

FISHING REPORT

# Coastal Fishing Winding Down

BY SUSAN USHER

The fishing season is beginning to wind down along the Brunswick County coastline, with two Ocean Isle facilities shutting down for the winter.

But for the die-hards, there are still fish to be caught and places to catch them.

**Sunset Beach Pier**

"They're catching trout out there now and a few spots, they tell me," Richard Tarleton said Monday at the Sunset Beach Fishing Pier.

**Inlet View Marina**

"Not too much to report," said Vicki Furr at Inlet View Marina at Seaside. "There are still a few trout and drum showing up at the Little River Inlet Jetty."

**Ocean Isle Marina**

In his last fishing report of the season, Steve Burr at Ocean Isle Marina reports that Buster Gillis is still picking up a few bottom fish on charters outside. He agrees with Ms. Furr that the drum and trout are still biting pretty good at the Little River jetty.

The marina plans to close after the weekend, reopening around April 2, said Burr.

**Ocean Isle Pier**

Ocean Isle Fishing Pier closed for

the season this weekend and will probably reopen the last Friday in



**TOMMY HOUSER (right) and his son Donnell Vale, had good luck spot fishing recently at the Sunset Beach Fishing Pier. They filled a bucket and still had a string of fish several feet long.**

March, said Ethel Williamson

**Tripp's Fishing Center**

"They ain't going to catch any more fish," said Joyce Land. "They picked up one or two trout, not anything like last week."

But Land won't completely shut down. Except for art classes, she'll be around the place.

## This Week's Tide Table

| Day/Date     | HIGH |      | LOW   |       |
|--------------|------|------|-------|-------|
|              | A.M. | P.M. | A.M.  | P.M.  |
| Thursday 11  | 4:35 | 4:37 | 11:27 | 10:30 |
| Friday 12    | 5:04 | 5:25 | 11:15 | 11:21 |
| Saturday 13  | 5:49 | 6:04 | —     | 12:30 |
| Sunday 14    | 6:35 | 6:58 | 12:00 | 12:15 |
| Monday 15    | 7:24 | 7:39 | 10:46 | 1:08  |
| Tuesday 16   | 7:51 | 8:01 | 1:21  | 1:38  |
| Wednesday 17 | 8:28 | 8:31 | 2:04  | 2:14  |

**ADDITIONAL TIDE TABLES**  
 SHALLOTTE: TIDE TABLE 11 min. high tide, add 22 min. low tide.  
 LOCKWOOD: TIDE TABLE 12 min. high tide, subtract 6 min. low tide.  
 BEULY HILLS: TIDE TABLE 13 min. high tide, subtract 11 min. low tide.  
 FERRIS ISLAND: TIDE TABLE 14 min. high tide, subtract 8 min. low tide.  
 SOUTHPORT: TIDE TABLE 15 min. high tide, add 1 min. low tide.

## Legislature And EMC Contend Over Waters

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

A state legislative study commission on coastal water quality and the Environmental Management Commission may both have something to say about coastal water quality.

In its Dec. 3 meeting, the study commission revised recommendations from the EMC regarding handling of these waters, giving some authority to the environmentalists. It will present its recommendations to the General Assembly in February.

It will ask the legislature, among other things, to direct EMC to adopt a new classification system for coastal waters, a turnaround from the

original plan for the legislature to take this action.

However, under current proposals of the study commission, the legislature would define the concept of "existing use" of coastal waters, which is key to determining classification.

LaDane Bullington, member of the Coastal Resources Commission Advisory Council, said the legislature should be the body to set up standards for classifications. "They need to make these policy decisions, then the Natural Resources and Community Development department will apply them in setting up a classification system."

She believes the legislature is a good setting for these decisions, because, "people feel closer to legislature than to staff members of the EMC, so there will be more citizen input."

Don Follmer, public information director for NRCD, disagrees. "These are scientific decisions, not political ones, and scientists should make them," he said.

The final determination will come after the General Assembly convenes in February. Meanwhile, coastal waters are protected by the storm-water runoff regulations recently adopted.

## Book Has Guidelines On Fishing Vessels

The U.S. Coast Guard has announced publication of **Voluntary Standards for U.S. Uninspected Commercial Fishing Vessels (NVIC) 5-86**, that will help commercial fishermen reduce accidents at sea.

The book of voluntary guidelines is part of a three-part program developed by the Coast Guard in conjunction with the North Pacific

Fishing Vessel Owners' Association. Its guidelines were originally issued as a series of separate circulars.

The publication may be obtained by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., using stock number 850-00001-000-22-7. Checks for \$11 should be made payable to the Superintendent.

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