



Club Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2017
St. James Community Center

The Cape Fear Flyfishers met at the St. James Community Center at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 15, 2017. The meeting began with the casting clinic and Kayak Show and Tell followed at 6:00 with the club business meeting.

Club Business Meeting

Introduction of New Members and Guests – All members present introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes - Members will approve the February minutes at the next monthly meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Tony Mangiapane reported we have \$5,619 in the bank, although this will be reduced soon when the club pays IFFF membership dues and purchases liability insurance.

Drawing of Donated Flies– Paul Askew held the winning ticket.

Trips and Activities

Two-Day Women Fly Fishing Retreat – Due to a couple of cancellations, the club will postpone the women's fly fishing retreat. We will use the guides instead for local charter over the period Thursday, March 30 to Saturday, April 1. Two spots are still available on Thursday, March 30, with guide [Judson Brock](#).

[Bristol TN/VA Mountain Fishing Trip](#) – The trip will be April 24-28; traveling on the 24th; fishing 25-27, and traveling home on the 28th. One may wade or drift fish. Sign up now.

[Women's Anglers in Training \(WAIT\)](#) – April 30/May 1. “For you ladies who want to learn more about saltwater fishing and don't want to be bothered by your husband or boyfriend, the Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department have just the thing. The Women Anglers in Training Program, or WAIT for short, is a two-day fishing seminar, April 30th -May1st, just for the ladies.”

[Weldon, NC Stripers](#) – May 2-4. Jim will be contacting members soon to plan the trip to fish for striped bass on the Roanoke River in Weldon, N.C. Bring along a 12 gauge with your fly rod if you want to hunt the last week of the turkey season. Northern Halifax County holds the state record for turkey harvests.

[Oak Island Kayak Fishing School](#) – May 6, 2017. Jerry Dilsaver will give an introduction to inshore saltwater fishing and ocean kayak fishing in the morning, followed by the opportunity to test drive up to a dozen different kayaks on the water that afternoon. The morning program will address safety, rigging, and fishing techniques. Lunch will be provided. The school will be held at [Dutchman Creek Park](#) under a tent, weather permitting. Dutchman Creek Park is on the left past the NC Wildlife Commission boat ramp on Fish Factory Road.

[Kayak Fish and Float Day](#) – April 8, [John E. Pechmann Fishing Education Center](#), Fayetteville, N.C. Jerry Dilsaver will also instruct there. The program includes a seminar in the morning followed by a demo session on the lake across the road in the afternoon.

[Lake Waccamaw](#) – the Lake Waccamaw trip, including boaters and kayakers, is now scheduled for May 10, the day of the full moon. This date is the peak of the bream spawning season.

[Rice's/Town Creek](#) – we will still plan on the Rice's/Town Creek trip the following week on May 15 or 16.

Round Table/What's Biting, Where and on what?

With an early spring, the bass and bream are active and good catches were reported last week by Bobby Sands.

PROGRAM: KAYAKS – ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

Members Steve Moore, Forest Duncan and local columnist [Captain Jerry Dilsaver](#) shared their experiences on choosing, accessorizing and using kayaks for fishing. Steve's PowerPoint "Kayak Fishing.pdf" and Forest's handouts "Newcomer Kayak Fishing Guide for Southport & Oak Island N.C.," and "Kayak Fly Fishing Tips" are attached and are available on the club's website.

The presenters used a round-robin approach to answer the following questions:

- What caused me to look to a kayak instead of a boat?
- Why we picked the kayak we selected?
- How we fish from it?
- What accessories we installed to improve the fishing experience?

WHAT CAUSED ME TO LOOK TO A KAYAK INSTEAD OF A BOAT?

Steve bought his [Native Angler Ultimate 14.5 kayak](#) because it was cheap compared to a power boat and he needed the exercise. He paid \$1,100 for it, used, two years ago. Accessories add more costs depending on what one is willing to spend.

