



## November 9, 2009

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### THE BIG FISH ARE HERE!

The sea run rockfish started being caught early last week.

The fish are being caught in the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay with big fish coming from all areas. The ship's channel is chock full of big rockfish chasing schools of bait.

Trollers are using tandem bucktails and parachutes, daisy chains, and umbrella rigs of white, yellow, and green hues.

The fish are not biting everyday, all day, but are selective on when they want to feed. Some mornings have been great with trollers getting six or eight fish in the boat before they get a full spread of lines out. Other days have been good, but a lot of trolling time is required.

Shore fishing has still produced big rockfish by lure casters in the mouth of the Patuxent River. We had one in that was 41 inches that was caught off the rocks at Fishing Point on a very light spinning rig. The big fish required 45 minutes before he was secured on the sand by Ken Normand (see picture).

The fishing will get better each day. The big Gannets (sea birds) that accompany the rockfish run are numerous. When you see them diving for bait, the rockfish are directly under them.



Ray Dickens with a shore caught rockfish that took a top water yourzi at Hog Point, NAS Patuxent River.



Daniel Evans trolled up this 40 inch rockfish near Piney Point.



Paul Hahka landed this 43 pound, 43 inch rockfish on a trolled parachute lure near 72A in the Chesapeake Bay.



Ken Normand cast a red and white yourzi swimming plug from the rocks at Fishing Point and landed this 41 inch, 22 pound rockfish.



Jacob, Robert, and Adam Wheeler with a trio of rockfish caught at Point Lookout on Sunday.



Louis Russell caught this 45 inch rockfish off Stuarts Pier in the Potomac River.



John Crow and Ryan Gallagher with rockfish caught Sunday near buoy 77 in the mouth of the Patuxent River.



Charles Ball landed this beauty on the charter boat Iris Marie off of Point No Point.



Todd Coryell trolled near the target ship using a yellow umbrella rig and came home with this 44 inch, 29 pound rockfish.



Gary Turner trolled a chartreuse umbrella rig to land this rockfish on Sunday.