

# FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

OCTOBER 2012



# October 2012 Meeting

**When:** October 1, 2012 at 7:00 PM  
Southpoint Marriott

**Speaker:** Capt. Larry Miniard

**Topic:** Fly Fishing Northeast Florida

Captain Larry Miniard is a true Waterman. Many of us know him as one of the most respected redfish guides in Northeast Florida. His Turkey in the Grass fly is one of the go-to flies for fishing reds in the spartina grass during the fall flood ties. However, back in his earlier days, Larry was one of the premier surfers on the east coast. Larry literally had a front tow seat when surfing took off on the east coast in the early 1960s. In 2012 Larry was inducted into the East Coast Surfing Hall of Fame.



Nowadays, Capt. Miniard is a highly respected, nationally recognized fly fishing and light tackle expert who's fished the North Florida backcountry for 45 years--and guided professionally since the mid-70s. His newest boat, the Pole Cat, is an 18-4 Ranger Ghost skiff with a 150-hp, 4-stroke Yamaha and 24-volt MinnKota system.

Capt. Miniard represents Ranger Boats and is a member of the prestigious Ranger Saltwater Pro Staff. He uses only top-quality Diawa tackle with DOA Lures and Mirr-O-Lure artificials.

In high demand as a speaker and lecturer, Larry Miniard is a familiar face at the statewide *Sportsfishing* magazine seminars and is often found in the pages of regional and national magazines, most notably, *Florida Sportsman*, *Fly Fishing in Saltwater*, *SaltWater Sportsman* and *Sportsfishing* magazine.

Contact: email: [larryminiard@gmail.com](mailto:larryminiard@gmail.com)  
Phone: 904-285-5373

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## On the Cover:

**The Lookdown** (*Selene vomer*)

**Photo By Sandra J. Raredon, Division of Fishes, National Museum of Natural History**

X-ray Vision: Fish Inside Out, organized by the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), is an exhibit traveling to museums across the country through 2015. Visit [www.sites.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibits/ichthyo/index.htm](http://www.sites.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibits/ichthyo/index.htm) for the tour itinerary.

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# Tying the Turkey-N-The-Straw

Captain Larry Miniard and Brent London came up with one of the go-to flies for targeting redfish in the grass. The fly is tied using two to three turkey feathers that are tied over the hook point. The iridescent turkey feathers give the fly the appearance of a crab in the water. The feathers help to act as a weed guard and keep the fly from hanging up in the spartina grass.

## Material List:

**Hook:** Mustad 34007 #2  
**Weight:** Small Barbell Eyes  
**Tail:** Orange Bucktail  
**Body:** Gray Furry Foam  
Turkey Breast Feathers  
**Legs:** Grey/Blue Flake Rubber legs  
**Thread:** Black

## Step 1:

Place the hook in the vice point down. Tie in thread behind the hook eye and wrap to the hook bend.

## Step 2:

Tie in a 2-inch length of orange bucktail about half the diameter of a pencil. Wrap the thread forward until it is opposite of the hook point.

## Step 3:

Tie in the small barbell eyes opposite of the hook point on the back of the hook shank. Wrap the thread forward to the hook eye and tie off and cut the thread.

## Step 4:

Cut the furry foam into two ovals about the diameter of a dime. Turn the hook over in the vice so that the point is facing up. Mix up a small amount of five-minute epoxy.

## Step 5:

Epoxy one of the furry foam ovals over top of the barbell eyes on the back side of the hook. Turn the

fly over in the vice and lay in four rubber legs forming an "X" across the body. Epoxy in the second furry foam oval so that the barbell eyes and rubber legs are sandwiched between the two pieces of foam. Apply a coat of epoxy to both sides of the furry foam so that a hard shell is created when the epoxy dries.

## Step 6:

Once the epoxy has dried, place the fly in the vice so that the hook point is pointing up. Tie in two to three turkey breast flies behind the hook eye so that the feathers splay outward and cover the hook point. Whip finish the fly and cement the thread wraps.



