

# Tight Loops



*Issue: 2025-09 Date: September 2025*

*Florida Fly Fishing Association*

## ***Fly Tying***

***September 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-8pm***

Learn to tie Lonnie D. version of Marsh Critter. Catch the big one's. Fly tying instructor Rene G. and Rick P..

## ***Club Meeting***

***September 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:30pm-8pm***

**PROGRAM:** CCA Florida's Star Program

**SPEAKER:** Capt. Leiza Fitzgerald

## ***Club Outing - Wabasso Indian River***

***September 12<sup>th</sup> 6am-12pm***

A great opportunity to target Tarpon, Snook, Redfish, Trout and Jacks. Sign up with Rainy or Rick. We are in the need of Boat Captains Contact Rainy ASAP!!! See attached Flyer for more details...

## ***Bio Lab Cleanup***

***September 10<sup>th</sup> 8am-10am***

Volunteers Needed!!! Help the Club "do our part" to protect this fantastic resource. Meet @ Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Ranger Station. See attached Flyer.

## ***Education Class***

***September 16<sup>th</sup>***

**CLASS IS FULL**

## ***October Club Meeting***

***October 2 6:30pm-8pm***

**SPEAKER:** Laura Lee speaking to the Club at Dixie Crossroads Restaurant

***FFFA Club Meetings are @***

**Indian River Colony Club (IRCC)**

**Old Glory Blvd**

**Melbourne, FL 32940**

Point of Contact (POC) reached at:

[FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)

## ***Important Announcement New Location for FFFA Meetings!!!***

The Club has been privileged to have had the opportunity to hold Club programs at Kays's Pit BBQ for years and has been fortunate that this location was accessible and convenient for Membership. However, during the August Fly Fishing Club Board of Directors Meeting, Kay's Pit BBQ officially notified the club of its closing.

The Florida Fly Fishing Association meetings will be held at Indian River Colony Club (IRCC) location since Kay's BBQ is closing, permanently. This will be for seeable future while the Board of Directors are considering other locations.

The September Florida Fly Fishing Association meetings (Fly Tying and Regular Club Meeting) will be held at the Indian River Colony Club @ Colony Hall meeting room.

Address:

Indian River Colony Club  
Old Glory Blvd  
Melbourne, FL 32940

The Colony Hall meeting room facility is behind At Ease Club (the IRCC Restaurant Club building) which is at the END of Old Glory Blvd. Park in this large parking lot and walk to the left of the At Ease Club building where there is a walkway which leads to the Colony Hall building. The Indian River Colony Club is a gated community, mention FFFA club meeting to the staff at gate.

Meeting will begin at 6:30pm sharp. There will be no opportunity for diner or food. The FFFA Board is planning a Christmas dinner at the at Main Club House. Since meals are not available, PLEASE arrive 15 minutes early.

FFFA Board of Directors



## September Program

Captain Leiza Fitzgerald grew up in Key West and in the woods of Moss Bluff, Florida. Her passion for fishing, hunting and conservation she learned from her parents. Leiza has combined these passions with work in the outdoor industry for nearly 30 years. She is a retired charter fishing guide, turkey hunting guide, prize winning competitive redfish, kingfish & tarpon tournament angler, television, radio and pod cast show co-host, “Top Gun” fishing instructor, fishing coach as well as author of national and local magazine and newspaper fishing and hunting articles.

Captain Leiza was named by Salt Strong as one of the top 12 lady anglers in Florida and Wildlife Enthusiast Magazine named her one of North America’s 30 most influential women in fishing (top 5 in Saltwater) in 2019. In 2022, she was inducted into the Florida Sports Hall of Fame as the first angler athlete in their history. In August of 2025 Capt Leiza was honored as the first recipient of the Pamela Martin-Wells “Outdoor Woman of the Year” awarded The Legends of the Outdoors Hall of Fame/ Bass Pro Shops Cabela’s.

From breaking barriers in competitive fishing to inspiring the next generation of anglers and conservationists, Leiza’s career has been nothing short of legendary. As the driving force behind the CCA Florida STAR competition, she has helped award over \$1 million in youth scholarships and engage nearly 7,000 anglers annually through the catch-photo-release competition.

