

FISHING REPORTS

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EAST END REPORT

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The taste of mild weather this weekend enticed some anglers to the cod grounds off Montauk with the CIA Grounds holding some market cod and ling. The Sea Wife IV sailed on Friday and Saturday and were rewarded both days with good catches of the winter kings and some red hake. Lots of ling and a few small (short) cod are being culled from the outer Cartwright Grounds. The water temps out there is a brisk and chilly 42 degrees. Should the water temps rise rapidly an additional 10 degrees, you can expect some blackfish from the inner Cartwright area. On the flounder front, we should have a better read on the fishing by next report. The Shinnecock and Quogue Canals are both good starting points with sandworms and bank mussels your best bet for a flattie or two. Holdover school stripers continue to please anglers employing rubber and plastic soft baits in the creeks and back bays of the Peconic's as well as

in the Peconic River. Four inch Fin-S-Fish in Arkansas Shiner and Bass Assassins in Albino red tails jigged slowly along the bottom on ¼ to 3/8 ounce leadheads are finding stripers from micro to 24 inches, which makes for some fun catch and release action. For the current Peconic hot spots, make a pit stop at East End, Tight Lines or Wego Bait and Tackle shops and they will be happy to point the way.

MONTAUK

At **Star Island Yacht Club**, John and Mike are back for another banner season and the shop will be open every day from 7 A.M. to 5 P.M. Fishing remains quiet on the eastern front, however reports of some cod are beginning to trickle in. Don't forget that the 33rd Annual Star Island Shark Tournament is slated for Friday and Saturday June 14 and 15 with the Captains Meeting Thursday June 13. Anyone signing up for the tournament before April 15th are automatically entered for a chance to win a \$500 credit to the ship store. For more info, call (631) 668-5052.

Capt. Pete Casale of the **My Mate** is now booking inshore and offshore trips for the 2019 season and Capt. Pete does have availability for prime

dates and can be reached at (917) 543-3115 to book a great trip.

Capt. Ron Onorato, of the **Captain Ron** continues to hammer snappers and other great tasting southern species down in sunny and warm Key West. If you happen to be heading down to the Keys this month and thinking of doing some fine reef or shark fishing, call a captain you know that won't give you a boat ride, but rather a great day on the water at (516) 835-4910. Ron will be back fishing off Montauk mid-May for stripers and fluke. The captain will also be chartering trips for cod and sharks on Saturday's during July, August and September, while the other days will be devoted to stripers and bottom fishing. Book early before the prime dates are all filled.

Capt. Steve of **Top Hook Fishing Charters** is now accepting reservations for the 2019 fishing season, specializing in inshore striper and bottom fishing as well as offshore shark trips. The captain also specializes in full moon elongated night trips using live eels. Now is the time to give a call at (516) 658-6812 and secure your dates before they become booked.

Capt. Tom of the **Sea Wife IV** has broken the season open

ONLINE NOW at thefisherman.com

RUN HERRING RUN

Of the many annual signs of spring, few are as highly-anticipated by striped bass fishermen as the return of herring to their natal rivers and streams of the East Coast. Check out this video of river herring on the move, and don't forget the state-by-state regulations on these precious striper candies.



LICENSE & REGISTRATION

Whether you fish in fresh or saltwater, a recreational fishing license or registration is required wherever you go. To lessen the confusion when you fish in more than one state, visit TheFisherman.com for a state-by-state rundown of important links from Maine to Maryland, and all states in between.

