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Vol. XI • Issue 36

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Parker Austin, son of Capt. Jim Austin of Marathon. Parker caught the largest king of his life (30lbs.), while snapper fishing off of Bahia Honda.

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Where Does Your Money Go?

By Bob Wattendorf and Marty Hale,

Ever wonder where your money goes when you plunk it down for a fishing license? A great way to illustrate your dollars at work requires a trip to Lake Panasoffkee in Central Florida. Lake Panasoffkee, designated an Outstanding Florida Water, is a 4,460-acre Fish Management Area in Sumter County, near Interstate 75. But it took some major efforts to help it maintain that designation.

In the 1950s, it was one of the state's best places to fish, with 15 active fish camps. By 1998, however, 12 of those camps had closed. Measures to prevent flooding and maintain water levels prevented the lake from naturally cleansing itself. Development in the watershed and the spread of nonnative plants had decimated the habitat and with it the lake's ability to sustain a fishery. But today Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) freshwater fish biologists predict that Lake Panasoffkee will be one of the best bream-fishing sites in the state during 2009.

How did this happen? It started when you bought that fishing license. The FWC contributed about \$2.3 million to the \$28.3 million needed for the four-step restoration program that started in 2003 and wrapped up in 2008. The first step in the process restored public access and re-established a navigation channel at Coleman Landing. Next, dredging removed more than 3 million cubic yards of sediment to create 765 acres of hard-bottom area suitable for native vegetation and native fish spawning, especially around historic spawning sites near Grassy and Shell points. The effort also enhanced recreational access, navigation and fish populations. After that, dredging another 4.9 million cubic yards of muck from the east side of Panasoffkee exposed 979 acres of healthy lake bottom.

Finally, to improve access and reduce the reintroduction of sediments and exotic plants into the lake, 41 residential canals were dredged. Submerged aquatic vegetation is critical to healthy Florida lakes because it acts as a buffer against shoreline erosion, reduces sedimentation, cleanses the water and provides vital fish and wildlife habitat.

Recent electrofishing samples have shown large numbers of threadfin shad (excellent bass and speckled perch forage) and largemouth bass in the 1- to 3-pound range with very full stomachs. Obviously, bass are feeding heavily on the readily available threadfin shad. Try fishing with a floating Rat-L-Trap or shallow-diving crankbait with chartreuse in it

Cont. on pg. 21

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## Local Film Makers Will Benson and Dave Teper Showcase New Fly Fishing Movie

When most people think of fly fishing films, they recall Hollywood's 1992 adaptation of Norman Maclean's *A River Runs Through It*, or the hard-to-watch Sunday morning television programs that do little to capture our imagination. For years, sports such as surfing and skiing have had independent films showcasing the fun and creative lifestyles associated with these outdoor sports. Think of Warren Miller's ski films and Bruce Brown's *The Endless Summer*.

Well, it's finally happening with fly fishing. Local filmmakers Will Benson and Dave Teper have combined efforts with other new producers plus *Drake Magazine*, to bring fly fishing to the big screen.

Join us on March 17th at 7 pm for one night only, at the Tropic Cinema (614 Eaton St. - Key West). Featuring exotic locations such as Kamchatka (Russia), Kashmir (India), Belize, British Columbia plus Will and Dave's latest film *Drum*, shot in southern Louisiana.

Celebrate the new faces of fly fishing, and experience the sights and sounds of the beautiful destinations fly fishing can lead. For teasers visit: [www.flyfishingfilmtour.com](http://www.flyfishingfilmtour.com) or [www.worldangling.com](http://www.worldangling.com).



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## Preliminary Alternative for the Everglades National Park's Marine Areas Released

Everglades National Park Superintendent Dan B. Kimball is pleased to announce the public release of revised preliminary alternatives for the park's marine areas as part of an update to its General Management Plan (GMP). The alternatives are described in Newsletter #5: Revised Preliminary Alternatives for the Marine Waters. The public comment period begins today and continues for more than 2½ months until May 15, 2009, to ensure maximum participation before and after the seven upcoming public meetings. The last master plan for the park was completed in 1979 and is outdated in many ways. Everglades National Park is now developing a new General Management Plan that will guide park management for the next 20 years or more.

GMP Newsletter #5 describes the revised alternatives and provides other details on the GMP including the dates and locations of upcoming meetings and the various ways that the public can participate in the planning process and offer comments. The newsletter can be accessed through the park's website homepage link to the GMP at [www.nps.gov/ever](http://www.nps.gov/ever).

"Throughout the GMP process, the involvement by thousands and the thoughtful comments from so many, with constructive feedback and ideas, are proof of the public's deep interest in and concern for Everglades National Park," Kimball said. "Based on strong concerns by many in 2007, it was decided that in order for the GMP to be a valuable long-term blueprint for decision making, it was necessary to re-examine the options for the marine areas based on a thorough analysis of public input and gathering important science and visitor use data."

More specifically, two reports, *Patterns of Propeller Scarring of Seagrass in Florida Bay: Associations with Visitor Use Factors and Implications for Natural Resource Management and Aerial Survey of Boater Use in Everglades National Park Marine Waters Florida Bay and Ten-thousand Islands*, have been completed and can be found at [www.nps.gov/ever](http://www.nps.gov/ever) (following General Management Plan and "GMP Documents links). "These studies show clearly that boat use in the Florida Bay area of the park has grown exponentially and has had negative impacts on the resources we are charged with protecting. These scientific studies on boat use in the park and patterns of propeller scarring on Florida Bay seagrasses will provide a foundation for development of a balanced approach to protecting park resources and providing access to the public," Kimball said recently.

Superintendent Kimball stressed that Public involvement has been instrumental so far in the GMP effort we certainly hope you will stay involved throughout the planning process. We sincerely value your ideas on how to best protect the park's unique resources and provide high-quality experiences for park visitors. This phase of the

GMP is a critical one and your insights will play an important role in the next steps of the planning process analyzing the impacts of the alternatives, developing a preferred alternative, and preparing the draft GMP and accompanying environmental impact statement. Kimball emphasized that "No decisions have been made with respect to selecting a preferred alternative that will occur in the next step of the planning process. As such, we need your feedback and best thinking in regard to the preliminary alternatives described in Newsletter #5.

### Public Meeting Dates and Locations:

1. Monday, March 30, 2009, Key Largo Grande Hotel, 97000 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037
2. Tuesday, March 31, 2009, Everglades City School, 415 School Drive, Everglades City, FL 34139
3. Wednesday, April 1, 2009, South Dade Regional Public Library, 10750 SW 211th Street, Miami, FL 33189
4. Monday, April 13, 2009\*, Key Largo Holiday Inn, 99701 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037
5. Tuesday, April 14, 2009, Campbell Agricultural Center, 18710 SW 288th Street, Homestead, FL 33030
6. Wednesday, April 15, 2009, Edison College, Bldg J, 7007 Lely Cultural Parkway, Naples, Florida 34113
7. Thursday, April 16, 2009, IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame, 300 Gulfstream Way, Dania Beach, FL 33004

Webcast \* The April 13, 2009 meeting at the Key Largo Holiday Inn will be webcast starting at 6:00 p.m. To access the webcast, go to the park's website: [www.nps.gov/ever](http://www.nps.gov/ever) and click the General Management Plan link.

To request a copy of Newsletter #5: Call Everglades National Park at 305-242-7700. If prompted by voice mail, press 2 at the first prompt, and 5 at the second prompt; leaving mailing information and a request for the newsletter.

Please contact Fred Herling, Park Planner, at 305-242-7704 or [fred\\_herling@nps.gov](mailto:fred_herling@nps.gov) for more information.

# 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](http://www.bamboocharters.com).

## Capt. Matt Bellinger Islamorada Flats



This past week was a wild one! Winter conditions still persist with windy and cold mornings and warm windy afternoons. The wind has been the one consistent thing we have had around here. Yet the wind has been all over the compass, changing directions all through the day and reaking havoc with the backcountry tides! The up side of the week is that snook season has opened at last and stays open until May 1.

The opening of snook season is always a welcome event. We get to catch these fish all year long, but to keep the population of this game fish healthy the harvest of snook is only 5 months each year. Snook are a warm water species and will take both natural and artificial baits. The past few years area guides have been talking about the large numbers of small 18 to 26 inch snook that can be found all around the Flamingo area. This is great news and just indicates that we have a very healthy

snook population here in the Keys. The snook is a beautiful fish that is a challenge on light tackle that we use here in the backcountry and they put up great jumps and blazing runs once hooked. The super thing about snook is that they can be found from the bridges on out to the Gulf and up into the heart of the Everglades. Find a guide and give these fighters a try.

March is the season of spring break and with this comes time for family fishing here in the Keys. Kids of all ages along with their parents will be looking for things to do here in paradise. If getting off of the beaten track appeals to you take a good look at going fishing with an area guide. There is so much more to a fishing trip than just fishing. You will see Eco - tours offered and they are fun, short trips around the nearshore waters of the Keys. A fishing trip into the backcountry is the original Eco - tour, we see so much wildlife as we travel through the Everglades National Park. Your guide very knowledgeable in the where, what and whys of all of the wildlife that can be found there. This is prime time for dolphin watching and birding and the guides of Islamorada are a great source of information sitting right there in his boat.

