

SPRING 2022

SEAWATCH

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MILESTONE

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DONATES
\$250,000

2022
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UPDATE





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features



Duke Energy Florida
Shows Support | 9



STAR | 16



CCA Boone High School
Club Reels in New
Members | 36

departments

advocacy news	6
around the state	12
habitat projects	28
sponsor spotlight	34
don't miss it	58

contents

THE PUBLICATION DEDICATED TO CONSERVING AND PROTECTING FLORIDA'S MARINE RESOURCES

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Editorial/business inquiries and information requests: Mary Hillyer Walther, P.O. Box 568886, Orlando, Florida, 32856-8886 407-854-7002

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CCA Florida, P.O. Box 568886, Orlando, Florida, 32856-8886

407-854-7002 • ccaflorida.org

Managing Editor
Mary Hillyer Walther

Creative Director
Debbie Dewell
Great Minds, Inc.
850-386-7401

Printer
Durruprint,
Tallahassee

CCA FLORIDA STAFF

Brian Gorski
Executive Director

Adam Miller
Chief Operating Officer

Trip Aukeman
Director of Advocacy

Frank Gidus
Director of Habitat
& Environmental
Restoration

Mary Hillyer Walther
Director of
Communications

Denise Perine
Director of Accounting

Zack Batley
Senior Regional Director

Amanda Krpan
Regional Director

Mandy Tuckus
Regional Director

Will Ramsby
Regional Director

Harley Graham
Regional Director

Sara Anderson
Regional Director

Andrew Danter
Logistics, Procurement
& Inventory Manager

Leiza Fitzgerald
STAR Director

Andrea Gillispie
Assistant STAR Director



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FLORIDA



REDFISH RELEASE RESTOCK

CCA Florida's East Coast Redfish Restocking Initiative

Anglers on Florida's east coast know that the redfish population has declined in recent years. And at CCA Florida, we know that something needs to be done to ensure this iconic fishery is healthy for generations to come.

We're working with the Duke Energy Mariculture Center to restock Florida's redfish population and you can help. Phase I of our east coast redfish restocking initiative includes the raising and release of up to 100,000 juvenile redfish, but we can't do it without you.

With your support, we can meet our \$100,000 goal, which will fund the equipment, feed and other supplies needed to support the effort. Feeding the broodstock and juveniles is a \$25,000 annual cost alone! Get more information online and donate today.

Corporate partnerships are welcome. Learn more online.

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Controversy Brewing at Fishery Management Councils

One of the most confusing debates in all of fisheries management these days is the subject of NOAA Fisheries recalibrating its own historical recreational harvest data (not to be confused with the controversy over calibrating state fisheries data with federal data – that’s an entirely different recalibration controversy).

In its simplest form, this recalibration is the method by which NOAA’s historical recreational harvest data for a species of fish is recalculated using improved techniques. The controversy comes because the process often (but not always) yields a larger allocation of fish to the recreational sector. These percentage shifts can be quite large, but because the process deals solely with recreational data, the impact to the commercial sector is zero in terms of that sector’s poundage quota. Nevertheless, commercial harvesters opposed to any benefit to the recreational sector under any circumstances are preparing for battle over what should be a routine, automatic adjustment.

To begin, you must understand how NOAA Fisheries has collected recreational harvest data and how that process is being updated. The NOAA Fisheries program for collecting recreational fishing catch data is called the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP). MRIP consists of two components and the first is the angler intercept portion, where an interviewer approaches you at a boat ramp or an ocean pier or marina and asks to see your catch, among other questions. From this they estimate the Catch per Trip.

The second portion of the survey was done by telephone. Someone would call household landlines and ask how many times whoever answered went fishing in the past few weeks. Not that many years ago, this process was entirely random. Surveyors would call coastal households with no indication anyone there even fished other than the fact that it was a coastal household. Recreational licensing systems have narrowed down the universe of potential call recipients at least to households with a registered angler. The information from this landline call would be used to estimate the Number of Trips that anglers had taken.

From those two estimates NOAA would use a simple calculation to estimate the total of what anglers had caught: average Catch per Trip multiplied by Number of Trips = Catch. Every time you have ever heard anglers accused of catching more than their allocation, it has been based on this tenuous multiplication of an estimate by another estimate.

It became clear that the second part of the program - the Coastal Household Telephone Survey - was not the best way to gather data on trips, simply because people were switching to cell phone and landline use was declining. It was felt the telephone survey was probably under-estimating the number of trips. So NOAA Fisheries tested new methods for estimating trips and came up with a mail survey as the best method. The new method estimated a two- to six-times increase in the number of recreational trips, which translated into higher catch than previously thought.

This is where the controversy begins.

Imagine you were managing a fishery with a 100,000-pound annual catch limit that was allocated 70 percent recreational and 30 percent commercial and, like most fish stocks, there is no stock assessment available. That means 70,000 pounds for the rec sector and 30,000 pounds for the commercial sector. For simplicity’s sake, we’ll say the new information from the mailed survey (now known as the Fishing Effort Survey or FES), increased the estimated recreational catch by a factor of two. That means the new annual catch limit is 170,000 pounds, and since every “new” pound in that catch limit came from the rec sector, the allocation shifts to 82 percent recreational (140,000 pounds) and 18 percent (30,000 pounds) for commercial. After all, the original allocations were set based on catch history. With the new MRIP method, that history, and the resulting new allocation, are more accurate.

Though the commercial sector has not lost any pounds of harvest in this process, it has not stopped some quarters from labeling this recalculation “unfair.” Often the argument is made to just apply the old percentages to the new annual catch limit. In the example above, that would mean applying the 70:30 ratio to the new limit of 170,000 pounds. That would equate to 119,000 pounds for the rec sector and 51,000 pounds for commercial. In this scenario, 21,000 pounds has been reallocated to the commercial quota even though that sector did nothing to justify it. Since the new allocation reflects greater historical recreational fishing effort, not giving the entire increase to the rec sector actually damages the rec fishery and would result in shorter seasons. Giving the entire increase to the rec sector would almost certainly not result in a longer season for most fisheries since the greater allocation is being harvested by greater effort. In most scenarios, both sectors would largely stay status quo despite the change in allocation. If we don’t give those rec fish to the rec sector, we are only setting up the fishery for a management failure by giving the sector actually less fish than they had last year.

For stocks with a stock assessment that calculates an over-fishing limit, the increase in effort and the resulting increase in allocation percentage is not as direct. Most stock assessments are full of variable datasets used to determine the status of the stock. While the recreational catch and discard data is just one dataset among several, it is often among the most robust - it would be difficult to do many stock assessments without the recreational data. So, two- to six-fold increase in recreational catch sends a strong signal that the stock size had to be much larger for those fish to be caught. While the change in allowable catch might not be as simple as those stocks without an assessment, common sense indicates the increase in stock size and thus allowable catch was primarily due to the increase in recreational catch.

There has also been talk of these recalculations rewarding an “unaccountable” sector with more allocation. This implies that the recreational sector was catching more fish than it was



Fixing recreational data should be straight-forward, but it's not.

supposed to, so it should be restrained, not rewarded. This is faulty logic that ignores the fact that this change came about solely due to a peer reviewed change in the science of how recreational data is collected. The increase represents fish that were actually caught by the recreational fishery, and those fish had to come from somewhere. What the new process makes clear is that managers have never had a clear idea of what anglers were catching or how big the population of fish is/was.

Since the commercial and recreational catch data are often the most robust datasets managers have – and are the driving force in a stock assessment determining the size of the stock and thus the allowable catch – the new process defines a more accurate reality in the fishery.

Recalibrations of this nature dealing with historic data should be automatic. Instead, they are poised to be fought over tooth and nail and that is a failing of the federal management system. Allocations should be managed by a regularly scheduled, certified process that looks not only at the most accurate past catch history available but also at modern and forward-looking data like economics and demographics. NOAA Fisheries' reluctance or inability to guide a true reallocation process and rely instead solely on decades-old, incorrect past catch history for allocations means that recalibrations like this are subject to intense battles.

