



**"Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding."  
(Proverbs 4:1-2)**

## Fish Tales and Marina Life

### Ready for Scallop Season? Take Your Marks, Get Set, GO!!!

Scallops are bivalve mollusks that live in shallow waters close to shore along Florida's Gulf Coast, from Pensacola to the Florida Keys, and have a characteristic 40 blue eyes along the shell borders. They are quick swimmers that allows them to move short distances and escape from natural predation. They are also very precious due to its inner muscle that is a delicacy. Scallops have both types of gonads, so they are hermaphrodites, but during the spawning season they only release one type of gamete (eggs or sperm).

Like many other filter-feeders, scallops have a high growth rate in a short period of time. The peak of scallop spawning in Florida occurs between September and January, with most scallops spawning after the close of the harvest season, with a spat recruitment peak in December. In Florida, scallops have an average lifespan of about a year and are particularly susceptible to short-term and long-term environmental events, such as changes in salinity, algal blooms, and habitat loss.

The scallop fishery was initially a commercial fishery in Florida from Pensacola to Florida Bay, but the scallop population began to decline in the 1960s, perhaps due to habitat loss, water quality problems, overfishing and failures in recruitment, so it was closed in 1994. According to the FWC, Bay Scallop



Robert from Ringgold with one of his two beauties fishing with Captain Tony Mathis

management began in 1985 and has been modified periodically since then in response to a variety of changes in the fishery ranging from declines in the distribution and density of scallops to signs of local recovery. Since 2002, the permitted harvest zone has included all state waters from the west bank of the Mexico Beach Canal in Bay County to the Hernando-Pasco County line, with only recreational harvesting permitted.

Scallops are a very important commodity for coastal counties, and they bring tourists that spend their money in local coastal businesses. In a 2007 survey UF/IFAS Extension and Florida Sea Grant determined an average expense of \$200/boat/day in Taylor County, which represented an estimated \$4.7 Million in revenues. **Continue reading....**

**Victor Blanco**

Taylor County Marine Extension Agent  
UF/IFAS Extension and Florida Sea Grant



Now there's a big red! Caught while fishing with Captain Brian Smith

**UF/IFAS Extension**  
**Florida Sea Grant**

# Scalloping BEST PRACTICES

SAFETY	HARVESTING SCALLOPS	WASTE
<p><b>Children must use life vest at all times.</b></p> <p><b>Down Dive Flag ONLY</b> when collecting scallops, not while cruising.</p> <p><b>Always have an observer on boat</b> while others are scalloping.</p> <p>Be aware of other scallopers in the water. <b>Use slow speed.</b></p> <p><b>Trim your motor in shallow waters</b> (avoid hurting the seagrass).</p> <p><b>Check Tide Tables</b> before going in the water.</p>	<p>Keep only scallops that are <b>1.5" or bigger.</b></p> <p><b>Daily Bag limit is 5 gallons whole per boat (June 15 to June 30)</b></p> <p><b>Daily Bag limit is 10 gallons whole per boat or 2 gallons whole per person (from July 1")</b></p> <p><b>Maintain scallops on ice</b> to keep them fresh.</p>	<p><b>Don't throw waste in the water</b> while scalloping.</p> <p><b>Dispose your waste properly</b> on land.</p> <p><b>Don't throw scallop shells into channel, canals nor boat ramps.</b></p>

**ENJOY AND BE RESPONSIBLE!**



Bentley caught a catfish off the docks



First timers from South GA, Lauren, Hanna, Luck and Austin fishing with Captain Tony Mathis



Captain Brian Smith and his group are still seeing red!



Robert from Ringgold with a nice limit of Reds and Trout fishing with Captain Tony Mathis



Avi and Dorina have fished with Captain Brian Smith many years. Capt. said they had traded in the little kids for grownups!



Would you look at that! Caught fishing with Captain Brian Smith



Robert Ringgold showing off another one of his beauties caught while fishing with Captain Tony Mathis



What a great fight! Memories made fishing Captain Brian Smith are priceless.



Educators from Panama Beach enjoying the Falls.

## Dockside Bar & Grille



Mike and Melissa enjoying breakfast at Dockside Bar & Grille.



Serving up one of the best breakfasts in town with hands-down the best view!



**Father's Day** drink special - bloody beer and shrimp!



The bacon cheeseburger basket is a popular item on the menu.



Our roast beef basket can only be beat by washing it down with an ice cold beer!

## Happy Father's Day to all our Fellows!



Father's Day is this Sunday (June 20)! - Nothing says "I love you" quite like renting Dad a boat - no fuss, just step in and go! Leave the gassing and washing up to us!

