going to smack yourselves in the head a few times with the fly it will all be worth while when a permit tails on your fly and eats it.


For the true beginner fly fisherman permit fishing in windy conditions is probably not your cup of tea. I have always been one to just do the hardest thing first so everything else seems easier but if you only have a few days here in the keys you probably want to catch some fish. This is where the jack crevalle comes in to play. If you have someone tease the fish into you on a hook less popper than you don't have to make a very long cast at all and the fish are very aggressive. Another good game fish to fish for is the shark. You have to use chum to attract the sharks and they will often times swim right next to the boat and give you some close shots. Sharks can prove difficult to get to eat because they rely so heavily on there sense of smell but if you show the fish the fly enough they will eventually grab a hold. It is great to be back in the Florida Keys and I look foward to getting back on the water and giving a proper report.

Hope everyone has tight lines and fish boat side until next week. 

Reef fishing was ok if you could stomach the seas. There was a reasonable yellowtail bite. Grouper fishing was by far the best option, although hanging on to the boat was often more difficult than hooking a fish. The patch reefs offered a little more protection but smaller fish.

One thing I rarely touch on is the excellent bridge fishing we have here in the lower keys. There are plenty of nice sized mangrove snapper to be found around the deeper channels and bridges, but if you are like me getting out on the water to bend a rod beats anything offered on land. Live pinfish and shrimp will keep you busy. Plan on using light tackle to add to the sport of catching fairly small fish.

Flats fishing was pretty much a bust this week. It will likely be a few days before the flats conditions improve. It looks like the weather is warming up so let's keep our fingers crossed that the winds subside. Like many of you I am absolutely stir crazy sitting on land so let's get out and do some fishing, to hell with the weather.

Good luck and good fishing. 

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Mangrove Snapper on plastic lures in the Key West back country, while fishing with Captain Don Cooper of Marathon.



A #4 yellowtail hook gave these folks a chance to take turns reeling and 50 min. later it was gaffed. The amberjack weighed 29lbs. - the black grouper was 32.6lbs. The little girl refused to hold a fish, but she looks happy standing at attention. Fun fishing with Capt. Don Reichert!



Caught during the recent Swamp Guides tournament. A nice redfish caught with Capt. Steve Friedman.



Some friends recently visited Islamorada for vacation; fished with Captain George Campbell aboard the Snapshot; had a wonderful time and caught a lot of fish!



Redfish caught while fishing with Capt. Luke Kelly.



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Fishing Report

This report is brought to you courtesy of Capt. Ron Wagner aboard his boat the Producer. If you would like to fish with Capt. Ron, please call: (304) 664-2028, or visit: www.captainronwagner.com fishwithcaptaron@hotmail.com

Capt. Ron Wagner Long Key



There is nothing like beautiful weather, slick calm warm waters, shorts and tee shirts. That's the way it normally is here in the keys. I do not mind a little wind but extreme wind and very cold temperatures kept me in port and spending my time working on tackle and equipment. Let's hope it gets the heck out of here and we get some real nice weather for a change. We live here in paradise to fish and enjoy the keys and having 2 big cold fronts come by does not put smiles on our faces as our dress wear does not impress the chamber of commerce. A few days and the winds will be off the ocean and bring needed warmth to the waters and spur our adventures to launch our boats and hit the throttle to our favorite spots.

I would rather be fishing than anything else but getting some down time to bring my boat and tackle back to what I call Bristol can be

almost as fun. I CANNOT BELIEVE I SAID THAT. Your equipment needs maintenance and if you now have that chance, let's get it done. Rinsing your rods and reels at the end of a trip is automatic, but you need more to keep them performing at their best. I use to after every trip, starting at the tip, spray WD-40 right on down to and including the reel. Then a good wipe down with a towel and I felt the added sheen and lubrication of the product was enough. NOT REALLY, It does not last that long and next trip you are repeating the same process. There is a product called T9-BOESHIELD made by the Boeing aerospace company that's top notch. Spray a light coat on, wipe it down and you will be amazed how your gear shines. And it will keep everything operating like you just took it out of the box. I'll also spay my pliers, knives, files and hook removers with it but let it dry right on them overnight that will form a great film that will keep salt and corrosion to a minimum. As for price, it is expensive but keeping your gear up is a very small price you will pay as you enjoy rewards, with little breakdowns on the fishing grounds.

