



July 26, 2010

By Ken Lamb of the Tackle Box, 301-863-8151

The hot weather did not hinder the availability of fish this past week, but it kept many fishermen off the water. One hundred degree air temperatures and high eighty degree water temperatures can bring heat stroke. It will also bring in porpoise from the ocean and they arrived Saturday by the hundreds off of Point Lookout and in Cornfield Harbor. These predators drove off the blues and rockfish that were enjoying smaller bait fish in that area. One thing about porpoises is that they are temporary; here today, gone tomorrow. By the time you read this, the bluefish and rockfish will probably have returned, and the big sea mammals will have vanished.

The rockfish were active Monday morning at Cedar Point Rip where Ryan Galligan found them eager to take jigs in the fast water. The storm that came through Sunday evening cooled us off about 25 degrees and the fish will feel as stimulated as us as the water cools in the next few days.

Spot, croaker, and white perch are all in full summertime mode and can be caught anywhere you can get in a line in the water. A charter captain told me this week that his night trip for hardhead (croaker) to 72A was a great success. The fish did not start until the sun set, but then came in droves and they were 15 to 18 inches. The big croaker are up the bay too, but slowed a little this week.

Some rockfish have been produced by trollers up the Patuxent at Sheridan Point and at the shipwreck just south of St. Leonard Creek. Rockfish are in the shallows at high tides off of Sotterley and Captain's Point. Rockfish are scattered in schools all up and down the Potomac from the Nice Bridge to Point Lookout. Both sides of the river are holding fish on the ledges. Small bucktails and Road Runners work great, as do #15 Tony spoons.



Ashley Windsor shows off an 11 1/2 inch perch from a Southern Maryland creek.



Rob Abell with a 12 inch perch from Long Beach.



Jessica Reid caught this 24 inch rockfish at the mouth of St. Leonard Creek amongst hardhead on a squid bait.



Ryan Gilligan caught these rockfish while jigging at Cedar Point Rip.