



# TAG & RELEASE

<http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov>



## DNR

Volume 19, No. 3 July 2014



### Series Reflections

I am happy to report that as of Memorial Day weekend both of the Memorial Reef barges are now on the bottom and are probably already providing habitat for and concentrating fish. The structures cobbled together from the massive amount of donated materials was impressive. As I have said privately to some, actually walking around on the barges made me feel as though I was on the set of the movie "Transformers".

This was truly a team effort by the offshore fishing community and they are the first reefs of their kind ever intentionally placed in this depth of water in a Marine Protected Area. There are many that deserve thanks and at the risk of leaving someone out I think special thanks are in order for the Stevens family for agreeing to undertake this bold and historic project. Simply moving massive structures like these around offshore is unpredictable and inherently risky, let alone sinking them. Thanks are also due to all the donors large and small who made this community effort a reality. I still am shocked that we were able to meet our remaining fundraising goal after only three tournaments last summer. Special thanks are in order for Stevie Leasure for his tireless promotion and oversight of this project and to Buddy Aimar who literally had volunteers pulling structures out of the woods and trucked to Stevens Towing from all over SC, GA and FL for placement on the barges. There are literally 100's of others who were part of this project and should take pride in the ownership and deployment of these structures. The primary goal of having offshore sites where loved ones could be remembered has been accomplished. In addition, the habitat created where formerly there was just sand, symbolizes the commitment of the offshore fishing community to fishery conservation and enhancement.

But this is not the end, it is just the beginning. Going forward, NOAA vessels will regularly survey each site with high technology side scan sonar and remote operated vehicles which will document the colonization of the structures by corals and other benthic

## 26th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2014 Tournament Schedule...

### May 21 - 24 47th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Contact: John Horton  
P. O. Box 1704  
Georgetown, SC 29442  
(843) 546-1776, FAX (843) 546-7832  
[jhorton@georgetownlandingmarina.com](mailto:jhorton@georgetownlandingmarina.com)

### June 4 - 7 Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Bryan Richardson  
1880 Andell Bluff Blvd  
Johns Island, SC 29455  
(843) 768-1280, FAX (843) 768-3481  
[Dockmaster@Bohicket.com](mailto:Dockmaster@Bohicket.com)

### June 18 - 21

Contact: Deidre Menefee  
1625 Savannah Highway  
Charleston, SC 29407  
(843) 345-0369, FAX (888) 758-3950  
[dm@fishcbc.com](mailto:dm@fishcbc.com)

### Carolina Billfish Classic

### July 9 - 12

Contact: McKenzie Hutaff  
P. O. Box 759  
Charleston, SC, 29402  
(843) 278-4920, FAX (843) 577-7704  
[mhutaff@megadock.us](mailto:mhutaff@megadock.us)

### MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament

### July 23 - 26

Contact: Becca Smith Jones  
3702 Docksite Road  
Edisto Beach, SC, 29438  
(407) 463-2082, FAX (843) 869-3738  
[beccaesjones@gmail.com](mailto:beccaesjones@gmail.com)

### Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament

### For more information, contact:

Amy Dukés  
SC Governor's Cup Tournament Coordinator  
843-953-9365  
[dukesa@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:dukesa@dnr.sc.gov) <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/>

organisms and chronicle the growth into a multidimensional climax marine reef community complete with organisms occupying all trophic levels up to and including billfish. In addition, it is hoped that this project will serve as a model for what can be accomplished if people think creatively. In the greater scheme of things this was a Small Project, literally two dots in the vast ocean, but it promotes the Big Idea that working together, we can find alternative solutions to our management

issues, rather than continuing to focus on prohibitions to manage fishery resources. On behalf of the Department of Natural Resources, we thank each and every one of you who made this possible and who knows, maybe someday soon we will be placing more material in this area. I know I can't wait to see the videos that will be taken at the sites this summer and when they are available we will put links on our website for all of you to see what you have accomplished.

Wallace Jenkins



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## Point Click Fish Covering all the 2014 Governor's Cup Events

In an effort to increase our presence on social media, the Governors Cup Board approved contracting with Point Click Fish to cover and promote 2014 Series events. This coverage includes live streaming video of each day's weigh-in plus interviews before, during and after each event which are available at all times at PointClickFish.com. We ask tournament participants to be aware that this coverage is occurring and to make Jay and Price and their staff feel welcome by consenting to be interviewed about their day fishing and noteworthy catches. With several events having already been completed, go to the Point Click Fish website <http://www.pointclickfish.com> and view the archived footage. You may see someone you know and get an up-close and personal view of the allure of these events.



