

# Fishing

By Everglades Ernie

The boating, fishing, and selling of much needed marine equipment season is here, as the Miami Boat Show opens Friday in mul-

has been good for those using live baits. Big snapper and dolphin have been very active this week. The bigger the bait the bigger the fish. Off of Delray anglers are boating lane, yellowtail,

for the boats fishing near shore and you too can get into the fish.

In the Intracoastal Waterway anglers on the Lantana Bridge are catching a few lane snapper and some whiting and sand perch.

Anglers fishing the Intracoastal Pier located at the Lake Worth Road Bridge anglers are catching

of sand perch. A swift soft touch is all you need to set your hook.

Dolphin are striking baits three to five miles offshore. These fish are striking a variety of baits, with rigged Spanish mackerel leading the list of best baits to use. Large bubble head lures with bonito strips of big horse ballyhoo should be your second bait of choice. Live greenies, mullet, or any other shallow water rock reef dwelling bait will work if you get the live bait down about 40 feet or so.

Sailfish continue to bite from Boca Raton to well past Juno. These fish strike a variety of baits including whole dead sardines floating at the surface. You just never know someday.

The annual run of the big kingfish schools is expected to be better this year due to the lousy weather up north. If the weather stays snowy and windy from Maryland north to New England those weather systems will drive the kingfish southward a little early and in bigger schools.

The lack of heavy rainstorms is helping warm up the lake and canal waters making the bass and panfish a little less likely to bite during the high sun periods of the day. Bass fishing has tended to be better on cloudy days rather than on the sunnier days.

Best bass fishing time is early mornings for anglers using live shiners and red wriggler worms.

Speck action should be ending soon thanks to the hot weather. Lake Okeechobee speck action is still good during the weekdays, but when the weekend anglers and all the additional boating traffic get going speck fishing in the canals all but stops. The north rim of the big lake is the place to be with lots of live minnows as your bait.

Bluegill are biting on live crickets and live worms in the quiet canals in the eastern lake and canal chain. Fish in areas out of

the wind for best results.

Catfish are most active when the sun is almost set, and the hunks of bait are near the shoreline in areas with little to no hydrilla growth. Some catfish caught have weighed over eight pounds. If you are fishing for catfish often it is best to just let the bait sit still for a while before recasting to a different area. If you need to catch a lot of catfish, you can use canned cat food to get them to your bait quicker and in more numbers.

Smear a hunk of a hot dog with cat food and let it sit in eight to 10-inches of water and get ready for a rod bending good time.



**BOAT SHOW PRICES:** You could have beat the crowds if you are looking for a deep discount on your next vessel. With the boat show season starting Friday in Miami you could have saved the drive and bought your next new boat at the Marine Flea Market, held last weekend at the Palm beach County Fairgrounds.

multiple locations along Biscayne Bay. The West Palm Beach International Boat Show is next month along the Intracoastal Waterway in downtown West Palm Beach, and the Marine Flea Market was held last week at the Palm Beach County Fairgrounds. If you are looking to improve your current vessel, upgrade to a larger vessel or just get new marine electronics the next few weeks is the time to purchase your needed equipment or vessel. However, never discount the local boat dealer's year-round prices or the private owner bait and tackle shop prices. After all, who is there all the time with exactly what you need, exactly when you need it? That's right the local guys!

Oceanside the fishing

and a few red snapper in 90 to 125-feet of water. Best baits have been whole dead shrimp with squid mixed in on the same hook. Live greenies are taking red snapper, but you must keep these baits off and out of the rocks along the bottom.

Outside the Boynton Inlet anglers are catching yellowtail and red snapper in water 65 to 90 feet over the rock reefs. Best baits are whole dead shrimp with squid, cut mullet or sardines, or small greenies.

Over the Horse Shoe rock reef anglers are catching lane snapper, yellowtail, and grunts suing shrimp and squid.

Just south of the Lake Worth inlet anglers are boating yellowtail and red snapper on cut sardine, shrimp, and squid. Look


sand perch using cut squid and chunks of shrimp. Sand perch have very soft fleshy mouths and it is easy to rip the hook through lips



**SAVE ON USED EQUIPMENT!** You can save money buying reliable used equipment at the Marine Fleas Market at the Palm Beach County Fairgrounds/ You can find new or used engines, new and used boats, fishing rods, reels, lures, ropes, or all kinds of nautical needs at discounted prices.

## Car Clinic

By **Jorge Goyanes**  
Car Clinic



I know I have written about some crazy stuff that people do with their cars but this one left me speechless. Under the front of most cars there is a plastic shield that is there to keep road debris like rocks and the like from being thrown up into the engine space.

It is also there to keep water from rushing up into the engine compartment and either knocking your serpentine belt off its pulleys or worse yet sending water into your cars' air duct and damaging your engine.

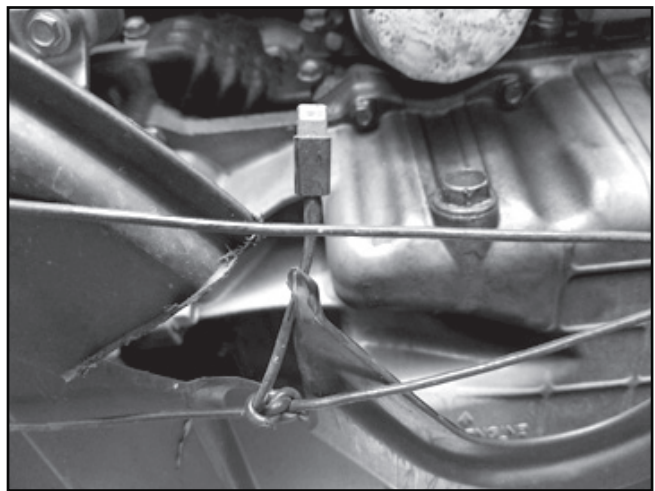
These are usually dam-

aged by pulling up too close to a parking bumper or going in too fast on a graded driveway and scraping the bottom.

Attached is a picture of a "repair" a customer did on his shield. Yes that is a phone charging cord, the white round object is the oil filter and the big silver nut is the oil drain plug.

The funny part is that he did not tell us about it or ask us to fix it properly. Oh well necessity is the mother of invention. Hope he does not put his phone under the car to charge it.

As always be well, take care and check that air.



**NEED NEW ROPES:** All boaters need more rope, especially when you do not have it. You can never carry too much rope! All the rope you would ever need to tie up your vessel was available at the Marine Flea Market held last weekend at the Palm Beach County Fairground.

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