



Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 6944

ABN 29 925 237 020

Telephone 08 9209 2117 Email surfcast@iinet.net.au

Club Web page <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au>

July 2011 Field Day

This Field day was in two parts, an Open boundary Field day, and a "Field day" during the Safari at Steep Point for people on the Safari who could not attend a Field day on the normal weekend because that's the time they were travelling.

With the decision to have a safari type venue for July, the usual local section was opened to a go anywhere limited by the times of lines down, lines up and weigh-in time. The lines up on Sunday was set at 12:00 noon and with a weigh-in time of 6:00 pm. This allowed 6 hours of travel time. Hence field day fisherpersons spread from north of Two Rocks to Yallingup in the South.

Firstly, to come to a real highlight of local fishing. I have to congratulate George Holman on his bag gained from Floreat Beach. George's bag far exceeded the quality and quantity that the rest of us managed to achieve. With a bag of tailor and herring plus a magnificent, not one, but two Pink snapper of 6.55 and 5.4 kg gilled and gutted. This was outstanding.

While it may be considered a bit of luck to catch one snapper from our local beaches, George has the skills and knowledge to maximize his chances and gets the reward of these two magnificent fish. With his three tailor averaging nearly one kilo, (best was 1.37 kg) together with miscellaneous herring and garfish, he had a bag that will take some beating for local venues over the rest of the year.



George Holman with 6.55 kg Pink Snapper



George with 5.4 and 6.55 kg Pink Snapper

John Crompton, Shane Beau, Allan Jones and Nick Edwards were fishers that tried local (Perth) beaches and fared from zero to small bags of herring.

Justin Rose fished north of Two Rocks, flicking poppers. Working the reefs and wading, this technique worked not well, but too well, as he kept getting tailor in excess of 55cm. As only two tailor of 50cm and above size can be kept, he was doing catch and release. He was only able to bring four tailor to the weigh-in to conform to Fisheries rules. However, Justin's best tailor went 1.94 kg. This was also great capture, and on a lure. Justin has the skills to raise the bar for our 2011/2012 for heaviest tailor for both field day and open section.

The "sob" story of the local fisherpersons must go to Pat McKeown. Not only did he have a bust off on a good fish, but despite trying various local locations, the closest he got to catching a gardie was to watch George pull in one. Pat needs this one for his species badge. Herring no problem, but gardies and Pat don't seem to mix. He will have to turn this around to switch off all the ribbing he will get from various club members.

Some of us that went south put in effort but did not get the rewards that George managed. I went down a day early to scout around. Not only did we find a huge swell which shut down ability to fish some favourite spots, (e.g. eliminating places facing or open to the ocean), but the schools of salmon that show up at this time of year were absent. Apparently the warm Leeuwin current blocked the schools and when they got past Albany, for the most part, they turned around and headed back east - only a few odd fish came through.

Three of us booked a cabin at the Yallingup Camping Caravan Park for a bit of comfort at night. Marcia and Peter Pekaar fished protected spots out from Dunsborough but could only find a few herring, and they were not prolific. I had some protected spots from the rocks close to Yallingup, with the best just below the camp/caravan park. Past years had given me salmon from these spots. But thoughts of repeating salmon catches I did at Reef Beach earlier this year came to nought.

However one of these spots hold Western Rock Blackfish, particularly at high tide, so on Sunday morning I concentrated my effort here. It is fishing using bait-casting rigs in shallow water with reefy and weed bottom, so tend to lose a few rigs. Managed to get a bag of some ten of these species with some minor addition of a few herring and skippy. Best fish was only just 1.0 kg. Not greatest looking fish though some had a beautiful blue hue when freshly caught, but are better than average on the palate.

Hence with 10 fisherpersons spread across a few hundred kilometres of coastline on a winter fishing expedition, the results are an interesting mixture of poor to good to outstanding.

Peter Osborne, Assistant Field Day Officer

Catch results and points for the July Open Field Day

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
George Holman	16.77 kg	4	13	257.7
Peter Osborne	8.27 kg	4	20	172.7
Justin Rose	5.58 kg	1	4	105.8
Nick Edwards	1.02 kg	1	7	70.2
Peter Pekaar	0.81 kg	1	6	68.1
Marcia Pekaar	0.61 kg	1	5	66.1
Pat McKeown	0.36 kg	1	4	63.6
Allan Jones	0.61 kg	1	1	56.1
John Crompton	0	0	0	50
Shane Becu	0	0	0	40

Points include Field Day and July General Meeting points.

Species weighed at the Open Field Day were:- Pink Snapper, Herring, Garfish, Tailor, Wrasse, Western Rock Blackfish and Skipjack Trevally.

Steep Point Field Day July 2011

A small group of our club ventured off to Steep Point during the July school holidays. The main focus of this Safari was for a break away from city life and to go and enjoy the wild camping experience that Steep Point offers. Boat fishing was our main activity, but we did manage to fit in 5 hours of shore fishing to compete in our Fishing Field Day.

I will write a detail report on our Fishing Safari for the September Reel Talk.

The following people participated in the Field Day event. Michael, Frank and Sumarie Gaudin. Theo van Niekerk, Sandra and Peet Wessels. Between the 6 of us we landed 8 species. Our first hour of fishing started off on the beach in front of our campsite at Shelter Bay.



