

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 FT. MYERS TO THE TORTUGAS OFFSHORE AREA (LAT./LONG)

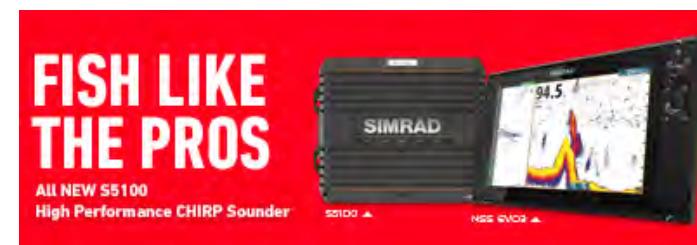
UPDATED ON FRIDAY 10 MARCH 2017 FOR FRIDAY P.M. AND SATURDAY FISHING ONLY

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 again today using a combination of high-resolution infrared SST satellite imagery from this morning through this afternoon along with MODIS/VIIRS ocean color/chlorophyll imagery from the past 24 hours. Today we have shown areas that are likely to increase your overall chances for fishing action with a combination of tuna, wahoo, dolphin, billfish and kingfish with relatively better chances for finding bait concentrations and bigger pelagic fish occurring in the areas where we observed favorable ocean conditions both yesterday and again today. Overall, we continue to observe the main body of the Loop Current located offshore over the west/southwestern portion of this area shown with an estimated morning SST of 81.1°F-82.2°F. We were able to observe one counter-clockwise rotating eddy feature located north of the circulation of the Loop Current which appears to be pulling blue (77°F-80°F) water in a northward direction over the Howell Hook Ridge and then back westward along the southeastern side of a large clockwise rotating eddy feature located west/northwest of this area. Inshore the majority of the blue-green to blended blue to blue waters appear to be drifting in a general southward direction towards the Tortugas area.



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With this in mind, on your way offshore from the Ft. Myers area, increased chances for kingfish action are likely to happen where we observed the northern edge of the relatively warmer (73.7°F) blue-green water over the 10 fathom depths near 82°14'W & 26°03'N with relatively better chances for action occurring offshore westward where we observed similar ocean conditions for two days over the good bottom of the wrecks near 82°45'W & 26°05'N and 82°57'W & 26°02'N. Continuing westward over the 30 fathom ledge, relatively good chances for fishing action may also happen where we observed the eastern edge of the cleaner blue water for two days now particularly near 83°26-27'W & 26°18'N. Offshore over the 40-65 fathom depths, good chances for a combination of tuna, wahoo, dolphin, billfish and perhaps even kingfish action occur where we observed the northeastern edge of the blue (75.4°F) water for two days now from 83°44-45'W & 25°58-59'N to 83°51-52'W & 26°08-09'N to 84°02'W & 26°18'N with additional increased chances for action occurring further northward over the 40-50 fathom ledges and northwestward over the 60-70 fathom depths where we observed similar ocean conditions for the first time today from 83°46-47'W & 26°28'N to 84°02-03'W & 26°34'N to 84°13-14'W & 26°41-42'N.

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North of the Howell Hook Ridge, the northeastern edge of the blue (78.4°F-79.2°F) water is likely to provide good chances for fishing action where we observed these conditions for two days now over the 75-100 fathom depths from 84°01'-02'W & 25°41'N to 84°08'-09'W & 25°53'N to 84°15'-16'W & 26°05'N. Westward over the Howell Hook Ridge and offshore over the 200-500 fathom ledges and towards the 1000-1500 fathom ledges, good chances for offshore fishing action also occur where we observed the northern edge of the finger of dark blue (80.1°F) water with Loop Current origins and favorable ocean conditions for two days now from 84°10'W & 25°44'N to 84°21'W & 25°46'N to 84°35'W & 25°48'-49'N to 84°54'W & 25°53'-54'N. Southward over similar depths and back inshore southeastward over the 90-100 fathom ledges south of the Howell Hook Ridge, the northeastern edge of the main body of the Loop Current is also likely to provide good overall chances for fishing action where we observed favorable conditions for two days as well from 84°46'-47'W & 25°29'N to 84°28'-29'W & 25°25'N to 84°15'W & 25°14'N. Back inshore eastward over the 50-70 fathom depths and southeastward towards the 40 fathom ledge, good chances for fishing action occur where we observed the inshore eastern edges of the blue (80.1°F-79.2°F-78.4°F-77.5°F) water for two days now from 83°45'-55'W & 25°30'N to 83°40'-45'W & 25°20'N to 83°40'W & 25°04'-05'N. Please keep in mind that there are several blue water mass boundaries contained in this area and it remains to be seen if better chances for action will occur eastward into the cooler blue water or westward offshore into the cleaner darker blue Loop Current water. We suggest fishing back and forth across this series of water mass boundaries until you find the bait (and bigger fish).

Verbal updates are free between 10:30 AM and 11:59 AM (eastern time) only, please call. Thank you for not sharing this analysis with non-paying fishermen. We survive on your honesty. **WINTER OFFICE HOURS:** Mon – Fri 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Saturday CLOSED. **Remember you can order and/or purchase your fishing analyses from our website (<http://www.roffs.com/> and press and hold on Order Analyses button) or by email. The ROFFS™ Graphic analysis is on the next page.**

