

OFF THE DOCK

WITH D. A. MANN

~ Expect the Unexpected II ~

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Expect the Unexpected was one of the first reports I ever wrote. I re-read it the other day and learned something new from something old. I had a revelation.

While fishing yesterday, I remembered my own advice. After searching for Pompano for over an hour, I decided to try a spot (that in the past) the Pompano have never found inviting; hence, I rarely give it much thought. The spot was a stone's throw away from Marker 1 on the east side of Snake Island towards the center of the basin. My instincts were telling me to expect the unexpected.

With that being said, I caught five beauties – all big. Unreal when you consider that the previous week I was fishing in the Blackburn Bay preschool pool catching only babies. Feeling lucky, I went north of the Jetties and started drifting the incoming tide in the Slow Zone. Just past Marker 6, I started casting near the overhanging Mangroves on the east side and pulling back into deeper water. It's been several years since I tried this approach to see if anything substantial was lurking in the shadows. Expect the unexpected. Doormat-sized Jacks. I'll be damned.

So, my fellow fishermen, maybe it's time to go off the grid and try something *new* that is really something *old*.

You just never know.