



The PSWSFA is a family-oriented fishing club established in 1957. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (March-Dec.) at 7:00pm. The meetings are free and open to the public and are a great place to swap stories with other local fishermen, find new fishing partners and plan trips together. We have raffles with nice giveaways-donated by local businesses plus prizes we buy ourselves. Each month we have speakers sharing their experience on one of the local fisheries. Come join us and get to know some of the other fishermen in your local area. Directions on last page. You can visit us at www.pswsfa.com.

Next Meeting

19 November 2024 7:00pm

Make sure you thank a veteran this month. November is our last meeting of the year. March 2025 is our 1st for next year unless we change something at an upcoming board meeting. There were suggestions made to have meetings in January and February.

The next bigish thing coming up is the Club awards banquet that will most likely be in early March. I suspect that decision will be made at the November board meeting.

We are planning on being represented at the 2025 Boat show in Virginia beach (31 Jan - 2 Feb) as well as the 2025 Great Bridge Fishing Flea Market on 1 March (see page 14). We need volunteers at both events. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

There is one last Tournament this year, the Wilcox bait and tackle - Irv Fenton Rockfish Tournament. It runs the entire month of December.

Help out the club and enter.

Hope you all have a great Thansgiving. Good Fishing!

Stay well, Mike the Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Folks

November is here and fishing has been hit or miss for the most part. Flounder are still around as red drum. Speckled trout are on fire one day and then gone the next day. Stripers have started showing and a few have been caught in the James, Elizabeth and up north. I haven't heard of anything over around 31 inches but that's too big to keep. Our club editor of the Chumline had a nice flounder hooked up last week off the bank at Ft Eustis but he lost it at the bank. He claims it was 24 inches, but he is a fisherman so make of it as you will (Mike wouldn't lie)[*but it was big. mike says, I thought it was a drum*]. Some nice seabass were recently caught at the Triangle Reef. There are still sheepshead around and I know of at least one tog citation that came from the CBBT. For those seeking ribbon fish, they are still being caught around the Rappahannock and at Little Creek and Rudee.

Tog fishing should only get better at the CBBT and at the nearshore and offshore wrecks. Big bluefish should be showing

up offshore and the bluefins have shown off of Ocean City with reports of some being seen off of Chincoteague so the could show up here any time. Hopefully they will stick around for awhile when they do show.

There have been meetings on changing the regulations for Spanish and king mackerel at the MASFC and VMRC is leaning toward changing the cobia regulations. The most popular proposal for the cobia looks to be 1 fish per person, 2 fish max with a minimum size of 43 inches and one over 50.

The annual banquet will be Feb. 22nd so mark your calendar and make plans to attend. Remember to turn in Monthly Tournament Entry Forms to Milton by the beginning of the meeting. It could very well be worth \$10. You can't win if you don't enter. Especially remember to enter youth entries for the youngsters. I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting on the 19th. Bring a guest. Until then get out there and fish and try to get a youngster/youngsters out with you.

Tight Lines,
Stan

2024 Club Officers

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Johnny Boyd
Gerald Abrams (alt)



Attention all members: This is a reminder that all memberships will now expire on the last day of February of each year. Forms are available from Johnny Boyd (membership committee). At the December 2019 board meeting the board voted to increase the dues by \$10. As before, the \$40 is per individual or family. We haven't had a dues increase in pretty much forever and this will help the club pay for the increased cost of our meeting space as well as supporting events like the picnic, awards banquet, and fishing related events, organizations, and tournaments.

PSWSFA 2024 MEMBERSHIP

**Dues: \$40 per year for entire family*
(March through February - not prorated throughout the year)**

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Dependents Names and ages

1) _____ 4) _____
2) _____ 5) _____
3) _____ 6) _____

*Family must be living with you

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Boat Name/Call Sign: _____

Total number in your membership: _____

Send this form with a check (payable to PSWSFA) to:

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Newport News, VA 23605

Please check one of the following:

Yes, please add my name to the club membership book
 No, please do not publish my information

Set of Teeth from 50-Ft. Megalodon Discovered Along Calvert Cliffs to Star in New Exhibit

By Meg Walburn Viviano

It's the discovery that every Calvert Cliffs beachwalker dreams of: not just a perfectly intact shark tooth, but an unprecedented set of 53 teeth—all from the same prehistoric mega-tooth shark!

The Calvert Marine Museum (CMM) lies in Solomons, Maryland, near a paleontology hot spot. The museum's curators and staff are worldwide fossil experts, uncovering new evidence of marine life from millions of years ago surprisingly frequently.



The size of the shark these teeth would have come from. Art by Tim Scheirer.

But this find is particularly exciting, and it's a true labor of love. 53 teeth from one individual megalodon were painstakingly collected over the span of six years from the same Calvert Cliffs location.

The megalodon, or “megatooth shark”, the teeth came from would have been close to 50 feet long.

The teeth themselves are eye-popping in size, some of them up to 5.5 inches long. They are serrated, like steak knives. To have found so many teeth preserved together is “exceedingly rare”, according to CMM. Worldwide, the museum says there are fewer than a dozen known “partial dentitions” from megalodons. This collection of teeth is the first to be found at Calvert Cliffs. Along with the 5.5-inch-long front teeth, there are teeth from many different positions in the shark's mouth. The smallest back teeth are just half an inch long.

How did this historic discovery come about? The unlikely story begins with a tiny fawn, stranded on the beach. CMM's Paleontology Collections Manager, John Nance, found the fawn while walking the beach in June 2022 and called the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. He worried that the nearly-newborn fawn likely couldn't survive without its mother. While Nance waited for natural resources officers to reunite the fawn with its mother, he took a long, slow look down the beach for fossils.

