

FISHING REPORT

Spanish Mackerel Keep Anglers Happy

BY DOUGRUTER

An otherwise slow fishing week throughout the South Brunswick Islands was saved by the Spanish mackerel, with catches reported Monday from five of eight area fishing centers.

The "El Toro" had the best of the Spanish fishing last week with over 100 caught on several trips, according to Jesse Hayes of Captain Pete's Marina on the waterway at Holden Beach.

Hayes also said the "Salty I" had a good week, pulling in 300 pounds of bottom fish including some grouper, red snapper and a 65-pound amberjack.

Also aboard the "Salty I" last week, David Smith of Wilmington caught a 20-pound barracuda for which he will receive a N.C. Saltwater Fishing certificate from the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, said Hayes.

He also reported good surf fishing, with Howard Lutz landing a nine-

pound puppy drum from the beach.

He said, "The fishing has been pretty good since the wind let down in the middle of the week. It should be pretty good from now on in."

Hughes' Marina

Cathy Johnson of Ocean Isle Beach landed one of two king mackerel caught last week, a 12-pounder out of Hughes' Marina at Shallotte Point.

Allison Hughes said "everybody" was catching Spanish, with some spots, croakers and flounder mixed in. A 15-pound crevalle jack was also caught four miles out, she said.

"There was nothing to brag about, but everybody had something," said Mrs. Hughes.

Sea Mist Camping Resort

"A fairly good weekend" was reported by Grady Roscoe of Sea Mist Camping Resort at Brick Landing.

He said the highlight of the week was two 50-pound sharks caught by one unidentified camper.

Other campers were catching

Spanish mackerel, spots and croakers out in Shallotte Inlet, he said.

"It was good for the few people we had here, but this cooler weather expected this week should really help us out," said Roscoe.

Ocean Isle Marina

Steve Burr of Ocean Isle Marina reported a slow week leading up to the King Mackerel tournament to be held at Ocean Isle Beach Labor Day weekend. He said the kings are still 18 to 24 miles offshore because of the warm summer.

Inside fishing was slow with only a few trout and flounder being caught, he said.

Burr said, "Outside waters have been pretty good because of the many Spanish mackerel in the area. They are what's keeping everybody going."

Tripp's Fishing Center

Joyce Land of Tripp's Fishing Center reported a "real good week considering the bad weather."

She said Roger Davis of Whiteville caught a 16-pound king mackerel while William Usher of Fayetteville and Shallotte Point pulled in 100 pounds of assorted fish one day including flounder, mullet, spot, trout and drum.

The group of Roger, Rodney and Diane Seaford, Eric and Chris Fletcher and Jerome Pickler hauled in 88 Spanish, 12 black fish, six crevalle jack and two shark, said Ms. Land.

"With the cooler weather coming this week, it should really be good fishing," she said.

M&J Marine Service

A "slow week with nothing special" being caught was reported by Joe Huber of Seaside's M&J Marine Service.

He said Spanish were the only fish being caught in any number last week and that this week's expected cool weather should help the situation.

Huber also said Tom Ryan landed a sailfish last week, but had no further details.

Holden Beach Pier

Fishing was up Monday with trout and flounder being pulled in after an early morning thunderstorm, according to Patty McDonald of Holden Beach Pier.

She also said sheepshead and whiting were caught last week, which she called "average for this time of year."

Ocean Isle Pier

Curtis Williamson of Ocean Isle Pier reported a very slow week of fishing with only a few spots and blues caught last Friday and Saturday.

Sunset Beach Pier

Richard Tarleton of Sunset Beach Pier had "nothing much" to report Monday, with only a few spots and flounder pulled in last week.

"The fish ain't doing a thing out here," he said.



BRUNSWICK COUNTY VISITORS Wilma McPherson of Charlotte (left) and Rhodia Lee McMillan of St. Pauls, wait patiently Wednesday night at Ocean Isle

Beach Pier. The two had no luck at the time, although Mrs. McMillan had caught a good-sized sting ray earlier.



DAVID SMITH JR. of Wilmington caught this 20-lb. barracuda while fishing aboard the "Salty I" out of Holden Beach. Because of its weight, Smith will receive a citation from the N.C. Saltwater Fishing Citation program.

Fishing Club To Open For Labor Day Weekend

The Brunswick County Fishing Club is gearing up for another big Labor Day weekend at its Sunset Harbor Clubhouse.

On Saturday, Sept. 5, the schedule includes a fish fry from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., with plates \$3 each, and a yard sale on the clubhouse grounds, said Sally Swain, a club officer.

Following a brief business session/annual meeting at the close of the fish fry, game night begins at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Then, on Sunday, Sept. 6, a pancake breakfast will be served from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Plates are \$2 each.

Ocean Isle Beach King Tourney This Weekend

The Ocean Isle King Mackerel Tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 5 and 6, in the waters off Ocean Isle Beach.

This second annual event is headquartered at Sheffield's Food Store

on the causeway at Ocean Isle Beach. John Sheffield said participants will have to register there in one of two classes—live bait or artificial bait—before the competition.

Cash prizes will be awarded to each of the top five finishers in each class, with 45 percent of the total entry fees for each class going to the top finishers.

The winners will be decided on the basis of total weight for 12 fish, six fish being counted each day.

Contestants will have to check out each morning at either Shallotte or Little River inlets and check in at Sheffield's no later than 5 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday.

Interested parties can sign up for the tournament at Sheffield's until 10 p.m. Friday. The cost per boat is \$135, with no limits on the number of fishing lines or people allowed on board.

This Week's Tide Table

Day/Date	SEPTEMBER HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday 3	4:05	5:03	10:24	11:27
Friday 4	5:17	6:08	11:33	—
Saturday 5	6:22	7:05	12:27	12:35
Sunday 6	7:21	7:58	1:19	1:31
Monday 7	8:16	8:47	2:08	2:24
Tuesday 8	9:08	9:34	2:54	3:15
Wednesday 9	9:56	10:20	3:39	4:03

ADJUSTMENTS
 SHALLLOTTE 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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