The little reef section produced some Flathead, Perch and Whiting. From here we headed to the Fault Line. The day was perfect and the water crystal clear.

On arrival we noticed huge schools of fish. This looked to be School Mackerel.

Soon we had bait casting rigs and flies in action, all this to no avail, the fish just did not seem interested in our offerings. We turned to bottom rigs and did manage to land some Skippy and a few good size Cod. After losing a fair bit of fishing tackle some of us decided to venture off to the western cliffs.

This move worked out to be a good decision. The cliffs we fished were about 30 to 35 meters high with very deep water close in. We used single paternoster rigs with 7/0 hooks and 6 ounce sinkers. We managed to lose just about all the sinkers and rigs we took with us, in the end we had to scratch around to get a rig made up. However while paying dearly with lost fishing tackle, mostly to big sharks, this spot did produce some magnificent fish. Between the 3 of us we landed a good Emperor, a very good Baldchin Groper and 10 very nice Pink Snapper. While this is a very dangerous and hard type of fishing, this is also a very rewarding and satisfying way of fishing. This is the fishing that you dream of and want to have more of. Just can't wait to experience this again.

Our next field day, August, is Rottnest Island. Hope the next time I see you is with a bent rod in the hand. Tight lines.

Field Day Officer, Peet Wessels

Catch results and points for the July Safari Field Day

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Peet Wessels	7.38 kg	6	10	183.8
Theo Van Niekerk	6.89 kg	4	8	148.9
Sandra Wessels	2.68 kg	2	4	96.8
Michael Gaudin	0.75 kg	1	1	57.5
Frank Gaudin	0	0	0	40
Sumarie Gaudin	0	0	0	40

Points include Field Day and July General Meeting points.

Species weighed at the Safari Field Day were:- Pink Snapper, Skipjack Trevally, Flathead, Cod, Sea Perch, Emperor, Baldchin Groper, Whiting.

Sportsperson of the Year winners for July 2011

Best scale fish	George Holman	Pink Snapper	6.55 kg
Best bag of scale fish	George Holman	Mixed Bag	16.77 kg

Field day section winners for July 2011

Best scale fish	George Holman	Pink Snapper	6.55 kg
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Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed Bag	8.27 kg
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Field Day sections 2011/12

Up to and including July Field Day.

1A	Best Scale Fish (1st Six Months)	George Holman	Pink Snapper	6.55 kg
1B	Best Scale Fish (2nd Six Months)			
2	Most Meritorious Fish	To be awarded by Committee		
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)			
4	Best Mulloway (2.0kg min)			
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)	Justin Rose	Tailor	1.92 kg
6	Best Salmon (3kg min)			
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Sandra Wessels	Trevally, Skipjack	1.13 kg
8	Best Mackerel (2kg Min)			
9	Best Scale Fish (Other than above)	Peet Wessels	Cod	1.44 kg
10	Best Bag Of Scale Fish	George Holman	Mixed Bag	16.77 kg
11	Best Bag Of Mulloway (2 Fish Min)			
12	Best Bag Of Tailor (2 Fish Min)	Justin Rose	Tailor	5.58 kg
13	Best Fish On S/H Rod 4kg b/s line (max)	Peter Osborne	Wrasse	0.36 kg
14	Best Fish Caught on Fly Rod	Frank Gaudin	Trevally, Skipjack	0.75 kg

Field Day top scores for 2011/12

Total scores up to and including July Field Day and General meeting.

Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank
Peet Wessels	493	1	Sumarie Gaudin	148.5	12	Wayne Shaw	57	23
Peter Osborne	449.5	2	Michael Gaudin	123.5	13	Ray Walker	50	24
Sandra Wessels	365.9	3	Stuart Spickett	108.8	14	Ron Lindsay	50	25
Theo Van Niekerk	327.7	4	Nick Edwards	103.6	15	Lachlan Spickett	40	26
George Holman	317.2	5	John Crompton	100	16	Olivia Keet	40	27
Justin Rose	241.5	6	Allan Jones	96.1	17	Shane Becu	40	28
Frank Gaudin	187.4	7	Ian Taggart	90.3	18	Sharon Osborne	40	29
Mark Hansen	185.8	8	Wendy Hansen	86.8	19	Shane Wignell	32.8	30
Peter Pekaar	174.6	9	Pat McKeown	83.6	20	Sarah Wignell	21.4	31
Greg Keet	170.3	10	Morgan Keet	66.3	21	John Curtis	20	32
Marcia Pekaar	150.7	11	Felicity Keet	62.5	22			

Update to Species Badge competition

The list of species registered to members has been updated for catches during July Open Field Day, Safari field day and open entries.

Name	Black Bream	Flathead	Flounder	Garfish	Herring	Yellow Eyed Mullet	Mackerel	Mulloway	Pink Snapper	Salmon	Samson Fish	Snook or Pike	Tailor	Tarwhine	Trevally	Whiting	Wrasse	Number of species caught
Theo Van Niekerk		1			1				1	1			1	1	1		1	8
Shane Becu		1																1

Recorder, John Curtis