

# **OFF THE DOCK**

**WITH D. A. MANN**

**~ Bullseye ~**

**3/27/26**

The planets were aligned perfectly as I made the first cast standing on the forward deck. The second pop of my Willy and the drag was screaming straight out. My two fishing buddies had yet to dip their jigs and looked to the bow in amazement. Over the next hour, I put five more Pompano on ice and the score was 6-0-0. The basin behind Snake Island was the sweet-spot.

Water temps reached 70 degrees and the Pompano were schooling for the first time in a year. Several would be watching as you netted one of their brothers. I was in my neighbor's boat and was not playing "charter captain" on this particular day. My total concentration was on fishing – not directing. It was fun having someone else put us directly on top of a school. He did a great job and by the end of the day we kept twelve – all were big boys.

Three days later, it was my turn to captain. We decided to venture into Blackburn Bay before the boat traffic picked up. By noon, we had five beauties taking an ice bath and left the Bay to the spring-breakers. Nothing happening behind Snake; so, we ventured out into Roberts Bay and fished the Intracoastal...and, bullseye! We drifted into a school and kept four more in the 15-18 slot before the boat traffic took possession of the channel.

Ironic, that on Spring Break, we went back to school.