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10/28/22

INSIDE

SHARKS!

**TAG & RELEASE
CEREMONY RECAP**

**LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD WINNERS
ANNOUNCED**





Orange Beach Billfish Classic

MAY 17-22, 2022



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ON THE COVER

The cover image taken by Andy Hyslop, is a reflection of what Atlantic shark depredation does to recreational fishing adventures, which ripples further into gear damage, loss of positive fishing experiences, and loss of economic returns. Angler is Ben Maki, fishing on Old No. 7.

TBF TEAM

Ellen Peel
President

Peter Chaibongsai
*Director of Conservation
Programs*

Adrienne Katz
Director of Operations

T.J. Morrell
*Science & Education
Specialist*

Dr. C. Phillip Goodyear
Scientist

Robert Osborn
Policy Advisor



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successes worldwide to
improve the status of the fish,
the health of the oceans,
fishing opportunities
and related economies.*



Message from the CHAIRWOMAN

Dear TBF Friends,

Having completed 35 years of successes, The Billfish Foundation is ready, with your help, to kick off the next 35 years!! Let's get going!

Who thought TBF would lead the campaign to counter the federal government's poor Atlantic shark management that is causing depredation of angler-hooked fish. We didn't. Leadership was needed so TBF stepped forward. The issue negatively impacts every recreational fishery, not just billfishing. The government's only plan to help is to offer Atlantic shark identification workshops and distributing information on how to avoid sharks while fishing. We fear the avoidance advice will be, "don't fish." NO WAY! The agency's shark management essentially killed the Atlantic bottom longline shark fishery and market, leaving excessive numbers of sharks in the water taking or damaging angler-hooked fish. The management lacks balance, for little consideration is given to the "human factors" of fishing, including jobs, related services and products, and general experiences on the water, all generating strong economic returns to the U.S. economy.

TBF's commitment remains strong to keep Closed Zones closed in the Gulf of Mexico and off the East Coast. TBF's recent analysis of the NMFS PRISM model and paper, released as a possible decision-making tool for the future of the Closed Zones, raises a lot of questions and should not be used in the decision process.

Our trademark challenge continues and, while not a fishing issue, it is important and needs funding. If you wish to support the challenge, please donate with the word "trademark" in the check's memo or in text with donation. The marlin logo serves as TBF's symbol of credibility and integrity and continues to do so while we represent billfish, billfishing and your interest for over three and a half decades.

Off the U.S. West Coast, we wait for issuance of an Exempted Fishing Permit for the Snap Gear Fishery, which uses modified longline gear, to fish federal waters off California. We are not confident the gear will fish cleaner than regular longline gear, so we look forward to the monitoring result.

Please keep your TBF membership active, recruit a friend to join, for it is only through memberships, donations and sponsorships that TBF can effectively represent our mutual interest in fish and fishing for the next 35 years! Thank you.

Go Fish,

Sandra MacMillan
Chairwoman



WELCOME ABOARD!

TBF welcomes T.J. Morrell to the team as our Science/Education Specialist. He will be responsible for showcasing the importance of tagging and releasing and leads in the development of educational materials and presentations. He joins us from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA). T.J. is a South Jersey native and was exposed to fishing at an early age, eventually developing a passion for fish and the ocean.

T.J. received his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and his master's degree from Nova Southeastern University. He began working with fish larvae at the University of Miami before eventually transitioning to commercial fisheries and highly migratory species. During his nine years with NOAA, he worked with both the Pelagic Observer Program and Commercial Logbook Program, developing an understanding of both fisheries management and the multiple fisheries associated with the southeast region.

Please welcome T.J. and be sure to say hello when you see him on the docks.



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THE BILLFISH FOUNDATION'S 2022 AWARD CEREMONY RECAP

Jungle Island provided the venue for the February Tag & Release Awards Ceremony at which the achievements of top anglers, captains and crews from around the world were celebrated and highlighted. This year's in-person event, following last year's virtual ceremony, was exciting and gratifying. Some well-known fishing titans were recognized during the evening, including the *Big Oh* crew, along with a standout junior angler, George Straub and all three children of the McLane family.

The generosity of the Ceremony sponsors, including King Sailfish Mounts (who made all of the international awards), Costa Sunglasses, Marina Casa de Campo, Marina Cap Cana, Viking Service Center, Floy Tag, and Dekit Marine Supplies, made the festive evening a reality. It was the generosity of TBF's Tag & Release Program sponsors that facilitated the cornerstone program's collection and use of billfish data during 2021, research that cannot be replicated by any one research team. Program Sponsors included Garmin, Yeti, Costa, King Sailfish Mounts, Casa Vieja Lodge, the International Game Fish Tournament Observers, and Boater's List, all of whom are dedicated to billfish research for conservation and sportfishing. The combined commitment of all these sponsors reassures TBF of the future of billfish.

In addition to beautiful trophies for each competition category, the Overall Winners received stunning Fathom Offshore lures and a spectacular package from Marina Cap Cana, which included lodging and slip space. All Top Overall Anglers also received a Waterlust gift card as well.

