



find redfish tailing, you're almost always guaranteed a bite!

Moving to our next spot, we began catching many other fish. There was an abundance of trout and it was an action packed afternoon. The water was crystal clear and we could see the fish taking our lures. The emerald green grass was gently waving in the current. A shimmering school of bluefish glistened by as mangrove snapper chased them in competition for the lures. We could also see mackerel chasing the trout and it was a lively sight! All of the fish were hungrily chasing each other away from the bait and it was clear that the reflective components in the lures were outshining the schools of tiny baitfish swimming by.

Redfish have a pretty solid mouth; the best technique to hooking a redfish is with a 2/0 or 3/0 circle hook. If you're throwing artificial baits, use a slow retrieve with a light jig head and scented bait. Redfish are very smart and once hooked, they will head for any dock posts or obstructions in the water. When you finally get the fish close, they're usually not done. Redfish are notorious for a long run from the side of your boat.

Over the years, Florida has seen an increase in redfish schools and larger fish are coming to the flats every year. The redfish is a highly targeted game fish and practices such as catch and release have

allowed the Florida redfish population to grow. The daily bag limit is one fish per person per day, with an eight fish vessel limit. Some areas allow two per person, so it's a good idea to check the regulations for the area you are fishing.

Bag limits apply in areas adjacent to fishing sites such as docks and parking lots. A six fish per person transport limit applies when traveling in a vehicle on land away from a fishing site. All redfish must remain in whole condition until landed ashore and commercial harvest is prohibited. For more information, please visit www.myFWC.com.

During our trip, we caught redfish to our heart's content. We also had an amazing by catch of trout and snapper. The action was hot and the day flew by. In the afternoon, we saw a storm brewing on the horizon and decided to head back to shore. Our day of inshore fishing had paid off nicely and we had plenty of redfish action to talk about. Motoring towards the marina, we smiled and took in the Sarasota air. Nothing beats fishing my hometown Florida waters and I am very much looking forward to my next fishing adventure with Capt. Bruce & Bryan Burkhart of Casual Lies Charters. 🍷

To book a charter with Casual Lies, call Bruce Burkhart at (941) 302-1164 or (941) 922-3675. Please email casualties@aol.com or send mail to 4768 Harris Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34233