With recalibrations expected for every fishery under federal management, there is a lot at stake in this process for recreational anglers.



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DUKE ENERGY DOUBLES DOWN ON MARINE CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN FLORIDA WITH \$250,000 DONATION TO COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION FLORIDA

DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA SHOWS SUPPORT

Following a recent contribution of \$150,000, Duke Energy Florida announced it is donating an additional \$100,000 to Coastal Conservation Association Florida (CCA Florida) – the state's leading organization dedicated to marine fisheries conservation, education and advocacy.

The recent donation was announced at CCA Florida's Manatee County Chapter

Banquet and Auction on March 3. The funds will add to a previous \$150,000 contribution from Duke Energy and the Duke Energy Foundation to support CCA Florida's efforts to bring new reef systems to the Gulf of Mexico, as well as test new approaches to clean up fish kills after red tide.

"There is no better time than now to invest in environmental organizations like

CCA Florida, the true champions of marine conservation in our state," said Melissa Seixas, Duke Energy Florida state president. "Duke Energy's continuous collaboration is about so much more than being good environmental stewards; it's about supporting an organization that we believe will have a lasting impact on our communities."

(continued on page 10)



COMPANY ADDS TO PREVIOUS CONTRIBUTION OF \$150,000 WITH ADDITIONAL \$100,000 TO SUPPORT FISHERIES, WATER QUALITY AND RESEARCH.

CCA Florida and the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association (MBARA) plan to deploy a new artificial reef off of Mexico Beach later this year, which will include the installation of three super reef structures, 10 grouper disc structures and five Florida limestone pyramid structures on a nearshore pre-permitted reef site. All three reef structure types are easy for boaters to find and safer to navigate, making them attractive to fishermen. The mixed array also provides greater habit structure diversity, which attracts more species of fish.

"From creating ecosystems to enhancing fisheries, our work is driven by the purpose to improve Florida's marine habitat for today and generations to come," CCA Florida Executive Director Brian Gorski said. "Our efforts are amplified when we

have community partners like Duke Energy and its dedicated staff that believe and invest in our mission."

Duke Energy Mariculture Center Manager Eric Latimer was also recognized at the event for dedicating three decades to replenishing Florida's fish populations through his work at the Duke Energy Mariculture Center in Citrus County. In addition, he became a CCA Florida Legacy Member, a coveted lifetime membership.

As part of a multifunctional and multi-year process to rebuild and maintain game fish stocks, Duke Energy Florida will continue collaborating with CCA Florida and expand its release efforts along the East Coast this summer. To date, the partners have released more than 100,000 redfish and spotted sea trout along Florida's West

Coast providing abundant fishing opportunities to recreational anglers.

Learn more about Eric Latimer, the Duke Energy Mariculture Center and Duke Energy's unique collaboration with CCA Florida in this article on the company's illumination website.

Duke Energy Florida

Duke Energy Mariculture Center Manager Eric Latimer was also recognized at the event for dedicating three decades to replenishing Florida's fish populations through his work at the Center in Citrus County. In addition, he became a CCA Florida Legacy Member, a coveted lifetime membership.

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A Look At The

CCA FLORIDA

YOUTH

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Summer 2022

**CURRENT FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES
AND JUNIORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY
APPLICATIONS OPEN MARCH 1**

APPLY NOW



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ITINERARY

- Tour Duke Energy Mariculture Center
- Take a Fishing Trip
- Visit CCA Office
- Hands On Habitat Project Experience
- Visit to Mud Hole Custom Tackle
- Presentations about Advocacy, Entrepreneurship, Business, and more
- Special Guests
- Swimming and Paddling Florida Springs
- Compete in Speeches and Debates
- Beach Cleanup
- Visit University of Central Florida Marine Biology Labs
- Banquet Dinner
- and more

*Itinerary Subject to Change

OBJECTIVE

The CCA Florida Youth Scholarship Program is an opportunity for Florida High School students to earn college scholarships. Students will compete throughout the week, and scholarships will be awarded based on merit, attention, focus, creativity, speeches, and more.

APPLY!

Applications open online on March 1, 2022 and are due by April 15, 2022. The 10 finalists will be selected and notified in May, 2022. Must be a current Sophomore or Junior.

Applications consist of a basic questionnaire, fill in the blank answers, and an essay on a given topic.

Please do NOT attempt to submit video applications, contact CCA staff, or mail in any items. This will not help your application.

Contact Amanda Krpan at akrpan@ccaflorida.org with any questions

ANGLER DRIVEN. CONSERVATION MINDED.

PATHFINDER AND CCA FLORIDA

EDUCATION, ADVOCACY & HABITAT CONSERVATION



PATHFINDER
ANGLER DRIVEN



A GROWING NETWORK OF



The idea for No Shoes Reefs first came to life in 2013 as Kenny Chesney and a few friends from CCA floated on the St. John's River in Jacksonville, Florida, over two concrete structures that had been sunk as habitat only 18 months prior. As the boat floated over

the location, the boat's electronics showed waves of fish over and on the river's two new living reefs. Thrilled by the outcome, Chesney and Pat Murray, national president of CCA, proclaimed these the first "No Shoes Reefs" and from that afternoon, an initiative was born.

Today, Chesney is an honorary board member for the Building Conservation Trust, the national habitat program of CCA and No Shoes Reefs helps ocean conservation groups create awareness, raise money and connect to each other. Working with partners like Deep Apparel, RePatriot Flag and other brand partners, No Shoes Reefs raises awareness and support through the brand partnerships that sell exclusive products; they're at the center of an alliance dedicated to finding innovative ways to enhance efforts to improve our marine environment.

"I love that No Shoes Reefs is not only helping protect the water's ecosystem, it's giving people an opportunity to make a difference in their own coastal communities," said Chesney. "Providing a healthy environment for fish, plants and waterways well into the future is a legacy I'm honored to be part of."

Drawing on the power of Chesney's No Shoes Nation -- well over a few million strong -- No Shoes Reefs, CCA and a growing list of supporting organizations continue work enhancing our marine habitat and keeping the oceans vibrant and healthy for generations. 🐠

"AS A GUY WHO HAS SO MANY OF MY HAPPIEST MEMORIES ON THE WATER, I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER TO BE A PART OF SOMETHING TO ENSURE THE FUTURE OF THE OCEANS AND BEACHES FOR YEARS TO COME."



THE BOAT RIDE THAT STARTED IT ALL | No Shoes Reefs first came to life in 2013 as Kenny Chesney and friends from CCA floated on the St. John's River in Jacksonville. As the boat floated over the location, their electronics showed waves of fish over the river's two new living reefs. Thrilled, Chesney and CCA National President Pat Murray, proclaimed these the first "No Shoes Reefs."





2022

STAR

**FOR THE FIRST TIME IN
THE HISTORY OF FLORIDA
STAR, CCA FLORIDA, WILL
LAUNCH THE ANNUAL STAR
COMPETITION PRESENTED
BY YAMAHA WITH A TITLE
SPONSOR.**



 **West Marine**

CCA Florida STAR is proud to announce West Marine as the Title sponsor of the 2022 competition. West Marine began to support the STAR competition beginning in 2016. They found that it was a great tool to educate anglers and boaters on conservation but also support the Florida CCA in preserving our marine habitats.

(continued on page 18)

West Marine
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Contender
Pathfinder
Spyder Boats
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NATIVE WATERCRAFT
danco sports
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Florida Marine Tracks
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Plantation Inn Crystal River
Bull Bay Tackle
Tailin Toads
Florida Cracker Invitational Tournament
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Dolphin Research Program

Ocean Tamer Bean Bags

Anisa Stewart Jewelry

Luna Sea Cush it

Knotty Tails

Talon

Deck Gear

Mud Hole Rod Building & Tackle Crafting

For 2022, West Marine has chosen to title the competition in order to increase awareness of the companies commitment to the conservation of our fishery's resources for future viability which is so important to the future of the sport of fishing.