TOP



BOTTOM



# October Outing

## Reds in the Grass

### October 13, 2012

**R**aise your hand if you haven't caught a redfish in the grass this year.

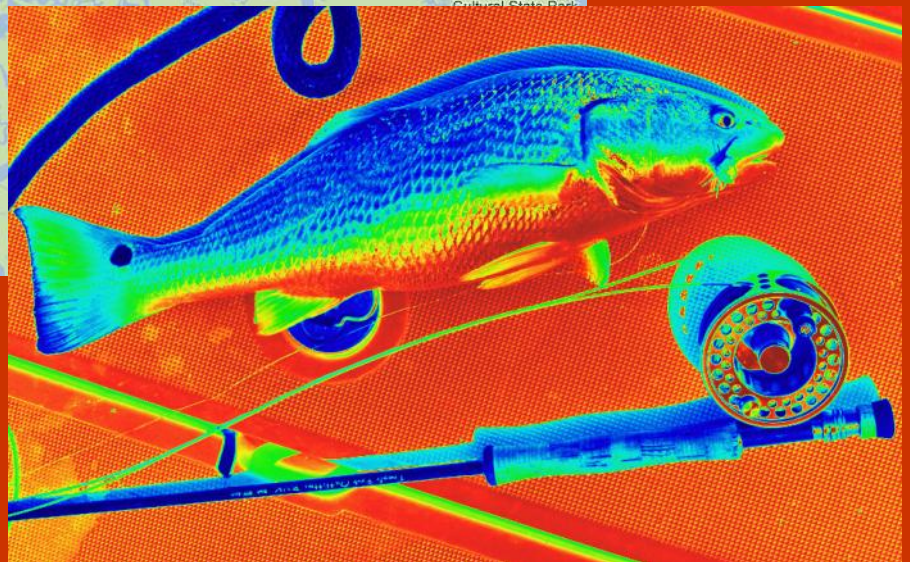
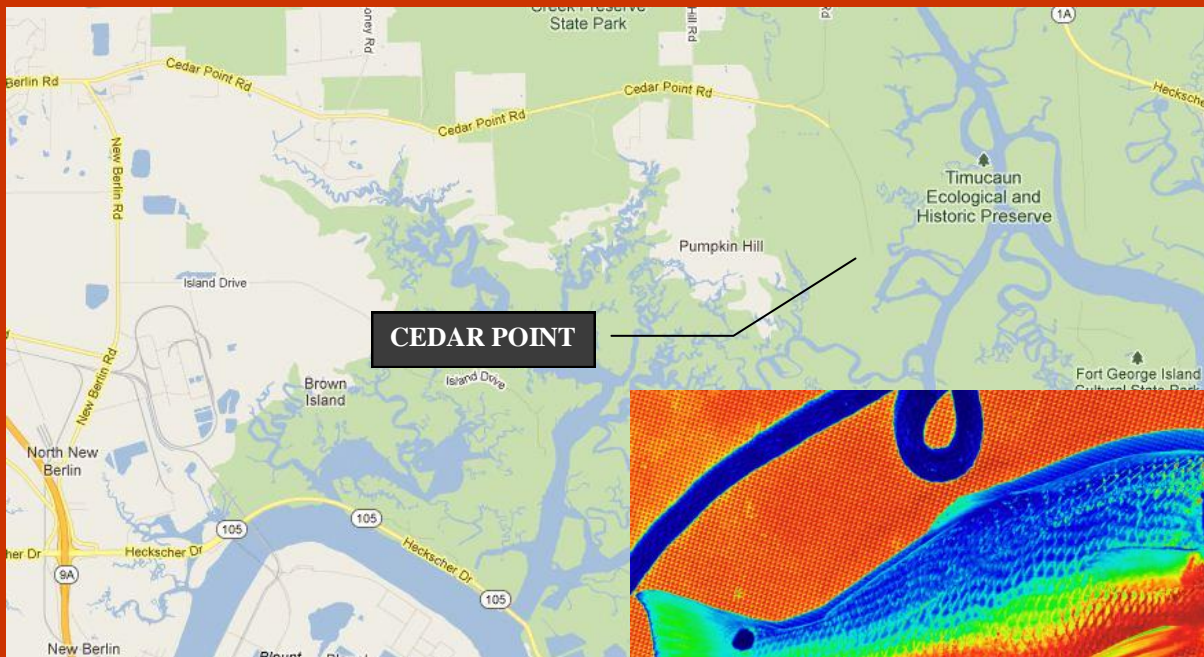
The **October 13th** outing at Cedar Point may be your last time to catch a red in the grass this year. A 5.5' tide is predicted for the Mayport Bar Pilot tide station at 6:28 pm that day. This year has been one of the most productive years for reds in the grass. But, things are winding down. The reds are fat with crabs and have become more selective and finicky. So it will take stealth, patients and accurate casts to get the job done.

