



PLEASE NOTE: WE AT THE COASTAL CURRENT ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FOLLOWING NOR CAN WE IMAGINE WHY WE AGREED TO PRINT IT.

## NOMINATIONS PLEASE

So summer's supposedly over, the tourists have fled and Grace did what she was supposed to do. We're now entering the so-called secret season and if the Sandspit can ever shed the reputation of South Police Island, maybe we can once again attract the young professionals that used to fill the coffers a decade ago. I ain't holdin' my breath.

Just received a note that indicates Uncle Sugar is still in business in the fishery management arena. The National Marine Fishery Service has announced a call for nominations to the Atlantic Billfish and Highly Migratory Species advisory panels for terms expiring at the end of 2003. Nominations are invited from all individuals and constituent groups and will be accepted through October 10, 2003.

Criteria for membership includes one or more of the following: (a) Experience in the recreational fishing involved in catching billfish for the Billfish AP or swordfish, tuna and sharks for the HMS AP; (b) experience in the commercial fishing industry for the HMS AP; (c) experience in fishery related industries such as marinas, bait and tackle shops; (d) experience in the scientific community working with Atlantic billfish or HMS; (e) Former or current representative of a private, non-governmental, regional, state, national, or international organization representing marine fisheries, environmental, governmental or academic interests dealing with billfish or HMS.

The selection of AP members will not be limited to those that are nominated. The new selected panel member will serve for a 3-year period on the HMS AP, and a 2-year period on the Billfish AP. The nomination should include:

- 1- Indication of whether the nomination is for the Billfish AP, the HMS AP or both AP's.
- 2- The name of the applicant or nominee and a description of their



**A blue marlin tagged and released aboard Rods-N-Screws during a fun trip. Though the fishing was slow last weekend, history says that the fall will be kick-ass.**

interests in or in connection with billfish or in one species in particular from among shark, swordfish or tunas.

- 3- A statement of background and/or qualifications.
- 4- A written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall actively participate in good faith in the tasks or the AP; and
- 5- Outreach Resources.

Send the nomination to: Christopher Rogers, Chief, HMS Management Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 or fax it to 301-713-1917. A side note, some folks think that these panels are a waste of time. They're not. In the case of these two panels it's the only way to ensure that somebody on the panel has real world experience with the subject being regulated.

### DOCK TALES

The South Texas Big Game Fishing Club did fish the Labor Day tournament and boy did it suck. There was only one billfish released and that was a sail aboard the Wet-N-Wild. Still don't have a full set of standings but the top four boats are: King's Bounty-2000 points, Poco Mas- 1766, Per-Lin- 925 and Queen B- 900. Hopefully we'll have a full set of standings in the rag next week.

**We welcome your fishin' photos. Drop them by 2600 Padre Boulevard on the Island, or mail them to I.B. Hooked, c/o Coastal Current Weekly, P.O.Box 2429, South Padre Island, Texas 78597. Be sure to include the name of the angler, weight and type of fish, where caught, and name of boat if applicable. Photos with SASE will be returned.**