



by Everglades Ernie

Snook continue to stack up on the north side of the inlets. This is an annual occurrence that many have known about for decades. Scientist, fishing guides, and most of the people I fish with use this annual event to catch snook and keep only the legal slot size ones. Best bait this week for the best-eating fish to come from any ocean has been finger mullet.

Snook have been caught around many of the seawall locations, especially around the Lantana Sportsman's Park parking area. From the snook habitat in Lake Worth, near the golf course and from just

inside the Boynton Inlet, southeast side. Use live finger mullet in these areas or use live shrimp. Snook fishing in the spillways is a hit or miss proposition. Use live shad, finger mullet or use one of my favorite lures, a white or yellow chicken feather with a pork rind trailer, juiced up with any artificial scent.

The ocean has been so flat for the better part of two weeks, even paddleboard anglers are catching snapper and other rock reef-dwelling fish. If you are going to fish the shallow rock reefs for more than live bait fish use cut mullet, ballyhoo or use shrimp either live

or whole frozen.

Dolphin hunters have been taking good size dolphin from 200 to 400 feet of water. There is still a lot of seaweed moving northward and you will get most of your setups near the larger weed line patches. Artificial lure groups trolled just fast enough to keep them down around 15 to 20-feet are taking a lot of dolphin. Expect multiple hookups of fish about the same size if you are trolling one of these deadly dolphin baits. Otherwise, a large ballyhoo with a purple or chartreuse plastic skirt will attract dolphin to your hooks as well. Most dolphin being caught are between 15 and 25-pounds.

From the reefs, vermillion snapper are the most frequently caught fish. Most used bait has been cut mullet, squid and whole dead shrimp. One of the best ways to present a combination bait made up of shrimp and squid is to wrap the shrimp in a long piece of squid. That makes the shrimp harder

to get at and it forces the fish to strike at the bait harder. This little tip is for you guys that use frozen or live shrimp alone and find your hooks empty after a nice tug. The fish are tugging at the bait not biting it. Wrap it in squid and the fish will be forced to take the hook into its mouth deeper and then you can set the hook. Try this little bait wrapping trick and you will catch more from the rock reefs than ever before.

Water managers have stabilized the lake and canal water level in the eastern lake and canal chain. Water is not flowing like it was last week. Freshwater fish action has slowed down until the next full moon which is September 24. You will notice bass and panfish action picking up four days before and four days after the full moon. Bass and other freshwater fish will be very active, and they will be striking just about anything in your tackle box. Use live shiners, plastic worm and lizard baits rigged for weedless retrieval and you should catch quite a few fish.

For best bass catches use live shiners for best results in the morning. After about 10 a.m. switch over to plastic worms and lizard artificial baits. Fish these baits in and just outside of the weeds that line the banks. Bass and even large catfish will be holding in the weeds waiting for a bait to come swimming by.

During the full moon nine-day fishing period you should see more speck taking baits. If you plan on targeting speck use live minnows or live crickets as your bait. Keep your baits away from the weeds by three or four-feet and use a bobber to keep the bait off the bottom.

Lake Okeechobee speck fishing is picking up as October approaches. It's the blue-green algae growth that is creating the slowdown and hazardous fishing conditions. Fishing in the places where you are surrounded by blue-green algae is not a good place for you to be

Car Clinic

By
Jorge Goyanes
Car Clinic

Decisions, Decisions

We try to advise clients about their timing belts not only for the recommended replacement period according to the vehicle manufacturers guidelines but also based on our experience. Usually it is recommended by the manufacturer to change the timing belt at 60,000 miles or five years. We know from experience that you can go further than that, say between 70,000 to 80,000 miles.

Whenever I suggest it to a customer their eyebrows arch up when they hear that the average timing belt job is about \$700 which includes replacement of the water pump which is right in front of the timing belt. Yes, on some fancy vehicles like Mercedes, BMW, Audi and Volkswagen it can be double that because of the complexity of those engines.

