**2014 Archived reports**

**September 2, 2014**
On a scale of 1-10, August gets an 8.  Bass fishing dropped a bit in the last part of the month, still good fishing but not lights out.  A smaller class of fish has moved in and can be found in the shallower water. Most of the cow bass have moved on - or are just depleted from the constant hammering they got since the first week of July.  What was witnessed this summer was staggering when compared to past years.  Upwards of 250 boats could be counted on the SW corner of the Island on any given weekend.  NY, CT, MA, and RI - four states beating the crap out of a broodstock bass population that could have renewed the resource for future years.  What's even more unsettling is that enforcement agencies were seen maybe once.  Tightened regulations will be a welcome change - I personally would like to see a 1 fish per person slot limit regulation go into effect.  As it is now,all but one of the Island charter boats have a self imposed 1 bass per person limit, some are using a slot limit already.  Something has got to change or we'll end up in the same predicament as we did in the 80's - making us stupid for not learning from past mistakes.
On a different note, seabass and fluke held strong with some monsters being caught in deeper water.  Big scup are being caught pretty much everywhere as well.  Shore fishing has been much better than last year with some 20lbers taken from the surf.  Needles and surface plugs have been the weapon of choice.  To get and up to date no nonsense shore report, stop in our shop on Ocean Ave - Hank and Mark will get you headed in the right direction.
Recent reports from offshore are as expected for this time of the season - night bite from the Tails to the Dip or go to the Hudson.  Crazy numbers are being pulled - 30+ bigeye on the night bite, 20+ YFT's up to 80lbs...  nuts.  If you go - expect a crowd.
Lastly, the long awaited arrival of our little speed demons has happened. Albies have made their appearance and we've had good numbers in and outside the harbor. Bonito showed up 2 weeks ago and made for the first Grand Slam of the season last Monday.  Old Harbor, New Harbor, Clayhead, the rip, and the Bell Buoy all have reports of these fish... so go look.  Metal and small sluggos did the trick for spin fishing, and larger sandeel patterns worked for fly guys.

**August 14, 2014**

The Cow Bass Parade has slowed down a bit on the South Side of the Island, meaning it's no longer a 'sure thing' in catching a 30+lber like it was a couple weeks ago - but it's still good fishing. Water temps are hovering below 70 degrees which is good for August, and the bait is still here. Seems to be when the tides running the hardest the bite is best.  The vast majority of the boats are fishing live eels, but we've found plenty of success on artificials.  The fact is, we've done better with soft plastics (Hurleys, Sluggo's, Hogy's) than with live bait!  BUT... the bluefish have been reeking havoc on the gear regardless of what you used.  These indiscriminate yellow eyed hellions are everywhere, and BIG.  We landed a 35" bluefish last week, enormous, as were most of them that day.  Speaking of bluefish, the inaugural Block Island Bluefish Derby ended the 9th with Blaize Hatfield winning the junior division with a 32.5" beast, and Caelan Kerin won the adult division with a 31.5"er.   Both walked away with a cool $250 in cash and a Penn rod and Reel donated by the Penn Fishing Team.

The J&B TriState Canyon Shootout was held last week and had 85 boats fishing for the biggest Tuna, Wahoo, Swordfish, and Mahi.  In the end, the Tami Ann took the prize for big eye tuna (278.5 pounds), the Blue Eyes for albacore (61.5 pounds) and the Tri-Fishecta (123.5), the Bella Donna for yellow fin tuna (86.5 pounds), the White Water for swordfish (146 pounds), the Jolly Mon for wahoo (64 pounds), and the Pension Plan for mahi(20 pounds).  Some of the local talent made a showing with the 2nd largest Albacore (Paul Caval and Chris Benin on Outer Limits)  and the 2nd largest Swordfish at 138 was caught by Devils Fiddle (Ross Nasin, Chris Willi, Karl Gann).  The biggest payout was for $301k this year to the Tami Ann.