Thanks to the contributions from Pelagic Gear, Yeti, Costa, Marina Cap Cana, and Nomadix, a raffle with three spectacular packages created other winners from event guests.

TBF's Tag & Release Program is the largest private one in the world, boasting over 280,000 records since 1990. Anglers, captains, and mates worldwide are vital assets in gathering the valuable data needed to advance billfish science, which helps ensure billfishing opportunities remain available for future generations. Without their dedication, TBF's conservation for responsible sportfishing would not be possible.

To learn more about becoming a part of the TBF's Tag & Release Program, check out our website. Stay up to date with all things billfish by becoming a member, subscribing to our newsletter, and follow us on social media, @TheBillfishFoundation.





TBF'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARD WINNERS 2022

THE JOHN RYBOVICH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The award is named in honor of a former board member and pioneer in billfish conservation, who founded the Sailfish Conservation Club, the Masters Angling Tournament, the Tournament of Champions and the Gold Cup to raise funds for conservation. With his brothers, Emil and Tommy, the family business developed the first offshore sportfishing boat equipped with a tower, outriggers, fighting chair, transom door and big engines.

This year's recipient:

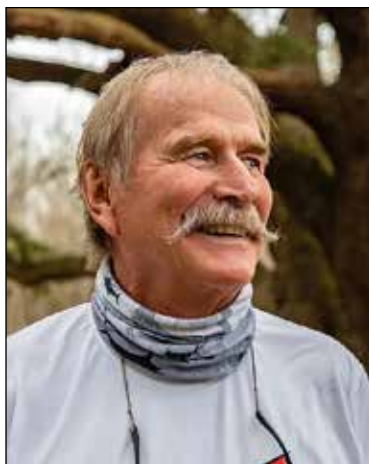


Photo by Harry Hindmarsh

CHARLES PERRY

Charles Perry, known worldwide as a renowned blue water angler, captain with a 100-ton license, but is best known as the "greatest heavy-tackle wireman ever" having fished for over 60 years on major sportfishing boats around the world. He grew up on his father's sportfishing boat where a wooden fish box served as his crib. At age 6 he began

helping his father while fishing out of Oregon Inlet, NC and moved offshore at age 13 with Captains Murray Cudworth and Tony Tillet.

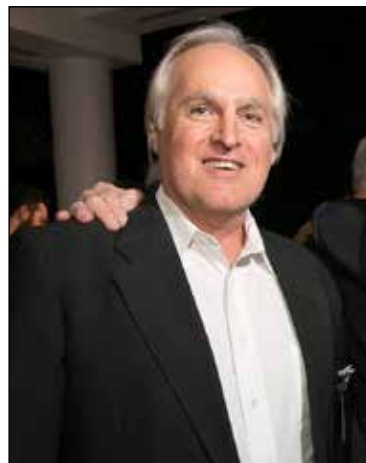
The U.S. Army provided Perry's transition from North Carolina charter fishing to international big-game fishing when drafted and sent to Vietnam. After two years, in 1972 he visited a friend in Australia, met Captain Peter B. Wright and by 1974 he was Peter's wireman. From there, Perry's career included wiring and setting world records with the biggest gamefish, the largest being a 1,417-pound black marlin. His experiences read like an international travel log, from Australia, Central and South America, Ivory Coast, Cape Verde, Canaries and back to North Carolina, his favorite fishing place. He once reported that his favorite fishing memory was catching a blue marlin in excess of 500-pounds with his Mom.

Perry added research to his experiences when assisting in the deployment of satellite tags on giant bluefin tuna off North Carolina, releasing 347 in 16 days, and also on blue marlin in the Indian Ocean. He served as instructor for Marlin University, advisor to fishing teams, advised Sebastian Junger on rough weather conditions off the Grand Banks for *Perfect Storm*, received great photo placements, writes articles in sportfishing magazines and designed, what he calls the ultimate wiring glove, Fish Monkey.

THE WINTHROP P. ROCKEFELLER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The award is named in honor of TBF's Founder, a well-known angler, philanthropist, and owner, at the time, of Allied Marine in Miami. Rockefeller sought scientific advice to identify the most pressing billfish research needs. He was told stock assessments presented the greatest need, which dictated TBF's first research commitment, followed by many other research areas, though stock assessment science remains a priority. He also was committed to introducing children to fishing.

This year's recipient:



RAYMOND DOUGLAS

known as Doug to most, founder and owner of King Sailfish Mounts (KSM), revolutionized the marine fish taxidermy industry into a conservation platform. Doug loves to fish and saw no need to kill to have a beautiful mount. Dead fish are not needed at KSM to produce a gorgeous,

hand-painted mount that captures an outstanding fish and release. Length and girth measurements, without hurting the fish, plus a few photos, allow Doug and his artists to perfectly match, with hand-painted details, the fish's coloration and size upon release, which he calls "authentication." KSM's release mounts preserve fishing memories, which are recalled and shared over and over again in homes and businesses around the world. He additionally supports marine conservation by having been a co-sponsor of The Billfish Foundation's annual Tag and Release Program for decades making all the trophies for each of TBF's International Award Categories for each billfish species and oceans.