Fishing line spends very little time on my reels as I am a fanatic on fresh line. I can change line on spools at least 2 times a week and on bonefish trips, any spool that caught a fish. You might think it sounds overdone but I am not about to throw that same spool of line the next day after it has taken a big bonefish or permit. Line is dirt cheap and a small price I pay to allow my anglers to be 100 % sure that line including knots is not going to be a problem on perhaps a once in a lifetime fish. They're not paying for a great boat ride but relying on their captain to have it just right. And I am not the only one out there doing this, many of the area captains behave the same way. Ted Williams the Red Sox baseball player who spent years fishing our waters, told me more times then I want to recall, "do it to the best of your ability or find another career". We might be going through a tough economy, the

Cont. on pg. 17

Fishing Report

If you would like to book a charter with Capt Luke Kelly in the Lower Florida Keys for fly or light tackle inshore fishing, please call: (305) 304-3152, or e-mail: KeyFlat@me.com. Visit www.lowerkeysflatsfishing.com for more information.

Capt. Luke Kelly Lower Keys



Someone turn on the space heater, it's cold outside. Cold front after cold front has turned the inshore waters of the Lower Florida Keys into a choppy, murky, and cold playing field. I am writing this report on Jan 7, as I look out the window hoping for better weather to come. Frontal conditions packing temps in the upper forties along with wind gusts over thirty mph don't exactly help the possibility of fly fishing in the Lower Keys, at all. In fact, these types of conditions shock and even kill fish that are unfortunate enough to be trapped in areas where the water temp approaches fifty degrees. Friends of mine told tales of scooping large grey snapper off the surface in local marinas, while I witnessed with my own eyes dead barracuda and grunts washed up on my neighborhood boat ramp. This is no anomaly by any means, it has been known to happen. Though one thing is certain, the flats and back-country fishing is

at its worst during these extreme conditions. Let's all hope these strong fronts don't stretch into March this year, if so my reports may sound a bit more tempered.

On a later note, I was able to get some fishing in off of Sugarloaf Key during the higher tide period a day prior to these past fronts. Red fish were the goal that day and we were successful in finding them. For those who don't know, there is quite the growing population of healthy red fish here in the Lower Keys, and they can be found during this time of year. Just be sure to look for them before or long after a front like the one we just experienced. Back to the fishing, my angler for the day Mr. Nate Bowden was able to land two beautiful reds out of an area that would impress the most seasoned of anglers. Hard bottom flats filled with newbie mangrove clusters, crawling with lemon shark pups, a perfect habitat for redfish. No you're not gonna get the exact location out of me, not this time at least, although I did throw some vital clues in that last sentence for you. Redfish are an extremely aggressive and curious fish, making them a great game fish to target on fly. Use a good looking shrimp pattern, something with legs, and you'll have no problem getting a hook up on fly. You will need a good cast, reds won't take a fly twenty feet from the boat, but that can be said for just about all of the fish down here wouldn't you say. If you decide or already know that fly just isn't your thing, than a live shrimp placed anywhere remotely close to one of these guys will result in a bent rod and screaming real. Just remember to release that fish, we are not exactly like Louisiana just yet, but with a little conservation who knows what the future may hold. If you're in the Sugarloaf Key area and would like to do some red fishing without the fly part, be sure to stop by the Sugarloaf Marina and pick yourself out some select live shrimp, they get the biggest in town. Not to mention the best fuel and beer prices you'll find out of any Marina in these parts. You can

Cont. on pg 17

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



Things are finally getting back to normal somewhat. Here in paradise we have had quite a stretch of weather that has adversely affected the fishing. The near record cold and the very strong winds has turned over the waters quite a bit, which has caused the waters surrounding the Keys to cool down quite a bit below the number that you would want for activity. It was so bad last week that even the mackerel had shut down for the most part. Many baitfish were darn near impossible to find, particularly on the bay side and when you found snapper, they seemed to be comatose showing no interest in even a live shrimp! One good thing is that fish will be hungry after their respite so if you are out there, your chances are good.

Mackerel activity has returned to normal in the past couple of days.

Most anywhere from 5 miles out on the bayside and beyond have been loaded throughout all of the Middle Keys. Snapper action has risen sharply in the past few days. The increase has been noticeable in the bay as well as many of the area bridge channels. Some have been just plain loaded with mangrove, lane and numerous species of fish. Here too, baitfish are making their appearance throughout the region, not only in the bay but throughout the Oceanside as well.