Bring a camera and a sense of adventure – you will be blown away at the sights and sounds of the backcountry. There is a listing of some fine guides in the back of “The Weekly Fisherman” – give one a call! 🦉

# Fishing Report

The Islamorada Offshore Fishing Report is brought to you by Capt. Joe Petrucco of Killer Instinct Charters, located at Fiesta Key Campgrounds – MM70. If you are interested in fishing with Capt. Joe, call (305) 304-4580, or visit [www.killerinstinctcharters.com](http://www.killerinstinctcharters.com).

## Capt. Joe Petrucco Islamorada Offshore



High winds and rough seas dominated the scene again this week, however the conditions were still fishable throughout much of the week. The sailfish have vanished for now but should reappear very soon. Keep an eye out for them as the month progresses. We have not seen the last of them yet. The main target this week for most offshore ventures was mahi-mahi or yellowtail snappers. Both were feeding well and present in good numbers. The patches and reef edge both have been great for the snapper bite. The dirty water on the patches has been excellent for “keeper” tails with a mix of small grouper, hogfish, porgies and cero mackerel. This makes for a great half-day trip in calmer waters. The mahi-mahi were moving through in-close from 150-300 feet of water. Numerous debris/weed lines have been making their way up the reef in the moderate current. White terns and gulls have been working these

edges and ganging up above schools of mahi-mahi tailing down the heavy seas. Live baits have been the key to getting these finicky eaters hooked-up. Plenty of ballyhoo have been present at the usual spots. All that is required is a block of chum and some small hair hooks with a piece of cut bait. Head over to World Wide Sportsman at MM81 and ask the guys behind the counter to show you the hair hooks and how to use them. They will be happy to assist you in any way and get you out “catching”. They can also help out with any other tackle or fishing related questions. They are very knowledgeable and friendly, always willing to spend time with you to help. The Gulf of Mexico has been fantastic for Spanish mackerel and blacktip sharks. cobia and Goliath grouper have also been present on the wrecks out in 20-40 feet of water. As the water temps go up in the coming week, the fishing should spark up so plan on spending a day in the gulf “catching” this week. Don’t let the high winds scare you off the water. The fishing remains great and plenty of good opportunities abound for the coming week. Head on down to your favorite marina and book that charter for your trip of a lifetime! Come on down to Fiesta Key Marina at MM70 and look me up in Paradise! We have plenty of openings and would love to get out “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



I don't know how to summarize this week other than terrible. We caught fish every day, but not many of them." The fishing wasn't impossible, but it was very, very hard and we had to put a lot of effort into putting a catch together.

The yellowtails have been non-existent just like the mangroves. You can go out there right now and go to all of the perfect 'tailin' spots and use all of the right tackle and most likely not come up with much to show for your efforts.

For this reason we on the "Capt. Michael" have been spending most of our time targeting kingfish and mutton snappers. The kingfish bite has been sporadic and frustrating. I haven't seen a king over 15 pounds in quite a while. The "snakes" have been thick everywhere we normally find the kings. The hottest ticket for us has been the whole ballyhoo on a

three hook rig, yet live bait will always out produce a dead bait.

Last week I was lucky enough to be able to right about mutton snappers biting like crazy. This week we did indeed see a few of them come over the rail of the boat but it was nothing like the week prior. I didn't see any charter boats come in with any of them but the party boat got a hand full of them throughout the week. Nothing too big came over the rail but I did see some nice fish caught. The night was the most productive for the muttons this week just like the three or four prior.

As far as groupers go I haven't seen a keeper in about 6 weeks. Normally this time of year we catch lots of red and black groupers. The few that we have seen have come out of the deeper water.

I would predict that the yellowtails and mangroves will start biting soon as the water warms up, but as for now they are still hard to come by.

One nice treat is that even though the reef is tough the dolphin have been very close to the reef which has made an easy life for many of the charter boats willing to venture out to 300ft or so.

Don't get too worried about the status of the reef. The bite is guaranteed to pick up in the next few weeks as the water warms up. The snappers are extremely dependant on water temperature and as the air warms the water they will begin to feed heavily again and you will begin to see the yellowtails load up in the chum slick and the mangroves will start to cruise behind the boat again.

Don't worry about how it's been, get out there and find out how good it's getting!

Capt. Brian 

# 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.rodeocharter.com](http://www.rodeocharter.com).

## Capt. George Clark, Jr. Key Largo Offshore



If you are going to head offshore from the upper keys soon then here are a few tips to catch fish along with our fishing report. Lately we have really seen things changing, but new opportunities keep popping up daily. Dolphin fishing has really lit up recently and the fish we are catching are very nice size. Large schoolie Mahi and even fish up in the twenties are just off the edge right now. An abundance of flying fish are tucked in tight to the reef. From fifty feet on out you will see these bird like fish getting out of the water when they are chased by predators. Bird activity around these large bait pods has helped locate these aggressive Dolphins and the key has been using small blue and white combos that look like flyers. Even rigged bally hoo works well here and these nice mahi can eat one down quickly. We are also seeing more black fins and bruiser bonitos too. These fish are chasing flying fish too and the same lures will work fine.

King fishing has stayed steady and once you locate these mackerel you should be able to either jig them or live bait them up with frisky cigar minnows or pilchards. Bally is an option, although hard swimming baits work best. Amber jacks continue to show up and hang on deep wrecks and good bottom structure out side of 200 feet. Live blue runners are great bait for these bigger fish and they are biting steady right now. Metal jigs are another presentation that will effectively get you bites also. When dropping metal jigs or buck tails make sure you try this technique on braided line so you can connect on each strike. Since braid doesn't stretch, your hook sets will be solid and your hook penetration should be deep.

Along with the jacks, you may also find a grouper or big mutton, too. Reef fishing has been good here of late and the mutton snapper are moving around looking for that next meal. The mutton snapper have been 8 to 12 pound fish and. Yellow tail snapper have been chewing steady out side of 60 feet. Get a good chum slick going and you shouldn't have a problem getting these tasty yellow fish to eat a strip bait or silver side minnow. These fish have been over a pound and as big as three. Cobias are popping up inside of 100 feet and recently we have been able to see some cruising on the surface going down sea. These brown fish are mistaken for sharks sometimes and will likely eat a pin fish or grunt pretty fast. Inside the reef we will find packs of cobia hanging around working rays or nurse sharks. The cobias have been 15 to 30 pound fish and will exceed 50 or 60 pounds. So get out there and enjoy some of this great fishing and if you want to enjoy a day with us, please give us a call and we will set it up.

Good luck . . .

Thanks, Capt. George. 





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**Elizabeth Jolin**  
**A Woman's View**

"I am prepared to state that I feel almost certain, if I spent another month bonefishing, I would become obsessed and perhaps lose my enthusiasm of other kinds of fish.

Why?

There is a multiplicity of reasons. My reasons range from the exceedingly graceful beauty of a bonefish to the fact that he is the best food fish I ever ate. That is a wide range. He is the wisest, shyest, wariest, strangest fish I ever studied; and I am not excepting the great *Xiphias gladius* - the broadbill swordfish. As for the speed of the bonefish, I claim no salmon, no barracuda, no other fish celebrated for swiftness of motion is in his class. A bonefish is so incredibly fast that it was a long time before I could believe the evidence of my own eyes. You see him; he is there perfectly still in the clear, shallow water, a creature of fish shape, pale green and silver, but crystal-like, a phantom shape, staring at you with strange black eyes; then he is gone. Vanished! By peering keenly you may discern a little swirl in the water. As for the strength of a bonefish, I actually hesitate to give my impressions. No one will ever believe how powerful a bonefish is until he has tried to stop the run and heard the line snap. As for his cunning, it is utterly baffling.

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**Capt. Steve Murray**  
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As for his biting, it is almost imperceptible. As for his tactics, they are beyond conjecture." — Bonefishing, Zane Grey

I delighted to come across this wonderful and accurate description of Long Key bonefish written in the early 1900's by the skilled hand of notorious author Zane Grey. I also discovered a charming black and white photo of his wife Dolly. In honor of National Women's History Month, I couldn't resist digging around a little to discover what role, if any, played in her husband's success. I discovered the book Zane Grey - His Life, His Adventures, His Women by Thomas Pauly.

Apparently, Dolly edited Zane Grey's work, managed his accounts, negotiated many of his book contracts, raised the children, and soothed his lifelong battle with depression. He, in turn, traveled the world in search of adventure to use as material for his novels.

Grey didn't invent the Western novel, but he popularized the genre to the point where he earned heavily during his career; upwards of \$500,000 during the good years. With this income he could afford to travel lavishly to find inspiration for his writings, and he spared no expense to feed his passion for fishing; purchasing extravagant boats and specialty tackle.

