



The Salty Tippet

Volume 3, Issue 2

tarponcoastflyfishers.com

SUMMER 2026



TCFF President
Bobby Lachtara

President's Message

Welcome to the Salty Tippet

As we move forward into a long hot summer, it's fun to reflect on what took place this past Spring with the Tarpon Coast Fly Fishers club. We had fishing outings, dinners, three fly tying classes, and multiple kayak fly fishing trips.

Outings

Teamed up with the **Suncoast Fly Fishers**, we did a couple of **Wade Fishing** outings, one at **Ft. De Soto State Park** and one at **Cypress Point Park** in Tampa.

We fished alongside Suncoast and told each other fishing stories over lunch.

Dinners

There was an outstanding **Shrimp Boil** at **Linda Pedersen Park**, of which I am still trying to lose the weight. And we had a **Fisherman's Breakfast** at the **IHOP** on Commercial Way. A good time. Not to mention the many good meals we've had at our General Membership meetings at the **Coyote Rojo**.

Fly Tying

Gene Andre held three fly tying sessions, accentuating fly tying

technique. More than one big crazy **Tarpon Fly** came out of it. See **Fly Tying with Gene Andre** on [pages 6-7](#).

Kayak Fly Fishing

Our dedicated kayakers have been braving the elements and continuing their kayak exploration of Florida's Nature Coast, from **Chassahowitza**

to **Aripeka**. Anyone interested in fly fishing from a kayak, contact **Terry Dunne** (352) 999-1576.

Tarpon season started slow but we're looking forward to it getting better in the future. Red snapper season has me spending time in the deep waters of the gulf and enjoying time on the water.

Ahead

As we look ahead, we have members traveling around the country in pursuit of the fish we love so dear.

Enjoy your time this summer and get out on the water and catch some fish. It is the most therapeutic thing I can think of.

— **Bobby Lachtara**

Inside:

- **TCFF Club Officers**.....2
- **Snook Release**
22,000 baby
Snook released.....2
- **Ft. De Soto Park**
Wade fishing outing
with the Suncoast
Fly Fishers.....3
- **Breakfast at IHOP**
TCFF Fisherman's
Breakfast.....4-5
- **Fly Tying w/Gene**
Tips and
Technique.....6-7
- **Shrimp Boil**
TCFF annual seafood
gathering at Linda
Pedersen Park.....8-9
- **TCFF Fishing Guides**
Captain Lowell
Bebout, Captain
Nathan Fox.....10



Red Snapper season opens. TCFF President Bobby Lachtara with a big one.



TCFF Club Officers

PRESIDENT

BOBBY LACHTARA
(407) 267-4658

TREASURER

BOB BEBOUT
(352) 263-4070

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

RUBY TURNER
(352) 835-1727

VICE PRESIDENT

BOB BEBOUT
(352) 263-4070

SECRETARY

RUBY TURNER
(407) 267-4658

SALTY TIPPET/WEB

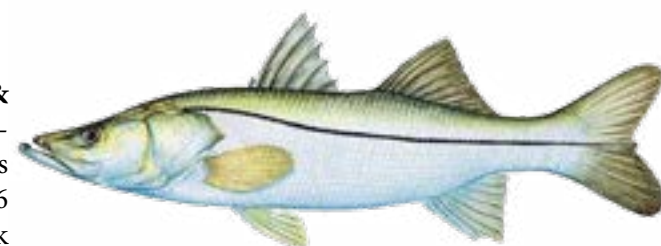
TERRY DUNNE
(352) 999-1576

Snook Release

Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium in Sarasota is continuing to advance its fisheries enhancement efforts in 2026 through a series of juvenile snook releases taking place throughout the summer across strategic estuarine habitats in Southwest Florida. This year, Mote scientists will release approximately 22,000 juvenile snook as part of Mote's long-standing, research-driven, marine stock enhancement program.