Steve would not buy this model again. If it flips over, it is not possible to flip it back because it fills with water. If you buy a Native, get one with scupper holes to drain water. On the positive side, the Ultimate is stable and easy to stand and fly fish.

Forest chose the [Hobie Pro Angler 12 kayak](#) due to the cost savings over buying a power boat. He paid about \$6,000 four years ago for the kayak and [Yakima trailer](#), plus a few hundred dollars for accessories. Owning a kayak also does not burden one with high maintenance costs, the costs of a slip for storage, insurance, and gas. [Jerry Dilsaver's kayak fishing school](#) also led to his decision to buy a kayak. He has attended Jerry's school each of the past six years as he always learns something new.

Forest particularly likes the kayak's capability to access shallow water. Although a downside is its slow speed compared to a power boat, there are numerous launch sites to access the ICW between Wrightsville Beach and Oak Island. Storage was also a factor. One can store the kayak and trailer in one's garage if you are willing to forego the garage space.

Forest has never been flipped over by boat traffic on the ICW. The kayak easily bounces through the wake if one steers into it. However, he flipped once when retrieving a lure caught on marsh grass in about three feet of water. Leaning on the edge of the kayak with 200 pounds of weight is a good prescription for flipping. On another occasion, he almost flipped when his anchor got caught in the fast moving Lockwood Folly River. He had to cut the anchor trolley rope with a knife to prevent the current from overwhelming the kayak as he tried breaking the anchor loose. Forest keeps a knife in his PFD for such situations.

Assuming you have an anchor trolley, Steve recommends threading your anchor rope through the trolley ring, wrap the rope around a cleat, and tying a [slip knot](#) so you can easily release the anchor in such situations. View Steve's many other videos on [Kayak Hacks Fishing](#). Also subscribe to the [Southern Kayak Fishing Magazine](#), which includes Steve's Kayak Hacks column on how to do costly things cheaply.

Steve noted the center of gravity on Forest's kayak is higher than his and this makes the risk of flipping over greater. On the other hand, Forest's kayak is wider – 36" vs 30" on Steve's kayak. The wider the kayak, the more stable it will be.

A friend introduced Jerry to kayak fishing several years ago. The first fish he hooked was a 26 3/4" puppy drum that gave him a grand tour of a creek, two docks, oyster bars, etc. He couldn't stop laughing and bought a kayak within a week.

Steve was a canoe guy before getting a kayak and says he will never go back to the canoe.

WHY WE PICKED THE KAYAK WE SELECTED?

Forest chose the Hobie Pro Angler 12 because of its pedal-driven Mirage Drive system and the comfortable, adjustable seat. It is also a sit-on top as opposed to sit-in kayak, giving one a higher sitting position and more “freedom” and flexibility to fish.

Steve chose his Native because a second seat can be installed so his wife can join him. He was able to attach a trolling motor for propulsion. Jerry mentioned one can now buy a battery-powered propeller that can be installed in a kayak. [Berlypro](#), an Australian company is improving the [Water Snake](#) trolling motors to fit in the Hobie kayak. The German company Torqueedo, offers the best [kayak trolling motor](#) on the market. It is also possible to mount a 2-2.5hp outboard motor on the larger Hobie kayaks. Keep in mind, though, that when one installs a mechanical propulsion device, the kayak, in effect, becomes a boat and one must register and pay state and county taxes.

Steve added that the Hobie drive lifts out of the drive well, allowing one to move into very shallow water. The Native drive is removable, but sticks below the boat farther than the Hobie; requiring removal earlier to get to shallower water,

Someone asked if there are problems with water coming into the kayak, for example, from the wake of a passing boat. This rarely occurs, but, if it does, the Hobie kayaks have scupper holes to drain the water. The Ultimate model does not although other Native models do. He recommends choosing one of those. If you have a kayak without scupper holes, one needs to bring along a [hand bilge pump](#).