Reef action should be getting back to normal. Baitfish on the reefs and patches have been quite numerous, which allows anglers to obtain good baits for sails and kings. The fresh bait is also good for bottom fishing with an upsurge of mutton snapper in the western regions of the outer reef line.

Sails and kings have looked very good in two areas; along the reef from 65 to 140 feet of water and from 200 to 450 feet of water when a color change or current edge was present. Most of the king action has been concentrated west of Sombrero Light while the majority of the sails have been caught to the east of it. Further offshore, dolphin and tunas have been found in pockets. They change from day to day as to location but just keep covering ground and you should come across them. Depths have been ranging from 350 to 650 feet with the deeper waters producing a few wahoo as well as billfish.

Wreck fishing has been very good, even throughout this recent cold spell. The deeper waters of the Gulf wrecks have not been as affected with fishing for a number of species being stable. I have heard of good numbers as well as sized cobia on most of the deeper Gulf wrecks, those 30+ miles out by several of the larger boats that ventured out. Inside of that, scattered reports of a few cobia have been given. Most of the cobia caught lately have been just coming up in the chum for those working 12 to 14 miles out in the bay.

Cont. on pg 17

Fishing Report

Captain Nick Borraccino
NoreasterSportFishing.com
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Capt. Nick Borraccino Marathon



We were stuck in the deep freeze all week here in the Keys. Granted we should not be complaining too much after looking at the weather map of the rest of the country, but this was definitely the coldest week of the year with temperatures dropping into the 40's! We appear to be over the hump though, as it is getting a little warmer each day, and it seems unlikely we will see such drastic cold fronts again. Well, at least we hope.

The windy and cold weather coupled with this weeks full moon made things tough across the board. No one I know ventured offshore this week, and the frigid waters close to the beach made inshore fishing largely unproductive. Most catches this week came between Hawk Channel and about 200 ft of water. The ballyhoo schools in front of Marathon have stayed put for an unusually long time, making at least one thing this week easier; where to go for bait. There are still a few

packs of sails mixed in with mackerel chasing ballyhoo in 25-40 feet right on top of the reef. These fish are also being found out to about 120 foot. We tried slow trolling live hoos in the vicinity twice this week with no results, but we admittedly lost patience after an hour or two. Those that stuck with it longer were rewarded with 2-4 bites and 1-2 landed fish each day.... patience pays. We did manage to find some dolphin chasing flying fish in about 200 feet one day however. The 28 pound cow and 10 pound bull couldn't resist frisky live ballyhoo! A search the next day revealed nothing in that same area, however. I wouldn't COUNT on finding dolphin this week, but it never hurts to take a ride and look for frigate birds and bait sprays, especially when everything else seems slow.

Reef fishing remains most productive in the 20-40 depths. After losing patience looking for sailfish on Sunday, we managed to boat a dozen or so nice mangrove snappers, 2 keeper red grouper (along with 5 or 6 throw backs) and a pile of cero mackerel. Yellowtail fishing on deep reefs continues to be very slow, as the flags are very sensitive to the cold water temps. Wreck fishing in 100-200 feet is a good bet as long as conditions allow for it, which they didn't most of the week. I expect reefs and wrecks the latter half of this week and this weekend to be very active, as there has been relatively little pressure lately, and the current seems to be cooperating, moving just fast enough to the west (with the wind).

Good luck this week, and feel free to call with any questions about fishing charters! 🐟

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

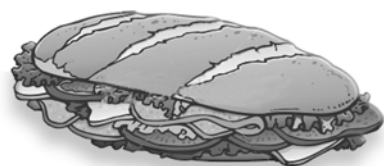
Weather, Wind and Cold for a week and THEN . . . Wow, what a week here. This week we dealt with record low temps, extremely high winds and minimal sunshine. It has been blowing over 30 knots this week with lows dipping to the upper 40's on some nights. Thank God that's over with!!! This was the coldest stretch I have ever seen in the Bahamas, with sweatshirts and jeans the norm. It has been near impossible to get out this week as winds on some days were approaching 50 knots. However, we do not expect this pattern to continue as I believe that is the strongest front we will have all year. You never know though. The wind this week started from the west and stayed either west or northwest for quite a few days. Usually we only get 1 day of a westerly wind, but due to the severity of the front it stayed there for 3 days. I don't care

what anybody says, fish do not bite in a west wind in the Bahamas. Once it starts to go Northeast, give it 12 hours, then they start chewing. On a negative note . . . The fish will be chewing but you will have to deal with an overwhelming amount of sargassum weed. It seems right after a front loads of weed gets pushed in right on the edge, usually give it a day or two of dealing with it then it gets progressively better.

