

FISHERIES OCEANOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

FOR THE CAPE FEAR TO GEORGETOWN OFFSHORE (LAT./LONG.)

UPDATED ON THURSDAY 06 AUGUST 2020 FOR THURSDAY P.M. & FRIDAY FISHING ONLY

Based on a multiple factor analysis, the symbols (hot spot dots) mark the areas where bait concentrations are expected and where fishing action are expected to be better compared with other (non-marked) areas. These are not based on dock rumors or hearsay fishing reports. Fishing reports are stated as such. You should start fishing where you recognize other signs of good fishing conditions near these marked areas. It is very important to use your sea surface temperature (sst°) gauge to locate the boundaries of the water masses, which are outlined. Rather than trying to find water based on the absolute temperature values shown on the map, search for the relative change in sst where the water mass boundaries occur. Arrows indicate the main current direction. Numbers inside of the dots indicate the number of consecutive days that we have seen favorable conditions in that location. 1 fathom = approximately 6 feet. Afternoon SST is likely to be 1.0°F or greater than indicated by the morning calibration on this analysis. **NUMBERS IN PARENTHESIS AFTER LOCATIONS ARE NUMBER OF DAYS THAT SPOT HAS BEEN FAVORABLE.**

We now provide cloud-free SST and ocean color/chlorophyll data from our new partner Fathom Science™ for a 6am forecast for the next day. This data is cutting-edge, high resolution, cloud-free modeled data that has been evaluated and validated by ROFFS™ along with other oceanographic scientists and proven to be the most accurate cloud-free data available to guide you in the right direction to increase your chances for fishing action. The cloud-free data will not be as accurate as the real time satellite imagery, but it will guide you to the general area for the better features, especially when it is cloudy. For more information please visit <https://www.roffs.com/faqs/>

We used a combination of yesterday afternoon and overnight/early morning infrared sst° and yesterday's MODIS/VIIRS/Sentinel ocean color/chlorophyll imagery for this analysis area to follow the oceanographic conditions for the past two days. Keep in mind, due to persistent clouds, we had several issues with artifacts within the sst° image. Overall, we have observed the development of a relatively large Gulf Stream eddy formation offshore of Georgetown Hole (centered near 78°10'W & 32°20'N). This eddy is pushing the western edges of the Gulf Stream well east of this chart area (to approximately near 77°15'W & 31°50'N). A smaller eddy appears to be forming along the eastern edges of this eddy formation, southeast of the Charleston Valley (approximately near 77°30'W & 32°20'). This oceanographic feature will likely move into this chart area towards the 200 fathom depths southeast of the Frying Pan Shoals by tomorrow morning. We have used dotted lines to indicate strong ocean color boundaries due to excessive cloud cover over the past several days. We have also included an ocean color/chlorophyll composite image from the past 36 hours so you can get a sense of where the bluer and greener water is located (email only, white=clouds).