Doug's favorite fish to replicate and one of his favorite to catch is a tarpon, especially if he is camping and fishing in the back country of the Everglades using a fly or lure on light line. He noted that alligators and birds "add to his experiences." One story he shared recalled him feeding alligators from his sleeping platform at night, only to find the next morning his boat came untied and drifted to where his alligator food landed the night before. Yes, he got in the water and waded to retrieve his boat!!! For some that would have exceeded the desired "addition to the experience" in a trip! After almost 27 years of being in business, Doug is now looking to sell KSM, hoping to enjoy some much needed fishing time to himself.

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JUNIOR ANGLER TOURNAMENT
JULY 8 - 9

BILLFISH LIMITED TOURNAMENT
JULY 22 - 24

LADIES TOURNAMENT
JULY 29 - 31

MEMBERS ONLY TOURNAMENT
AUGUST 19 - 21

LABOR DAY INVITATIONAL
SEPTEMBER 1 - 5



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Ladies Tournament
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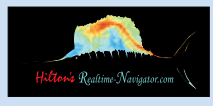
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June 2
- Fishing Days
June 2-June 4
- Boats Return
June 4
- Awards Breakfast
June 5



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ATLANTIC SHARK DEPREDATION

The NMFS has achieved predator-rich relationships with sharks and other species beyond what some scientists describe as “equilibrium.” The result is heavy shark depredation of other fish stocks important to recreational fishing, including billfish. Also out of equilibrium is the government’s failure to factor in the human interests of people fishing and economics.

Some recreational crews report it no longer safe to swim between boats, as needed, to help with a companion vessel’s problem at times. Only when fewer sharks remain in the water will shark depredation lessen, which requires reinvigoration of a commercial bottom longline shark fishery and market.

Photo by Shawn Albury

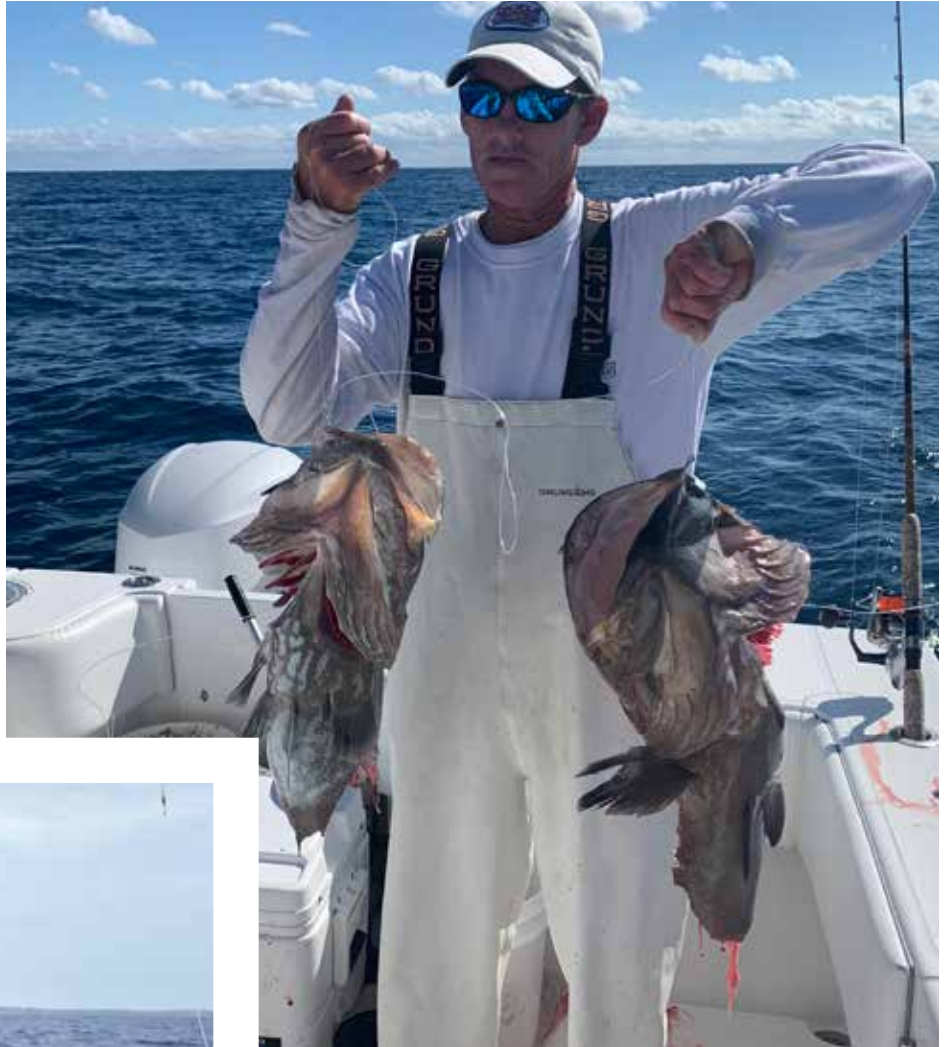


Photo by Andrew Hyslop



Shark depredation is not limited to billfish!

