

ROFFER'S OCEAN FISHING FORECASTING SERVICE, INC.

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ROFFS™ FISHERIES OCEANOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS FOR THE BIMINI OFFSHORE AREA (LAT./LONG.) UPDATED ON THURSDAY 16 APRIL 2009 FOR THURSDAY P.M. & FRIDAY FISHING ONLY

Based on a multiple factor analysis, the symbols (hot spot spots) mark the areas where bait concentrations are expected and where fishing action is expected to be better compared with other (non-marked) areas. These are not based on dock rumors or hearsay fishing reports. Fishing reports are stated as such. You should start fishing where you recognize other signs of good fishing conditions near these marked areas. It is very important to use your sea surface temperature (sst°) gauge to locate the boundaries of the water masses, which are outlined. Rather than trying to find water based on the absolute temperature values shown on the map, search for the relative change in sst where the water mass boundaries occur. Arrows indicate the main current direction. Numbers inside of the dots indicate the number of consecutive days that we have seen favorable conditions in that location.

We were able to see the majority of ocean conditions in this area relatively clearly today again today using a combination of satellite imagery from this morning and this afternoon. The estimated morning sst° of the main body of the Gulf Stream is 80.1°F-80.6°F. Although the sst° appear to have remained relatively stable since yesterday, with the warmer air temperatures forecasted over the next few days, do not be surprised if the sst° you find while out on the water are as much as an additional 0.2°F-0.3°F WARMER than what we have shown here by fishing time tomorrow morning. Please remember to look for relative rather than absolute sst° while out on the water. Overall, we continue to follow the eastern edge of the dark blue (now 80.1°F) Gulf Stream water that continues to push in a favorable eastward direction over the good bottom areas west/northwest of the Bimini area suggesting that good to excellent chances for fishing action are likely to happen in the areas where the ocean conditions have remained favorable for two to six days now. Northeastward, we also continue to follow the counter-clockwise circulation of a large eddy feature centered south/southeast of the Grand Bahama Island area (east of the Tuna Canyon) which is centered near 78°12'W & 26°15'N this afternoon. This eddy along with the circulation of the clean dark blue Bahamas "marlin" water to the east of the chart area appears to continue to pull a blend of this clean "Bahamas" water along with the blended Gulf Stream water from north/east of the Abaco area in a northwestward direction towards the southern coast of Grand Bahama Island and around the eddy. This suggests that although conditions continue to appear better to the west of Bimini, better chances for marlin action may continue to be associated with the eddy over the Tuna Canyon and south of the southern coast of Grand Bahama Island.

With this in mind, good chances for a combination of tuna, wahoo, dolphin, and billfish (marlin and sailfish) action continue to occur on your way west/northwest from the Bimini area where we observed the eastern edge of the dark blue (80.1°F) water pushing in a favorable direction over and towards the 100 fathom ledge and over the good bottom of the Bimini Blue Marlin Grounds from 79°20'W & 25°41'N to 79°21'W & 25°51'N to 79°18'W & 25°58'N. The ocean conditions have remained favorable for three to six days now in these areas. Northward, additional good chances for action may also happen where we observed similar ocean conditions for two days now in the area of the Dolphin Rip and further northward towards the area west of the Four Tops from 79°14-15'W & 26°03'N to 79°10'W & 26°10'N

Towards the Four Tops area it appears as if the clean Gulf Stream (79.6°F) water continues to push north/northeastward over this good bottom area suggesting that good chances for fishing action occur where we observed favorable conditions for two and four days now particularly near 79°02'W & 26°08'N, 78°57'W & 26°08'N, and 78°54'W & 26°07-08'N. Northeastward, relatively good chances for fishing action occur along the water mass boundaries associated with the large eddy, particularly where we have observed favorable conditions for four days now over the Tuna Canyon near 78°37'W & 26°11-12'N and southward over the 250 fathom ledge for two days now near 78°38'W & 26°05'N. Towards the area west/northwest of Freeport, good chances for fishing action continue to occur where we observed the eastern edge of the dark blue Gulf Stream water pushing in a favorable eastward direction for three days now over the 100-250 fathom ledges from 78°54-55'W & 26°32'N to 78°58'W & 26°37'N and northwestward for six days now towards the Memory Rock area from 79°01'W & 26°42'N to 79°06'W & 26°55'N.

Office hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM - 05:00 PM. Not open Saturday or Sunday until April 2009. If you are planning to fish on Sunday or Monday we will provide an analysis on Friday. If for some reason that Friday analysis is not useful for you, then call our office by Monday 5:00 PM to ask for a credit.

