

FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

February 2019

Educating, Restoring, Conserving through Fly Fishing

FCFF Meeting 7PM February 4, 2019
at Black Creek Outfitters

Fly Fishing the Florida Keys

Presented by
Trevor Luce

As a fourth-generation Florida native, Trevor Luce spent his youth fishing the waters of Daytona Beach's Intercoastal and Mosquito Lagoon. He began fly fishing as a young boy and quickly worked his way to chasing tarpon, permit and bonefish in the Florida Keys. As co-owner and longtime guide for the Bahia Honda Sporting Club, Luce is a trusted expert at the world's only exclusive fly fishing tarpon lodge, now in its 19th season chasing the elusive silver king. Recently, he has guided several major fly fishing tournaments -- winning second place in the famed March Merkin Permit tournament and snagging the two largest fish in the competition. Over his lifetime of fishing, Luce has become known for having a passion for nature and a love for the indescribable thrill that comes with hooking the most magnificent salt water fish in the world.



Join us the day after the Super Bowl at Black Creek Outfitters as we welcome Trevor Luce to the Club. He will be discussing tips and techniques for fishing the Florida Keys. If your plans for 2019 include heading to the Keys, you won't want to miss this program.

If you haven't done so already, it is time to renew your membership to the First Coast Fly Fishers. We have a great year planned and want you to be a part of it. Renew now!.

Save the date - the First Coast Fly Fishers Rendezvous at Deep Creek will be held on Saturday March 2nd. Headlining the program will be Master Casting Instructor, and all-around nice guy, Dusty Sprague. It will be a day full of fly casting, tying and fellowship you won't want to miss.

On the Cover:

Gavin Glover casts to a redfish in the marsh
Photograph by Mike Pedigo

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Part II: How to Buy Your First Fly Rod

By Mike Hodge, TFO Blog



This month we continue with TFO's multi-part introduction to fly fishing by Mike Hodge. If you are new to fly fishing, stick with us over the next few months for some great insight by Mike and the TFO staff. - Editor

So you want to learn to fly fish? First things first. You will need a fly rod.

Don't be intimidated. There are a lot of rods out there to choose from — saltwater, freshwater, two-hand and single hand, all in different heights and sizes. Where to start?

Welcome to Part II of our learning-to-fly-fish series. Part I was the overview. Now it's time to start assembling your equipment — and that starts with purchasing your first rod. Here are a handful of things to consider:

What do you want to fish for?

Are you interested in freshwater or salt? Big rivers or small streams? Bass or trout? Redfish or tarpon? Where you fish and what you fish for dictates the type of rod you'll need. Although some fly rods are more versatile than others, there is no all-purpose, do-everything fly rod.

I, for instance, started with one fly rod; I ended up with more than a dozen after making the transition from trout to bass and freshwater to saltwater. However, the weekend trout/bass fisherman can get easily get by with one, maybe two rods.

What's your budget?

Fly fishing is not a cheap sport. Although TFO offers reasonably priced rods compared to other fly rod manufacturers, our single-hand rods start at \$89.95 (Bug Launcher series) and run as high as \$399.95 (Drift series) with lots of options in between those price points. If you buy a rod, reel and line separately, you're looking at investing two, three-hundred dollars, cheaper if you buy one of our NXT Kits, which includes a rod, reel and line.

Let your interest in fly fishing dictate your initial purchases. If you've taken a lesson or two and you're in love with fly fishing, buy the best single-hand rod you can afford. It will perform better and last longer.

If you're dabbling, it's best to take a wait-and-see approach. Buy a rod at a reasonable price point - the Axiom II (suggested retail: \$339.95-\$359.95) is a good op-



tion - and then decide how much you'll actually fish. That way, if you fish only a handful of times a year, you haven't invested a chunk of change in a rod that's collecting dust.

What do you like?

Fly rods are categorized by length and weight. Length is self-explanatory. A 9-footer is your standard freshwater rod. You can buy longer rods, but they're mainly for specialty types of fishing.

Rod weights are assigned to define the types of flies you can throw. The lighter the rod, the lower the number, the smaller fly you can cast and vice versa. For instance, if you were fishing for tarpon, you would want a 10 or 11-weight rod, which is sturdy enough to propel a fly the size of your hand 60 or 70 feet. For the record, the standard trout fly rod is a 5-weight.

Armed with the basics of this terminology and an idea of what you want to fish for, it's best to go to your local fly shop and try out several different rods. What feels good to you?

Some fly rods are stiff, some are soft. Each angler usually has a preference and that's largely defined by how they cast. It's a decision each newcomer has to make. I recommend a slighter softer rod, which should help you feel the butt of the rod bend, very important as you learn to cast.

Are you prepared for the unexpected?

My first fly rod was handmade, gorgeous and casted like a dream. Unfortunately, it was made by local rod maker. The one drawback? It had no warranty.

You may not think you'll break a rod, but chances are you will. I've broken three in a 30 years. The latest was a TFO Professional Series. It was my fault. I left it unattended in the back of my SUV and my dog's crate rolled over on it. We all have our moments of carelessness that can cost us.

You will want a good warranty and trust me, even with the best intentions, you will use it. TFO's no-fault, lifetime warranty covers breakage for any reason. My TFO rod was fixed and back in my hands in about a week or so. That type of customer service is hard to beat.

Suggestions on buying your first fly rod? Stories about your first fly rod? Feel free let us know about these experiences on one of our social media pages.



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Worry less about electronics and spare clothes falling victim to weather or full submersion with the new Simms' new 41L Dry Creek® Roll Top. Ultra-rugged 420D waterproof face fabric and a large, transparent TPU window allows you to protect gear and see what you're after, while a padded vertical carry handle makes for convenient transport. Additional details include a D-ring lash point located on the roll-top closure and a Hypalon strap for securing rod tubes to the bag, or lashing the bag to boat.

Features

- Waterproof TPU window to see through to your gear
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THE PASSING OF CHARLIE SMITH

In the late 1960s, the Bahamian and Canadian Prime Ministers visited Charlie. They wanted him to take them bonefishing. So he tied up a fly just for the occasion.

