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The Raleigh Saltwater Sport Fishing Club — the longest standing saltwater club in Raleigh invites you to our March 2022 meeting.

Tuesday March 15, 2022 Meeting

We will meet this month at the Gizmo Brewery at the Gizmo Brew Works 5907 Triangle Drive, Raleigh, NC

Speaker: Cameron Wright author of “The Southern Surfcaster—Saltwater Strategies for the Carolina Beaches and Beyond”
Food is available for purchase. There are facilities inside and under the tent outside in case of rain.

Rain or shine, come see us!

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Support our Sponsors

2022 RSWSC CALENDAR



3/15 Members Meeting @ Gizmo Brewery (Cameron Wright; Southern Surf Caster)

50/50 Raffle to be held

3/22 Officers Meeting

3/26 Shad Outing for Members and Guests (Weldon Ramp; Boat and/or Bank Fishing)

Robert Carroll, Organizer

4/19 Members Meeting (Speaker TBD)

4/30 ?? Atlantic Bonito Outing (Fish from your Home port) ?? Organizer



Note from the President

Kevin Clemmer

I encourage you to attend our upcoming meeting, in person, to hear the latest tips on surf fishing from Cameron Wright, "The Southern Surfcaster." Come join us, Mar. 15 @ 7 pm, Raleigh GIZMO Brewery location. We will have a 50/50 raffle, as well as additional prizes. What a great opportunity to be in person and hands on with an expert on surf fishing!

I would like to thank our current members and sponsors for your membership. With our upcoming outdoor meeting at GIZMO brewery, I am encouraging our sponsors to be in attendance with information and or product to inform members attending. If you are not a current member or sponsor, please consider coming out to our upcoming meeting and re-joining to catch on to the latest tips and tackle!



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REAL ESTATE AGENTS AND ADVISORS

Anglers Needed For Ocracoke Surf Tourney

Dates are April 24 to May 1.

Six-Person Team Tournament on Thursday and Friday, April 28 & 29.

Cost is \$500 for the week including tournament fees.

Pretty much inclusive except for bait.

Visitors during the week are \$50.00 a night .

Great way for newer members to form friendships with established members and share and receive surf fishing tackle and tips.

RSWSFC has a good record for this tournament over the years.

Contact Tommy Walls at 919-325-6529

For Sale: 3 Offshore stand up rod and reel combinations. Avet Pro 4/0 wide, 2 speed reels matched to 30 - 50 lb. stand up rods. Reels loaded with 40 lb. mono. \$300 for each combo. Contact Bill Mandulak at 919-345-2280.

**THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR
THE FISHING REPORTS AND
PICTURES THAT WERE NOT
SENT IN THIS MONTH**

NEWSLETTER CHANGES

Bernie McCants has opted to move to a contributing Editor role for the Newsletter and has asked me to do it full time. We were both doing it in alternating months but now I will do it full time. He will still be adding stories and providing input but I have to pull the Newsletter together so we can get it out on time.

So I am asking for everyone's help. There is a wealth of knowledge in this Club. People fish a lot and in different ways and for different fish. I encourage you to send me those fishing tips, trip stories, or anything you feel would be nice to share with others. If you are not a confident writer, don't worry about your spelling or grammar or worry about writing publicly. As the Editor, I am here to clean it up and make your story good.

It's important to share our knowledge and pass it on. You don't have to reveal your secret spots but tell us the story about your fishing trip regardless of whether it was a winner or a loser. Tell me about the experience. Father with son or son with dad or fishing with the kids, Surf, boat, charter, pier or whatever, you all have some great stories to share. I especially want your "Bent Hook" stories about the trip you spend on the sand bar or sank your vehicle to the rims. We have an award for that at the end of the year and it's our friendly way of honoring even our best anglers who had a bad day.

