



BFF Fly Lines

August 2017



*A nice 10K Islands Redfish fell for a bend back fly pattern that is a variation of a Steve Huff fly. BFF Member Dick Shafner had a few tied up recently and calls them "Escape Artist" flies for their ability to negotiate Mangrove roots & branches without getting hung up. See **Flies for SWFL Gamefish** on page 5 for tying info.*

Fishing Related Apps We Like



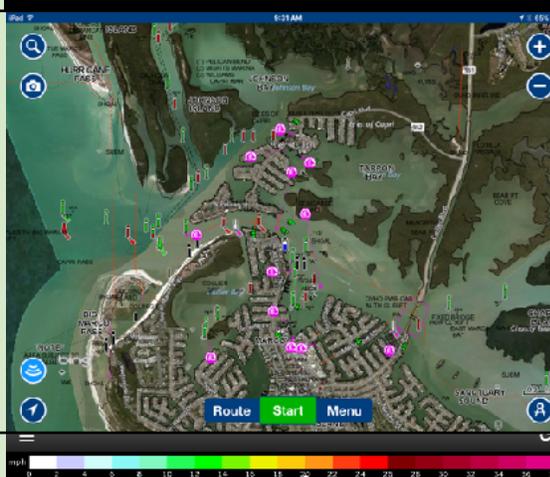
Tide Graph HD

Tide Graph HD for iPhone & iPad shows a graphic representation of the tide level for those of us who like to know what is happening at a glance. Available for IOS & Android. Free & Pro versions available.



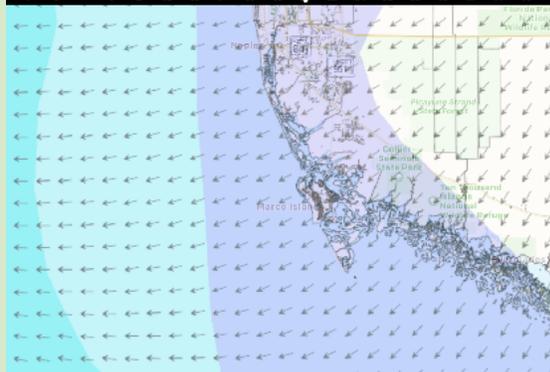
USA HD

Boating USA HD is a gps enabled marine charting app that is about as good as it gets. Great for finding fishy spots and then navigating to them. Tides info and weather as well and chart updates included with subscription. Records tracks, plot routes, measure distances. Great for kayakers too. IOS & Android.



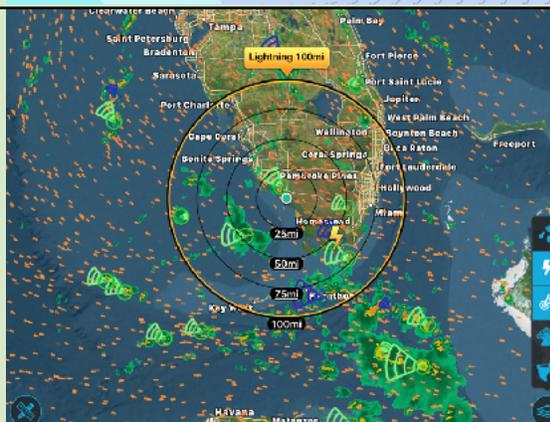
SailFlow

Sailflow & sister app Fishweather features a great graphic representation of the wind forecast for a given area. Great for planning a day of fishing. IOS & Android.



Storm

Storm we've tried lots of weather apps over the years & have found Storm to have pretty much all we need to plan a day on the water. Shows lightening and the distance between you and the trouble. Good radar & forecasts for multiple locations. IOS & Android.





Fishing Prospects for August

Just like last month the best time to fish in August is early in the day and late in the day. The mosquitoes are still around so bug spray should be part of your gear if you plan to go into the backcountry.

Rain and tropical storms will affect the fishing and not in a positive way. Freshwater from the rain decreases the salinity in the backcountry and

that, combined with the dirty water from the runoff adds up to poor fishing conditions. Continue to pay attention to the afternoon

storms if you are on the water. As mentioned in previous months, graphite rods make great lighting rods. If lightning strikes a fly rod it will wreck the rod and will not be a pleasant experience for the person holding the rod either. So be careful and pay attention to the weather.

For the latest information on license requirements, open seasons, sizes and possession limits check the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission website for at www.myfwc.com.

SNOOK



The closed season for snook on the gulf and in ENP continues through August. So minimize the handling

of any snook caught and return them to the water as quickly as possible.

This is still a good time to fish the

beaches in the early morning hours for snook. Try using a top water pattern like a gurgler or a baitfish pattern.

REDFISH

This month is redfish month. Redfish seem to tolerate the heat better than snook or sea trout. Try for them early in the day as they make their way into the backcountry. Shrimp and crab patterns are the most commonly used flies for redfish, but at times small baitfish patterns will also work.