Nance began to find a surprising number of teeth in one small area. Usually, even a lucky beachcomber will only find one or two teeth at a time. Nance called CMM's paleontology curator and assistant curator, Dr. Stephen Godfrey and Dr. Victor Perez. They found additional teeth. CMM's paleontologists now refer to that day as “The Best Day.” (The day also ended well for the fawn, who was delivered safely back to its mom.)

The teeth CMM staff collected were compared to some others found in the same area years earlier. Because they showed uniformity in color and preservation and came in a variety of sizes, from front teeth to back teeth, it looked like they all came from one individual shark. In another strong piece of evidence, most of the teeth have an unusual spur in the same spot on the root of the tooth.

In all, CMM has been able to amass 53 teeth believed to be from this one megalodon, who would have died somewhere between 20 million and 3.6 million years ago. There are at least 27 more teeth from the same dentition in private collections.

Paleontologists believe even more teeth from this shark may be out there. During the winter of 2015-2016, there was a rumor of someone who found a bucket of megalodon teeth from this same location, and probably from the same shark. CMM affectionately refers to him as “Bucket Guy”. If you are, or know “Bucket Guy”, they ask that you contact CMM's Paleontology Department (410-326-2042).

Continued on page 4

CMM says it would not, and cannot legally, confiscate privately collected teeth. A few private collectors have allowed the museum to make casts of the teeth they own.

The set of 53 teeth will be available for all to see as a new exhibit, opening this Friday at CMM, along with casts from the private collections.

The Mezzanine Gallery exhibit, "[Out of the Vault](#)", showcases the teeth and other rare and scientifically significant fossils (like Miocene elephant teeth!), each revealing a unique glimpse into the prehistoric past of the Chesapeake Bay region. The exhibit is funded with a seed grant from The Southern Maryland National Heritage Area and support from local tourism boards and other partners.

Megalodon teeth are essential for experts to study the popular macro-predator. Very few fossilized bones have ever been found, but the teeth reveal plenty about the species. Scientists believe megalodon could have been up to 65 feet long.

If you feel inspired to search for teeth in Southern Maryland, remember that searching along the shore in public areas is allowed, but it is illegal to dig in the cliffs. On private land, owners must grant permission before any digging is done. And if you do see something intriguing sticking out of the cliffs, please call the Calvert Marine Museum.



A large serrated front tooth from the set of megalodon teeth.



Way South Chesapeake Bay Fishing Report, November 2024

While fishing has been tough across many regions of the Bay, this area is an exception and there are plenty of options for species to target this week. The various bridge structures around Virginia Beach are still holding several desirable gamefish species. There was an excellent report from an angler who caught six reds up to 23", a 20" black drum, and over 20 sheepshead up to 14" while fishing with mud crabs and shrimp. The CBBT is still a hotspot for each of these species and with how warm the fall has been, the sheepshead and other species will likely stick around for a while longer. We are also seeing more sea bass and tautog move inshore to wreck and reef sites, along with a few showing up at the bridges. For greater numbers and a better quality of fish, there has been good action at the offshore sites and the bite should continue to get better with more flounder showing up as they migrate out to the ocean for the winter.

Virginia Beach Sport Fishing reports that speckled trout have been a standout species recently as big fish are becoming more common. Popular haunts for them include Lynnhaven Inlet, Rudee Inlet, and Little Creek. Grass flats north of the Virginia Beach zone still have some shrimp hanging around and popping corks have been tempting the specks to bite.

FishTalk contributor David Rudow says that the far lower Eastern Shore is teeming with red drum. The warmer temperatures recently have the fish pushed up into very skinny water and on several recent trips he has found them feeding in less than a foot of water. David says that the fish have been eager to hit topwater baits and are often chasing lures all the way up to the edge of his kayak. The puppy drum numbers are thinning in places up the Bay as many of them move south, but the southern portion of the Bay is still a hotspot for spottail action. Pups are being caught on the Eastern Shore, at the CBBT, and all the Virginia Beach tributaries.

East Coast Striped Bass Managers to Consider More Rockfish Season Closures

By Meg Walburn Viviano

On the heels of a dismal 2024 striped bass population survey, Atlantic coast fishery managers set a December date to reduce the recreational rockfish harvest for 2025. It will likely mean more mid-season closures or other steps to try and save this struggling species.

On Wednesday, Oct. 23, the [Striped Bass Board](#) of the [Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission](#) (ASMFC) met to review the [2024 Striped Bass Stock Assessment](#) update. The stock assessment concludes that the coastwide stock continues to be overfished (both recreationally and commercially), as it has been since 2012. That means the amount of spawning-age rockfish (biomass) is not enough to be what ASMFC considers a healthy stock. However, mortality from fishing is not high enough to exceed ASMFC's standards.

As the fisheries commission met last week, they also considered [the alarming results](#) from the Maryland and Virginia annual surveys of juvenile striped bass in the Chesapeake Bay. For the sixth consecutive year in Maryland and second consecutive year in [Virginia](#), both states' juvenile indexes fell well below the long-term averages.

That's bad news for the entire Atlantic coast, because about 75 percent of its fish are Chesapeake Bay natives (meaning they spawn here). Maryland's rivers contribute two-thirds of those, and Virginia's rivers the remaining third. The majority of next year's spawning fish were born in 2015 and 2018, the last two years of strong rockfish numbers. (The 2018 fish will just be reaching maturity next spring.)

ASMFC has a 2029 deadline to rebuild the Bay's striped bass stock to non-overfished status. To make that happen, the Commissioners will have to make tough decisions to protect the the 2015 and 2018 stocks, along with the few fish born in the small year classes from 2019 to 2024. At the meeting, the Board determined that it would have to reduce fishing mortality at least 15% more than 2024's level, just to give the striped bass stock a 50% chance of rebuilding by 2029.