Dolly played the quiet hero and role of devoted wife for Zane Grey. She was essential to his success, but describes herself as, "the alone-nest person I ever met." She rarely accompanied him on his cross-country treks and she didn't particularly enjoy fishing. And yet Zane would travel to New Zealand, Tahiti, and Australia for months at time. He always traveled in the company of women. He insisted that women inspired his life's work.

The women who accompanied him were vivacious, smart, adventurous, and liberal. Zane Grey plunged deeply in love multiple times over the course of his life. He pursued women relentlessly. His novels were filled with romantic liaisons and portraits of strong capable women, and many of these storybook characters came from real life companions and dalliances. And yet he would always return to Dolly, and through his letters we discover that he thought of himself as a devoted husband and father.

Dolly loved her eccentric husband. And somehow, she managed to accept this arrangement. Through correspondence, she even advised him of how to proceed and manage these sometimes sticky affairs. Pauly describes Dolly as one of the first women to accept "open marriage", long before the term existed. Dolly wrote, it takes "great genius to recognize one of his ilk." She obviously puts herself in that genius category because she recognized his genius enough to remain loyal to him until his death.

Dolly succeeded in her life's work to support her husband and make him, "all that he can be". And this modern reader can only comprehend her dedication by referencing the adage, "behind every great man, is a woman."

Grey's writings on fishing will compel anyone to pick up a rod, and learning about his devoted wife, and the many other women in his life make his stories even more intriguing. 🌿



Dolly Gray circa 1905.

# 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](http://www.dirtywaterscharters.com)

## Capt. Lain Goodwin Key Largo Backcountry

Well, I normally start my article talking a little bit about the recent weather but as of now it's been the same the past few weeks, 15-20 knots. The big surprise was the late season cold front we had in the beginning of the week. When on the water, conditions are constantly changing depending on several factors including wind, temperature and rainfall. The two major factors that we have been dealing with this week are the drop in water temperatures because of the cold front and the excessive winds.

The recent drop in water temperatures back into the low 60's has put a dampening on the snook bite as well as the beginning of the tarpon migration. That doesn't mean we aren't catching any snook, but just a few each day. Don't worry because the great thing about the Florida Keys is that the water temperatures will quickly rebound within a few

days and get those snook fired-up again. But in the meantime, it doesn't mean that you have to stay home and finish working on that ever growing "To Do" list. You just need to alter your targeted species or find an area with warmer water temperatures. Speckled trout are one of my favorite species to target because they don't seem to mind the colder temperatures and provide a fun day of fishing for just about anyone. All you need is some medium action rods with light line (6-10 lb.) and cajun thunder popping corks along with an 1/8 oz HookUp Lure and Berkley Gulp baits. I've had the best results with the Berkley swimming mullet and shrimp for catching the bigger trout. The trout are on the verge of their annual spring spawning cycle. In the next few weeks, those monster 3-5 pound female trout should start showing up in the mullet muds. If you don't know of any good trout spots all you have to do is drift one of the many mullet muds from Key Largo to Flamingo. In the northeast portions of the bay we have been most productive in grass lined bays with 3-6 foot depths. Just about any of the grass bays and channels surrounding Flamingo will hold trout at one time or another. Just give it a few casts and move along to the next one until you find them. Many of the channels have also been producing some nice sized jack cravelles up to 7 pounds. Pound for pound the jacks are by far the hardest fighting fish that swims in the backcountry and are a blast to catch on light tackle.

If you haven't already done so, make sure to view the newly released General Management Plan alternatives from Everglades National Park. You can find the 4 alternatives at their website, [www.nps.gov/ever](http://www.nps.gov/ever). If you cannot make one of the public meetings, there's an online comment form on the website. The GMP will outline the management of the Everglades for the next 25-30 years so make sure to voice your opinion before it's too late!!!

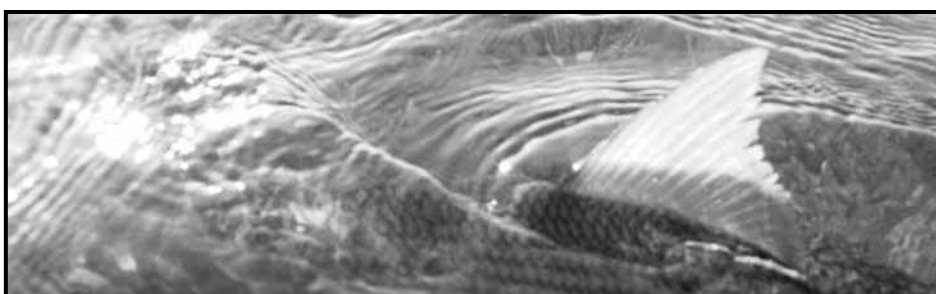
Until next week, tight lines and light winds! 🦅



The Fanguys from Louisiana enjoyed a nice day with us fishing aboard Rodeo Charters GOTTA MON in Key Largo.



John Earley (Northborough, MA), shows off this big snook caught while fishing with Capt. Kerry Wingo out of Key Largo. The fish was 35 1/2" long and weighed 14 lbs. It was caught on a chartreuse Hank Brown Hook Up jig and Gulp shrimp combination. John was joined by his son Brendan and his sister-in-law Betsy Beck.





# 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 currently happening in our fishery here in the Keys. If I can help you get hooked up with a local guide or crew to do some fishing during you visit please contact me at the above information.

The Sailfish bite remained on the slow side this past week. A few Sails were caught chasing showers in the shallows along the reef edge and a few more trolling with the kites. A good size fleet turned out in Duck Cay to participate in the Sailfish Open. The winning boat crewed by the Advanced Roofing team released six Sailfish to win more than \$100,000 during the two day event. The fresh breezes out of the ENE last week have given way to yet another

some good Dolphin fishing in 300 to 400 feet of water off the Upper and Middle Keys. Good schools of fish up to 25 pounds have been aggregated around the shallower concentrations of seaweed and debris. This is a welcome sign for most of us that Spring in the Keys is just around the corner.


On the bright side our reefs are teaming with large schools of King Mackerel. These hard fighting fish have ranged in size from 5 to 40 pounds the last seven days and have produced some great fishing action for our visiting anglers. The Kingfish are held up on the reef ledges from 90 to 140 feet of water and are feeding readily on cigar minnows, speedos, and trolled spoons. Look for this action to continue this coming week. There has also been some good Blackfin Tuna action around town. They have been holding in the 180 to 300 depths in the morning. There has also been a good bite of Tunas around the 409 hump off Islamorada. The deep water snappers have continued to bite in 190 to 250 feet of water from Key Largo to Marathon, Vermillion and Yelloweye Snappers

cold front early this week. The Sails are encouraged to move down the coast this time of year towards the Yucatan Straights off of Mexico by these fronts. With the winds forecast to warm and turn to the East this week I look for the Sailfish bite to remain about the same. The good news for anglers in the deep this week is that all of the East wind has produced

make up the bulk of these fish but there are also a few Mutton Snappers and Groupers mixed in with these fish.

Further inshore along the reef edge the Yellowtail snapper bite has been good when the current has been available. These fish are aggregating in their prespawn pattern at several locations up and down the reef. The fishing for these hard fighting and tasty fish will only be better here in the Keys during the next few weeks. There have been a few Black Groupers, Mangrove Snappers, and Mutton snappers in these same areas as well. The Cobia bite was good early last week before the front. Capt. Paul Ross on the Relentless caught several fish to 70 pounds. I expect the fishing for the Cobias to improve this week as we wax the full moon on Wednesday.

The inshore fishing this past week has been good. Snook season opened this past week and several anglers brought home their first fish of the year. Snook and Redfish fishing in the Flamingo area has continued to be excellent. There has also been a good bite of Spanish Mackerel, trout, and even a few Tarpon as the weather has warmed. Bonefishing on the Ocean side flats has been on the improve. With the mild turn in the weather the inshore fishing will no doubt respond favorably to the warm up.

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 fish 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 

## Men Face Costly Fine for Undersized Swordfish . . .

That's some expensive fish. Taking three undersized swordfish may end up costing four Broward County men \$10,000. NOAA issued a "notice of violation and assessment" to the owner, permit holder, boat operator and fisherman of the fishing vessel "No Mercy."

The case was referred to NOAA by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). In December, FWC Officer David Weis stopped a commercial fishing boat in the Intracoastal Waterway near Port Everglades.

Weis performed a marine fisheries inspection. Two men -- a captain and a fisherman -- were on board at the time. The men had caught six swordfish, three of which were under the legal length and weight limits, Weiss reported. Federal regulations specify a minimum length of 29 inches from cleithrum to caudal keel or 33 pounds dressed. If in whole condition, the swordfish must be 47 inches long, lower jaw fork length.

"We hope this case serves as deterrence," said FWC Lt. Dave Bingham. "Taking undersized swordfish has costly consequences."