Affectionately known as “The Queen of Conservation” Leiza travels the country promoting the conservation of our marine resources, releasing redfish and educating the general public on how to catch fish and be good stewards of Florida’s marine resources. Even with this busy career she still has a little time to spend with her sons fishing lakes & streams and hunting whitetail, turkey and elk with her bow.

Capt. Leiza Fitzgerald





## Fly of the Month

### Marsh Critter



*Hook: size 2 Mustad 34007*  
*Thread: White, Red, Tan, Purple*  
*Craft Fur off White*  
*Root Beer Cactus Chenille*  
*Marabou Burnt Orange Barred*

***All materials will be provide***

## President Message

Our Club has been privileged to have had the opportunity to hold our Club programs at Kays's BBQ and Steaks for years and has been fortunate that its location was accessible and convenient for most of Our Membership. However, during our August Board of Directors monthly Leadership Meeting, of our Florida Fly Fishing Association was notified that Kay's Pit BBQ is closing the Business, but was open for our LAST CLUB MEETING at that location, Tuesday, August 26.

I encourage everyone to participate for a brief discussion of the potential possibilities of a new location for Our Club Programs. Starting with fly-tying September 16<sup>th</sup> and Club meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Indian River Colony Club (IRCC) @ (Colony Hall). I expect both programs are going to have a jam packed agenda as we welcome potential new members from IRCC community. Both programs start at 6:30pm, without dinner.

Our guest Speaker for September, Capt. Leiza Fitzgerald the current Director of CCA Florida STAR presented by Yamaha, Florida's largest saltwater fishing competition which has completed the tenth year of competition and finishing 11th year. To date, the competition has awarded nearly 4. 2 million..

## President Message Cont.

in prizes with \$1 Million being college scholarships. She will present a very informative program about her vast 30-plus year outdoor career experiences.

She helped develop the Adventurous Woman and Women on Water which introduced women to the sport of fishing and the outdoors. She created and implemented fishing events such as the Ed Alber Tarpon Rodeo, The World Sailfish Championships, The World Tarpon Championships, Florida Cracker Ladies Tournament and implemented the Coastal Conservation Association STAR, Florida's Largest Family Friendly Fishing competition.

Keep checking your EMAILS / or TEXTS for UPDATES regarding our Potential New Club Meeting Locations that are presently being considered. Please be flexible while your Leadership is researching a potential next and more advantageous meeting locations. Perhaps a location that has the opportunity for Meetings, Fly Tying, Food availability and Fishing Ponds!

I trust that I can count on everyone to attend the Tuesday, 6:30 pm, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 for the Monthly Membership meeting at Indian River Colony Club (Colony Hall meeting room)– SEE YOU ALL THERE! And let's make this program well attended.

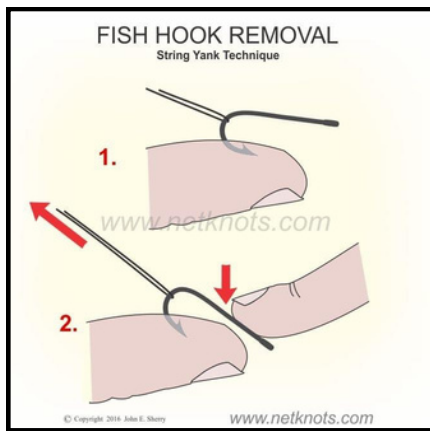
TIGHT LOOPS...  
Amir Pishdad, Jr.

President, Florida Fly Fishing Association.

Change often offers greater opportunities, despite the anticipated Challenges.

"Tackle every Obstacle as a Challenge, and every Challenge as a means to Succeed" –  
Navy SEAL





## Calendar of Events

### September 2025

September 10<sup>th</sup> Bio Lab Clean up (8am-10am): POC: Bill Leward  
September 12<sup>th</sup> Indian River, Wabasso Outing 6am-12pm: POC: Rainy  
September 16<sup>th</sup> Education Class (10am-4pm): RSVP with Mike F.  
September 16<sup>th</sup> Fly Tying: Marsh Critter (6:30pm): Rainy & Rick  
September 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Orlando Home & Garden Show: POC: Amir  
September 23<sup>rd</sup> Club Meeting (6:30pm): CCA Capt. Leiza Fitzgerald

### October 2025

October 2<sup>nd</sup> Club Meeting @ Dixie Cross Roads, Laura Lee  
October 21<sup>st</sup> Fly Tying: @ IRCC Colony Hall: TBD  
October 23<sup>rd</sup> Lake Washington Outing: POC: Rainy  
October TBD Education Class: RSVP with Mike F.

