

Fishing Reports/Photos

Wednesday, March 25, 2009
bottom fishing on the Spanish Fly

I had the pleasure to fish with the guys on the Spanish Fly yesterday. We spent all day exploring deep water rocks from 60-400 feet of water. It was a lot of work, but we ended up making a decent day of it. Grouper for dinner every night over the next few days.





posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 11:25 AM

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

A LOT of bait has showed up and the sailfish bite cooled off a little bit....too much bait is the excuse of the day, but we are still doing pretty good, catching 7-17/day on conventional tackle. The last couple of days, we've been mixing it up and DRAGIN FLY, pulling mostly teasers and one shotgun ballyhoo with a hook. Both days my dad caught a sail on the fly, I even caught one on the fly yesterday....so you know they were thick. Also another 6-8 that settled for the ballyhoo.



What's our favorite color?





When I was in NC last week I picked up one of those new high tech rods for deep dropping and a few of those funky spider/mouse/squid looking lure....what's it called a Tetacta? By Shimano. After catching our DRAGIN FLY sailfish, we headed home a couple hours early to stop at some 150-200 foot rocks about 10 miles off the beach, there was a little wind and a lot of current, but on every drift we hooked something, all on that crazy looking lure. One BIG bite on a big butterfly jig, but it pulled off, everything else was on the Tecatawhatever.





Today Dad and I slipped out for a some panga time. We each missed nice snappers on live mullet, also missed the roosterfish, but caught a jack....and a nice sierra mackeral casting a rapala and a bunch of little stuff on a small brown bucktail.



posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 12:19 AM

Friday, March 20, 2009
Back in Costa Rica

...and they started biting, 70+ sails in the last 3 days.....going after them with the fly tomorrow.

posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 9:35 PM

Sunday, March 15, 2009
more good fishing, some pics to come later today





Me, hard at work.....it's called an office day.



The good bite continues, although I'm missing out for a few days. Back in NC to take care of some business, then going back down on Thursday. Yesterday, 3 marlin and 5 sails on the Dragin Fly.

No more snook bites for me after a couple of attempts, but I'm going back down there with some secret weapons.

On another note, we're starting to book up for the Roanoke River, just a few half and full days available. Drop us a line now to get on the calendar.

posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 11:15 AM

Thursday, March 12, 2009
steady as we go

The billfish bite continues to be steady, 5-10 sails/day and a shot or two at marlin. In the past 7 days, we've caught marlin on 5 days. One blue, one 400+ pound black that almost came in the boat with us and 5 stripes.

A VERY nice roosterfish yesterday in the panga, plus a cool "bite" from a big cubera snapper. He crashed a foot and a half long mullet on the surface.

My snook fishing remains consistent.....no more strikes.

posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 8:13 AM

Sunday, March 08, 2009
my schedule

Anna says that I've got too much work to do today, so I couldn't go fishing.....she's said this a lot lately, so I've developed a little routine.

5:42 am, the phone clock goes off and I hit snooze.

5:52 am, the alarm goes off, I get up and get out the door to the bakery by 6:05, coffee with the customers and take them to the marina.

6:45 am, the boat is underway and I've got a couple of hours to kill before coming back to the apartment and beginning to check items off of the "honey-do" list.

A few weeks ago, do you recall the snook that I caught? I was waiting for the customers at the beach outside of Los Suenos, they were inshore fishing on the pangas and burned up the roosters. While I was waiting, I walked down to the beach and cast a rapala. After a few casts I hooked a nice snook and lost it. On the next two trips down to the beach in front of the Marriot, I hooked snook and landed one of them.

Since then, I've been back to the beach about 15 times and have casts a thousand times and haven't had a bite. Things had gotten pretty desperate. Yesterday morning there were a lot of mullet in the surf. I tried repeatedly to snag one for bait(I had a circle hook at the ready on the bill of my hat). I would repeatedly cast the rapala past the mullet, ripping it through the schools. The only thing that I succeeded in doing was busting the lip off of the rapala. It didn't have much action, but I continued fishing with it for an hour, dancing it on the surface or a steady sub-surface twitch.....no bites.

I was planning on fishing on the Dragin Fly today, but yet again Anna said no.....but I snuck in a couple of hours to go to the beach. I stole a new rapala off the boat and headed down to the beach. There was a little more life around, a lot more mullet and schools of anchovies just outside of casting distance.