The West Marine CCA Florida STAR competition will kick off on May 28th the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. The 101-day, summer-long event invites CCA members, non-members, anglers and non-anglers to not only participate and win their share of prizes valued at almost \$500,000, including boats, motors, electronics, tackle, scholarships and more but to become citi-

zen biologists and citizen garbologists by submitting photos of their catch or garbage collected in the STAR app. But in order to win you must take your entry photo on the 2022 West Marine CCA FL STAR Official Measuring device which can be picked up for free after May 13th in any West Marine store or any of the other STAR distribution locations throughout Florida.

The STAR competition is not only a wonderful tool to gather catch data, it is an awareness tool for conservation, our sponsors and CCA Florida. Launched in 2015, the competition has set the bar for other fishing tournaments to follow by implement-



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FLORIDA FRIENDLY

\$500,000

SPECIES INCLUDE REDFISH, TROUT, SNOOK, TARPON, GROUPER, KINGFISH, MAHI-MAHI & LIONFISH

West Marine YAMAHA

FISH ANYWHERE IN FLORIDA

MOST PRIZES BY RANDOM DRAWINGS

ing conservation friendly alternatives such a catch-photo-release format, trash division and the removal of invasive species. Florida STAR focuses on conservation with its technology-based, CPR format and dedicated smartphone app which promotes the proper handling of species and allows participants who are members of CCA and registered in the competition to upload photos of their catch or trash buckets in the STAR competition. This eliminates the requirement that some traditional tournaments have to harvest or capture and transport fish to win. CCA Florida also provides access to the data collected from the app to other con-

servation organizations and universities to help educate the public on the importance of protecting Florida's marine resources and for use in their studies on conservation, habitat and stock assessments.

"In the past seven years, it's been amazing to see STAR participants support conservation by embracing the Catch, Photo, Release format as well as picking up garbage during the annual competition" CCA Florida STAR Director Leiza Fitzgerald said. "Even more exciting, are the habitat projects Florida STAR has contributed to plus the awarding of \$2.1 million in prizes, with \$700,000 specifically awarded in youth scholarships."

The West Marine CCA Florida STAR competition has a division for everyone, from the non-angler to the experienced angler. It is comprised of 17 divisions targeting 12 inshore and offshore species plus the Costa Kick Plastic Trash Division presented by Papa's Pilar which encourages cleanup of trash from Florida's coastal waters. STAR's signature Tagged Redfish Division offers winners the choice of a Contender Boats 22 Sport, Pathfinder Boats 2200 TRS or Spyder Boats FX19 Vapor all powered by Yamaha Outboards. For the first two youth anglers who win in this division, prizes include a tiller

(continued on page 20)

**MORE THAN \$2.1M AWARDED
IN PRIZES AND SCHOLARSHIPS
SINCE 2015**

**FLORIDA'S LARGEST FAMILY
Y FISHING COMPETITION**

700,000

IN PRIZES

MAY 28 - SEP 5, 2022

**CATCH A STAR TAGGED REDFISH AND
WIN A BOAT MOTOR & TRAILER
PACKAGE**

**CATCH THE FIRST TIGRESS TAGGED
DOLPHIN AND WIN \$10,000 IN CASH
OR SCHOLARSHIP**

CONTENDER

PATHFINDER
ANGLER DRIVEN

SPYDER

TIGRESS
OUTRIGGERS & GEAR

**EVEN THE SMALLEST
FISH CAN WIN**

**FISH ONE DAY
OR ALL DAYS**

**FOR ANGLERS OF ALL
SKILL LEVELS**

... EVEN MORE EXCITING, ARE THE HABITAT PROJECTS FLORIDA STAR HAS CONTRIBUTED TO PLUS THE AWARDING OF \$2.1 MILLION IN PRIZES, WITH \$700,000 SPECIFICALLY AWARDED IN YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS.

CCA Florida STAR Director
Leiza Fitzgerald

boat powered with Yamaha Outboard, trailer, Minn Kota trolling motor and Humminbird electronics. Each of Florida's coastal counties will have on average 4 tagged redfish for a total of over 160 prize winning fish. The best opportunity to catch one of this year's tagged redfish will be in Brevard, Citrus and Charlotte Counties, STAR's 2022 Destination Counties which each have 8 tagged redfish in their coastal waters.

For the offshore anglers, the Tigress Outriggers and Gear Tagged Dolphin Division offers one winner a \$10,000 cash prize. The first STAR registrant and CCA Florida member who catches one of the tagged dolphin will win. Twenty dolphin (Mahi Mahi) will be tagged and released for STAR in the lower keys coastal waters of Florida by the Dolphin Research program implemented by the Beyond Our Shores Foundation.



STAR is a family-friendly competition, and CCA Florida youth members (ages 6 to 17) can participate for free. Kids are encouraged to submit entries in the Youth Scholarship Division presented by Realtree Fishing for an opportunity to win one of twelve scholarships totaling \$100,000. To date the Florida STAR competition has awarded \$700,000 in scholarships to youth from all over the state.

Other divisions include the Power Pole Conservation Division, Native Watercraft Kayak Division and Electric Bike Company Ladies Division as well as the Yamaha Guides which allows guides to participate when they are not on a charter for hire. Since most division winners are determined by a random drawing, it is not about catching the biggest fish, any size fish can win. Remember, it is very simple really, every fish you catch between Saturday, Memorial Day weekend and Monday, Labor Day offers the CCA member who is registered in STAR the opportunity to win their share of nearly \$500,000 in prizes and scholarships. But you can't win if you are not registered.

Registration is open and anglers who register before April 15th will receive a raffle entry in the drawing for a new Hewes Redfisher with 90 Yamaha and Ameritrail trailer which will be drawn on July 21.

