

FISHING REPORT

# Anglers Find Spanish Close To Shore

**BY SUSAN USHER**  
 Captain Pete Singletary at Holden Beach summed up the weekend's fishing aptly Monday when he reported, "There was a lot of good fishing right offshore this weekend."  
 From pier to marina, the reports showed good catches of Spanish as well as a few kings outside and inside, spots, whiting, blues and a few small flounder.

**Sunset Beach Pier**  
 Fishermen were catching some spots and whiting at the Sunset Beach Pier, and one man landed about 13 flounder, indicated Walter Smith. On Sunday the catches included a six-pound sheepshead.

**M & J Marine Services**  
 Weekend fishing was good out of Somersett Landing, reported Joe Huber of M & J Marine Services. "People brought back loads of Spanish," he said, and a few kings, fishing from the sea bouy out to about 15 miles. "They were not gigantic, but they were plentiful," he added.

**Ocean Isle Marina**  
 Steve Burr at Ocean Isle Marina on the causeway said weekend fishing yielded a lot of Spanish and small "school" kings. The Sea Hawk II charter had a good week, with catches of several hundred pounds of Spanish and kings throughout the week.

Inside, he added, fishermen were picking up small flounder in the inlets and a few whittings and spots in the surf.

**Ocean Isle Pier**  
 Curtis Williamson reported "a fair week" at Ocean Isle Pier. "It could have been better," he said. Fishermen were catching spots and a few blues.

**Tripp's Fishing Center**  
 Spanish was the word at Tripp's Fishing Center at Shallotte Point, but a few kings and flounder were also reported.

Manager Joyce Land said Charles Smith and party from Rockingham caught 60 Spanish; Ed White of Whiteville, 25 to 30 "big" Spanish;

David and Cindy Williams and Virgil and Gloria Hill of Shallotte, 75 Spanish; Kyle White and friend, five kings. Also, Willard and Lonnie Causey, fishing with a friend, caught 11 flounder; Barry and Amy Frink of Shallotte, three flounder; and Billy Lefler and family of Albemarle hooked 47 flounder while trolling during the week.

"Everybody else that went out for Spanish caught them too," she said. Inside, spots and croakers continue to bite well.

**Hughes' Marina**  
 "Everybody's catching Spanish," reported Allison Hughes at Hughes' Marina. While some fishing observers postulated changes in the weather might be a factor in the return appearance of the Spanish, she offered an alternative: the fish might have been attracted by chum spread in the waters from the Frying Pan Light Tower to the shore by boats fishing in the 6th Poor Boy Shark Tournament, she suggested.

**Captain Pete's**  
 Ron Hester of Fayetteville and Holden Beach and his family, fishing about four miles out, had caught their limit of kings by 11 a.m. Saturday and also pulled in more than 100 Spanish, reported Capt. Singletary at Captain Pete's on the waterway at Holden Beach.

Also, he said, Bill Christenbury of Holden Beach Marina boated three kings, including one 38-pounder, and a nice cobia over the weekend.

In the surf fishermen are doing fare with blues and they're also catching spots.  
 "For this time of year, it looks pretty good," said Singletary.

**Holden Beach Pier**  
 At Holden Beach Pier, the kings are still biting. Three were landed during the week, including a 25-pounder, said Gil Bass.

Anglers also were catching some trout and the spots and whiting appeared to be "picking up a little," he added. "It's going along pretty good."

# Ocean Isle Foursome Nabs \$8,000 Prize



BILLY MCCOLLUM, Parker, Larry and Ragan Dudley will share the \$8,000 top prize in the East Coast Get 'Em On King Mackerel Tournament.

Two hours before the close of the East Coast Get 'Em On Classic King Mackerel Tournament Saturday, an Ocean Isle Beach foursome grabbed the lead with a 40.7-pound king, winning \$8,000 cash for their effort.

The fish was hooked by Ragan Dudley, fishing aboard the Reel King, a 25-foot Grady White Trophy captured by his dad, Larry Dudley, who gaffed the fish. Others in the party were Parker Dudley, a brother, and Billy McCollum. The four are from Kernersville, but are summer residents of Ocean Isle Beach.

The crew spent much of the morning hunting for bait—live menhaden—and had been fishing only about an hour when Ragan Dudley hooked the big one. He worked the king for about 50 minutes on 20-pound test line before bringing it boatside.

They docked at Carolina Beach at 1:15 p.m., before the 3 p.m. close of the tournament. Their catch bumped the 39.4-pound king that had led throughout the tournament, said Larry Dudley.

"Everybody says you have to have big bait to catch big fish, but we caught this one with the smallest bait we had on the boat," he added.

Between 250 and 300 boats fished in the \$20,000-purse event. "We're especially proud of this because of the competition," said Dudley.

The foursome, who finished 18th in the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament last fall, said they plan to enter other king tournaments in the area again this fall, including the U.S. Open and the Wrightsville Beach events.

## This Week's Tide Table

Day/Date	JULY		HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday 16	12:53	1:25	7:02	7:28		
Friday 17	1:46	2:21	7:53	8:29		
Saturday 18	2:40	3:17	8:46	9:29		
Sunday 19	3:35	4:12	9:39	10:31		
Monday 20	4:31	5:08	10:31	11:26		
Tuesday 21	5:22	5:59	11:24	—		
Wednesday 22	6:15	6:45	12:17	12:12		

**ADJUSTMENTS**  
 SHALLOTTE INLET—add 17 min. high tide, add 32 min. low tide.  
 LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 22 min. high tide, subtract 8 min. low tide.  
 BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 10 min. high tide, subtract 7 min. low tide.  
 SOUTHPORT—add 7 min. high tide, add 15 min. low tide.  
 LITTLE RIVER—add 7 min. high tide, add 7 min. low tide.

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## Wrightsville Tournament Anticipates 500 Entries

As many as 500 boats are expected to participate in the Wrightsville Beach King Mackerel Tournament, scheduled Sept. 17-20.

It will offer 117 cash prizes totaling \$150,000, said Frank O'Brien, spokesman.

The registration fee is \$175 per boat through Aug. 31; then it goes to \$225. Brochures with application blanks

are available at area marinas and sporting goods stores or by writing to the tournament at P.O. Box 659, Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480.

The awards include a \$50,000 special prize if a new state record is set, plus primary prizes of \$71,500 and \$2,000 in awards by clubs or businesses.



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