

# ROCK SOLID

ROCK SOLID • CAROLINA BLUE • SOUTHERN RUN

## FISHING

- Friendly, local Captains.
- Hands on fishing experience for your party!



- Ask about our kid-friendly trips!
- Everyone is welcome from the experienced to the newbie!

- Light tackle ocean or backwater charters available.



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252.441.6575

# Cinderella Story

## FOR INSHORE FISHING

By Captain Aaron Kelly

It's a great month! Cold waters have warmed and all kinds of fish have moved in! Whatcha, whatcha, whatcha want?

Blues? Check. Spanish mackerel? Check. Flounder, trout, redfish? Check! Check! Check!

Sheepshead, blackdrum, triggerfish, sharks, ajs, and yes, cobia all are available! I do apologize to the blow toad. You never get any love but I vow to do a well deserved elaborate article on you one day. So, it's kinda all about you and your fishing preferences.

If you like tossing 1/4 ounce jigs and grub tails on light rods, then flounder, trout, puppy drum, and blues may find your net. The reds in the backwaters seemed to be everywhere this year and what a great problem to have! Speck rigs to the busting blues, especially along the rips in the evenings on an outgoing tide are fun stuff. Clark Spoons, long leaders, inline 2 ounce weights and number one planers will drum up some Spanish! Under the broiler with a little pat of butter and some lemon pepper... pretty good eats. Freezing Spanish fillets? Ummm, not so much!

Grab some shrimp, mussels, or sandfleas and try your luck around a bridge piling for some sheepshead. These burglars will test your patience and tackle. Get vertical

on them small sharp hooks and let them eat it.

Toss a chum bag out catch a spinner, blacktip shark or maybe even a bonus cobia. Of course, I love sight casting to everything and cobia definitely fit the bill here. These critters from 20-100 pounds cruise the shorelines this month. You can catch them on a well presented bait such as a bucktail jig, live eel, or even a live croaker. For tackle, stout spinning gear, stout rod, 20-30 pound mono or 50 plus braid, 50-80 lb leader are a good rig for these critters. This rod could double as an amberjack rod, as well. A live bluefish, jig, or popper will do the trick around structure.

I could go on and on but running out of space here. I did want to include a long time recipe that we have enjoyed since I was 8 years old catching flounder just north of Kitty Hawk Pier. We made flounder cerviche and it was delicious. Since then we have kicked it up a notch. I am writing this for all you guys that have been bugging me for this recipe.

Captain Aaron Kelly  
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