TROUT

Trout can still be found, but the hot weather tends to make them move into deeper water.

Look for deep holes in grass beds and also in the deep runs along the islands in the backcountry.

Shrimp and baitfish pat-

terns work well for trout. Chartreuse and white clousers also work well.

TARPON

Juvenile tarpon can still be found in the creeks in the backcountry and a few larger tarpon may still be found in the passes.

SHARKS

Sharks can be found in the passes and larger bays and in near off-shore waters.



False Cast Drill



Casting Drills

Goal: Narrow loops kept in the air without touching the ground.

Principles:

- 1) No slack
- 2) Good timing,
- 3) Proper acceleration
- 4) Straight line rod tip path
- 5) Good tracking.

Fishing Applications: Extending line, drying a fly, changing directions, measuring distance.

Step 1: Start with the Horizontal Casting Drill #3.

Step 2: Repeat back and forth and gradually reduce the amount of time your line is on the grass on both forward and back casts. Remember to pause after the stop. Make sure your line straightens before you begin the next casting stroke.

Step 3: Gradually bring the rod up to vertical, keeping your line from hitting the ground. If you have problems, start over with the line on the grass.

Troubleshooting: (Once up in the air)

1) Line doesn't straighten: a) You didn't have enough acceleration, b) Your rod path looks like a windshield wiper (too much casting arc)

2) Line hits the ground: a) you haven't used enough acceleration, b) Your rod tip is dipping too far in the front and/or in the back, (too much casting arc), or c) You waited too long to begin the next stroke.

3) Tailing loop: a) You had a spike in acceleration somewhere in your casting stroke - smooth it out! b) You stopped the rod too soon (not enough casting arc), c) You stopped the rod okay, but you 'crept' forward before beginning the next stroke

If you are doing okay in the horizontal plane but things start falling apart as you move up to vertical: Go back to horizontal and start working your way back up, but stop just before your "problem point". Do lots of repetitions at that point. Start over at horizontal and see how far up you can go. Repeat.

Want a Challenge?

See how much line you can hold in the air with tight loops! Increase distance 2 or 3 feet at a time.

The BFF casting committee encourages members to practice casting during the summer and provides casting drill ideas in this and upcoming editions of **BFF Fly Lines**.

You can contact Education Director Jim Schneider at bffeducation@flyfishingnaples.com



Royal Terns & Brown Pelicans, Caxambas Pass.

BFF's Guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing in SWFL

New to fly fishing in SWFL? BFF can help.

The BFF's **Introduction to Saltwater Fly Fishing in Southwest Florida** is now available for download on the BFF website, flyfishingnaples.com. You can get your copy by clicking on the button below.

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Flies for SWFL Gamefish



Escape Artist

This is a variation of a Steve Huff fly we tied after we saw one BFFer Dick Shafner was using recently. The large jig hooks feature a wide gap, sideways eye and 30° neck bend. We found the fly to come out of the trees & roots quite easily when worked with a light hand. The Cyclops Eye/Bead Head weight helped keep the fly riding hook up. Extra beads get the fly down deep & can be tied to produce noise by sliding on the shaft into each other.

The fly lands remarkably soft for a large fly and gives you confidence to throw into tight places.

Pattern...

Hook: Mustad 91768, here in #2/0

Thread: Flat Waxed Nylon to match fly color or desired head color.

Tail: Bucktail tied in short, then flash, then longer bucktail, then an accent color if desired. "Post" the bucktail by wrapping around the material at its base so it stands almost upright & hides the hook point.

Body: EP Foxy Brush 1.5" palmered around shaft then trimmed bottom & sides. Estaz is another good choice.

Weight: Cyclops eye or bead head in a size that will fit on the hook shank over the barb. I used 3/16" for the 2/0 & 3/0 hooks. Superglue them to the body material & shank at the hook bend behind the hook eye.

What are you throwing?

Even if you don't tie your own flies, send us a picture and recipe if you have it, of your favorite fly for use in an upcoming edition of BFF Fly Lines.

bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com

RedSnook Tournney to be Nov 3-7

The RedSnook Catch and Release Charity Tournament is a reminder of one of the treasures of our region – our waterways. Without clean and abundant supplies of water, recreational and sport fishing would be a thing of the past.

The tournament supports the work of the Conservancy to keep our waters clean and to preserve and enhance our fisheries.

Fly anglers can compete in either Guided or Unguided categories.

Questions? Call 239.403.4219 or email nikkied@conservancy.org

Naples Outfitters & BFF team for fly casting intro event

BFF and Naples Outfitters are teaming up to offer a morning of free introductory fly casting at Sugden Park in

Naples on Sunday, Aug., 13 from 8:00 to 11:30 am. The public is invited and no experience is necessary.

Call Naples Outfitters at 239 262-6149 to register or for more information or visit them at 2360 Shadowlawn Dr, Naples. <http://naplesoutfittersflorida.com/>

All BFF members asked to fill out new membership Form

We need your help in updating our records.