For nearly three decades, Mote scientists have worked to develop, refine, and evaluate responsible marine stock enhancement strategies for snook and other native sportfish species. The 2026 releases represent another step forward in Mote's science-based efforts to support Florida's recreational fisheries and enhance understanding of stock enhancement best practices.

"These releases reflect the continued



growth and refinement of Mote's fisheries enhancement capabilities," said Dr. Ryan Schloesser, Manager of Mote's Fisheries Ecology & Enhancement Program.



Volunteers release juvenile Snook

ment Program. "Our focus remains on producing healthy fish, releasing them strategically, and collecting the scientific data needed to better under-

stand how stock enhancement can support resilient wild populations."

Release locations are strategically selected based on environmental conditions and habitat characteristics that provide favorable environmental conditions and complex structure essential for juvenile snook survival and growth. Examples of favorable release habitats include tidal creeks, mangrove-lined shorelines, and sheltered coves that provide abundant food resources, protection, and complex habitat structure.

At Mote Aquaculture Research Park (MAP), researchers raised the juvenile snook that were released during these stock enhancement efforts while conducting studies that improve aquaculture practices and fish production techniques. The facility serves as a center for innovation, helping address challenges related to sustainability, conservation, and aquaculture needs.



Ft. De Soto State Park

Trip Report

Who:

Ray Cannata, Terry Dunne,
Suncoast Fly Fishers

What:

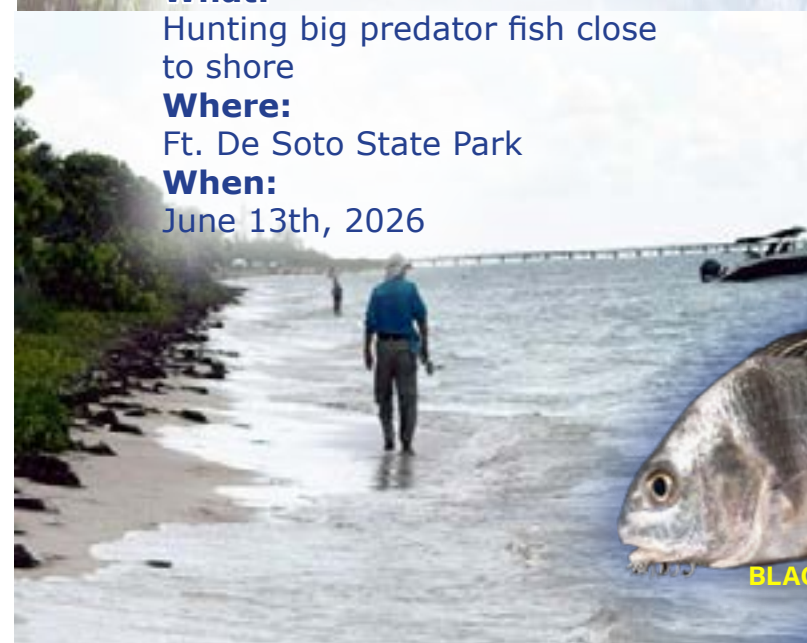
Hunting big predator fish close to shore

Where:

Ft. De Soto State Park

When:

June 13th, 2026



Hunting Big Fish

It was all about getting the tide right at Ft. De Soto State Park. The way the Park Ranger put it, "Timing is everything. If you want to catch the big Redfish and Snook, fish the incoming tide along the shore".

We missed the Redfish and Snook but, swimming right there where they were supposed to be, we saw some good-sized Black Drum and Mangrove Snapper.

We put Chartreuse Clouser Minnows right in front of them and, what happens, the flies get hung up in all the floating grass on the water. Not much you could do about it.

An exhilarating day close to nature at Ft. De Soto State Park.

