

ROFFER'S OCEAN FISHING FORECASTING SERVICE, INC. TOLL FREE 800 677-7633 & (321) 723-5759 // EMAIL: FISH7@ROFFS.COM

ROFFS™ FISHERIES OCEANOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS FOR THE KEY WEST TO LOGGERHEAD AREA (LAT./LONG.)

UPDATED ON FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 2009 FOR FRIDAY P.M. & SATURDAY 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 ocean conditions in this area relatively clearly today. The estimated morning sst° of the main body of the Gulf Stream is approximately 75.1°F and this feature remains well offshore of the 100 fathom ledge south/southeast of the chart area. Overall, conditions north/northeast of Key West appear to be too cool for providing good chances for kingfish action as a result of declining sst° due to the cold front that passed through the area earlier in the week. We believe your better chances for fishing action in this area are likely to be associated with the relatively warmer (65.7°F-67.9°F) blended blue water in the areas north of Key West and Marquesas Key where the ocean conditions have remained favorable for two and three days now. Although the sst° of the Gulf Stream waters appear to have remained relatively stable over the past 72 hours, air temperatures remain cool suggesting that the sst° you find while out on the water tomorrow morning may be as much as 0.5°F-1.0°F COOLER than what we have shown here. Remember to look for relative rather than absolute sst° while out on the water.

On your way northward from the Key West area, good chances for kingfish action occur where we have observed the southeastern edge of the relatively warmer (65.7°F) blended blue water for two days now over the 4-6 fathom depths from 81°50'W & 24°40'N to 81°45-46'W & 24°45'N. Westward, north of Marquesas Key additional increased chances for fishing action occur where we have observed the southeastern edge of the warmer (67.9°F) blended blue water for two days now as well over the 4-5 fathom depths and good bottom topography particularly near 82°15'W & 24°37'N and 82°10'W & 24°39-40'N. Northeastward, we believe your better chances for kingfish action are likely to happen where we have observed similar ocean conditions for three days now over the 8-11 fathom depths and good bottom topography particularly near 82°01'W & 24°45-46'N, 82°01-02'W & 24°48'N, and 82°02-03'W & 24°52'N. If fishing action is not satisfactory in these areas, some increased chances for kingfish action are also likely to occur further northward along this water mass boundary offshore towards the 11-13 fathom depths towards 82°06'W & 25°00'N and 82°17'W & 25°15'N. Far westward, we did observe a pool of blue (69.8°F) water north of Loggerhead Key that may also provide scattered kingfish, as well as, perhaps blackfin tuna, dolphin, and sailfish action over the 15-20 fathom depths and good bottom areas from 82°51'W & 24°45'N to 82°50'W & 24°48-49'N.

Winter 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.

