



TAG & RELEASE

Volume 8, No. 3 June 2003

15TH ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S CUP TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE...

- April 30-
May 3** *Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Susie Bost
3702 Docksite Rd.
Edisto Beach SC 29438
843-869-3504 FAX 843-869-3738
- May 14-17** *Bohicket Invitational Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Damien Zanetti
1880 Andell Bluff Blvd.
Johns Island SC 29455
843-768-1280 FAX 843-768-3481
- May 28-31** *Georgetown Landing Blue Marlin Tournament*
Contact: Ricky Ferdon
P.O. Box 1704
Georgetown SC 29442
843-546-1776 FAX 843-546-7832
- July 9-12** *HMY - Viking Charleston Harbor
Marina Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Deidre Menefee
19 Forde Row
Charleston SC 29412
843-345-0369
FAX 843-406-4775

For more information contact:

Tom DuPre'
Office of Fisheries Management
843-953-9365

email: dupret@mrd.dnr.state.sc.us

<http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/etc/govcup/govcup.html>

A RELEASE TODAY IS A FISH TOMORROW!

"TOTALLY HOOKED" WINS GEORGETOWN TOURNAMENT IN GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES

Last weekend, the 15th Annual South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series wrapped up its third out of four tournaments, the 36th Annual Georgetown Landing Blue Marlin Tournament. The final tournament will take place at the Charleston Harbor Marina July 9-12.

The award standings after the first three tournaments in Edisto, Johns Island (Bohicket) and Georgetown, are on page 7.

As for the Georgetown tournament, "This was as fine a group of sportfishermen and women as you could ask for, and a world class fleet of boats," said Tom DuPré of the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, who coordinates the tournament series. "This was a great tournament because Ricky Ferdon and his staff did a wonderful job."

A total of 17 billfish were tagged and released during this tournament including six blue marlin, four white marlin and seven sailfish. Three blue marlin were weighed in, and one blue marlin was released without being tagged. Fifty-seven of the 66 boats that participated in the tournament fished two out of the three days. Saturday, the last day of fishing, was canceled due to a small craft advisory, but most fishermen saw the forecast and fished on Thursday and Friday.

A twist in this tournament was that one of the boats tagged a blue marlin with an S.C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) satellite tag. Manly Eubank of Charleston, who owns Palmetto Ford, accepted a request from DNR biologist Josh Loefer

to ride on his boat "Sportin' Life" in an attempt to tag a billfish with a satellite tag. On Friday around 2:15 p.m. Graham Eubank, Manly's son, reeled in a blue marlin that was tagged with a regular tag and then a satellite tag.

Loefer explained to the crew that the tag will record data every hour it's on the fish, and will pop off after 120 days. The data is transmitted to a satellite, then to computers at the DNR.

I think it's a great way to do research because the tag stays with the fish and accumulates helpful information that can be used to ultimately manage and preserve the species," Manly Eubank said. "I can't wait to see the report and find out where this fish goes over the next four months."

The ongoing DNR research has the goal of attaching 26 satellite tags to blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish, and swordfish this year. DNR scientists plan to continue satellite tagging during billfish tournaments and recreational sportfishing charters throughout the 2003 season. So far this year, they have attached satellite tags to two sailfish, one blue marlin and one white marlin.

There was plenty more tagging and catching of billfish during the Georgetown Tournament.

"Totally Hooked," owned by Cindy McDonald of Myrtle Beach captured the Best Billfish Boat award. Angler Lyn Tayloe also of Myrtle Beach caught a 444.4-pound blue marlin to earn "Totally Hooked" first place with 444.4 points, also earning Tayloe the Outstanding Female Angler Award.

Finishing in second place at the Georgetown tournament with 400 points for tagging and releasing a sail-

fish and a blue marlin was "Lady-S," owned by Angler's Mini Mart of Summerville. The angler of the sailfish was Trey Sedalik of Sullivan's Island, and the angler of the blue marlin was Woodie Smith of Mount Pleasant.

"Anticipation," owned by Albert Springs of Murrells Inlet came in third in the tournament when Justin Conder of Camden landed a blue marlin weighing 392.2 pounds.

The Biggest Dolphin Award went to Meg Williams of Murrells Inlet, who caught a 59.9-pound dolphin aboard "Insane-O," owned by Denton Williams of Murrells Inlet.