FEDERAL SOLUTIONS & FUNDS FOR SHARK DEPREDEATION MISDIRECTED

NOAA/NMFS proposes three solutions to Atlantic shark depredation: (1) schedule shark identification *workshops* for captains and anglers, (2) distribute *educational material* on how to avoid sharks while fishing – fear this may be “don’t fish;” and (3) establish a recreational shark fishing quota that factors-in a post-release mortality rate, even though the recreational shark fishery is relatively small. The cost of satellite tagging is questioned for it takes a lot of satellite tag deployments to achieve even a small glimpse of a possible mortality trend. Expending those funds on shark stock assessments in support of management decisions to help reinvigorate the collapsed fishery and market would be wiser.

REMOVING FINS FROM DEAD SHARKS IS NOT FINNING

Federal banning of live shark finning remains essential. That however, is different than the process of retaining the fins of legally landed dead sharks. With so much uncertainty surrounding the selling of shark fins, seafood dealers and harvesters were hesitant to even participate, eventually leaving the fishery and collapsing the market. No fishery and no markets certainly led to excessive numbers of sharks remaining in the water depredating angler-hooked fish. Some states implemented their own bans, Texas implemented a ban on possession of fins and Hawaii banned all shark fishing. Pending federal legislation, Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act, if passed, will prohibit all sales of shark fins, even when legal, essentially ensuring Atlantic shark depredation



Fawna Neyrey, photo by Damion Neyrey

THE ONLY 100% Catch And Release Billfish Tournament Along The Gulf Coast!

JULY 13-17, 2022

- **HOSTED AT:** Virginia’s On The Bay Marina, 815 Trout St., Port Aransas TX
- **Limited to 40 boats | Early discounted registration opens May 1**
- **OVER \$1 MILLION DOLLARS** paid out in first 2 years of the tournament
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- **Benefitting The Billfish Foundation, Harte Research Institute for Sportfish Science, & the Port Aransas Scholarship Fund**

For More Information, Entry Information and Forms Go To: www.BillfishPachanga.com

FLORIDA VICTORY

The Atlantic Save the Mahi Mahi campaign led by Blair Wickstrom of Florida Sportsman Magazine achieved a recent victory with Florida’s Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The FWC embraced the Campaign’s call for reducing the daily mahi mahi (dolphin fish) landing limit from 10 fish to 5 fish and private vessel limits from 60 fish to 30 fish.



At the federal level, the Campaign did not prevail with all of its desired conservation measures before the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s (SAFMC) with Amendment 10 to the WAHOO AND Mahi Mahi Plan.

Amendment 10 does not (1) drop the bag limit below 10 fish per person, nor (2) does it drop the recreational vessel limit below 60 mahi mahi per day (10 per person for party boat customers), and it did not set a 2,000-pound commercial trip limit as pushed for by the Campaign. The Campaign exerted pressure on NOAA/NMFS to not approve the FMC’s Amendment 10, but the Amendment was approved as submitted to the agency. Even so, the Campaign is not over for it continues to target the SAFMC to amend the FMP again with further landing reductions.

WEST COAST

NOAA has yet to issue the Exempted Fishing Permit for the mid-water snap gear to fish off California.

INCREASES IN ATLANTIC BLUEFIN ANGLING CATEGORY

A few months back, TBF requested the NMFS increase the allocation of Atlantic bluefin tuna to all segments within the Recreational Fishing Category. In March, 2022, the agency announced increases to all Fishing Categories following an increase in the total U.S. allocation agreed upon by the international fishery management Commission. The U.S. distribution among the Recreational Fishing Sub-Category are as follows.

SCHOOL

Reserve - 5,467.64 lbs, North - 113,758.5 lbs., South 127,206.7 lbs.

LARGE SCHOOL/SMALL MEDIUM

North 110,451.6 lbs. & South 123,459 lbs.

TROPHY

North, South, Gulf of MX - 4,312.24 lbs. each



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NMFS CLOSED ZONE PRISM MODEL NOT READY FOR PRIME TIME

TBF reviewed the September 2021 government's released paper and computer model, (PRISM) said to be a possible decision making tool for determining whether to open Closed Zones off East Coast and in Gulf of Mexico, and found both failing to meet the stated goal. The goal was to "predict fishery [vessels and gear] interactions with various bycatch species including sea turtles, sharks, juvenile swordfish and billfish in HMS [highly migratory species] commercial fisheries."

The four agency scientists who developed the model and paper appeared to have no billfish or tuna spatial distribution modeling expertise; a publication search indicted their expertise is primarily with sharks and climate change. The authors concluded PRISM's validation procedures "performed well" on bycatch species of mako sharks, billfish and leatherback sea turtles and noted PRISM was solely a proof of concept project, with no definitive results.

The review of the model to determine just how predictive it really is indicated it will be sensitive to decision making based on the selection of variables. That would potentially cause a different outcome depending on who selected the variables. It will be up to those who may apply the model to a particular closed area to properly assess variables and make the results known. In particular, quantification of probabilities must have the ability for re-evaluation to discover any and all alternatives. One important issue is that closed areas are dissimilar from the areas used to train the model; otherwise they would not have been closed in the first place. This makes predictions of what might be in the closed areas based on data from elsewhere more uncertain and maybe just misleading.

