

CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE

FISHING INFORMATION

Sport fishing begins early in April and continues through November. The most common types of fishing are surfcasting, trolling, and bottom fishing. Practically all fishing is done in salt water and no license is required.

Channel bass usually arrive in early April and leave in mid-May. They return again early in September and remain through November. These fish are taken by surfcasting and by trolling from Charter boats. The autumn months are generally more productive for surfcasters.

Other species of fish arrive early in May and are in the area through October. They include blues, flounder, whiting, trout, and spot. These are taken by surfcasting and by bottom fishing in adjacent sounds. Blues and mackerel are taken in large quantities by trolling in the ocean.

The use of outboards in ocean waters is particularly hazardous, and charter boats should be used for this activity.

Gulf stream fishing is excellent from early June through September. Blue marlin, white marlin, sail, tuna, amberjack, and dolphin are the predominant species taken. Charter boats may be rented at Oregon Inlet, Hatteras and Ocracoke.

Small boats may be rented on Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands for inlet and sound fishing. Launching ramps are provided at the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center on Bodie Island and the villages of Hatteras and Ocracoke.

Rental boats, motors, and launching ramps are available at locations outside the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Further information concerning these facilities may be obtained by writing to Dare County Tourist Bureau, Manteo, North Carolina.