The Biggest Tuna Award went to Steve Godfrey of Spartanburg who reeled in a 47.1-pound yellowfin tuna aboard "Christy II," owned by Hank Higgins of Spartanburg.

A 45.6-pound wahoo caught aboard "Hatterascal," owned by Hatteras Yachts earned angler Jay Blount of Moorehead City, North Carolina the Biggest Wahoo Award.

The Outstanding Youth Angler Award went to 15-year-old John Kornegay III of Edisto Island, who caught a 57.6-pound dolphin aboard "ReeSea," owned by his father, John Kornegay.



Outstanding Lady Angler, Lyn Tayloe, and "Totally Hooked" crew with Lyn's 444.4 lb blue marlin.

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GEORGETOWN PUTS THE "GOVERNOR" BACK INTO THE GOVERNOR'S CUP

Wednesday - By the Captains meeting Wednesday night the 36th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament had 66 boats registered and ready to fish. The scuttlebutt on the docks was that Thursday and Friday would be the best fishing days with Saturday predicted to blow up to small craft and even gale winds

Thursday - With the weather in mind, 61 boats took to the high seas on Thursday in search of the elusive blue marlin. Despite the somewhat sloppy conditions fishing was awesome. Eleven billfish were caught, of which three were landed and more dolphin than anyone has seen in a long time. The big story Thursday was the 444.4 lbs blue marlin landed by Lady Anger Lyn Tayloe aboard the "Totally Hooked". With son Will at the helm, the fight lasted 2.5 hours. That night Lyn was understandably sore. Her advice to other lady anglers "Keep



Governor Mark Sanford caught one of the six dolphins tagged and released aboard "Caramba".

you line tight and rod tip up, let the chair and boat do the work for you". "Anticipation" and "Hat Trick" also landed blues at 392.2 and 383.5 lbs. respectively. If it had not been for the great billfishing that day, I would have called Thursday the "Day of the Dolphin". DNR tallies for Thursday revealed that about 284 dolphin were caught of which 9 were released and 21 tagged. Average dolphin catch per boat was 4.6 fish. That is not too shabby.

Friday - Fishing equaled that of Thursday, 10 billfish were caught, all tagged and released. More dolphin were brought in. The luck on the "Totally Hooked" changed, when Will Tayloe ended up being hooked by a 9/0 in the lower calf. When asked how long it took to reel him in Will said, "Not long, that sucker really hurt". The hook was removed on the hill and Will is doing fine. The highlight of the day was aboard the "Caramba" owned by SC Secretary of Commerce Bob Faith. He had invited Governor Sanford to a day of fishing and the Governor had accepted. The "Caramba" ended up tagging and releasing 6 dolphin, one of which is credited to our new Governor Mark Sanford. Congratulations.

Saturday - It was a rare event but it turned out the weather man was right and Saturday's fishing was cancelled due to a small craft advisory.

As the dust settled the Series ended up with some new leaders on the Board.

Lyn Tayloe took over as the leader of the Lady Angler category and Meg Williams of "Insane-O" took the lead on dolphin with a 59.9 pounder. "Summer Girl" remains in front in a number of categories, with only a slight lead ahead of "ReeSea" in total points. "ReeSea" still has the biggest blue marlin at 586 lbs; Eugenie Barrow is still holding on with a 55.4 lb tuna and Frank Gibson has his toes and fingers crossed hoping no one will beat his 64.4 lb wahoo with only one more event to go.



The future of the sport.

WE WANT TO THANK CAROLINA QUIKSHOTS FOR ALLOWING US TO USE THEIR PHOTOGRAPH!

On the web, key in this address
<http://www.photorelect.com/scripts/prsm.dll?search>
 for more pictures from the Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament



586-pound blue marlin landed during the Edisto tournament.

Photo taken by Doug Cunningham,
 Carolina QuikShots Photography
 1-877-999-6816
 email: carolinaquikshots@sc.rr.com

WHO IS HARRY HAMPTON?

When it comes to the conservation of South Carolina's natural resources, Harry R.E. Hampton stands at the forefront as one of the great leaders in our State. Born in 1897, Harry grew up in the Columbia and Charleston area exploring, hunting and fishing.

As a reporter for The State Newspaper, Harry helped organize a massive publicity campaign to organize a Game and Fish Association, which later became the South Carolina Wildlife Federation. Under his leadership as Federation president, he helped influence game and fish laws as well as the formation of the State Wildlife Department and the Commission in 1952.