The paper mentioned sat tagging data in discussion, but did not use any.

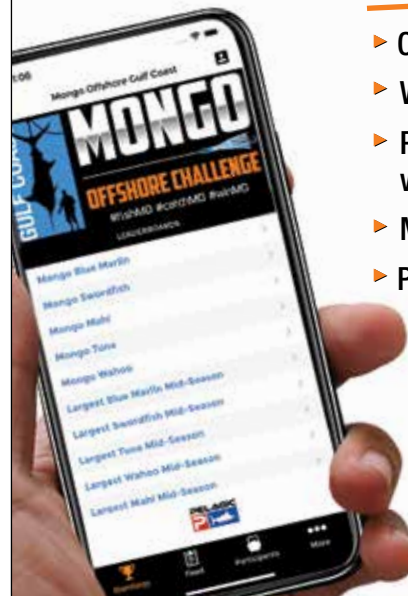
EAST COAST DEEP-SET BUOY GEAR

NMFS issued seven Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP) for vessels to fish for BAYS tunas (bigeye, albacore, yellowfin, skipjack) and swordfish in the Gulf of Mexico and off the Atlantic East Coast. Six vessels are part of Deepwater Horizon Pelagic Longline Bycatch Reduction Project; using funds from Gulf Restoration, oil spill settlement. The six vessels fishing only in the Gulf are pelagic longline vessels that voluntarily do not fish for six months each year because they are paid from Restoration funds not to fish. Gear options include deep-set buoy gear or green stick gear. One of these vessels that also fishes off Florida's East Coast is a traditional surface buoy gear vessel. Juvenile swordfish caught will be released with a satellite tag attached to help gain insight into post-release mortality trends. Pelagic longline gear is not allowed in the Closed Zones waters during any of the research.

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EDUCATION BY YOUTH FISHING



Following the untimely and tragic death of TBF member, Steve C. Levi, his daughters, Kristen Dzwonkowski and Chelsea Scruggs donated to The Billfish Foundation (TBF) a gorgeous bronze marlin sculpture belonging to their father. The sculpture, housed in the Gulf Coast Yacht Group's office in Orange Beach at The Wharf, now represents Steve's commitment to billfish conservation and the passing on his love for sportfishing to the next generations. The sculpture now serves as a perpetual trophy, the Steve C. Levi Memorial Trophy, Youth Conservation Award for a competition in the Gulf of Mexico.

The competition will recognize youth winners from two age groups, 12 years and under, and 13 – 17 years old; age as of May 1 each year. Winners' names will be engraved on a plate and attached to the trophy.

Winning is based on which anglers accumulate the most points for catching and releasing a billfish with a verifying photo. If needed, an adult can assist a child. If no billfish are caught and released, points can be accrued based on points per pound for other landed species, excluding sharks. All entries must be caught and photographed between May 1 – Sept 30 each year in tournaments, club competitions or fishing for fun. Each fish only counts once. Sportsmanship can add additional points but while there is no definition of qualifying "sportsmanship" that can be shared at this time, if an exceptional situation arises it will likely be recognized. An angler can only win the award one time for each age category to help assure more anglers can be winners.



BIG NUMBERS FOR BIG ANGLERS

Fishing season: February to May.
Peak of the season: March | April



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Photo by Pepper Ailor

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ON THE DOCKS WITH TOURNAMENTS SUPPORTING TBF

59th Buccaneer Cup

The 59th Annual Buccaneer Cup Sailfish Tournament, a historic all-release sailfish tournament, was again a great success under the leadership of Courtney Bowden. Participants released 109 sailfish with a payout of \$380,000. Courtney and her team from Viking Yachts, Viking Service Center and local volunteers should be applauded for they have made the Buc Cup a classy and well-organized tournament!



Buc Cup winning team, Lo Que Sea

The popular and well-attended Captains' Meeting, held at the Viking Service Center, thanks to the key sponsors of Viking Yachts, HMY Yacht Sales and Yamaha was again a terrific event. A lot of interest and support were generated from the large raffle, only made possible because of the wide array of donated items. Steve Momot (@360fishingnato) captured much of the tournaments' excitement, including aerial photos thanks to the donation of helicopter and pilot from Sailfish Marina. An elegant award's ceremony was held at the prestigious Sailfish Club of Florida, Palm Beach, which was sponsored by MTU Marine Power, Florida Detroit Diesel Allison and Johnson and Towers. The ceremony's excitement was topped off by the "famous and electric" emcee Robert "Fly" Navarro.

The Buc Cup is produced by The Fisheries Conservation Trust, a 501(c)3 governed and managed by the RFA. Tournament proceeds support the Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) and The Billfish Founda-

tion (TBF) in their work to best ensure the future of sportfishing and its industry.

