Hey Look! IT'S A SNOOK!
A Florida Common Snook...Learn More on Page 6.

PLUS MORE!
Photos, Articles & Activities!

KIDS MAKING a Difference! Page 4
Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) is a non-profit marine resource conservation organization made up of more than 130,000 members. It has been active in almost every national fisheries debate for decades and has been a driving force in state and federal fisheries management issues. With your continued support, CCA will continue to battle for the health and longevity of our coastal fisheries and for recreational anglers interests in them.

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ON THE COVER >>
Carleigh Dan Gorski, age 7, poses with her very first snook caught and released with Captain Scott Moore in Egmont Key, Florida.
GET THE FACTS

We have a bad habit. Humans use 450 billion plastic drinking bottles a year, and far too many of them end up in our oceans. We at Costa know how important our oceans are, and as anglers, we’re in a unique position to do something about it.

HERE’S WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

• The equivalent of a garbage truck of plastic is dumped into the ocean every minute.
• By 2050 there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean (by weight).
• Almost all the plastic ever produced is still around.
• One in four fish tested have plastic in them.

SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE A BIG IMPACT

• Stop Using Plastic Water Bottles
• Use Reusable Grocery Bags
• Buy In Bulk To Cut Down On Packaging
• Recycle Old Fishing Line

SPREAD THE WORD

None of us wants to live in a plastic sea. Join us in the fight to Kick Plastic by spreading the word about the problem and teaming up to find solutions. You can learn more about what we’re doing to Kick Plastic at costadelmar.com.

HERE’S HOW YOU CAN SHARE:

• Post about Kick Plastic to your social media accounts. We’ve collected images and facts that’ll help spread the word at http://bit.ly/kickplastic.
• Be sure to tag your posts with #KickPlastic. We’ll amplify your posts on our campaign page to help you reach more people.
• Watch and share the Kick Plastic video at http://bit.ly/kickplasticvid to help get the word out and protect our oceans.

GET INVOLVED AT costadelmar.com/kickplastic
hey look!
IT’S A SNOOK!
(A Florida Common Snook That Is!)

Water temperature below 45°F will kill a common snook.

Average weight is about 3–15 pounds, with 16–30 pounders being fairly common. The Florida state record is 44 pounds, 3 ounces, caught near Ft. Myers.

Their main predators are dolphin, osprey, heron and larger fish.

Their most obvious physical trait is their lateral line, a sharply drawn black stripe running from head to tail, earning them the nickname “linesider.”

In 1957, common snook were declared a gamefish (you can only fish them for sport) in Florida, making it illegal to catch them for resale.

Common snook are known for being very fun to catch and can jump clear out of the water!

They live in mainly inshore waters, including mangrove shorelines, seagrass beds, beaches and around structure.

They feed on smaller fish and large crustaceans.

If fishing for common snook, beware their gill covers - they are razor sharp!

They all begin life as males, but when they reach about 18–22 inches long, some become females.
WHAT IS A RED TIDE? Red tides occur when a microscopic algae, Karenia brevis, grows faster and in higher numbers than it should normally releasing toxic chemicals that affect marine life and people. Red tides are named for the reddish-brown color the Karenia brevis turns the water.

Unfortunately for all of 2018 and some of 2019, a red tide algae bloom has been affecting coastal cities from Florida’s Panhandle to its southern tip. The red tide has claimed many victims including at least a hundred manatees, a dozen dolphins, thousands of fish, 300 sea turtles and more.

Our friend the common snook is one of the species that has been terribly affected.

There is good news though! Coastal Conservation Association Florida has joined with partners Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and Mote Marine Laboratory with a program to try and bring back the snook population!

The plan to bring the snook population back includes raising and releasing 5,000 hatchery-raised juvenile snook along Florida’s southwest coast. They will also be tagging the released snook with Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) Tags. PIT tags are tracking tags that have an internal microchip that is activated when it passes close to a special antenna. The antenna is connected to a computer that records the identity of the tag and the time that it passed by the antenna. The total program will cost more than $220,000 and will be supported by the renewed Adopt-A-Snook program.

Those who donate to the Adopt-A-Snook program will receive an adoption certificate including the tag number and release location for their adopted baby snook. Donors will also receive updates on their fish based on the data collected from the PIT tags on each fish. The PIT tags will transmit data to Mote marine scientists that will allow them to track each snook’s movement and travel.

One hundred percent of the donations will go towards the raising, tagging, releasing, monitoring and studying the snook. Get more information and adopt your own snook online today at AdoptASnook.com and learn more on CCA Florida’s website, CCAFlorida.org.
KIDS MAKING a Difference!

CCA, BCT, Shell Oil, Entergy and LOTS of Students Complete Phase II of Floating Island Project

More than 100 school students joined CCA Louisiana and Shell Oil to build Phase II of the Floating Islands Restoration Project near Cyremort Point in Vermilion Bay, Louisiana.

The student volunteers planted roughly 2,500 square feet of new wetland habitat into 8-foot by 20-foot BioHaven Floating Islands. They planted three types of native marsh plants into the islands, including mangrove, seashore paspansom and cord grass. Once the islands were full of planted grasses, they were deployed into the water, towed a short distance by boat to their destination, then were anchored down to the water bottom. The “islands” for the project were created using recycled plastic bottles.

This is the fifth project of this type led by CCA Louisiana in recent years. In all, nearly 25,000 square feet of new marsh has been created to restore habitat and marshland devastated by years of erosion and storms. In some cases, the “floating island marsh” has even outperformed the surrounding natural marsh.