Harry understood the need for protecting the States abundant wildlife and flora; it's untainted rivers and pristine beaches. Throughout his life Harry greatly influenced today's wildlife and fisheries laws and its conservation successes. He was known to say "As South Carolinians we are custodians of our state and we must invest in it wisely to secure its future for generations to come."

The Harry Hampton Wildlife Fund offers an opportunity to make such an investment. It is a non-profit eleemosynary corporation created in 1981 to promote education, research, management and administration of fish and game laws. Much has been accomplished. The fund has supported scholarships, education programs, such as Aquatic Wild, Becoming An Outdoors Woman, Camp Wildwood, Project Wild, Marine Recreational Fish and Shellfish Guides, marine education efforts, youth hunts, fishing rodeos, Operation Game Thief and much more. From 1994-2003 the Fund has awarded \$196,250 in scholarships to students attending South Carolina colleges.

The Fund is supported by private donations, special promotional projects, banquets and publications.



It is administered by a 10-member board of South Carolinians dedicated to responsible natural resources management and education. The Spartanburg Chapter of the Harry Hampton Fund recently held its 18th Wildlife Conservation Banquet. Over these eighteen years the Spartanburg Banquet has raised over \$650,000 for wildlife education and conservation projects. For the past twelve years, another exciting event sponsored by the Harry Hampton Fund is the Charleston Marine Conservation Banquet. The Charleston Banquet has a reputation for being a festive, fun-filled event that includes a meal, live auction, door prizes and much more.

HARRY AND THE GOVERNOR TIE THE KNOT!

We are excited to announce that The Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund and The Governor's Cup Billfishing Series have formed a partnership. On August 16, 2003, the Governors Cup Billfishing Series Awards Banquet will join the Charleston Marine Conservation Banquet for one really big show.

As in the past, we will recognize and congratulate our Series winners and honor them with beautiful hand carved trophies by Chris Costello. After that everyone joins in the fun. Good food, raffles, live auction, entertainment, everything the Marine Conservation Banquet is noted for.

The best part is that everyone is invited. You don't have to be a Series winner to attend.

Cost will be \$40 per couple, \$25 single in advance or higher if you pay at the door. Try and spend a night out on the town for that price!

Mark your calendars for the evening of August 16th, Passenger Terminal in Charleston at the end of Market Street. Join in the fun, congratulate and poke at your fishing buds, consume good food and beverages, support a very worthwhile marine conservation event by joining in the auction and raffles offered.

Interested: make your check or money order payable to the Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund and send to SC Governors Cup Program; PO 12559, Charleston, SC 29422; Attention: Wayne Waltz. Remember the Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund is a non-profit, eleemosynary corporation.

CIRCLE HOOKS (THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY TRUTH)

By Wayne Waltz

There has been a lot of chatter lately regarding the use of tuna circle hooks, especially in regards to recreational billfishing and catch and release fishing in general. Whether you are a conservation minded catch and release fishermen or are simply looking to stay within the legal size and bag limits, more and more fish are being hooked, caught and then released.

When the fish is released in poor condition, whether it's fatigue from the fight, hook injury, etc., it tends to undermine the purpose of size and bag limits, therefore it is to the advantage of everyone to do our best to see that our released catch has the maximum opportunity to survive.

In this regard, circle hooks are reported to have several advantages over conventional "J" shaped hooks. When used properly they usually end up hooking the fish in the corner of the mouth and fish are less likely to become gut or deep hooked. This also means they are easily removed, causing less trauma to the fish. Because of their shape they are less likely to drop out of the fishes mouth, so catch rates can be improved.

One of the most prestigious and biggest billfishing tournaments in the southeast "Big Rock" announced changes to it's 2003 tournament rules that awarded additional points for participants catching and releasing billfish using circle hooks. With the support and financial backing from NOAA Fisheries, outreach and rigging demonstrations were conducted as part of the event. In addition, "Big Rock" dropped their requirement that released fish had to be tagged.

Both of these changes reflect a growing concern over the status of billfish

stocks in the South Atlantic especially white marlin, which still remains a candidate for the Endangered Species (ESA) List. It is believed by some that reducing catch and release mortality of white marlin by the voluntary use of circle hooks and by eliminating the added stress and mortality associated with tagging, that any future (ESA) listing of white marlin would be reduced.