## Book Online!

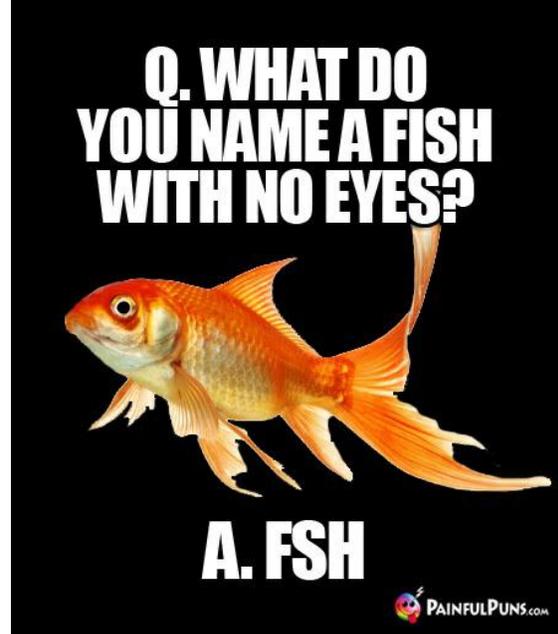
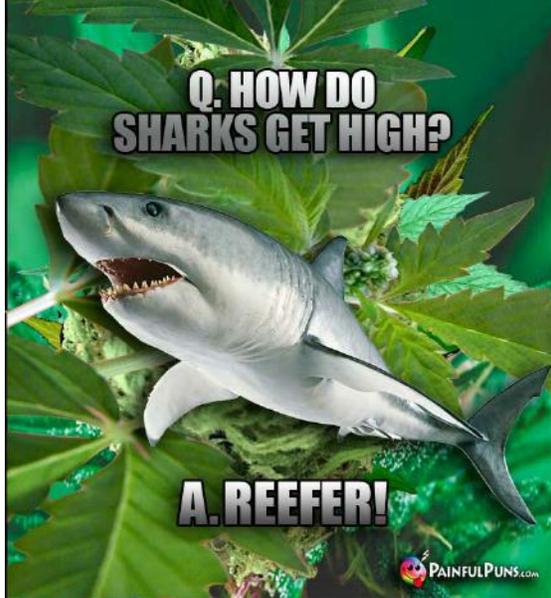


Book your stay directly online! Click on the photo above to be taken to our reservation system.



Refresh in our pool after a day of fishing or scalloping! Click the photo above to be taken to reserve your stay.

## Catch a Little Humor



## Our Charter Captains are the Best!

### [Directory of Charter Captains](#)

*Reserve a charter for an unforgettable lifetime experience*

#### **Captain Mike Baker Charters**

Offering a complete guide service for fishing, Captain **Mike Baker**, USCG certified. A full-service charter business for scalloping, trout fishing, red fishing, or whatever you desire. Call (352) 433-6301 or email [captmikemikebakerfishing@gmail.com](mailto:captmikemikebakerfishing@gmail.com).

#### **Her Tanning Bed Charters**

If you are interested in Scalloping or Fishing inshore, Captain **Don Campbell** can help you have the adventure you are looking for. Call 352-303-6498.

#### **Salt Addiction Charters**

A USCG Licensed Captain and Flats Guide, Captain **Mike Farmer** is available for inshore fishing and scalloping charters. Call 352-210-1551.

#### **Fishing With Captain Jim**

A USCG licensed Florida flats guide, Captain **Jim Henley** is available for inshore fishing and scalloping charters. He is the only Captain with a 100-ton Master, and holds a tow license. Call 423-330-0101.

#### **TJ's Charters**

Fish the Flats with USCG licensed Captain **Tony Jackson**. Call 386-688-0874.

#### **Captain J's Charters**

USCG licensed, Captain **Rick Julius** is waiting to take you on the adventure of a lifetime, fishing the flats out of Steinhatchee, Florida. Call (352) 745-0968.

#### **Steinhatchee Flats Fishing**

USCG licensed, Captain **Dicky King** offers inshore fishing and scalloping charters out of Steinhatchee, Florida for families, novices, and expert anglers. Call (850) 371-9164.

#### **Pepperfish Key Charters**

USCG licensed Captain **Steve Kroll** is your host and guide for a great day of near shore and flats fishing on the beautiful Big Bend region. Call 352-222-4085.

### **YKnotFish.Com**

Fishing charters targeting redfish, trout and scallops in season. Over 40 years' experience fishing the Gulf. Multiple captains available. USCG licensed, Captain **Tony Mathis**. Call 904-545-0433 or email [Tony@yknotfish.com](mailto:Tony@yknotfish.com).

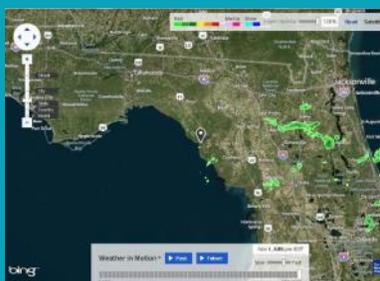
### **My Fishing Buddy Charters**

USCG licensed, Captain **Buddy Moorman** offers inshore fishing and scalloping charters out of Steinhatchee, Florida . Call (352) 812-3318.

### **Big Bend Charters**

For your inshore and offshore fishing needs and scalloping, call USCG licensed and insured, Captain **Brian Smith**, (877) 852-3474. Capt. Brian has been offshore fishing the Gulf for over 25 years, 17 years out of Steinhatchee. Offshore fishing includes grouper, amberjack, snapper, kingfish, seabass and cobia. Offering trips from 6-12 hours!

## Weather & Marine Forecast Center



VHF Channel 10  
Vol. 1, Issue 28

Thank you for reading. See you soon in the Hatch!

Steinhatchee River Inn & Marina | | 352/498-0709 or 352/498-4049 | |  
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STAY CONNECTED