Sunset on Saturday is 6:57 pm. So be sure to bring your

lights and flashlights.

The Club will meet at the Cedar Point boat ramp a couple of hours before high tide. Since a boat is required for this outing, we will be pairing up fisherman with boats. So if you don't have a worry, there is no need to fret. We will make sure you have a ride with someone.

More information about the outing will be available at the October meeting and on the Club's web site. If you need additional information, contact Ryan Curley at: [rkcurley@yahoo.com](mailto:rkcurley@yahoo.com)





# **The 22nd Annual Northeast Florida CCA Banquet**

**6:00 PM**

**Thursday November 1, 2012**

*The Garden Club of Jacksonville  
1005 Riverside Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32204*

**T**his year's annual Coastal Conservation Association Banquet will be held at the Garden Club of Jacksonville on Thursday November 1st. As in previous years, there will be thousands of dollars in raffle and auction items available at the banquet. Tickets are \$80 per person or \$150 per couples. The price of the ticket includes annual membership in the CCA.

For the last couple of years, enough FCFF members have attended the banquet to qualify for a designated table. As of this writing we need at least eight additional club members to secure a table. So come out and show your support for a great organization that helps to preserve the marine environment and protect our rights as anglers and fisherman. If you are interested in attending the banquet, contact Gary Burdette at [grburdette@aol.com](mailto:grburdette@aol.com)



# Striking X-Rays of Fish Dazzle in Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition

By Christin Chism



Fish are vertebrates—animals with backbones—and have bodies supported by a bony skeleton. Variations in the

skeleton, such as the number of vertebrae or the position of fins, are documented with X-rays. The Smithsonian's National Collection of these Fish X-rays represent more than 70 percent of the world's fish specimen and is the largest and most diverse collection of its kind in the world. Although the X-rays featured in the national collection were made for research purposes, the strikingly elegant images demonstrate the natural union of science and art and are a visual retelling of the evolution of fish. "X-ray Vision: Fish Inside Out," an exhibition from the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), will showcase these dramatic prints exposing the inner workings of the fish.

"X-ray Vision" will premiere at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History in New Haven, Conn., July 2, and will be on view until Jan. 8, 2012. The exhibition will then travel around the country on a 10-city national tour through 2015.

The exhibition features 40 black-and-white digital prints of several different specimen of fish. Arranged in evolutionary sequence, these X-rays give a tour through the long stream of fish evolution. The X-rays have allowed Smithsonian and other scientists to study the skeleton of a fish without altering the sampling making it easier for scientists to build a comprehensive picture of fish diversity.

