

# Flounder

*Paralichthys albiguttata*

## Where:

- Around inlets and passes
- Nearshore around oyster bars and sand bars
- Onshore around piers, docks, posts, other structure

## When:

- All year round with influx February and March, migration offshore when water cools
- When the tide begins to move, they will feed

## Gear:

- Light to medium spinning or bait casting tackle preferred
- Medium to stout 6 to 7-foot rod with soft tip
- 15-20 lb. braided line
- 15-20 lb. fluorocarbon leader
- # 1.0-3.0 circle hook to match bait size
- Enough weight to keep the bait near the bottom
- Carolina rig with 6-12-inch leader. Try using a split shot instead of a swivel.

## Bait:

- Live bait-minnows, greenbacks, sardines, finger mullet, shrimp
- Berkeley Alive Gulp Shrimp (scented and flavored work best)
- DOA Cal
- Bucktail jig tipped with shrimp

## Tactics:

- Retrieve the bait very slowly, emphasis on **SLOWLY!**
- Don't jerk to set the hook. Simply begin reeling in quickly until fully hooked.
- Be patient. Wait for the bump and then count 10-15 seconds
- Keep rod tip up to feel the bite
- Hook live minnows and greenbacks in the lip
- When you think you are retrieving slowly, go even more slowly!

## Trends:

- Florida flounder migrate offshore at the beginning of winter when the water temperature is cool and will migrate onshore in the early spring.

Salt **STRONG**

**Community:**

- Check with local marina personnel who can tell you where anglers are finding them. Most fishing reports do not include much about this species.
- Anglers fishing near piers and docks might report flounder catches
- Talk to other anglers at the launch and also at the piers, but don't expect them to divulge their "secret" spots.



| <b>Florida Flounder Catch Card</b>   |  |   |
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| <b>Tactics</b>   | <b>Trends</b>  | <b>Tips</b>   |
| Inlets and passes. docks, piers, oyster and sand bars, wherever they can bury themselves on the bottom | Offshore migration beginning of winter. Onshore February-April                         | Carolina Rig with circle hook. Let the fish set the hook. Look for the small bump or line slowly moving away. |
| Bait: minnows, greenbacks, sardines and shrimp. Some scented lures                                     | Some anglers are having success fishing just off the bottom with jigs tipped with bait | Retrieve slowly, slowly, slowly, slowly. You get the picture! They have small mouths. Let them have the bait. |

[If you consider yourself a serious fisherman and want to catch MONSTER SIZE FLOUNDER... FAST... then you've got to see this! Click here.](#)