That task is especially challenging since the Striped Bass Board has already reduced catch limits so much. Last January, all recreational bag limits were cut to one fish per person, along with [narrow "slot" size limits](#), closed seasons, and a 7% reduction in commercial harvest quotas.

Reducing fishing mortality further to meet the 2029 rebuilding goal will require specific measures that take into account rockfish behavior up and down the fishes' geographical range (North Carolina to Maine).

To meet this challenge, the Striped Bass Board finally voted "to schedule a special Striped Bass Management Board meeting in December 2024 to consider Board Action in response to the 2024 Stock Assessment." In the next two months, the Board will consider changes to the 2025 recreational seasons and/or size limits AND changes to the 2025 commercial quotas to achieve that 50% chance of rebuilding by 2029.

Between now and December, the Board has asked its Technical Committee to come up with options for reducing recreational and commercial fishing mortality in 2025. To reach a 50% chance, the options will include possible seasonal harvest closures, no-targeting options and possibly a new slot to protect the 2018 year class.

The members asked also to see what it would take to get to a 60% probability of hitting the target rockfish stock. We'll be covering the options put forth at the December meeting and how they may impact Chesapeake Bay anglers, commercial fishermen, and our local fishing charter industry.

VA's Second Blue Catfish Grant Awarded to Hampton Seafood Company

By Larry Chowning / November 5, 2024

Virginia is continuing its fight against invasive blue catfish by boosting the fishery and making it easier to put blue cat into markets and restaurants.

The state has awarded a second \$247,000 grant in an effort to control the Chesapeake Bay's blue catfish population.

Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin recently announced that L. D. Amory Company Inc. (Amory Seafood) of Hampton, Virginia, has been awarded the grant through the governor's Blue Catfish Processing, Flash Freezing, and Infrastructure Grant Program.



Amory Seafood in Hampton received a \$247,000 grant to expand its blue catfish processing business. Photo by Larry Chowning

"This reimbursable grant will support the implementation of a modern quick freezer and essential packing equipment that will allow Amory Seafood to increase processing capacity in its Hampton facility," the governor's office said.

"Once the expansion and modernization project is complete, Amory Seafood will purchase more blue catfish from local watermen, which supports economic growth and helps to remove the invasive species from Virginia waters," it stated.

"I congratulate Amory Seafood on this expansion, as this project helps to increase processing capacity of the invasive blue catfish, provide additional market opportunities for Virginia watermen, and boost the Commonwealth's seafood industry's economic impact which was over \$1.1 billion in 2019," said Governor Youngkin.

The governor's blue catfish grant program was established during the 2023 General Assembly session to address the overpopulation of the invasive blue catfish in the Chesapeake Bay. It is part of a larger baywide effort to combat a species wreaking havoc on Virginia's ecosystems by incentivizing local waterman to catch and sell an abundant, inexpensive fish for consumer consumption. The state of Maryland was awarded \$4.5 million in federal funds in March 2024 to work towards bringing the catfish population under control in state waters.

Blue cats are native to the Mississippi, Ohio, Missouri and Rio Grande river basins. During the 1970s and '80s blue catfish were introduced by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources to the James, Rappahannock and York river basins. The fish were introduced near Virginia's fall line in fresh water for recreational fishing but soon adapted to the bay's brackish and saltwater.

Virginia catfish quickly spread throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed into nearly every major tributary and are now being seen in North Carolina waters too. Blue catfish eat shad, herring, striped bass, menhaden, clams, muskrats, ducks and blue crabs and there is concern that the large catfish population are having a detrimental impact on the populations of these species.

Continued on top of page 7

Located in the City of Hampton, Amory Seafood is a fourth generation seafood company that has been harvesting, processing, shipping, and distributing seafood across the East Coast and North-Central United States for over 100 years. For the past ten years, the firm has been processing wild-caught blue catfish and is a certified USDA-approved catfish processor.

“On behalf of everyone at Amory Seafood, I thank Governor Youngkin, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the city of Hampton for this grant funding,” said Amory Seafood CEO Meade Amory.

“Once complete, this expansion will enhance our processing capacity, and improve quality and marketability of our products,” he said. “We will also be in a better position to support local watermen and reduce the number of invasive blue catfish which helps to protect native Chesapeake Bay species.”

Del. Keith Hodges of the 98th District of Virginia’s House of Delegates and who spearheaded the state’s blue catfish grant program said, “We estimate that the current blue catfish population is eating a million tons of peanut (small) menhaden annually and we have got to find ways to keep the catfish population under control.

“The two grants that have been issued will help prop up the processing end, but I’m hopeful that the next grant will go to Virginia watermen for purchasing and upgrading gear and other infrastructure to expand their end of the fishery. If funds can be directed to watermen it would encourage more watermen to get into the fishery,” said Hodges.

The first Virginia grant was awarded in 2023 to Sea Farms Inc. in Gloucester County, Va. The grant funds were used by the firm to purchase a blast freezing system to expand the firm’s freezer capacity for storage of large quantities of catfish fillets.

Bay News

Menhaden Boats vs. Offshore Wind Industry: Omega Pushes for Ocean Buffer Zone

By Meg Walburn Viviano / November 4, 2024

They are two of the most controversial industries in the Chesapeake Bay region: commercial menhaden fishing and offshore wind development. A potential fight for space in the Atlantic Ocean may be brewing between the two.