In April 2015, Charlie recalled the story his eponymous fly to *Financial Times* reporter John O'Connor. "I remembered that once when I was growing up, my father took a feather from a wild duck he'd shot and tied it on a hook and gave it to me. I went down to the beach and right away I caught a bonefish with it. In the water the fly looked like a minnow, so I realised that bonefish must like minnows. Using a chicken feather as the body and some beads from a military ID tag as the eyes, I tied a fly that looked exactly like a minnow. The next day, the two prime ministers got their bonefish — and I had invented the famous "Crazy Charlie" bonefish fly, which revolutionized the sport of saltwater fly-fishing."

Unquestionably, it is the fly that put Bahamian bonefishing on the map.

"I guided two men from a fly-fishing company in California. They took my fly back to the US and a version was made of it. I originally called it the "Nasty Charlie" but they changed the name. Today there are hundreds of variations of the "Crazy Charlie". The fly has made millions of dollars for the fishing industry but I've never received any compensation."

"I'm not bitter about it. I've had a blessed life...I'm the father of 15 sons and nine daughters. That's what happens when all you do is fish, cook and play music. Now, with my bad eyes, I'm no longer guiding but I'm working on more killer bonefish flies.

Born in 1936 in Grand Cay, Abaco, Charlie grew up in a time when people on the island "only fished or farmed." His father was one of the first people to introduce fly fishing to the Bahamas. He reportedly guided the likes of Joseph Kennedy and Ernest Hemingway. After a stint of odd jobs, Charlie followed in his father's footsteps and became a full-time guide in 1960. In 1968 he opened Charlies Haven on Andros Island. His clients included Ted Williams, Jack Nicklaus and countless others, who all wanted to fish with the man who invented the famous bonefish fly.

Charlie passed away on December 30, 2018 at the age of 82.



An Original Nasty Charlie

THE FLY HAS MADE
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS
FOR THE FISHING
INDUSTRY BUT I'VE NEVER
RECEIVED ANY
COMPENSATION



The Oyster Mullet- a Fish Catching Fly that's Easy to Tie

by Kevin Cohenour

As my good friend David Lambert and I fished one day in the surf north of Jacksonville, he remarked he had an idea for a fly to imitate the millions of mullet that we saw mulling around. Later, David sat at his vise and after a few changes to his original concept, the "Oyster Mullet" was born.

A casting instructor for the Orvis Company and an advanced casting instructor for the Florida college system, David also is an accomplished fly tier whose patterns are featured in national publications and who has demonstrated his talents at national tying events. His innovative "Oyster Mullet" has taken countless redfish, blues, spanish mackerel, snook, northern pike, and it accounted for the only black drum caught on a recent foray into the NMZ in the Banana River. Farrow Allen featured the pattern in a recent issue of Flyfish America.

We have found the Oyster Mullet effective in sizes 4 to 3/0. Tied on a stainless standard length saltwater hook, it is easily lends itself to tying on a circle hook.

Using 'Bondini' CA glue instead of epoxy shortens the tying time. It is an excellent, low cost glue that is waterproof, sticks to everything (including you if you're not careful!), and comes in both regular liquid and gel types. It is available in the hardware departments of Wal-Mart and K-Mart.

An attractive fly, the Oyster Mullet pattern is fairly easy to tie, lots of fun to make, and best of all, catches fish. Tying directions follow:

Lambert's Oyster Mullet

Hook: Mustad 34007, size 1 or 2 (also on a 1/0 to 3/0 circle hook)

Thread: White 3/0, red 3/0 for the nose

Tail: White bucktail, pearl flashabou, grizzly and white hackles, splayed

Weight: 0.030 lead wire



Underbody: White yarn

Body: Grizzly and white "Orvis Magnum Zonker" strips, regular super glue

Flash: Holographic tinsel

Eyes: Animal eyes, "gel" super glue

1. Secure hook in vise; attach thread and wind to the bend. Wrap 8-10 turns of lead from mid-shank to about 3/16" back from the hook eye. Cover lead with thread wraps and wind thread to the bend. Attach a matchstick sized clump of bucktail at the bend, 1 1/2 to 2 shank lengths. Add 8-10 strands of pearl flashabou on top and same length as the bucktail.
2. Attach 4 grizzly saddle hackles (2 on each side splayed apart) on top the bucktail. Attach 4 white saddle hackles (2 on each side of the grizzly, also splayed out). Attach yarn at bend. For a fatter profile use the whole diameter yarn, for a thinner profile, separate strands and use a single strand. Run thread to about 3/16" back from eye.
3. Cut a grizzly and a white "magnum zonker



strip” (standard zonker strips are too narrow) to the same length as the hook shank. Be careful to cut only the “leather” and not the fur. You can also cut your own zonker from a rabbit skin. Turn skin fur side down, and cut with a razor blade. Be careful to cut in the same direction as the “grain” of the fur. Strips need to be about 5/16" wide for single strand body, to 3/8" wide for a fatter body. Cut an angle on the “front” (the fur should be flowing to the rear) to make a tie in tab. Position the grizzly strip on top so the leather tab ends just behind the hook eye. Wrap securely over the tab. Attach the white strip on the bottom. Whip and cut thread.

4. Add a drop of super glue to top of yarn underbody and to leather underside of grizzly strip. Carefully depress grizzly strip onto body and hold until se-

cure. Repeat for the white strip. Attach red thread at eye and run 2 strands of holo-graphic tinsel down each side of the body (down the lateral line formed by the 2-zonker strips junction). Wind a cone shaped red “nose.”

5. Cut posts from a pair of animal eyes. Use a drop of gel super glue and attach eye slightly behind “red nose.” Ensure it traps the tinsel and secures it in place down the lateral line. Repeat for opposite side.

Lambert’s Oyster Mullet Fly received the Presidential Seal of Approval. Former President Georg Bush took a couple Mullet flies with him on a fishing trip to South Africa. See Page 7.

What Modern Fish Act Means for Anglers

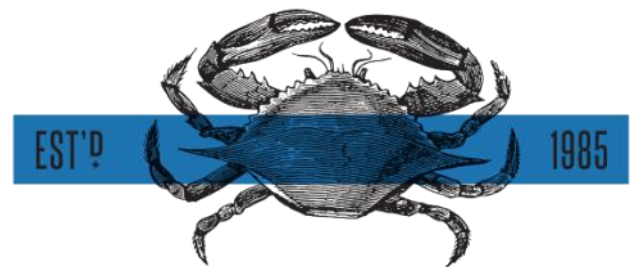
The Modern Fish Act, introduced by Senator Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) and Congressman Garret Graves (R-La.), will finally recognize in federal law the differences between recreational and commercial fishing and put federal fisheries management on a commonsense path to improving the way our fisheries are managed.

