

# Sunshine Sails!

In this article, the first of a three part series on billfish, Damon Olsen discusses the extraordinary billfish action his home port, Mooloolaba, on Queensland's Sunshine Coast, has experienced over the past 2-3 years. Over three special issues, F&B will take an in depth look at this emerging world class fishery from a port now challenging Broome WA, as the sailfish capital of Australia. We'll talk with some of Australia's foremost billfish experts to try and fathom why there are (now) so many sails out from Mooloolaba. We'll ask, Where did they come from? How can they be there, on a year-round basis? How long will it last?

Is this perhaps a re-run of the Cape Bowling Green disappointment? How can we ensure this tag and release fishery is sustained?

Over three special instalments, Damon & the F&B team will also reveal how anglers new to the often frenetic world of sailfishing can go about catching their first billfish. We'll be looking at basic techniques for live baiting, trolling and rigging terminal tackle, best methods of tagging, how to care for the billfish when they are alongside and released, and examine what individual anglers can do to ensure the long term future of this exciting fishing resource.

**Part 1 of 3**

