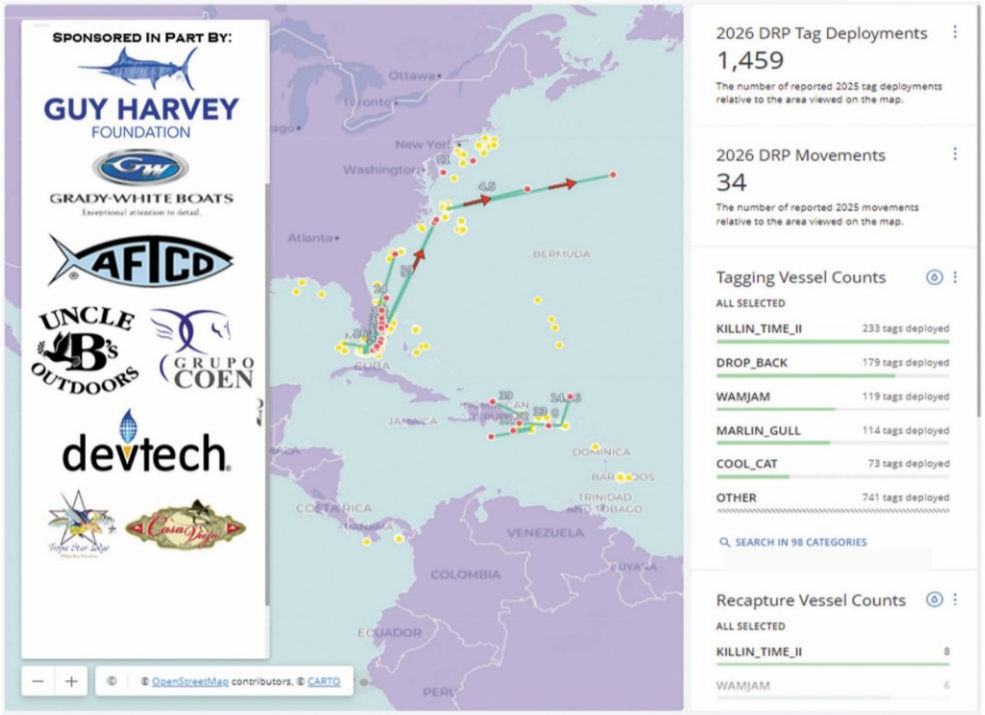
Dolphinfish Research Program Newsletter
October 2026

Dolphinfish Research Program™

Made possible by a grant from the Guy Harvey Foundation

October 2026



Year to 10/30/2026 for Reported Releases:
1459 tagged & released for conservation and science by 89 different vessels

34 Recaptures/Movements to date in 2026
33 verified
13 Satellite tags deployed
(1 (2026) at large)

DOLPHINFISH RESEARCH PROGRAM
BEYONDOURSHORES.ORG

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Reported and Received Tagging Progress from 9/30/2026-10/30/2026:

Kenny Midgett (Marlin Gull) 88
Reel Fire 8
Gimini 5
Tim Napoli (Something Fishy) 1
Terry Winn (Ts Me) 1
Ruffian 9
Julien Brossel (Madatet Fishing) 6
John Stingel (Where to) 4
Robi Birriel (Nuri) 1

Reported Recaptures or Movement Data Acquired Since 9/30/2026

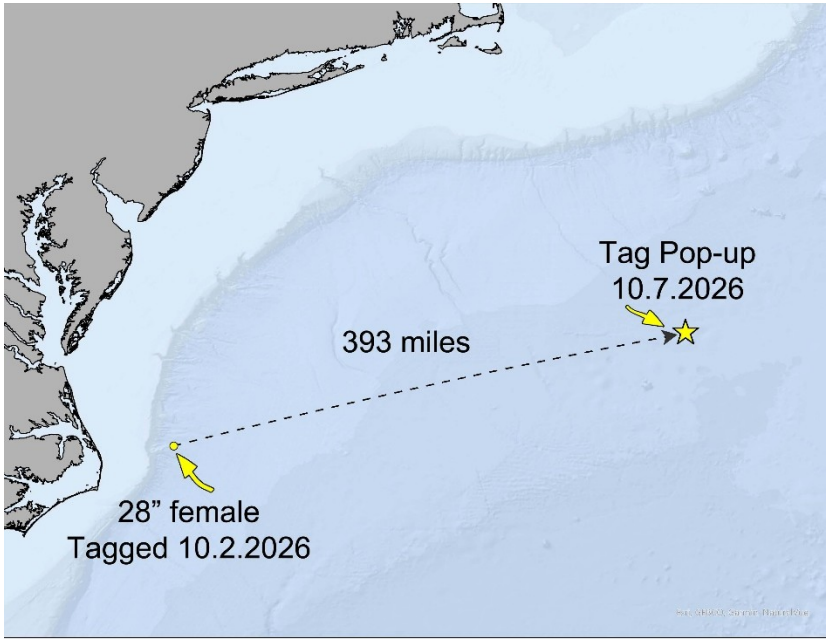
Heriberto Santana reported a fish tagged and released by *Sandman*

