The Acute Angler

July, 2022
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The monthly newsletter of the Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club

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July Hot Shot

Up from the depths, a goliath grouper!

Chic Hinton hooked into this goliath at the Barge opening day of red snapper season. Estimated weight is 100 lbs. He removed the hook boatside and got soaked by a flip of the tail as the beast swam off. Neither the fish nor Chic were injured in the encounter.

President's Corner

By Ross McElroy

GOFC President

Gonna look forward this time, instead of reviewing what has already taken place. During the next half of the year, we have a lot of good things happening. First up, Saturday, July 23 we're going shrimping. Virgil Cooper, Tim Pedersen, Ken Knopf and Dale Reed will take us out of Suwanee. If the big ones are still out there you'll have all the shrimp you want! If you've been asleep for the past several weeks you may not be aware that there has been a huge shrimp run in our Big Bend waters. What makes this newsworthy is that this is happening in almost the entire Gulf of Mexico in both the numbers and size of the shrimp (lots of them and they are huge, 8 to 9 inches!) If interested see page 8 for more details and sign up. Plan to meet up at the Suwanee marina between 730 and 8 AM. Because of this we are cancelling our traditional St John's River shrimp learnament which was tentatively scheduled for August 27.

Next up is an evening social at Ultimate Boat and RV storage. Tentative dates are August 5 or 12th. Final plans will come by email. Barbecue will be catered by Cowboyz Bar B-Q and Catering.

The fall "All Species" tournament is scheduled for Saturday, October 22 out of Cedar Key. The Ellett auction is Friday, November 18. This is a great opportunity to pick up some bargains on gear and tackle.

Our final tournament will be the "Trout and Redfish Round-up" at Steinhatchee on Saturday, December 3.

As per tradition, there are no Speaker meetings in July and August. Speakers for the September meeting will be Jim and Jimbo Keith of Saltwater Assassins (inshore guide service out of Cedar Key). Sammy Royal of Sea Tow will be the October speaker.

Ross McElroy

President, GOFC

From the Editor

By Jeff Gartland

GOFC Editor

One reason I enjoy fishing is that I am always learning something new; new spot, new method an unexpected catch. It seems like a lot of folks are seeing something new this year, and to some extent last year. Giant, prawn size shrimp are showing up in the Big Bend area. Early on, say late spring, the presence of these shrimp in our waters was a whisper topic, shared with close fishing friends. But something that good is hard to keep quiet especially when flotillas of boaters are seen castnetting and coming in with buckets full of shrimp.
To get in on the action come join us Saturday, July 23, for the GOFC **Suwannee River Shrimping Learnament.** Be there at 7:30 AM for an 8:00 AM start. More information is on page 8. Also look for email announcements.

Ways to help your club

There are so many ways to help out, just of which are:

- **Write an article** for the Acute Angler newsletter. A day of saltwater fishing is a lot more challenging than writing about something you know. Like getting back to port after a long day on the water, seeing your article published feels pretty good. newsletter@gofc.us
- **Help manage the website**. If you have skills in websites building/management we have a continuous need to keep the GOFC website fresh GOFC website
- **Help out at tournaments**, members only banquets and general meetings.
- **Submit your favorite fishing photos** (see next paragraph).

Please feel free to contact newsletter@gofc.us if you have any questions.

And as always:
All members are encouraged to submit photos to the GOFC website. Here's the link: Photo Submission Form. Submitted photos will be displayed on our Hot Shots page: GOFC Hot Shots. If you want to show off a catch, a new boat, capture a fun trip, or just get your fishing buddy or family on the website here's your chance.
Please don't hesitate because you think it's "not good enough". If you like it, that's all that matters.

Hot Shot photos are automatically entered in the year end photo contest. Prizes are 1st Place $150, 2nd Place $100, 3rd Place $50.
The winners of the 2021 Photo Contest are featured in the February issue. Look it over. Maybe you'll win 2022. Worst case, you'll be sharing a memory.

I look forward to hearing from you (newsletter@gofc.us) and sharing the tremendous depth of knowledge and experience within the GOFC membership.

Jeff Gartland

GOFC Editor

Upcoming Events

July 23, 2022 Shrimp Learnament, Suwannee Marina. Additional information in this issue and email announcements.

August 5 or 12, 2022—Evening social at Ultimate Boat and RV Storage. Dinner by Cowboyz Bar B-V through the generosity of Ultimate Boat and RV Storage.

October 22, 2022 - **Fall Big 10 Species** tournament/ Cedar Key.

November, 2022 Shallow Water Grouper Learnament, Crystal. Another favorite is back. Details to follow.

November 18, 2022—Ellett Auction at ED and Marcia Ellett's home.

December 3, 2022 - Redfish/Trout Roundup Tournament/Steinhatchee.

Monthly Meetings—Upcoming meetings will be announced by email. Typically we meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Veterinary Academic Building .Fellowship begins at 7:00 pm and the meeting proper begins at 7:30.

July & August—No General/Speaker Meeting

September 26 Meeting—Jim and Jimbo Keith of Saltwater Assassins/Cedar Key Guides

October 25 Meeting—Sammy Royal/ Sea Tow

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Let's Go Fishing!
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Chic's "Nothing but the Truth" Fishing Report

by Chic Hinton

After a recent fishing trip to Cedar Key, I saw a truck, trailer and boat stranded and blocking the road. I stopped to investigate and learned that a wheel bearing gave out, allowing the wheel to fall off and then the front axle came off destroying both fenders and taking off the rear axle and springs. My reason for mentioning this is to remind everyone to do the maintenance on your trailer as well as your boat. Grease your bearings monthly, inspect tire for wear and proper inflation and inspect U-bolts, axles and springs, and don't forget to check the lights.