**REGISTER HERE
FOR STAR 2022
OR RECEIVE
ADDITIONAL INFO
ON DIVISIONS, PRIZES
AND MORE!**

SUPER STAR REDFISH

**WIN
\$50,000**

West Marine

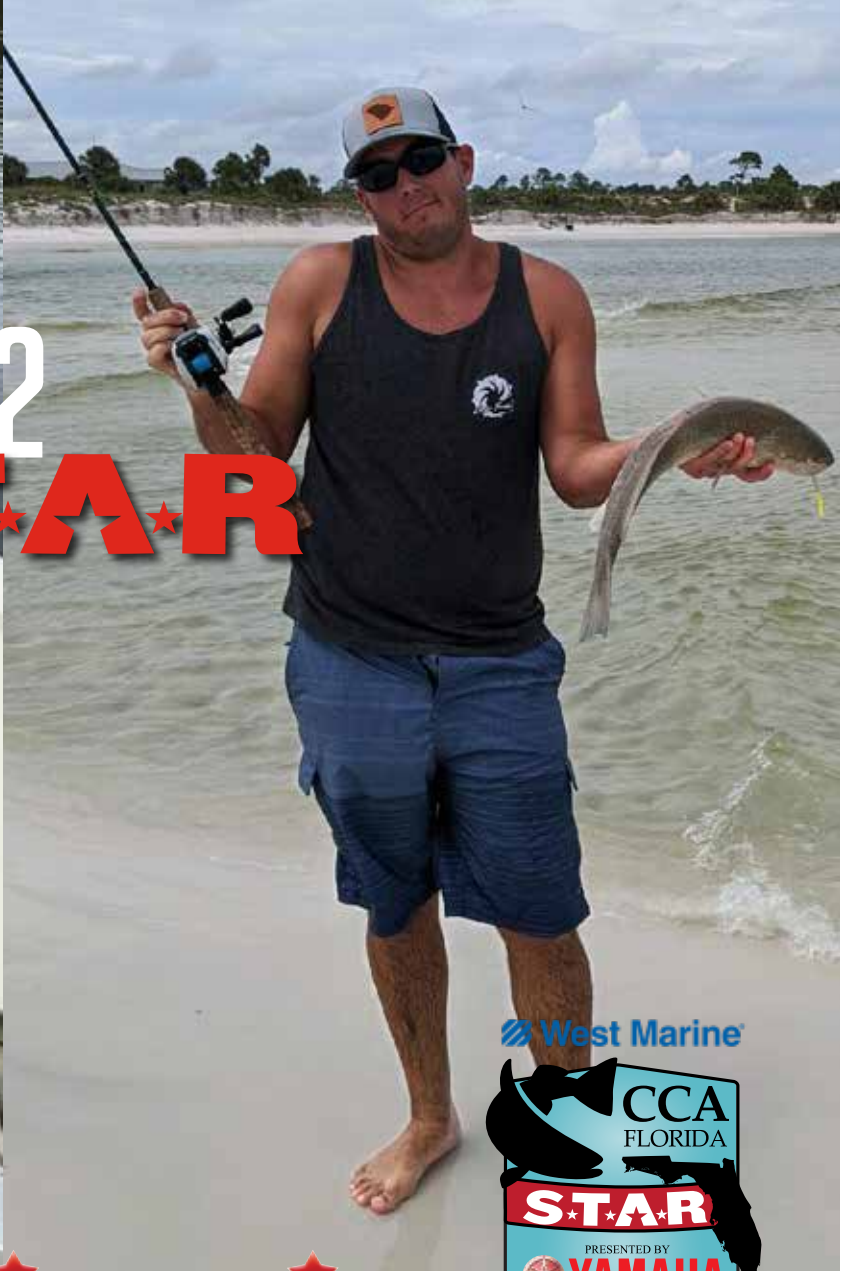


**ALTA EQUIPMENT
COMPANY**

*Terms & Conditions Apply







2022 STAR

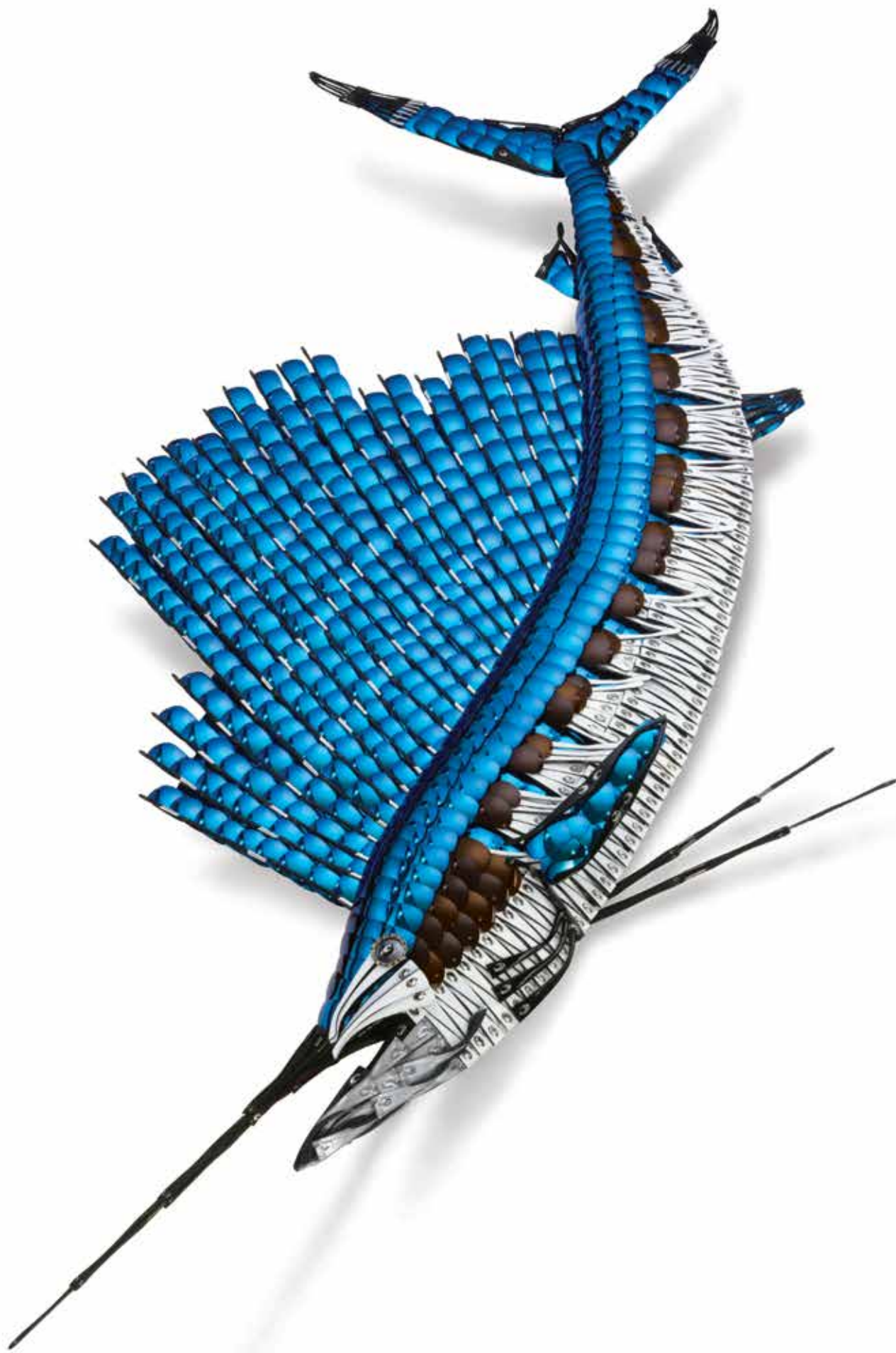


EARLY BIRD PROMO NOW THROUGH APRIL 15

Register for the West Marine CCA Florida STAR competition presented by Yamaha and you will receive a FREE entry to the Hewes Redfisher 16 Raffle - a \$25 value! STAR 2022 runs Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, giving participants 101 days of fishing and the chance to win more than \$500,000 in prizes and youth scholarships.

As a reminder, start planning your summer fishing trips now and make sure to include the STAR 2022 Destination Counties in your adventures! Visit Brevard County (www.vis-itspacecoast.com), Citrus County (www.discovercrystalriver.com) and Charlotte County, Englewood/ Punta Gorda (www.pureflorida.com) as each has more tagged redfish than any other coastal county!

For more information on STAR, please visit www.CCAFLSTAR.com



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CCA FLORIDA REACHES RESTOCKING MILESTONE



**IN JANUARY
2022, CCA FLORIDA
REACHED A HABITAT
PROJECT MILESTONE
RELEASING 110,000
REDFISH (6 TO 29
INCHES) ALONG
FLORIDA'S WEST
COAST.**

(continued on page 26)



In recent years, the redfish population has drastically declined as a result of water quality issues and loss of habitat. To counteract these effects, CCA Florida partnered with the Duke Energy Mariculture Center in 2018 to take a proactive approach in habitat restoration, focusing on restocking efforts for one of Florida's most sought-after inshore fish, the redfish.

"This is our first redfish release of 2022, and we are excited to kick off our restocking efforts in Tampa Bay – an area severely devastated by redtide," CCA Florida Executive Director Brian Gorski said. "In partnership with Duke Energy, every redfish we release is a step in the right direction."





