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King Tournament Director
TBD

JANUARY MEETING:

Tuesday, January 16th at 7:00 PM. The club meets at the NC University Club at 4200 Hillsboro St. Meals available for purchase.

Bass and Saltwater Fishing Expo January 12-14

We will have a booth at the event. We need volunteers to man the booth. Look for shift sign ups to be sent out. This event allows the club to reach many people in the triangle and share the value the club's meetings and outings brings to its members.

We would like members to sign up if they are interested in representing the club in the booth. Based on preference, we can coordinate shifts for manning the booth. At least one board member will always be in the booth.

Additionally, Capt. Joe Tunstil and possibly other charter captains will be joining us in the booth throughout the event.

Members will need to purchase a ticket to enter the event.

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January, 2024 Treasurer's Report:

Good news on the 2023 budget! Thanks to careful management of expenses by the board through the year we ended the year with a slight surplus. Our approved 2023 budget was for a \$311 loss, but we ended the year with a \$321 profit. As of December 31, we have a healthy cash on hand balance of


██████████ The detailed 2023 final income statement will be posted to the RSWSC.org website.

Many membership renewals are due in January! Remember that only paid members will receive the newsletter and invitations to club meetings, fishing trips, and activities. Because we recruited 30 members to join last January, 30 members have their memberships due for renewal this month. I emailed Square invoices to all of you who are due in January. You can renew online using the Square link that I emailed, at the boat show, at the January meeting, or by mail. If you have any questions about your membership, or did not receive a Square invoice, please email me at rrswsctreasurer@gmail.com or call me at 919-353-6894.




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Light Tackle or Fly Fishing, Inshore and Nearshore.

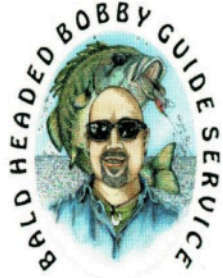


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Two Club Teams participated in the SKA (Southern Kingfish Association) National tournament headquartered in Morehead City.

Video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8PfNicWVv2E>

Anchor911 (Victor Tucker) & Horseplay (Trey Lowdermilk) teamed together in search of the \$15,000.00 Small Boat Cash Prize. Neither placed in the money, Horseplay 36 of 72 boats and Anchor911 43 of 72.

Open Class and Small Boat Divisions were captured by Ocean Isle based teams... FORGIVEN (Randy Burton) \$36,345.00 and Ocean Isle Fishing Center (Austin Aycock) \$30,145.00.

Team Anchor911 did all the leg work day before, marking the route to Drum Inlet, penning the largest menhaden of the year nearby for next day accessibility. Both teams' trailered to the closet NCWRC boat ramp directly across from drum inlet and headed out at first light. As typical we drove past the fish, opting for the famed December Hatteras 50# King Mackerel bite. There was no shortage of 20# king macks off Diamond Shoals, but the winning fish came further South closer to Cape Lookout Shoals near the Atlas Tanker wreck.

Horseplay opted not to fish day two due to the weather forecast. Anchor911 selected to "send it," and bagged a nice wahoo near the Atlas Tanker wreck.

Both teams are jabbing one another who will take home the largest cash prize in 2024. Anyone interested in Tournament King Mackerel Fishing just ask; we'd love to add you to the excitement and eventual disappointment (in Horseplays case). All and All we really have a really good time on the water.

Pictured om next pzge....

SKA Pictures



Newspaper Article: What's the future of NC's commercial fishing industry?

https://wilmingtonstarnews-nc.newsmemory.com/?publink=00e7ccea3_134d10f
Politics vs. science

https://wilmingtonstarnews-nc.newsmemory.com/?publink=0fccb4c50_134d10f

NOTE: SEE PAGE 8 FOR CCA LAWSUIT VERSUS THE STATE UPDATE

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Permits

The Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Management Division issues federal vessel permits for commercial and recreational fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Sea.

If fishing regulations aren't already confusing here's a new twist...

All vessels that fish for or may incidentally take and retain Atlantic HMS must have a vessel permit. These permits are attached to the vessel, not the permit holder, and must be renewed annually.

What pelagic species require the permit?

Billfish, Sharks (endorsement required), Swordfish, & Tunas

There are lot of tuna species

Blue Fin, Yellow Fin, Skipjack, Albacore & Big Eye Tuna require the permit. Black Fin Tuna DO NOT require the permit.