Chewing after the Front - Really can't say enough about it but, fish love to eat after the cold fronts. I got out Saturday in a stiff wind and could barely keep our lines in the water. About a half hour into it today we went 3-6 on some nice 20 lb dolphin. Shortly after we were hit by a lull in the action in between North Guana Cay and Man O War Cay. Once we got to Man O War it was fast and furious. Fishing in about a half mile stretch today we continued to catch and release 15 dolphin to 40 lbs. In this same stretch we also caught some small yellowfins. The highlight of the day was going 4-4 on the wahoo. Very weird today as I had thought the wahoo would be most aggressively feeding with the colder temps. After 3 hours without a hoo bite and decided to put down a billy bait ballyhoo combo instead of the Yozuri plugs . . . They had to be there right! Three minutes after putting the bait on the deep rod it got hit. We made quick work of that one boating a 52 lb. fish. Making a quick circle we again got another bite on bait. We continued to pick at the hoo's, boating four, with our first being the biggest.

Bahamas Roundup - After the cold, windy weather we were greeted by the rough seas today but hungry fish. The water temps here are now in the 72.5 range some of the coldest we have ever seen. I expect the Hoo bite to remain strong well into April this year due to the abnormal sea temps. Somehow though the dolphin seem to already be filtering thru in good numbers as we had our first double digit day.

THANK GOD, THE WIND HAS STOPPED! 🙌



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Hydra-Sports, 2004, 230
225 HP 4-stroke Yamaha, 110 hrs, recent service, extended warranty. T-Top; fishbox; bait well; self-bailing cockpit; trim tabs; twin batteries; swim platform w/ladder. VHF; AM/FM/CD; Garmin GPS; port toilet, galley sink, yellow hull. No trailer. \$35,000. Tavernier.

E-mail: skellyre@aol.com, or phone: (772) 486-3442

**2003 Action Craft
1720 Flats Master**
Comes with 115 4-stroke Yamaha outboard with 175 hrs; poling tower; push pole; GPS; VHF radio; aluminum trailer. This boat is in pristine condition & ready to fish. See it at Action Marine MM 102. \$15,995
Call (305) 451-1840,

or e-mail: Actionmarine102@aol.com

**1995 268 Grady White
Islander**
One owner, inside-stored boat w/low hr. twin Johnson 200 outboards. The boat is pristine. Radar; GPS; galley; sleepers; head. Roomy rear area. As close to new as you can get & priced to sell. See it at Action Marine MM 102. \$25,995. Call:

(305) 451-1840 or e-mail: actionmarine102@aol.com

Jaguar 35' Catamaran
Smooth Ride! Easy on the gas, planes@15mph, cruises@45mph, tops@65mph. Evinrude E-Tech Twin 250hp Outboards warranty 'til Jan 2010. Health forces sale; Best Equipped Center Console 35' on the market. Includes custom 6 wheel, 3 axle Trailer. Call Frank

Piku (305) 509-1547 or e-mail: fpiku@comcast.com

2005 Angler 2600
Twin 200hp 4-stroke Johnsons; clean boat; dry racked its entire life (exc during use). Dive ladder & tuna door; less than 250 hrs on engines; Garmin 3210 GPS; linked Garmin GSD Sounder; Uniden VHF; head; lg. live well; add. outriggers; anchor w/line. Asking \$38,000, obo.

Call (305) 240-3916, or e-mail: hydroslicer@hotmail.com

**2003 Parker 2510
Walkaround**
2003 Yamaha 225 4-stroke; mod. V-hull; swim plat; kicker bracket; full-enclosure curtains; bimini; Garmin GPS; depth finder; marine radio; AM/FM/CD; live box; fresh & salt water washdowns. Cust. stg. cvr. Low hrs. Alum. trailer incl. \$44,500.

