

SCAC Field Day Report: Cervantes/Jurien – 16th & 17th January

The January 2016 field day was spread from Sandy Cape to Jurien to Cervantes with most persons fishing the Sandy Cape area. Some fished around the carpark leading to the Hill River. Weather conditions at this venue were good to very good except too good for Saturday, but a wind change Sunday morning saw a strong SW suddenly come in with surprising results. Tailor schools not coming close in to shore to feed during light winds, and with the following morning the SW wind saw some Tailor move in.. Overall at all locations, the result was ranged from zero to fair to good bags, mainly the latter, with Tailor catches predominant and very small numbers of mainly herring and very few other species.

The away venue gave pleasant fishing conditions with most getting a feed of fish. For the field day the Surfcasters that attended the weigh-in, most had big grins with lots of kidding about things that went right or wrong.

The Away

Trip.

The sign on at the Cervantes Service Station was at 12:30 pm Saturday 16th January with lines down

at 2:00 pm with fishing through until Sunday 17th January with the usual lines up at 10:00 am and the

weigh-in conducted at 11:30 am at the sign-on location.

A total of 10 SCAC Anglers including one Junior came to the away sign-on. (Peet and Sandra Wessels, Greg and Morgan Keet, Eddie and Debbie Korin, George Holman, Ron Thomas, Martin Wearmouth and Peter Osborne, Two of Martins worked mates joined us to see what our club field day was about.

At the sign on Peter Osborne advised he had done a bit of local research on Friday night and Saturday morning. With very calm conditions he did not get any fish. Hence at the sign in it did not take much convincing from Ron and Martin we should try Sandy Cape. So Martin and Ron led a convoy of vehicles including Martins two friends, plus Peet and Sandra and Peter O.

The convoy wound its way into a beautiful bit of beach a kilometre south of the Sandy Cape camping area. All immediately set up rods and at 2:00 pm a barrage of mulies hit the water. Light easterly winds gave very calm conditions hence fish appearance afternoon and evening was very slow. Both Peter & Sandra and Peter considered they were on the wrong end of the queue. By evening they only had one fish each, however Ron, at the Southern end of the group had 6 Tailor and next door to him Martin had 4. Late afternoon we watched a small shark and a large smooth-skin ray swim up and down in front of us. The latter nearly beaching itself in the skinny water wave brake



Martin looking pleased with himself after catching a tailor in every calm conditions



Peet concentrating hard to find an elusive tailor on Saturday afternoon

Peet and Sandra sorting out their bags of Tailor



Surfcasters hit Sandy cape and soon have a barrage of mulies hitting the ocean

The following morning on getting up out of bed in dribs and drabs from 4:30 am, within an hour, everyone was wetting a mulie. Again calm conditions prevailed and fishing was very slow, then, a little after 7:00 am a fairly strong SW wind made an appearance. (Would guess 15+ km/hr) Only 5 minutes later, like switching on a light switch, Tailor schools came appeared in front of us all. Looking south to a sea of rods there were fish coming in every couple of minutes. Everyone, including Martin's friends completed their bag limits before the fish switched off a little more than an hour later. They were not huge Tailor – generally in the 33 to 43cm range, but provided a good bag of eating fish. Some of us fished with a second small hook rig above the mulie, resulting in an odd Herring coming in. Peter O managed one of his Herring on a 3/0 hook. Peet managed to land a stray one-off Dart to give him three species three - highest for the field day. This again reinforced that the best Tailor feeding conditions require a SW wind of 15 km/hr or more.

Greg Keet & son Morgan and Eddie & Debbie Korin fished in the Cervantes to the Hill River carpark area. Fish were not prolific with Greg getting 4 Tailor and his son getting 2 Tailor and a Herring. Eddie and Debbie missed out altogether

George fished the beach a little less than a km south of the Hill River carpark with some success. He found good Tailor. He had the best fish of the competition with a Tailor of 0.78 kg and the heaviest bag of tailor of just over 5.0 kg. The rest of us that bagged out had bag weights from 3.1 to 3.7 kg. While he did not find a Sting Ray, George managed to land a large Shovelnose Shark. This gave him a good work-out. These are not a shark but a member of the ray family.

At the weigh-in nearly all big smiles. While Peet had more species, Georges bag was heavier enough to give him the highest points. Hence George obtained top spots for heaviest bag, heaviest fish and most points.

See below for the results tabulation.

Local

Three Surfcasters fished local, Mark Hansen, and initially unbeknown to each other, Victor and Slavka also fished Leighton beach Saturday. Apparently there were fishermen just about shoulder to shoulder on both sides of the rock groyne. As we encountered north, very calm conditions, hence no Tailor arrived along this bit of coastline to feed at dusk. They all caught 3 or 4 Whiting each, with Mark also getting a couple of herring.

An "A" for effort but a "0" for Tailor fish captures.

Other

Due to an error in communication on advice to field day venue change, Lee Yongli went to Preston. He joined Ken and Klaus who had decided to fish at the usual Preston spot. The risks perceived in going to this area due to bushfires did not eventuate, other than the higher presence of police. They had no issues with driving into Preston and then onto the beach. Again no Tailor, only a few Whiting except Lee managed a very large Flounder. (Scaled and gutted, the, shallow pan fried in a bit of butter, and eaten off the bone, one of my favourite fish meals.)

Hope to see you at our February field day now at the White Hills/Preston areas – high expectations these locations will provide us with schools of quality Tailor and other miscellaneous species.

Tight lines,

Peter Osborne

Field Day officer

Rank	Top scores up to January		Total points
	Angler		
1	Peet Wessels		1145.2
2	Peter Osborne		1136.1
3	Sandra Wessels		931.2
4	George Holman		658.1
5	Mark Nurse		646.6
6	Shane Wignell		643.8
7	Martin Wearmouth		509.3
8	Ron Thomas		442.6
9	Theo Van Niekerk		423.5
10	Gary Parkinson		373.7
11	Sri Sriganandan		291.1
12	Daniel Bell		259.6
13	Paul Terpkos		240.8
14	Mark Hansen		217.1
15	Victor Schilo		214.1
16	Slavka Schilo		185.9
17	Michael Pisano		175.3
18	Pat McKeown		173.2
19	Sarah Wignell		143.2
20	George Belin		129.4
21	Ian Taggart		115.5
22	Lee Yongli		112.1
23	Chris Gaston		112.1
24	Dean Stewart		104.5
25	Nic Terpkos		89.7
26	Scott Williamson		84.4
27	Jamie Reilly		75.7
28	Glen Wong		71.8
29	David Maxted		69.6
30	Eddie Korin		40.0
31	Morgan Keet		37.8
32	Greg Keet		37.5
33	Thomas Wearmouth		31.0
34	Christian Wearmouth		20.0
35	Geoff Raftis		20.0
36	Debbie Korin		10.0
37	Peter Butland		10.0

Sportsperson of the year sections for January			
Section	Angler	Species	Weight
Best scale fish	George Holman	Tailor	0.78
Best bag of scale fish	George Holman	Mixed bag	5.05
Best shark			
Best bag including sharks			

Field day prizes for January			
Section	Angler	Species	Weight
Best scale fish	George Holman	Tailor	0.78
Best bag of scale fish	Ron Thomas	Mixed bag	4.26
Best shark			
Best bag including sharks			

One change to the field day sections list in the January Reel Talk.

13	Best bag of tailor (2 fish min)	George Holman	Tailor	5.05
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