## Harry Hampton Fund Raiser Held in Conjunction with the CBC

After a number of years helping the SC Memorial Reef group raise money, Deidre Menefee and the owners of the CBC began to focus on another worthy cause: on Friday June 20th at Gold Bug Island they hosted a fundraiser for the Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund. The Hampton Fund and the Governor's Cup Billfishing Series are true partners in the operation and promotion of the Series. The Hampton Fund is also intimately involved in the funding of educational and outreach programs in a partnership with the SC Department of Natural Resources. In May 2014, the Hampton Fund donated \$134,525 to DNR bring the total amount donated over the years to \$3,033,455. The fund also provides annual college and graduate scholarships to a number of SC students. For more information on this vital DNR and Series partner visit their website at <http://www.hamptonwildlifefund.org>

## Wells Fargo Donates Corporate Boat Discount to Event Winners

As part of their sponsorship of the 2014 Series, Wells Fargo has decided to donate their corporate discount for tournament registration to winners of respective tournaments. At the awards ceremony for the Bohicket Invitational Tournament, the owner and captain of tournament winner Syked Out were notified that they would receive half off of the entry fees for the Carolina Billfish Classic. Winners of succeeding events will receive the same benefit for the following tournament. The concept was conceived by Wells Fargo executive Bill Ingram as a way to give back to the Series participants

and potentially increase participation. Thanks to Wells Fargo for this innovative approach.



