

Flounder, Large Blues Keep Filling Fishermen's Orders

BY TERRY POPE

Flounder and large blues are filling the order for fishermen in the South Brunswick Islands.

While king mackerel fishing slowed last week, fishermen trolling the rivers and waterways reported large catches of flounder and drum. Blues were biting both offshore and from area piers with the largest reported at Sunset Beach Pier, a 12³/₄-pounder.

Five kings were caught off the Holden Beach Pier last week. Here are the reports from area piers and marinas:

Holden Beach Pier

Fishing slowed from the pier last week except for an occasional blue or king mackerel, reported Gil Bass. Five kings ranging from 19 to 24 pounds were caught from the pier, he added.

Two or three large blues, ranging from nine to ten pounds were also caught, Bass said. However, the spot fishing has slowed.

Ocean Isle Marina

Ralph Sipes, Lane Tucker and Sammy Sessions of Ocean Isle brought back king mackerel over the weekend while fishing offshore, reported George Crisp. The black fish are doing really well offshore, he added.

"The spots, flounder and drum are biting better than average," Crisp said. Fishermen are catching drum around the bridge pilings and in the inlets. Croakers were also biting good for the first time last week, Crisp reported.

Sunset Beach Pier

Dick Tarleton of Seaside caught a 12³/₄-pound blue from the Sunset Beach Pier last week, reported



FISHING FOR FLOUNDER off the dock at Hughes Marina last Wednesday morning, Kathleen Inman of Whiteville reeled in this good-sized spottail drum instead.

said. Spots, whiting and drum have been biting in the waterway and inlets.

Hughes' Marina

Kurt Hacker of Shallotte Point went trolling up and down the Shallotte River over the weekend and caught 16 flounder off of live minnows, he reported from Hughes' Marina Tuesday.

Flounder were biting real well from the river over the weekend. Some boaters docking at the marina also brought back kings from offshore over the weekend.

Capt. Pete's Marina

The party boats leaving Capt. Pete's at Holden Beach had better luck last week than they did this week, reported Pete Singletary.

One couple trolling and drift fishing the waterway last week caught 15 flounder, Singletary reported. Spots were also biting last week, he added.

On Sunday, one offshore boat brought back large blues, but no kings, he said.

Tripp's Fishing Center

B.D. Phelps of Cheraw, S.C., caught ten flounder Sunday while fishing the Shallotte River, reported Joyce Land at Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point.

David Williams and Mike Brown of Shallotte Point also caught two large flounder Sunday. Amy and Chris Williams, also of Shallotte Point, reeled in three flounder Saturday, Ms. Land reported.

Paul Floyd of Shallotte Point caught seven flounder Sunday while Mr. and Mrs. O.M. Hice of Granite Falls and Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Craven of Greensboro caught five flounder.



ONE FLOUNDER DIDN'T SLIP the reel in the waters off the Hughes Marina dock, where restaurant employee Mary Gray caught this seven- to eight-pound flounder.

Shrimping Areas To Close May 18

Local shrimpers have until one hour after sunset Saturday, May 18, to net a share of the limited pink shrimp now offshore.

As of May 5, both the Intracoastal Waterway from the Ocean Isle Beach Bridge to the South Carolina line and Bonaparte Creek from the waterway to Little River Inlet are open to both shrimping and shrimp trawling.

The areas will be closed in advance of the expected arrival of large concentrations of small brown shrimp to local waters.

The proclamation was issued by the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

Open areas have been marked to the extent possible, but lack of signs or their relocation will not change the areas effected by the proclamation. Maps of the open area will take prevalence over the signs in case of a conflict.

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Fishermen's Gift To Aid Research

The N.C. Saltwater Fishing Federation, which held its annual meeting at Long Beach earlier this spring, has donated \$750 toward a UNC Sea Grant study to examine the economics of the state's recreational boating industry.

Sea Grant researcher Jeff Johnson, an anthropologist at East Carolina University, will compile information on the number of boating manufacturers, the people they employ and the money the industry generates.

The study should complement an earlier Sea Grant study of the state's recreational sound fishery.

"This study will provide informa-

tion which sport fishermen can present to the legislature and to the fisheries commission to support the assertion that the recreational industry is very large," said Federation President Bob Stryker. "It may help support the contention that we need more funding and more management in the recreational

fishing industry."

The UNC Sea Grant College Program is a cooperative state and federal venture in conjunction with land grant colleges. It works to promote the wise use and development of the state's coastal and marine resources through research, education and extension.

Follow Safe Boating Hints

Safe boating starts at home, says the U.S. Coast Guard Flotilla 10-08 in Shallotte.

"As the trip to the water is planned, we must first think of the trailer, then the engine and the boat itself," said John F. (Jack) Ziefel, public affairs officer. "Last, you must ask yourself, 'Is it a safe day for boating?'"

To help boaters steer a steady course of safety, Ziefel offers a free

booklet published by the U.S. Coast Guard, "Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats." The booklet describes the equipment required on boats of certain sizes, reviews applicable laws and offers helpful hints for safety while afloat.

To receive a copy at no charge, send a postcard with your name and address to John F. Ziefel, 309 Waterway Drive, Sunset Beach, N.C. 28459.

This Week's Tide Table

Date/Day	MAY		HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday 9	12:24	12:47	6:39	6:40		
Friday 10	1:20	1:45	7:35	7:40		
Saturday 11	2:18	2:45	8:30	8:44		
Sunday 12	3:16	3:45	9:26	9:45		
Monday 13	4:10	4:39	10:21	10:44		
Tuesday 14	5:01	5:27	11:08	11:36		
Wednesday 15	5:48	6:15	11:53			

ADJUSTMENTS
 SHALLOTTE INLET (Bowen Point)—add 19 min. high tide, add 28 min. low tide.
 TUBBS INLET—subtract 19 min. high tide, subtract 12 min. low tide.
 LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 29 min. high tide, subtract 12 min. low tide.
 LITTLE RIVER—add 3 min. low tide.
 BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 17 min. high tide, subtract 11 min. low tide.

ALL KINDS OF FISHING TACKLE

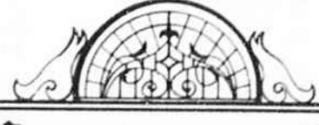
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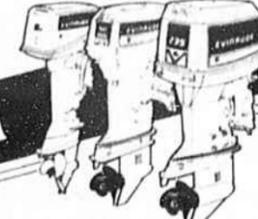
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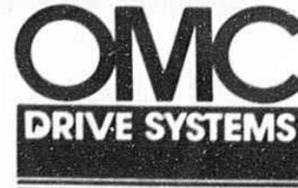
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