Curators of the exhibition, Lynne Parenti and Sandra Raredon, have worked in the Division of Fishes at the National Museum of Natural History collecting thousands of X-rays of fish specimens to help ichthyologists understand and document the diver-

sity of fishes. Rare or unique specimens make particularly interesting and informative images. X-rays may also reveal other details of natural history: undigested food or prey in the gut might reveal to an ichthyologist what a fish had for its last meal. To make comparisons easier, radiographers X-ray one fish per frame—with each one facing left—but they will prepare shots of several fish if a scientist wants to compare a group.

"X-ray Vision: Fish Inside and Out" is inspired by the book *Ichthyo: The Architecture of Fish: X-Rays* from the Smithsonian Institution (Chronicle Books, 2008) by Daniel Pauly, Lynne Parenti and Jean-Michel Cousteau.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, located at 10th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W. in Washington, D.C., welcomed more than 6 million visitors annually. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. every day during the summer from March 25 through Sept. 4. Visit [www.mnh.si.edu](http://www.mnh.si.edu) for early closure on select days throughout the summer. Admission is free. For further information, call (202) 633-1000, TTY (202) 357-1729 or visit the museum's website at [www.mnh.si.edu](http://www.mnh.si.edu).

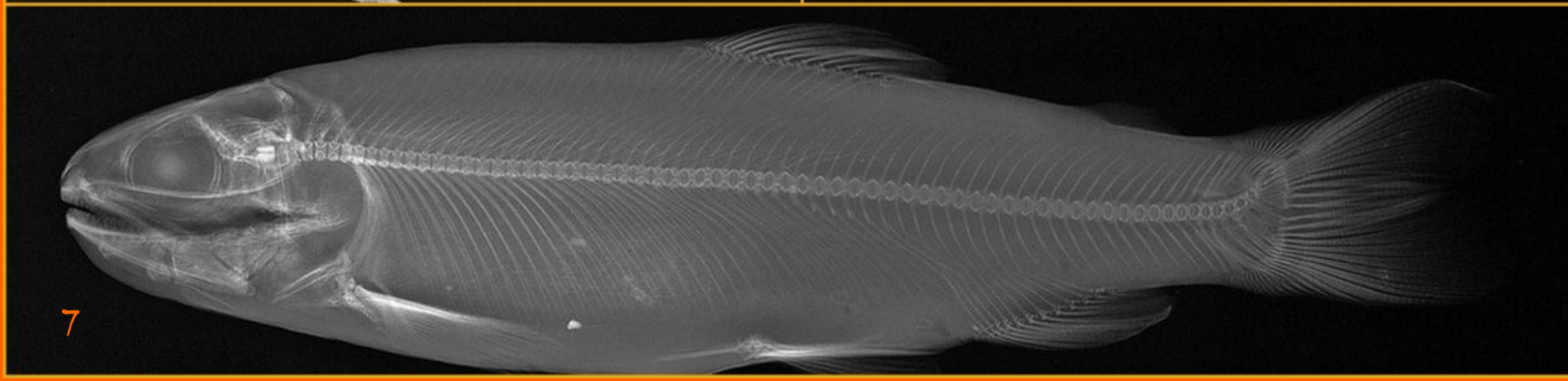
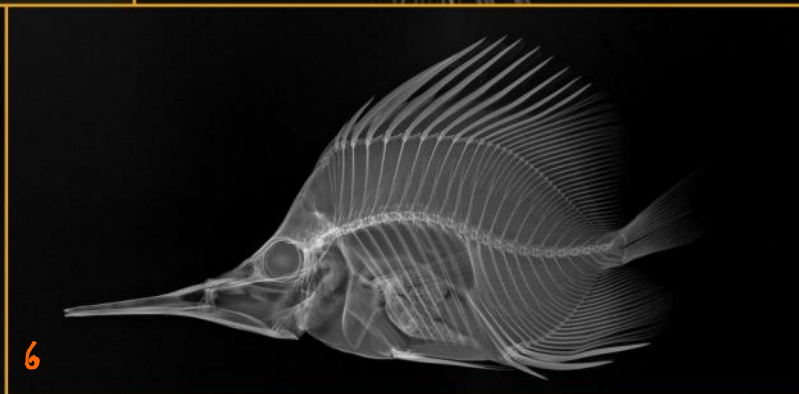
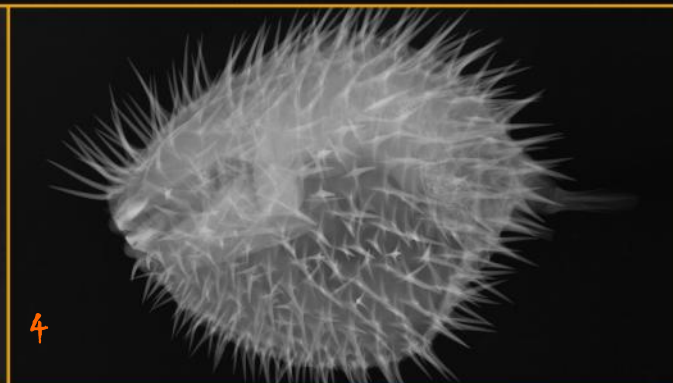
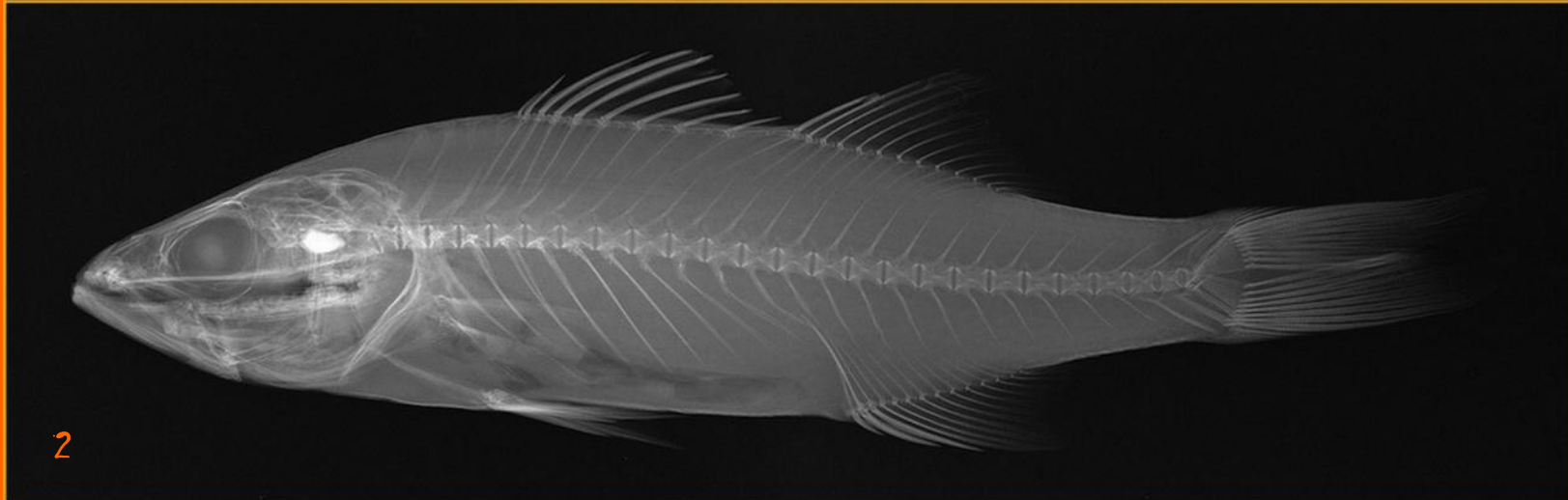
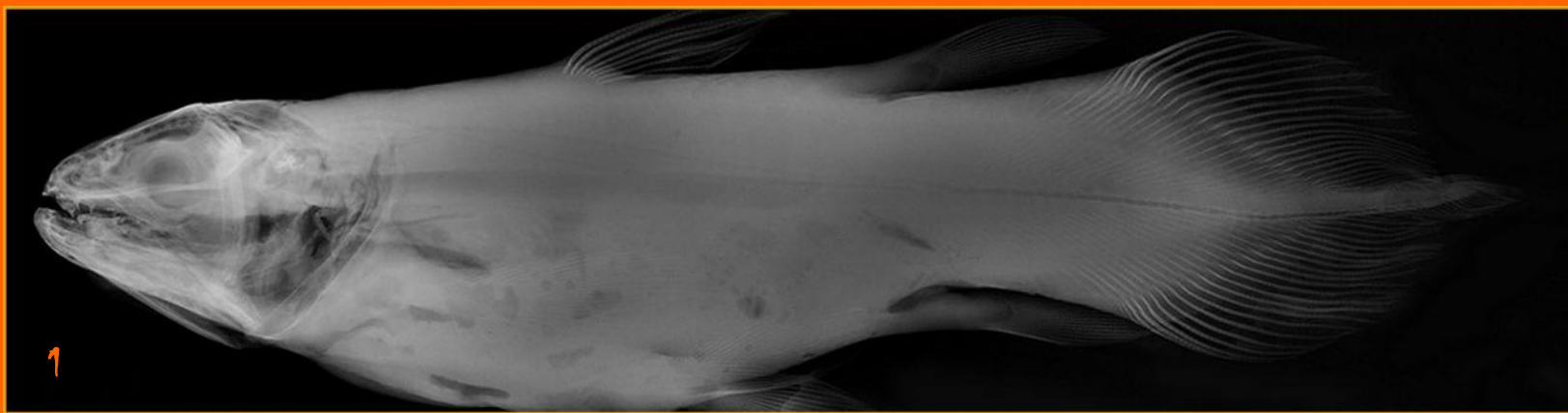
SITES has been sharing the wealth of Smithsonian collections and research programs with millions of people outside Washington, D.C., for almost 60 years. SITES connects Americans to their shared cultural heritage through a wide range of exhibitions about art, science and history, which are shown wherever people live, work and play. Exhibition descriptions and tour schedules are available at [www.sites.si.edu](http://www.sites.si.edu).