### November 2025

November 18<sup>th</sup> Fly Tying @ IRCC Colony Hall: TBD  
November 25<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting @ TBD: Open Forum "What is FFFA doing Right & Suggestions for next year": POC: Rick p. & Scott C.

### December 2025

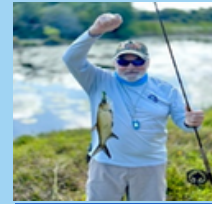
December 6<sup>th</sup> Club Annual Christmas Party @ IRCC Main Hall: POC Amir.  
Fly Tying is CANCELED for December  
**December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day: Merry Christmas from all FFFA Board Members**

### January 2025

January 20<sup>th</sup> Fly Tying: (TBD)  
January 27 Club Meeting: (TBD)  
January (TBD) Outing: POC: Rainy  
January (TBD) Education Class (TBD): RSVP with Mike F

Email Point of Contact (POC) @: [FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)

## Office & Board Members



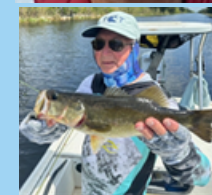
**President**  
Amir Pishdad, Jr.



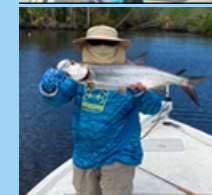
**Vice President**  
Clyde Langley



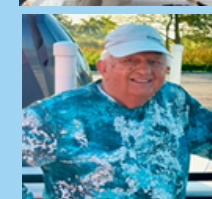
**Treasurer**  
Daryl Gorenflo



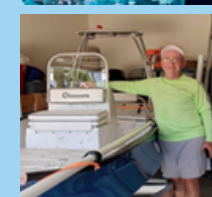
**Secretary**  
Don Foor



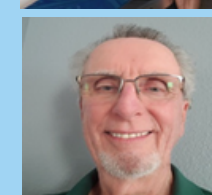
**Activities Director**  
Rainy Giard



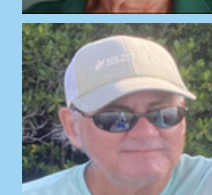
**Compliance Director**  
Jim Potamos



**Conservation Director**  
Bill Ledward



**Education Director**  
Mike Franz



**Program Director**  
Rick Posey



# Member Photo Gallery



[Submit Picture to: FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)



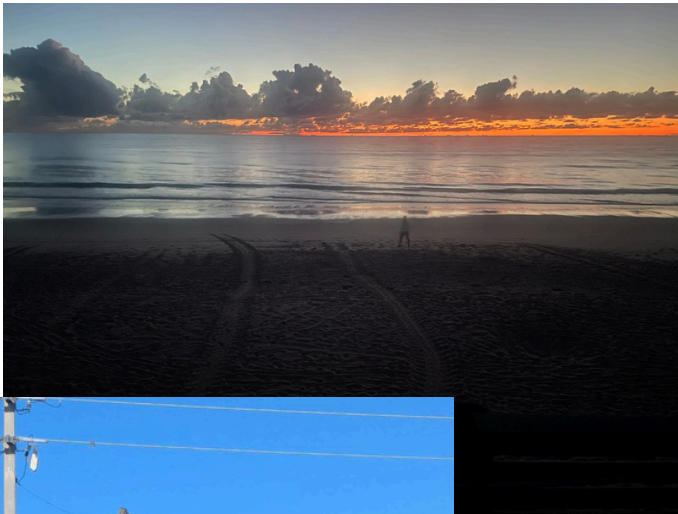
# Barramundi @ Osceola Outback August -2025 “Pop-Up” Club Trip