North Carolina Research Update

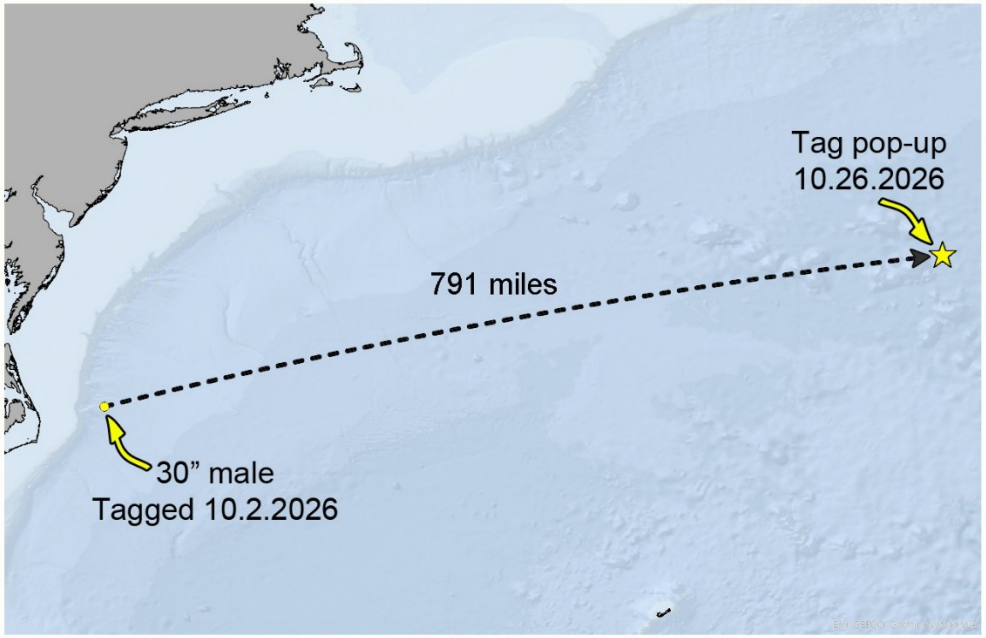


The crew of Marlin after tagging 87 dolphin and deploying 3 satellite tags in one day off North Carolina.

Our work to describe the movements, biology, and ecology of dolphinfish involves consistent field work through the Western Central Atlantic (WCA) and Eastern Tropical Pacific Oceans. Each year, our team conducts 24 to 30 offshore outings, timing these trips to align with peaks in dolphin abundance. Beginning in late August, our focus was the fall fishery off North Carolina. Initially, we embarked on two outings aboard the *Marlin Gull*, but we could tag only 25 dolphins ranging from 17" to 24" fork-length. As a result, we couldn't deploy any satellite tags. Following that outing, we were invited to fish board Captain **Will Cathey's** vessel, *Will Power*, on September 21st. Due to poor weather conditions, including lightning and rain squalls, our team struck out that day. However, we were still excited to fish with **Cathey's** team, members of the **Piedmont Saltwater Fishing Club**, who have been participating in our tagging program since 2003. Immediately following that outing, the North Atlantic came to life with a 6-day Nor'easter featuring gusty northeast winds and high seas. Our team closely monitored the weather, and a weather window developed following the passage of that storm. The forecast held, and we embarked on another expedition to the Outer Banks to fish aboard *Marlin Gull* on October 2nd and 3rd. We are pleased to report that, after much persistence and determination, October 2nd produced one of those field days, we dream about. We were able to tie our daily record for the most number of fish tagged in a single day off North Carolina, as well as deploy three satellite tags. Click here to watch a short film that highlights this outing and our work with the **Caribbean Fishery Management Council**.



Straight-line satellite point-to-point movement for a 28" female dolphinfish released with a Wildlife Computers mrPAT tag on October 2nd, 2026. The tag popped up on October 7th, 2026, at a location 393 miles east-northeast of the release site. This fish was tagged and released aboard Marlin Gull.



Straight-line satellite point-to-point movement for a 30" male dolphinfish released with a Wildlife Computers miniPAT tag on October 2nd, 2026. The tag popped up on October 26th, 2026, at a location 791 miles east-northeast of the release site. This fish was tagged and released aboard Marlin Gull.