The decision by "Big Rock" offered a wonderful opportunity to document the efficiency of circle vs "J" hooks in settings (less than favorable weather/sea conditions, competitive tournament, high speed troll fishery) which are relatively undocumented in other studies and testimonials. It was because of this that we jumped at the opportunity to work with our friends in the N.C. Governor's Cup Series and NOAA Fisheries to develop a survey instrument and attend the tournament to record the information needed to compare the two hook types.

The analyses of this information is still underway and the results will be presented at a later date, but in the time being, lets examine the circle hook issue, its history, pros and cons, etc. and see what the big deal is.

History

Circle hooks have been around since prehistoric times. These cultures carved hooks in circular designs from bone, shell, whale teeth, stones and even wood. The earliest relics of this hook style can be found in Germany, Egypt, Hawaii and Japan. Pacific islanders apparently used shell and bone circle hooks for hundreds of years.

As Western ships discovered these islands, natives began making hooks from nails that they bartered or stole. In fact, the quest for nails by island natives may have lead to Capt. Cook's death in 1779. While in Kealakekua Bay, on the Kona coast of the island of Hawaii, one of the Cooks long boats was stolen by local islanders, it was burnt and all the iron removed. In addition, one of the watchmen was killed.

In an attempt to retrieve the longboat, Cook planned to take the island Chief hostage until the boat was returned, unknown to him that boat was already in ashes. During this campaign panic set in, a musket is fired and the fight ensued, culminating in Cooks death.

This hook type later became popular with commercial tuna fishermen and longliners in the 60's and 70's because they were able to catch 2.5X more fish than with "J" hooks. O. Mustad & Sons produced the first version of the modern circle hook and marketed the product worldwide, however there was only light interest in the commercial marketplace.

Freshwater anglers have found them popular livelineing with shiners for largemouth and herring for strippers. Catfishermen have used them on trotlines for years. It has only been in the last few years that they have gained popularity for marine recreational anglers seeking tuna, stripped bass, red drum, snook and seatrout.

The NMFS gave them a jump start in 1997, when they made a barbless version mandatory in the California recreational drift "mooch" fishery for salmon to reduce catch and release mortality.

Rom Hamlin, noted fishermen and conservationist is credited as being the first to catch a blue marlin on a tuna circle hook using conventional sportfishing gear and the Presidential Challenge of Central America Tournament Series was the first to require circle hooks in it's tournaments.

Hook Anatomy

In order to understand what makes a hook a circle hook as opposed to a different type of hook we need to become familiar with some definitions. Common parts of a hook are the eye, shank, bend, point, barb and gap. The eye is the hole where your fishing line is secured. The shank is the longest part of the hook and extends from the eye to the bend. The bend is the curved part and bottom of the hook. The point is the sharpened end of the hook and the barb is a projection that extends backwards from the point to ensure your fish stays hooked (note : not all hooks have barbs). The gap is the shortest distance between the shank and the point.

A circle hook is a hook where the point is perpendicular to the shank, whereas with a "J" hook, the point is parallel to the shank. Unfortunately, hook manufacturers have no standard numbering system for hooks. A particular hook gauge from one manufacturer may be completely different for another. One of the problems is that hooks are really two dimensional, the

gap of the hook is just as important as the length or shank, this seems to be why one manufacturer's hook gauge and terminology can differ from the next, even when the hooks look identical.

To further add to the confusion, manufactures have many variations within a hook pattern. For example, the hook eye can be ringed, looped or needle eye, etc. It can be parallel, turned up or turned down. The shank can be straight, curved or sliced, short to 6X long. Points can be spear pointed, knife point or needle point, barb elevation and size can vary from small to large.

A very important factor to consider with circle hooks has to do with the position of the point. In some cases the point is bent sideways or laterally in relation to the shank line. This point position is often referred to as an "offset". Points offset or bent to the right of the shank are referred to as "kirbed". The degree of offset can vary from no offset up to 20 degrees. The reason for bending the point sideways is said to be that it makes it easier to hook the fish in the lip or mouth. However, studies done in South Florida on sailfish show that hooks offset to 15 degrees minimized the potential benefits of circle hooks. Most experts, suggest using a circle hook with no offset.

With all the different sizes, styles and prices of hooks available it's no wonder anglers can become confused. One style to be aware of is the "khale" hook. This hook looks almost like a circle hook with a big gap. However if you examine the point, it is not perpendicular to the shaft, but bends up toward the eye. This hook is no substitute for a circle hook. It actually has a reputation for deep hooking fish. If you plan to release your undersized fish alive and in good condition, you may want to shy away from this hook.