I was excited to have a spot on Tom Jaworski's boat, First Appearance, along with Jeff Gartland and Mike Wohl for opening day of red snapper season. Our expectations were to get a limit of red snapper plus a few nice grouper. This trip was evidence that trips don't always end up as planned since we only got two fish. Jeff Gartland landed a 22 pound kingfish while free lining a pinfish and after a 45 minute battle I released a large goliath grouper at boatside.

July is the month that boaters beware, keep an eye on the sky. Thunderstorms are like pain medication, if you wait too long to take the pill is not as effective. When you see a storm coming get a jump on it don't wait for the wind or seas to pick up or you'll get a slow, wet rough ride back.

While on the subject of pain I've seen or heard about a lot of GOFC related hook ups. The type of hook ups I am referring to are fishhooks and body parts. The pliers carried in most tackle boxes will not cut most hooks that you use. I would suggest you try to cut your largest hook with your pliers and if they fail, you should consider a pair of small bolt cutters, available from Lowe's or Home Depot for about $15. These will remove hooks from fish and trolling plugs, reduce treble hooks to a single embedded hook and remove a hook barb once the hook has been pulled through.

Shrimp are starting to show up in the Saint John's River near Palatka. The problem is they are called shrimp for a reason, because of their size, shrimp If you are interested in jumbo or colossal size shrimp all you need is a boat and a castnet, no tape or webbing needed. Most boats are getting their four gallon limit in less than four hours if you know where to go. It's no secret anymore, go north of Suwannee River or south from Horseshoe and look for a cluster of boats throwing a cast net in 4 feet of water. If you need more information contact newsletter at gofc.us Or you can join us at the Suwannee Marina, Saturday, July 23, at 7:30 AM. Several of our members are leading a "Shrimp Learnament". Check your email and page 8 for additional information.

If you have suggestions for club activities or meetings please email newsletter@gofc.us.

See you on the water!
Chic

Preserving the Moment

By Tom Bacsik

As we are out on the water catching fish (or as was my case, catching large clumps of grass this past weekend while trolling), we should try and remember to take more photos. Mostly this is to help remember the events that took place (some of our memories are not as sharp as they used to be), but another reason is that it can literally pay off. Our club does an annual photo contest that pays.

I know that it is not always easy to remember to take pictures while fishing. I, myself, am not good at remembering to snap pictures out on the water and I film things for a living. In my instance, I tend to think about a lot of things that go into a shot. The ISO of the film or sensor of the camera which indicates how sensitive it is to the light. The higher the number, the more sensitive to the light it is. Then there's the aperture of the lens which tells you how much light is being let into the camera. This also determines how much of the subject is in focus. The smaller the iris is, the more your picture will be in focus. Of course, the smaller the iris number is, the more light is being let in, which is exactly the opposite of the ISO. The focal length of the lens, which in this case would be your zoom, is another factor. And then there is the composition of the shot and what you're trying to show. That's a lot to think about when you're trying to catch fish. Fortunately, we mostly use our cell phones to take pictures now, and they do most of that thinking for us, leaving us in charge of the most important part of the process, composition. Good composition of a photo is a very subjective topic. Obviously, everyone has their own taste in what they like in a picture, but there are a few things that will help you improve your photos.

For starters, try and have your subjects in the same light. Sometimes when you take a picture, you'll have one person in full sun and one in the shade. The camera doesn't know what to do. If it exposes for the sun, the person in the shade goes dark. If it exposes for the shade, the person in the sun gets blown out. So it tries to compromise and nobody looks great.

Second point, try not to put your light source behind the subject. The camera closes the iris and the subject becomes a silhouette. It's like at home when the family visits. Everyone always wants their picture taken standing with a window or glass door behind them, which never works. There are times that you can use this effect successfully when done with a purpose. See the example photo.

Third, try and add some action, emotion or interest to the picture. Everyone takes the shot with the angler standing stiff, maybe smiling, holding a fish closer to the camera (myself included). Try adding some personality to it. Emotion, more animated pose, different camera angle – something, anything to make it stand out. Go ahead and take your standard pose, and then get creative. Action shots are nice, We don't get many of those. Granted, you're focused on getting fish in the boat, but show your fellow shipmates in action having fun. (I imagine Ken has a great expression while fighting a big AJ. Just don't get in his way!) Then there's beauty shots. If something

strikes you as beautiful, take the shot! There is a rule of thirds when you frame your shot. It's not a hard fast rule but more of a suggestion. Mentally, divide your frame into thirds both vertically and horizontally. Use those lines and intersections as guides as to where to place your main focus of attention.

These are just a few tips for taking pictures. I hope that you found some of them useful and get to use them out on the water. Remember to take more pictures and submit them to the club website. Not only will it preserve memories, but it could win you some cash in our yearly photo contest.

Editors note: If you're lucky enough to have spent any time with Tim Pedersen, you'll know that he has a deep cache of fishing and hunting photos and a good, fun story to go with each one. The editorial staff is in negotiation with Tim to open his photo files each month and share a favorite memory. Stay tuned.