*Steve, Don and his Son-in-Law, Matt, Richardson and Rick*



# Bonsteel Beach Park August-2025 Club Trip



[Submit Picture to: FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)



# Club Members Abroad August-2025

Steve L. Kenai, Denali and Valdez, Alaska - Joe H. @ Rick S. Nipigon River and Lake, Lake Superior, Canada



[Submit Picture to: FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)



# Club Fly Tying & Meeting August-2025

*Daryl G. Pad Crawler & Ron Winn Guest Speaker "Fly Fishing the Beach"*



# BIOLAB CLEAN-UP BY THE FFFA ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2025



The Florida Fly Fishing Association is committed to cleaning up a section of the Merrit Island National Wildlife Refuge. It is important to "do our part" to protect this fantastic resource. By picking up trash, we protect the environment (i.e. animals, plants & fish); and it helps keep the Merrit Island National Wildlife Refuge cleaner when you and I go there to fish or hike.

## DATE + TIME

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

8am to 10am

## LOCATION: MERRIT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Take Highway I-95 and get off at exit 220. Turn right on Route 406 (Garden Street). Continue eastbound to the A. Max Brewer Memorial Parkway. Continue to the Merritt Island Wildlife Ranger Station, it's about 1/4 miles after you cross over the Max Brewer Bridge. We'll meet at the Ranger Station.

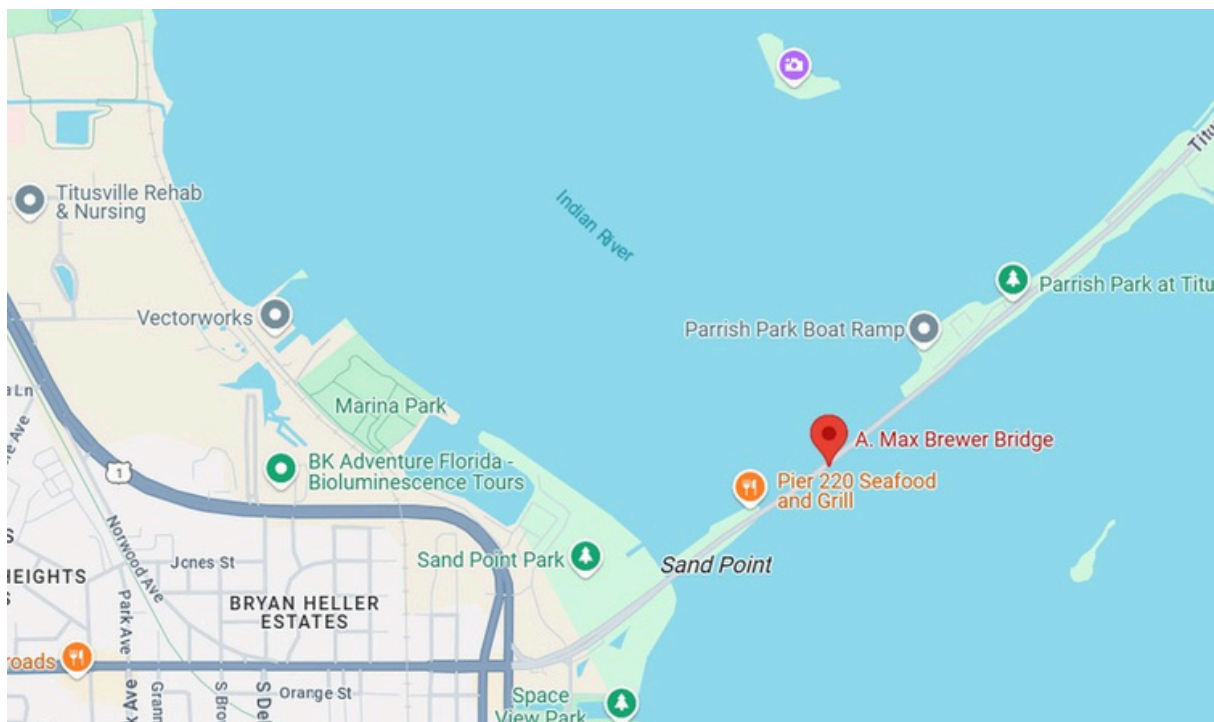
## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Sign up by sending an email to: [FFFAEVENTS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FFFAEVENTS@GMAIL.COM)

Attn: Bill Ledward

You are welcome to contact Bill directly.