Jerry reminded members to head for deeper water if a large vessel is creating a big wake. The wake will be a swell in the deeper water but will be a greater danger when it becomes steeper and breaks in the shallower water. This is a good reason to choose a sit-on-top kayak with scupper holes over a sit-in kayak without scupper holes.

Weight is an important consideration in choosing a kayak. Stability is the enemy of speed. Longer and narrower kayaks move faster than shorter and wider ones. Wider kayaks add stability. The Hobie Pro Angler 12 weighs 110lbs and is 36” wide. The Native Ultimate 14.5 is 59lbs and 30” wide. The Hobie pedal system helps compensate for the slower speed compared to the Ultimate. It is important to test drive a kayak before buying to learn what is most comfortable for you.

Seat selection is also important. The Hobie Advantage seat is excellent. The mesh seat is built on a solid frame; the seat and back can be adjusted as can the lumbar support. It is conducive to longer time on the water and afternoon naps when the fishing is slow. The Native seat has a bar that presses against the tailbone and is uncomfortable. This problem may have been corrected in newer Native models. Steve uses a cushion to protect his tailbone.

Jerry noted that the Star Fishing Tackle Co. sells a light, fly-rod weight rod designed for kayak fishermen. The [Star Seagis](#) has the same 7.0 ft. length as its traditional 7.0 rod but the reel seat is

two inches further back, making it less difficult to use when wearing a PFD. This is an example of the kind of innovations to look for if you own a fishing kayak.

The Hobie Kayak Co. sells a [live well](#) that fits into the rear scupper holes of Pro Angler kayaks. It draws in fresh water constantly, building to a level such that it overflows and runs out. It includes three rod holders. The live well does not fit all kayak models so Jerry made a DIY live well using an Engle cooler – complete with rod holders! It includes a battery-powered aerator that permits one to buy/catch live bait and store it in the live well before launching. One can use a cigarette adapter to plug into the car so one does not run down the D-cell batteries while traveling to the launch site.

Jerry, Steve, and Forest advise those buying a kayak the first time not to buy everything at once. Take your time and experience being on the water to determine what works best for your fishing style.

Jerry fishes with one-series heavier rod when he is drifting as opposed to anchoring – from a 6-12 weight to an 8-16 weight. This permits one to get a better hook set. The same principle can be applied to fly rod selection, based on the species being fished. For example, one might choose a 3-6 weight to fish for bream but move up to an 8-weight for bass.

HOW WE FISH FROM IT?

Forest fishes from his kayak in a variety of ways. The attached handout “Kayak Fly Fishing Tips” details several fly fishing techniques. This past Fall he was successful in trolling for speckled trout. If decaying grass inhibits trolling, he switches to casting MirrOlure artificials, notably the [MirrOdine MR 17 Suspending Twitchbait](#). Once you locate the trout, one can cast [Clouser Minnows](#) with a fly rod, weather permitting.

The kayak is particularly effective when fishing in short marsh grass for redfish. Forest uses an extendable 9-17 foot [Super Stick push pole](#) to maneuver, or he anchors and wade fishes if the bottom permits – short marsh grass and hard sandy bottom. He may also use a collapsible [Hobie “H” bar](#) to lean against when standing, for more stability.

Most of Forest’s freshwater fishing lately has been on [Lake Waccamaw](#), a 45-minute drive from St. James. He uses a six-weight and small poppers such as the [Bully’s Bluegill Spider](#) to fish for bream and larger flies such as the [Sneaky Pete](#) to fish for bass. When spin fishing, he fishes in shallow grass with topwater frogs such as the [Live Target hollow frog](#).

