

SW FLORIDA FISHING

Pompano is the hit this past week

BY CAPT. SANDY MELVIN

With the cool weather we had over the holiday's, targeting snook had to take a back seat to some great pompano, speckled trout and ladyfish fishing in our area.

Cloudy, cool days with relatively light winds had the pompano especially aggressive all week. With lots of families fishing with kids of all ages, these tasty fighters were a lot of fun to catch on light tack-

le.

A live shrimp fished tight to a sandy bottom area or a shrimp imitating jig will do the trick, when you find them.

On the few sunny days last week, we heard there were some nice tripletail caught out in the Gulf.

As we move on into January, you can expect these winter fishing patterns to continue.

Enjoy our great fishing!

Capt. Sandy Melvin is a local fishing guide and is the proprietor of Gasparilla Outfitters. He can be reached at 941-964-0907, or on the web at 4tarpon.com



Haley Heston and Rob Stanley with a pompano each.



Mary McRae and Donny Carty with a nice pompano.



Did Mary or Donny catch this trout?



Harris, dad Jono and William with a pompano.



Louie Pusilla with a nice-sized sea trout.



Mason Pusilla with a snook.



Louie and Mason with each a pompano



John Wallace, Ian Minnihhan and Colton McGann each with a pompano.



Colton, Hannah, Maddie with dad Geoff Shaw, all holding a pompano. Photos courtesy of Capt. Melvin

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