\*\*If you don't have his contact information, please ask Bill at the next Club meeting. Or text any FFFA Board Member, to find out.





# FFFA OUTING ON SEPTEMBER 12TH

## WABASSO, INDIAN RIVER FLY FISHING OUTING



Join us for this very fun Fly Fishing Outing. This is a great opportunity to target and catch Snook, Speckled Trout, Amber Jack, Mangrove Snapper and a variety of other fish.

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### WHEN

6am on Friday, September 12th

### WHO IS INVITED?

All FFFA Club members are invited to participate. Seating is limited, so RSVP as soon as possible!

### WHERE

Wabasso - Boat Ramp  
1967 Bridge Blvd, Wabasso FL

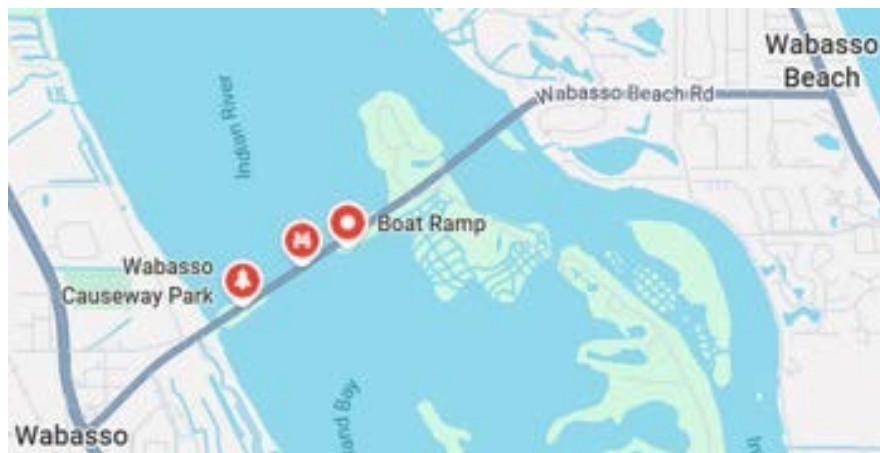
If you have a boat and wish to participate, Captains should contact Rainy Giard to let him know whether or not you have room for Club member(s) who don't have a boat.

- 
1. Sunscreen
  2. Sunglasses
  3. **Water** - lots!!!
  4. Snacks
  5. Hat
  6. Suntan lotion
  7. Bug repellent for No See Ums & Mosquitos

### WHAT TO BRING

1. Fly Rod (7wt or 8wt)
2. Reel
3. Fishing needle nose pliers
4. Small scissors or nips
5. Washcloth: for fish slime, lol

Recommended Flies  
1. Clouser Minnows  
2. Bendbacks



### LUNCH

At about noon, we'll drive to a nearby restaurant for lunch.

**Captains with boats are needed!**

Sign up by sending an email to:

[FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com) attn: Rainy & Rick

You are welcome to contact Rainy or Rick directly.

\*\*If you don't have our contact information, please ask us at the next Club meeting. Or text any FFFA Board Member, to find out.

✉ [FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)

🌐 [www.FloridaFlyFishingAssociation.com](http://www.FloridaFlyFishingAssociation.com)

f [FloridaFlyFishingAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/FloridaFlyFishingAssociation)

# FFFA OUTING ON OCTOBER 23RD

## LAKE WASHINGTON FLY FISHING OUTING



Join us for this very fun Fly Fishing Outing. This is a great opportunity to target and catch Bass, Brim, Crappie and other freshwater fish.

### WHEN

6am on Thursday, October 23rd

### WHO IS INVITED?

All FFFA Club members are invited to participate. Seating is limited, so RSVP as soon as possible!

### WHERE

Lake Washington Park

- Boat Ramp

If you have a boat and wish to participate, Captains should contact Rainy Giard to let him know whether or not you have room for Club member(s) who don't have a boat.