Ocean Harvesters owns and operates nine large vessels for purse seine fishing, which run a nylon net through the water to scoop up menhaden, a small feeder fish. They also use spotter planes to follow the schools of menhaden up and down the mid-Atlantic coast. The menhaden are harvested exclusively for Omega Protein, a Canadian-owned seafood company running out of Reedville, Virginia. Omega processes the menhaden for fish oil, supplements, and animal feed.

As the federal government continues to expand the offshore wind industry off the mid-Atlantic coast, the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has proposed a second offshore wind energy sale in the Central Atlantic Ocean region—in many of the places Ocean Harvesters operates. BOEM asked for public feedback on a 13,476,805-acre possible commercial wind energy site off the coast of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. It’s all part of the Biden-Harris administration’s goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind energy by 2030.

Ocean Harvesters and Omega Protein say wind turbine arrays in some of the proposed areas won’t allow them to do their jobs. In a letter to BOEM, the companies call for a 15-mile buffer from offshore wind development on the Central Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf.

In the letter, they detail how Ocean Harvesters’ fleet of spotter planes must fly as low as 500 feet above the

Continued on page 8

water between the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay and New York. Then, the fishing “mother vessels” approach a school of fish and deploy two 40-foot aluminum “purse boats”, which carry either end of the 1,100-foot net, then the two boats encircle the fish in the net. A pump carries large quantities of menhaden from the net into the hold of the mother vessel.

During this multi-step process, the mother vessel and the purse boats must drift with the tide—with so much net around them, the boats can’t run their engines. Sometimes they drift 2-3 miles. Omega and Ocean Harvesters say they can’t operate safely without a buffer zone.

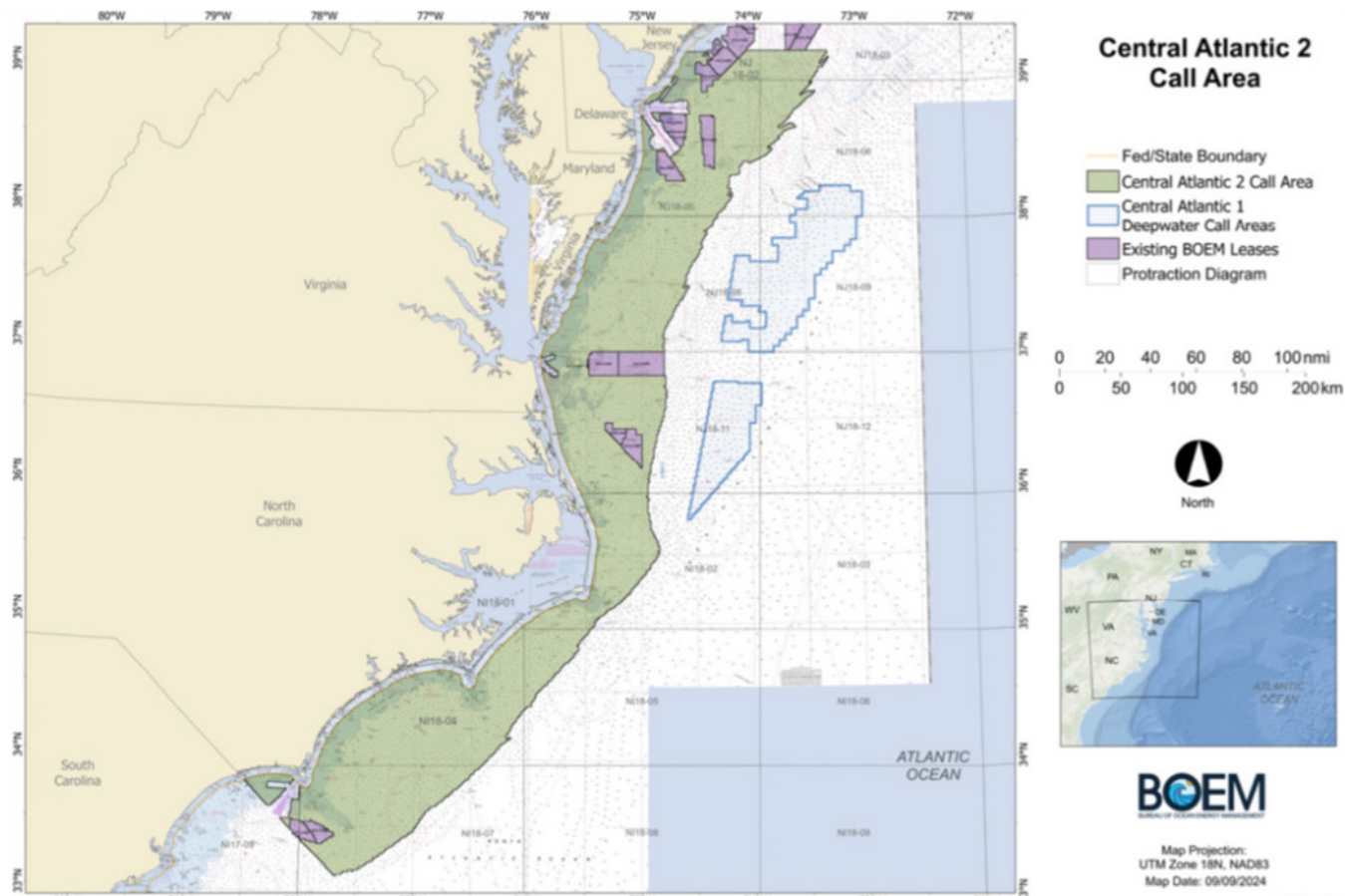
They point out that the menhaden fishery based in Virginia’s Northern Neck has been operating for over 140 years and makes up a big part of the area’s economy. Nearly 70 percent of the menhaden catch occurs in federal waters. The fishing boats operate as far as 25 miles from shore, but the largest harvest occurs within 15 miles offshore.