Jim (305) 872-5496 or e-mail: jimjanewatermolen@msn.com

1997 Proline 2700 cc
Upper station w/controls; great electronics; super heavy-duty windlass; console cover; leaning post cover; engine covers. Twin 250 Mercury engines low hrs.; head; T-top w/slide-out enlargement. This boat is a steal. See it at Action Marine MM 102. Call: (305) 451-1840,

or e-mail: actionmarine102@aol.com

**25' Custom Lookout
Open Fisherman**
Built 2005 in Beaufort, NC. T-Top, Center Console, Live Well, 200 HP Yamaha HPDI, Motor Mount, Tandem Trailer. Must Go!
\$19,500.00 or Best Offer.
(252) 202-3078
e-mail: 2lakes@pinn.net



**2003 Grady-White 265
Express**
Twin 225 4-stroke Yamahas with trailer. All options. Hoist kept, 95% fresh water use. Raymarine GPS, radar, auto pilot, and (2) VHF radios. One owner boat, looks and runs like new. Located in Islamorada. \$68,000. Call Randy (586) 945-7568 or email:

a_schmitt@comcast.net

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FOR 2 MONTHS
PRINT & WEBVIEW LISTINGS ONLINE AT WWW.KEYSBOATEXCHANGE.COM**1990 ChrisCraft
372 Sundeck Cruiser**

Xlnt condition modern cruiser or comfort live-a-board. 2 staterooms w/heads. Total pro refit all systems; refit twin 454's; 7.5 Westerbeke genset. Fully insured. Ready to fish and cruise! Live-a-board slip available in

nicest sunset marina. \$80k value, SELL \$59,900. (561) 797-4197, or (954) 600-7731. Poss. owner financing, poss. long-term lease.

**1989- 37 Topaz
Express Fisherman**

Twin 3208 Cats at 375 hp; less than 2,000 original hours. 8kw gen set kobota, 2 staterooms, tower, swim platform, new bottom paint. Ready to fish or cruise. Valued at \$120,000 Sacrifice for \$85,000. Located in KCB. Call: (912) 577-6006.

**2001 Pro-Line
Dual Console**

20 foot Dual Console,, Bimini Top. Mercury 150 HP 2 stroke with 153 hours, Trim tabs, radio, fish finder, bait well, stainless prop and spare aluminum prop. In excellent condition. Includes boat and motor covers. Sugarloaf Key. Priced to sell at \$ 8900.00.

**1988 28' Spencer
Center Console**

270 hp turbo diesel inboard. Asking \$10,000 obo. Call: (305) 879-9123.

Bellinger..... cont. from pg. 4

blast to go out into and explore with a knowledgeable guide. Whitewater is no place to explore on your own if you are not familiar with it. Hire a guide and go have a blast back there in a safe manner. Take a look at our complete list of guides and captains in the back of this issue. Get out on the water and Go Fish! Also check out my TV show on Comcast Channel 5 the Keys Information Station it's called "Reelin' in the Keys" and it airs Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00 pm and Fridays at 8:30 pm and let me know what you think, really I am looking for input from you. E-mail me at Matt@Bamboocharters.com or call me at (305) 393-0909.

**Wagner..... cont. from pg. 14**

charter business is certainly hurting everyone who makes a living this way, and yet what better time to realize that in order for a young guide or old captain to make it, YOU BETTER LOOK GOOD. Sometimes I think I'm sounding like a preacher, but I just want things right. And I'm not perfect, far from it.


Well, that's it for scrubbing and cleaning this week. Even my wife is getting a little tired of me being around the house. She said, "why don't you go fishing?" And I say, a little better weather and I'm OUT OF HERE.

**Kelly..... cont. from pg. 14**


even give me a call and I'll trade you secret for secret on where to find these reds.

As far as what to look for in Lower Keys back-country fishing in these upcoming weeks, just make sure you're on the warmer side of the

weather and you should have no problem in catching fish. Look for the large fish muds within our numerous titled basins for sea trout, pompano, ladyfish, and jacks. Or get up on some of those more overlooked hard bottom flats in search of those reds. Lets also not forget that the mangroves are absolutely stuffed with large grey snapper right now, and the ocean side flats are currently riddled with schools of pilchards, just look for the diving pelicans. If you have never thrown a live pilchard near a mangrove island inhabited by grey snapper, I suggest you do so. And if you haven't ever tried that fly fishing thing before, be sure to one day give it some consideration. It's a lot easier than everyone makes it out to be. In fact it's out right simple, and the fight is ten times more exciting and best of all more rewarding. Just remember to think basic. I'll dive into this basic thing a little more in my next report.

Thanks for reading. 