What does this mean for anglers?

- America’s 11 million saltwater anglers have been penalized for decades by outdated rules meant for commercial fishing. The Modern Fish Act will allow federal fisheries managers to implement management techniques better suited to the nature of recreational fishing. These management tools are already very successful in managing recreational fisheries at the state level.
- By encouraging the inclusion of state-driven data collection programs and electronic reporting, the Modern Fish Act aims to improve the accuracy and timeliness of anglers’ harvest estimates, and ultimately better align fishing regulations with what anglers are actually catching.
- The Modern Fish Act requires the National Academies of Sciences and the U.S. Government Accountability Office to conduct in-depth studies in areas that affect public access to America’s public fisheries resources, specifically the allocation re-

view process in mixed-use fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic and the effects of Limited Access Privilege Programs outside of the Pacific and North Pacific regions. These reports, which will be issued to policymakers over the next two years, will help inform future decisions on fisheries management.

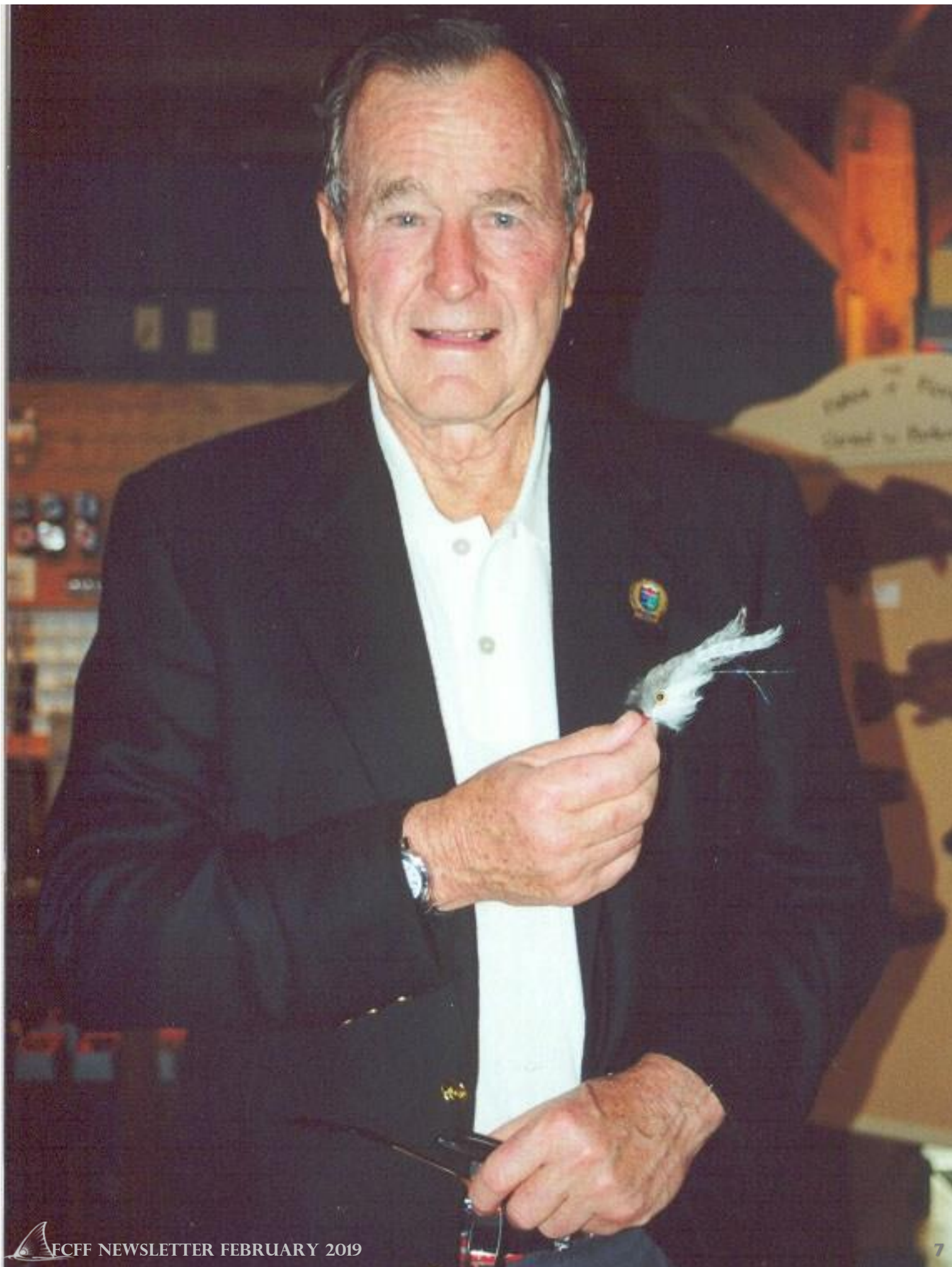
Passage of this landmark legislation was made possible by the industry’s broad base of bipartisan support on Capitol Hill and the hundreds of thousands of advocates across the nation who made their voices heard over the past two years. The recreational fishing and boating community appreciates the commitment of the 115th Congress to improve the nation’s fisheries management system, and we look forward to continuing this work with congressional leaders who understand the conservation, economic and social benefits of recreational fishing to the nation.



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Last month the Club held a tying night in anticipation of the upcoming shad outing. Gavin Glover showed everyone how to tie variations of the Shad Dart. The Shad Dart is a easy fly to tie and perfect for beginners.



Distribution and Relative Abundance of Spawning American Shad (*Alosa sapidissima*) in the St. Johns River, Florida

Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission

The American shad (*Alosa sapidissima*) is a member of the herring family. American shad ascend rivers from the ocean in order to spawn. Juveniles spend their first growing season in the river of their birth and then swim to the ocean in the fall to grow and mature. They remain in the ocean for two to six years before they mature and return to spawn in the river in which they originally hatched.