RELEASE THEM FOR TOMORROW
FLORIDA | #DUKEENERGY

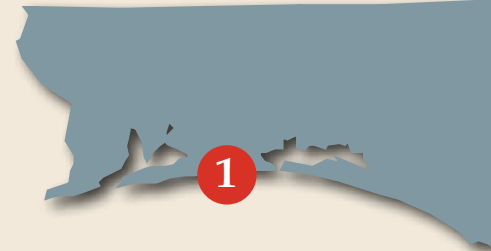


CCA Florida's redfish restocking initiative includes a multifunctional and multiyear strategy in effort to not only rebuild and maintain the game fish stock but provide abundant recreational fishing opportunities for Florida's anglers.

This summer, CCA Florida plans to expand its restocking efforts with the launch of "Release the East." Phase one of the initiative pledges to raise and release 100,000 hatchery-reared juvenile redfish along Florida's East Coast in the Indian River Lagoon.

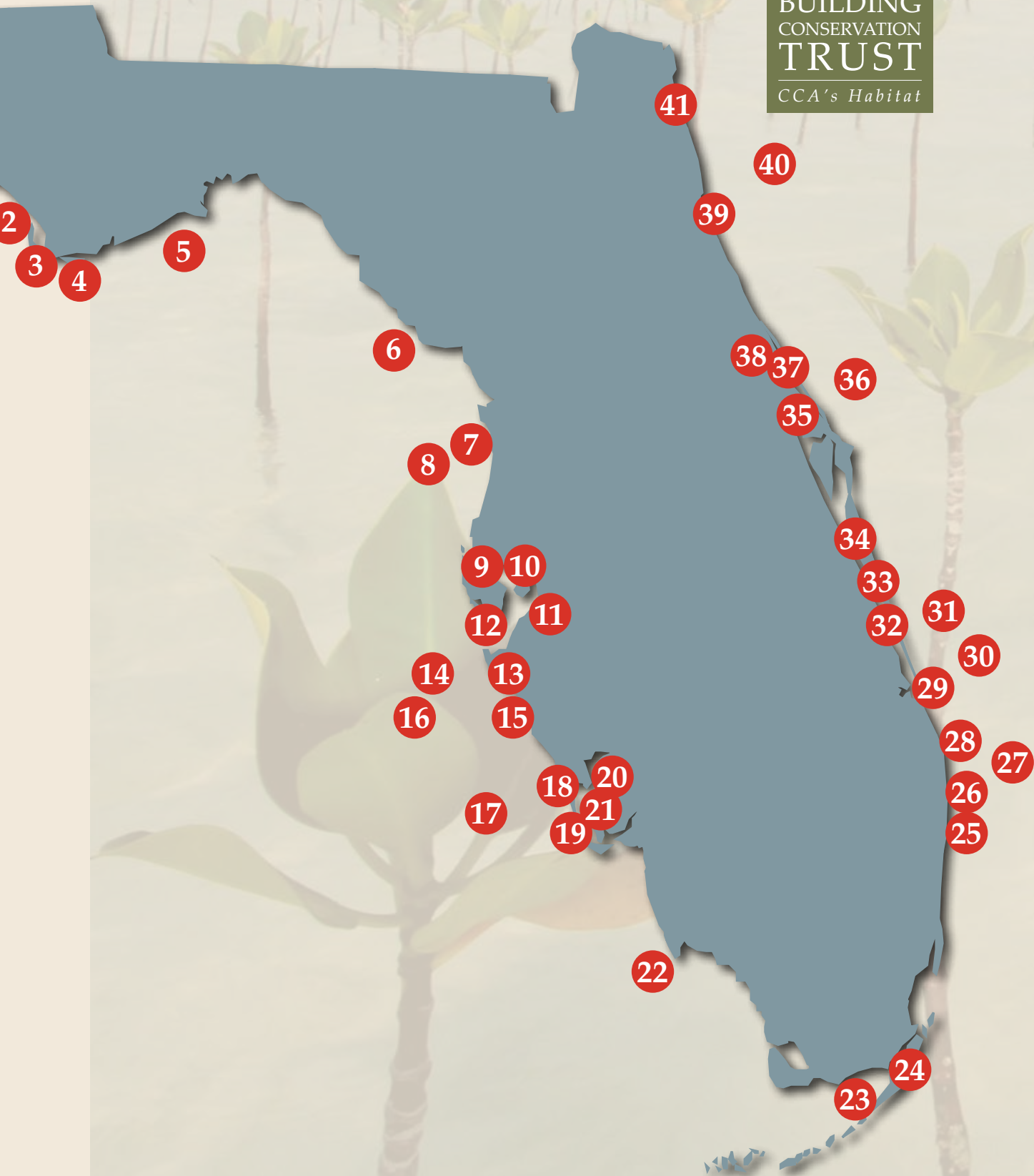
Learn more about CCA Florida's redfish restocking or donate, visit www.ccaflorida.org/redfish.

COMPLETED HABITAT PROJECTS

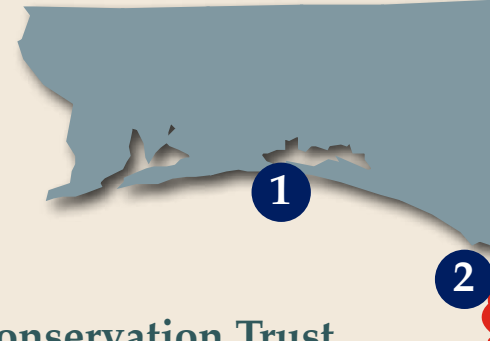


Since 2010, and in collaboration with the Building Conservation Trust, CCA has contributed \$820,000 which has been leveraged with our partners to over \$4,900,000 in habitat projects statewide. Join us in these efforts!

1. CCA/South Walton Artificial Reef Association, Inc. Reefs
2. CCA Reef/MBARA
3. CCA/Ocean Aid 360 Apalachicola Ghost Trap Rodeo
4. CCA/FDEP/Duke Spartina Grass Replanting
5. CCA/BCT Billy's Barge Artificial Reef
6. NCBS Lone Cabbage Reef Fish Monitoring
7. CCA/UF/IFAS Centipede Bay Oyster Reef Restoration
8. CCA/Hernando Co. Ghost Ship Reef
9. CCA/BCT/Tampa Bay Watch Fantasy Island Oyster Restoration
10. CCA/BCT/Tampa Bay Watch 2D Island Oyster Restoration
11. CCA/FWC Suncoast Youth Conservation Center Saltwater Pond
12. CCA/Ocean Aid 360 Tampa Ghost Trap Rodeo
13. CCA/UCF De Soto National Memorial Living Shoreline Stabilization
14. CCA/BCT Sean Gucken Memorial Reef
15. CCA/Sarasota Bay Watch Clam Restoration
16. CCA/FWC Larry Borden Artificial Reef – Manatee County
17. CCA/Lee County USS Mohawk CGC Reef – Veterans Memorial Reef
18. CCA/BCT/Lee County Punta Rassa Oyster Restoration
19. CCA/BCT/Lee County San Carlos Bay Oyster Restoration
20. LBHS Prop Scar Restoration and Sea Grass Project
21. CCA Turtle Bay Oyster Reef Restoration
22. Naples Bay Oyster Restoration Project
23. CCA Florida Bay Seagrass Restoration
24. CCA/UNF Florida Bay Turtle Grass Research Project
25. CCA/No Shoes Reef 4
26. CCA/BCT Goggle Eye Reef
27. CCA/BCT Andrew “Red” Harris Foundation Reef
28. CCA/BCT Andrew “Red” Harris Foundation “No Shoes” Reef
29. CCA/Florida Oceanographic Society Seagrass and Oyster Restoration
30. CCA/MCAC Brause Girls Reef
31. CCA Curtis Bostick Reef
32. CCA/Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Seagrass Restoration
33. CCA Indian River Lagoon RISSA Seagrass Buoys and Oyster Restoration
34. CCA Spotted Seatrout Acoustic Study
35. CCA/UCF/NPS Canaveral Nat'l Seashore Indian Midden Living Shoreline Restoration
36. CCA/BCT Lady Philomena Cargo Ship - Volusia County Reef Site No. 12
37. CCA/UCF Tomoka State Park Indian Midden Living Shoreline Restoration
38. CCA/Heineken/UCF Tomoka State Park Indian Midden Living Shoreline Restoration
39. CCA/City of Fernandina Living Shoreline Oyster Restoration
40. CCA/BCT Starship Reef
41. CCA/BCT Jacksonville River Reef