The overall winners of the coveted Buccaneer Cups include:

Lo Que Sea - Top Dead Bait Releases

Seraphim - Top Live Bait Releases

Taylor Beckford, *Lo Que Sea*,
Top Angler

Susan McCarty, *Princess Lily*,
Top Lady Angler

Dakota Rosher, *Hydrosphere*,
Top Junior Angler.

Sailfish Challenge

The wildly popular Quest for the Crest sailfish tournament series, presented by BlueWater Movements and directed by Jamie Bunn, included the Sailfish Challenge, and benefitted TBF. The Challenge's donation to TBF will support its Atlantic Shark Depredation Campaign to persuade members on Capitol Hill to assist in getting the National Marine Fisheries Service to modify its shark management strategy to reinvigorate the shark bottom longline fishery and the companion fish market. Until some the excessive numbers of sharks are legally removed from the water, or an alternative method is developed, the current high depredation rate will likely continue.

Forty-seven teams enjoyed themselves at the kick-off party



BlueWater Movements director Jamie Bunn

held at Galuppi's within the Pompano Beach Golf Course. The party offered an open bar, a band that kept everyone hopping, a silent auction and raffle, produced by Julie and Jennifer, and the captains' meeting. The party was followed by two days of fishing, during which 140 sailfish were released. The awards ceremony and dinner were held at the 5-star BlueMoon Fish Company.

Winners included: Top Team – *Jolene*; Master Angler Aneil De Rosario; Top Female Angler Nicole Ely and Top Junior Angler – Latham Bennett.

Marina Casa de Campo

After a two-year hiatus due to the COVID pandemic, *Blackhawk*, took top honors in the 2022 Marina Casa de Campo Open. The team released eight blue marlin and two whites to earn the championship trophy, along with a brand-new golf cart! The *Blackhawk* team is no stranger to the winner's podium as they also won the Open in 2020.

Set at the world-class Marina Casa de Campo in La Romana, Dominican Republic, the Open is an all billfish release team event. The tournament is presented by the Marina Casa de Campo and Fly Zone Fishing and was held March 11-13 at the Casa de Campo Resort & Villas.

"The action was slow the first day, but the fishing gods smiled on us the second," said Tournament Director and TBF board member Robert "Fly" Navarro. "We had a flurry of releases on Day Two, with *Blackhawk* topping the field. "This was the first tournament since the pandemic, so it was nice to be back in the Dominican Republic,"



Navarro added. "Marina Casa de Campo put on another great event, as usual.

We here at TBF applaud the all-release format and thank the tournament for hosting and making us a beneficiary of the event. To learn more about the venue and the tournament schedule there visit: www.marinacasadecampo.com.



Marina Casa de Campo Top Team, Blackhawk

Inaugural Annual Chub Cay Classic

In-Sane-O, was named the top boat out of twenty-four boats that competed in this initial all-release billfish event at the popular Chub Cay Resort & Marina Club. This beautiful event is held at the southern tip of the Berry Islands in the Bahamas. A total of five blue marlin, plus 24 sailfish were released by the fleet during two days of fishing. *Sea-I-Sea* finished in second place, followed by *Big Stick*.

"I'm very, very happy to see the participation at the Classic," says Tournament Director and TBF board member Robert "Fly" Navarro. "It's good to see things opening back up, people using their boats

again and enjoying the beautiful water and bounty of the Bahamas. I look forward to the next round at the Chub Cay Invitational in a couple of weeks."

TBF appreciates the hospitality and generosity of the tournament. For additional information about the resort and its amenities, please visit: www.chubcay.com



Chub Cay Classic Top Boat, In-Sane-O

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ANGLERS WE WILL MISS



BRIAN THOMAS BEE

59, of Longport, New Jersey passed away on December 6th, 2021. He worked as the lead Master Plumber for over 35 years under John J. Bee Mechanical Inc. and was a member of the Philadelphia Plumbers Union Local 690. Brian's happiest days were spent outside with his

family and friends fishing and snowboarding.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Lisa, daughter Briana, sons Matthew and John and many other loving family members.



MATTHEW JACOB BERTUCH

of San Francisco, California, 29, passed away on December 18, 2021. Matthew was Senior Product Manager for Clari, a Revenue Operations Platform company. Matthew loved to fish, including trips to Tropic Star in Panama, and at least two trips with Cap-

tain Bouncer Smith when in Miami. When Matt was 13 years old and fishing with Capt. Bouncer Smith he caught 7 sailfish and a shark in 4 hours. Some years later he and Mike Bertuch fished with Capt. Bouncer in the "Adopt a Swordfish" tournament, each catching 2 swordfish, which were tagged and released.



RALPH BROWN

founder and owner of Dusky boat works, Dania Beach, FL passed away on Sunday, January 9, 2022. Brown founded the Dusky boat company in 1967 and throughout the next 55 years, he built and sold boats ranging in length from 14 to 33 feet. He never authorized

dealers, some say for he not only loved fishing but he also loved talking with people, so he stayed factory-direct. Brown and Captain Bouncer Smith enjoyed a long friendship, during which Smith fished 7, twenty-five foot and 4, thirty-three foot Dusky's.

Brown is survived by his wife Pat of 55 years and son Michael, both of whom are continuing Dusky boat building.