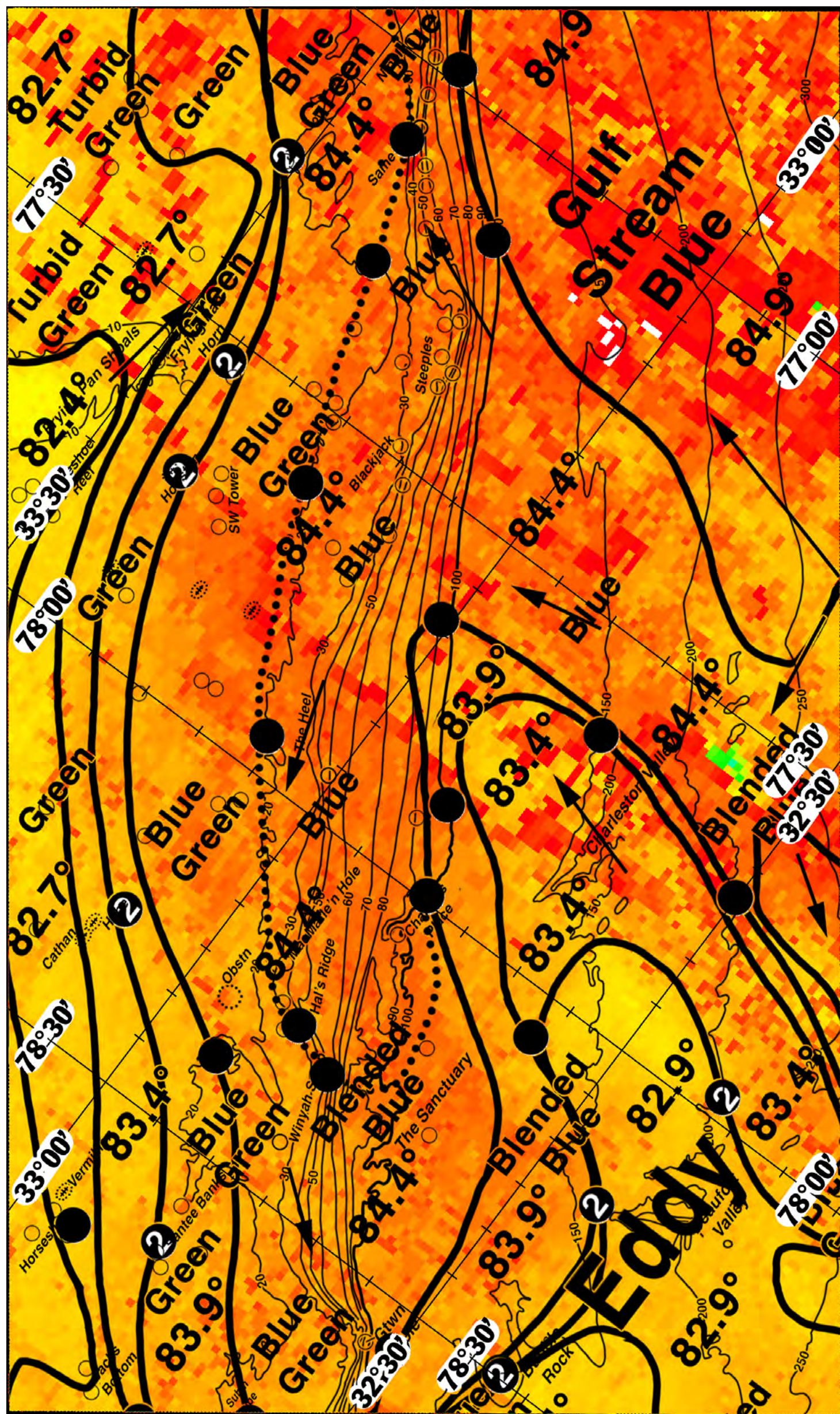
Warm water note: The water is relatively warm (79°-82°F) and thus, the better chances for fishing action will likely occur from using fishing techniques that place your hooks deeper in the water column closer to the strike zone of the fish. We suggest using planers, deeper dredges, chunking, and jigging techniques, as well as, using live bait dropped relatively deep into the water column to improve your hookup rate.