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## Photographs on the next page:

1) Coelacanth; 2) Striped Bass; 3) Sawfish Shark; 4) Porcupinefish; 5) Triggerfish; 6) Butterflyfish; and 7) Rainbow Trout





# Surf and Turf - Modified Rules

(When the conditions don't cooperate, change the rules)

By Don Edlin

**A**t the September meeting, I issued a challenge for anyone to catch a redfish in the surf and in the grass on the same day. I have since modified the challenge to catch one in the surf and in the grass in the same month - and I have declared myself as the winner!! Thank you, thank you.

The redfish are schooling in the surf at Talbot. The mullet run is strong and the reds are hungry. Unfortunately, the fishing conditions are tough. The wind is strong into your face and the waves are high and frequent. The individual fish and the schools are right in the breaker lines. When you see the red in the surf, you have about 3 milliseconds to decide which way it is going and hope a wave doesn't break onto your presentation. The schools hold 8 to 10 fish each but it is really tough to get the fly to them before they are out of range. Hopefully the surf will die down a little and it won't be as difficult. I managed to land two fish. One was over slot limit (the grey mark on my rod is 30 inches) and the other was right at slot. These cruising reds are big fish.

Ryan, Jim and I went back to the surf for Reds the afternoon. Jim caught his first redfish in the surf and it was a nice one around 28 inches. He also came in second in the challenge of a redfish in the surf and on the grass in the same month. Ryan came in third as he pulled one out right after Jim got his in. It was a great afternoon of searching for reds in the surf. The water wasn't as clear as yesterday but the schools are still there if you spend the time looking for them. Final count today was Ryan hooked four and landed three. I hooked three and landed two and Jim hooked two and landed one. Great late afternoon of fishing with friends.