JAMES "JIM" F. COURBIER

78, passed away on December 2, 2021 in Bay Country, MI. After college, Courbier enlisted in the Army National Guard and was stationed in Hawaii. He moved to Miami, FL in 1968 where he discovered his love of the ocean.

He spent countless hours running deep sea charters and fishing big game tournaments in the Bahamas aboard his beloved boat "Scalper".

Jim is survived by his three sons, Jesse Courbier, Cody (Marisa) Courbier and Christopher Courbier, and other loving family members. TBF appreciated the family designating us as a charity to which donations could be made in lieu of flowers.



JOHN COCHRANE

Capt. John Cochrane of Santa Fe, TX, died in an automobile accident on April 3, 2022. John was highly respected as a captain with an impressive career that began with him serving as co-captain and engineer with Captain Skip Smith on Jerry Dunaway's famous

mothership, *Madam*. Next he ran the *Billy B* for Bill Lyons for many years, during which he deployed a lot of satellite tags in the Gulf of Mexico and kept meticulous records of all the large blue marlin he caught in the Gulf. For five years prior to his death, John had been running the *La Belle*, as well as owning *Big Blue* his own boat. He was a founding director of the Houston Big Game Fishing Club, a co-founder of the Texas Legends Tournament, Texas Saltwater Fishing Hall of Fame and of the Texas Marine Industries Coalition. His most recent tournament win was first place on the *La Belle* in the Pelagic Pura Vida Blue Marlin Tournament in Quepos, Costa Rica, only a few weeks prior to his death. He was also a yacht broker for Fox Yacht Sales.

John is survived by his wife Ann Marie Cochrane, daughter Katy Cochrane, brother Captain Dave Cochrane, and sister Crista Cochrane Sereni.



HARRY DOUKAS

74, of Miami Shores, FL, formerly of Baltimore, Maryland, passed away on December 7, 2021. In 2011, Harry established the Harry Doukas Yacht Services business in Miami Shores. He is survived by his widow Patricia, daughter Michelle (David) Cripe; brothers Dr. Jessie Stahl, Jack Doukas, sister Valerie Doukas and grandson Jackson Cripe.



FLOYD (BILL) F. GOTTWALD

who passed away on January 27, 2022, was a WW II veteran, a chemist, who began his career with Albermarle Paper Manufacturing and became the Chairman of Albemarle Corporation. He was an avid

hunter and fisherman, who enjoyed fishing the Pamunkey River, in the Florida Keys and in the Gulfstream. He won the Masters Angling Tournament in 1976, was an early member of the Virginia Angler's Club and a trustee emeritus of the International Game Fish Association.

Floyd is survived by his wife of 17 years, Helga Koch Gottwald; three sons, Dr. William M. Gottwald (Connie), James T. Gottwald (Nancy) and John D. Gottwald (Meg) and many loving family members.



ED LORENCE

of Wethersfield, Connecticut and Tequesta, Florida passed away on February 1, 2022 due to Covid complications. Edward was Vice President and Secretary of Aircraft Welding & Mfg. in Hartford Connecticut, a career he loved for 60 years, and was a member of the

Army Reserve. He had many boating friends and loved to fish from his own boat "*About Time*". He was a member of the Westerly Yacht Club, Rhode Island.

Edward is survived by his wife of 55 years, Constance (Wysocke) Lorence, two daughters and many other loving family members. TBF appreciates the family designating TBF as a charity to which donations were recommended.



JIMMY LOVELAND

passed away unexpectedly on February 4, 2022 at his home in St. Thomas. Virgin Islands. He was a sportfishing legend earning his captain's license at age 18. By 26, Jimmy and his dad motored a 54-foot party boat, *Fish N Fool* from Miami to Virgin Islands. In

the Virgin Islands, Jimmy fished with Capt. Johnny Harms, and was captain for Laurence Rockefeller, on *Savannah Bay* out of Caneel Bay Resort. In 1966, Jimmy caught a 761-pound blue marlin, the fourth largest ever at that time. In 1974, as Winthrop Rockefeller's captain, he won the Boy Scout Tournament, and took over operation of the event in 1987. He changed the name of the tournament to the Open Atlantic Blue Marlin Tournament for the benefit of the Boy Scouts of America, which he directed for 30 years. Loveland received TBF's most prestigious honor, the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Life Time Achievement Award in 2012. He led the creation of the Big Game Room within the Miami Boat Show and created the Certified Observer Program. His last major contribution to the marine world in Virgin Islands was the creation and development of the Marine Vocational Program (MVP), a charity, that offered training programs for children from the Boys and Girls Club of St. Thomas and the community to prepare them for future employment in the marine industry

Jimmy is survived by his son, Marc Loveland, daughter, Jana Prokop, three siblings, Laura Lee Loveland Horne, Patricia Loveland Buchanan, Stewart Collier Loveland Jr. and four grandchildren.



JOSEPH "JOE" WAKSMACKI

of Lighthouse Point passed away on October 1 after a brief illness in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He was born in Chicago where he lived until 1980 when he moved to South Florida and started Broward Custom Kitchens, Inc.