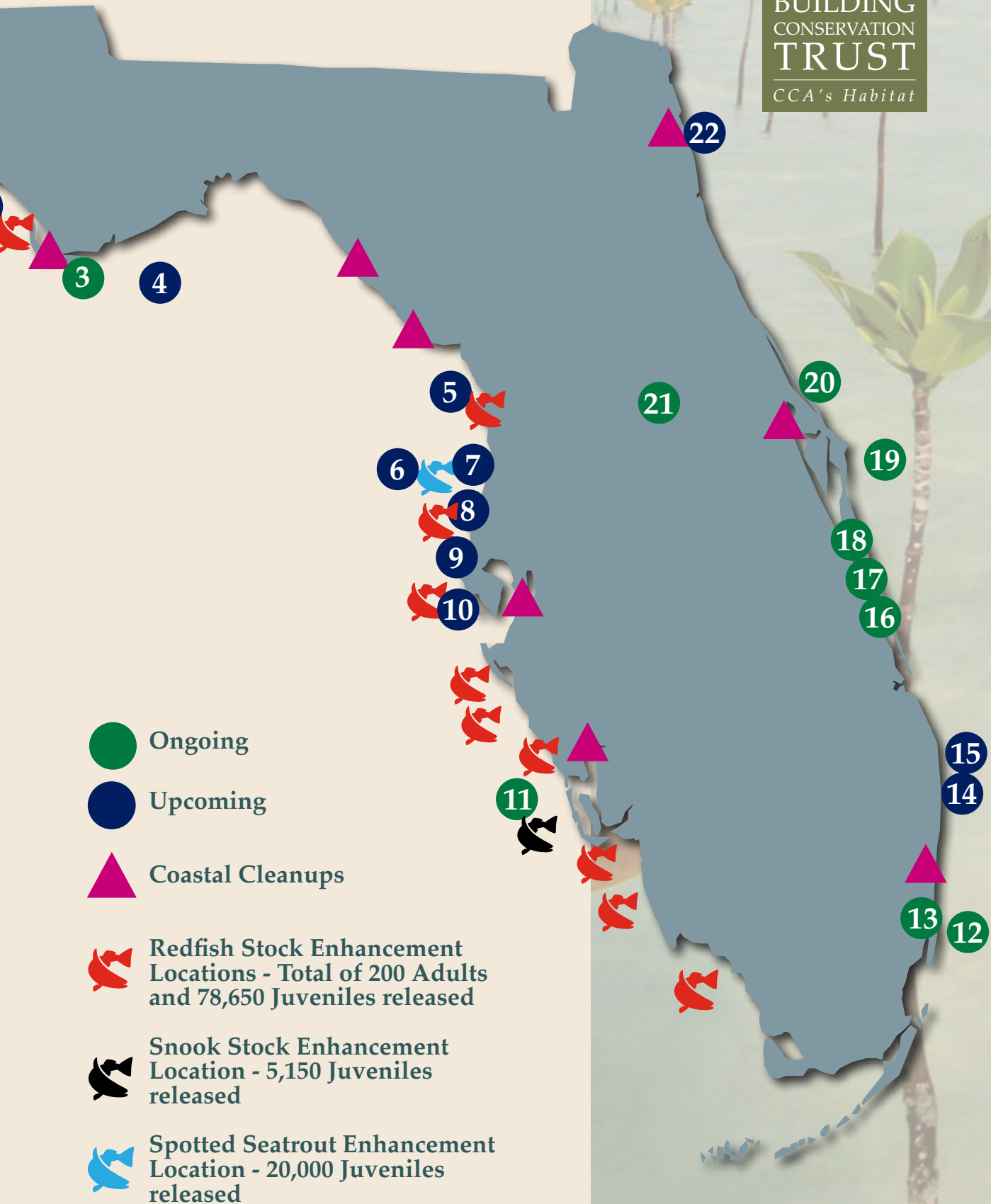


ONGOING & UPCOMING HABITAT PROJECTS



Since 2010, and in collaboration with the Building Conservation Trust, CCA has contributed \$820,000 which has been leveraged with our partners to over \$4,900,000 in habitat projects statewide. Join us in these efforts!

1. CCA/Choctawatchee Bay/Toadfish Living Shoreline Restoration
2. CCA/Duke Energy/MBARA Reef
3. CCA/FDEP/Duke Energy/Conservation Corps Spartina Grass Replanting
4. Dr. Bart Carey Memorial Reef
5. CCA/Duke Energy/Citrus County Reef
6. CCA/Hernando County Bendickson Reef
7. CCA/Hernando County Jenkins Creek Living Shoreline
8. CCA/Duke Energy/Pasco County Reef
9. CCA/Epic Tails Charters/Watergoat Project
10. CCA/Pinellas County Reef
11. CCA Phoenix Reef
12. CCA John Michael Baker Memorial Reef - Broward County
13. CCA Broward Chapter Pilot Oyster Project
14. CCA Bob Burton Memorial Reef
15. CCA/Sandoway Marine Park Vessel Deployment
16. CCA/FWC/Wildlife Florida IRL Eelgrass Restoration
17. CCA/BTT/IRL Land Trust Tarpon/Snook Impoundment Tagging
18. CCA/Additive Fishing/FWC/UF Indian River Lagoon Clam Restoration
19. CCA/Brevard County Artificial Reefs
20. CCA/UCF Mosquito Lagoon Oyster Restoration
21. CCA Oyster Shell Recycling Program
22. CCA/UNF Oyster Restoration Project



around the state

Mud Hole Custom Tackle Joins CCA Florida to Bring College Scholarship Opportunities to Students

Florida Highschoolers to Compete for \$11,000 in College Scholarship Funds

In its continued support of youth education, Mud Hole Custom Tackle has joined forces with Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Florida as the primary sponsor of the inaugural CCA Youth Scholarship Program presented by Mud Hole Tackle. Highschoolers with a passion for the conservation of Florida's marine resources have the opportunity to compete in an immersive, five-day educational experience with the top participants earning college scholarships.

"Mud Hole has a well-established youth education program supporting schools throughout the U.S. and around the world. So when CCA approached us about supporting this new scholarship initiative, it was a natural fit for us" said Brook Oliva, Mud Hole President. "This is logical extension of our ongoing partnership with CCA. Both parties are passionate about the health of our fisheries and the education of our youth. The Youth Scholarship Program hits both targets."

High school sophomores and juniors can apply to the program through April 15. Ten students will be chosen to participate in the



June experience and will compete throughout the five-day program, with the top three students earning \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 college scholarships based on merit, attention, focus, creativity, speeches and more. Following the June program, all ten participants will then have the opportunity to compete for one \$5,000 Grand Scholarship by starting CCA programs in their own communities.

"Our primary goal for the Youth Scholarship Program is to help identify, develop and reward the conservation-focused leaders of tomorrow," CCA Regional Director Amanda Krpan said. "Having Mud Hole Custom Tackle partner with us in the initiative's first year really gives us the boost the program deserves. We are excited to reach students throughout the state of Florida and continue to support conservation efforts in education."

Applications for The CCA Youth Scholarship Program presented by Mud Hole Custom Tackle are currently being accepted. For a program overview, FAQ and instructions on how to apply, visit <https://ccaflorida.org/event/ysp>.



 **CCA**
FLORIDA

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A 5-day, all-expense paid, educational experience with opportunities to earn college scholarships!