Cedar Key Flounder Gigging

By Tim Pedersen

Going out of Cedar Key right at dark may seem a little silly but that's only if you've never gigged for flounder. For Virgil Cooper and I it's just about the best time to fish. We pick an evening with a falling tide and head over to North Key before dark. If the water is clear enough to see fish in the water, it's game on!

If you've never gigged flounder before, they are very hard to see because they blend in with their surroundings. What you're looking for is the outline of the fish on the bottom. Sometimes the fish begin looking like oyster shells and rocks. When you spook the flounder with the light or the boat you learn which is the rock what to look for.

This particular trip Virgil and I made was in September. We started out like always, going to North Key before dark and found the water to be clear enough that we could gig that night. Virgil likes to use 12 foot pole with a 5 prong gig. I use 10 foot aluminum five prong stainless gig. We knew it was gonna be good when it first got dark enough and Virgil gigged two really nice flounder within 10 foot of one another. As we worked around the islands we found four more very large flounder within 50 feet of one another. We knew this was going to be a really good night and as we kept going around staying in 2 to 3 foot of water we found four more flounder over 17 inches. But what is really fun is when you find a bunch of mullet and try to gig those. It makes the night go very quickly.

What's funny is as your push polling around the islands you're scaring mullet out into the open water. Everything is very quiet. Until a porpoise comes at the boat and scares you to death splashing water trying to catch the mullet!

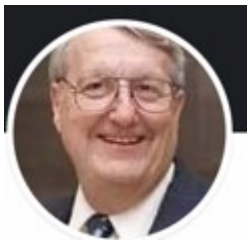
At night you see things that you would never see in the daylight, like redfish and sheephead and along the shoreline stone crabs and blue crabs. This night we limited out on flounder and found some very large mullet for smoking. It was very early in the morning when we got home but it was worth it. I like that kind of night life!

2022 the "Summer of Shrimp"!

Because of the bounty of prawn size shrimp that are now in our Big Bend waters and FWC declaring an open season for cast netting the tasty critters (effective May 1: two gallon bucket/person, five gallons/boat) we are changing our **Shrimp-a-thon/Learn-a-ment to Saturday, July 23 at Suwannee Marina.** This event replaces the traditional St John's River August Shrimpathon.

Regardless of where the event is held Charlie's Kitchen is still open and sending in some of his favorite, flavor tested recipes for fresh caught local shrimp.

Charlie's Kitchen
by Charlie Courtney



Shrimp and Squash Zoodle Scampi

3 zucchini turned to zoodles (I used 1 zuke + 1 straight neck squash)
2-3 tablespoons unsalted butter
2-3 tablespoons olive oil
4 cloves of garlic
2 lbs peeled & deveined shrimp of choice (I used ~ 1lb for 2 people)
Salt
Pepper
Chopped parsley
Juice of one lemon
I also used a splash of sherry

1 - Make zoodles from the squash with a spiralizer and let them dry for a few hours to render the water. You can also use a little salt to help too.

2 - Heat a griddle to medium heat (~350 degrees) with olive oil. Salt and pepper the shrimp on one side, place that seasoned side down on the griddle and cook for 1-2 minutes until just getting some color. Season the top side, flip, add garlic, butter, wine, and lemon juice. Stir until sauce reduces some, and remove the shrimp.

3 - Add more olive oil to the pan, allow to heat, and add the zoodles. Season the noodles with salt and pepper. Sauté 2-3 minutes, then add more butter, olive oil, garlic, wine, lemon juice, and stir until the sauce reduces and zoodles are nearly at your preferred level of doneness, then add shrimp. Mix the shrimp with the zoodles, then place on your serving plate.

Serve immediately.

REMINDER—Saturday, July 23, is the new date for the Shrimp-a-thon. Be at the Suwanee Marina at 7:30 AM for an 8:00 AM start. See details on the next page.

Celebrating 54 Years of Fishing the Big Bend
1968 - 2022

GOFC Suwanee River Shrimping Learnament

Location: Suwanee Marina in Suwanee, FL

Date: Saturday July 23rd, 2022

Time: Meet at 7:30 am

(Weather Dates – July 24th)

Recent changes to regulations have opened shrimping to recreational anglers in the Big Bend area. Bring your cast net and join GOFC legends Virgil, Tim, and Dale for a fun day of shrimping on and around the Suwannee River Delta. Virgil, Tim, and Dale will share tips on throwing cast nets and finding shrimp..

The learnament is free and open to all GOFC members.

No experience is required!

Recent changes to regulations have opened shrimping to recreational anglers in the Big Bend area. Bring your cast net and join GOFC legends Virgil, Tim, and Dale for a fun day of shrimping on and around the Suwannee River Delta. Virgil, Tim, and Dale will share tips on throwing cast nets and finding shrimp.

Bring your cast net and be sure to wear lightweight clothing that can get wet and muddy. Shrimp like hot, sunny weather, so bring your sunscreen and lots of drinks to keep hydrated.

SIGN UP:
Participants are asked to register as early as possible for planning purposes. Click here to sign up: https://gofc.us/tourney-stats/tournament-registration/

LOCATION AND START TIME:
The group will meet at the Suwanee Marina in Suwanee, FL at 7:30 am. The marina charges a $5 parking fee that includes use of the boat ramp. The marina's address is 49, SE 349 Hwy, Suwannee, FL. After an instructional session on shore, the group will depart from the boat ramp around 8am.

WEATHER:
The GO or NO GO decision will be sent out by email no later than 7:00 PM on the night before the tournament.

LIABILITY:
ALL ANGLERS AND INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATE AT THEIR OWN RISK and must have a current Waiver of Liability on file with GOFC.