American shad range along the Atlantic coast, from Florida to Canada. The St. Johns River harbors the southern-most spawning population. Shad that spawn in rivers south of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina die after spawning. However, those spawning in rivers north of Cape Hatteras often survive to spawn in subsequent years. Populations from all rivers mix in the ocean and migrate between the coastal Atlantic and adjacent bays of Canada in the summer and the Atlantic off the southeast coast of the U.S. in the winter. As the offshore stock reaches the southern end of its migration, it enters the St. Johns River beginning in December. Spawning activity peaks in February and March in the St. Johns River between Deland and Cocoa.

Historically, shad had been an important food source in North America since the colonial era. Shad have been important to recreational anglers in the modern era; however, recreational angling peaked in the St. Johns River during the 1950s and 1960s. Atlantic coast commercial landings peaked at the turn of the twentieth century but have declined dramatically along with most of the shad's range. Obstruction of spawning runs, pollution, and high harvest rates have all taken a toll on abundance, prompting the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) to mandate protective measures that include a directive to monitor existing populations and rebuild stocks where necessary.

Commercial landings in the St. Johns River also peaked in the early 1900s and declined significantly throughout the century. Recreational effort and landings have also decreased markedly in recent years. The net ban in 1995 eliminated most of what remained of Florida's commercial American shad fishery. Later in 2005, a commercial fishery off the coast of the mid-



Atlantic states was terminated, so directed fisheries, other than a small in-river recreational fishery, should no longer be impacting the stock.

There is hope that as commercial harvest is eliminated, the stock will rebuild and this will be reflected in improved recreational catch rates and renewed recreational interest in the species. So far, the resurgence in the recreational fishery has not been observed. Angler catch rates have fluctuated annually with no apparent trend, and the number of recreational anglers continues to decline as of the last angler survey in 2005. Are there too few fish making the run to interest anglers? Will increased angling be detrimental to the recovery of American shad on the St. Johns River? This study should provide information to help answer these questions.

Since 2002, researchers have sampled American shad at three sites on the St. Johns River to monitor the abundance and distribution of spawning individuals. Scientists from the DeLeon Springs Freshwater Fisheries Field Lab collect adult shad by electrofishing every other week from January to May of each year. Shad are counted, sexed (or have the sex of the fish recorded), measured, and released. Samples are collected between Lake Monroe and Iron Bend including an area known as "Shad Alley." This area is generally considered the heart of the shad spawning grounds, and most of the recreational fishing effort for this species has historically occurred there.



Two additional sites upstream of "Shad Alley" in the vicinity of Puzzle Lake and State Road 50 are also sampled. No trend in average electrofishing catch rate has been observed over the six years of monitoring. Low water conditions of 2006 and 2007 reduced available spawning habitat to small sections of the river upstream of Lake Harney. Dense concentrations of spawning shad were found in these locations, but the overall survey catch rates did not increase because shad were scarcer in other locations than in years with higher flows. These findings indicate that the population has remained unchanged, neither increasing nor declining. Without substantial fishing pressure, there may be other factors hindering the population from rebounding as expected. An annual survey of abundance of juvenile American shad was initiated in 2006 to monitor the success of spawning from year to year and determine whether poor recruitment is slowing the recovery of the stock.



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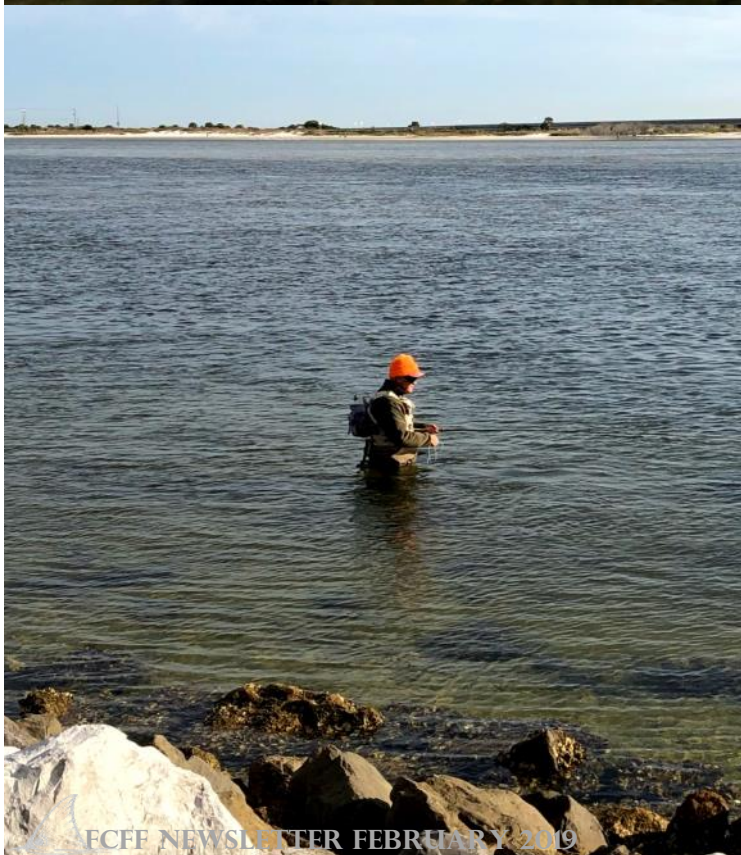
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JANUARY OUTING AT RATTLESNAKE ISLAND





SWEETWATER BREWING ASSISTS IN BTT JUVENILE TARPON TAGGING

Before the holidays, BTT Juvenile Tarpon Habitat Program Manager JoEllen Wilson and Director of Development Mark Rehbein were accompanied by SweetWater Brewing Company's Jake Basnett and BTT member Mark Spurgeon on a juvenile tarpon tagging trip. An arduous day of seine netting in southwest Florida yielded a batch of tarpon 12 inches or less that made for viable Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tagging candidates. After four productive years, this tagging effort marked the completion of BTT's tarpon nursery habitat restoration project at Coral Creek Preserve.

An abandoned residential development with saltwater

access, Coral Creek Preserve houses 6 adjacent canals connected by a main canal with an inlet to the west branch of Coral Creek. The original restoration plan was to fill in the canals and return them to their natural pine flatwood topography. But after realizing that juvenile tarpon inhabited one of the canals, the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) decided to change tact and hand creative license of the restoration design over to BTT. SWFWMD's decision to entrust an outside source was unprecedented. With habitat in Florida already drastically reduced, informed restoration of degraded habitat provides the best opportunity to increase the amount of juvenile tarpon nursery grounds available.