If I don't get fishing stories, then I have to find filler and that may bore you to death. Fishery politics, fishery management, fishing classes, basic knots, are all a part of the sport but now always fun to read. So send me your stuff to bonowell@aol.com and make this newsletter even better,

Thanks — Bo Nowell RSWFC Newsletter Editor

Sea Grant asked me to share their announcement about Sea Grant's upcoming (4th year) fish science course for the public. Their news release is below. It will be 100% virtual (Zoom) 6-part class on Tuesday nights, running Feb 22-Mar 29. \$20 registration fee covers all 6 classes. Register here: [go.NCSU.edu/Fisheries](https://go.ncsu.edu/Fisheries)

There is an announcement on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ncseagrant/>

Official news release, course agenda and registration link: <https://ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/news/2022/02/registration-opens-for-the-introductory-fisheries-science-online-course/>

Our latest Hook Line Science posts features previous attendee quotes. <https://ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/hooklinescience/2022/02/07/are-you-ready-to-go-to-fishery-science-school/>.

Complete lineup of speakers has been finalized and is as follows: Jacob Boyd, Laura Lee, Corrin Flora, and Lee Paramore (NCDMF); Kevin Dockendorf (NCWRC); Dr. Fred Scharf (UNCW); Dr. Jeff Buckel (NCSU); Dr. Jim Morley and Dr. Rebecca Asch (ECU); and Dr. Joel Fodrie (UNC). Sara Mirabilio and I (NC Sea Grant) will moderate and provide background as needed.

Welcome Our Newest Members!

Please make a point to reach out to our newest members at the meetings to make them welcomed and encourage them to participate in the upcoming outings and Club tournaments.

New INFO on Submitting Fishing Reports

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.

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

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

Per Tripp "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."

NORTH CAROLINA STATE RECORD □ Todd Spangler caught a true giant speckled trout! On DMF official scales the fish weighed in at 12lbs 8oz measuring 33.5 inches with a 18 inch girth! A true fish of a life time! Beating out a 60 year old record of 12lb 4oz.



Triangle Chapter Banquet

Thursday, March 31st, 6:00pm

Wake County Shrine Club

6015 Lead Mine Rd, Raleigh NC



Live and Silent Auction - Raffle - Dinner - Open Bar

Ticket Pricing :

Single: \$75

Couple: \$120

Corp Tables:

(8) Top- \$800

(4) Top- \$450



Contact:

David Sneed: 252-341-2096

Matthew Wallin: 757-508-3980

Scan with phone to Purchase Tickets



<https://ccanc.org/product/triangle2022/>



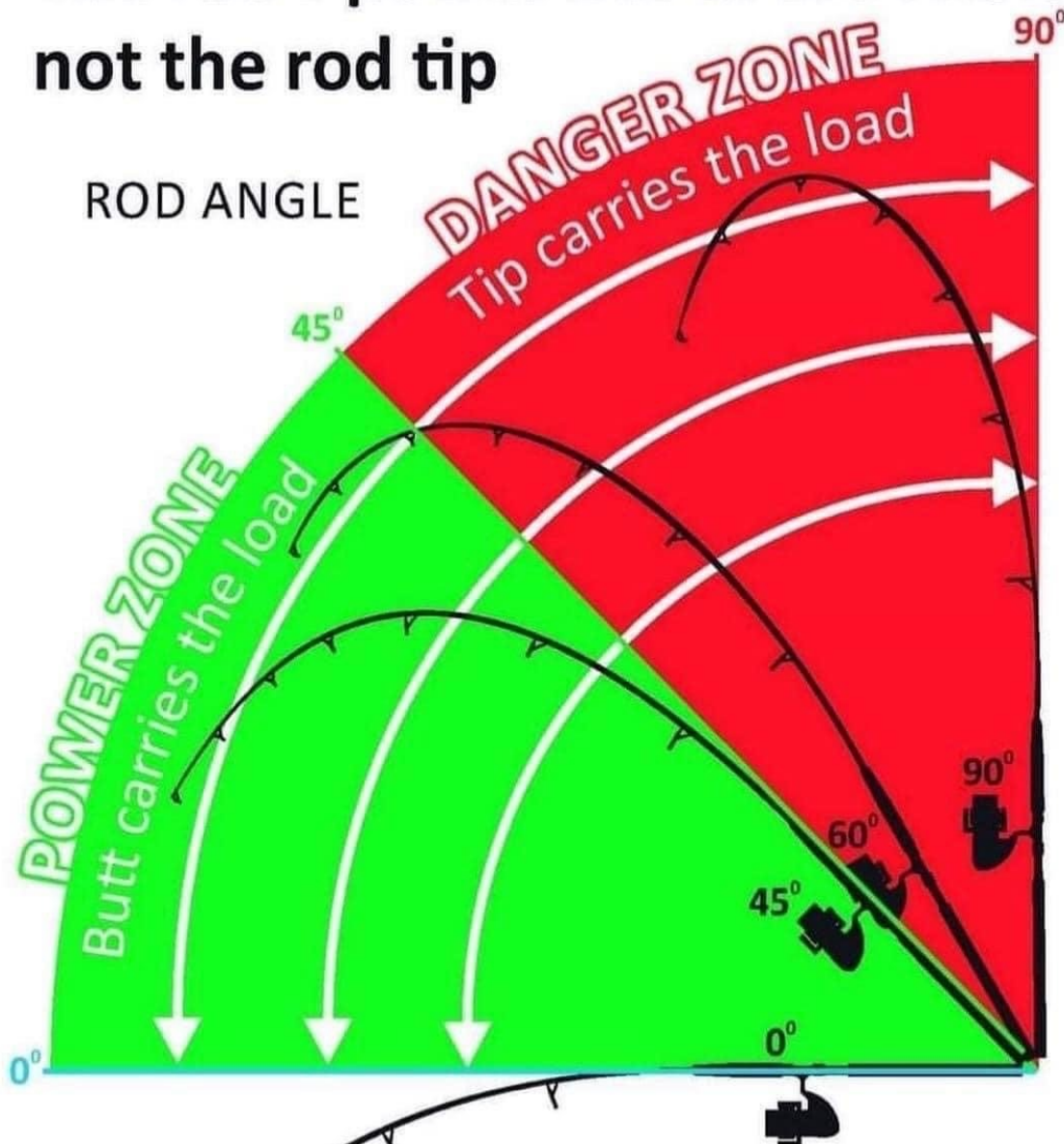
SPRING CASTING TOURNAMENT

**DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 12 – SUNDAY MARCH
13**

LOCATION: 798 BEAR FARM RD, SMITHFIELD, NC

MEMBERSHIP COST: \$30, \$10/DAY TO CAST

The rod's power lies in the rod butt, not the rod tip



"As the rod angle goes toward 90 degrees, the pressure you're exerting declines. You're working just as hard when the rod is vertical, but the rod is not working for you and you're bringing very little pressure to bear on the fish."

"If you can put 10 pounds of pressure on a fish and keep it there, you can beat any fish"

"You have to keep the pressure constant and not give the fish a chance to rest."

"When you have got your fish into the boat, put your rod into the rod holder & "flip" the bail arm on the reel to release the pressure on the rod."

A good fisherman will keep the rod tip no higher than 45 degrees. Jamming the rod butt into your stomach or gimbal belt and leveraging with both hands, you can increase the fighting pressure.

With the low rod angle, the bend is in the rod's thick butt section. It doesn't take much resistance to bend a rod tip. There's a reason rods are tapered toward the tip. A flexible tip also contributes to rod sensitivity, enabling the angler to detect a subtle bite. More rods are broken from fighting fish with a high rod angle than for any other reason.

FEBRUARY MEETING PICTURES

We had about 35+ attendees. Majority vaxed/boosted. Facilities spaced for Covid conscious. Mask as preferred. Room also has heavy air filtration. Several older club members attended and we welcome all new and past members to attend our April meeting at the NC Alumni Club.



Trip raffle winner



Set up for the 35-40 attendees

Small raffle winners.



AFTER MAJOR VICTORY FOR COASTAL FISHERIES, LEGAL FIGHT CONTINUES IN APPELLATE COURT

State of North Carolina Asks for "Immunity" from Lawsuit

The fight to save North Carolina's coastal fisheries took a major step forward in court last month. On February 10, the most recent legal briefs were filed in a lawsuit seeking to hold the state accountable for failing to meet its legal duty to protect North Carolina's once-abundant inshore coastal fisheries from overharvest and undue waste.

The lawsuit details how North Carolina's coastal fisheries have suffered chronic decline under the state's decades-old management approach of allowing maximum, unsustainable exploitation of this public resource, primarily by the commercial fishing industry, including the continued authorization of estuarine shrimp trawling in waters heavily populated by juvenile fish, unattended gillnets, and chronic overfishing of flounder and other popular species.