During the event, tune to VHF channel 68 for learnament chatter.

You Ask, We Answer!

We've started this column to respond to your questions and suggestions. A number of members have written in asking for information on fishing other than Cedar Key. Here are a some suggestions for nearby **Suwannee** (with special thanks to member Russ Roy for his excellent Suwannee overview).

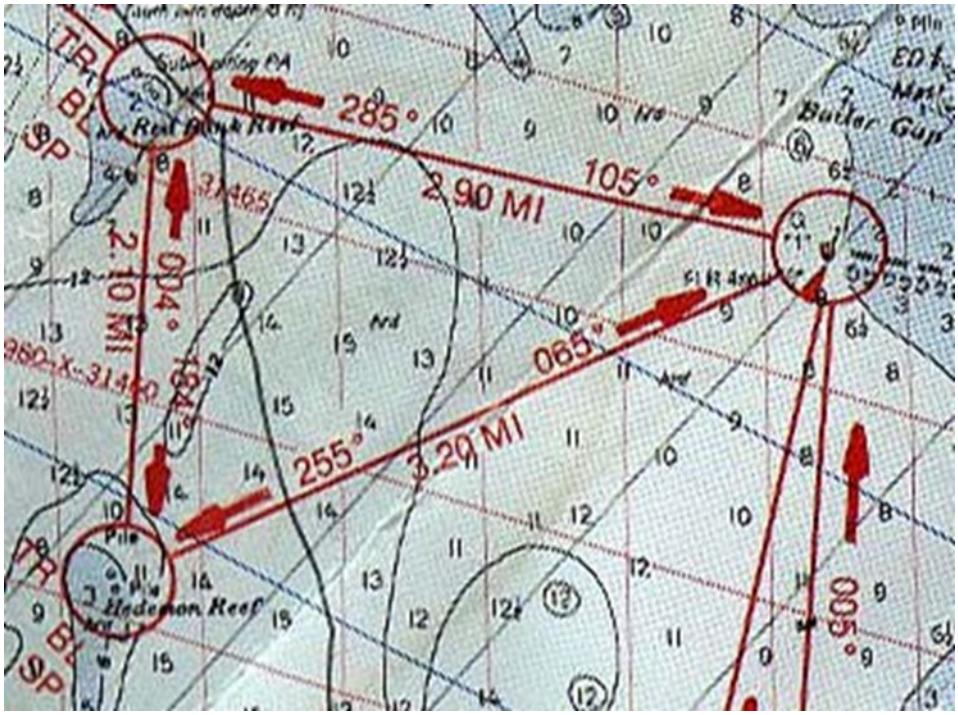
Good Fishing Spots Near Suwannee, Florida

OFFSHORE

Redbank Reef
Hedeman Reef
Spotty Bottom

Redbank Reef

Loran: 14429.6 / 45662.1
GPS: 29-19.165 / 83-15.437

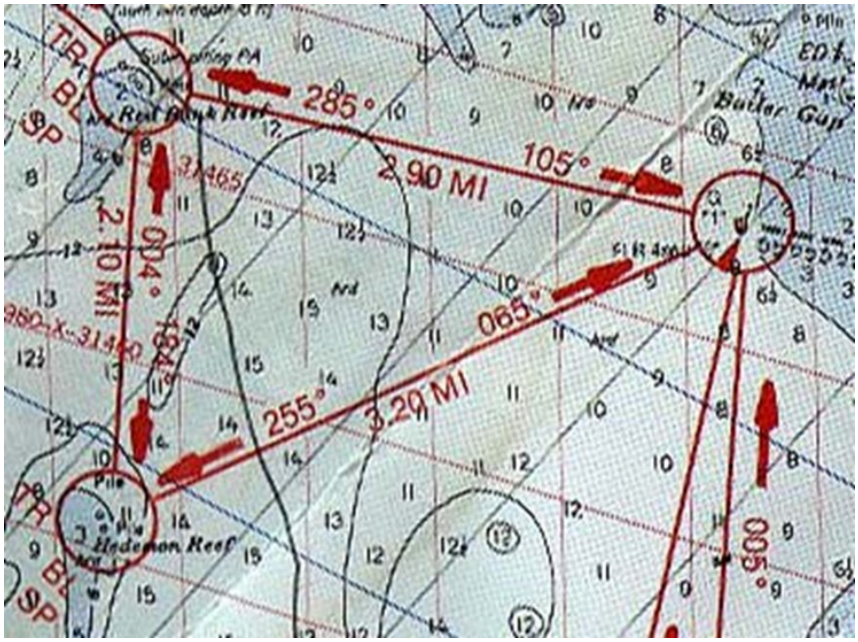


This is a shallow grassy/sand area about 3 miles west of the end of McGriff Channel on a 285 degree heading. It is marked by a single concrete post roughly in the middle. The amount of grass has been declining over the years, but there is still a fair amount. Drifting across this from about April to November will produce trout, bluefish, jacks, Spanish mackerel, immature gags (grass grouper), ladyfish, hardhead catfish and sharks, often blacktips. A pinfish under a bobber will sometimes pick up a cobia. It is also a fair spot to get pinfish for live bait for grouper fishing. The more bait there is on the surface, the more action you are likely to see. If there is no topwater action and you make a few drifts with no results, it is time to move on.

