

Fishing

by Matt Curtis

Reporting Period: December 23 to January 23, 2015

Note: Missing dates normally mean that the wind contributed to boats not going out to fish.

I have a NEW email if you can send me any fishing news or pictures: lyncurt0@gmail.com

12/30 DAKOTA trolled at San Esteban for six yellowtail to 24.5# and one bonito before the wind kicked up and drove them home.

1/10 A lot of boats went out on a calm sunny day, but did not get reports from all. However, DAKOTA went to Willard for 13 yellowtail and 2 bonito all caught trolling. They had four triple hook-ups and landed them all, so the fishing gods were with them. SAND DOLLAR tried trolling at Esteban but nothing was biting, then tried Punto Willard for yellowtail and Dead Man for to fill the box with bottom fish. PERRYDIZE fished Dead Man for limits of goldies including some really nice sized ones. EL SUENO tried Esteban with no luck then fished between Eagle's Nest and Dead Man for a nice catch of bottom fish. JAYHAWKER also tried Esteban and met with the same results as everyone else, before moving to Willard for five yellowtail and bottom fish at Dead Man. ROCK AND REEL fished for bottom fish at the south reef of Turner and got limits of goldies including one really large one. SI SENOR tried Turner and Deep Reef for limits of goldies, triggerfish and scorpionfish.

1/17 Indirect report from GATOR BAIT and Scooby Doo about fishing down south at Barre Navidad. They had been out once and caught one sailfish. They hoped to fish every other day.

1/20 DAKOTA went to Esteban two sheephead and nice goldies and one yellowtail. SEABASS fished Esteban for limits of big goldies. SEASHELL fished 14 mile for limits of sand bass. JAYHAWKER also fished for 14 for limits of sand bass.

1/21 SAND DOLLAR fished Turner for limits of goldies and rock bass. PERRYDIZE found one lost 15# yellowtail near Turner and limits of goldies at Deep Reef.

This has been a really slow month with the yellowtail moving around and lots of windy weather, so not many fishermen got out very often.



So I will include some information I started to collect on a subject indirectly related to "fishing":

Local ShellFISH.

These are some of the more common species of edible bivalve mollusks found in the Kino Bay area. You may not realize some of them are quite popular local and almost of the vendors carry them, but have never sampled. I will leave judgement of "taste" up to those willing to try them, but all are considered edible, just in case you are ever marooned or "cast away" by angry fellow fishermen or wives.



CHINOS: the most common local "clam", with a couple of varieties or forms. These are what you usually get at restaurants around Kino Bay. They are found in local estuaries in fairly shallow sand areas or mixed sand and pebble zones within the tidal zone. Best eaten steamed, as a pasta sauce, chowder, soup or even raw (if brave). The accompanying picture to the right shows the local "butter clam" variety found along the pebble and rock areas, especially past Roca Roja. They are comparatively small but contain relatively large organisms. Next is the queen or reina, a larger white clam apparently found in sandy bars in deeper water, found only by divers or in extreme low tides. Reinas are usually prepared by removing the gills and chopped to mix with fresh "pico de gallo" or lime and hot sauce.



Next is the relatively less common "chocolate", a favorite among Mexicanos. It is usually larger than the chinOs and has orangish flesh. Although common in markets and in shallow sandy water in Gonzaga Bay, I have never seen many of these. The last is the "pin shell" or Mexican

scallop. The adductor muscles in the clam are removed to use as "scallops" but the rest of the body is often fried and eaten or used as an excellent bait for fishing. They grow in varying depths of water attached by their byssal threads to rocks, with the big end pointing upward. Next is the "pie de mula", or mule's foot, another local favorite found near beaches and in estuaries. The final picture is of typical clams, probably a mix of chino varieties from the Santa Rosa Estuary. The variety of markings on these is quite beautiful. Many of these were photographed at Terry's fish stand by the muelle in Kino Viejo. Don't forget that it is technically illegal collect shellfish in Mexico.

