



July 12, 2010

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Shakespeare must have been a fisherman.

We are having a midsummer night's dream of fishing with croaker, white perch, rockfish, spot, flounder in abundance, and a hint of bluefish and Spanish mackerel. To fish or not to fish, there is no question - just go!

Flounder were caught at Cornfield Harbor this week. Keith Mcguire landed eleven last Thursday, two of which were keepers - 18½" in the Potomac.

Spanish mackerel were sighted north of the Gas Docks this week.

When first light through yon window breaks, you should be casting for rockfish at Cedar Point, or Cove Point, or the Gas Docks, or the Nuclear Power Plant. They can be elusive, causing us to cry "rockfish, rockfish, wherefore art thou, rockfish." It takes patience and searching sometimes, and other times they come up breaking under your boat.

The spot fishing is excellent in the mouth of the Patuxent. These tasty critters are great table fare; even Lady MacBeth would not want to rid herself of the spot in our waters.

Live-liners are catching spot to tempt rockfish. When these bait fish get closed mouthed on wrong times, tides, and winds, the rockfish hunters can be heard yelling: "A spot, a spot, my kingdom for a spot."

White perch fishing is the best I have ever seen. Everyone should take advantage of the great perch surge in the creeks. Cast a beetle spin and catch a bucket full. There are plenty of puppy drum too, but they are not big enough to keep (18 inch minimum). So, if that fish looks like a croaker and has a spot on the tail, or on its back (or several spots), it needs to be returned.

Summer is half over, and January 2011 can be the winter of our discontent if we do not enjoy summer's bounty now.



Sedona Shuk, three years old visiting from Las Vegas, caught this 13 inch perch in White Neck Creek near Bushwood, MD, on soft crab.



Frank Sowell with a huge bluegill from a local farm pond.



Mike Rittenour caught this 20 inch rockfish off the shore at Goose Creek, Cedar Point NAS, casting a top water plug.



Tiffany Ludke caught these white perch in a creek off the Patuxent River.



James Magkasi with a string of perch, spot, and croaker from West Basin, Patuxent River, NAS.



Jesse, age four, from Lawrence, Kansas, shows off a ten inch perch caught on a Beetle Spin in a Patuxent River Creek.



Keith Mcguire lucked into this rockfish while casting a popper into breaking fish last Tuesday. Note Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant in the background.