

I'm about 80% finished with my soon-to-be-released book, called *Productive Places and Patterns*. The book documents many of the most productive areas I've fished over the years (and still fish today), and the patterns which work in those places. It looks like it will turn out to be about 50-60 thousand words, around 110 pages, 6 by 9 inches.

The book includes an introduction and conclusion and 10 main chapters. In the body of the book, I describe places under the following chapter headings: Windward Shorelines, Leeward Cold-weather Shorelines, Leeward Warm-weather Shorelines, Lakes and Coves, Open-water Humps, Ship-channel Spoils, Spoil Banks on the ICW, Dead-end Guts and Channels, Major Reefs and Mid-bay Areas.

In each chapter, I work my way from south to north, describing places which match the chapter heading where I've fished and the ways I like to fish in those places. These locations span from Port Mansfield and The East Cut, all the way to Coffee Ground Cove in Sabine Lake.

When describing the patterns, I mention the variables favorable for fishing the places, including the time of year, weather conditions and water quality issues. I also describe the types of lures I like to use when fishing them, and the way I like to deploy those lures, meaning how I like to wade (or fish from the boat), where I like to cast and also retrieve styles which have worked for in the specific locations.

While doing all this, I reference some of the best catches I've made in the area, including the biggest trout I've caught there and the best days I've had catching numbers of trout and redfish. In some cases, my experience is more limited and all of it occurred in the relatively distant past. In other cases, I've had greater experience, and my use of the area is ongoing.

I also use the trip back in time to generate predictions about the potential productivity of other areas I believe should be similar to the ones I'm documenting. All of this information is intended to give the reader new places to explore, with specific strategies in mind as starting points during the exploration. It's also intended to spur the reader into thinking about places they currently fish in new ways, and to identify areas within their home waters where they might catch fish in ways similar to ones which produce for me.

I include a "List of Truths" in the book too. These beliefs form the basis for the way I select locations to fish and for how I establish productive fishing patterns. These truths will be familiar to people who've read lots of what I've written; truths about fishing are generally enduring and unchanging.

At the beginning of each chapter, I use an enhanced Google Earth image to show an example of the kind of spot to be discussed in the section. I've included pictures from Sabine Lake, West Galveston Bay, East Matagorda Bay, West Matagorda Bay, San Antonio Bay, Nueces Bay, Corpus Christi Bay and both Laguna Madres. On the images, I've placed text and other graphics to give extra information as needed.

I expect to have the book finished within a couple of weeks at the most, and will make it available for sale on fishbaffinbay.com for sure, maybe on this website too. Stay tuned!