**July 26, 2014**

The big bass haven't left, but are getting hammered by the large number of boats on the usual spots, but it is the end of July and should be expected.  Unfortunately most of the big girls aren't getting released...  limiting out on 40lbers and up still appears to be the norm on most of the boats we've seen.  Smaller fish, the under 20lbers are in tighter around the Island offering great fun on the fly or light tackle - and you don't have to contend with the crowds.  Seabass has definitely picked up with a good mixed of hubcab sized scup, which are delicious when fresh cooked!  Fluking still continues to be consistent with some 8lbers weighed in for the various tourneys going on.  Offshore has been very consistent on the small Bluefin tuna and sharks - and reports this week have white marlin in the mix.  Most of the marlin have been seen on bluefin grounds or by boats sharking.  Halfbeaks have also shown up around the Island - the last time this happened the whites were as close as 1 mile from shore.

**July 15th, 2014 - the big girls are here...**

It's taken a little while but the big fish have moved in around the Island over the past couple of weeks offering great angling from the shore and boat.  With the mountains of bait still here these fish should stay put for awhile.   Jackie and Luke (pictured on right) release there first Stripers, each over 42 inches while fishing with me last week.  13yr old Cole Perschino, all the way from GA,  caught 50.5lber fishing eels at 2:30 in the morning with Capt. Matt on the Hula Dog - largest bass weighed in thus far. His Uncle Rob released a fish bigger than Cole's on the same drift.  The big girls are here for sure.

Surf fishermen are catching  at virtually every hole around the Island.  From North Light, to Old Harbor Pt, to Southwest Pt., bass up to 30lbs have been taken.   Super Strike needlefish, Bombers, and eels are the preferred baits.  You will need to put in your time at night however, this is when the bite happens and usually around the tide.

Black Seabass season is now open and they are one of the best tasting fish from these waters.  Fishing for them is very easy and often requires no bait.  A simple diamond jig and teaser work fine but squid on a hi-lo rig is the most popular methodology.  Porgy, aka Scup, are also caught this way and are great to eat as well - the reef at North Light has held some big scup (aka 'hubcaps') in close to shore.  The Coast Guard Channel also has had scup and a decent amount of fluke this season.

There has been some decent fly-fishing, mostly at dawn , dusk, or night at Charleston Beach, Coast Guard Channel, and Mansion to Scotch Beach.  We've been really successful fly-fishing  from the boat using 4"sandeel colored flatwings.  But the 'bait n switch' method is the go to technique to get the tough fish to eat.

Offshore fishing is looking promising with Bluefin Tuna within 30miles of the Island.  The Canyons have yielded some smaller Yellowfin Tuna and sporadic reports of Bigeyes.  There's plenty of life out there - each trip we've taken has seen porpoise, whales, and the occasional turtle or shark - and loads of bait.

-  Capt. Chris Willi

**July 2, 2014**

The inshore scene has turned the corner with consistency and quality.   June started slow but ended strong with good bass and bluefish action, but not in the usual haunts.  Find the bait and you'll find the fish  - and there has been lots of bait, mostly 3" sandeels.  Most success has been with 4.5" sluggo's or similar soft plastics.  Diamond jigs in the really deep water worked as well.   Fluking has continued to be good on the SW corner  and South side in the 50-70ft depths.  The couple of mid offshore runs made in the past couple weeks yielded small Bluefin action from 30-90lbs.  Tons of bait and life out there - each trip saw many pods of porpoise and whales, and that often means tuna in the area.  Surf casters are reporting fish being caught all around the Island - with no particular hot spot - there's a good bite night to night but in no one area.

Fish of the week goes to Nathaniel Shaw who caught his first Striper ever on June 25th fishig with Capt. Chris.  It weighed in at 47lbs.

**JUNE 21st 2014**

This has been one of the slowest starts to a season in well over 20 years!  It's now the 21st day of June and we are just starting to see the "start" of the season.  Bass have moved through and we have had good days on the water but it's not the typical June bite.  There has been plenty of sandeels and squid since the end of May - so where have the bounty of bass been?  Some theorize they are stalled south of use (NJ and NY) feeding on the bunker that are still down there.  Some say it's due to the harsh winter we had, causing a sluggish start.  Ironically there are several smashing fishing reports from areas North of us, but talking with anglers from the areas, which visit Block Island for the earlier fishing, say it's not the case.  Fluking on the other hand has been really good around Block Island.  Seabass opens June 29th and it looks like it will be good fishing when it does.  I got a run in with some buddies to look for some Bluefin and fortunately found some life.  We hooked and landed a decent 90lber for the first one of the season.  If you want a shot at these fish in the coming weeks contact me as soon as possible as space is limited and filling up!