

# **OFF THE DOCK**

**WITH D. A. MANN**

**~ Pompano Pickins' ~**

**1/14/25**

Cold, windy, and cloudy – am I forgetting anything? The bite has been slow as of late for we need a break in the weather to really pursue a productive day of fishing. As with the previous week, the Pompano are around; but, you have to “hunt and peck” to locate them. You will not catch two in the same spot; so, just keep moving. I caught one at Marker 17, one at 21, hooked a big one and lost him at 29 (in the north Slow Zone), and one right in front of the entrance to Dona Bay behind Snake Island. All were hooked in 6-9 feet.

The Trout are plentiful in most of the Blackburn Bay flats; but, the slot boys are around Bird Island by Marker 16. Although I did not fish Lyons Bay, I heard talk that the Snook and Reds were hitting around the docks in the back northwest corner.

The fishing landscape has definitely changed since the storms. The tides have been extremely low, the current strong, with clouds and fog. Some days I'll drift the entire length of Blackburn without a single hit. No Pins, no Grunts, no Ladies, no Sail Cats, no nothing. Then, I'll work my way back to the beginning and catch all the above plus a couple Pompano – strange. I can't get a feel it. Mix in a little Red Tide and you have a recipe for a discouraging day.

But is all the above going to keep me from getting excited about going out this week? Oh, Hell no.