“The new land you are building today will become great new habitat for fish and other marine life, and should become a great place to go fishing.”
- CCA Louisiana President John Walther

“The opportunity to work with CCA on such a fun project while making a difference for our coast is something our students will never forget.”
- Dr. John Rainey, CCA Life Member

“Having all of these kids out building new land for Louisiana is absolutely wonderful.”
- CCA Louisiana Executive Director David Cresson

Funding for the Cyremort Point project was provided by Building Conservation Trust Shell Oil, Entergy and Martin Ecosystems along with donations by individual CCA members. Youth volunteers are coordinated by the CCA Louisiana Youth Outreach program in partnership with the Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Foundation and the Magisto Family Foundation.
Do you know about STAR Tournaments?

Sign up. Fish. WIN BIG!

Ask a grownup to sign you up for FREE at JOINCCA.ORG

MAY 25 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2019

*Prizes vary - please check each state's STAR Tournament web page for complete details.
30 of the Funniest Fishing Jokes Ever Told!

Q: What kind of music should you listen to while fishing?
A: Something catchy.

Q: What do you call a surgeon on a boat?
A: A fishing doctor.

Q: How do fish get from place to place while playing golf?
A: By golf carp.

Q: Why is it so easy to weigh fish?
A: Because they have their own scales.

Q: How do you communicate with a fish?
A: Drop it a line.

Q: Where does a fisherman go to get his hair cut?
A: The bobber shop.

Q: What's an angler's favorite musical instrument?
A: A red drum.

Q: Where do women fish keep their money?
A: In their octopus purse.

Q: What do you call a crawfish with a messy room?
A: A sl Buster.

Q: What do fish use for money?
A: Sand dollars.

Q: How did the guppies get to the hospital?
A: In a clamulance.

Q: What birthday party game do fish like to play?
A: Salmon Says.

Q: What is the difference between a piano and a fish?
A: You can tune a piano but you can't tuna fish.

Q: Why do oysters go to the gym?
A: It's good for their mussels.

Q: Who held the octopus for ransom?
A: Squidnappers.

Q: What do you call a fish that has two knees?
A: A tuna fish.

Q: What did the magician say to the fisherman?
A: Pick a cod, any cod.

Q: How many tickles does it take to make an octopus laugh?
A: Tentacles.

Q: If fish lived on land, which country would they live in?
A: Finland.

Q: What was the humpback's favorite TV show?
A: Whale of fortune.

Q: How do you keep a fish from smelling?
A: Plug its nose.

Q: Who keeps the ocean clean?
A: Mermaids.

Q: Did you know that redfish can also squirt ink?
A: Just squidding.

Q: Where do teachers send fish who misbehave?
A: To the offish.

Q: What do fish need to stay healthy?
A: Vitamin sea.

Q: What is a pirate's favorite type of fish?
A: A goldfish.

Q: Why did the fish go to Hollywood?
A: He wanted to be a starfish.

Q: What do you call a fish with no eye?
A: Fssshh.

Q: What do you call a fish in a tuxedo?
A: Very soFISHTicated.

Q: What's the best way to catch a fish?
A: Have someone throw it at you.

Knot tying is a valuable skill all anglers should know!

CHALLENGE:
Can you tie a Double Surgeon's Knot?

1. Fold over the end of the line to make a double line.
2. Tie a single overhand knot.
3. Pass the loop through the hole in the overhand knot one more time.
4. Tighten and DONE.
TACKLE This Craft!
Fishing tackle jewelry is the perfect accessory for any CCA member. These very easy-to-make bracelets are made from ONE THING - snapping barrel swivels. Make a few for yourself or give as a gift for your favorite angler!

Salt Marsh Crossword

Look back at the story on Page 6 about Floating Islands for a little help on some of these questions.

Answers on page 11.

ACROSS
2. Salt marshes are filled with this type of water.
5. Volunteers use this to tow a Floating Island to its destination.
6. Storms and _______ destroy salt marshes.
8. Grass that can live in salt marshes and tolerate saltwater.
9. Type of tree that can live in salt marshes and tolerate saltwater.
12. A noisy amphibian that calls a salt marsh home.
13. One type of native grass planted into floating islands.
14. A plant that lives in a salt marsh or wraps our favorite sushi rolls.
15. A _______ Island is a man-made ecosystem that mimics naturally occurring salt marshes.

DOWN
1. Another name for salt marshes.
3. A microscopic organism that lives in a salt marsh.
4. Salt marshes provide _______ for the coastal land around them.
10. Salt marshes protect shorelines from erosion by buffering wave action and trapping _______.
11. Floating Islands restore salt marshes and become great new habitat for _______ and other marine life.
DO YOU HAVE A GREAT CATCH THAT COULD MAKE OUR KIDS FISHIN’ PAGE?
Have your parents email them to photos@joincca.org or share on Facebook or Instagram using #JOINCCA.

While we try our best to get everyone’s photo published, we cannot guarantee yours will be printed. Any photo with a child (under 13) not wearing a life jacket on a boat cannot be published, as we want to portray safe boating examples to all our readers.

Adelyn

Bryce

Olivia

Cade

Jules

Sebastian

Thank you Shell! Because of the generous support of Shell Oil Company, the Rising Tide Youth Program will continue to thrive!
Answers to Salt Marsh Crossword on Page 9.
YOU are an important part of a conservation organization of more than 100,000 people who love and care about fishing and the health of marine life and habitat. That makes YOU...a pretty cool kid.