2014 Winners — Georgetown · Bohicket · Carolina Billfish Classic — Awards Summary

AWARD	GEORGETOWN	BOHICKET	CBC	AWARD	GEORGETOWN	BOHICKET	CBC
Outstanding Billfish Boat 1st Place	<i>Full Pull</i> Owner: John Floyd Captain: Ryan Riggs 3 Blue Marlin and 1 White Marlin released 2100 pts	<i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody 1 Blue Marlin, 1 Sailfish released 800 pts	<i>Petrel</i> Owner: Harry Johnson, Jr. Captain: John Thomas 2 Blue Marlin, and 4 Sailfish released 2000 pts	Blue Water Conservation	<i>Petrel</i> Owner: Harry Johnson, Jr. Captain: Thomas Wynne Tag and Release of 8 Dolphin 400 pts	<i>Petrel</i> Owner: Harry Johnson, Jr. Captain: Thomas Wynne Tag and Release of 8 Dolphin 400 pts	<i>Petrel</i> Owner: Harry Johnson, Jr. Captain: John Thomas Tag and Release of 7 Dolphin 350 pts
Outstanding Billfish Boat 2nd Place	<i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody 2 Blue Marlin released 1200 pts	<i>Game On</i> Owner: Bubba Roof Captain: Trey McMillan 1 White Marlin, 2 Sailfish released 700 pts	<i>Sportin' Life</i> Owner: Manly & Graham Eubanks Captain: Mike Glaesner 2 Blue Marlin released 1200 pts	Outstanding Youth Angler 1st Place	<i>Sportsmann</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Matt Key Angler: Bennett Wyatt, Age 14 1 Blue Marlin released	<i>Sportsmann</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Matt Key Angler: Bennett Wyatt, Age 14 33.2 pound Dolphin	<i>Sportsmann</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Matt Key Angler: Thomas Henry Key, Age 13 1 Blue Marlin released 600 pts
Outstanding Billfish Boat 3rd Place	<i>Rascal</i> Owner: Norman Pulliam Captain: Mark Rogers 2 Blue Marlin released 1200 pts	<i>Miss Wy</i> Owner: Ed Holder Captain: Matt Wilkinson 1 Blue Marlin released 600 pts	<i>Rascal</i> Owner: Norman Pulliam Captain: Mark Rogers 1 Blue Marlin and 2 Sailfish released 1000 pts	Outstanding Youth Angler 2nd Place	<i>Micabe</i> Owner: Mark Larrow Captain: Chris Jennings Angler: Rance Jennings, Age 9 1 White Marlin released	<i>Sportsmann</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Matt Key Angler: Thomas Henry Key, Age 13 31.0 pound Dolphin	<i>Rascal</i> Owner: Norman Pulliam Captain: Mark Rogers Angler: Graham Rogers Griggen, Age 11 1 Sailfish released 200 pts
Outstanding Billfish Conservationist	<i>Full Pull</i> Owner: John Floyd Captain: Ryan Riggs 3 Blue Marlin and 1 White Marlin released 2100 pts	<i>Syked Out</i> Owners: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody 1 Blue Marlin and 1 Sailfish released 800 pts	<i>Petrel</i> Owner: Harry Johnson, Jr. Captain: John Thomas 2 Blue Marlin, and 4 Sailfish released 2000 pts	Outstanding Youth Angler 3rd Place	<i>Arica</i> Owner: James "Bubba" Simmons Captain: James "Bubba" Simmons Angler: River Simmons, Age 10 39.4 pound	N/A	<i>C-Monkee</i> Owner: Colby Griffin Captain: Chuck Griffin Angler: Chandler Griffin, Age 11 24.8 pound Dolphin
Outstanding Billfish (landed)	<i>Sportin' Life</i> Owner: Manly and Graham Captain: Mike Glaesner Angler: Jimmy Lucas 1 Blue Marlin 449 pts	None Landed	None Landed	Outstanding Lady Angler 1st Place	<i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: Holly McAlhany 1 Blue Marlin released	<i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: Holly McAlhany 1 Blue Marlin released 1 Sailfish released	<i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: Holly McAlhany 1 Sailfish released 200 pts
Outstanding Dolphin	<i>Arica</i> Owner & Captain: James "Bubba" Simmons Angler: River Simmons 39.4 pounds	<i>Cotton Picker</i> Owner: Wynn Cowan Captain: Gene Sauers Angler: Chris Brown 51.6 pounds	<i>Mister Pete</i> Owner: Rob McClam Captain: Allan Neiford Angler: Terry Caulder 42.6 pounds	Outstanding Lady Angler 2nd Place	<i>Get a Witch A</i> Owner & Captain: Jim Casey Angler: Ellie Hopkins 26.0 pound Dolphin	<i>Game On</i> Owner: Victor "Bubba" Roof Captain: Trey "Cricket" McMillan Angler: Kelli Ann Roof 1 White Marlin 2 Sailfish released	<i>Rascal</i> Owner: Norman Pulliam Captain: Mark Rogers Angler: Anne Bradley Carlson 1 Sailfish released 200 pts
Outstanding Tuna	<i>Rookie IV</i> Owner: Eddie Buck Sr. Captain: Jay Champlin Angler: Eddie Buck Jr. 21.0 pounds	None Landed	<i>Syked Out</i> Owners: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: John Votaw 17.2 pounds	Outstanding Lady Angler 3rd Place	<i>Frayed Knot</i> Owner: Rusty Corbin Captain: Chucky Moore Angler: Carol Cannon 23.4 pound Dolphin	<i>Frayed Knot</i> Owner: Rusty Corbin Captain: Chucky Moore Angler: Mikey Zervos 35.8 pound Dolphin	<i>Game On</i> Owner: Victor "Bubba" Roof Captain: Trey "Cricket" McMillan Angler: Kelli Ann Roof 1 Sailfish released 200 pt
Outstanding Wahoo	<i>Christy II</i> Owner: Christy II LLC Captain: Trey Pierce Angler: Poe Ratterree 31.8 pounds	None Landed	<i>Three J's</i> Owner & Captain: John Spencer Angler: Sunshine Bearden 52.4 pounds				

## Billfish Release Numbers

Tournament Name	Number of Boats	Blue Marlin	White Marlin	Sailfish	Total Released
Georgetown	29	16*	3	1	18
Bohicket	22	2	1	7	10
CBC	28	9	1	23	33

\*1 of the 16 was landed, 448.2 pounds

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### Top Series Boats/Point Standing after CBC

Syked Out	2275	Sportin' Life	1724
Rascal	2275	Mister Pete	1675
Full Pull	2125	Russell Hatt	1050
Petrel	2075	Game On	975
Sportsmann	1875	Micabe	950



### WANTED!

Attention SC Billfish Anglers! Please report released billfish caught in SC waters throughout the 2014 fishing season. It's never too late to report a fish caught earlier this year! Anglers who release a billfish will receive a SCDNR Billfish Release Certificate. The boat reporting the most billfish releases will be named this year's "TOP CONSERVATIONIST BOAT OF THE YEAR"...will it be you? To report billfish releases or request billfish release cards, Please contact Amy Dukes at 843-953-9365, or email [dukesa@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:dukesa@dnr.sc.gov). The winning boat will receive a special award to be presented at the end of the 2014 fishing season. *Good Fishing!*

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The S.C. Department of Natural Resources' Law Enforcement Division reminds the public of Coast Watch, which was developed to better help citizens report violations of saltwater recreational and commercial fishing laws, as well as marine environmental laws. **The Coast Watch hotline number (1-800-922-5431) is toll-free and available 24 hours a day.**



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