APPLY NOW

FISH HOW YOU WANT
ALL DAY



The Power-Pole CHARGE Marine Power Management Station does the work of three devices — a traditional battery charger, a charge-on-the-run and an emergency start system — all in one compact unit. The CHARGE automatically manages your power supply to all of your batteries and with the C-Monster app, you can monitor those batteries in real time, giving you the power to fish how you want for as long as you need to without having to worry about your power supply.

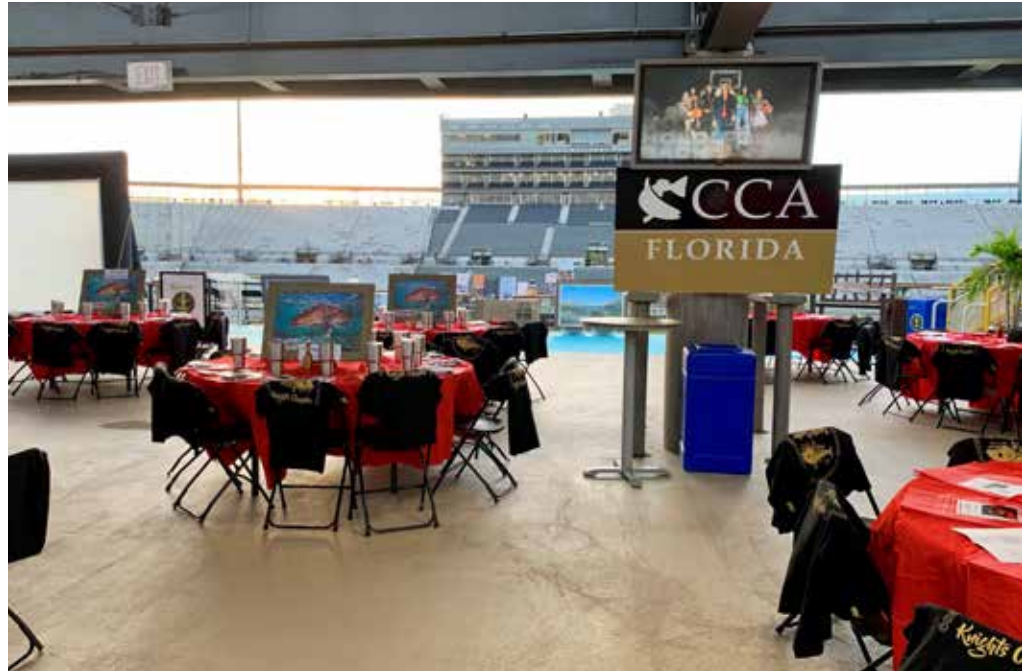
For complete details or to find a dealer, go to power-pole.com.

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CHARGE
MARINE POWER MANAGEMENT

Powered by  **C-MONSTER**
CONTROL SYSTEM 2.0

Mud Hole Custom Tackle supports CCA Knights Chapter!

This past November, we held the CCA Florida Knights Chapter Banquet & Auction with over 100 guests in attendance at the Bounce House in the Carl Black and Gold Cabana Club. The CCA Florida Knights Collegiate Chapter has only been around for about 6 years but has grown immensely and we would like to thank Mud Hole Custom Tackle for their long-time support in helping grow this chapter. This year Mud Hole Custom Tackle not only sponsored the shirts for the entire crowd, but they also sponsored 30 UCF Student CCA Memberships allowing for a low-cost ticket price which encouraged students to attend the annual fundraising banquet and get involved with CCA Florida. We are very grateful for Tom McNamara, Scott Gimbert and the entire Mud Hole Custom Tackle Team for their generous support and we look forward to many more years of partnership!



danco

West Marine CCA Florida STAR 2022
**WIN EXCITING PRIZES
IN GROUPER DIVISION**
REGISTER NOW

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OFFER ENDS SOON

West Marine CCA Florida STAR 2022
**\$100,000 IN YOUTH
SCHOLARSHIP**
REGISTER NOW





COASTAL
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION
FLORIDA

CONSERVATION | HABITAT | ADVOCACY

CONTRIBUTED
\$8.5 MILLION

SINCE 2010, CCA FLORIDA, CCA'S BUILDING CONSERVATION TRUST AND ITS PARTNERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED \$8.5 MILLION TO REBUILD FLORIDA'S MARINE HABITAT

90 TONS OF OYSTERS



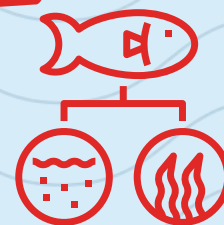
WERE SAVED FROM WASTE BY CCA FLORIDA IN THE LAST THREE YEARS. THUS FAR, 30 OF THE 90 TONS HAVE BEEN RECYCLED AND REDEPLOYED TO CREATE ARTIFICIAL REEFS

IN LAST 10 YEARS

22
ARTIFICIAL
REEFS



50
HABITAT
PROJECTS



**MORE THAN 19,000 MEMBERS
ACROSS FLORIDA'S 67 COUNTIES**

ADVOCATED
GAMEFISH
STATUS FOR REDFISH

PROTECTING FLORIDA'S MARINE
RESOURCES AND ANGLERS'
ACCESS FOR MORE
THAN 35 YEARS

INITIATED NET BAN
CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT

ADVOCATES AND CREATES
AWARENESS
FOR IMPROVING
STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY

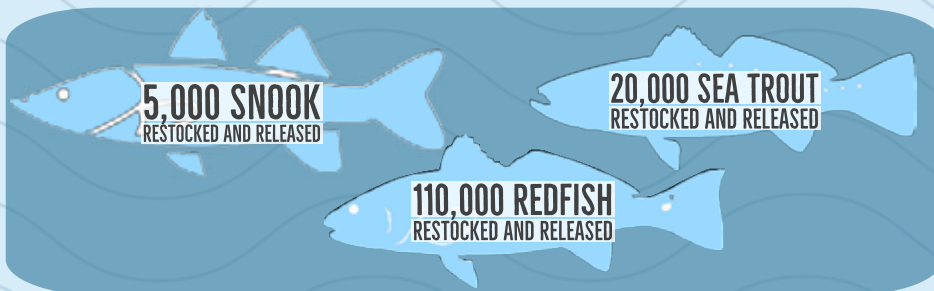
HELPED CONGRESS
INTRODUCE DESCENDING
DEVICE BILL AND FORAGE FISH
CONSERVATION ACT

WORKED WITH FWC TO
ENSURE MAXIMUM
ANGLER ACCESS
FOR RED SNAPPER

HELPED BAN LONGLINES
FOR BILLFISH
AND PELAGIC SPECIES



**\$700,000 IN CCA FLORIDA YOUTH
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS HAVE BEEN AWARDED SINCE 2015**



**CCA FLORIDA WORKED
WITH THE FLORIDA
LEGISLATURE TO CREATE
THE CONSERVE FLORIDA'S
FISHERIES FLORIDA
LICENSE PLATE**



**\$25 FROM EACH TAG GOES
DIRECTLY TO CCA FLORIDA'S STATEWIDE
WATER QUALITY, HABITAT AND
RESTOCKING INITIATIVES**



**JOIN US TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION
CCAFLOIDA.ORG**



CCA BOONE HIGH REELS IN NEW M

The CCA Boone High School Chapter is the only CCA Florida group dedicated to high schoolers, and was established by a young lady angler with an unmatched passion for fishing and conservation.



H SCHOOL CLUB MEMBERS

Chapter President Morgan Asher, an avid angler and junior at Boone High School, started the CCA Boone Chapter in September 2019. Today, the chapter has more than 40 members

across all grades who are dedicated to learning how to protect Florida's marine habitat and supporting CCA Florida too.

