

ANGLING - Angling at FBYC

Hi Members and Fishermen/Fisherwomen,

As we begin a new and exciting year, it's a good opportunity to take a brief look back at 2025 and reflect on some of the positive milestones we've achieved together...

Overall, the slip has operated successfully and with relatively few headaches. Parking remains a consistent challenge, and we sincerely thank those members who continue to park within the lines and in designated legal spaces. Unfortunately, new external entities have begun using the Cole Point parking area, placing additional pressure on available parking. Engagement with the Navy has also proven challenging, but we will continue negotiations in this regard.

Our slip has been cleaned monthly by the divers, preventing excessive marine growth. The angling jetty has also been maintained by the divers (funded via slip fees). While we have been accommodating the STMC bridge boat and water taxi for FBYC, and housing the workboat, cooperation from members has helped things run reasonably smoothly. In addition, relocating the divers to the town jetty and Long Beach has significantly reduced congestion.

Fishing in our area throughout 2025 has, overall, been fantastic. Yellowtail fishing has been excellent, from the Point to the Island, and at times from Kalk Bay right through to the harbour. Tuna fishing has also been very good; although the off-season fish were a smaller class, the season has continued strongly through December and into January.

We also enjoyed success in the WP Deep Sea Angling League, with FBMT placing reasonably well for the first time in many years. Even more encouraging, FBMT produced two WP senior caps and three WP junior caps in 2025, a fantastic achievement, especially as the club had not produced provincial caps for several years.

In terms of facilities, we added two new trolleys specifically designed for fishermen to use on the marina, as well as four new ice bins to improve convenience for members (funded through ice sales).

Looking ahead to 2026, we are planning increased participation in WPDSAA league fishing events. Members interested in joining are welcome to contact Andre on 083 809 0951. We would also like to see more of our members achieving provincial colours in the year ahead. Additional plans include adding two more trolleys to the fleet and upgrading the ice machine. Most importantly, we encourage greater member participation and continued support of your club and the excellent facilities available at this beautiful venue.

From a fishing perspective, the ocean is currently alive.

Yellowtail are widespread throughout the bay and at the Point, with massive schools of baitfish present. Whales and dolphins are also abundant. Water temperature at the Point is currently around 21°C, with blue water pushing in. Small yellowfin and skipjack are being caught close to the small dumping ground, while further offshore there are plenty of longfin, larger yellowfin, a few dorado, and with all the skipjack around, marlin sightings should be imminent. We truly are blessed.

As a final reminder, please stay safe on the water. Watch out for divers and swimmers, ensure you fill in the launch book at security, and sign back in upon your safe return. If heading deep, please check out and back in with Skiboat Mobile (we are a sponsor).

Here's to a safe, successful, and exciting 2026.

Kind regards,
Gareth Decker

