

ROFFER'S OCEAN FISHING FORECASTING SERVICE, INC.

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ROFFS FISHERIES OCEANOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS FOR THE CAPE SAN BLAS TO MOBILE AREA (LAT./LONG.)

UPDATED ON THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2009 FOR THURSDAY PM & 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 continue to observe the ocean conditions in this area clearly today using a combination of high resolution infrared and MODIS chlorophyll satellite imagery from this morning and early this afternoon. Overall, we continue to observe a clockwise rotation of blue 71.7°F-72.4°F water, centered east of the De Soto Canyon along the 200 fathom ledge near 86°30'W & 29°07'N, that is pulling blue water inshore of the De Soto Canyon along 100 fathoms providing your better chances for fishing action with tuna, dolphin, wahoo and billfish, especially where favorable conditions have remained for multiple days. Inshore of 100 fathoms, a small finger of blue 71.7°F water continues to get pulled inshore over the 40-50 fathom ledges inshore of the Nipple also providing good chances for action where conditions have remained for multiple days. Due to a second clockwise circulation of water located offshore of this analysis area, the majority of the water west of the De Soto Canyon is being pulled in an offshore direction. Offshore motion of the water suggests slow and scattered action. However, the continued presence of a blue 73.5°F-74.3°F finger of water just offshore of the 500 fathom ledge of the Steps is likely to provide additional chances for fishing action out of Pensacola.

With this in mind, the ocean conditions suggest your better chances for fishing action with tuna, dolphin, wahoo and billfish will occur along the northern edge of the large pool of blue 72.4°F water where conditions have remained stable for the past two and three days from near 86°49'W & 29°28'N to 86°39'W & 29°33'N to 86°30'N & 29°30'N to over the good bottom of the Squiggles near 86°23'W & 29°30'N. On your way out to the blue water, keep a keen eye out for birds, bait and weedlines as they are classic indicators for concentrations of fish, especially along the inshore edge of the finger of blue 71.7°F water that has remained stable over the 40-50 fathom ledges from near 96°38'W & 29°59'N to 86°30'W & 29°56'N to near 86°20'W & 29°53'N. If you find that the fishing action along the northern edge of the rotating pool of blue water is not as productive as you would like, we suggest you run west and fish the northern inshore edge of the warmer blue 73.5°F-74.3°F finger of water where it has also remained stable for up to three days along the 500 fathom ledge of the Steps from 87°58'W & 29°05'N to 87°45'W & 29°12'N to near 87°35'W & 29°15'N, as well as, near 87°47'W & 29°05'N and 87°35'W & 29°05'N. Additional chances for action is likely to occur a bit further offshore along the 1000 fathom ledge near the Double Nipple near 87°38'W & 29°00'N to near 87°45'W & 28°55'N.

If you are fishing out of Cape San Blas, the eastern edge of the 72.4°F blue water is likely to provide your better fishing action where conditions have remained for the past 2-3 days over the 50 fathom ledge at the Wings near 86°06'W & 29°24'N and 86°00'W & 29°19'N, as well as, along the 100 fathom ledge from near 85°56'W & 29°13'N to near 85°44'W & 28°58'N to near 85°47'N & 28°47'N.

Office hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM - 06:00 PM. Not open Saturday or Sunday until May 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.

