





## FISHERIES OCEANOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS FOR THE NORFOLK CANYON TO HATTERAS OFFSHORE (LORAN) UPDATED ON MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2023 FOR <u>MONDAY P.M. & TUESDAY FISHING</u>

Based on a multiple factor analysis, the symbols (hot spot dots) mark the areas where bait concentrations are expected and where fishing action are expected to be better compared with other (non-marked) areas. These are not based on dock rumors or hearsay fishing reports. Fishing reports are stated as such. You should start fishing where you recognize other signs of good fishing conditions near these marked areas. It is very important to use your sea surface temperature (sst<sup>°</sup>) gauge to locate the boundaries of the water masses, which are outlined. Rather than trying to find water based on the absolute temperature values shown on the map, search for the relative change in sst where the water mass boundaries occur. Arrows indicate the main current direction. Numbers inside of the dots indicate the number of consecutive days that we have seen favorable conditions in that location. 1 fathom = approximately 6 feet. Afternoon SST is likely to be 1.0°F or greater than indicated by the morning calibration on this analysis. NUMBERS IN PARENTHESES AFTER LOCATIONS ARE NUMBER OF DAYS THAT SPOT HAS BEEN FAVORABLE. We now provide cloud-free SST and ocean color/chlorophyll data from our new partner Fathom Science™ for at 6am forecast for the next day. This data is cutting-edge, high resolution, cloud-free modeled data that has been evaluated and validated by ROFFS<sup>™</sup> along with other oceanographic scientists and proven to be the most accurate cloud-free data available to guide you in the right direction to increase your chances for fishing action. The cloud-free data will not be as accurate as the real time satellite imagery, but it will guide you to the general area for the better features, especially when it is cloudy. For more information please visit https://www.roffs.com/faqs/

We have used a composite of infrared sea surface temperature imagery from today to produce this analysis. We have also provided an updated ocean color chlorophyll composite using imagery from this afternoon to help you locate color boundaries. As always, we suggest looking for relative temperature changes rather than specific temperatures. We have been able to follow the oceanographic conditions in portions of this area for up to the past 3 days. Overall, the core of the Gulf Stream is observed to be about 86°F in the area today. The primary oceanographic feature in this area today is a very strong edge along the inshore side of Gulf Stream water. There is a series of eddies moving along the inshore edge of the Gulf Stream in this area. We can observe a large counter clockwise rotating eddy centered east of the Cape Hatteras area. A smaller eddy is shown near the USS Plymouth. An additional small Gulf Stream eddy will leave the area to the northeast overnight. Keep in mind we expect these eddies to continue moving northeast overnight. In the northernmost charted area, we can observe a weak counter clockwise rotation on the end of a warmer blended blue to blue green filament linger offshore of Washington Canyon. Inshore, we can observe a favorable edge in the Foul area, and another further south off of Oregon Inlet. Keep in mind we expect both of these edges to move north through tomorrow. We have also included an updated ocean color chlorophyll composite image containing imagery from this afternoon so you can get a sense of where the bluer and greener water is located (email only, white=clouds).

Keeping all of the conditions discussed above in mind, we suggest that the most favorable conditions for billfish, tuna, mahi, and wahoo fishing will be along the strong break formed by the inshore edge of warmer and cleaner Gulf Stream associated water. Starting in the northern charted area, look for the leading edge of the small eddy shown near the USS Plymouth moving northeast. We expect a strong break starting around 1000 fathoms around 26750 & 41260, and continuing towards 26740 & 41320, 26725 & 41390, 26705 & 41500 (2), and 26690 & 41650 tomorrow morning. We expect this eddy to force the Gulf Stream core offshore tomorrow morning, starting near the Submerged Buoy near 26700 & 41070 and continuing northeast. Off of the Washington Canyon area, we can observe a lingering filament of warmer blended blue to blue green water that has formed a small counter clockwise rotation. Look for a strong break holding 83°F to 84°F cleaner water in just about 500 fathoms between 26780 & 41790 (2), 26790 & 41700 (3), 26790 & 41620 (3). We expect the southern side of this eddy to move northeast towards 26750 & 41590 in about 1000 fathoms. Inshore, there may be a weak edge holding blue green to clean green water in the Norfolk Canyon area around 26825 & 41530 (3). Continuing south inshore, we like the break on the north side of the narrow filament in the Foul area. Keep in mind this edge is moving north. Look for approximately 82°F water between 26870 & 40950, 26840 & 41000, and 26810 & 41030 tomorrow.

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For those fishing further south within this charted area, we suggest looking for the inshore edge of Gulf Stream associated water along the leading edge of padding eddies for the best chances of encountering tuna, billfish, mahi, and wahoo. Starting off of Cape Hatteras, we can observe a very large counter clockwise rotation. This eddy has picked up some cooler blended blue water around its core. We expect this eddy to improve conditions starting north of the Point area first thing tomorrow morning and continuing northeast. Look for a strong break holding approximately 85°F blue water starting around 100 fathoms near 26795 & 40680 (2) and moving northeast to 26780 & 40710 (2), 26770 & 40795 (2), and 1000 fathoms between 26750 & 40840 (2) and 26740 & 40930 tomorrow morning. We expect the core of this elongated eddy to force the inshore edge of the Gulf Stream further offshore in the southern charted area, look for 86°F water over the Submerged Buoy around 26755 & 40510 and continuing northeast. Further south, we expect the edge of the Gulf Stream core top remain along about 1500 fathoms between 26790 & 40220 (2) and 26775 & 40420 (2). Further inshore off of Oregon Inlet, we like the narrow filament of warmer blue green water moving north in the area. Look for approximately 83°F water starting around 20 fathoms near 26865 & 40690, offshore to 26825 & 40740, and 500 fathoms around. 26800 & 40800 tomorrow morning.

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