



## DOWN EAST GUIDE SERVICE, Inc.



*Featuring Capt. George Beckwith, Capt. Gary Dubiel, Capt. Travis Hardison, Capt. Brian Harrington, Capt. Mark Hoff, Capt. Ray Massengill, Capt. Lee Parsons, Capt. Joe Shute, Capt. James Smith, Capt. Joe Ward, and other top-notch guides. Patient, knowledgeable and fully equipped with the best and newest equipment.*

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### Fishing Reports/Photos

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

#### Double header blue marlin and snow geese????

I must be crazy, back in the states just for a couple of days and off on a wild goose chase...literally.

Capt. Greg and Capt. Lee talked me into a snow goose hunt in Currituck County. I exceeded their expectations and did not freeze to death after spending 6 weeks in the tropics. Those little handwarmers that you shake are incredible, one in every pocket.

We were hunting with some real pros who do it right, Watson Stewart and his son Hunter. Hopefully we will be doing some booking for them next year.

Although the birds didn't fly too well, we managed to pass shoot at the edge of a flock of about 5000 birds, killing 3 of them. We later hunted over decoys and had a bunch of 5 come to the spread, killing all of them. Later in the morning we had 4 at the edge of the spread, one of them neck-banded. Of course we were all shooting at the same bird and we killed the one behind it deader than a hammer. It just goes to show that when the wind is blowing 25 mph, double your lead.

Enclosed is a pic of Bryan Stempowski and a couple of snos.

Meanwhile in Costa Rica, the last report that I got was from Del Taylor's group. Marvin is still beating up on Danny pretty bad. I think that Danny is saving up for the tourney this coming week.

The Bite caught a double header on blue marlin and a dozen sails.  
The Spanish Fly mixed up the inshore and offshore, catching a rooster and a jack on the inshore side. Fishing offshore they caught 6 sails and a 40 pound wahoo.

Tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 9:10 AM*

### **Saturday, February 25, 2006**

#### **Back in the states, Del Taylor report**

I'm back in the states for a couple of weeks, but still have a few groups in Costa Rica.

Although the sailfishing is a little off, there is some really good marlin fishing. David on the Bob Cat fought a 500 pound for several hours, getting the leader a bunch, but not getting a chance to touch it.

Here's the report from Del Taylor and his two boat trip:

Thursday:

The Bite: 7 sails, 1 huge striped marlin, 2 dolphin (1 over 60 pounds) and 3 yellowfin. It sounds like Marvin found a school of spinner dolphins.

The Spanish Fly: 3 sails

Friday:

The Bite 2 blue marlin over 250 pounds, 5 sailfish

The Spanish Fly: 5 sailfish

Also an unconfirmed report from Quepos of a boat raising 30 billfish. Sounds like another wave is moving up from the south.

Enclosed is a pic that I took last week, pretty cool. I'm heading back to Costa Rica on March 12. I'll be at the NC Sportsman fishing school on March 11.

tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 12:24 PM*

### **Tuesday, February 21, 2006**

#### **Inshore/offshore report for 2/21**

Raiford Trask Sr.'s Group fished with Daniel on the Spanish Fly today, they started out looking for the sardines and the roosterfish. They found both, landing 19 roosterfish by noon, then they headed offshore for the sails. Unfortunately, the offshore bite started early and was over by noon.

I was on The Bite with Jim and Scott Gray. (Jim is one of the owners of the Hotel Cocal). The sailfish bite has been a little slow, so we headed off of Cabo Blanco, looking for marlin. Before we got all 4 teasers in the water, we had a 200 pound blue marlin in the baits. Scott made quick work of him, releasing his first billfish within 15 minutes of putting the lines in the water.

We made a second attempt at getting all of the lines in the water. As soon as things got straightened out, we had a bite on the shotgun sailfish rod. The fish didn't immediately jump, indicating another possible marlin bite. Sure enough, another blue marlin, this time a little guy, just over 100 pounds.

We got a great look at the fish jumping around the boat and on the leader, identifying it as a small blue marlin and not a striped marlin. It was a tough call, because the stripe would have given us a great shot at a grand slam. Throughout the morning we landed 7 more sailfish.

Spanish Fly: 19 roosterfish  
The Bite: 2 blue marlin, 7 sailfish

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 6:13 PM*

### **Sunday, February 19, 2006**

#### **Pete "Skinny Water" Hansen's sailfish on a fly**

Pete caught this one in the last 10 minutes, literally putting the bill into the mate's hand. Well done.

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 10:00 PM*

#### **Highlights....**

Although we seem to be in a bit of a slump, the sailfish average has dropped to about 5/day, there have been some notable catches. I'm going to try and post some pics, but it's like trying to cram a basketball down a garden hose.

This is the first wahoo caught on The Bite. Scott Harris Group fished 2 days and landed 16 sails a couple of dolphin and this nice wahoo. There seem to be a lot of wahoo and marlin this year. The wahoo have been a little frustrating, we're pulling circle hooks on mono, so you get a lot more bite-offs than connections. The marlin bite has been good, another grand slam was caught today.

Wilbur Vitols Group just finished up a 2 day trip on the Dream Catcher, they landed 6 sails in two days. We arranged for them to fish on The Bite on the third day, hoping that they would raise a few more fish. Unfortunately, it was a "sanchocho" day, and they only landed 3 more sails.