Come Visit Us at FLIBS 2026!

We are all set up at FLIBS! Come visit us at the **2026 Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show**! This will be our tagging program's largest trade show booth effort in its history. If you plan to attend **FLIBS 2026**, please come visit our booth in the Marine Equipment Tent in the Bahia Mar show site at booth 410 to talk dolphin, offshore fishing, and the importance of citizen science. Thanks to our sponsors and supporters for making this education effort possible!





DRP September and October Media


big game FISHING JOURNAL

Article

28 Fahrenheit to 28 Celsius

CHASING GUATEMALA MAHI By Chris Jobes Late last year I was invited to join a research expedition to Guatemala to place satellite tags in mahi with the goal of learning...

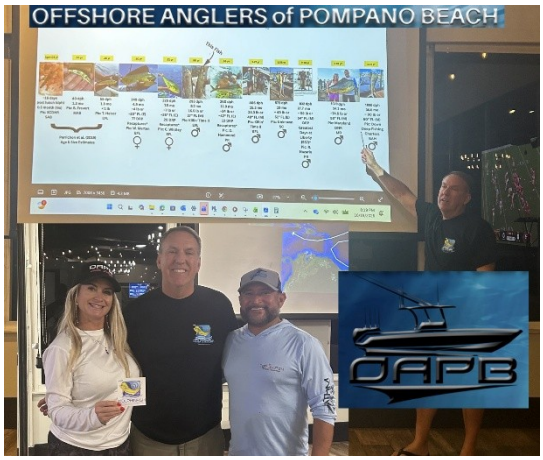
CHASING GUATEMALA MAHI

By Chris Jobes



A special thanks goes out to the *Big Game Fishing Journal* and *Saltwater Sportsman* for running articles about our work and tagging program in articles published in September and October. Click on the images above to read the articles.

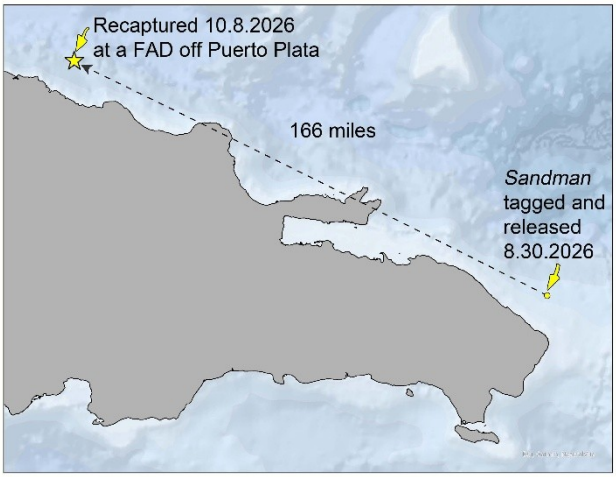
DRP Presentation to Offshore Anglers of Pompano Beach Fishing Club



A big thanks goes out to the Offshore Anglers of Pompano Beach (OAPB) Fishing Club, formally Pompano Beach Offshore Anglers (PBOA), for hosting Chris Whitley, a BOSF DRP board member, to talk dolphin and our research on October 19th, 2026, during an evening

seminar. Chris gave a short but detailed talk to OAPB members and was able to highlight aspects of dolphin growth, overall movements and migration, and encourage tagging participation.

October Recapture in the Dominican Republic



On October 8th, we received a recapture report from an artisanal angler that fishes out of Puerto Plata, DR. The fish, tagged and released by the vessel Sandman, is the vessel's 16th recovery over the last several years with the majority of those movements documented along the north coast of DR. The fish covered 166 miles in 39 days at liberty. The fish was 18" when released and estimated at 24" when recaptured.

Fall Fundraising Begins to Support the Beyond Our Shores Foundation Dolphinfish Research Program



Each year, our annual fundraising effort begins in September and runs until the end of the year. We are excited to announce that **Grady-White Boats**, **AFTCO**, **DevTech**, and the **CV Suarez Foundation** have stepped up to support our 2027 research effort as Gold and Silver sponsors. Thank you for your support! Engaging anglers who seek to engage in a science-based conservation program for dolphin for the past 25 years, the Dolphinfish Research Program (DRP), integrates rigorous, innovative science—tagging, telemetry, habitat and life history analysis, genetics, international catch and connectivity patterns—with a grassroots, angler-powered culture of stewardship. The DRP has generated management-relevant knowledge at regional and basin scales while building a robust, public-facing research community with hundreds of anglers involved annually across the Western Central Atlantic Ocean (WCA). We are making great progress toward our 2026 goals, having already distributed 225 out of 400 kits and 2,685 out of 4,000 tags. Our program remains at the forefront of educating anglers, advancing conservation discussions, and gathering vital data to inform state, federal, and international decision-making. Please help the DRP expand in 2026 by making a tax-deductible donation or purchasing apparel in our online shop. The Beyond Our Shores Foundation is a U.S. and Puerto Rico-registered 501(c)(3). To examine our federal tax-exempt status, click here, and for our Puerto Rico registration, click here.