The companies call on BOEM to shift the boundary of the new Central Atlantic lease area from six miles to 15 miles. They argue that the buffer would reduce conflicts with menhaden boats and with other small and large-scale commercial fisheries, too. Near the mouth of the Bay, the Atlantic is congested with shipping lanes, military operations, and recreational traffic, Omega and Ocean Harvesters say.

The companies say they are committed to “working collaboratively with BOEM to find a solution that balances offshore renewable energy development with the preservation of vital commercial fisheries.”

With the public comment period now closed for the proposed location, BOEM must now consider the comments, Tribal consultations, and identify draft wind energy areas. Those areas will be reviewed by federal agencies, Tribes, state and local governments. Only then can BOEM propose a competitive lease sale.

This newer Central Atlantic lease area follows the Central Atlantic region’s first successful sale back in August. The government announced \$92.65 million in winning bids for two areas located across Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.



The Central Atlantic 2 “call area” hugs the coast through the entire Chesapeake Bay region. BOEM map.

Virginia Saltwater Fishing Report

As the leaves turn a golden hue and the air grows crisp, Virginia's waters become a haven for anglers seeking to get in on the fall fishing season. The speckled trout, known affectionately as 'specks,' are the stars of the show, with impressive catches weighing in at 3 to 6 pounds being common. These elusive fish are congregating in their favored haunts, from the sheltered waters of Rudee, Lynnhaven, and Little Creek Inlets to the serene bayside creeks of the Eastern Shore, the expansive Poquoson Flats, and the York and Elizabeth Rivers.

The specks' preference for shrimp and minnows near marshy areas presents a perfect opportunity for anglers to employ a variety of techniques. Shrimp artfully hooked under a popping cork, skillfully cast jigs, enticing plugs, and the ever popular topwater baits are all proving to be highly effective in luring these sought-after catches.

Long Bay Pointe Bait and Tackle is hosting a month-long Lynnhaven trout competition. The Lynnhaven Troutzilla Tournament, November 10 to December 10. Details: [Lynnhaven Troutzilla Tournament](#).

But the speckled trout aren't the only fish stirring up excitement. Puppy drum are also making a strong showing in the same areas, eagerly biting on the same assortment of baits. Meanwhile, a few formidable large red drum continue to patrol the lower Bay, providing a challenging reward for those fishing the 3rd island area of the CBBT ... and the surf near Sandbridge.

The Bay itself is a treasure trove of diversity, with some sheephead still around, and tautog and flounder available for those with the skill to catch them. The nocturnal allure of lighted bridges and piers is drawing school-sized striped bass, creating excitement for nighttime anglers.

Venturing further offshore, the bottom fishing scene is bustling with activity. Seabass are being hauled up in significant numbers, accompanied by the occasional large flounder, bluefish, black drum, and triggerfish, adding variety and surprise to each catch.

For those heading to the deep blue, offshore trolling is yielding handsome rewards. Tuna and wahoo are around for those trolling, while the pursuit of swordfish and tilefish is becoming increasingly popular, with many anglers finding success.



The October Mystery Fish Salema Porgy



The salema porgy (*Sarpa salpa*), also known as the dreamfish, salema, cow bream, karanteen, salpa, saupe, strepie or goldline, is a species of marine ray-finned fish belonging to the family Sparidae, which includes the seabreams and porgies. It is the only species in the monospecific genus *Sarpa*. It is found in the eastern Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea and southwestern Indian Ocean. This species has been known to cause ichthyosarcoidosis when eaten.

Salema porgies are largely vegetarian; a study in Libya found that sea grass dominated the diet, with algae being the second most important item and crustaceans the third. Off Corsica, the seagrass *Posidonia oceanica* and its epiphytes were found to be the main food of adults while the juveniles were plankton eaters.

Sarpa salpa became widely known for its ichthyosarcoidosis effects following widely publicized articles in 2006, when two men ingested it at a Mediterranean restaurant and began to experience many auditory and visual hallucinogenic effects.

Males are typically 15 to 30 cm (6–12 in) in length, while females are usually 31 to 45 cm (12–18 in). The maximum size is 51 cm (20 in).



Virginia Recreational Saltwater Fishing Regulations

*Last Revised
March 2024*



Atlantic Croaker

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 50 per person; additional 50 live bait per customer capacity on for-hire or charter vessels



Spot

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 50 per person; additional 50 live bait per customer capacity on for-hire or charter vessels



Kingfish

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: No bag limit



Grey Trout (Weakfish)

- Minimum Size Limit: 12 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person



Bluefish

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 3 per person from shore or a rented or private vessel
- 5 per person on for-hire or charter vessels



Spanish Mackerel

- Minimum Size Limit: 14 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 15 per person



King Mackerel

- Minimum Size Limit: 27 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 3 per person



Cobia

- Minimum Size Limit: 40 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person or 2 per vessel, whichever is more restrictive. Only 1 fish per vessel may be greater than 50 inches total length.
- Season: June 15 - September 15
- Gaffing prohibited



Summer Flounder

- Minimum Size Limit: Jan 1-May 31: 16 inches
- Jun 1-Dec 31: 17.5 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person



Striped Bass

Any person fishing striped bass recreationally shall use non-offset, corrodible, non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing with bait.