The six canals will serve as monitoring locations for testing various tarpon nursery habitat designs. Over the next 12-18 months, BTT will be using PIT tags and antenna arrays provided by sponsors like SweetWater Brewing to gather data on growth rates and survival rates, and to track tarpon movement throughout the various treatment groups as juveniles emigrate out of the





"There will be days when the fishing is better than one's most optimistic forecast, others when it is far worse. Either is a gain over just staying home ."

Roderick L. Haig-Brown
Writer, Conservationist

Florida: Marine Fisheries Items to be Reviewed at Feb. 20-21 Meeting

The FWC Commission will listen to public testimony on and discuss several marine fisheries management items at the Feb. 20-21 meeting in Gainesville.

Final public hearings (a final decision is anticipated to be made on these topics):

- *Gulf Red Snapper* (in the Gulf Council update presentation): A proposal to set the 2019 Gulf red snapper season to open June 11 - July 12, with a possible reopening on fall weekends if quota is available.
- *Shore-Based Shark Fishing*: A proposal to increase survival of released sharks, improve information gathering about the fishery and address some of the public safety concerns related to the fishery. Proposed changes include:

- * Creating a mandatory, no-cost, annual shore-based shark fishing permit (NEW: this requirement would apply for all shore-based shark fishers age 16 and older, including those 65 and older who are normally exempt from needing a fishing license)
- * Creating an annual educational requirement related to best practices for permitted participants in the shore-based shark fishery
- * Prohibiting chumming when fishing from beaches
- * Requiring immediate release of prohibited shark species caught from shore
- * Requiring prohibited species remain in the water (when fishing from shore and from a vessel) as much as practical without putting shore-based anglers in danger
- * Requiring the use of non-offset, non-stainless-steel circle hooks when using live or dead natural bait (when fishing from shore and from a vessel)
- * Requiring the possession/use of a device capable of quickly cutting the leader or hook (when fishing from shore and from a vessel)
- * Clean up and update of current rule language

- *Marine Life harvest at Blue Heron Bridge dive site*:

A proposal that would conserve this unique and valuable snorkeling and diving area by prohibiting all collection of tropical aquarium species (Marine Life fishery) at the Blue Heron Bridge dive site in Palm Beach County.

- *Mullet rule cleanup* (on the consent agenda): Effort to clarify, streamline and standardize mullet rule language.
- *King mackerel* (on the consent agenda): Federal consistency action that would maintain consistent king mackerel commercial vessel limits in Atlantic state and federal waters following pending changes to federal commercial vessel limits.

Draft regulation changes (these items will be brought back to a future meeting for final decision):

- *Bay scallops*: Staff will present a draft proposal to create a long-term season structure for the majority of the open scallop harvest area beginning in 2020 and will present recommendations for the 2019-only season in Gulf County and the 2020-only season in Pasco County.

Discussions (no regulation changes are anticipated to be made on these items):

- *Federal fishery management updates*: The Commission will discuss the outcomes of recent meetings of the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico fishery management councils.

Note: the spotted seatrout draft rules previously planned for the February 20-21 Commission meeting have been delayed to another Commission meeting in the near future.

You can review the entire meeting agenda by going to the following link: <https://myfwc.com/about/commission/commission-meetings/february-2019/>



**Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission**



Florida Redfish Releases to Begin in February

Orlando, FL— [Coastal Conservation Association Florida \(CCA Florida\)](#), [Duke Energy](#) and [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission \(FWC\)](#) have historically partnered on initiatives to enhance Florida's fisheries, and the organizations are again joining forces to address the loss to the redfish population on the southwest coast as a result of red tide. The nonprofit CCA Florida, Duke Energy and FWC will be releasing over 10,000 Duke Energy hatchery-reared redfish following the Florida red tide bloom and when waters are determined to be safe, thanks to a donation from the Duke Energy Mariculture Center.

"We're all aware of the devastation the red tide has caused our fisheries and we're thrilled to partner with Duke Energy for this amazing redfish stock enhancement initiative," said Brian Gorski, CCA Florida Executive Director. "We've asked our members and anglers throughout the state to catch-and-release, but there's more that needs to be done, and this partnership - as with our ongoing relationship with Duke - will help to repopulate a fishery that's iconic to our state."

The initiative will take place when the waters are determined to be clear of red tide and will include the release of 200 tagged adult (25"-30") redfish and 10,000 juvenile (4"-6") redfish into the waters of Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties.

"Duke Energy is committed to environmental stewardship," said Eric Latimer, Duke Energy Florida Mariculture Center Manager. "Fish mortalities associated with the current red tide bloom in southwest Florida have broad impacts, both to our state's interconnected biological systems and to the people that make a living from and enjoy our natural resources. We are proud to play a small part in the solution by restocking fish that will contribute to the overall restoration of the affected areas."

"We appreciate the valuable support from CCA Florida and Duke Energy in helping enhance our world class redfish fishery," said Eric Sutton, FWC Executive Director. "This team effort will benefit conservation, outdoor recreation and the state's economy in many ways." In addition to the stocking enhancement initiative, CCA Florida and FWC are encouraging anglers to help all

inshore populations by releasing their catch. This summer, CCA Florida launched the "Release Them For Tomorrow" campaign as a way to support several species' growth through catch and release. "It's going to take everyone doing their part to get our fisheries back to health," stated Gorski. Anglers are encouraged to share the message by tagging their social media photos, comments and messages with the hashtag #ReleaseThemForTomorrow to show their support. Anglers can become engaged by joining CCA Florida at [JoinCCA.org](#). For more information, visit the [Facebook page](#) or [ccaflorida.org](#).



