#### Vol 45, Issue 7

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King Tournament Director TBD Members Meeting at the NCSU University Club. July 18, 2023, 7 PM The July speaker will be announced on the Club's Facebook Website \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**July 2023** 

#### **MEMBERSHIP REMINDER**

Memberships run for twelve months, so they become due in different months for different people. The Treasurer will be sending invoices to renew membership using Square. You may pay using Square with a credit card or by mailing a check to the RSWSC PO Box, or by bringing your payment to the next meeting.

If you have any questions, email me at RSWSCTreasurer@gmail.com or call me at 919-353-6894.

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR Bo Nowell 919 280-1867 Bonowell@aol.com The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries today announced that the 2023 recreational flounder season will open at 12:01 a.m. Sept. 15 and close at 11:59 p.m. Sept. 29.

#### CONTRIBUTING EDI-TOR

Bernie McCants 919 602-4516 bernie.mccants@gmail.com

**Editor Emeritus** 

#### Jim Beetham jbeetham83@gmail.com

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The season will open with the following provisions for both the recreational hook-and-line and gig fisheries:

A one-fish per person per day creel limit. A 15-inch total length minimum size limit (from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail).

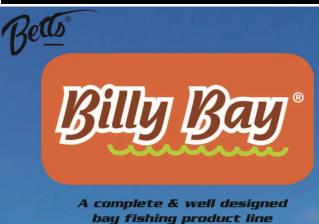
Harvest of flounder with a Recreational Commercial Gear License will be prohibited.

The season and possession limits are set annually to



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keep the fishery within the recreational quota approved by the Marine Fisheries Commission in the N.C. Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3. The plan also specifies any overage to the recreational Total Allowable Catch (TAC) requires a pound for pound payback subtracted from the following year's allowable harvest. In 2022, the recreational TAC of 170,655 pounds was exceeded by 56,340 pounds.

For 2023, this means the TAC for the recreational season will be 114,315 pounds.

Discard mortality is accounted for in the estimates of TAC. During 2022, dead discards both during and outside of the southern flounder recreational season contributed significantly to the total removals from this fishery and the overage in the TAC. For this reason, the Division

discourages anglers from targeting flounder for catch-and-release after they have caught their one-fish limit or when the season is closed. During the open season, the Division also discourages anglers from high-grading (retaining a fish until a larger one is caught) as this increases post-release mortality leading to additional PAGE 2

### Mark your calendar... Old Drum Outing

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16th or SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23rd (alternate).

Captains are encouraged to not only enjoy the adventure with their fishing buddies, but to also extend an invitation for others to join the crew. Please indicate your boat's name and how many additional fishermen, besides yourself, that you will be able to accommodate. If you have a full boat, please advise so that I do not put you down as having openings.

The plan is to launch from the cedar island boat ramp at: Location: 3619 Cedar Island Rd, 115 Driftwood Dr., Cedar Island, NC 28520

This is not a requirement. You may launch from any Neuse River Tributary (Pamlico Sound) including the Pamlico River. Kayak fisherman are eligible, you must declare your launch location.

The outing is set for Saturday, September 16th, but you may choose to prefish the area on Friday, the 15th...if you feel lucky. That will be up to the captain and his crew to coordinate. Only fish caught on Saturday will count for our "friendly" competition, 27" and larger are eligible for the competition.

The traveling trophy will be awarded during an upcoming club meeting to the boat catching and releasing the most "old drum" during competition hours. We are on the honor system. A catch means you were able to grab the leader defined as the required "Owen Lupton" style circle hook rig. You do not have to physically place the fish in the boat to count as a successful release.

Note that the time frame for fishing has been opened up from 5:00AM to 12 Midnight on the 16th to allow for daytime poppin' cork fishing as well as traditional nighttime cut bait fishing. Official VHF Channel is 10. Cell phone service in the area is spotty.

Fishermen will be expected to help with fuel and bait costs. You will coordinate those purchases directly with your crew. Trey Lowdermilk is the outing chairman. Please contact him with questions at 919-270-4120 or email at hllowder@hotmail.com.

## **Photos at June meeting**





Jodi Gay giving an excellent presentation on King Mackerel fishing.