(Offshore continued on next page)

Hedemon Reef

Loran: 14423.1 / 45646.0
GPS: 29-17.074 / 83-15.543



This is a shallow grassy/sand area about 3.2 miles from the end of McGriff Channel on a 255 degree heading. A single concrete post roughly in the middle marks the reef. There is less grass here than there used to be, but still enough to attract bait and fish. The northwest quadrant out to the drop-off is the best place to try. The fish here will be very similar to those described for Redbank Reef. Trolling during the summer, especially in the morning or evening, will often get some Spanish mackerel, occasionally a bluefish.

Spotty Bottom

Loran: 14416.5 /45665.1
GPS: 29-16.202 / 83-19.566

This is a rather large area. The Loran and GPS numbers above get you in the general area, but you might have to look for other boats, topwater bait, birds diving, etc., to help you find fish. If you go about due west from the end of McGriff Channel for roughly six miles, you will be at Spotty Bottom. There are large patches of grass interspersed with open sandy areas, very much like Seahorse reef, off Cedar Key. Trolling for Spanish and king mackerel is the main activity here, but other fish can be found as well. Trout will be in the grassy areas in the warm weather and grouper, triggerfish, black seabass and other bottom fish will be found on rocky or hard bottom areas. There aren't many of these latter areas, but there are some, so watch the bottom on your fish finder as you troll. Trolling can include using spoons, feathers, jigs, plugs and live bait. If there is a lot of bait around, you might be able to catch some with the "gold hook" Sabiki rigs or other similar ones. Cigar minnows, herring type fish and blue runners will all be around in the warmer weather.

INSHORE
Seven Brothers
East Pass/ Dan May Creek

Seven Brothers

Loran: 14440.1 /45689.3
GPS: 29-23.950 / 83-13.865

This is an area about two thirds the way from Suwannee towards Horseshoe Beach. At low tide, Seven Brothers is a sandy/shelly bar which runs roughly east and west. It is about a quarter of a mile long, and sticks up five feet or more in places. Other bars will be near, roughly along the same line, with cuts between them. At higher tides, the bar will be submerged in places, giving the appearance of individual bars separated by cuts. (Are there seven? Well, if you wanted to change the name to Eight Brothers or Six Brothers or Marx Brothers nobody would give you a big argument.) The inshore side of the bar is deeper, but both sides can be productive. Redfish, black drum, flounder, and trout are the main species to try for. Work the cuts, the bottom on both sides and areas near the bar. Use shrimp-tipped jigs and put out shrimp under bobbers drifting with the current. If you have a cast net, you can wade the bar and find schools of small mullet and killifish to catch to use for live bait in addition to the shrimp. Be careful going to this area, there are other bars around it, (Seven Sisters for example) and there are large areas near it marked with posts and buoys leased to clam farmers. (Carefully working through the clam leases can sometimes produce black drum, since clams are part of their diet.) The first time you work into Seven Brothers, go in from the southwest from near the Horseshoe Beach channel. You will still find shallow water on low tide, but it is grass flats and sand, rather than hard shell. If you are taking kids fishing, working this bar on a lowish tide can be fun for them, since they can get out of the boat and "beachcomb."

East Pass/Dan May Creek

Loran: 14434.5 /45571.3
GPS: 29-16.551 /83-6.678

The wind is really blowing, but you've driven all the way to Suwannee and you want to go fishing. You know that on a windy day, people go "up the creeks," but you have never been up a creek, and you have heard some neat stories about people who got stuck on a bar way up a creek on an outgoing tide. Mosquitos carry off the people, slurp slurp, and a weathered rusting hulk of a boat is found months later, empty of humanity. Since you don't want to have this happen to you, what to do? Launch your boat, go out to the river, go north about a half a mile and turn right (approximately southeast) down the East Pass of the Suwannee. This is a large, deep passage with a lot of current that is quite scenic. You will soon reach the mouth and see the Gulf out ahead of you. Slow down and keep to the left near the small island with salt grass growing on it. You can work along the edge of the island fishing for reds at the edges of the grass. Shrimp-tipped jigs, gold spoons and shrimp under a bobber all can be used. Work your way around the island, roughly going east, and you will see the mouth of Dan May Creek in front of you. This is a deep creek with safe water in the middle of the channel. Work your way into the creek and in about 200 yards on the bank to your left you will see a wrecked covered dock/boat slips. The corrugated tin roof is falling into the creek and if you look closely you will see a small cottage back in on the island behind the dock. With your depthfinder on, you will note some deep holes as you work your way up the creek. There is a variety of bottom here, and there will be some shallow places, but most of these are sandy rather than hard shell or rock. Take your time and explore. While Dan May is not the best creek to fish, it is a good one to learn "creek-running" on. And, you can catch reds, sheepshead, trout and so on. Retrace your steps on the way out. Do not try to run out to the Gulf as there is a lot of shallow water and a lot of hard shell bars to go through. To make this run out to the Gulf, you need to follow someone who knows the ropes!

Understanding the Ellett Contest

With credit to Brian Kiel

Understanding the John Ellett Contest

The John Ellett contest is a club contest that runs one year long and pits club members against each other in a friendly fishing contest encompassing three categories: Men's, Women's and Elite. A simplified formula awards points on a relative basis based on the heaviest fish of each species, with the exception of amberjack and kingfish which are based on length. Each species category has a maximum of 25 points and points are totaled to give an overall Ellett standing. For example, if the heaviest trout entered was a 6 lb. trout, this trout would receive the maximum 25 points, while a trout weighing half of that weight (3 lb.) would receive half of the 25 points (12.5 pts.). A 1.5 lb. trout would receive 6.25 pts. Current Ellett standings are printed in the club's Acute Angler newsletter, magazine, and on the GOFC website (Ellett standings).