Four people are facing federal fisheries law violations. They are identified as the captain, Michael J. Macneir, DOB 12/2/80, (Fort Lauderdale); fisherman Shane T. Casey, DOB 12/21/82, (Fort Lauderdale); permit holder Vincent T. Bonura III, DOB 4/8/84, (Fort Lauderdale); and vessel registrant Scott M. Leon, DOB 7/24/70, (Davie).



# 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](http://www.lowerkeysflatsfishing.com) for more information.

## Capt. Luke Kelly Lower Keys




Its weeks like this one when I wish I had a sail on my flats boat, sure could save a lot of gas money. For a couple of days prior to the gusty and cool conditions we received March 2nd, the fishing was great. Permit tails were in the sky, bonefish ventured into the grass-flats, and tarpon were looking to eat. Then again, water temps were above seventy, air temps were around eighty, and the wind was five to ten knots in the backcountry. Great conditions will lead to great fishing from here on out, while those great conditions will only become more consistent from here on out as well. I am writing this while the palm trees outside my house look as they are growing horizontally, winds are gusting over thirty and I have had the day off. I fished a few of the gusty days this past week and stuck to the groves for the entirety of the trips. I feel that the wide-open flats just don't hold fish when it is like this, and if they do good luck in feeding them anything.

Fishing the Lower Florida Keys flats and backcountry during gusty conditions isn't always the most desired experience for anglers. Though

I feel it provides for an experience that many overlook. Spending an entire day focusing on the many hidden, out of the wind channels and openings found within and around the very Keys that make our beautiful fishing grounds is down right fun. Baby tarpon, snapper, and different species of grouper our the main players, while redfish and even permit will sometimes show themselves inside these maze-like mangrove island channels and motes. It may not be like stalking trophy fish on the flats, but keeping a rod bent while surrounded by beautiful habitat is just that, and is just as good during windy periods.

Fly-fishing these tight little spots takes a bit of consideration but can certainly be accomplished. I am not much of a stream or river fisherman but the small amount of them I have fished relate to what we have here in the Keys. Most of what you must consider is the amount of room you have to cast and the various techniques used to do so, and the depth of what you are fishing. I find a combination of sinking lines and tips along with floating line outfits must be on hand. This is because the water depth inside these areas is extremely inconsistent. You must also realize that most all of the small fish, shrimp, crabs, and other critters found in the mangroves fall down current if they are moving. The larger fish know this, therefore you must present your fly in such a way as to make it fall down current in one way or another while mending your fly line so to keep it inline with your rod to ensure a strip set once a fish takes it. I like to use a ten weight so to stand a chance against the juvenile tarpon and grouper, while just about locking down the drag to keep the fish from getting into the grove. You would be surprised in how fast a fish will turn against a ten-weight fly rod with a heavy drag setting. Light tackle within these areas is also a blast and is a great way to spend a windy day in March.

Since the mangroves are full of a large array of life and considered a nursery for many species, care must be taken while around such areas. Just respect them as they are and try not to leave a footprint. Use idle speeds when approaching and leaving, while resulting to a push-pole or trolling motor once inside. This will also greatly help you in locating the fish believe it or not, humans tend to be a bit noisy. 



## Capt. Ron Wagner

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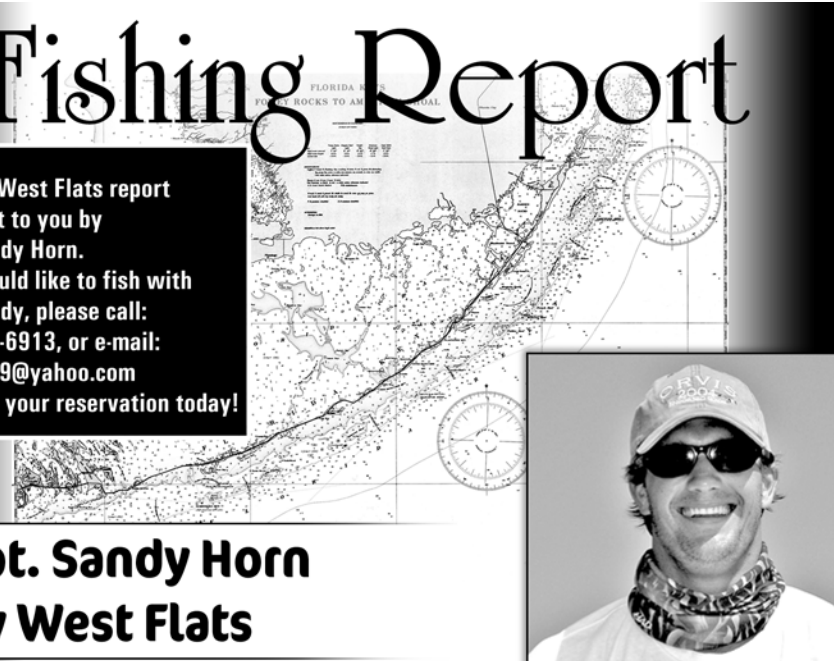
The Gulf of Mexico is red hot! The boys were fishing on the KILLER INSTINCT located at mm70 in the Fiesta Key Marina.



# Fishing Report

FLORIDA KEYS  
FROM THE ROCKS TO AMERICA

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

The fishign has been holding its course for the last few weeks with more wind and cooler weather this week. It does seem that things are goign to lay down this comign week so be ready for some great fishing to come. Like I have been saying this has been an extremely cold winter which is making the water temperatures a little cooler than normal. To have really effective permit fishing you want the water to be around seventy two degrees or warmer. We had some days towards the back end of the cold front when temperatures got in that range, there were permit to be found scouring the flats. At the beginning of the week water temperatures were hovering around seventy degrees and most of the fish were sticking to deeper water. On days when the wind is blowing out of the north it's best to do something other than permit fish first thing in the morning. Now if the weather the day before was eighty five degrees

and sunny your water temps are still probably going to be high so permit fishing is an option for you in the morning. I'm talking about those days that are three or four days past a cold front when things start warming up a little and it looks like permit fishing could be fantastic. The truth of the matter is that the water temperatures are still a little to low and you are better served to fish for another species of fish than beating your head against the wall looking for permit that are not going to be there. I know you die hard permit fisherman are probably letting out a big sigh right now but I would rather have a little fun than fish for a fish that is not going to be around. The days when the permit fishing was marginal the barracuda fishing was really good. I was actually trying to permit fish on the ocean side where I don't see many barracuda and we must have seen fifty going down one little stretch. I know they are not the most exciting fish to catch for someone who fishes down here a lot but they can be a lot of fun and a good way to waste a few hours waiting for your water temperatures to warm up.

It's the beginning of March and in my eyes the main fishing season has officially begun. You will probably here me talk about barracuda for the next couple of weeks because like I said before, water temperatures are still a little low but that will be replaced with big laid up tarpon soon enough. I also want everyone to keep a close eye out for cobia on the backs of sing rays and sharks. I think if we can get a warm stretch after this cold front blows through there will be some up on the flats. I have always thought that fishery was so cool because to my knowledge Key West is the only place in the world to catch cobia in shallow water. Hope we get some warm weather this week to spark a little more permit action so I will keep my fingers crossed. Hope everyone has tight lines and fish boat side until next week. 🐟

## Unrefrigerated Oysters Seized at Two Points of Sale

More than 4,400 pounds of unrefrigerated oysters would have reached the mouths of Southwest Florida consumers were it not for the diligence of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) officers.

In two seemingly unrelated incidents, FWC officers arrested three unlicensed people attempting to sell oysters that had not been stored in accordance with state health standards. However, markings on the bags showed that oysters in both seizures originally came from the same shipment.

On Feb. 23, an FWC officer on patrol in Hendry County saw a man by the side of the road advertising Louisiana oysters for sale. The officer found 14 bags of oysters in a cargo trailer without refrigeration or ice. He charged William R. Kersey Jr. (DOB 02/01/1974) of 311 Clark St., LaBelle, with selling saltwater products without a retail license and with violating quality-control regulations. The officer seized and destroyed approximately 1,100 pounds of oysters in that incident.

On Feb. 24, an FWC officer conducting commercial fish house inspections on Estero Island in Lee County found two men and a juvenile attempting to sell oysters to a local fish house. The officer discovered 41 bags of oysters without refrigeration or ice in the rear of a pickup and in an open trailer. Dean T. Daniels (DOB 08/03/1963) of 38 W. Carmack Dr., Chalmette, La., claimed that his refrigerated truck broke down while transporting the oysters from his fish house in Louisiana. The officer charged Daniels and Jeremy Kennedy (DOB 02/02/1988) of 4003 Cascade Lane, LaBelle, with attempting to sell saltwater products without a wholesale dealer's license and with quality-control violations.