Chesapeake Bay Spring Season

- Size Limit: 19-24 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 fish per person
- Season: May 16 - June 15

Chesapeake Bay Fall Season

- Size limit: 19-24 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 fish per person
- Season: October 4 - December 31

Coastal Season

- Size Limit: 28-31 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person
- Season: January 1 - March 31, May 16 - December 31

Select species provided for information purposes only. Not all regulated species are included. All regulations are subject to change. It is the angler's responsibility to know and abide by all current regulations and laws. Check for new regulations before you go fishing. www.mrc.virginia.gov



Spadefish

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person



Sheepshead

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person



Black Sea Bass

- Minimum Size Limit: 13
- Recreational Bag Limit: 15
- Season: Feb 1-29 (permit required); May 15-July 15, July 27-Dec 31



Tautog

- Minimum Size Limit: 16 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person
- Season: January 1-May 15, July 1- Dec. 31



Speckled Trout

- Minimum Size Limit: 14 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 5 per person, only 1 greater than 24"



Red Drum

- Minimum Size Limit: 18 inches
- Maximum Size Limit: 26 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 3 per person



Black Drum

- Minimum Size Limit: 16 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person

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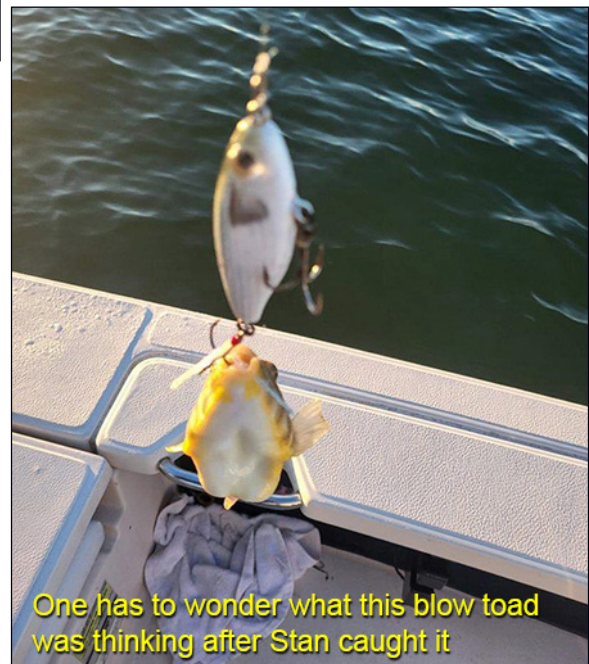
Stan talking on deep dropping for Swordfish



October meeting - a bit light



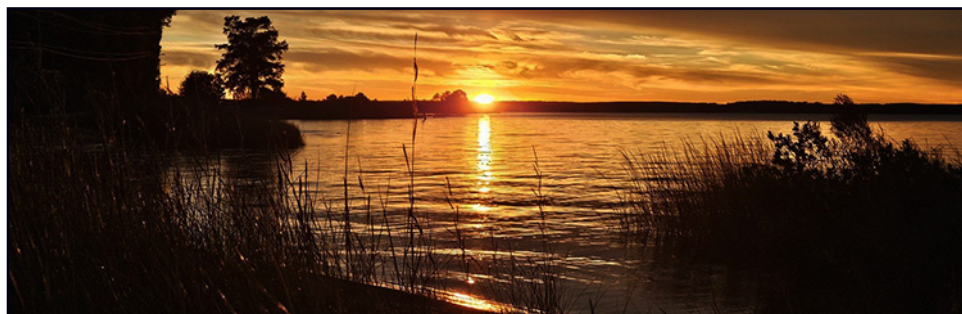
Dave B with a speck fishing with Stan



One has to wonder what this blow toad was thinking after Stan caught it



Stan with 24.5" Citation Speck





ANNUAL Fishing Flea Market

MAJOR
SUPPORTERS

Moody's
WATER CONDITIONING, LLC
Water Treatment Specialists

CENTERVILLE
WATERWAY MARINA

March 1, 2025
8:00 am - 2:30 pm

VIRGINIA BEACH FIELD HOUSE

Free Raffles!

50/50

Best Locations Go Fast. Register Now!

Come buy, meet, greet, and eat !!

- New & Used Rod & Reels
 - Fresh & Saltwater Gear
 - Custom Lures
 - A Variety of Boats & Trailers
 - Hot Food & Cold Refreshments
 - Admission \$5 (Children 12 & Under Are Free)
 - **FREE PARKING**
- Over 3,000 customers in the past year

Virginia Beach Field House
2020 Landstown Centre Wy,
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

**16th
YEAR!**

Butch - tbpocean@aol.com 757-287-0330
George - geva1963@cox.net 757-421-7333
LaVern - rv2mnts@gmail.com 757-974-3090

You are invited to visit or join the best fishing club in Tidewater. Each month the club has a speaker to present an informative program on various local fishing topics. Check us out at www.fishgbfa.org

Or Visit facebook.com/GreatBridgeFishermansAssociation

- Monthly Newsletter • Annual Awards Banquet
- Fishing Tournaments (Boat & Surf) • Special Events such as Oyster Roasts & Picnics
- Philanthropic Events to Benefit Organizations such as Hope House and Wish-A-Fish
- High School Scholarships Presented

Monthly Tournament List September 2024

Flounder
Danny Taylor 23"

Sea Bass
Rick Wineman 20.5"

Channel Bass
Danny Taylor 44"

Cobia
Chris Harris 50"

Spanish Mackerel
Cyler Brooks 20"

Sheephead
Paul Downey 25"

Speckled Trout
Stan Simmerman 24.5"

Monthly Tournament Contenders	
Species	Min Size
Albacore Tuna	35"
Amberjack	40"
Bigeye Tuna	40"
Black Drum	40"
Blackbelly Rosefish	14"
Blackfin Tuna	45"
Bluefin Tuna	45"
Bluefish	25"
Blueline Tilefish	20"
Blue Marlin	Release
Channel Bass - Drum	40"
Cobia	40"
Croaker	16"
Dolphin	35"
False Albacore	25"
Flounder	22"
Golden Tilefish	30"
Gray Trout	24"
Grouper	16"
Jack Crevalle	36"
King Mackerel	35"
Pompano	12"
Sailfish	Release
Sea Bass	15"
Shark	60"
Sheepshead	15"
Snapper	12"
Spadefish	18"
Spanish Mackerel	20"
Spearfish	Release
Speckled Trout	21"
Spot	8"
Striped Bass	36"
Swordfish	Release
Tarpon	Release
Tautog	18"
Triggerfish	15"
Wahoo	40"
White Marlin	Release
Whiting (Roundhead)	14"
Yellowfin Tuna	35"

Photo taken Oct 2022 by the Editor at Hapuna Beach, Hawaii

Bring your entries to Milton at our monthly meeting by 7:00 pm or send an email or snail mail to the address' on the left (Yellow Box). Please direct any questions to Milton.

MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO:
MR. MILTON HUDGINS
1894 KATIE LANE
HAYES, VA 23072
(e-mail: judygee03@gmail.com)

Deadline for turning in your 2024 entry forms:

Month of Entry	Deadline (RegMtg)	Month	Deadline (Reg Mtg)
January	13 Feb	July	20 Aug
February	19 Mar	August	17 Sep
March	16 Apr	September	17 Oct
April	21 May	October	19 Nov
May	18 Jun	November	17 Dec
June	16 Jul	December	by Brd Mtg 14 Jan 2025



- Three ways to turn in your forms:**
- hand deliver to monthly meetings
 - e-mail to judygee03@gmail.com
 - mail to: Milton Hudgins, 1894 Katie Lane, Hayes, VA 23072

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

ELIGIBLE SPECIES

Albacore Tuna	35 in.	Pompano	12 in.
Amberjack	40 in.	Sailfish	Release
Bigeye Tuna	40 in.	Sea Bass	15 in.
Blackbelly Rosefish	14 in.	Shark	60 in.
Black Drum	40 in.	Sheepshead	15 in.
Blackfin Tuna	20 in.	Snapper	12 in.
Bluefin Tuna	45 in.	Spadefish	18 in.
Blueline Tilefish	20 in.	Spanish Mackerel	20 in.
Bluefish	25 in.	Spearfish	Release
Blue Marlin	Release	Speckled Trout	21 in.
Channel Bass	40 in.	Spot	8 in.
Cobia	40 in.	Striped Bass	36 in.
Croaker	16 in.	Swordfish	Release
Dolphin	35 in.	Tarpon	Release
False Albacore	25 in.	Tautog	18 in.
Flounder	22 in.	Triggerfish	15 inches
Golden Tilefish	30 in.	Wahoo	40 in.
Gray Trout	24 in.	White Marlin	Release
Grouper	16 in.	Whiting (Roundhead)	14 in.
Jack Crevalle	36 in.	Yellowfin Tuna	35 in.
King Mackerel	35 in.		

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE THE TRUTH, AND THE RULES OF THIS CONTEST HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH (see back of this sheet).

NOTE: Copies of release citations with this form are acceptable.

Required Information:

Tournament: _____ Fish: _____

Date Caught: _____ Time Caught: _____ ^{circle one} am / pm Length: _____

Name (printed): _____ ^{check one:} Adult Youth

Signature: _____ Witness Signature: _____

Optional Information:

Weight: _____ Where Caught: _____

Weight Master Signature: _____



2024 PSWSFA TOURNAMENTS

Download "Official Entry Form" at

[Monthly Tournament - Peninsula Salt Water Sport Fisherman's Association \(pswsfa.com\)](http://pswsfa.com)



FOR ALL TOURNAMENTS

You must register prior to fishing and use the PSWSFA official monthly entry form

Questions Contact: Tournament Director Rick Wineman: rick@getanetsportfishing.com or 757-268-1539

Bishop's Trophy Red Drum Tournament

April 1st – May 31st, 2024

Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. June 11, 2024
See Rules below for Catch and Release fish totals. (Witness or photo)

Club Multiple Species Tournament

June 1st – 30th, 2024

Angler who catches the most saltwater species in a single day
Must Receive Completed Forms no later than the Board Mtg. July 9, 2024

Youth and Ladies Croaker/Spanish Mackerel Tournament

July 1st -31st, 2024

Free Tournament for Lady and Youth members/Guests
(Do not need to register to participate)
Must Receive Completed Entry Forms no later than the Board Mtg. August 13, 2024

Don Forman Club Cobia Tournament sponsored by Bishop Fishing Supply

August 1st -31st, 2024

Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. Sept. 10, 2024. See Rules below for weight tournament

Sheepshead Tournament 21 September 2024

This is a Separate Paid Entry Event.
Details and rules to be announced.
Rules and fees listed below do not apply to this tournament.

Club Spot Tournament 5-6 October 2024

Weigh in: 2:00pm on 6 Oct at Legasea Marina
All entries will be weighed using the same club scale followed by the club picnic.

