

Cape Fear River Shad Roundup

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The shad season is with us again and darts, bucktails, and spoons fill the water in an effort to hook the "silver demon" that utilizes the major rivers along our North Carolina Coast for spawning. Of the ocean fishes that enter freshwater each year to spawn, hickory shad and herring usually are the fore-runners, following by the American shad a few weeks later.

Last week, sport fishermen caught the first American shad of the season below Lock Number 1 on the Cape Fear River. Recently, several catches of 8 to 16 have been observed. Up until last week the Cape Fear River was fairly high and turbid, but river conditions are steadily improving and fishing is expected to be excellent for the next three or four weeks.

Commercial fishermen along the lower Cape Fear River are reporting the best season in the

past 40 years. The commercial shad market has been flooded for the last several weeks.

The program of locking American shad upstream to additional spawning grounds above Locks Number 1, 2, and 3 on the Cape Fear River will be continued this year. This is a joint effort of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. Plans have been made to start manipulating Lock Number 1 for fish passage on April 1, Lock Number 2 on April 7,

and Lock Number 3 on April 14. This project will be continued for approximately six weeks. It appears that this project has been very beneficial to the shad population in the Cape Fear River. The 1968 spawning population is made up of 3 and 4 year-old fish, thus the shad returning this season reflect back to the 1964 and to 1965 locking operations initiated by the Corps of Army Engineers and the Wildlife Resources Commission.

It is anticipated that once the shad population is replenished in the Cape Fear River, the trolling fishermen will be able to catch shad as they do in the St. Johns River.

Riding clubs are becoming more and more popular throughout the area. This recreation is usually shared by the whole family. Many clubs have clubhouses which the whole family uses as

headquarters for riding trips and fellowship with their neighbors and friends.



SOME OF THE WINNERS in the County 4-H Club Demonstration Day Program held at Kenansville Elementary School on Wednesday, May 31.

Would you like for your son or daughter to gain experience speaking before a group? The 4-H demonstration activity offers this opportunity.

The demonstration activity is open to all 4-H Club members. Any member may choose a subject, develop it and present it in county competition and other places. In so doing, they learn a subject more thoroughly. They exercise their ability to organize.

Experience in speaking before a group is gained. Possibly, the boy or girl may win an award such as a trophy, cash award, or educational trip.

Four-H leaders and members in Duplin County are making plans now for the demonstration work they will do in 1968. Training sessions are being held to help adult leaders and 4-H members learn the techniques of demonstrations. Give your son or daughter this experience; it's fun as well as educational. See a local 4-H leader or your County Extension Agent for more information.

1968 4-H Schedule of Events

APRIL	SEPTEMBER
1 - 4-H County Council	10 - Reports on local club activities on health, safety, and community service (forms in 4-H office)
9, 10, & 11 - Kinston Livestock Show and Sale	1-30 - 4-H Organizational Leader Training (to be arranged)
MAY	30 - All records due to leaders
2 - 4-H Strawberry Show & Sale	-- - Poultry Show and Sale
19 - 4-H Church Sunday	OCTOBER
June 12 - County Demonstration Day, Kenansville Elem-School	7 - 4-H Council (leaders turn in records to 4-H office)
JUNE	5-12 - National 4-H Club Week
3-8 - 4-H Camp Millstone	NOVEMBER
10-15 - 4-H Forestry Camp	- County Achievement Day
19 - District Demonstration Day (East Duplin High School)	- Star-News 4-H Honor Program - Wilmington
JULY	Nov. 29 - Dec. 6
1-3 - 4-H Electric Congress	National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Illinois
22-26 - State Club Week, N. C. State University	
AUGUST	
5-10 - Wildlife Camp	

4-Hers opportunities

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