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Fishing Forecast

Posted: Thursday, Jul. 08, 2010

More Information

- Solunar Table

Trolling just off the Carolinas coast is excellent for dolphin.

The fish, also known as mahi mahi, have moved in unusually close to shore at many locations. At Hatteras Village this week, schools of dolphin are feeding only five miles or so out to sea.

Top freshwater locations appear to be Lake Monroe in Union County for lunker largemouth bass, Fontana Lake in the Great Smoky Mountains for trout and South Carolina's Lake Thurmond for stripers and hybrids.

Lake Norman: Good numbers of white perch 15-25 feet deep along creek channels on jigs, small spoons, earthworms and minnows.

	A.M.		P.M.	
Day	Min.	Maj.	Min.	Maj.
Today	2:35	8:45	2:55	9:25
Friday	3:40	9:40	3:50	10:10
Saturday	4:25	10:35	4:45	11:05
Sunday	5:20	11:30	5:40	-
Monday	6:15	12:00	6:45	12:35
Tuesday	7:25	1:10	7:50	1:35
Wednesday	8:20	2:10	8:50	2:35
July 15	9:15	3:05	9:45	3:30
July 16	10:10	4:00	10:40	4:25
July 17	11:05	4:55	11:35	5:20
July 18	-	5:50	12:00	6:15
July 19	12:30	6:35	12:45	7:00

Lake Wylie: Mainly bream and catfish on traditional baits - crickets and earthworms for the bream, crawlers and cut baits for the catfish. Scattered largemouth bass around deep humps on spoons, artificial worms.

Mountain Island Lake: Fair for bream, catfish.

Union County Lakes: Surprisingly good for largemouth, mainly on artificial worms. Lake Monroe produced bass of 10, 8 and 7 pounds this week. Bream, catfish also are being caught.

High Rock, Tuckertown, Badin, Tillery, Blewett Falls: Bream and catfish are providing the most action. Some crappie are being caught under lights at night. A few stripers and American shad in the tailrace at the Blewett Falls Dam.

Lakes Hickory, Rhodhiss: Bream and catfish.

Lake James: Scattered smallmouth bass on shiners and walleye on crawlers. Crappie at night.

Fontana Lake: Good catches of trout at night on crawlers worked 15-20 feet deep right against the dam under lights. Also, trout and walleye on Sutton spoons trolled 60 feet deep right up the channel from the dam to Big Island.

Lake Wateree: Largemouth around ledges, humps and deep points on artificial worms, jigs. Crappie in brush 20 feet deep on minnows and Fish Stalker jigs in green/yellow patterns. Catfish on drifted cut baits.

Lake Murray: Limits of stripers on live herring worked 45-60 feet down in the brush on soft plastic lures. Bream around docks and shellcrackers in the back

Lake Monticello: Catfish to 60 pounds on steep ledges and long, sloping poi

Santee Cooper Lakes: Crappie 15-10 feet deep around brush. Bedding bream on crickets, earthworms. Catfish on drifted live baits. Scattered largemouth in shaded cover such as lily pads and sunken trees on soft plastic lures.

Lake Thurmond: Limits of stripers, hybrids on live herring fished alongside points that drop off sharply. Crappie 20 feet deep in brush and old creek channels on minnows.

Lake Hartwell: Stripers, hybrids 30-45 feet deep off points on live herring. Largemouth at dawn on topwater lures. Channel cats on crawlers, chicken livers and cut herring.

Lake Jocassee: Trout around the intakes in early morning on minnows and trolled spoons.

Lake Keowee: Largemouth and spotted bass around rocky points and boat docks on crankbaits.

Outer Banks: Nags Head area: Scattered stripers in the surf, along with blues. Croaker, spot, triggerfish and whiting at piers. Oregon Inlet: Limits of dolphin offshore, including some very large fish. Also being boated are blackfin and yellowfin tuna, sailfish and white marlin. Trolling closer in is producing small blues and Spanish mackerel. Hatteras Island: Dolphin to 47 pounds offshore. Cobia, flounder, puppy drum and scattered trout in Pamlico Sound. Blues, croaker, Spanish mackerel, spots and whiting in the surf and at piers. Ocracoke Island: Small blues, flounder, Spanish mackerel and pompano in the surf during early morning and late afternoon. Puppy drum on the shoals. Morehead City area: Dolphin offshore near Big Rock along with king mackerel and wahoo. Blues, Spanish mackerel at Beaufort and Bogue Inlets. Blues, croacker, Spanish, spots and a few tarpon at piers.

Southeastern N.C. Coast: Dolphin and king mackerel offshore. Flounder up to 10 pounds in the lower Cape Fear River and in backwaters near Ocean Isle. Trout in the creeks at Bald Head Island and near the N.C. 172 Bridge at New River. Black drum, sheepshead at the ADM Dock, Snow's Cut and the rocks at Ft. Fisher. A mix of black drum, blues, pompano, spot, whiting and scattered tarpon at piers.

S.C. Coast: Little River area: Improving for flounder on live baits. Black drum during low tides. Reds, trout during moving high tides on minnows, shrimp and soft plastic lures worked at creek mouths and around spartina grass. Grand Strand area: Excellent off Georgetown for sailfish and dolphin, plus blackfin tuna, cobia to 48 pounds and king mackerel. Reds in the creeks on live baits. Big reds at Murrells Inlet's north jetty wall on cut baits and blue crabs. Blues, Spanish mackerel and scattered king mackerel at piers. Charleston area: Improving for trout in the backwaters on live shrimp cast to creek mouths and shell rakes. Sight-casting to tailing reds in the marsh grass is very good, with ZMAN Jerkshad lures producing well. Beaufort area: Tailing reds in the Hilton Head section on flies, gold spoons and mud minnows. Sporadic catches of cobia and tarpon.

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