### **RED SNAPPER SEASON INFORMATION**

The 2023 recreational Red Snapper season will open this weekend for two days – Friday and Saturday July 14-15. The season officially opens at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 14 and closes at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, July 16.

Anglers may keep one fish per person per day. There will be no minimum or maximum size limit. Captain and crew on for-hire vessels may retain the recreational bag limit. Anglers who donate a Red Snapper carcass will receive a citation (certificate) from the N.C. Saltwater Fishing Tournament.

The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries will collect Red Snapper carcasses from recreational fishermen during the Red Snapper miniseason. The division has set up four temporary cooler locations in addition to the eleven carcass collection locations available throughout the year, where recreational fishermen can donate their Red Snapper carcasses. Learn more about what the division does with the carcasses on the Carcass Collection Program webpage.

#### CCA NC encourages anglers to use good release techniques when bottom fishing for red snapper and other species. One of the best options is the use of a descending device like the SeaQualizer Descending Device.

"The SeaQualizer Descending Device is a non-invasive, pressure activated tool that anglers use to ensure the survival of by-catch, or fish that are caught and must be released due to a size limit, bag limit or any other reason, that are suffering from barotrauma. The device comes in 3 configurations; Shallow, Standard, and Deep. The various configurations allow for the release of fish in 30' to 300'. We recommend setting the trigger depth as close to the depth of capture as possible. There are independent studies that show the efficacy of the SeaQualizer as compared to other traditional techniques and (Continued on next page)

## (Continued from previous page)

you'll find that it outperforms the competition in every case.

We also offer the SeaYaLater Release Hook. This descending device has a unique twist to the hook release method in that it ensures a specimen does not fall off the hook prematurely during deployment. Follow the link below to a video of the SeaYaLater in use. The sliding swivel on one leg of the device allows the hook to invert when it breaks the surface of the water, going from an orientation that supports the specimen above water to one that drags the fish down once it's submerged. The SeaYaLater is the most user friendly of the release hooks on the market and does a great job of descending fish when used properly.

#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=no7yL5JrdKI

A common question we get revolves around the amount of weight required to get the fish down. We recommend 1-2 lbs of weight for every 10 lbs of fish but for really big grouper and snapper, all bets are off. It usually takes more weight than most boats carry and it's not unheard of for anglers to utilize their anchor the get the fish down.

Anglers use a variety of riggs to successfully release fish from downriggers to kite rods. The most popular method is to use as short a rod as possible with a slow, high torque conventional reel. Like a Penn Senator 113H2.

There is a lot of content on Youtube that shows how the device operates as well as testimonials to its efficacy. You can also visit ACC-NC's Technology page for more information."

### https://seaqualizer.com/technology/

### Marine Fisheries Division encourages anglers to donate Red Snapper carcasses to science

The N.C Division of Marine Fisheries will collect Red Snapper carcasses from recreational fishermen during the July 14-15 Red Snapper mini-season.

The division has set up four temporary freezer locations, in addition to the eleven carcass collection locations available throughout the year, where recreational fishermen can take their Red Snapper carcasses.

The temporary locations are:

Bridge Tender Marina, 1418 Airlie Rd, Wilmington Carolina Beach Municipal Docks, Carl Winner Dr, Carolina Beach Capt. Stacy Fishing Center, 416 Atlantic Beach Causeway, Atlantic Beach Carolina Princess Headboat Dock, 604 Evans St, Morehead City The year-round locations are (map available here): Oden's Dock, 57878 North Carolina Hwy 12, Hatteras Cape Pointe Marina, Harkers Island Frisco Rod & Gun, Frisco Jennette's Pier, Nags Head Eastside Bait & Tackle, Washington Dudley's Marina, Swansboro Pelagic Hunter Fishing Center, Sneads Ferry Sea View Crab Company, Wilmington Tex's Tackle, Wilmington N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries Headquarters, Morehead City Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point - Environmental Affairs Office (available only to those with military base access) Anglers who donate a Red Snapper carcass will receive a citation (certificate) from the N.C. Saltwater Fishing Tournament.

When cleaning the fish, anglers should leave the head and tail intact and, if possible, leave the guts/reproductive organs in the fish. Anglers who fished on a charter boat or head boat should let the fish cleaner know the carcass will be donated.