FWC officers and Florida Department of Agriculture agents routinely inspect licensed fish dealers in Florida to ensure that high standards for consumer products are met. The FWC reminds consumers never to purchase seafood from an unlicensed dealer. Licenses must be posted in open view for consumers. 🐟





# 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](http://www.sweetenufcharters.com) [sweetenufcharter@aol.com](mailto:sweetenufcharter@aol.com)

## Capt. Dave Schugar Marathon



Well it's a little cool for March, but the wind is about right. East and south East winds at 15-20 mph. Looking at the forecast the winds are not going to let up much either. But, hey this will mean more fish for the brave fisherman. This weather should start are annual dolphin run.

Looking for dolphin right now you will not have to go very far but if you don't find the fish in close I would venture further out but I wouldn't go past 600 feet. There has been some dolphin in close since the Gulf Stream is really close in. Mostly schoolies but a few larger fish in the 20's have been showing up. It's still a little early but the compared to the previous years the dolphin are trickling in better this year. They usually will start trickling in now and by the end of March we will find a week or two where the big dolphin will start pouring through. Find the birds and you find the dolphin as the old saying goes. Wahoo should be lurking around too, so I would recommend using some large live baits with wire or troll high-speed with some large lures, preferably dark

colors and pink.

If your looking for the tuna well, they have been getting much better around the humps. The size of the tuna has gone up with some fish in the 20's. The 409 hump had some nice big fish early this week as so did the marathon hump. Live baiting has been the key and the jigging has taken their fair share of tuna too. It has seemed that the shark population has gone down but still; they pose a threat to our fresh sashimi and our 20-dollar jigs.

Important notification: There has been a closure on bottom fishing East of the Marathon Hump to West of the 409. I don't have the exact coordinates but they closed this area to help promote the population of many different deep-water bottom fish. Now since they closed it to bottom fishing you can still troll around and jig for tuna in those areas. Usually when they close an area we will never be allowed to fish there again. This really sucks because that area has many different humps, which I used to fish for queen snapper and snowy grouper, tilefish and many others too. Oh well, I will just have to find a new spot outside this area. That was the area which I caught all those queen snapper last year. There are plenty of humps all over the place but only a few of them will hold queen snappers.

The yellowtail has been slow but they are now starting to cooperate. As the water warms up the yellowtail bite will get better. The grouper fishing out in front of Marathon has been slow but they too have been biting better. The Thunderbolt and other large wrecks in close like the Span have been covered with grouper from what my dive buddies said. We are just waiting for the bite to turn on, and when it does it will be game on. The muttons have been slow here in marathon but we are still getting a few each day we are targeting them. Remember to always change your baits, sometimes the muttons are lazy and a split-tailed ballyhoo or mullet will entice the fish eat. I try and have a few different baits live and dead to see which one is getting the bites.

*Cont. on pg. 19*

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**March 13-15: Key West Fishing Tournament Kick-Off.** Key West & Lower Keys. Targeting multiple species, this annual challenge starts a season-long tournament that awards certificates for outstanding catches and prizes in a host of categories. Contact Doris Harris at (800) 970-9056 or (305) 295-6601, e-mail [director@keywestfishingtournament.com](mailto:director@keywestfishingtournament.com), visit [www.keywestfishingtournament.com](http://www.keywestfishingtournament.com).

**March 13-14: 2009 Ducks Unlimited Islamorada Inshore Fishing Tournament. Islamorada.** Benefiting wetlands conservation. Kick off party/captains meeting with hors d'oeuvre's at Marker 88 restaurant on Fri., March 13 at 6pm. Silent auction and raffle also. Fishing on Sat., March 14th. Depart and return from any marina or boat ramp of angler's choice. Lines in at 7:30am and out at 3:30pm. Back with score sheet to Marker 88 by 5:30pm. Awards presentation at 6pm. For more information contact Captain G.W. DePauw at (305) 522-3718.

**March 13 - Nov. 30: Key West Fishing Tournament.** Key West. This popular 8.5-month-long competition targets more than 40 species of fish. Contact Doris Harris at (305) 295-6601 or (800) 970-9056, e-mail [director@keywestfishingtournament.com](mailto:director@keywestfishingtournament.com) or visit [www.keywestfishingtournament.com](http://www.keywestfishingtournament.com).

**March 24-27: Islamorada All-Tackle Spring Bonefish Tournament.** Islamorada. Anglers compete to catch the gray ghost of the flats in the legendary shallows surrounding Islamorada. This all-release tournament features trophies and prizes. Contact Jim Bokor at (305) 852-1694, e-mail [jabok@aol.com](mailto:jabok@aol.com).

**April 14-18: World Sailfish Championship.** Key West. With a guaranteed top prize of \$100,000, the championship benefits the Don Shula Foundation for Breast Cancer Research, Camp Boggy Creek for youngsters with chronic and life-threatening illnesses, and other national and local charities. Contact (305) 395-3474 or (727) 631-0072, e-mail [lemmole@worldsailfish.com](mailto:lemmole@worldsailfish.com), visit [www.worldsailfish.com](http://www.worldsailfish.com).



The Freedom Charter strikes again! Capt. Chuck took Caine Cappello, Gary Raith and Glen Oxenburg out south of Molasses Reef. A whopping 65lb. yellowmouth (see next page), plus a 20lb. and a 16lb. grouper. There was another 24" grouper that was released to grow up for the next visit.



Awesome 16 lb mutton snapper caught on the KILLER INSTINCT from Fiest Key Marina MM70.



Best Bet - Doris Chinchar's mutton snapper on a patch reef.

## Quick Note on Photography . . .

Please submit your photos in RGB format, with the largest pixel dimension (count) set to at least 1600 (1600x1200, for example).

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Gary Raith with his 65 pound Yellowmouth Grouper caught south of Molasses Reef. It was four feet long with a girth of 35.5 inches.



Here's a nice combo caught with Capt. Andrew Tipler.



Harrison with a nice Gulf pompano caught aboard the "Go Fish" with Capt. Matt Bellinger (Bamboo Charters).

# Fishing Report

Brought to you courtesy of  
Capt. Andrew Tipler.  
To fish with Capt. Andrew,  
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## Capt. Andrew Tipler Lower Keys




It looks like the winds are finally coming down. We have very few days with winds below 20. There are still options when the wind is up but it limits your choices substantially. Now that the winds are dropping and temperatures are warming we should be in for a good week of fishing.

Flats fishing is picking up due to warming water temperatures and good tides. Nice numbers of permit were moving onto the flats on Sunday. Look for permit fishing to remain strong through the week. Live crabs on 12lb spinning outfits rigged with 10-20lb fluorocarbon leader is the go to rig with fly being the method of choice for those looking for the ultimate challenge. Don't plan on boating a bunch of fish on fly, 1 fish makes for a great day. There were also lots of big cudas on the flats this past week. They were a little slow to follow the tube lure but with some coaxing we got them to eat. Jointed Sebile lures are also fantastic at

getting barracudas to eat. Sharks and jacks rounded out the flats fishing. Look for tarpon to show up more and more over the coming weeks.

Reef fishing was very good last week if you could stomach the seas. If you could find good current, not running up the anchor line, then a box full of flag yellowtails was only moments away. We had some action on the bottom but not what I was expecting. Live yellowtail and whole squid got most of the action. Hopefully the full moon will not hamper the reef fishing. As the water clears a little the fish should remain on the feed despite the moon.

I spent a good bit of time fishing the patch reefs this last week. This time of year the patches can give great action without venturing too far out into rough seas. There is even a chance for some fairly large grouper to come up. Giant schools of ballyhoo were all over the place and had the predators up and feeding. We were throwing artificials to hungry Spanish mackerel only to be interrupted by big jacks. This is fun fishing and when the action is hot you can even get them on fly. Pick any baitfish pattern and rig with a trace of wire. Get the fly back into the chum slick whatever way possible. I often have my anglers make a cast and then let out more slack. Once the fly is a good ways out strip as fast as you can and hang on, cero have as good a strike as you could ask for.

Wreck fishing produced some very nice fish early last week but tapered off by the weekend. We had big amberjacks keeping us busy between grouper bites. On Saturday we had a tough time even getting a strike. Good luck and good fishing. 



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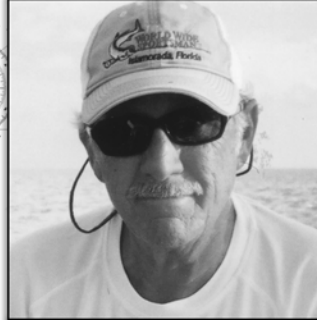
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# Fishing Report

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](http://www.captainronwagner.com) [fishwithcapttron@hotmail.com](mailto:fishwithcapttron@hotmail.com)

## Capt. Ron Wagner From the Skiff



I had just slipped the boat in at the ramp, tied it off to the dock and was just starting to pull the trailer up to park, when a man walking his dog came up to my anglers (two girls from Connecticut) and I overheard him saying to them, "You're going 30 miles over to the Everglades in this wind on that boat and paying him? Are you crazy?" The gals, Debbie and Lynn from Greenwich, CT, just smiled and said: "We do it all the time, in fact for the last 15 years – what's a little wind?" Of course, it was blowing a gale, but we do fish in some amazing weather from time to time. I proceeded to park the truck and trailer and thought about what that fellow said.