When fishing in cold weather, Forest wears the [Kokatat dry suit](#) to protect him should he fall in the water. He wears it when the water temperature falls below 70-80 degrees. Steve chooses not to kayak in the winter due to the danger of hyperthermia. Jerry shared [1-10-1 Rule](#) for fishing in cold water. If you fall into 50-degree water, you have about 1 minute to decide what to do. Many people gulp a mouthful of water when they hit the water, disorienting them from the start. Then, you have about 10 minutes, depending on your weight, to respond – push the kayak to the shore? – leave it and go to shore? After about 10 minutes, your mind will tell you to swim but your arms and legs will not respond. You then have about 1 hour for the cold water to have its

full effect and hyperthermia takes hold. You need to get to a dry bank and get into dry clothes within that hour. Make your spring fishing and clothing decisions on the basis of the water temperature, not the air temperature.

When Steve fly fishes from his kayak he lays down a camo tarp he cut to fit the front of the kayak, such that it creates a “basket” to collect the stripped fly line. He finds it easier to kneel and cast instead of casting from the sitting position. He wears a pair of knee pads that enables him to kneel comfortably for longer periods of time.

Another handy tool is the [RexFly Casting System](#) that fits in a harness such that the angler is not holding the weight of the reel. This reduces casting fatigue, especially if fishing with weighted line. It also allows one to strip the line with both hands enabling a more consistent stripping action. If you buy from the manufacturer’s [website](#) (\$85), type in the code “KayakHacks” and you will receive a 10% discount; another 15% will be donated to [Project Healing Waters](#).

When fly fishing, Steve stands, kneels, or uses the [captain’s perch](#) to get more elevation. It hangs on the back of the seat. One can fold the back of the seat forward and the cushion creates a higher, more level seat from which to cast. When spin fishing, he usually sits in the regular seat. Use your spinning rod to prospect for fish when you cannot see them tailing.

WHAT ACCESSORIES WE INSTALLED TO IMPROVE THE FISHING EXPERIENCE?

Steve uses a [Frabill Flow Troll Bait Container](#) to manage live bait. He connects the container to an aerator when it’s in the kayak; when it’s in the water, be sure you tie a long-enough rope so it drifts far enough away from the kayak to not hit against it. See Steve’s [video](#) showing how this can be done for under \$15.

Instead of the milk crate box used by many kayak fishermen for storing tackle, Steve uses a modified Harbor Freight tool box. It offers more space and one can attach lure boxes on top to permit easy-access to your lures – This [video](#) shows how to do this.

For those hot sunny days, consider installing an umbrella. Get the [Sport Brella](#) brand, which is easily adjustable. Avoid the cheaper, clamp-on types as they break easily. See Steve’s [video](#) on how this is done.

Other accessories you will find on Steve’s kayak are a cast net, PFD, [camera mounts](#), [DIY gear head](#), [lightning detector](#), [stand-up assist rope](#), [mount for a side-imaging transducer](#), stake-out pole, [retractable waterproof fly box](#), [battery box for transducer battery](#), a pill box with silica gel tabs to protect the electrical connectors from rust, car mats on the kayak deck to reduce noise, a [Mylar fish bag](#), spare paddle, wet weather gear, gloves to grab fish or crabs, a noise maker in addition to the one carried on his PFD, fish measurer, and a landing net.

Forest uses a [Hobie Heavy Duty Plug in Kayak Cart](#), to transport his kayak to and from the boat ramp. One can insert the cart into one of two pairs of scupper holes in front and behind the seat. A [Senior Reels on Wheels Fishing Cart](#) is handy for transporting fishing gear.

In the winter, Forest wears a [NRS c Vest Mesh PFD](#); in the summer, a [Hobie Inflatable Life Jacket](#). The former is bulkier and warmer. The latter is thinner, cooler, and must be inflated by pulling a cord. The risk of the inflatable is the possibility of losing consciousness if you fall against, for example, a dock piling and are unable to pull the inflation cord. One must inspect the inflation cartridge periodically to ensure it is active.