Identification of Atlantic Tunas: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/outreach-materials/atlantic-tunas-identification-guide>

Atlantic Tunas Identification Guide

Provides guidance on how to identify species of Atlantic tunas.
www.fisheries.noaa.gov

Continued next page...



[Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Angling Permit \(Open Access\)](#)This permit authorizes vessels to recreationally fish for and retain Atlantic highly migratory species using specific gears.www.fisheries.noaa.gov

This NOAA regulation may include club member vessels who participate in the RSWFC Annual Mahi Challenge. Although the target species is Mahi, it is not unlikely that you may land a Yellow Fin Tuna (And you will not want to return him to the sea). The permit isn't required for Black Fin Tuna. Think this will not happen to You... try being boarded by a Coast Guard Zodiac from the 110 Foot Mother Ship based out of Norfolk 45 miles off Cape Lookout in April. This happened to us while actually hooked up to a Black Fin. Following the 30 minute Coast Guard inspection we boated a Yellow Fin.

The permit issued by vessel not individual. The Fee is \$26.00. Your vessel will require a name.

Acquire the permit at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/atlantic-highly-migratory-species-angling-permit-open-access>

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Angling Permit (Open Access)
This permit authorizes vessels to recreationally fish for and retain Atlantic highly migratory species using specific gears.
www.fisheries.noaa.gov

Catch'em up

Trey Lowdermilk
RSWFC

CCA UPDATE ON LAWSUIT

CCA NC wishes each of you a healthy, happy and productive 2024! The turning of the new year always brings to mind things we need to change and resolutions to effect that change. As has been true now for decades, public trust fisheries management in North Carolina needs to change, and let each of us resolve to do our best to affect that change in 2024.

Following our decisive victory at the Court of Appeals in September 2022, the coastal fisheries resource-preservation lawsuit filed against the State of North Carolina by CCA NC and a coalition of citizens is now well into the evidence-gathering stage. After the Court of Appeals' unanimous ruling that the State has a legal "duty to preserve fisheries for the benefit of the public" and a legal "duty to keep fisheries safe from injury, harm, or destruction for all time," the Superior Court directed us to provide a summary of the issues in the case to include in the Court's Case Management Order.

You can find a copy of the Case Management Order on our website: https://ccanc.org/ccanc_lawsuit/ We would strongly encourage you to take a brief moment to read our Summary of Issues, which begins at the bottom of page 4. We would also encourage you to send a copy of it to anyone who may be interested in the lawsuit or the fate of our coastal fisheries.

As you'll see in our Summary of Issues, the State has completely and utterly failed to meet its legal "duty to preserve fisheries for the benefit of the public" and its legal "duty to keep fisheries safe from injury, harm, or destruction for all time." And since this lawsuit was filed in November 2020, things have not gotten measurably better, largely because state coastal fisheries management agencies have gone about business as usual. Rather than accept the damning evidence in the lawsuit and change its ways, the State has only defended its mismanagement more aggressively, maintained its same management path,

and done little or nothing to begin to recover our coastal fish stocks.

It is time your elected officials heard more about this appalling situation, and they need to hear it from you as individual citizens adversely affected by state fisheries mismanagement. We encourage you to use the attached Summary of Issues (beginning on page 4) to educate them further on why these issues are so urgent. A personal message from you that forwards the link to the Summary of Issues would be great.

More fundamentally, we need our elected representatives to know that it doesn't have to be this way. The legislature has given executive branch agencies sufficient statutory authority to amply perform their duties as resource trustees, thereby guaranteeing the right of every citizen to harvest fish for personal use. However, while state fisheries management agencies have the required authority to "do the right thing" as resource trustees, those agencies continue to "do the wrong thing" for resource sustainability, because the General Assembly has allowed them the discretion to do so, and because there is no accountability built into the system when state agencies fail to act as trustees on behalf of all North Carolinians.

One thing is very clear: Coastal fisheries must be managed differently in North Carolina if there is to be any chance of those resources being restored, thereby restoring the constitutionally guaranteed right of current citizens—and their children and grandchildren—to use and enjoy our great state's coastal fisheries resources. We are asking for their help as the people's directly elected resource trustee, in ensuring that legislative directives to state coastal fisheries management agencies are implemented in a manner that rebuilds, restores and preserves our coastal fisheries resources for use by all citizens.

Thank you for your attention to this important update and thank you for doing everything you can to help save our coastal fisheries resources before it's too late.

David A. Sneed, Executive Director Coastal Conservation Association
North Carolina

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: <https://www.rswsc.org/fish-cards>

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.