The Good

A number of studies have been conducted, comparing the effectiveness of circle hooks vs conventional "J" style hooks. In addition, one can find a number of testimonials from avid anglers and charter captains who have started using circle hooks and can attest to their effectiveness. In general, a number of advantages have been documented from various fisheries that have tried circle hooks.

One such study with billfish was

conducted by Prince. et. al. 2002. He studied the use of circle hooks in Guatemala, using them to target Pacific sailfish, by trolling and pitching dead bait (mainly ballyhoo) and in South Florida targeting Atlantic sailfish by live bait drifting and kite fishing using thread herring, blue runner and scad. He also had some Guatemalan charter captain keep logbooks for him while targeting sailfish and blue marlin.

In Guatemala, he compared a Mustad "J" short shank hook (6/0 model 9175) with an Eagle Claw circle (7/0 L2004) with a minor 4 degree offset. In South Florida, he simply used circle hooks (Eagle Claw 3, with offsets of 15, 4, 0 degrees) and looked at how the offset affected efficiency. He found that in the Guatemala fishery, circle hooks had higher hooking rates than "J" hooks for Pacific sailfish. In fact, he concluded that circle hooks were, 1.83X more likely to hook a sailfish, however, once hooked, catch/landing rates were the same.

In regard to hook location, he found that circle hooks were more likely to lodge in the corner of mouth, while "J" hooks were more likely to become deep and foul hooked. "J" hooks were highly associated with moderate to severe bleeding, while circles had minor or no bleeding. Fish caught on "J" hooks were 20X more likely to bleed.

In South Florida, he found that the degree of offset resulted in no difference in catch rate, but the greater or deeper the offset the more likely the fish was deep hooked, while deep hooking was much less with minor or no offset. In probably what is one of the best studies to date comparing hook types, Prince et. al. concluded:

1. Circle hooks had a higher hooking rate than "J". He found that "J" hooks often dehook in a fight, while the curved point of the circle hook reduced dehooking.
2. Once hooked, however catch/landing rates were similar between hooks.
3. Circle hooks minimized deep/foul hooking under the study conditions.
4. Sailfish caught on "J" hooks were 20X more likely to bleed. Circle hooks tended to reduce bleeding.
5. Circle hooks with severe offset (15 degrees in this study) were associated with more deep hooking, than hooks with minor or no offset.

Another interesting study was con-

ducted in the Chesapeake Bay by Rudy Lukacovic who looked at hooking mortality of Stripped Bass caught by chumming. He also tested conventional or "J" hooks with non-offset circle hooks of similar size. He found that the percentage of fish deep hooked was 17.2% for conventional hooks and only 3.4% for circle hooks. He held the deep hooked fish for 72 hours. He found a 53.1% mortality rate on the deep hooked fish caught with "J" hooks and only a 23.5% mortality rate with deep hooked circle hooks. Overall, 9.1% of the fish caught with conventional hooks died, while only 0.8% died with circle hooks.

Because of this study, the ASMFC Striped Bass Advisory Panel considered a motion to Amendment 6 of the Stripped Bass FMP to make circle hooks mandatory within the Stripped Bass Fishery, however the Management Board rejected this and encouraged states to develop public relations and outreach programs to education anglers about their benefits.

In a related area, Ditton, et. al. (1998) found that 68% of the respondents he surveyed in the N.C. Bluefin Tuna Fishery seemed to favor mandatory use of circle hooks as a management option for Bluefin Tuna.

An ongoing study in Massachusetts is comparing hook types in the offshore tuna bait fishery. They found that circle hooks were more consistently hooked in the jaw than "J" hooks. Studies at the Mote Marine Laboratory are looking at comparing hook type on red snapper, red grouper and gag grouper. Results of this are preliminary.

In addition, other studies are looking at hook efficiency on species such as red drum, yellowfin tuna and Pacific Halibut and freshwater species such as bluegill and pumpkinseed. In the near future, there will be a wealth of species specific scientific information regarding the effectiveness of circle hooks. In addition to scientific information there also exists a plethora of testimonials from serious anglers and charter captains who have tried circle hooks and expound their benefits. For example:

"the crews of the Artmarina Fishing fleet operating on Guatemala's southern Pacific Ocean found that 95% of the billfish caught with circles were hooked in the upper or lower

corner of the mouth."