For anchoring, Forest uses a [Stick It Kayak Anchor Pin](#) for shallow water and a [Kayak Anchor Float](#), with a line management system, for deeper water. The anchor float includes about 60 feet of line, enough for anchoring in up to 20 feet of water, assuming a 3:1 ratio of the length of line needed per foot of depth. Jerry noted the ideal ratio is 7:1 to allow for strong wind and wave conditions. Adding a length of iron chain in front of the anchor adds to the efficiency of the anchor.

A [Boga Grip](#) is useful for landing, handling, and weighing fish. Add a float to prevent it from sinking should it fall overboard. In general, tether all equipment to the kayak to prevent loss.

An [Assault Hand Paddle](#) is helpful in making small paddling movements. A larger two-piece paddle is included in the purchase of the Pro Angler.

Hobie Pro Angler kayaks include a hatch in front of the seat for storing two waterproof [Frabill Plano Stowaway tackle boxes](#). Room under the seat allows storing two more stowaway boxes.

Hobie Pro Angler kayak are designed to mount Lowrance fish finders under the hull. Forest uses the [Lowrance Hook 4 Fishfinder/Chartplotter](#). Lowrance's new Elite Ti Fishfinder/Chartplotter, a touchscreen unit, permits one to install a side-scanning transducer under the hull.

Mounts have been installed for mounting a [GoPro camera](#). The camera is used to take pictures of catches and to film structure on low tide.

A hatch with a sizable plastic liner in the front of the kayak includes replacement fins and cables for the Mirage drive, a first aid kit, an emergency kit, a [collapsible light](#) for night use; a [VHF radio](#) (joined [Boats USA](#) rescue club); a change of clothing in the winter, a pair of side-cutter pliers to remove hooks, sunglasses, insect repellent wipes, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

Forest Duncan

Secretary

KAYAK FLY FISHING TIPS

April 5, 2017

Casting from a Seated Position

When casting from a seated position, think in terms of a casting plane that is higher on the back cast than the forward cast. This helps deal with the possibility of slapping the water on your backcast or snagging the back cast on marsh grass in a small creek. Slapping the water behind you will reduce line speed and not allow your rod to load to its fullest potential.

Avoid this by starting your back cast slowly and accelerate smoothly as your line begins to leave the water. Stop the rod on the back cast earlier than you normally, flipping the line high like flipping pancakes with a spatula. Maintain a firm wrist and make an abrupt stop on the backcast no further than the two o'clock position.

Before casting, make sure your fly rod tip is in or at the water surface and move your casting arm forward a bit further than you normally would. Make sure your line is straight. A fly line without slack means a much more effective casting stroke.

The [RexFly Casting System](#) is a handy tool that fits into a harness such that the angler is not holding the weight of the reel. This reduces casting fatigue, especially if fishing with weighted line. It also allows one to strip the line with both hands enabling a more consistent stripping action. If you buy from the manufacturer's [website](#) (\$85), type in the code "KayakHacks" and you will receive a 10% discount; another 15% will be donated to [Project Healing Waters](#).

Keep in mind that fly casting from a kayak rocks the kayak, sending out a ripple (pressure wave). The wave alerts fish to your presence and makes them wary.

Do not rely on power to get more distance. Removing slack, accelerating smoothly to a stop, and using arm movement efficiently are the secrets to casting distance while seated in a kayak.

Casting from a Standing Position

Casting from a standing position offers a high vantage point to sight fish and locate structure; it also enables one to make longer casts if necessary. Practice standing under controlled conditions, without your gear. Once you've perfected standing, practice standing and casting - do it in shallow water. Standing, paddling, and casting will eventually become second nature.

Maintaining an Open/Clean Deck

The cockpit should be free of clutter and objects that can snag line. Paddles, pedals, rudder controls, tools, etc. will tangle with your line. Combat this problem as follows:

- **Clear the deck.** That allows you to drop the line between your legs on the deck without snagging anything.
- **If you cast right-handed, clear the gunnel on the left side of the kayak** – no paddle storage on the left; no electronics or rod holders on that side; no anchor trolley; nothing to stick up even slightly to obstruct the line.
- **If you cannot fit all of the line you retrieve on the deck, drop it into the water on the left side of the kayak.** The floating line will follow your drift in the kayak. Sinking line will occasionally go under the boat but usually that is no problem.
- **Modify a [stripping basket](#) to mount it on the side of the kayak, allowing you to strip line into the basket.** Use it facing forward or sitting side saddle.