Congrats to Pete Hansen on his first sailfish on the fly, hopefully I will follow with a pic. He was a quick learner, he missed one, came disconnected on the second and landed a big sail on his third attempt. Actually, Pete says that he didn't catch the fish, but the fish caught him.

Tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 9:40 PM*

### **Ava Trask and Blue Marlin**

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 8:39 AM*

## **Saturday, February 18, 2006**

### **Roosterfish blitz.**

Danny, on the Spanish Fly, called me at 10 this morning to tell me that I was missing an epic roosterfish bite. They had # 12 on the line, the boat record is 22 roosterfish in one day. By noon, they had had enough, landing 28 roosterfish. I hope to pass on some details later. Got to run. Sailfish bite is good, now averaging 8/Spanish Fly or The Bite/day.

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 1:56 PM*

## **Friday, February 17, 2006**

### **Another wave of sails.....**

Fishing over the past week has been pretty slow. Full moon? Who knows? The full moon last month was excellent. I think that more than anything, we were between waves of sailfish moving through the area.

The boats have been averaging 4-10 bites/day. One of the guys who went way offshore found a nice bunch of fish and got over 20 bites. The boats that we fished today:

The Spanish Fly 5 sailfish releases

The Bite 5 sailfish, 1 striped marlin

The Dream 1 2 sailfish, 1 blue marlin

The Dream Catcher 3 sailfish.

All of the boats had marlin in the baits today. All in all, not bad fishing, but a little slow for this time of year.

All the best,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 12:48 AM*

## **Monday, February 13, 2006**

**Full moon blues.....marlin that is.**

As often happens on the full moon, the bite has been on and off. The marlin bite has been really good up north.

Seems like the big sailfish bite is either in the morning or the afternoon, we seem to make it there about half the time. Over the last few days the Spanish Fly caught 2 sails, then 10, then 2, then 14 the next. We heard about the good marlin bite up north and went after them on the fly.....also pulling some hooks in the back of the spread.

We raised a nice blue early, but couldn't get the bite on the fly. Throughout the day, we hooked 3 more marlin on conventional, landing a blue around 300 pounds. Boats on either side managed to get a grand slam, one of them had a black, blue and stripe, but couldn't finish with a Super Slam by catching a sailfish. The other had the sail and a stripe and a blue marlin.

We left early today and came in to do a little hang-gliding with the crew of the Spanish Fly. Of course we heard that it was an awesome afternoon bite. That figures.

I hope to send some pictures when I get a chance.

Tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 11:01 PM*

**Thursday, February 09, 2006****Thank you Donald Willis Sr.**

I received the word that Dolald Willis Sr. died last night.

I cannot express in words how much this man helped me and Down East Guide Service. I thank him for the many customers who he has referred to me; the many, many more people who have passed on the kind words that he has said about me. I thank him for the confidence that he had in me, especially in the beginning. I thank him for letting me use his shop as my personal tackle box, outfitting me with whatever I needed, knowing that I couldn't pay him at the time.

Tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 8:19 PM*

**Monday, February 06, 2006****Fishing is getting better**

Recap for the last 4 days:

John Rea's Group of 3 fishermen  
Day 1: 2 sails, 1 blue marlin

Day 2: 3 sails, 1 cubera snapper for dinner

Day 3: 10 sails, 2 dolphin

Day 4: 8 sails, 2 dolphin over 35 pounds

Mickey Corcoran's Group

Day 1, 2, 3 combined: 5 sailfish and a couple of dolphin

Day 4: 2 big rooster fish, 3 dolphin (1 over 40 pounds), 3 sierra mackerel, 5 sailfish, 1 blue marlin

It looks like things are picking up. Jim "never enough" Copland is in town, if the reports stop, then the fishing is slow and I've been used for bait. Send a search party.

Tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 8:31 PM*

### **I go out of town one weekend and.....**

I go out of town one weekend and the bite dies. I guess that's why they call it fishing. It seems that we are between "waves" of sailfish. Larry Owen and Joey Josie had 3 good days, catching 30 sailfish and a nice blue marlin.

I went to Miami to meet Anna for the weekend and I get back to dismal reports. Mickey Corcoran's group fished 3 days on The Spanish Fly and caught only 5 sailfish. That's about as slow as it gets. The mid-day report from The Spanish Fly for today is that things are still a bit slow, but they did catch a couple of nice roosterfish and a sailfish.

Things with John Rea's group are a little better. They are fishing on The Bite and caught only 3 or 4 sails in two days, but on Sunday, they caught 10 sails and a couple of dolphin. Hopefully things are improving as another group of fish makes it into the area.

Hopefully the next report will be good news. All in all, the fishing has been spectacular, I guess we were due for a couple of slow days.

Tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 4:28 PM*

## **Thursday, February 02, 2006**

### **Back to reality.....**

Things have cooled off a bit, or I could say that I cooled things off. I went out there to get a piece of the action after The Spanish Fly caught 42. I fished on The Bite and we caught 6, I guess that's why they call me "gato negro".

Of course, things picked right back up when I got off the boat. Richard Young's group was down fishing two days on The Bite and The Macushla, each boat caught 6 or 7 on Day 1 and 10 or 12 on Day 2.

Pretty much the same with Daniel on The Spanish Fly, 6 sails yesterday and 14 the day before. There are still a decent number of marlin around, getting a good shot every couple

of days.

Enclosed is a pick of Steven and Penny Hoard with a nice sail.

I've caught more waves that I have fish this year. Hope to get out there next week.

Tight lines, calm seas and God Bless,

George

*posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 9:23 AM*

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