Instructions on how to deposit the carcasses are posted on each freezer. Anglers will be asked to give information related to how and when the fish was caught. Fishermen also will be asked for their names and addresses if they wish to receive a citation. (continued next page)

Division biologists will measure the fish, determine the sex when possible, and remove the otoliths (ear bones) to determine the age of the fish. The information collected will be provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service for use in future Red Snapper stock assessments.

Recreational anglers also may log information about their recreational trips and catches through the MyFishCount electronic reporting mobile app. The app is available for free download at the Google Play and Apple App stores or through the MyFishCount website. Reports of the number of harvested and released fish will improve the accuracy of National Marine Fisheries Service's catch estimates.

The 2023 recreational Red Snapper season will open for two days – Friday and Saturday July 14-15. The season officially opens at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 14 and closes at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, July 16.

Anglers may keep one fish per person per day. There will be no minimum or maximum size limit. Captain and crew on for-hire vessels may retain the recreational bag limit.

The commercial Red Snapper season will open at 12:01 a.m. July 10, 2023, with a 75-pound gutted weight trip limit. The season will close at 12:01 a.m. Jan. 1, 2024, or when the commercial quota is met (whichever comes first). Division biologists will obtain data from commercially caught Red Snapper at the fish houses. Commercially caught carcasses should not be left in the Carcass Collection Program freezers.

Gear regulations implemented in previous years for commercial, for-hire, and recreational snapper-grouper fishing remain in effect. The regulations require:

A descending device be on board and readily available for use while fishing for or possessing snapper-grouper species; and,

Use of non-offset (also called inline), non-stainless-steel circle hooks when fishing for or possessing snapper-grouper species with hook-and-line gear and natural baits, regardless of tackle or lure configuration. A non-offset circle hook is a hook with the point directed perpendicular back towards the shank, with the point and barb in the same plane as the shank (see diagrams). Offset circle hooks and stainless-steel circle hooks are not allowed for snapper grouper fishing.

For specific recreational harvest regulations, go to Proclamation FF-27-2023. For specific commercial harvest regulations, go to Proclamation FF-26-2023.

(Continued next page)

Read the NOAA Fisheries announcement of the Red Snapper season here. More information on best fishing practices, including how-to videos for rigging descending devices, can be found here.

Read more about North Carolina's Red Snapper Carcass Collection program here, or, for more information, contact Amanda Macek, division sportfishing specialist, at (252) 808-8081 or amanda.macek@deq.nc.gov.

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Then submit information/pics in a fishing report for the Newsletter about your fishing and catches by your family/kids.										
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	Mail to:RS	WSC, PO Bo	x 41427,	, Raleigh, N	С 27629					

#### **KING TIDES**

King tides occur when the earth, the sun, and the moon are aligned. When the sun and the moon are aligned and moon closest to the earth, we get "king tides". The result is extreme high tides, and extreme low tides. This is because the gravitational pull is essentially "stretching" water on the earth. Seawater is then pulled in an upward manner causing higher tides in some areas and lower tides in others.

Knowledge can allow you to plan a trip to look for tailing red drum in spartina or avoid getting trapped fishing skinny water on a falling tide.

Nice article on tides from Carolina Sportsman:

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## 2023 North Carolina King Tides Calendar

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# **HOW TO SUBMIT AUTOMATED FISHING REPORTS**

Dates, locations (general), tackle, bait and tips are greatly appreciated. You can easily utilize the new reporting tool on the Club's website. Fish Card: <u>https://www.rswsc.org/fish-cards</u>

Tripp made updates to the website for members to submit Fish Cards. The application for submitting information is through Google Forms and has been embedded into the website. When submitting a responses, members will have the ability to view other submissions.

"Google does require a Gmail account be used, if a picture was uploaded in the questionnaire. To make things easier, pictures will be emailed separately. We believe the ease of submitting responses and the ability to view all member results will outweigh having to submit a pictures separately."

#### You can also use the form on the following page if desired and not computer savvy.

Please send in your fishing reports, Fish Cards and photos to share with members in 2022. The newsletters are much better with fishing reports and photos.

#### Website & Social Media Report—Tripp Adams

Newsletters and Communication:

All other communication is managed through our listserv. Keep an eye out for meeting, newsletter, outing, etc. related emails.