All BFF members are being asked to fill out a new Membership form, print it and return it to the club.

The new Membership form will be sent to you via email in early September.

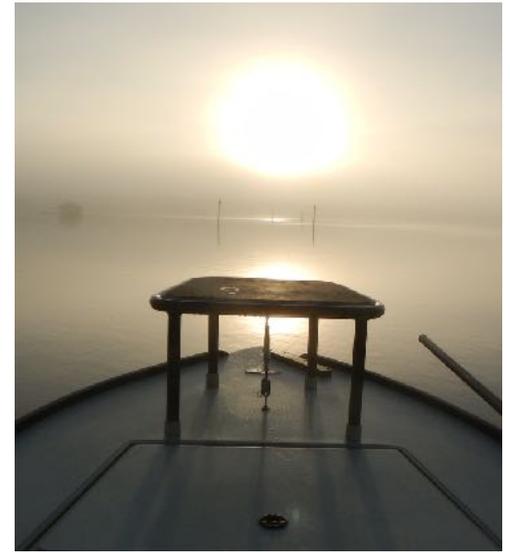
We appreciate your help in this effort to keep our records up to date.

If you have questions, please email them to bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com.

Send Scott your Summer catch pictures please

BFF President, Scott Silver requests that you send him pictures of your summer catches for use in a slide show this season.

Email your pictures to scott4bff@aol.com along with info about species & area where caught.



The **Backcountry Fly Fishers** of Southwest Florida was formed in 1993 to:

- Provide members a place to share fly fishing experiences in the interest of fun and fellowship

- Assist and educate members to improve their fly fishing skills and knowledge of the sport

- Promote conservation of natural resources

- Promote the sport of fly fishing in the community

Today the club has over 150 members. We have a monthly meeting featuring an expert speaker and fly tying demonstrations. Monthly outings provide an opportunity for members to fish in an interesting variety of area locations. Casting and fly tying classes are held monthly for beginners and advanced skill levels. Members receive a monthly the newsletter, the **BFF Fly Lines**.



The Backcountry Fly Fishers is affiliated with the **International Federation of Fly Fishers**, an international organization of over 300 clubs, whose purpose is to provide a strong voice in the state and national conservation movement. The Federation provides fly fishing education programs and teaching aids.



The Backcountry Fly Fishers is affiliated with the **American Casting Association (ACA)**. ACA is organized to foster national and international amateur sport competition in the sports of angling and casting.

Meeting Information

Club meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome.

Meeting Location

The clubhouse, Tiburon Golf Club
2620 Tiburon Dr., Naples, Florida

Directions:

East or westbound Vanderbilt Beach Rd., turn north onto Tiburon Dr & follow to clubhouse. Free valet parking available.
north bound on Airport-Pulling Rd., turn east onto Tiburon Blvd E then right on Tiburon Drive. Follow Tiburon Dr., through traffic circle, past Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, to clubhouse.

Board of Directors

President-Scott Silver, bffpresident@flyfishingnaples.com

Vice President-Ralph Pike, bffvp@flyfishingnaples.com

Secretary-Dick Shafner, bffsecretary@flyfishingnaples.com

Treasurer-William Flowers, bfftreasurer@flyfishingnaples.com

Communications-Craig Winter, bffinfo@flyfishingnaples.com

Community Relations-Bruce Deventhal, bffcommunityrelations@flyfishingnaples.com

Conservation-Jim Snyder, bffconservation@flyfishingnaples.com

Education-Jim Schneider, bffeducation@flyfishingnaples.com

Facilities-Mac Hatcher, bfffacilities@flyfishingnaples.com

Membership-John King, bffmembership@flyfishingnaples.com

Outings-Al Kuhre, bffoutings@flyfishingnaples.com

Programs-Bruce Wilson, bffprograms@flyfishingnaples.com



Catches of the Day

BFF members don't let the grass grow under their feet during the summer and here are some catches.



John Leach shows off a nice 18" Wisconsin, Menominee River, Smallmouth Bass he caught throwing a bright blue Boogle popper while floating the river. John reports a fabulous day of catching 20 16-18" smallies, all on topwater flies!



Buddy Ferber recently found a solid SWFL summer Snook, above.

Please send me photos from your summer fishing adventures
 scott4bff@gmail.com
 Send the photos as attachments, not embedded in the email message
 Where - Species - Size - Fly
 MOP FLY?



Al Kuhre can often be found chasing SWFL gamefish and seldom rests on his laurels. Summer is no exception and he recently sent us some great pictures of an outing in Estero Bay where he caught several nice Reds. Love the well "freckled" one below!



Craig Winter was chasing Illinois Golden Bonefish (aka-Carp) in the wilds of Suburban Chicago and sent the pictures, above & below, of a representative catch of the 8-10 lb fish he found.

