

JUNE REPORT FROM CABO BLANCO



Like many previous months the month of June has been educational. Operating the Miss Texas and spending a lot of time on the water we have seen a wide variety of conditions come and go. The educational part has been noting the resulting effects relative to the fishery here off the coast of Cabo Blanco, Peru. The most exciting observation for me this past month has been that when the conditions get right the marlin show up. There are still marlin to be caught off Cabo Blanco. Due to a trip to the U.S. we only fished during the first two weeks of the month. The first few days the south to north current brought in cold water that in my opinion kept the billfish at bay as well as most everything else. A current change brought in warmer water and as the water warmed the small tuna started to show up. After a few days of 23 + degree water a 500 lb black was harpooned by one of local artisanal fisherman. The next day we hooked up and fought one about the same size for 15 minutes before the hook pulled. A couple sailfish were seen and 2 sword fish were caught about 10 miles north of

Cabo Blanco. There was also a 121 kg tuna brought in. High winds kept us off the water for a couple days then we left for the U.S. as another current change cooled the water back down where it has stayed for the most part as of today, July 5. Time will tell the frequency and duration of the productive conditions. I'm sure like virtually every other fishery there will be certain times of the year when the productive conditions prevail a high percentage of the time. In the meantime as we learn more and more about this once fantastic fishery we are also gathering information that will help establish a much needed marine preserve in the not too distant future. The preserve is a effort headed up by Inkaterra with support from the government and the local fisherman and will encompass quite a large area off the northern Peruvian coast. The preserve will allow steps to be taken which will hopefully have a dramatic effect on the future marlin population as well the other pelagic species. Measures can also be taken to insure the sustainability of the indigenous species that provide a living for a huge percentage of the local population.

The Cabo Blanco story is far from being written. For me it's an exciting challenge and a great opportunity to be involved in something really special that can have long term positive effects on this fishery and in turn on the lives of the folks that depend on it.

Captain Norm Isaacs