You will also be received the monthly Newsletter.

Be sure to check your spam! Your first few emails could get caught up there..

Lastly – The club website has past newsletters, our events calendar, and club forum. Some features require you to register as a site member. Follow the instructions below to sign up.

1) Visit https://www.rswsc.org/

- 2) In the top right corner, select 'Log in'
- 3) Select 'Sign Up'

4) Select a method for registering. Your options are Facebook, Google, or your personal Email

4B) Be sure to select, 'Join site community' for event updates and forum access.

5) If using your personal email, you will need to create a password

#### Club Website Improvements — from Tripp Adams:

With the help from Tom Zemonek and Janson Fant, the club has a new website. We launched the new RSWSC website in November of 2020.

Built on a different platform from the old site, the club site now has a more updated and professional look/ feel. You will notice many of the tabs from the original site are the similar, with only a few key differences. Users will experience much faster load times and, a webpage made to fit mobile devices.

One key addition to the new website is the 'Meetings and Outings' tab. <u>https://www.rswsc.org/meetings-and-outings</u>

As the outings calendar is planned and updated, events will be added to the page. We also plan to have virtual club meetings in 2021, which will have meeting information listed. As the club grows into the new site, there is functionality to manage event registration, and event specific communication. These are transitions from our current procedures and will be adopted over time.

The other new feature is the 'Forum' tab. <u>https://rswsc.org/forum</u> visitors to the website will have to make an account to access the information. The idea behind the forum is that, this will be a great way for members to interact with each other, especially during these quarantine times. Several message board topics have already been created in the forum; members can post pictures, experiences with guide services, baits/ tactics, etc. This will also be a great way for members to meet other club member who have experience in their area of the coast.

As we continue to grow into the new website, you may notice changes along the way. While much of the site was built before it was published, there are always new features that can be added or adjusted. in the long term the site should be able to handle club communication for both emails and social media postings. Some of this will be a "learn as we go" process so, bear with us.

We are open to feedback on the new website. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions, suggestions, and/or recommendations. Email me at tripp.adams@field2base.com

## Past Speakers List and contact information

Presenter	Website/Email	Торіс	Phone
Rob Koraly	www.sandbarsafari.com	Bonita Fishing	252-725-4614
Capt Bryan Goodwin	www.nativeguide.net	Light tackle fishing	252 725-3961
Dave Anderson	www.collinsboating.com	Engine & Boat Maintenance	919 934-3143
Jerry Dilsaver	captjery@captjerry.com	Throwing Casting Nets	
Fuzzy Lambert	www.dunkilewisinc.com	Humming Bird Electronics	336 416-3733
Capt George Beckwith	www.downeastguideservice.com		252 671-3434
James Garner	www.otseg@aol.com	Boat Building w/Hi Tech Composites	
Robbie Hall	hallemincharters@yahoo.com	Fishing in Emerald Isle / Swansboro	252-354-6692
Capt Daniel Jarvas	www.flatfootcharters.com	Bonita Fishing in New River Inlet	828-308-6726
Capt. Gary Dubiel	www.specfever.com/blog	Large Drum on artificial bait	252-249-1520
Capt Dave Tilley	www.portal.ncdenr.org/web/ mf/home		910-456-0611
Seth Vernon	www.captainsethvernon.com	Double Haul Guide Service	910-233-4520
Gary Ballard	www.deepcreeklures.com www.captaingarysproducts.com	Deep Creek Lures & <i>Cap- tain</i> Gary's Marine Care Products	(910) 892-1791
Capt. Richard Andrews	http://tarpamguide.com/	Tar-Pam Guide Service	(252) 945-9715
Seaview Pier	www.seaviewfishingpier.com		910-328-3172
Captain Greg Griffin	greg@greggofish.com	Greggofish Guide Service	919-434-4183
Captain Stewart Merritt	www.saltairventures.com/ contact	Salt Air Ventures	252-725-1725
Jody Gay	Bluewatercandylures.com	Blue Water Candy	910-270-3718
Capt Bobby Brewer	www.baldheadbobby.com	Baldheaded Bobby Guide Service	919-349-6112
Capt. Scooter Lilley	www.cwwcharters.com	CWW Inshore Charters	252-799-9536