Ron Brooks "On this last trip offshore fishing wrecks for grouper. notorious for swallowing bait...I fished exclusively with 5/0 and 6/0 circle hooks, while my partner fished with his regular terminal tackle... In every case, the fish my partner caught had swallowed the bait and were gut hooked. Out of about 30 fish I caught all but one was hooked in the side of the mouth."

Jim Porter - "It has actually improved our hook up percentage and not one bass has been injured by a circle hook."

Joe S. "I am having excellent results with circle hooks on squid spreader bar rigs and feathers on tuna and dorado in Mexico."

Mike Mickelson "I would like to pass on to you the excellent success...I had...using circle hooks for our sucker fishing. This method proved to have an excellent hook up rate and best of all, all fish were hooked in the corner of the mouth."

Russ Symons: "I caught 5 Plaice (using circle hooks). Three were cleanly lip hooked, while the other two took the complete hook and bait deeper into their mouth, but not as deep as you often experience with an Aberbeen pattern hook... I also caught 9 dogfish on peeler crab and squid baits - every "Doggie" without exception was lipped hooked and easy to release."

Based on the scientific information and accolades from numerous anglers that have successfully used them, circle hooks boast the following advantages:

- 1. The fish usually hooks itself:** A fish picks up the hook and bait and begins to swim away, the pressure on the line increases and the hook rotates and is drawn to a point of resistance which is typically the jaw hinge or corner of the mouth.
- 2. The fish is usually hooked in the jaw or corner of the mouth, less often deep hooked:** This increases the likelihood of survival if you intend to release the fish and makes removal of the hook much easier. This also allows for a tougher, faster and more entertaining fight, as opposed to a gut hooked fish.
- 3. Circle hooks will seldom drop out.** By virtue of its shape and the fact

that it will typically be lodged in the jaw or corner of the mouth, it is difficult for the fish to throw the hook during the fight, (i.e. more solid hook ups).

4. **Safety:** Because the hook is turned inward there is less chance that anglers will be accidentally hooked. Also it will be **less likely to become snagged** on the bottom.
5. **Lighter Leaders:** Because the fish is typically hooked in the jaw, the line is usually away from the teeth, allowing the angler to use a lighter leader to obtain greater bait action.

With all the science done to date and the many accolades regarding this hook type, why are they not already in everyone's tackle box.....

TO BE CONTINUED



2003 SC GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES LEADERS (Results through Georgetown)

Top Boats

<u>Top Boats</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<i>Summer Girl</i>	675
<i>ReeSea</i>	661
<i>Totally Hooked</i>	469.4
<i>Lady S</i>	425
<i>Hat Trick</i>	408.5
<i>Insane-O</i>	375
<i>Blue Sky</i>	375
<i>Fish Wrapper</i>	375

Outstanding Billfish Boat

Points: 675
Boat: *Summer Girl*
Owner: Smith, Leasure, & Kelly
Captain: Charles Aimar

Outstanding Billfish Conservationist

Points: 675
 2 Blue Marlin T&R
Boat: *Summer Girl*
Owner: Smith, Leasure, & Kelly
Captain: Charles Aimar

Blue Water Conservation

Points: 1500
 4 Tuna, 22 Dolphin T&R
Boat: *Summer Girl*
Owner: Smith, Leasure, & Kelly
Captain: Charles Aimar

Outstanding Billfish

Fish: Blue Marlin, 586.0 Lbs
Boat: *ReeSea*
Owner: John Kornegay
Angler: Richard Avant

Outstanding Dolphin

Weight: 59.9 lbs
Boat: *Insane-O*
Owner: Denton Williams Jr.
Angler: Meg Williams

Outstanding Yellowfin Tuna

Weight: 55.4 lbs
Boat: *Legal Holiday*
Owner: Fred Bergen
Angler: Eugenie Barrow

Outstanding Wahoo

Weight: 64.4 lbs
Boat: *My Time Out*
Owner: Frank Gibson
Angler: Frank Gibson

Outstanding Youth Angler

Fish: Dolphin, 57.6 lbs
Boat: *ReeSea*
Owner: John Kornegay
Angler: John Kornegay III

Outstanding Lady Angler

Fish: Blue marlin, 444.4 lbs
Boat: *Totally Hooked*
Owner: Cindy McDonald
Angler: Lyn Tayloe

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