It's easy to participate in the contest. All that's required is that you submit a weigh slip of any or all of the ten species the club fishes for: spotted seatrout, redfish, flounder, sheepshead, cobia, kingfish, Spanish mackerel, greater amberjack, bluefish, and grouper. Any scale can be used to estimate the fish weight, however, when a fish exceeds the maximum weight for a particular species (see bottom of weigh slip under Heavy Catches), that fish must be weighed on a State certified scale like those found in commercial establishments that use a scale to determine the value of an item sold to the public. A fish house like Northwest Seafood in Gainesville will usually weigh fish, if asked nicely. The weight should be noted on a receipt or store weigh slip, signed by the individual weighing the fish, and attached to the GOFC weigh slip to be turned into the club. The club Weighmaster keeps a certified club scale at home for members to use (contact the GOFC Weighmaster/Record Keeper, weighslip@gofc.us).

To win the contest you don't have to catch the largest fish, just catch as many of the 10 species as you can (hopefully a couple will be heavy fish). Participation in club events also helps as points are awarded for participation in club Tournaments (2 pts.) and Funaments (1 pt.). Writing an article for the Acute Angler is worth 3 points.

Awards are given to three places with the top male & female angler receiving a coveted inscribed pewter plate from the Ellett family, who happen to have sponsored this contest since its inception. The Ellett contest dates run from January 1st to December 31st with awards given out during the March Awards Banquet.

In addition to the Ellett awards, the club also gives awards and recognition for the heaviest three fish of each species. The club also maintains a list of GOFC Record Catches that include 109 species, so keep any species that is either not noted or exceeds the record. You can also submit a weigh slip for one of the "Other Two" species (dolphin and tripletail) to be computed for a separate award following the same guidelines for Special Category

GAINESVILLE OFFSHORE FISHING CLUB

Ellett Contest Standings as of 07/15/2022

Men's

GOFC member	Amberjack	points	Bluefish	points	Cobia	points	Flounder	points	Grouper	points	King Mack	points	Redfish	points	Sheepshead	points	Span Mack	points	Trout	points	Bonus	TOTALS
Pedersen, Tim	34.50	25.00	2.53	18.71	12.45	12.87	1.68	19.27	5.80	15.09	37.00	20.56	6.09	23.89	4.32	20.07	5.16	24.16	6.07	25.00	4	208.61
Ellett, Ed		0.00	1.66	12.28	24.19	25.00	1.76	20.18	9.61	25.00		0.00	6.40	22.86	5.38	25.00	4.54	21.25	2.24	12.10		163.67
Vining, Carl		0.00	3.38	25.00		0.00	2.18	25.00		0.00	36.00	20.00	5.04	18.00	2.38	11.06	3.50	16.39	2.06	8.48	2	125.92
Jaworski, Tom		0.00	1.19	8.80		0.00	1.59	18.23	7.31	19.02		0.00	3.14	11.21	3.31	15.38	4.69	21.96	3.24	13.34	8	115.94
Horn, Phil		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	36.75	20.42	7.00	25.00	5.27	24.49	5.34	25.00	3.86	15.89	2	112.79
Hinton, Chic	34.50	25.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	37.63	20.91		0.00	3.75	17.43	4.00	18.73	2.25	9.26	6	97.32
DeGraff, Stephen		0.00	2.24	16.57		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	5.04	21.20	1.00	4.65	4.32	20.22	4.69	19.30	4	85.95
Jeff Gartland	34.00	24.64	1.20	8.88		0.00		0.00		0.00	45.00	25.00		0.00		0.00	2.30	10.77		0.00	2	71.28
Reed, Dale		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	7.55	19.64		0.00	4.35	15.54	3.46	16.08	2.76	12.92		0.00	6	70.18
Byatt, John		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.00	22.94		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	4.40	18.11		41.05
Peacock, Jay		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	5.01	21.11		0.00		0.00	4.62	19.02		40.12
Mark Rustemier		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.82	13.20		0.00	2	15.20
Daniel Czyz		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.64	13.20		0.00		0.00	2	15.20
Kiel, Brian		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	3.22	15.07		0.00		15.07
Mike Wohl		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.00	9.71		0.00		0.00	4	13.71
Greco, Dominic		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	3.24	13.34		13.34
Matt Green		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.92	8.92		0.00		0.00	2	10.92
Mundt, William		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.94	7.98		7.98
Tristan Woodrome		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.68	7.81		0.00		0.00		7.81
Rustemier, Mark		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.50	6.17		6.17

