

# OFF THE DOCK

WITH D. A. MANN

## ~ Fishing in a Cup of Joe ~

8/12/24

If you are planning an inshore fishing trip for this week, it would be advised to pack a little cream and sugar in your tackle box. The water is not brown, it's black. And it's black 3-4 *feet* down. What a difference a couple weeks (and a tropical storm) will make. I have gone from 102 fish to 2 fish; and, I'm counting the Channel Cat that I snagged Square in his little butt.

Normally, I don't mind a little brackish water for after a normal summer rain, it is only brackish 3-4 *inches* deep. As you pass through it, your prop wash is clear and you've opened up a river of green behind your boat. Not so in this cup of Joe. Your prop wash is Root Beer and the river behind your boat is even a darker black.

Fishing behind Snake Island on an incoming tide produced a single Snook and the above mentioned Cat. The run-off was coming out of Dona and Roberts Bays with enough force that the flow was consistently *outgoing*. The tide was rising; but, the current did not change direction. In the past, there is always a line where the incoming green water is pushing back the brackish water keeping it at "bay" in the Bays. That line is usually good for fishing. Not so lately for there is no "line".

Things will eventually return to normal. I still enjoy going out for I know that someone has to be the first to start catching again. I want that *someone* to be me. Staying home and pouting is just not my style.