

Fishing forecast

FISH FINDER

BEST BETS

Offshore: Gag grouper, mangrove snapper, cobia.

Inshore: Goliath grouper, black drum, croaker.

TREASURE COAST REPORT

1. Indian River County Offshore: Capt. Tom Constantine of the Sebastian Lady party boat from Capt. Butcher's Marina said fishing was a little slow at 90 feet, but his captains found slightly better action in 100-105 feet. Persistent anglers can find decent gag grouper and red snapper, with a cobia or two mixed in.

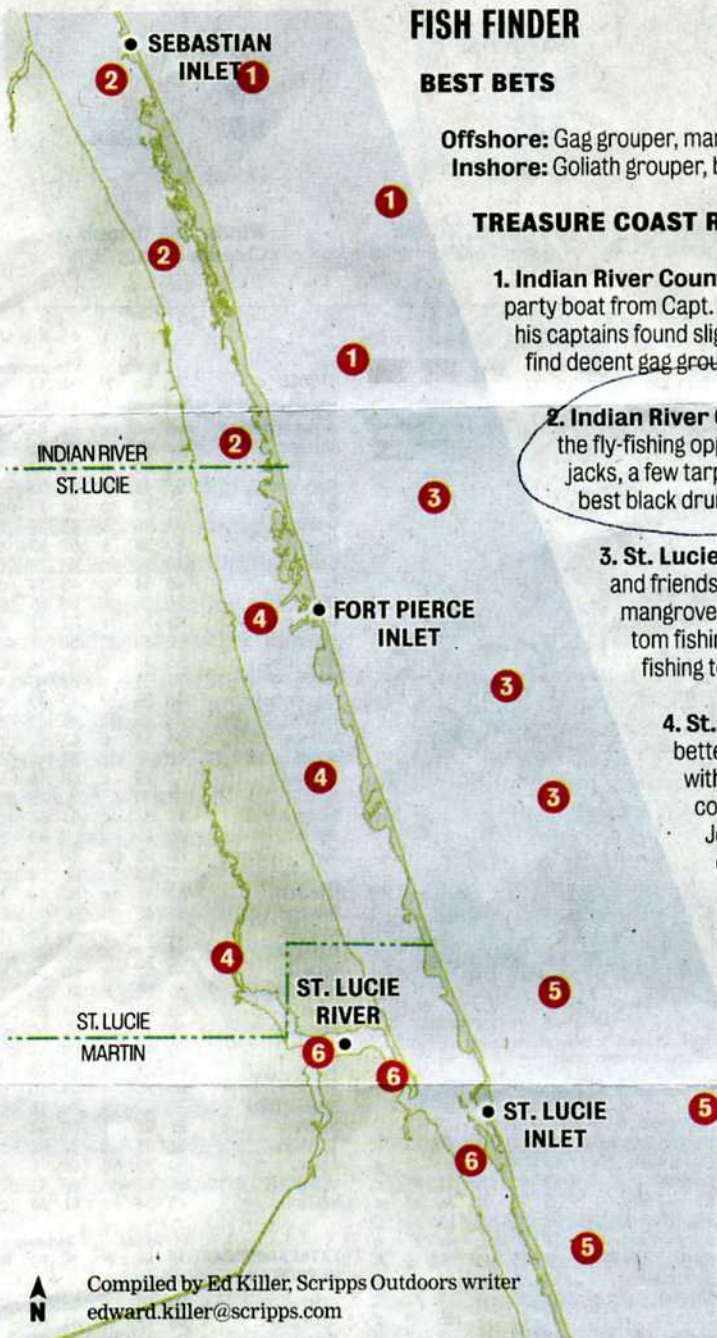
2. Indian River County Inshore: Capt. Gary Giles near Sebastian said the fly-fishing opportunities are plentiful for wade fishermen — ladyfish, jacks, a few tarpon and even consistent pompano. At Sebastian Inlet, the best black drum and red drum bite has been on the outgoing tide.

3. St. Lucie County Offshore: Over the weekend, David Albritton and friends on Gatorfan landed gag grouper of 27 and 12 pounds and mangrove snapper of 10 and 12 pounds. Although reports say the bottom fishing is slowing, it's contingent upon current. Expect snapper fishing to get better in 60 and 90 feet once it begins to heat back up.

4. St. Lucie County Inshore: The trout fishing has been getting better with warming water, but look for the bite to go dormant with today's cold front. For a couple of days, the fish will seek cover from the temperatures in deeper water. Last week, Jesse Pfeiffer of Fort Pierce caught an 86-pound black drum on a live pigfish while snook fishing in the Fort Pierce Inlet.

5. Martin County Offshore: Darren Jones at Finest Kind Marina in Stuart said the boat Keltommic with Capt. Mike Dacey reported the catch of a wahoo and a few dolphin in 275 feet Tuesday. A few sailfish have been caught and released, but live bait has been hard to come by. Lane snapper are on the shallow reefs.

6. Martin County Inshore: Capt. John Young of Bites On charters out of Billy Bones Bait and Tackle in Port St. Lucie said the fishing in the St. Lucie River was aided by last week's low tides. Steve Taylor caught big jacks, Goliath grouper, drum and two snook on root beer D.O.A. Terror Eyz and mullet on a jig head.



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LAKE OKEECHOBEE REPORT

A Bass: When a cold front arrives, look for bass to move in tighter to cover. Many anglers find that the flipping technique is the best approach when that happens. Some of the best bites this week will be along the shorelines in the Rim Canal and Kissimmee River. Be sure to toss within a foot of the bank to find the bites.

B Black crappie (specks): The cool weather could trigger a little more speck action this week. Anglers slow drifting with minnows or grass shrimp will catch their share. Expect to find these fish around vegetation, over structure in the Dyamite Holes, at J & S Fish Camp, in Harney Pond Canal and at Point of the Reef.