Two categories with 1st – 3rd place winners:
"Adult Entries" and "Youth Entries"
(Anglers for the Spot Tournament must be present to win)
RSVP by 5 October if you are coming to the Annual Club Picnic to the Tournament director
Mr. Rick Wineman at rick@getanetsportfishing.com
757-268-1539

Club Puppy Drum Tournament October 1st – 31st, 2024

Most number of Spots Wins (photos required)
Must Receive Completed Forms and copies of photos no later than the Board Mtg. Nov 12, 2024

Wilcox Bait and Tackle Irv Fenton Rockfish Tournament

December 1st -31st, 2024

Must Receive Completed Form no later than Jan. 14, 2024
See Rules below for weight tournament

MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO: MR. MILTON HUDGINS, 1894 KATIE LANE, HAYES, VA 23072
(e-mail: judygee03@gmail.com)

2024 PSWSFA Tournaments Rules

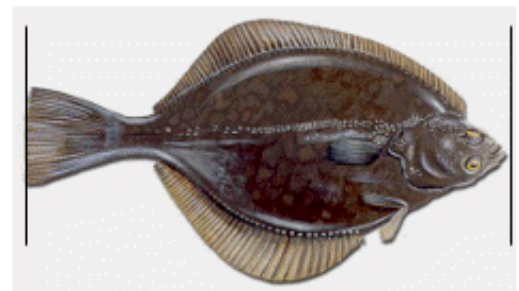
ALL Club Tournaments (Except as noted on front):

- Entry Fees: \$20 for member & \$30 for non-member. Youth and Ladies croaker/Spanish mackerel tourney is free.
- Rules and Entry Fees listed below do not apply to the Sheepshead Tournament. This is a sperate paid entry tournament.
- You must register before fishing by e-mailing Rick Wineman: rick@getanetsportfishing.com or call 757-268-1539.
- Leaving a message will be sufficient to register, give all anglers names (specify club members and club guest), and also give a phone number.
- Guest(s) must fish with at least one member on boat/shore/pier/kayak
- Use a club "Official Entry Form" and weigh in fish at any Va. Saltwater Tournament official weigh station for weight tournaments. Record the weight of fish, date and time caught and have the weigh master sign the form to verify catch. If two identical fish are caught on the same day, the earlier fish wins. That is why time is so important. Length tournament entries require witness or photo.
- All pertinent PSWSFA bylaws apply.

To register or ask questions, e-mail Rick Wineman, Tournament Director at rick@getanetsportfishing.com or call Rick @ 757-268-1539

MEASURING INSTRUCTIONS

With the fish lying on a flat surface, measure in quarter inch increments, from the tip of the mouth to the tip of the tail with the fish in a natural position and the mouth closed.



WWW.PSWSFA.COM



Fishing Around the World



The Baltic Coast

Along the southern coast of Finland, anglers can find fishing destinations close to all the major population centres. The Baltic Coast affords those enjoying the many cultural treats and tourist attractions the possibility to take a moment out of their schedule and enjoy the tranquility and beauty of the wilderness which is always close by. Fishing grounds are always accessible, even for those staying in the heart of Finland's capital, Helsinki.

The Baltic off Finland's southern coast is comprised of the Archipelago Sea and the Gulf of Finland, which forms the largest archipelago in Europe. Tens of thousands of islands define this unique area, and its brackish waters provide anglers with the opportunity to catch freshwater fish in a marine environment, as well as saltwater fish such as flounder, cod, sculpin, Baltic herring, and Atlantic salmon. Easily accessible fishing grounds, combined with a vast network of guides and charters, mean that the visitor can explore the myriad of isolated spots amongst the islands, all the while surrounded by natural scenes of breath-taking beauty.



Another in-demand angling destination is the city of Oulu, right on the Gulf of Bothnia, with good access to freshwater fishing. The best proof of good fishing is the sheer number of professional fishing guides who run their trips from the city.

One day you could be targeting Trout, Grayling, Whitefish, or Pike. Then the next you can do some fly fishing or spend a memorable day on the ice in the winter, there's a bit of everything here. Lake fishing with snow-capped mountains as the backdrop, incredible rapids' action, and angling excursions on the coastal waters are all available in Oulu.

So you think you know your Fish

What is this?

A few possible variations





As a member of Peninsula Salt Water Sport Fisherman's Association
a BoatU.S. Cooperating Group, you are invited to become a BoatU.S. Member
at a special rate:

\$15 Boat U.S. Membership Dues and 10% off Water Towing Services

BOAT U.S. COOP GROUP #: Contact Gary Donaldson at GaryD66@Cox.Net
For the PSWSFA Coop group #

NEW MEMBERS

Sign up online at BoatUS.com/Join
(enter your BoatU.S. Coop Group #
on the first page of the application)

CURRENT MEMBERS

Not receiving the discount? Email
Membership@BoatUS.com

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- 24/7 Dispatch to over 600 towboats in 300+ ports nationwide
- Marine insurance for boaters with 24/7 claims service
- Discounts on fuel, slips, repairs & more at over 1,200 boating businesses nationwide
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and services offered to BoatU.S. Members.

MS11 8/11



INSURANCE



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SAFETY



ADVOCACY



TOWING



TRAILER ASSIST



DISCOUNTS

Directions to PSWSFA Meeting

**Former St Mark's Episcopal Church
Now used by Peninsula Baptist Church**

From 64 (either direction) take the Mercury Blvd exit towards the James River Bridge (West) stay in the right hand lane and turn right at the light onto Todds Lane. Go past Zaxby's chicken about 400 ft and the driveway to the church is on the right. A new Peninsula Baptist Church sign is on the lawn just short of the driveway.

If you come to the traffic light at the intersection of Cunningham you went to far. Turn right on Cunningham and look for the Cunningham entrance to the church (500ft). If you miss it you will need to do a U-turn on Cunningham and go left onto Todds Lane.

The church driveway is just short of the Bercuese Funeral home entrance or just after it if coming from Cunningham.

WHAT'S UP NEXT & BEYOND



19 November - Member Meeting



Club Awards Banquet - 22 Feb 2025



Boat Show - 31 Jan - 2 Feb 2025



Greatbridge Fishing Flea Market - 1 March 2025

PENINSULA SALT WATER SPORTS FISHERMAN'S ASSOC.
P.O. Box 5194
NEWPORT NEWS, VA 23605

**Scan Link with your
phone to Pay Dues.
It costs a bit extra though.**