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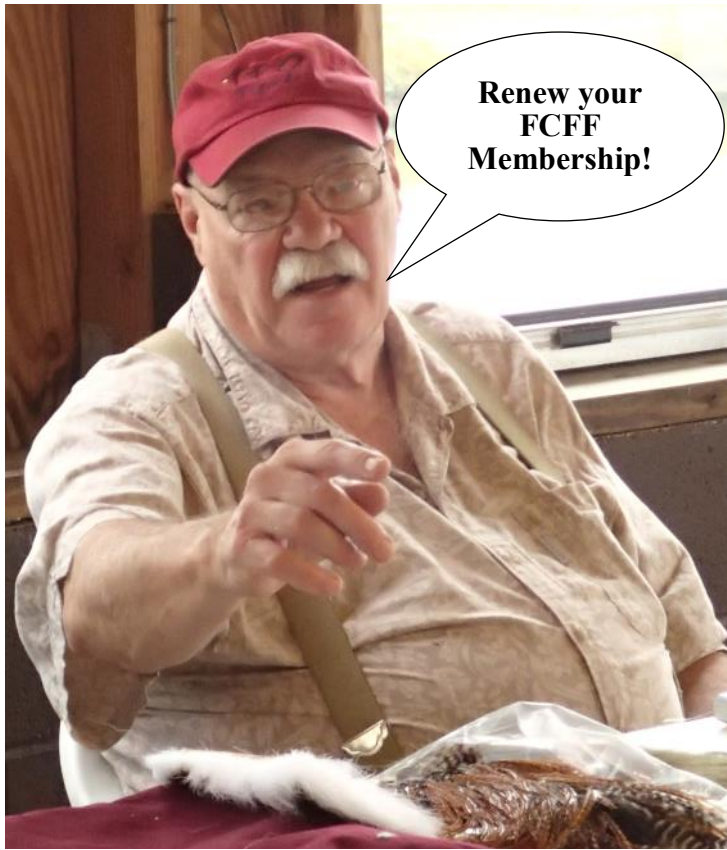


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WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?



The new you is upon us. And along with breaking all of your New Year's Resolutions (except for the one to fish more), it is time to renew your membership to the First Coast Fly Fishers. Your membership dollars are what allow us to continue to bring great fly fishing programs to Northeast Florida.

Maybe you are one of those folks who has been lurking in the wings, reading bootleg copies of the newsletter, and never "officially" joined the Club. Now is the time to get in the game. Give us your money and we will teach you how to fly fish. In fact, we will even teach your wife (or husband) how to fly fish so you do not have to. Trust us, the Club is cheaper than a divorce lawyer.

All kidding aside, the First Coast Fly Fishers is the best value in fly fishing. For just \$100 a year, you and your whole *fam damily* will be privy to free casing lessons, monthly outings, and great fly fishing programs each month. In addition, you can attend the First Cost Fly Fishers Rendevous at Deep Creek scheduled for the first weekend in March.

What are your waiting for? Sign up today!



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Blood Type: _____ Allergies? _____

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Who or what influenced you most to take up fly fishing and/or join FCFF? _____

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Payment Type

☐ Check - Check No. _____

☐ Cash

First Coast Fly Fishers
Membership Chariman
PO Box 16260
Jacksonville, FL 32245-6260

Fly Fishing Experience

Overall Fly Fishing Background

Please rate your overall fly fishing experience by checking the appropriate boxes

☐ Freshwater ☐ Saltwater ☐ Both Fresh/Saltwater
☐ Beginner ☐ Moderate ☐ Advanced

Casting Proficiency

Please rate your casting proficiency

☐ Beginner - Little or no experience, or would like to learn the basics of fly casting
☐ Intermediate - Know the basic principals and would like to improve accuracy and/or distance
☐ Advance - Able to accurately cast an 8-wight line 60-feet with relative ease.
☐ Instructor - Professional fly casting instructor and/or guide.

Fly Tying

Fly tying is not a critical element of fly fishing; but, it is fun and rewarding. Rate your fly tying experience

☐ Non-tyer ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Advanced or Professional Tyer

Boat

Please provide information regarding whether or not you own a boat, kayak or canoe

- ☐ Boat Owner
Make _____ Type/Size _____
- ☐ I do not own a boat

Club Participation

FFCF is a not for profit club. Its success relies solely on its members who serve on the board; plan outings/events; and conducting special activities. Please indicate any areas of interest you are willing to provide assistance. Please be assured we are happy to have you as a member regardless of your level of participation.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Instruction | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying Instruction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation/Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Take a new member fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Registration Table |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Casting Instruction | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Outings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling Ads | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeting Guests | |

Suggestions

We are always open to suggests on how to improve our club. Your suggestions are always welcomed.

What suggests do you have for programs and monthly meetings (Topics and Speakers)?

What suggests do you have for club outings (where to go, what to fish for)?

If you are a renewing member, what could be done differently to better satisfy your fly fishing interests?

Application and Release (You must sign this release in order to become a member)

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for membership or renewal in the First Coast Flyfishers (FCFF) Club of Jacksonville, Florida, Inc. I understand the inherent risk in participating in the activities of FCFF, including fishing trips of one day or longer. I further understand that I am solely responsible for all costs of medical treatment and transportation.

I, release, indemnify, and hold harmless, FCFF, its officers, directors and members against any and all claims for personal injury, disease, death and property damage or loss that may arise out of, or be connected in any way with, any FCFF activity. I assume the risk of undertaking all FCFF activities, including related to travel.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If this is a youth membership, a parent or guardian must sign. If you are signing for a youth member:

Print your full name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alternative Phone: _____

RENDEZVOUS AT DEEP CREEK

FEATURING

DUSTY SPRAGUE

Come rendezvous with the First Coast Fly Fishers on Saturday, March 2, 2019, for a day of fly-fishing education featuring **Dusty Sprague, MCI**, capped by a spectacular mid-afternoon meal, giveaways, silent auction and raffle at Deep Creek Fish Camp on Deep Creek, north of St. Augustine.

PROGRAM

Leading the education day is Master Casting Instructor Dusty Sprague. We'll learn distance casts, short casts, roll casts and more, but also, where to use these casts, how to look for and find fish. The program will also include sessions on rigging and fly tying. Dusty was instrumental in establishing the International Federation of Fly Fishers' Certified Casting Instructor program. He is known world-wide for his depth of knowledge and his 'every-man' approach to casting instruction. Dusty has played a pivotal role in sculpting many of the world's finest casting instructors.

VENUE

Deep Creek Fish Camp is a little bit of old Florida nestled on several acres of salt marsh just west of Pine Island and within sight of the Intracoastal. The facility and grounds are designed by gold course design great Bobby Weed and his wife, Leslie. It has a large enclosed log building with big kitchens and dining both inside and out. Outside there's plenty of room for casting and smaller clinics. Helping Dusty with the instruction will be David Lambert, Dick Michaelson and Gavin Glover – so there will be plenty of instructors for everyone.