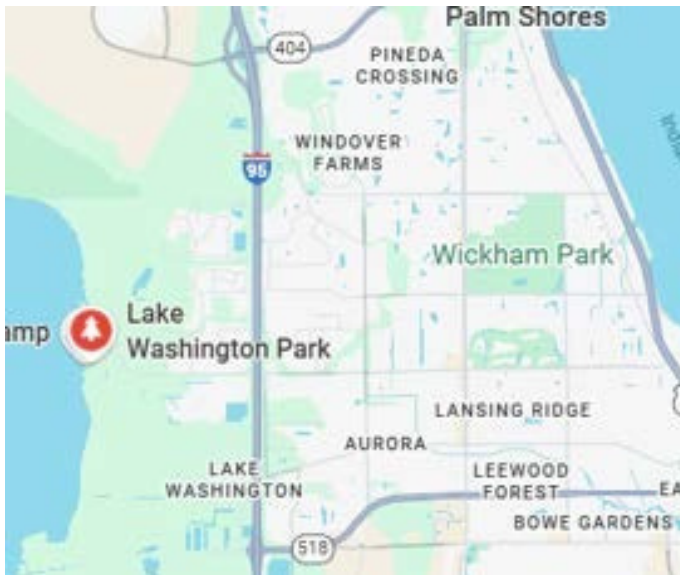
1. Sunscreen
2. Sunglasses
3. **Water** - lots!!!
4. Snacks
5. Hat
6. Jacket
7. Suntan lotion
8. Bug repellent for No See Ums & Mosquitos

### WHAT TO BRING

1. Fly Rod (5wt or 6wt)
2. Reel
3. Fishing needle nose pliers
4. Small scissors or nips
5. Washcloth: for fish slime, lol

### Recommended Flies

1. Small Chartreuse Popping Bugs
2. White or Olive Green Schminnows
3. Pad Crawlers
4. Gurglers
5. Minnow Imitations



### MEET AT BOAT RAMP AFTERWARDS

At about noon, we'll meet at the boat ramp & then go to a nearby Melbourne restaurant.

**Captains with boats are needed!**

Sign up by sending an email to:

[FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com) attn: Rainy & Rick

You are welcome to contact Rainy or Rick directly.

\*\*If you don't have our contact information, please ask us at the next Club meeting. Or text any FFFA Board Member, to find out.

✉ [FFFAevents@gmail.com](mailto:FFFAevents@gmail.com)

🌐 [www.FloridaFlyFishingAssociation.com](http://www.FloridaFlyFishingAssociation.com)

f [FloridaFlyFishingAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/FloridaFlyFishingAssociation)

# Pop Up Fishing Trip Sign Up-Sheet

## FFFA Pop Up Fishing Trips

### Date and time selected based on

- 1) Weather
- 2) What species are active and available
- 3) Trips may be planned with only 1 day notice

### Trip participants' selection

- 1) Must be a current member of FFFA (with dues paid)
- 2) Must have filled out sign up sheet for Pop up fishing trips
- 3) You must respond to trip notification within 1 hour of first notification. If you don't respond the spot on the trip will be offered to the next person on the list (notifications will be by TEXT Msg)
- 4) When a Boat Captain and fisherman have been paired up it is their responsibility to communicate and set up a time and place to meet, and launch.
- 5) The number of spots open for the trip will be based on the number of boats available. (If you want to participate by kayak let us know by indicating in the BOAT line on the sign up sheet that you are open to fish by kayak if there are no openings on a boat.

### The purpose of the POP UP fishing trip

- 1) promote club participation
- 2) Education & Learning by pairing more experienced Fly Fishers with less experienced.
- 3) To solve the problem of our monthly fishing trips usually having bad weather and to get more trips in when the fish are biting and the weather is good
- 4) More Fishing FUN

## ----- POP UP CLUB FISHING TRIPS SIGN UP SHEET -----

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

BOAT \_\_\_\_\_

What size? How many anglers can you comfortably fish?

Fishing days      Sun    Mon    Tue    Wed    Thu    Fri    Sat

Freshwater skill level \_\_\_\_\_

Saltwater skill level \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any areas or type of fishing that you would prefer not to participate in? \_\_\_\_\_