The legal action, brought in 2020 by the Coastal Conservation Association North Carolina and a group of 86 citizen plaintiffs, including five former members of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC), is proceeding after the trial court rejected the state's request to dismiss the case last summer. The state is appealing that decision and asking the appellate court to do something that no court in the history of our nation has done before: give the state "sovereign immunity" from the public trust doctrine, a foundational tenet of public governance that predates the birth of our nation. Sovereign-or "State"-immunity is the old, but dying, legal doctrine that the state can do no wrong, and thus cannot be sued by its citizens.

The public trust doctrine, a set of principles derived from Roman and English law, establishes that the citizens of the state have the right to use public waters, including to fish for personal use, and that the state holds fish and wildlife in trust for the use and benefit of its current and future citizens. As the resource trustee the state must protect fish and wildlife from overharvest or undue waste. The public trust doctrine's protection of the right to fish is reinforced in the North Carolina Constitution, which states that "the right to fish shall be forever preserved for the public good."

The state's request for immunity, if granted, would render that constitutional protection meaningless, and it would effectively mean that North Carolinians could not enforce the public trust doctrine against their government, the resource trustee. Only once, in two centuries of public trust doctrine cases in the U.S., has a state (Alaska) been brazen enough to request immunity from the public trust doctrine. A court swiftly rejected that request.

In their February 10 brief to the Court of Appeals, the plaintiffs pointed to that precedent, as well as the lack of any legal precedent for the State of North Carolina's request for immunity. "The state's attempt to assert sovereign immunity overreaches in ways that the state has never attempted before, and it asks this Court to go where no court in our nation's history has ever gone before," their brief explained. "The Superior Court recognized this government overreach for what it was, and it was right to reject it. This Court should do the same." Amicus briefs in support of the plaintiffs' position were also filed by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, Sound Rivers, and Professor Joseph Kalo, Graham Kenan Professor of Law Emeritus at UNC Law School, a leading scholar on ocean and coastal law.

Briefing in the appeal is expected to be completed by late March, after which the Court of Appeals will decide whether to schedule a hearing on the state's argument.

"North Carolina's public trust fish stocks are as a whole depleted and unhealthy, and the state has no plan nor political will to turn that around," said Dr. Tim Nifong, CCA NC General Counsel. "The few state citizens who are privileged to harvest public trust resources for personal profit are allowed to take the vast majority of those resources under state management policies, leaving only the 'crumbs' to the other 11 million citizens."

CCA NC Executive Director David Sneed added, "This lawsuit is aimed at changing state policies that rob the public of its rights by ignoring stock conservation in favor of unsustainable exploitation of the resource."

Other southeastern states have done a better job than North Carolina at protecting their coastal fisheries resources and, consequently, public trust fishing rights. In North Carolina's sounds, large shrimp trawlers are allowed to drag heavily weighted nets that damage habitat and kill close to a billion juvenile finfish each year. For every pound of shrimp harvested, more than three pounds of fish are killed as by-catch, thus wasted. Once abundant stocks of gray trout, spot and croaker have been decimated. North Carolina also remains the last bastion for large-scale gill netting, a harvest method banned in most states due to the by-catch and impacts to sea turtles and other marine life. Use of gill nets continues in North Carolina waters because the state holds two permits on behalf of commercial fishermen that allow them to circumvent Endangered Species Act protections and kill or harm endangered sea turtles and sturgeon.

These practices have resulted in the depletion of many commercially and ecologically important fish species. In the 25 years since the Fisheries Reform Act of 1997 was enacted to, supposedly, restore North Carolina's already depleted fish populations, the long-term decline across multiple species has only accelerated.

Meanwhile, the actual harvest pressure on the state's inshore fisheries is unknown, but it is clearly substantially underestimated by the state. Commercial gears were never intended to be used large-scale to harvest public resources for personal use. On average, over 50 percent of commercial license holders do not report sale of any fish.

Among fish species traditionally targeted by the public, chronic overexploitation has led to precipitous declines in annual harvest. Since 1997, harvest of southern flounder, a North Carolina seafood staple, is down by 81%, spot by 85%, croaker by 88% and weakfish (grey trout) by a shocking 97%. Striped bass (77%) and bluefish (63%) are also in decline. Recent efforts by the state to drastically limit the total harvest of southern flounder-caused by state managers allowing 33 years of commercial overharvest-have resulted in severe restrictions on public access to that stock. "North Carolina's fishing heritage is at stake, and without meaningful reform, these trends may be irreversible," said CCA Chairman Bert Owens.