Women's

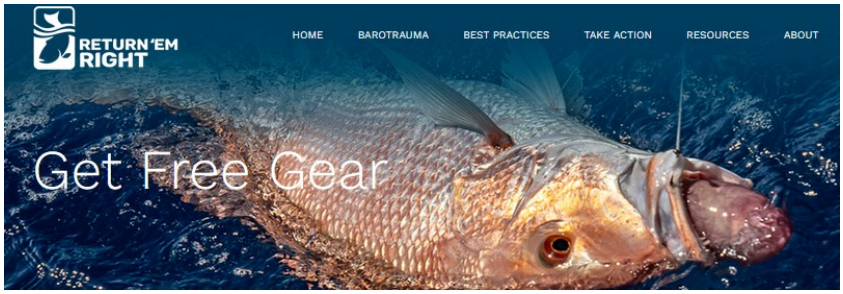
GOFC member	Amberjacl	points	Bluefish	points	Cobia	points	Flounder	points	Grouper	points	King Mack	points	Redfish	points	Sheepshea	points	Span Mack	points	Trout	points	Bonus	TOTALS
Sanders, Staci		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.13	25.00		0.00		0.00	6.13	25.00	3.00	25.00	2.60	25.00	1.80	14.38	2	116.38
Mundt, Mary		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.06	19.81	1.31	10.46	0	30.27
Cross, Dawn		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.74	22.83		0.00		0.00	6	28.83
Horn, Rhonda		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	3.13	25.00	0	25.00
Stephanie Green		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.70	22.50		0.00		0.00	0	22.50
Charlotte Pedersen		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.43	20.25		0.00		0.00	2	22.25
Turner, Elaine		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.50	12.70	0	12.70

Elite

GOFC member	Amberjack	points	Bluefish	points	Cobia	points	Flounder	points	Grouper	points	King Mack	points	Redfish	points	Sheepshead	points	Span Mack	points	Trout	points	Bonus	TOTALS
Cooper, Virgil		0.00	2.28	25.00		0.00	2.07	25.00	11.81	25.00	35.25	25.00	7.01	22.30	5.06	25.00	3.27	19.46	6.62	25.00	4	195.76
Knopf, Ken		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.56	19.08	11.75	24.87		0.00	7.05	22.42	3.53	14.81	4.20	25.00	3.67	13.86	6	126.05
Knopf, Debby		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	7.86	25.00	3.65	16.15	3.73	22.20	2.13	8.04	6	77.40
Patrick, John		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	7.63	24.27		0.00		0.00		0.00		24.27
Turner, Allen		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	5.44	22.82		0.00		0.00		22.82
Ellett, Marcia		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.56	9.29	1.48	5.59		14.87

Items of Interest—Free Descending Device

"Return' Em Right" offers free descending devices



Most of us have reeled up a fish from depth with the stomach forced outside by an expanding bladder. We have also experienced the heartache of watching it float away on surface unable to dive after being released because it is undersize or out of season.

It's now a legal requirement (the DESCEND act) for anyone bottom fishing in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico to have a venting tool or descending device.

To educate anglers in responsible release practices the Return "Em Right program was started. Anglers can register for a 15 minute online review of best practices. Upon completion Return 'Em Right will send free of charge a kit with two descending devices, lead and all the tools you'll need. This is a $100 value and the right thing for anglers to do.

Recent Catches

New Entries from June 1—July 15, 2022

Angler	Species	Weight or length	Date	Location	Bait or Lure
Ed Ellett	Bluefish	1.66	6/25/2022	Seahorse Reef	Jig
Dale Reed	Grouper - Gag	7.55	6/5/2022	CK	Pinfish
Dale Reed	Spanish Mackeral	2.76	6/5/2022	CK	Lure
Jeff Gartland	King Mackeral	45"	6/17/2022	Offshore Cedar Key	Pinfish
Ken Knopf	Other	2.49 pounds	6/17/2022	Cedar key	Live shrimp
Ken Knopf	Grouper - Gag	11.75 pounds	6/17/2022	Cedar Key	Live shrimp
Virgil Cooper	Grouper - Gag	11.806	6/17/2022	Cedar key	Bait
Ed Ellett	Dolphin	1 lb	6/17/2022	70'	Jig
Ed Ellett	Grouper - Gag	9.61 lbs	6/18/2022	70'	Live pinfish
Ed Ellett	Cobia	24.19 lbs	6/17/2022	70' Cedar Key	Live pinfish
Tim Pedersen	Grouper - Gag	5.798	6/15/2022	Cedar Key	Lure
Phil Horn	King Mackeral	36.75 inches	5/2/2022	Cedar Key	Trolling
Marcia Ellett	Seatrout	1.48 lbs.	5/30/2022	Cedar Key	Artificial
Tim Pedersen	Cobia	12.45	6/8/2022	Cedar key	Bait
Stephen Degraff	Spanish Mackeral	4.32	6/5/2022	Cedar Key	Silver spoon
Stephen Degraff	Bluefish	2.24 lbs	6/5/2022	Seahorse	silver spoon
Chic Hinton	Spanish Mackeral	4.0 lbs	6/6/2022	CK	Spoon
Tim Pedersen	Spanish Mackeral	5.16	6/3/2022	Cedar Key	Lure
Phil Horn	Spanish Mackeral	5.34 lbs	6/3/2022	Cedar Key	Trolling
Tom Jaworski	Grouper - Gag	7.5lbs	6/1/2022	Cedar Key	Pin fish

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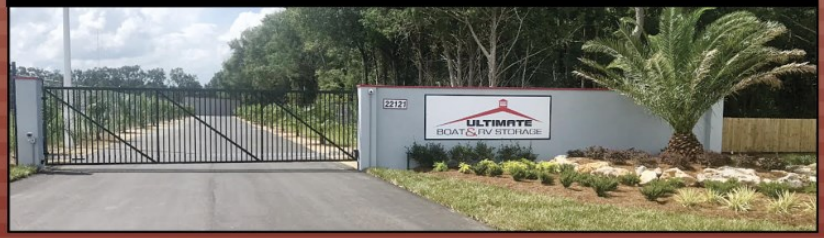

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FWC News—Red Snapper and Greater Amberjack Seasons Announced