To Donate by Check click here, Make Checks out to:

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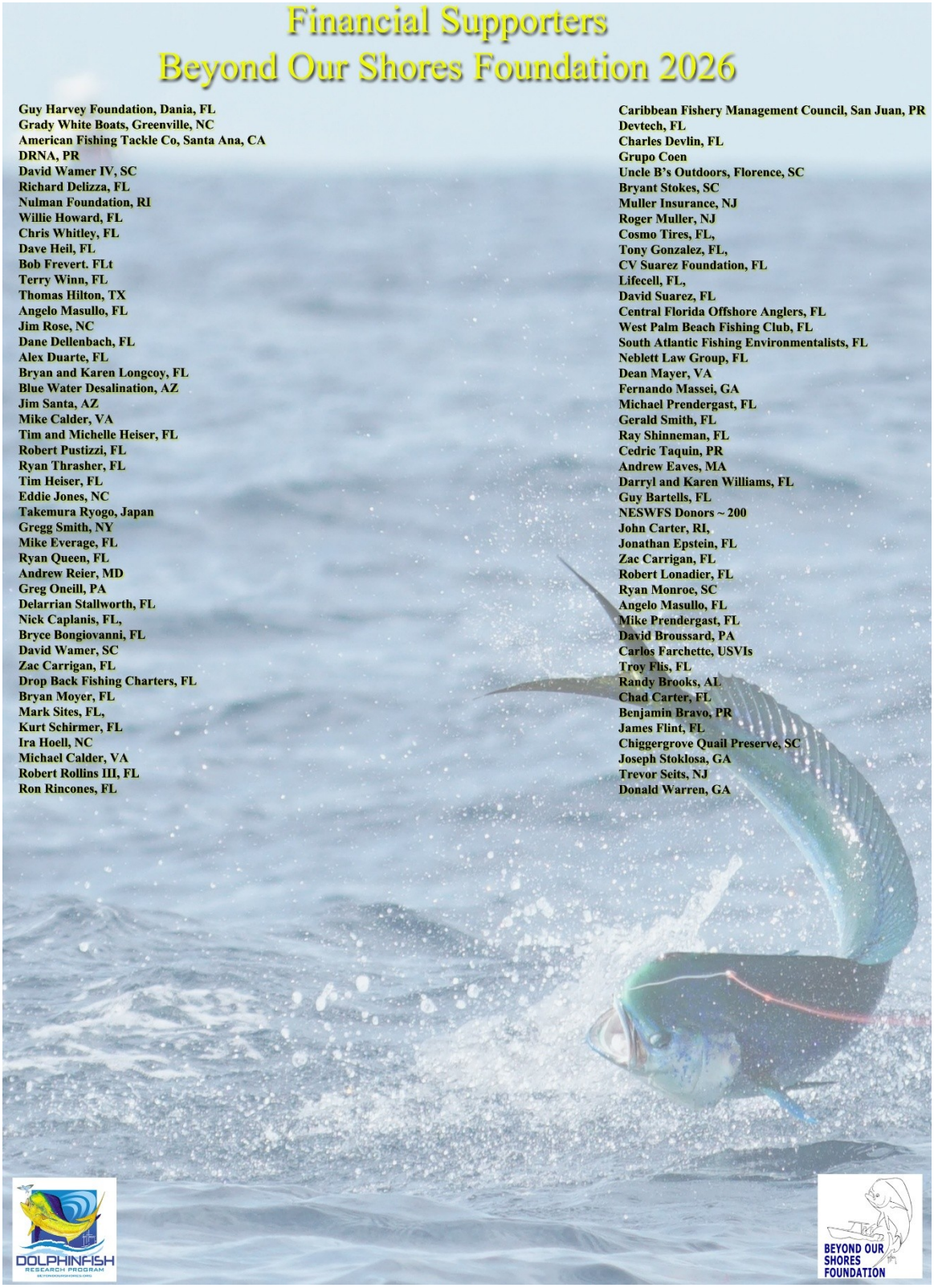
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Mail to:
Wessley Merten, Ph.D.
Dolphinfish Research Program
Beyond Our Shores, Inc.
PO BOX 3506, Newport, RI, 02840,
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