With the legal action moving forward, CCA NC is preparing to launch a public awareness campaign to educate North Carolinians about the issues and generate broad-based support for true coastal fisheries management reform. Utilizing public relations, social media and event activations, the campaign will detail how fair, intelligent, science-based management policies can preserve both recreational and commercial fishing for future generations without diminishing access to fresh North Carolina seafood.

CCA NC believes that the state must begin immediately to make the long-term viability of North Carolina's coastal fisheries a top priority, and that all interested parties should have meaningful opportunity to work with the state and its agencies in achieving that goal.

For more on the lawsuit and how you can be a supporter, please visit our website: Coastal Conservation Association of North Carolina | CCA NC

####

NC's 2022 flounder season and limits have been set!

A Fall and Spring flounder seasons has been established. Quotas that could impact future seasons were also set.

The spring season has been set for March 1 – April 15, for only summer and gulf flounder in the ocean. Anglers can keep one summer or gulf flounder during this season.

Southern flounder caught during this timeframe will be subtracted from the state's fall flounder quota.

Go to this site for information on distinguishing different species of flounder:

<https://www.carolinasportsman.com/fishing/inshore-fishing/flounder/is-it-a-summer-southern-or-gulf-flounder/>

The fall season will run from Aug. 16 – Sept. 30. Anglers may keep one southern flounder per day. With a yearly quota of 166,000 pounds, any overages will be subtracted from the next season's allocation. This means if recreational anglers catch more than 166,000 pounds of flounder during this year's season, the 2023 allocated amount will be reduced by this year's overage.

For example, if DMF determines recreational anglers keep 196,000 pounds of southern flounder during this fall's season, the 2023 season will be adjusted to account for the 30,000 pounds of overage. So in 2023, the quota will be 136,000 pounds. DMF will determine what changes to make during that season to keep the quota in check. This could mean a shorter season, no season, or a season-limit imposed on anglers rather than a daily limit.

An adaptive management framework with accountability measures to implement paybacks if the total allowable landings is exceeded.



LEFT CHEST: 3.5"W x 1.5"H
BACK: 12"W x 10.6"H
RIGHT SLEEVE: 14"W X 2"H

Raleigh Saltwater

Raleigh Saltwater

Raleigh Saltwater



You Fish...



We'll Make You Better!

RSWSC T-Shirts

The price for short sleeve t-shirts is \$20 each See next page for pictures. The price for the long sleeve Performance T-shirts is \$35 We paid from \$15.65 to \$19.75 for the short sleeve shirts (smaller shirts cost less while larger shirts cost us more}. Performance long sleeves were also more expensive at \$28/ We also paid a tax and processing fee of \$200. So this is almost break even pricing.

If you want to purchase, please reach out to Ron Reijerkerk reijerke@gmail.com 919-846-088

See also next page for short sleeve t-shirts.

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. <https://www.rswsc.org/meetings-and-outings>

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. <https://rswsc.org/forum> 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

RSWSC FISHING REPORT CARD

Angler (Club Member): _____

(Age if Junior/Youth angler) _____

Small Boat

Charter

Pier

Surf (Circle one)

Location: _____ Date: _____

Best Catch: Species: _____

Weight _____ lbs. _____ oz _____ Length _____ (inches)

Released? Yes No (Circle one)

Comments: _____

Drop card off at meeting or

Email your report to: Bernie.mccants@gmail.com or Bonowell@aol.com

Also submit information in a fishing report for the Newsletter

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Renewals — Please only enter changed information

Name: _____ New member
Include spouse's/children name if family membership Renewal

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell _____

E-mail address: _____ Boat Name: _____

Dues: Single - \$50: Family - \$60: Sponsor (business card) - \$130:

Corresponding (newsletter only) - \$25: (Corresponding not eligible for catch awards or banquet attendance)

(Note: larger sponsor ads or short term ads are available and negotiable. Contact a club officer

Mail to: RSWSC, PO Box 41427, Raleigh, NC 27629

Past Speakers List and contact information

Presenter	Website/Email	Topic	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	captjerry@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 & Captain 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