**First Place**



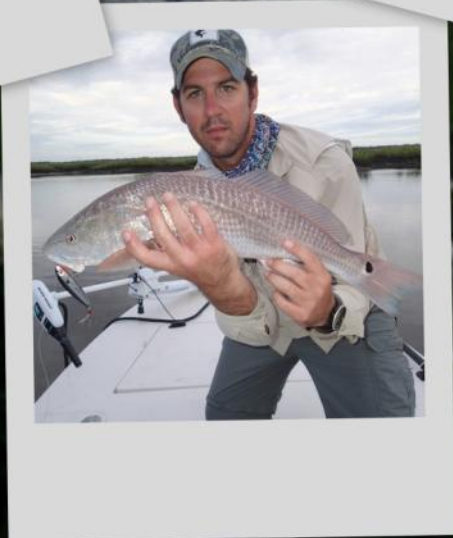
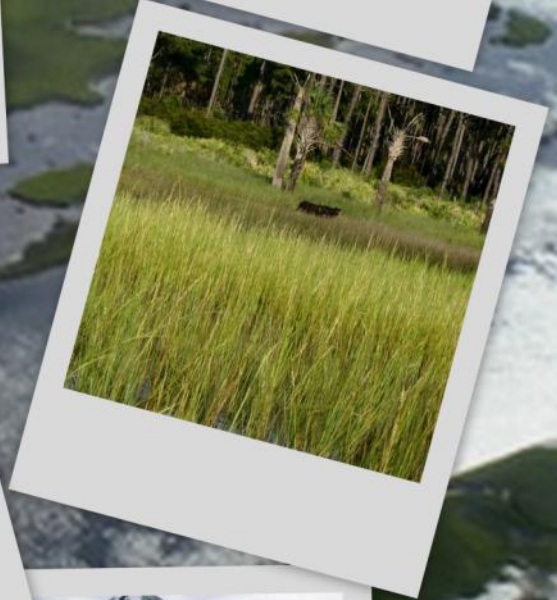
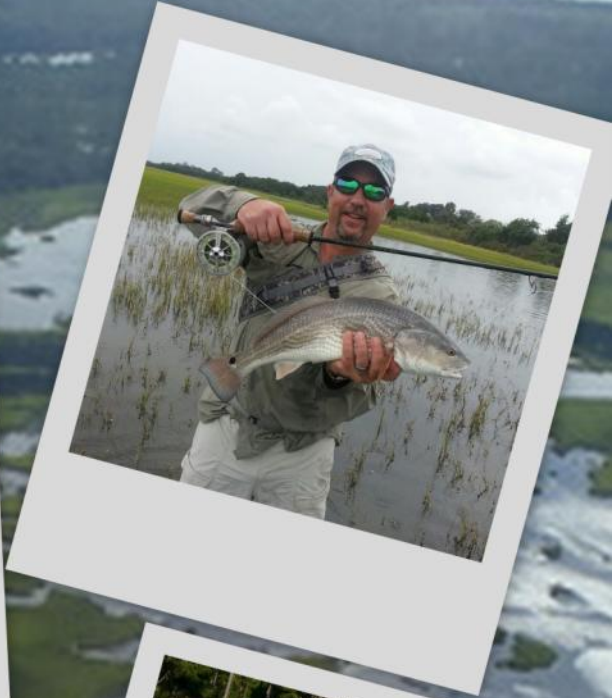
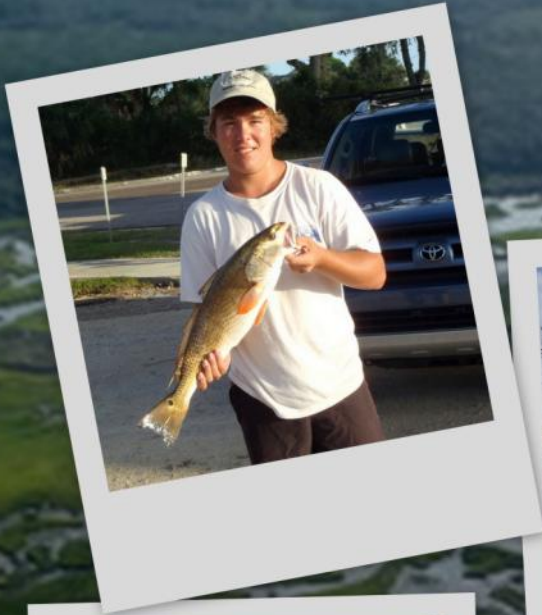
**Second Place**