Navarro cont. from pg. 15

Look for flats fishing to make a good comeback. This is one of the hardest hit areas by the low water temperatures. There were days where you could not find any sort of life up on the flats. In the past few days, activity has increased quite well on both sides of the islands. The Oceanside should be the best bet going, as it is still a little warmer. 

Tide Tables Brought To You Courtesy Of...



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



Florida Keys Fishing
Guides Association Inc.

KEY LARGO (Ocean Reef)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Feb 11	Wed		03:24 AM / -0.94 ft	09:35 AM / 2.71 ft	03:49 PM / -0.96 ft	10:00 PM / 2.67 ft
Feb 12	Thu		04:11 AM / -0.72 ft	10:17 AM / 2.60 ft	04:35 PM / -0.88 ft	10:46 PM / 2.55 ft
Feb 13	Fri		04:58 AM / -0.44 ft	10:59 AM / 2.44 ft	05:21 PM / -0.71 ft	11:32 PM / 2.38 ft
Feb 14	Sat		05:45 AM / -0.13 ft	11:41 AM / 2.25 ft	06:09 PM / -0.47 ft	
Feb 15	Sun	12:19 AM / 2.19 ft	06:34 AM / 0.18 ft	12:25 PM / 2.06 ft	07:00 PM / -0.22 ft	
Feb 16	Mon	01:09 AM / 2.00 ft	07:28 AM / 0.45 ft	01:12 PM / 1.90 ft	07:55 PM / -0.01 ft	
Feb 17	Tue	02:05 AM / 1.85 ft	08:26 AM / 0.65 ft	02:06 PM / 1.77 ft	08:55 PM / 0.14 ft	
Feb 18	Wed	03:07 AM / 1.77 ft	09:29 AM / 0.75 ft	03:07 PM / 1.71 ft	09:56 PM / 0.18 ft	

ISLAMORADA (Whale Harbor)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Feb 11	Wed		04:10AM / -0.44ft	10:01AM / 1.55ft	04:35PM / -0.45ft	10:26PM / 1.53ft
Feb 12	Thu		04:57AM / -0.34ft	10:43AM / 1.49ft	05:21PM / -0.42ft	11:12PM / 1.46ft
Feb 13	Fri		05:44AM / -0.21ft	11:25AM / 1.40ft	06:07PM / -0.33ft	11:58PM / 1.36ft
Feb 14	Sat		06:31AM / -0.06ft	12:07PM / 1.29ft	06:55PM / -0.22ft	
Feb 15	Sun	12:45AM / 1.26ft	07:20AM / 0.09ft	12:51PM / 1.18ft	07:46PM / -0.11ft	
Feb 16	Mon	01:35AM / 1.15ft	08:14AM / 0.21ft	01:38PM / 1.09ft	08:41PM / -0.00ft	
Feb 17	Tue	02:31AM / 1.06ft	09:12AM / 0.31ft	02:32PM / 1.01ft	09:41PM / 0.06ft	
Feb 18	Wed	03:33AM / 1.01ft	10:15AM / 0.35ft	03:33PM / 0.98ft	10:42PM / 0.09ft	

MARATHON (Boot Key Harbor)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Feb 11	Wed		03:55AM / -0.39ft	10:06AM / 1.54ft	04:04PM / -0.34ft	10:23PM / 1.71ft
Feb 12	Thu		04:30AM / -0.23ft	10:38AM / 1.67ft	04:58PM / -0.35ft	11:08PM / 1.46ft
Feb 13	Fri		05:03AM / -0.05ft	11:10AM / 1.73ft	05:53PM / -0.31ft	11:52PM / 1.20ft
Feb 14	Sat		05:36AM / 0.13ft	11:45AM / 1.75ft	06:52PM / -0.23ft	
Feb 15	Sun	12:38AM / 0.96ft	06:10AM / 0.29ft	12:23PM / 1.71ft	07:58PM / -0.13ft	
Feb 16	Mon	01:30AM / 0.76ft	06:45AM / 0.42ft	01:08PM / 1.64ft	09:10PM / -0.06ft	
Feb 17	Tue	02:43AM / 0.61ft	07:34AM / 0.53ft	02:03PM / 1.57ft	10:23PM / -0.04ft	
Feb 18	Wed	06:46AM / 0.62ft	08:59AM / 0.58ft	03:11PM / 1.52ft	11:29PM / -0.07ft	