(continued on page 38)

101 Days of Fish

\$500,000 in P



shing
rizes

Inshore & Offshore Division



CCA FLORIDA IS THRILLED TO SEE THE GROWTH OF THE CCA BOONE CHAPTER AND EXCITED FOR ITS FUTURE.

The students meet monthly to discuss the latest habitat issues and hear from leadership in the environmental industry. Students also participate in a variety of habitat activities such as building cement volcanoes, supporting

coastal cleanup projects and helping with various oyster projects. Additionally, chapter members have also helped at local banquets and completed administrative tasks at CCA Florida headquarters.



CCA FLORIDA STAR IS

Follow @ccafISTAR to get the latest updates on the 2022 West Marine and tricks to help make you a STAR winner this summer! And, we'll



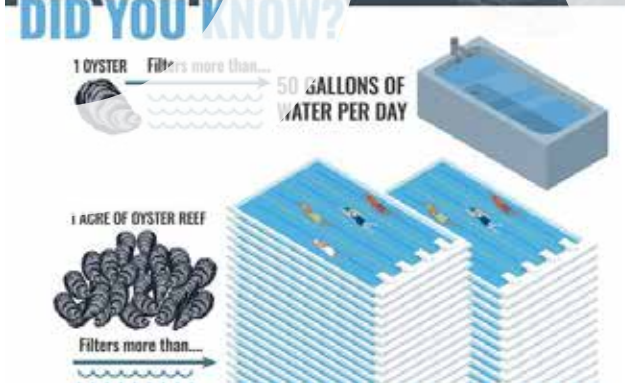


NOW ON INSTAGRAM!

Join the STAR competition presented by Yamaha! We'll share all the tips and tricks, feature our top catches of the week... and it could be yours!



@ccaflstar





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- > To order the specialty plate, visit RedfishTag.com and complete the online form or visit your local tax collector's office
- > Online orders will be processed by our partners at the Indian River County Tax Collector's office. A representative will contact each purchaser to complete the transaction.
- > Personalized (vanity) plates orders can also be purchased online or in person
- > Funds from the sale of this license plate support protecting and enhancing saltwater marine resources, expanding habitat restoration efforts and promoting coastal environmental education

For additional information, please visit REDFISHTag.com



REDFISHTag.com

Where would you like to fish today?

AT MAVERICK, WE THINK THERE ARE NO BETTER WORDS TO START A MORNING. THAT'S WHY WE'VE BEEN A PROUD SUPPORTER OF CCA FLORIDA FROM THE BEGINNING. BECAUSE WE WANT ALL FUTURE FISHING PARTNERS TO BE ABLE TO ASK EACH OTHER THIS VERY QUESTION.



Maverick

Fish the Legend.



Redfish Jalapeño Pesto Pasta

In this recipe we kick up the heat on a classic pesto with jalapeño and kick up the wow-factor with fresh redfish. This redfish Jalapeño Pesto Pasta is an easy, family-style meal perfect to share with your favorite spice-loving people.

Ingredients

JALAPEÑO PESTO SAUCE:

- ½ c fresh basil
- ½ c fresh cilantro
- ¼ c fresh mint
- 1 large jalapeño, seeded and quartered
- 1 garlic clove
- ½ yellow onion, quartered
- ½ c grated Parmesan cheese
- ¼ c fresh lime juice
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp ground black pepper
- ½ c extra virgin olive oil

REDFISH:

- 6 redfish filets
- 1-2 tbsp Cajun seasoning
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil

PASTA:

- 1 lb penne pasta
- ¼ c crumbled goat cheese
- Salt and pepper

GARNISH:

- Crumbled goat cheese
- Fresh basil, chopped

Directions

JALAPEÑO PESTO SAUCE: Place the basil, cilantro, mint, jalapeño, garlic, onion, Parmesan, lime juice, salt, pepper and olive oil in a large food processor. Pulse and blend until all ingredients are finely processed and thoroughly incorporated into a sauce. Set aside.

REDFISH: Season your filets on both sides with a light dusting of Cajun seasoning. Add oil to a large nonstick skillet over medium high heat. Once hot, add the filets and cook through, about 4-5 minutes per side. Remove from heat. In the skillet, break up the filets into large flakes/chunks with a spatula or fork. Set aside.

PASTA: Cook the pasta according to box directions, reserving 1 cup of its cooking water before draining.

Toss together the pasta with ¼ cup of the cooking water, three-fourths of the pesto sauce and half of the flaked, cooked redfish. (Add more of the pasta water or pesto sauce if the pasta seems dry.)

Finally, gently fold in the remaining flaked redfish and crumbled goat cheese. Season with salt and pepper if needed.

Serve immediately on a plate or in a bowl, garnish with additional crumbled goat cheese and fresh chopped basil. Serves 4-6.

RECIPE & PHOTOS BY HEATHER PETEREK | CATCH, COOK, EAT
JOINCCA.ORG/RECIPES



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Every time.*

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confidence
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SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 2022

April 14
Lake County Banquet and Auction

April 22
Orlando BBQ

April 28
Broward County Banquet and Auction

MAY 2022

May 7-June 18
Sarasota Tarpon Tournament

May 12
Big Bend Banquet and Auction

May 14
Naples Banquet and Auction

May 19
Homestead Banquet and Auction

May 28-September 5
The West Marine STAR Competition presented by Yamaha

JUNE 2022

June 2
North Brevard Banquet and Auction

June 19
19th Annual Inter Chapter Challenge

AUGUST 2022

August 19
Pasco Banquet and Auction

SEPTEMBER 2022

September 1
Space Coast Banquet and Auction

September 15
Gainesville Banquet and Auction

September 15
South Palm Beach Banquet and Auction

September 23
Sarasota Banquet and Auction

September 29
Pensacola Banquet and Auction

For additional information, please contact Amanda Krpan at akrpan@ccaflorida.org.

CCA FLORIDA PET CLUB

By joining the CCA Florida Pet Club*, your pet will support Florida's marine fisheries, habitat, waterways, coasts and more. Join us as we continue to work toward enhancing these resources and Florida's fishing future.

Invest in the CCA Florida Pet Club and your pet will receive:

AN EXCLUSIVE CCA FLORIDA PET BANDANA

THE OFFICIAL CCA FLORIDA PET CLUB CERTIFICATE

*Please Include Name of Pet in "Order Notes" upon Checkout

<https://ccaflorida.org/product/petclub/>

The CCA Florida Pet Club for Florida's four-legged fish friends!





Maverick

Fish the Legend.

PATHFINDER
ANGLER DRIVEN



MBG MAVERICK
BOAT GROUP

Maverick

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PATHFINDER
ANGLER DRIVEN

HEWES.

COBIA



HEWES

COBIA



PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE CCA FOR OVER THREE DECADES!

don't miss it

West Marine



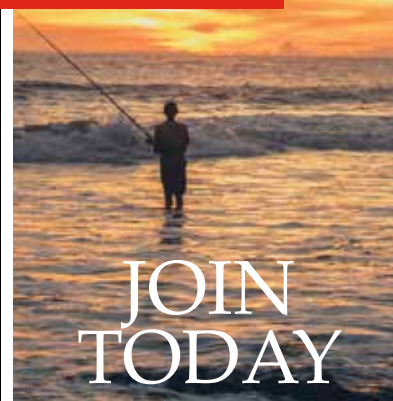
2022 STAR

Register for the West Marine CCA Florida STAR competition presented by Yamaha and you will receive a FREE entry to the Hewes Redfisher 16 Raffle - a \$25 value!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

www.CCAFLSTAR.com

CCA FLORIDA
ccaflorida.org



As a CCA Florida Life, Heritage or Legacy member, you help support Florida's marine fisheries, habitat, waterways, coasts and more. Join us as we continue to work toward enhancing these resources and Florida's fishing future.

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directory of Florida
guides who support
CCA's conservation
initiatives.

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