We prepared for the journey by slipping on our foul weather gear and proceeded to travel across to the mainland. When you're running across in tough weather, you're smart to run on the leeside of the many banks allowing you a safer ride, with certainly less head-shaking, butt kickin', water thrashing adventures that might make you wish you stayed home. After some occasional spray of salt water and a little bouncing, we made the Cape Sable area and proceeded up and into my favorite opening. Here we were now out of any wind, and it felt wonderful. Removing the

foul weather gear and checking our joints for any aches and bruises, we began fishing.

And our day fishing would turn out to be spectacular. Debbie and Lynn would experience a day that would rank as their best in the Park. They would catch almost what seemed like an endless amount of backcountry fish, seemingly battling one on each cast. By the end of the day, they caught 9 nice snook, 12 black drum (to 16lbs). Add to that, 20 trout that were all monsters (averaging 3-4 lbs). And still fought redfish, jacks ladyfish, pompano, tripletail and sheephead. Then Debbie hooked, and brought to the boat side, a 125 lb. goliath grouper just to punish her arms a little more. They were tired, Capt. Ron was tired, too.

You know, ladies today catch their fair share of fish. In fact, over the years I'd say many can out-fish the boys. And I know why – they are far more patient, they listen and learn quickly. They are very easy to instruct, as they have no bad casting or playing fish habits, so I find this the main reason we love to fish with them. You learn right the first time that you have a rod and reel in your hands, and you are on your way to many years of excitement. Did you ever buy a new reel, and in the box were instructions that show you how to use it properly? NO. Fishing captains are there to show you the proper way and we know what we're doing. I never take an angler for granted, thinking that because he fishes a lot, he knows the proper casting techniques. First, I'm a teacher who wants all the anglers to know the right way – I had to learn from someone. When they depart for their area of the country, it's satisfying to know they can feel confident around anybody, in any fishing circle.

Later, we arrived back at the dock fighting the same wind and waves as we had in the morning. Maybe more, but how we wished the man and that dog were still there. We really liked the dog. The man was perhaps not a fisherman, certainly not a rough-day fellow. But my girls were fantastic and this guide is so proud of them. WAY TO GO, GALS.

Lastly, I leave you with this: Returning home from a fishing trip, a man stopped at a roadside diner and ordered a cup of coffee. As he attempted to make conversation with the waitress, he said, "It looks like rain, doesn't it?" She promptly replied, "I can't help what it looks like, we sell it for coffee." 

# 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](http://www.incognitolighttackle.com) [incognitocharters@comcast.net](mailto:incognitocharters@comcast.net)

## Capt. Chris Lembo Key West Offshore




The weather made fishing a little tough this week. I spent most days in the backcountry and one very rough day on the reef. The water inshore is running 66-69 degrees and around 72 outside the reef. Current is moving lightly to the east and the blue water is close to the reef.

Offshore was very tough this week with the NE and East wind blowing 20+. We actually had a little south of east which made the seas even larger on Saturday. Sailfish are around and pushing bait right up on the

reef. Dolphin are around and have remained steady all winter. With the rough water trolling has been the most comfortable. Tuna, Kingfish and a few Wahoo are also in the mix.

On the reef the conditions are tough but the fishing good. Bottom fishing has been great for Snapper... Yellowtail, Mutton, Mangrove were all feeding on the bottom and a few Grouper as well. I had better luck with dead baits and pinfish were all but useless. Porgies, Yellowjacks, Amberjacks, Kingfish, Cero's and Sharks round out the species.

With the wind coming from the North I have not ventured into the Gulf but should be out there once or twice this week as the wind has lightened and moved a little South. Rockpiles and wrecks should be holding Cobias and Kingfish along with plenty of Snapper on the bottom.

Inshore the patch reefs have been a good choice to avoid the big seas. Keep the chum flowing and you will attract Grouper, Yellowtail, Mangrove, Mutton, Mackerel, Sharks and maybe something more unusual like a big Green Moray. 

# 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



It's just about 'Bonanza Time.' It's just about that time of year when there are just about every major species of fish that the Keys are known for are all here at the same time. Yes, there are always a few stragglers around of most of the species but I am talking about when you can go out for and catch on a regular basis, just about any type of fish you want.

When I talk about the major species, I am mentioning winter fish such as kingfish, mackerel, cobia, sailfish, small- but numerous tunas, trout, redfish, bluefish, and an abundance of yellowtail. In the spring and summer, the better-known species are dolphin, marlin, bigger tunas, permit, tarpon and an influx of red grouper.

Here in the Key's waters, we really don't have that much of a temperature change as compared to most of the rest of the country, both on land or in the water. But for the local species, it does make a difference. (The fish are like the locals; a few degrees can really affect us.) Traditionally in March, we have the mixing of both winter and summer fish in local waters, which is why I call it 'Bonanza Time' for area anglers.

Nowhere is this becoming more evident that this is coming to pass than on the flats where bonefish are showing up as well as an impressive influx of permit and tarpon in the past week. Mix them in with the numerous redfish, trout and the return of the barracudas from the deeper

waters and you have a fishery that is busting out with opportunity for light tackle enthusiast. Most of the recent complaints from anglers were not knowing which fish to cast to first. (I'll get out the violin for them!)

It is starting to happen offshore as well with a nice influx of dolphin as well as wahoo. We had a great run of wahoo in November and December, but they had taken a break for the most part for the past couple of months. Tunas, some very nice ones too, have been caught recently from 650 to 900 feet and beyond, and not all on the hump. In fact, more have been caught on good current edges than at the hump. Sails have been quite active along the edge of the reef line during this past cool front as well as plenty of kingfish.

The reef line is full of yellowtail, muttons and some very nice groupers. The same is true for the rock patches in Hawk Channel. Cobia have been caught at both venues in good numbers and size. Mackerel still frequent the channel as well as plenty of fun species such as jacks and blue runners. Mangrove snappers are scattered over both, as March is the traditional beginning of their move to the ocean for the annual spawn.

Speaking of mangrove snappers, try the bridge channels on those windy days, or even on the calm ones for that matter. This is one of the hottest spots for them right now. Live pinfish, large chunks of fresh ballyhoo, silversides and near the slack tide, try a live shrimp hooked through the head from the bottom up without a weight. Fish it just like you would flat-line for yellowtail back to the pilling. Have a good grip on your rod!

The bay is still active with snappers, grouper and some of the best cobia fishing of the year 12+ miles out. Mackerel are still extremely abundant along with redfish, bluefish, and trout and, oh yes, we can't avoid mentioning, much less catching, catfish. (Tell you a little tip; if you have never tried one but you are game, you may be surprised at the taste and texture of the 'sail-cat.' It's pretty darn good if you can forget what the outside looked like! Just think of the first person that ate a raw oyster).

A reminder that this week's free fishing seminar is Sunday night from at a new time due to the time change. We will begin at 6:30 PM at the World Class Angler's Marine Educational Center at our new location at 3740 Overseas Highway. This week we will be covering working the winds of the Keys and where to fish when they are honking. It is absolutely free and everyone is invited to attend. 🎣

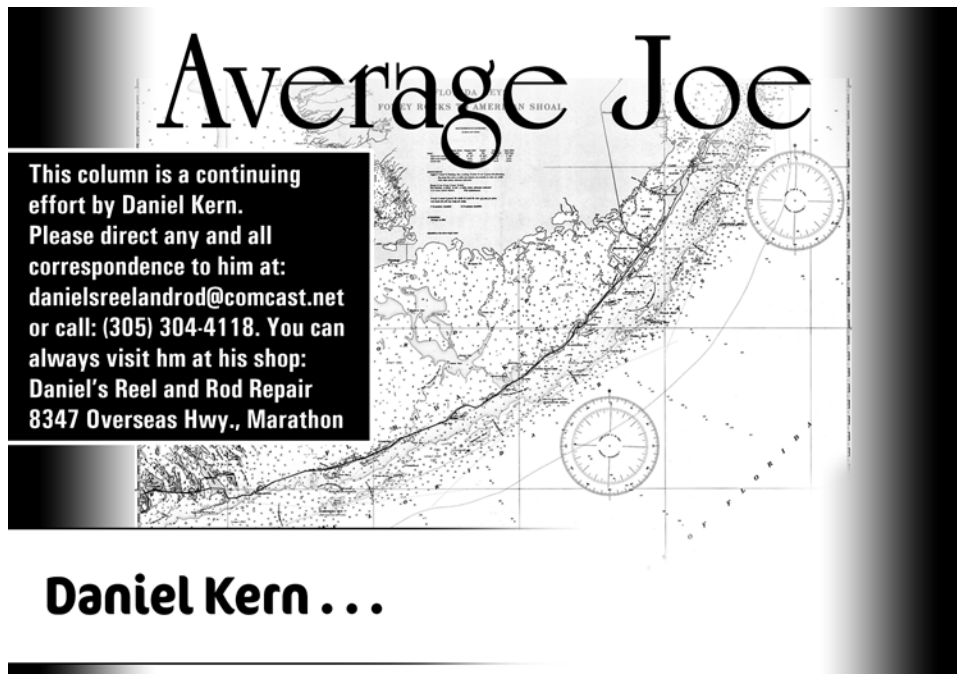


Bjan Corning with friend Stephanie Rieght (Tallahassee) each caught a nice big Black Grouper fishing with Capt. Frank (Golden Streaker).  
Bjan - 30lbs. and Stephanie - 20lbs. Bjan also released a 7' nurse shark.