Come hungry. We'll have coffee and donuts on site at 9 a.m. We'll do some casting and learning until 2 p.m. The catered meal, giveaways, raffles and silent auction begins at 2:30. This year we've got rods, reels, lines and much more useful stuff for the fly fisher. The day will wrap up around 4:30 in the afternoon.

Tickets \$25 per person. Children 18 and under \$10.

WHAT TO BRING

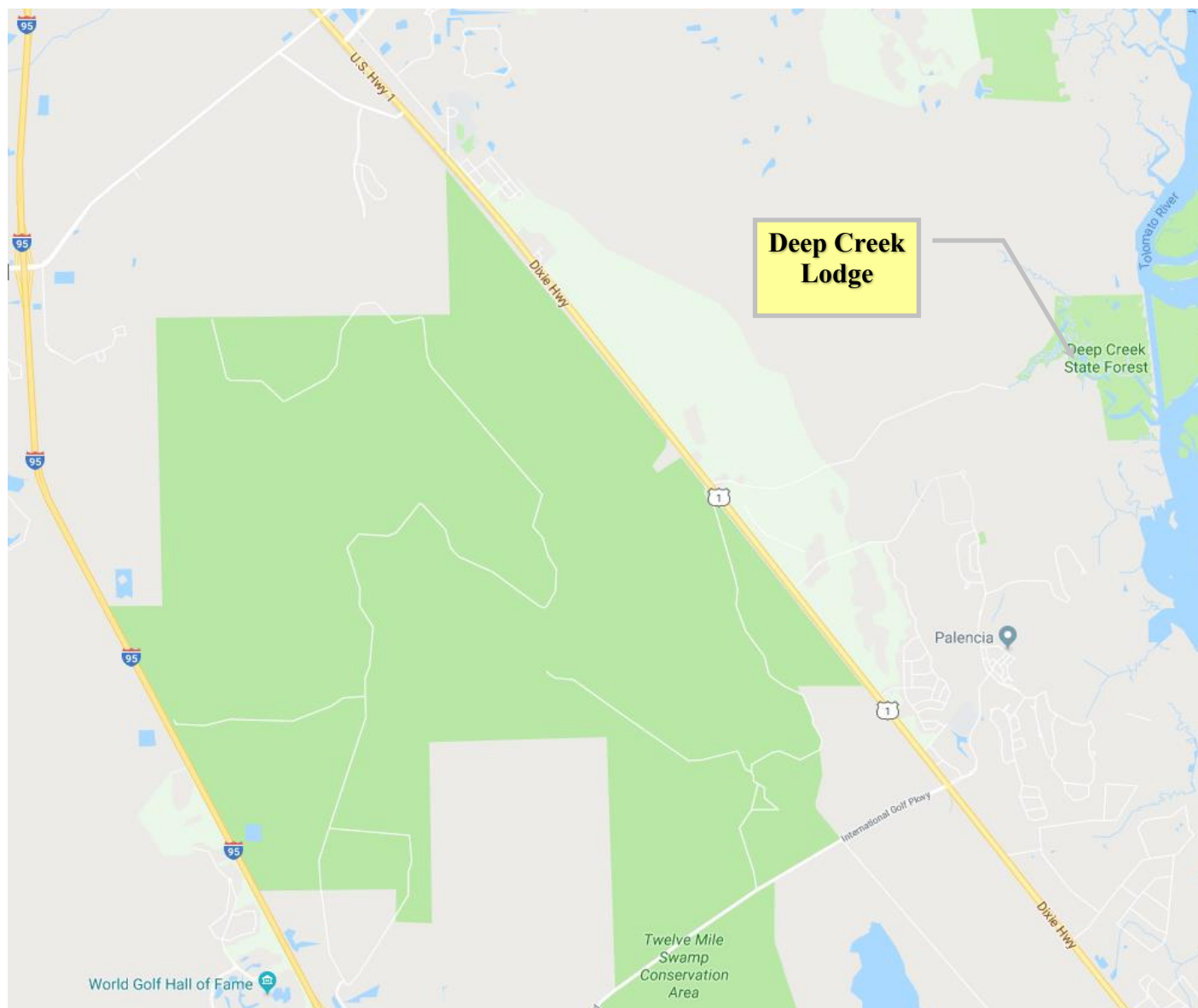
Come prepared to spend the majority of the day outside. Dress appropriately.

Bring a rigged fly rod, which you will use for the casting instruction and competition. Be sure that your fly rod is rigged with a full-length leader.

Bring lawn chairs for everyone of your family members that plan to attend the event.

DIRECTIONS

Deep Creek Lodge is a throw-back to Old Florida. It is a former fishing and hunting lodge located on Tolomato River, west of Pine Island. The lodge is located at the end of Pine Island Road, approximately 2-1/2 miles west of US 1. From US 1 turn east on Pine Island Road . Pine Island Road is approximately 4-1/4 miles south of CR 210 and 2-1/2 miles north of International Golf Parkway.



FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

RENDEZVOUS AT DEEP CREEK

FEATURING

DUSTY SPRAGUE

9 AM TO 4:30 PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND 2019

The rendezvous will include lunch catered by The Spot Cafe of St. Augustine.

There will be several thousand dollars in raffle and silent auction items.

FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FORM AND MAIL IT ALONG WITH
YOUR PAYMENT TO:
FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS BANQUET
PO BOX 16260
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32245-6260



MEMBER NAME: _____

TELEPHONE # _____

Quantity		Amount
	Member Banquet Ticket \$25 (under 18 \$10)	\$
	Non-Member Banquet Ticket \$125 (Includes \$100 annual membership)	\$
	Raffle Tickets- \$5 per ticket or 8 for \$30	\$
	Total Amount	\$

Payment Method

Cash _____ Check _____ Check # _____

Credit Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

(There will be a \$3 service charge for all credit card payments)

FEBRUARY 2019 TIDES JACKSONVILLE (MAYPORT BAR PILOT DOCK)