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 Submit online at:

<https://www.rswsc.org/fish-cards>

Then submit information/pics in a fishing report for the Newsletter about your fishing and catches by your family/kids.

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

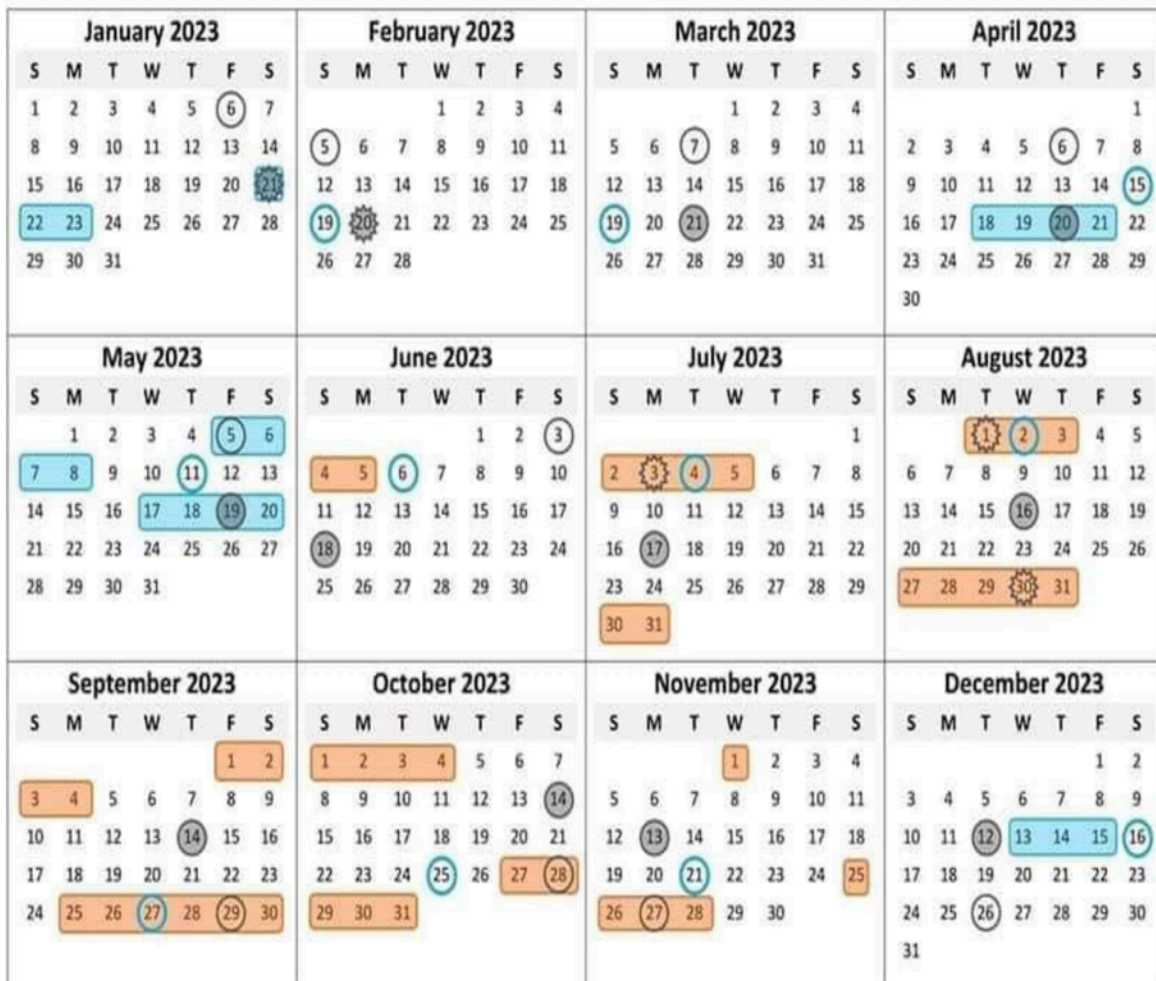
KING TIDES

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:

2023 North Carolina King Tides Calendar



- King Tide
- Expected Higher & Lower Water Events
- Lunar Perigee (moon closest to Earth)
- Full Moon
- New Moon
- Super Full Moon (Perigee & Full Moon)
- Super New Moon (Perigee & New Moon)

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

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 & <i>Captain Gary's Marine Care Products</i>	(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 <i>Charters</i>	252-799-9536