BLACK DRUM

MANGROVE SNAPPER



Lunch



Fisherman's Breakfast

June 30th, 2026





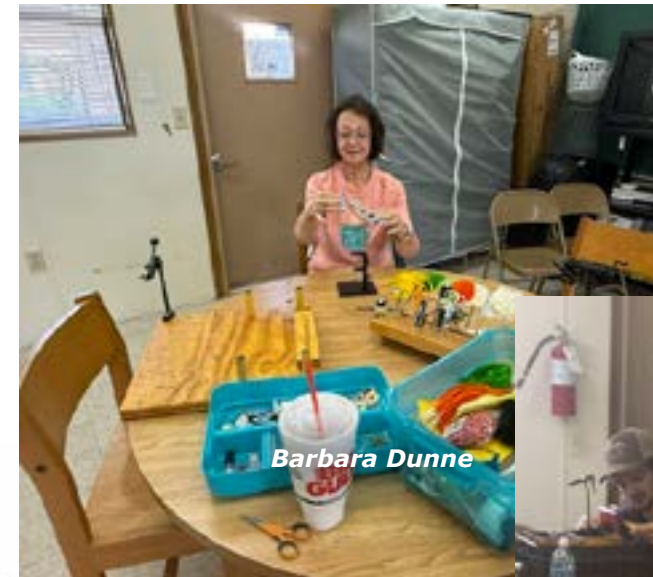
Fly Tying w/Gene Andre



Gene Andre
TCFF Fly Tying
Instructor



(L-R) Ruby Turner, Daniel Hazivasilis
(U.S. Navy) & wife Debi.



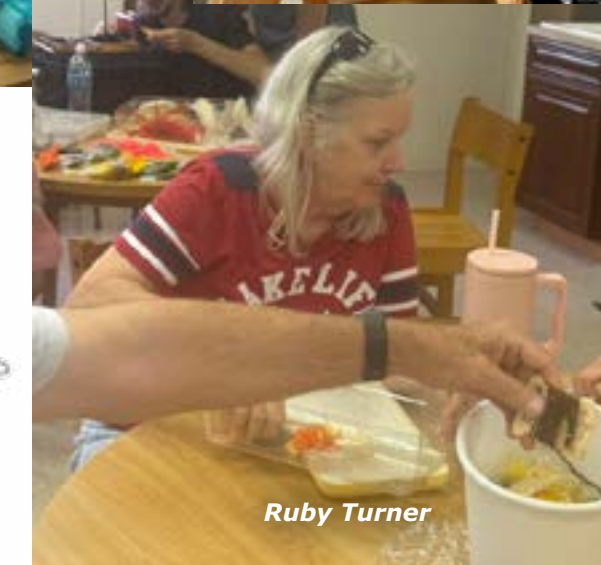
Barbara Dunne



Gene Andre, Bobby Lachtara, Jim Humphrey



Jim Humphrey



Ruby Turner



(L-R) Bobby Lachtara, William Hazivasilis,
Nicholas Hazivasilis, Demetri Hazivasilis



Gene Andre, Ken Forsythe,
Jim Humphrey



Gene Andre, Bobby Lachtara, Jim Humphrey



And a good night of fly tying it was.



TCFF Annual Shrimp Boil

Linda Pedersen Park

April 29th, 2026



Michelle Humphrey
& Carol Bebout



(L-R) Christie & Warren Parker,
Jim Humphrey, Ray Cannata



(L-R) Dick Conant, Demetri
Hazivasilis, Bobby Lachtara



A fine shrimp boil!



(L-R) Demetri Hazivasilis, Bobby Lachtara,
Bob Bebout, & Michelle Humphrey



Carol & Bob Bebout



(L-R) Demetri Hazivasilis, a
friend of the club, , Terry Dunne



(L-R) Ken Forsythe, Frank Bourgeois,
Kathy, Bobby Lachtara, & Demetri
Hazivasilis



Dick & Sue Conant



BeBout Fishin' Time
Capt. Lowell Bebout

Fishing Charters
USCG License & Insured

352-515-8824



Fly Fish the Nature Coast

Capt. Nathan Fox

352-322-8179

captainfox.nate@gmail.com