Doris & Dave Chinchar with their haul on the Best Bet.





# Average Joe

This column is a continuing effort by Daniel Kern. Please direct any and all correspondence to him at: [danielsreelandrod@comcast.net](mailto:danielsreelandrod@comcast.net) or call: (305) 304-4118. You can always visit him at his shop: Daniel's Reel and Rod Repair 8347 Overseas Hwy., Marathon

## Daniel Kern . . .

The fishing adventures of the "Average Joe". Since I am just passing on these fishing reports, stories, or tales; there is no way I can validate them. I will say this though, "There is no way I would ever question the integrity of a fisherman or fishing lady. As far as I'm concerned, what ever you say . . . is gospel."

This coming weekend is time for seafood without havin' to catch it yourselves, or even havin' to prepare it. What I'm a hintin' at is the Original Marathon Seafood Festival. Be there or be square. Or if ya just have 't go fishin' . . . then that's an acceptable excuse.

I've heard a report of a local angler catching and releasing (I sure hope so) a 7-8 foot Bull Shark . . . DUNTA! DUNTA! FINS TO THE LEFT, FINS TO THE RIGHT!

Fishing alone, using light tackle, from a 20 foot boat and landing a nasty critter of that size is not a task for the faint of heart. It takes a lot of

skill, a certain amount of luck, and most certainly nerves of steel. For a reward you get the thrill of a life time and a memory to play and replay in the movie house of your mind for the rest of your fishin' days. OH YEAH!

### CATCH OF THE WEEK

The guys down on Sisters Creek headed out back for some Mangrove Snapper and maybe a stray Grouper or two. Cruising northeast to a spot 5 duck blinds west of Bullard they found the mother load. To the disgruntle of the elder of the bunch, who was concerned about anybody findin' his "honey hole", they caught and stashed in the cooler their limit of Mangroves to 6 pounds. There are days like that out back in good ole Florida Bay when ya just can't keep the fish off your hook.

Man, they sure tasted good. Sometimes it's a perk and sometimes ya just happen to know the right folks. Now, if I could just remember where they really were when they caught those Snappers. Oh well, if I told ya, I'd probably have 't move to Canada or someplace up north that's real cold so none of the Sister Creek Gang could find me. What the heck is a duck blind anyway?

Don't forget the soldiers, they keep us "fishin' free", God bless the peacemakers.

To support our troops go to Forgotten Soldiers Outreach: [www.forgottensoldiers.org](http://www.forgottensoldiers.org).

I welcome disagreements, corrections, or comments; along with your favorite fishin' adventure. I'm always looking for fishin' reports, stories, or tales. E-mail them to me at: [danielsreelandrod@comcast.net](mailto:danielsreelandrod@comcast.net), phone (305) 304-4118, or come by my shop:

Daniel's Reel and Rod Repair, 8347 Overseas Hwy, Marathon  
God Bless and keep smilin', even when the fish don't bite.

Daniel Kern 



Guy Rehmann (Key Largo) caught and released this beautiful Snook while fishing with Capt. Bill Wrublevski in a southwest channel of Flamingo.



# Fishing Report

**Captain Nick Borraccino**  
 NoreasterSportFishing.com  
 (508) 769-4189  
 BestBetSportFishing.com  
 (305) 395-1376

## Capt. Nick Borraccino Marathon



Even though the wind seems to persist more than we would like, we at least can appreciate the change in temperature. Cold fronts came and went as we would expect them to this week, seeing as it is March, and we endured a few short days of cool weather but it is now pleasantly back into the 70's, and the fishing conditions are just fine.

The gulf stream has pushed in nice and tight, bringing with it some dolphin. Boats braving the rough the rough seas this week found a hard current edge with some nice size school dolphin. Though they can be hard to stop from traveling westward, positioning your boat in front in front of the traveling school and pitching out some live baits will get you the bite. After catching one or two, you'll have to run back into the current to repeat the process, so don't lose sight of the birds.

Sailfishing has been on the slow side, especially given that there have been two major tournaments this week with the top boats boasting a few fish over a two days. But at least there is bit, right? There seems to be plenty of ballyhoo all along the reef just begging for packs of sails come in and chase them. But we all think that any day now just hat will happen.

Folks looking to get out and bend a rod have found great success on our shallow patch reefs. Reefs in 20-40 of water have been offering mutton, mangrove, and yellowtail snapper alike. Not only are these fish fun to catch, but are great to eat. Mix that with some nice size kingfish, cero mackerel, and stray cobia, and you've had quit day.

The Gulf has also been hot lately. In shore mangrove snapper have been biting on the banks, wrecks, and bridges, and cobia, kingfish, and grouper have been cooperating for boat outs a little deeper. Call your local charter boat captain or guide to get in on the action this week!

## Vacation Opportunity . . .

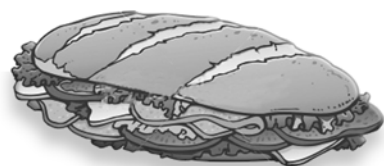
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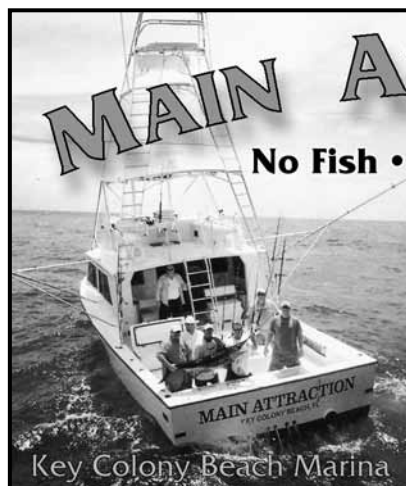
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03/11

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03/11

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04/01

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03/18

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04/01

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04/01

**1996 Key West 19' D.C.**

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04/08

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04/22

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04/29

**2002 STRIKE 29 CENTER CONSOLE**

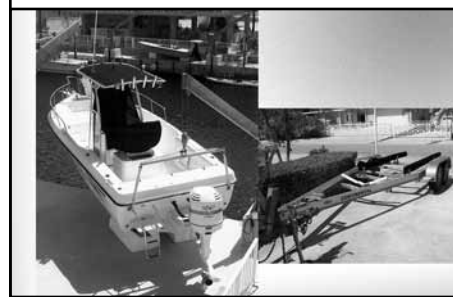
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05/13

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04/29

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to match the threadfin's yellow/green tail). Jerkworms and spinnerbaits will also produce schooling-size bass.

Local anglers are concluding that this has been one of the best years in the lake's history for catching schooling-size largemouth bass. Jim Veal Sr., owner of Pana Vista Lodge, reported seeing more schooling bass this year than in the past 50 years he has been associated with the lake. FWC biologist Bret Kolterman also observed more bass this year than in the previous 20 years he has been sampling the lake. Kolterman reported seeing more 3-5 pound bass this year and expects that Panasoffkee should be producing more trophy bass in the near future. Most bass collected during electrofishing samples were hanging off the shoreline in slightly deeper water.

Electrofishing samples also showed large numbers of smaller-sized bluegill around eel grass beds and near shore. Good numbers of 9- to 10-inch bluegill were also observed. Fishing with crickets or grass shrimp around eel grass beds should work well for the available bream. Anglers reported good catches of large crappie this season, and biologists have seen more crappie in their sampling. Two new fish camps have opened,

helping the local economy and drawing in additional anglers from around the country. Florida's recreational freshwater fisheries generate \$2.4 billion in local economic impact annually and support 23,500 jobs (2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Related Recreation, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau).

Now when you put down the money for that fishing license, you know it's money well-spent. 