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	DATE	TIME	HEIGHT
2/1/2019	Fri 6:25 AM	4.4 H	2/15/2019	Fri 4:52 PM	3.7 H	2/22/2019	Fri 4:10 AM	-1.09 L
2/1/2019	Fri 12:18 PM	-0.02 L	2/15/2019	Fri 10:39 PM	-0.48 L	2/22/2019	Fri 10:44 AM	5.13 H
2/1/2019	Fri 6:34 PM	3.69 H	2/16/2019	Sat 5:30 AM	4.68 H	2/22/2019	Fri 4:35 PM	-0.95 L
2/2/2019	Sat 12:19 AM	-0.18 L	2/16/2019	Sat 11:34 AM	-0.22 L	2/22/2019	Fri 11:13 PM	4.99 H
2/2/2019	Sat 7:10 AM	4.47 H	2/16/2019	Sat 5:55 PM	3.99 H	2/23/2019	Sat 5:05 AM	-0.77 L
2/2/2019	Sat 1:04 PM	-0.12 L	2/16/2019	Sat 11:40 PM	-0.76 L	2/23/2019	Sat 11:33 AM	4.8 H
2/2/2019	Sat 7:19 PM	3.78 H	2/17/2019	Sun 6:29 AM	5.01 H	2/23/2019	Sat 5:26 PM	-0.71 L
2/3/2019	Sun 1:03 AM	-0.25 L	2/17/2019	Sun 12:30 PM	-0.54 L	2/24/2019	Sun 12:05 AM	4.81 H
2/3/2019	Sun 7:51 AM	4.52 H	2/17/2019	Sun 6:53 PM	4.33 H	2/24/2019	Sun 6:04 AM	-0.41 L
2/3/2019	Sun 1:45 PM	-0.2 L	2/18/2019	Mon 12:39 AM	-1.05 L	2/24/2019	Sun 12:23 PM	4.42 H
2/3/2019	Sun 8:00 PM	3.85 H	2/18/2019	Mon 7:24 AM	5.28 H	2/24/2019	Sun 6:20 PM	-0.42 L
2/4/2019	Mon 1:44 AM	-0.3 L	2/18/2019	Mon 1:22 PM	-0.84 L	2/25/2019	Mon 1:01 AM	4.57 H
2/4/2019	Mon 8:29 AM	4.53 H	2/18/2019	Mon 7:47 PM	4.65 H	2/25/2019	Mon 7:05 AM	-0.1 L
2/4/2019	Mon 2:23 PM	-0.24 L	2/19/2019	Tue 1:33 AM	-1.27 L	2/25/2019	Mon 1:17 PM	4.05 H
2/4/2019	Mon 8:38 PM	3.91 H	2/19/2019	Tue 8:16 AM	5.45 H	2/25/2019	Mon 7:16 PM	-0.15 L
2/5/2019	Tue 2:21 AM	-0.32 L	2/19/2019	Tue 2:11 PM	-1.05 L	2/26/2019	Tue 2:00 AM	4.35 H
2/5/2019	Tue 9:05 AM	4.51 H	2/19/2019	Tue 8:40 PM	4.9 H	2/26/2019	Tue 8:07 AM	0.14 L
2/5/2019	Tue 2:58 PM	-0.25 L	2/20/2019	Wed 2:26 AM	-1.37 L	2/26/2019	Tue 2:16 PM	3.76 H
2/5/2019	Tue 9:14 PM	3.94 H	2/20/2019	Wed 9:06 AM	5.48 H	2/26/2019	Tue 8:15 PM	0.07 L
2/6/2019	Wed 2:56 AM	-0.28 L	2/20/2019	Wed 2:59 PM	-1.15 L	2/27/2019	Wed 3:04 AM	4.19 H
2/6/2019	Wed 9:40 AM	4.44 H	2/20/2019	Wed 9:31 PM	5.05 H	2/27/2019	Wed 9:07 AM	0.29 L
2/6/2019	Wed 3:31 PM	-0.22 L	2/21/2019	Thu 3:18 AM	-1.3 L	2/27/2019	Wed 3:19 PM	3.59 H
2/6/2019	Wed 9:50 PM	3.94 H	2/21/2019	Thu 9:55 AM	5.37 H	2/27/2019	Wed 9:13 PM	0.21 L
2/7/2019	Thu 3:30 AM	-0.2 L	2/21/2019	Thu 3:46 PM	-1.11 L	2/28/2019	Thu 4:08 AM	4.13 H
2/7/2019	Thu 10:13 AM	4.32 H	2/21/2019	Thu 10:22 PM	5.08 H	2/28/2019	Thu 10:05 AM	0.35 L
2/7/2019	Thu 4:03 PM	-0.16 L						
2/7/2019	Thu 10:25 PM	3.93 H						
2/8/2019	Fri 4:04 AM	-0.09 L						
2/8/2019	Fri 10:47 AM	4.18 H						
2/8/2019	Fri 4:34 PM	-0.11 L						
2/8/2019	Fri 11:01 PM	3.91 H						
2/9/2019	Sat 4:41 AM	0.05 L						
2/9/2019	Sat 11:21 AM	4.01 H						
2/9/2019	Sat 5:09 PM	-0.06 L						
2/9/2019	Sat 11:39 PM	3.9 H						
2/10/2019	Sun 5:24 AM	0.19 L						
2/10/2019	Sun 11:58 AM	3.84 H						
2/10/2019	Sun 5:50 PM	-0.03 L						
2/11/2019	Mon 12:21 AM	3.9 H						
2/11/2019	Mon 6:16 AM	0.31 L						
2/11/2019	Mon 12:41 PM	3.68 H						
2/11/2019	Mon 6:37 PM	-0.02 L						
2/12/2019	Tue 1:10 AM	3.93 H						
2/12/2019	Tue 7:16 AM	0.39 L						
2/12/2019	Tue 1:31 PM	3.54 H						
2/12/2019	Tue 7:31 PM	-0.04 L						
2/13/2019	Wed 2:07 AM	3.99 H						
2/13/2019	Wed 8:22 AM	0.38 L						
2/13/2019	Wed 2:33 PM	3.47 H						
2/13/2019	Wed 8:31 PM	-0.11 L						
2/14/2019	Thu 3:15 AM	4.12 H						
2/14/2019	Thu 9:29 AM	0.27 L						
2/14/2019	Thu 3:43 PM	3.51 H						
2/14/2019	Thu 9:35 PM	-0.26 L						
2/15/2019	Fri 4:25 AM	4.36 H						
2/15/2019	Fri 10:33 AM	0.07 L						