BIG PINE (West Side - Pine Channel)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Feb 11	Wed		06:32AM / -0.12ft	11:27AM / 0.73ft	06:37PM / -0.11ft	11:44PM / 0.84ft
Feb 12	Thu		07:06AM / -0.07ft	12:00PM / 0.78ft	07:31PM / -0.11ft	
Feb 13	Fri	12:30AM / 0.71ft	07:39AM / -0.01ft	12:33PM / 0.81ft	08:26PM / -0.10ft	
Feb 14	Sat	01:17AM / 0.58ft	08:12AM / 0.04ft	01:09PM / 0.80ft	09:24PM / -0.07ft	
Feb 15	Sun	02:08AM / 0.45ft	08:46AM / 0.09ft	01:49PM / 0.77ft	10:30PM / -0.05ft	
Feb 16	Mon	03:10AM / 0.35ft	09:23AM / 0.13ft	02:36PM / 0.73ft	11:45PM / -0.03ft	
Feb 17	Tue	04:45AM / 0.28ft	10:09AM / 0.16ft	03:37PM / 0.69ft		
Feb 18	Wed		01:05AM / -0.02ft	06:42AM / 0.27ft	11:18AM / 0.18ft	04:55PM / 0.68ft

CUDJOE KEY (Pirates Cove)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Feb 11	Wed	02:27AM / 1.39ft	07:34AM / -0.23ft	02:56PM / 1.08ft	07:39PM / -0.21ft	
Feb 12	Thu	03:13AM / 1.24ft	08:08AM / -0.12ft	03:29PM / 1.16ft	08:33PM / -0.21ft	
Feb 13	Fri	03:59AM / 1.05ft	08:41AM / -0.02ft	04:02PM / 1.20ft	09:28PM / -0.19ft	
Feb 14	Sat	04:46AM / 0.85ft	09:14AM / 0.08ft	04:38PM / 1.19ft	10:26PM / -0.14ft	
Feb 15	Sun	05:37AM / 0.67ft	09:48AM / 0.17ft	05:18PM / 1.14ft	11:32PM / -0.09ft	
Feb 16	Mon	06:39AM / 0.51ft	10:25AM / 0.24ft	06:05PM / 1.08ft		
Feb 17	Tue		12:47AM / -0.05ft	08:14AM / 0.41ft	11:11AM / 0.30ft	07:06PM / 1.03ft
Feb 18	Wed		02:07AM / -0.04ft	10:11AM / 0.40ft	12:20PM / 0.34ft	08:24PM / 1.01ft

KEY WEST (South Side Hawk Channel)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Feb 11	Wed		04:10AM / -0.27ft	10:14AM / 1.51ft	04:15PM / -0.24ft	10:31PM / 1.72ft
Feb 12	Thu		04:44AM / -0.14ft	10:47AM / 1.61ft	05:09PM / -0.25ft	11:17PM / 1.46ft
Feb 13	Fri		05:17AM / -0.02ft	11:20AM / 1.66ft	06:04PM / -0.22ft	
Feb 14	Sat	12:04AM / 1.18ft	05:50AM / 0.09ft	11:56AM / 1.65ft	07:02PM / -0.16ft	
Feb 15	Sun	12:55AM / 0.93ft	06:24AM / 0.19ft	12:36PM / 1.59ft	08:08PM / -0.10ft	
Feb 16	Mon	01:57AM / 0.71ft	07:01AM / 0.28ft	01:23PM / 1.50ft	09:23PM / -0.06ft	
Feb 17	Tue	03:32AM / 0.57ft	07:47AM / 0.35ft	02:24PM / 1.43ft	10:43PM / -0.05ft	
Feb 18	Wed	05:29AM / 0.56ft	08:56AM / 0.40ft	03:42PM / 1.40ft	11:54PM / -0.08ft	

Moon Phases

Last Quarter: 02/16/09 • New: 02/24/09
First Quarter: 03/04/09 • Full: 03/10/09

All Tide predictions may not be accurate. The Weekly Fisherman
accepts no liabilities associated with any referenced use
of the above-listed tidal information.



David Anderson (owner of Andy & Dave's Garage) was the guide to this Wahoo (35lb) which was caught on one of Paul Suarez' homemade lures (RyMar Lures).

Quick Note on Photography . . .

Please submit your photos as attachments to an e-mail, with the largest pixel dimension (pixel count) set to at least 1600 in any one direction (1600x1200, for example). Please do not place the photo directly in a PDF or Word document. Please do not adjust (or Photoshop) files before sending them.