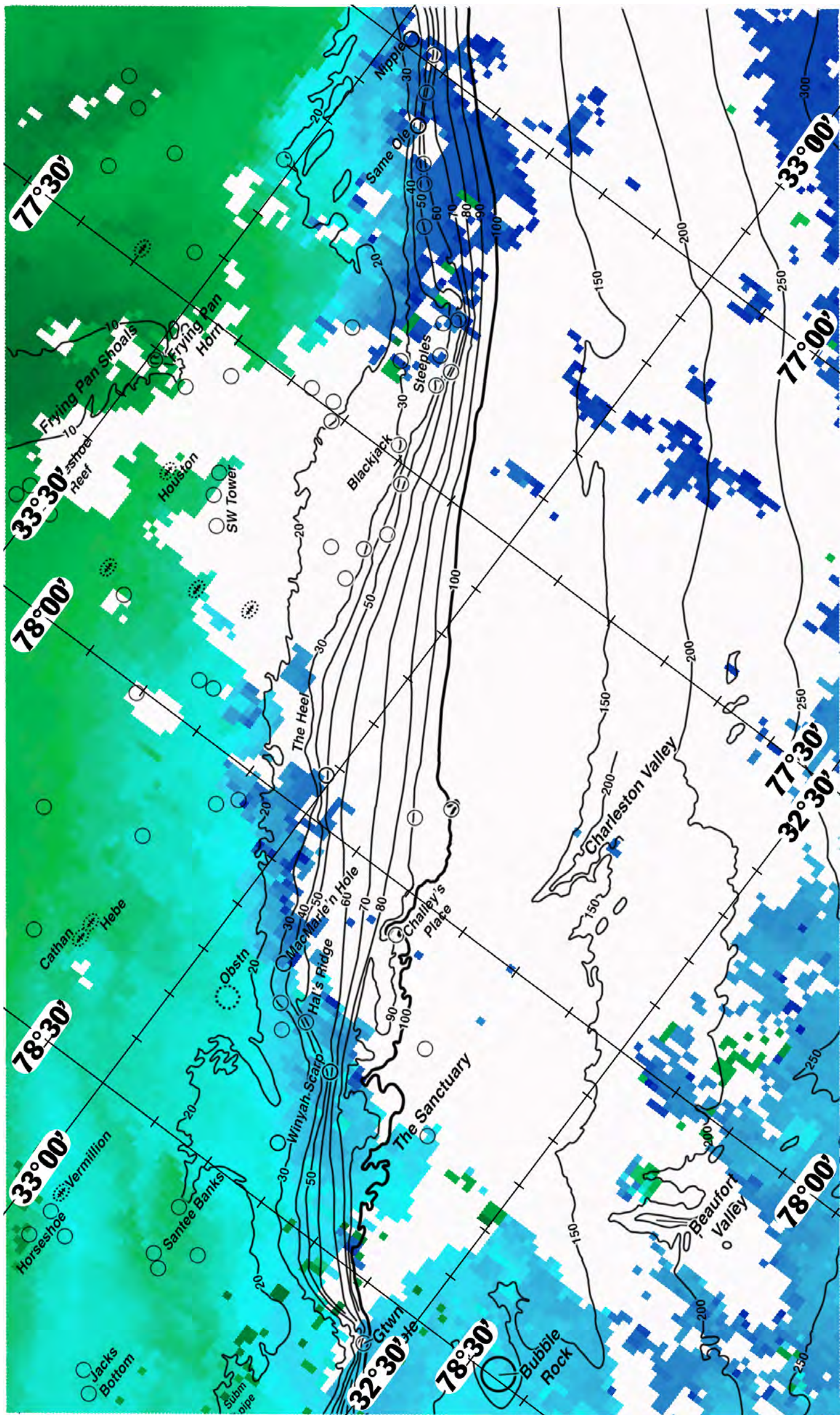
With this in mind, the better chances for swordfish fishing action is likely to occur along the 100 fathom ledge east of the Frying Pan Shoals (near 77°13'W & 33°15'N to 77°00'W & 33°25'N) where favorable (84.4/84.9°F) blue to Gulf Stream blue water mass boundary conditions have been observed pushing into the 100 fathom ledge. Additionally, we have observed cooler (83°F) blended blue/bluer water mass boundary conditions pushing into the 100 fathom ledge from Challey's Place and east (from near 78°00'W & 32°48'N, 77°50'W & 32°52'N, and 77°40'W & 33°00'N) for the past day. From here, head offshore, towards the Charleston Valley (near 77°40'W & 32°45'N and 77°44'W & 32°30'N) where similar favorable (83°F-84°F) blended blue to bluer water mass boundary conditions have been observed moving northeastwards in a favorable direction. These conditions suggest increased chances for offshore swordfish fishing action to occur.

On your way offshore, keep a keen eye out for weedlines, birds, bait, and other signs of life as these are classic signs of water mass boundary conditions. Over the 30 fathom good bottom south of the Frying Pan Shoals towards the Heel (from near 77°38'W & 33°15'N and 77°57'W & 33°06'N) east southeast towards the Nipple (from near 77°16'W & 33°20'N and 77°07'W & 33°25'N) we have observed favorable (84.4°F) blue green to bluer water mass boundary conditions. These conditions suggest additional increased chances for tuna, dolphin, and wahoo fishing action to occur.

For those heading out of Georgetown/Charleston we have observed additional increase chances for fishing action over the 20-30 fathom good bottom near the SW Banks (from near 78°57'W & 32°30'N and 79°00'W & 32°23'N) to the 50 fathom curve (near 79°04'W & 32°15'N) where relatively stable (82.4°F-83.9°F) blue green/blended blue water mass boundary conditions have been observed for one to two days. These conditions suggest increased chances for fishing action to occur. However, these areas may be experiencing unfavorable offshore flow of water. This offshore flow of water is often associated with reduced overall fishing productivity.

ROFFS™ SUMMER Hours: Mon – Fri. 9:00 am – 7:00 pm EDT (sometimes later based on demand) with analysis order deadline before 3pm. We are now open on Saturdays 9AM to 4PM (sometimes we close earlier based on demand) analysis order deadline is 10:00am on Saturday. *Thank you for not sharing this analysis with non-paying anglers.* Remember you can order and/or purchase your fishing analyses from our website (<http://www.roffs.com/>) or by email (fishing@roffs.com). Verbal updates are free while on the water between 10:30 AM and 11:59 AM (eastern time). **The ROFFS™ Graphic analysis is on the next page.**







OCEAN COLOR/CHLOROPHYLL FORECAST for TOMORROW MORNING