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
Mar 11	Wed		03:17 AM / -0.68 ft	09:26 AM / 2.72 ft	03:38 PM / -0.87 ft	09:53 PM / 2.80 ft
Mar 12	Thu		04:02 AM / -0.57 ft	10:07 AM / 2.67 ft	04:22 PM / -0.86 ft	10:36 PM / 2.74 ft
Mar 13	Fri		04:46 AM / -0.39 ft	10:47 AM / 2.57 ft	05:04 PM / -0.73 ft	11:18 PM / 2.62 ft
Mar 14	Sat		05:29 AM / -0.15 ft	11:26 AM / 2.43 ft	05:47 PM / -0.52 ft	
Mar 15	Sun	12:00 AM / 2.45 ft	06:12 AM / 0.12 ft	12:05 PM / 2.27 ft	06:31 PM / -0.26 ft	
Mar 16	Mon	12:43 AM / 2.27 ft	06:56 AM / 0.40 ft	12:46 PM / 2.11 ft	07:17 PM / 0.01 ft	
Mar 17	Tue	01:29 AM / 2.09 ft	07:45 AM / 0.65 ft	01:31 PM / 1.97 ft	08:10 PM / 0.25 ft	
Mar 18	Wed	02:20 AM / 1.94 ft	08:41 AM / 0.84 ft	02:22 PM / 1.85 ft	09:10 PM / 0.42 ft	

BIG PINE (West Side - Pine Channel)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Mar 11	Wed		06:20 AM / -0.04 ft	11:15 AM / 0.82 ft	06:39 PM / -0.14 ft	11:49 PM / 0.82 ft
Mar 12	Thu		06:53 AM / -0.01 ft	11:46 AM / 0.88 ft	07:27 PM / -0.16 ft	
Mar 13	Fri	12:32 AM / 0.73 ft	07:24 AM / 0.03 ft	12:16 PM / 0.90 ft	08:14 PM / -0.16 ft	
Mar 14	Sat	01:14 AM / 0.63 ft	07:56 AM / 0.06 ft	12:48 PM / 0.89 ft	09:02 PM / -0.14 ft	
Mar 15	Sun	01:56 AM / 0.53 ft	08:28 AM / 0.10 ft	01:23 PM / 0.86 ft	09:53 PM / -0.10 ft	
Mar 16	Mon	02:41 AM / 0.44 ft	09:00 AM / 0.13 ft	02:02 PM / 0.81 ft	10:51 PM / -0.05 ft	
Mar 17	Tue	03:35 AM / 0.37 ft	09:34 AM / 0.17 ft	02:49 PM / 0.76 ft		
Mar 18	Wed		12:01 AM / -0.00 ft	04:54 AM / 0.32 ft	10:16 AM / 0.20 ft	03:49 PM / 0.71 ft

ISLAMORADA (Whale Harbor)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Mar 11	Wed		04:03 AM / -0.32 ft	09:52 AM / 1.56 ft	04:24 PM / -0.41 ft	10:19 PM / 1.60 ft
Mar 12	Thu		04:48 AM / -0.27 ft	10:33 AM / 1.53 ft	05:08 PM / -0.41 ft	11:02 PM / 1.57 ft
Mar 13	Fri		05:32 AM / -0.19 ft	11:13 AM / 1.47 ft	05:50 PM / -0.35 ft	11:44 PM / 1.50 ft
Mar 14	Sat		06:15 AM / -0.07 ft	11:52 AM / 1.39 ft	06:33 PM / -0.25 ft	
Mar 15	Sun	12:26 AM / 1.41 ft	06:58 AM / 0.06 ft	12:31 PM / 1.30 ft	07:17 PM / -0.12 ft	
Mar 16	Mon	01:09 AM / 1.30 ft	07:42 AM / 0.19 ft	01:12 PM / 1.21 ft	08:03 PM / 0.00 ft	
Mar 17	Tue	01:55 AM / 1.19 ft	08:31 AM / 0.31 ft	01:57 PM / 1.13 ft	08:56 PM / 0.12 ft	
Mar 18	Wed	02:46 AM / 1.11 ft	09:27 AM / 0.40 ft	02:48 PM / 1.06 ft	09:56 PM / 0.20 ft	

CUDJOE KEY (Pirates Cove)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Mar 11	Wed	02:33 AM / 1.32 ft	07:22 AM / -0.08 ft	02:44 PM / 1.21 ft	07:41 PM / -0.26 ft	
Mar 12	Thu	03:18 AM / 1.21 ft	07:55 AM / -0.02 ft	03:15 PM / 1.30 ft	08:29 PM / -0.30 ft	
Mar 13	Fri	04:01 AM / 1.08 ft	08:26 AM / 0.05 ft	03:45 PM / 1.33 ft	09:16 PM / -0.30 ft	
Mar 14	Sat	04:43 AM / 0.93 ft	08:58 AM / 0.12 ft	04:17 PM / 1.32 ft	10:04 PM / -0.26 ft	
Mar 15	Sun	05:25 AM / 0.79 ft	09:30 AM / 0.18 ft	04:52 PM / 1.27 ft	10:55 PM / -0.18 ft	
Mar 16	Mon	06:10 AM / 0.65 ft	10:02 AM / 0.25 ft	05:31 PM / 1.20 ft	11:53 PM / -0.09 ft	
Mar 17	Tue	07:04 AM / 0.54 ft	10:36 AM / 0.31 ft	06:18 PM / 1.12 ft		
Mar 18	Wed		01:03 AM / -0.01 ft	08:23 AM / 0.47 ft	11:18 AM / 0.38 ft	07:18 PM / 1.06 ft

MARATHON (Boot Key Harbor)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Mar 11	Wed		03:44 AM / -0.20 ft	09:56 AM / 1.70 ft	04:05 PM / -0.44 ft	10:31 PM / 1.66 ft
Mar 12	Thu		04:17 AM / -0.08 ft	10:25 AM / 1.84 ft	04:53 PM / -0.50 ft	11:13 PM / 1.49 ft
Mar 13	Fri		04:49 AM / 0.05 ft	10:55 AM / 1.92 ft	05:40 PM / -0.48 ft	11:52 PM / 1.31 ft
Mar 14	Sat		05:20 AM / 0.18 ft	11:26 AM / 1.94 ft	06:28 PM / -0.39 ft	
Mar 15	Sun	12:31 AM / 1.13 ft	05:50 AM / 0.31 ft	12:01 PM / 1.91 ft	07:20 PM / -0.26 ft	
Mar 16	Mon	01:10 AM / 0.96 ft	06:18 AM / 0.42 ft	12:40 PM / 1.82 ft	08:20 PM / -0.10 ft	
Mar 17	Tue	01:54 AM / 0.82 ft	06:41 AM / 0.52 ft	01:26 PM / 1.72 ft	09:30 PM / 0.02 ft	
Mar 18	Wed	02:50 AM / 0.71 ft	06:47 AM / 0.60 ft	02:21 PM / 1.61 ft	10:45 PM / 0.08 ft	

KEY WEST (South Side Hawk Channel)

		High	Low	High	Low	High
Date	Day	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height	Time / Height
Mar 11	Wed		03:58 AM / -0.09 ft	10:02 AM / 1.68 ft	04:17 PM / -0.30 ft	10:36 PM / 1.69 ft
Mar 12	Thu		04:31 AM / -0.02 ft	10:33 AM / 1.80 ft	05:05 PM / -0.35 ft	11:19 PM / 1.50 ft
Mar 13	Fri		05:02 AM / 0.06 ft	11:03 AM / 1.85 ft	05:52 PM / -0.35 ft	
Mar 14	Sat	12:01 AM / 1.30 ft	05:34 AM / 0.14 ft	11:35 AM / 1.84 ft	06:40 PM / -0.30 ft	
Mar 15	Sun	12:43 AM / 1.09 ft	06:06 AM / 0.21 ft	12:10 PM / 1.77 ft	07:31 PM / -0.21 ft	
Mar 16	Mon	01:28 AM / 0.91 ft	06:38 AM / 0.29 ft	12:49 PM / 1.67 ft	08:29 PM / -0.11 ft	
Mar 17	Tue	02:22 AM / 0.75 ft	07:12 AM / 0.37 ft	01:36 PM / 1.56 ft	09:39 PM / -0.01 ft	
Mar 18	Wed	03:41 AM / 0.66 ft	07:54 AM / 0.44 ft	02:36 PM / 1.47 ft	10:58 PM / 0.05 ft	

Moon Phases


Full: 03/10/09 • Last Quarter: 03/18/09

New: 03/26/09 • First Quarter: 04/02/09

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



*Capt. Schugar . . . . . cont. from pg. 9*

With all the bad weather we will have this season, now is the time to check and go through your safety gear. Check your fire extinguishers for the right charge and make sure your first aid kit is in good shape and look at your flares to make sure they are up to date too. If they are expired keep them onboard as extras. But, go get some new ones. Most of you who read my reports have smaller boats and you all heard of the tragedy that happened last week. So please keep all of your safety gear up to date. If you are new to boating or just don't know what you need, the FWC or Coast Guard will come to your boat and go over it with you to make sure that you have everything you need. Be safe and go get some fish. 



# 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 bgandrews18@aol.com

## 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.**

<b>Upper Keys Captain / Charter</b>	<b>Key Largo to Islamorada Contact Info</b>	
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 Osprey Backcountry Charters	BC/FL/LT/FLY	(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.fishtalesportfishing.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

<b>Upper Keys (cont.) Captain / Charter</b>	<b>Key Largo to Islamorada Contact Info</b>	
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 whereisd@l@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 captpaul@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 skipeyd@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
Capt. Jack Falcucci	OFF/REEF 50' Custom Ocean Sportfish	(305) 393-0795

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