**Third Place**



# Palm Valley Outing Highlights



**ORDER NOW**

# FCFF SHIRTS



**FRONT**

**T**he new FCFF Shirts are here!

Sport Tek, 100% polyester Dri Mesh Performance long sleeve shirts are now available for \$30 a piece. These shirts come in a variety of colors with an image of a Clouser Minnow and “The tug is the drug” on the left front breast and the FCFF logo on the back.

The Club hopes to be able to offer button-down shirts in the near future. More information about these shirts should be available at the September meeting.

If you are interesting in purchasing one of these performance shirts so that you can be the envy of the grass flats, contact Don Edlin by phone **904-261-4065**, or by email [dpedlin@comcast.net](mailto:dpedlin@comcast.net). When ordering, Don will need to know your shirt size and the color you want.

When you place your order, be sure to thank Don for coordinating everything.



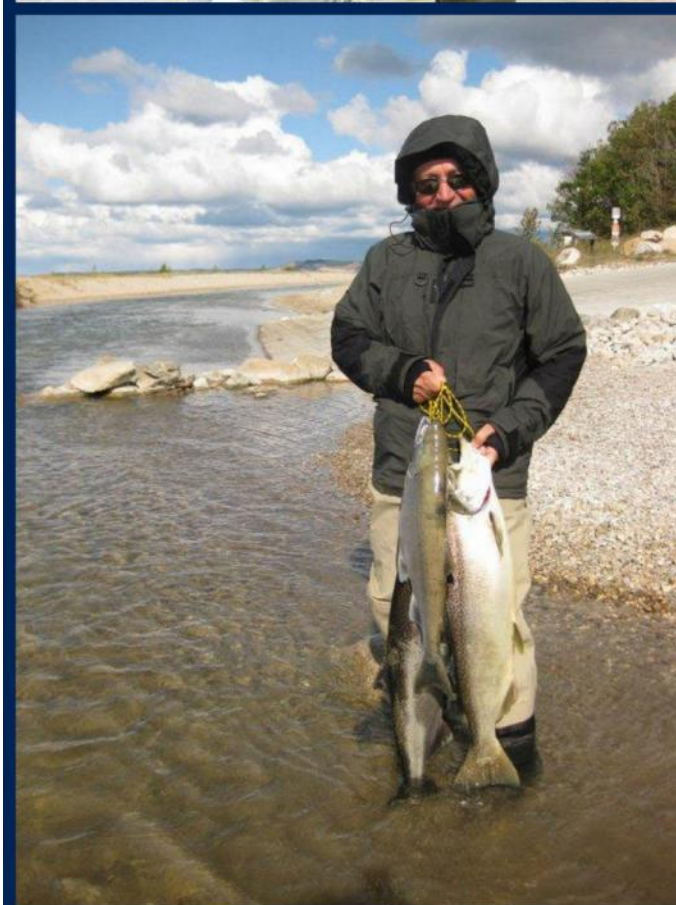
**BACK**



*This Shirt is Guaranteed to Catch Fish!*



**Lew Holliday and Rick Palazzini recently traveled to where the salmon are as long as your leg. They sent back some photos to make us all jealous.**






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