When fly fishing from a kayak, keep it simple and bring only your rod, a box of flies you expect to use over the course of the day, a set of clippers, a set of needle nose pliers, and a landing net.

Stripping

Spread your legs to create an area to strip the line; this avoids tangles of the gear around you. No stripping basket is necessary, just strip the line on your lap making sure you have nothing to catch the line as you cast. Carry a stripping basket if you want to wade a flat.

Or, strip your line down into the water. This keeps the line well out of your way, but still gives you access to it – uncoiled – when you're ready to set the hook. It also helps to minimize the number of tangles that you get inside of the boat.

Or, see Steve Moore's Kayak Hack [Fly Fishing from a Kayak](#) with tips on fishing in a kayak from a kneeling position using knee pads and creating a stripping basket using a cheap tarp.

When stripping line, hold the reel at about chest level, so you are stripping in a reasonable length of line per strip.

Hook Setting

Use a strip to set your hook, not your rod. You may use a combo of both, but be heavy on the strip action as it imparts greater force to the line than the fly rod. When fishing for smaller and more sensitive mouthed fish like trout or sunfish use a rod lift, but larger, harder-mouthed fish like redfish and bass need a good strip set.

Fighting the Fish

Fighting fish with the fly rod from a kayak requires a bit of adjustment. Don't strip the fish in, leaving a pile of line on the deck. Instead, pull in the fish on the reel to avoid tangling a flopping fish in the line. To get a fish on the reel, pinch the line under your middle finger to maintain

pressure on the fish, while using your pinkie to keep pressure on the pile of line as you reel it in. Larger fish will take out the entire pile of slack line as they run; your job is just to keep the line flowing through the guides until the fish is on the reel and taking drag. Remember to keep pressure on the fish.

Keep your rod pulling away from the fish and use the side-to-side fighting technique, pulling in the direction of their tail. If the fish runs right, pull your rod to your left side so he has to fight the rod, not you.

Anchoring

Bring an anchor, and hook it up to a trolley. An anchor trolley lets you reposition the boat so you're always pointed straight at your target, and have the best position for generating the most power on your hookset.

Trolling

Trolling a fly, though not recognized by the IGFA as a way of fly fishing, is a great way to locate fish instead of using a fish finder. The pace of paddling and the currents created by the kayak cause the fly to move in a seductive way that fish can't resist. Troll line using clouser.

Wading

Being seated in your kayak *may* be stealthier than wading. A boat drawing only a few inches of water blends well into the surface whereas two feet kicking up bottom may easily spook the fish. On the other hand, by wading, you are less likely to spook fish by banging the boat and/or creating a ripple (pressure wave).

Helpful Links

[Fly Fishing Tips and Hacks](#), Steve Moore

[Fly Fishing from a Kayak](#), Greg Bowfish

[Kayak Fly Fishing Tips](#), Joe Mahler

[Fly Casting Techniques](#), Rich Santos

[How to Fly Fish for Trophy Fish in Lily Pads](#), Damon Bungard

NEWCOMER KAYAK FISHING GUIDE FOR SOUTHPORT & OAK ISLAND, N.C.

GETTING STARTED

[Kayak Fishing: The Complete Guide](#) – Cory Routh; provides essential information you will need to get started for successful fishing from a kayak.

[Kayak Fishing: The Ultimate Guide](#) – Scott Null and Joel McBride; offers a solid foundation of skills and concepts that allow a safe and comfortable entry into the sport.

[Kayak Fishing](#) – Jeff Weakley, Sportsman's Best Book & DVD Series; provides advice on the process of selecting, accessorizing, and using and fishing from a kayak.