Joe loved to fish on his boat "*Unbelievable*" often targeting marlin, wahoo and swordfish. In the Sunburned Swordfish Tournament, 2007, Joe won second place with a 92-pound swordfish.

Joe is survived by his sons, Joe Waksmacki Jr., D. Scott Waksmacki (Cathy), daughter, Dawn Maggio (Jonathan), and 4 grandchildren.



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I want to support billfish conservation as a TBF member. I have enclosed my membership payment in the following amount:

- \$25 Jr. Angler* \$50 \$100 \$150
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Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

* Youth memberships, age 17 & under, please include birthdate.

Payment Method:

Visa MasterCard American Express

Discover Check

Account #: _____

Exp. Date _____

Name on Account _____

Signature _____

MEMBERS-ONLY T-SHIRT:

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ADULT: S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Please fill out and return with your contribution to:

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PO Box 8787 • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310-9979

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www.billfish.org

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Please provide the name and address of gift giver and recipient separately if you are giving a gift membership.

Membership donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS & CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS

FISHING CLUBS are a prime source to spread TBF's conservation message!

Make YOUR Fishing Club a TBF Member at one of these levels:

\$250 \$500 \$1,000

TBF CORPORATE PARTNERS support billfish conservation and promote your business. Corporate partnerships are available at these levels:

\$1,000 \$1,500 \$2,500 \$5,000

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

SPEARFISH | \$25 (up to age 17)

- Full-color issues of *Spearfish* or *Sailfish* magazine
- FREE member T-shirt*
- FREE release certificates
- Member cards & decals

SAILFISH | \$50

- Digitized *Billfish* magazine
- FREE membership T-shirt*
- FREE release certificates
- Member card & decals

SWORDFISH | \$100†

All the benefits above plus:

- Print version *Billfish* magazine

WHITE MARLIN | \$150

All the benefits above plus:

- Sponsor cap

STRIPED MARLIN | \$250

All the benefits above plus:

- Signed & numbered print
- Sponsor accessory item
- Fathom Offshore lure

BLUE MARLIN | \$500

All the benefits above plus:

- 3 complimentary TBF memberships

CHAIRMAN'S CLUB | \$1,000

All the benefits above plus:

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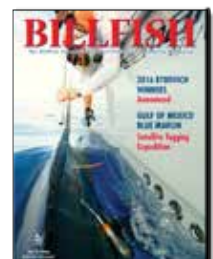
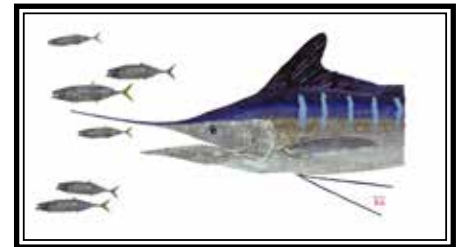
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2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE BEST OF THE BEST

*Support tournaments, sponsors
and events that support TBF.
If we want the thrill to continue,
it takes all of us who depend on
billfish in one way or another.*

APRIL

20-24

WHITE MARLIN ROUNDUP

Abaco, Bahamas
skipstournaments.com

27-30

THE SHOOTOUT - PRODUCTION VS.
CUSTOM

Abaco, Bahamas
skipstournaments.com

MAY

MAY 1-SEPTEMBER 30

MONGO OFFSHORE CHALLENGE

Gulf Coast and East Coast
mongooffshore.com

10-14

CUSTOM SHOOTOUT

Abaco, Bahamas
skipstournaments.com

17-22

ORANGE BEACH BILLFISH CLASSIC

Orange Beach, Alabama
orangebeachbillfishclassic.com
251-402-8190

23-29

MOBILE BIG GAME FISHING CLUB,
MEMORIAL DAY

Orange Beach, Alabama
mbgfc.org

26-29

WALKER'S CAY INVITATIONAL

Abaco, Bahamas
walkerscay.com/invitational

JUNE

MAY 31-JUNE 5

CAJUN CANYONS

Venice, Louisiana
comefishla.com

JUNE

2-5

LADIES FISH-OFF

Pompano Beach, Florida
ladiesfishoff.com

22-26

EMERALD COAST BILLFISH CLASSIC

Miramar Beach, Florida
fishecbc.com

JUNE 26-JULY 2

HATTERAS MARLIN CLUB BLUE MARLIN
RELEASE TOURNAMENT

Hatteras, North Carolina
hatterasmarlinclub.com

JUNE 29-JULY 3

PENSACOLA INTERNATIONAL

Pensacola, Florida
pbgfc.com

JULY

14-17

BILLFISH PACHANGA

Port Aransas, Texas
billfishpachanga.com

AUGUST

15-20

PIRATES COVE BILLFISH TOURNAMENT

Manteo, North Carolina
pcbgt.com

17-20

BEACH HAVEN WHITE MARLIN
INVITATIONAL

Beach Haven, New Jersey
whitemarlininvitational.com

21-26

THE MIDATLANTIC

Cape May, New Jersey &
Ocean City, Maryland
themidatlantic.com



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