With the brand new rapala and super sharp hooks, I felt confident that I could snag a mullet. Nope, but I did break the bill off of the brand new rapala.

Absolutely disgusted, I continued casting to no avail. Then a push appeared outside the anchovies and I got in front of it with a long cast. As soon as the crippled rapala hit the water I was twitching it up on the surface. The wake turned and 4 jacks were taking turns making passes at the rapala. I was connected, then not, then reconnected to a 5 pound jack. Success!!! At least I caught something.

After releasing the jack, I waded back out as far as I could, but the jacks were gone and the anchovies were outside of range. I was in chest deep water and right in the edge of the color change, from the green ocean water and the dirty brown surf churned river water. I made a long cast down the edge of the "dos aguas" and took a few steps so I was standing waste deep.

I was steady twitching the lip-less rapala down the edge of the color change. In my mind I could visualize a 15 pound snook inhaling the rapala between twitches. Then it happened. Just that fast, it happened. Everything came tight and a 10+ pound snook was in the air at the end of my line. I started walking backwards towards the beach with my rod low, applying side pressure and hoping to keep his head down and perhaps lodging more of the trebles in the side of his head. Another big boil on the surface and series of short runs like a drum.

In the knee deep water and about 30 feet of line that was coming to the surface, I screwed up. I knew he was going to jump. Perhaps if I had crammed the tip of the rod to the sand and kept everything low, he wouldn't have jumped. But part of me wanted him to jump. That's what they're supposed to do. What fun would it be if tarpon didn't jump? or hickory shad? or largemouth bass? I had flash backs to days of tournament fishing and begging hooked largemouth not to jump. What kind of fun is that? Depriving a jumping fish of the opportunity to leap out of it's natural element in a desperate attempt to free itself.

My snook jumped. And it was beautiful. And the rapala, barely hooked by one prong of the treble on the tip of this beautiful fish's nose.....the rapala broke free and flew 10 feet away and my snook was gone.

Shit. That was horrible and wonderful all at the same time. I'll be spending a little more time at the beach, maybe another 1000 casts before hooking another one, but when it happens, I'll be ready this time. With my limited experience of battling snook, I think they're a lot like tarpon, you have to bow to them.

Yesterday, in front of the Hotel Cocal, there were three huge schools of sardines, the first good sign of bait thusfar this year. Perhaps the inshore fishing is heating up, we're sending the pangas out tomorrow and will let you know. Meanwhile, I'll be waiting for their return on the beach.

posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 11:21 AM

Saturday, March 07, 2009 report

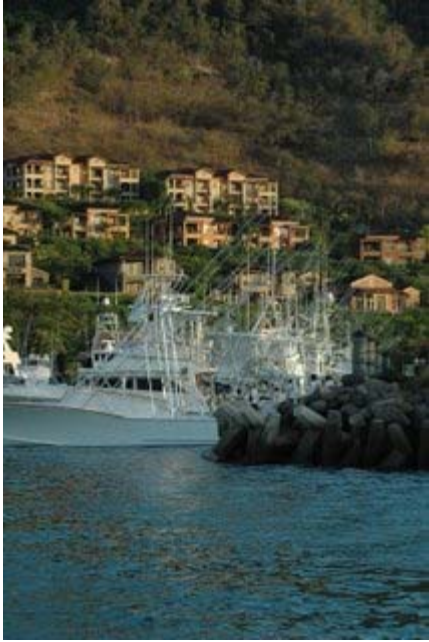
It's been a really good sailfish bite, catching more than a dozen the last several days. Things fell off a little yesterday, but I hear that those marlin are starting to move back this direction. The guys are going that way to check it out today.

posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 1:06 PM

Wednesday, March 04, 2009







posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 12:29 AM

Monday, March 02, 2009
Tournament Report, Day 3

I've got to get the numbers together and will follow with a full report and pics, but the Dragin Fly did a great job. We could never catch up with the leaders, but caught marlin every day of the tournament. I'll have some pics and stats to follow, but in short, it was great to be a part of such a red hot marlin bite. On at least 6 different occasions we had 3-6 marlin in the baits at one time.

We ended up in 10th place out of 44 boats.

More to follow with pics!!!

posted by Capt. George Beckwith at 12:40 PM