LOCAL DEALERS

[Great Outdoor Provisions Company](#) – 3501 Oleander Drive, Wilmington, NC; local Hobie kayak dealer; offers other brands and kayak accessories.

[Hook, Line & Paddle](#) - 435 Eastwood Road, Wilmington, NC; local Native and Wilderness kayak dealer; offers wide variety of kayak accessories as well.

[Adventure Kayak Co.](#) – 807 N. Howe Street, Southport, NC; offers Hurricane and Perception brands; sign up for one of their local kayak tours to experience being on the water in a kayak.

KAYAK FISHING SCHOOLS

Introduction to Kayak Fishing Clinic – the [John E. Pechmann Fishing Education Center](#) in Fayetteville, N.C. offers a [series of three kayak fishing clinics](#) annually.

[Kayak Fishing School](#), Captain Jerry Dilsaver, May 6, Oak Island Parks and Recreation Department, [Cape Fear Yacht Club](#), Oak Island, N.C.

OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

[Kayak Inshore Fishing Mastery Course](#) – Joe & Luke Simonds, Salt Strong; includes over 30 videos with tips for finding and catching inshore fish all year long from a kayak. Browse [Salt Strong](#) for other valuable fishing tips.

[North Carolina Kayak Fishing Association](#) – the Cape Fear Chapter meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 at either the Great Outdoor Provision Company or Hook, Line & Paddle; the NCKFA website forum offers valuable information on where and how to fish from a kayak.

[Kayak Hacks Fishing](#) – Steve Moore, local kayak fisherman, posts two tips weekly on Sundays and Wednesdays. Also see Steve's column in the online [Southern Kayak Fishing Magazine](#).

[Kayak Angler Magazine](#) – keep updated on the latest kayak fishing gear and skills.

LAUNCH SITES

[Launch Sites in Brunswick County](#) - the St. James Kayak Association offers an excellent guide including maps on where to launch.

[Boat Ramps, Kayak Launches, and Marinas](#) – identifies some sites not included in the previous reference.

Tides – pedal/paddle with the tides, not against them. [Tides4Fishing](#) is an excellent resource.

LOCAL KAYAK FISHING SPOTS (View using [Google Earth](#), [Google Maps](#), [Bing Maps](#), etc.)

Beaverdam Creek, flooded marshes two hours before and after high tide. Also fish the flooded marshes on either side of the ICW to Oak Island Bridge. Launch NE 55th St. ramp, Oak Island.

ICW flooded marshes two hours before and after high tide between Beaverdam Creek and old Oak Island Bridge. Launch from NE 55th Street ramp, Oak Island.

Lockwood Folly marshes and creeks on either side of Lockwood Folly River two hours before and after high tide. Launch Sunset Harbor ramp or Blue Point Marina ramp.

Montgomery Slough – fish to intersection with Davis Canal; launch from 39th Place West ramp two hours after low tide. Return two hours before low tide

Ft Fisher Rock Wall and Basins. Launch Federal Point ramp two hours after low tide; return two hours before low tide.

NC Angler – see forum for [Kayak Fishing](#); many entries discuss where and how to catch fish from a kayak; register and enter searches for Southport and Oak Island.

[Southport/Oak Island Favorites](#) - ten of local columnist Jerry Dilsaver's favorite places to fish.

Top Spot Fishing Map – [Cape Fear and Wilmington to New River Inlet and Jacksonville](#); identifies fishing areas, species caught, best fishing months of the year, and structure.

FISHING LOG

[FishersLog](#) is an excellent tool for logging your fishing trips.

KAYAK FISHING CHARTERS

[Hook, Line & Paddle](#) - fish the salt marshes of Wrightsville Beach, Fort Fisher, and the surrounding coast with professionally Native Watercraft endorsed guides.

[Cape Fear River Adventures](#) – fish the Black River with Captain Charles Robbins.