However when the timing belt goes there is no warning and in most vehicles it causes the camshaft to spin out of sequence therefore bending

valves in the engine head. There is when the price goes thru the roof. The top of the engine (head) has to be removed, sent to a machine shop to have the valves replaced and to make sure the head is not warped or damaged. This procedure starts at about \$2500 and up depending on the engine. In the case of a Volkswagen 2.0 liter 4-cylinder engine the labor to remove the head and replace it calls for 12 hours of labor plus machine shop plus parts so this easily turns into a \$3500 job.

To do the timing belt or chain on same Volkswagen however it is equipped runs about \$1000 ...do the math. If you are keeping the vehicle past 75,000 miles it is worth doing. Most cars are not that expensive, say a 4-cylinder Toyota Camry runs about \$700 and that includes everything. Like the commercial says, pay me now or pay me later.

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

ever. That goes for Lake Okeechobee, the St. Lucie River, the Intracoastal or rivers that combine in St. Lucie County. Ask anyone who lives on waterfront property in that entire area. They will tell you the same thing.

On the west coast, the red-tide has decimated all fishing action from 15 miles south of Fort Myers to well north of St. Petersburg and all of Tampa Bay. Most of the snook, black and red drum and all other species, including tarpon have been nearly wiped out. Every morning crews sweep up thousands of dead, rotting fish from the beaches. The smell is ter-

rible, even worse than the smell of the blue-green algae rotting.

Compared to the algae bloom and the red-tide along almost the entire west coast south of the "big bend," Palm Beach, most of Martin, Broward and Miami Dade Counties and the Florida Keys have been spared from this year's environmental despair. So, go fishing and enjoy what we have been blessed with. It may not last as the sea water rises and Miami prepares to combat the rising tides. Coastal Palm Beach County and the waterfront properties along the Intracoastal are next.



Wayne Miller (center) used a Jupiter area snook guide, (far left) along with his friend (on the right) to boat over 20 snook last week. They were fishing the north side of the Jupiter Inlet and were using live finger mullet as bait. They ran out of finger mullet before the snook stopped biting. These three slot size limit snook were the prizes for the day. If you do not know how to fish for snook use a guide, they know.

PBSC to Host Job Fairs

With the tight job market, employers are struggling to find quality candidates. As a result, more than 70 employers are confirmed, and as many as 85 are expected to recruit at two October job sponsored by Palm Beach State College.

Free and open to the public, the job fairs will feature businesses, health care facilities and government agencies ready to hire for full- and part-time openings as well as internships. Job seekers at all career stages will find suitable open positions to apply for, ranging from entry-level to managerial opportunities. Attendees are reminded to wear business attire and bring copies of their résumé.

• Thursday, Oct. 11 1-4 p.m.
Palm Beach Gardens campus

BioScience Technology Complex, Room SC 127 3160 PGA Blvd.

Fifty employers are expected to recruit, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Tenet Healthcare, City of West Palm Beach, Oxford Global Resources, MorseLife Health System, Carr, Riggs & Ingram CPAs and Advisors, ESPN Radio, the School District of Palm Beach County, and the Club at Ibis.

• Tuesday, Oct. 16 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Boca Raton campus Humanities & Technology Building, Room HT 103 801 Palm Beach State College Dr.

Nearly 40 employers are expected to recruit, including the City of Boca Raton, NCCI Holdings, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, First Data, Palm Beach County Parks and Recre-

ation, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Peace Corps, PhysAssist Scribes, and the School District of Palm Beach County.

For updated listings of the employers exhibiting and the types of open positions they are aiming to fill visit www.palmbeachstate.edu/Career/Job-Fair www.palmbeachstate.edu/Career/Job-Fair/

The job fairs are organized by the PBSC Career Center on each campus. For more information, contact: Palm Beach Gardens campus: Julie Schettenhelm, career center administrative assistant, at 561-207-5350 or email: schettej@palmbeachstate.edu

Boca Raton campus: Shelly Titarahardja, career center administrative assistant, at 561-862-4325 email: tirtaras@palmbeachstate.edu

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