News

2022 Gulf Recreational Red Snapper

- Florida's 2022 recreational red snapper season will open June 17 and run consecutively through July 31.
- The season will reopen in the fall for the following weekends:
Oct. 8-9 (Sat. & Sun)
Oct. 15-16 (Sat. & Sun)
Oct. 22-23 (Sat. & Sun)
Nov. 11-13 (Fri., Sat. & Sun - Veterans Day weekend)
Nov. 25-27 (Fri., Sat. & Sun - Thanksgiving weekend)
- This season applys to recreational anglers fishing from private vessels in Florida Gulf state and federal waters. For-hire operations that do not have a federal reef fish permit may also participate in the season but are limited to fishing for red snapper in Florida Gulf state waters only.
- Florida was required to reduced the 2022 quota by 13% to payback 2021 overages. The current 2022 quota is 1,167,163 lbs.

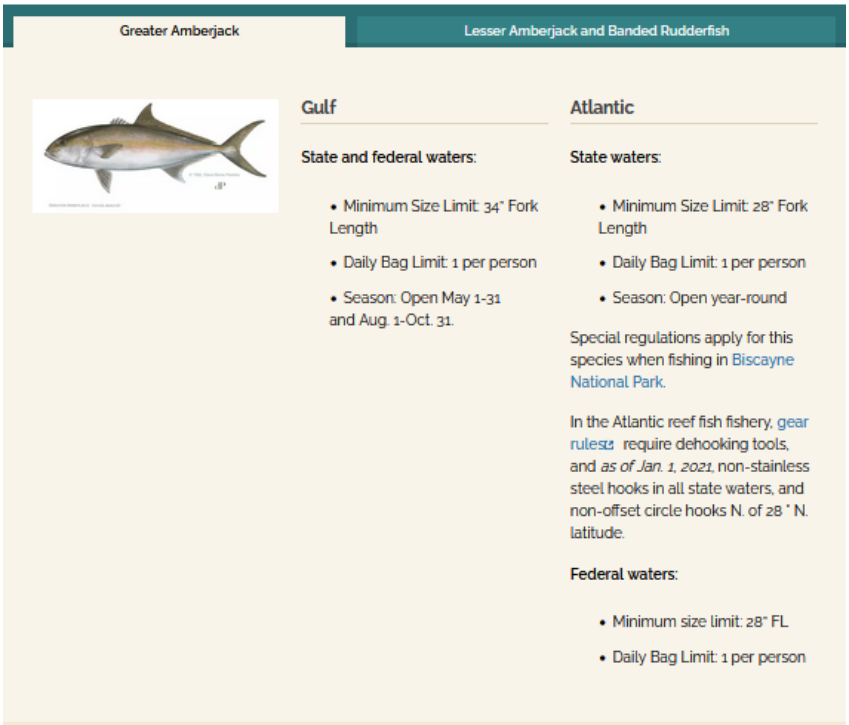
Snapper are managed differently in the Gulf versus the Atlantic and in state versus federal waters.

Gulf state waters are from shore to 9 nautical miles.

Atlantic state waters are from shore to 3 nautical miles.

Scroll down for regulations by coast and by species.

Greater Amberjack Season Opening May 1-May 31, Aug 1—Oct 31



Greater Amberjack | Lesser Amberjack and Banded Rudderfish

Gulf

State and federal waters:

- Minimum Size Limit: 34" Fork Length
- Daily Bag Limit: 1 per person
- Season: Open May 1-31 and Aug. 1-Oct. 31.

Atlantic

State waters:

- Minimum Size Limit: 28" Fork Length
- Daily Bag Limit: 1 per person
- Season: Open year-round

Special regulations apply for this species when fishing in Biscayne National Park.

In the Atlantic reef fish fishery, gear rules require dehooking tools, and *as of Jan. 1, 2021*, non-stainless steel hooks in all state waters, and non-offset circle hooks N. of 28 ° N. latitude.

Federal waters:

- Minimum size limit: 28" FL
- Daily Bag Limit: 1 per person

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There has been a change to the GOFC official rules relating to King Mackerel (Kingfish)

To all GOFC Members. Please be aware of the following changes:

These changes were made and approved in January's GOFC Board meeting on 1/11/2022.

Change #1 = GOFC Webpage - https://gofc.us/rules/

Last bullet item in the section titled - *"Fish Entry Conditions" Now states:*

"Amberjack **and King Mackerel** can be entered all year long regardless of closed seasons with the requirement that they be released unharmed if caught during a closed season. Amberjack **and King Mackerel** will be entered and scored based on overall length measured from the tip of the jaw or tip of the snout with closed mouth to the center of the fork in the tail. **Entries must include a photo with the complete length of the fish**. Amberjack **and King Mackerel** can still be entered by weight for club record purposes as long as the fish was caught during an open season."

Change #2 = GOFC Webpage - https://gofc.us/about-tournaments-and-contests/

Sections 3 and 5

First bullet item in section 3 titled - ***"Ellett Angler of the Year (Official Contest Weigh Slip)" Now states:***

• A year-long contest in which points are awarded (based on weight) for bluefish, cobia, flounder, grouper, redfish, sheepshead, spanish mackerel, trout and (by length) for amberjack and king mackerel

First bullet item in section 5 titled - ***"Top Offshore Angler of the Year (Official Weigh Slip)" Now states:***

• A year-long contest in which points are awarded (by weight) for cobia, grouper, spanish mackerel and (by length) for amberjack and king mackerel