Photos from camera phones generally are not big enough. We do our best to include all photos, but unfortunately, some aren't high enough quality. We strive to publish the best reproduction of your beautiful catch for everyone's enjoyment . . .

Send your e-mail to: photos@weeklyfisherman.com

Thanks!



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**

**Listings in this Directory are available for only
\$5.50/week, = \$286/year print and web.**

Middle Keys

Captain / Charter

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
Capt. Paul Suarez	Licensed Captain Any Boat	(305) 731-7464
Main Attraction	OFF/REEF	(305) 289-0071 www.mainattraction.org
Capt. Ron Teke Keys Magic Charters	OFF/REEF/WR/Bay	(305) 289-8790 www.KeysMagic.com

Lower Keys

Captain / Charter

Capt. Chris Lembo	OFF/REEF	(305) 292-0067 incognitocharters@comcast.net
Capt. Kevin Wilson	OFF/REEF	(305) 745-5634 www.fishmekeywest.com

Long Key to Marathon

Contact Info

Lower Keys (cont.)

Captain / Charter

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. Steve Lamp	FL/OFF/WR/GF/FLY/TP	(888) 362-3474 www.fishingkeywest.com
Capt. Frank Piku Daytime/Nighttime Swordfishing Trips	OFF/GULF/REEF	(305) 509-1547 www.captainfranksfishingcharters.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
Capt. Tony Taverna Morning Star Sportfishing	OFF/REEF/INSHORE	(631) 355-9344 www.morningstarsportfishingcharters.net
Capt. Luke Kelly keyflat@mac.com	FL/FLY/LT/BC/TP	(305) 304-3152 www.lowerkeysflatsfishing.com
Capt. Barry / Capt. James Eva Marie Sportfishing	OFF/REEF/WR	(305) 407-4381 bmandrews18@aol.com
		(305) 304-6283

Big Pine Key to Key West

Contact Info

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**

**Listings in this Directory are available for only
\$5.50/week, = \$286/year print and web.**

Upper Keys Captain / Charter	Key Largo to Islamorada 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 Miller Time Charters	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/GF/WR/REEF/BC	(305) 304-4580 www.killerinstinctcharters.com
Capt. George Clark, Jr.	OFF/REEF/BC	(305) 522-2638 www.rodeochararters.com
Capt. Jef Pfister	BC/FL	(877) 362-5743 www.docksidecharters.com
Capt. Mike Makowski Black Foot Charter	BC/FL/FLY/LT	(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/FL/LT	(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
Capt. Richard Burson R-U Fishing Yet Charters	BC/FLY/LT/GF/REEF	(305) 360-3262

Upper Keys (cont.) Captain / Charter	Key Largo to Islamorada 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/FLY	(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
Capt. J.R. captainjr@bellsouth.net	OFF	800-473-4106 or 305-481-0649 www.captainj-rcharters.com
Capt Mitch Mitchell	BC/FL	305-587-1150 www.reelchaoscharters.com
Capt. Kerry Wingo	BC/LT/FL/FLY	Klcaptkw@aol.com www.tailsupfishing.com
Capt. Augie Wampler's captwamp@yahoo.com	OFF	(305) 393-2765 www.BlueWaterPredator.com
Capt. Ron Brack www.hatatudecharters.com	OFF	(305) 484-8410 (305) 393-0452
Capt. Jeff Frasier Genesis Charters	OFF	(305) 393-3981 www.genesischarters.com
Capt. Donny Lange whereisdL@yahoo.com	BC/FL	(305) 522-1929 www.capttonny.com
Capt. Ron Wagner	TP/LT/FLY/BC/FL/GF/REEF	(304) 664-2028 fishwithcaptron@hotmail.com
Capt. Paul Hunt captipaul@finhuntercharters.com	BC/FL/LT/FLY	(305) 393-2495 www.finhuntercharters.com
Capt. Bruce Andersen Capt. Easy Charters	OFF/WR	(305) 360-2120 www.captaineasycharters.com
Capt. Skip Nielsen	BC/FL/LT	(305) 664-9314 skipcyd@bellsouth.net
Capt. Robert Mathias, Jr capt@floridakeysfishing.com	"RESTLESS TOO"	(305) 304-4422 www.floridakeysfishing.com
Capt. Bruce Pollock Edge Charters	FL/BC/LT	(305) 393-5269 www.florida-keys-fishing-guides.com CaptainBruce@florida-keys-fishing-guides.com

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