

Thanks for checking out my new website, Captain Kev's Blogs and More. In this section of the website, you can expect to find a blog, or journal entry, written by me, Captain Kevin Cochran, which will change at least every other week or so, to keep the information fresh. On this site, you'll also find a weekly fishing report and some recent pictures and/or short video clips.

I'm a lifelong avid angler, having grown up fishing primarily freshwater for largemouth bass, white bass, crappie, catfish and perch. My love of saltwater fishing began to grow significantly in the early 1990s and continues to evolve to the present day.

I made a reputation as an expert speckled trout angler by competing regularly in Gulf Coast Troutmasters tournaments from 1997 through 2002. In 2001, I was named the Rudy Grigar Award winner. Rudy, also known by the nickname Plugger, was a grinder and a model to all who love wadefishing with artificial lures. I'm proud to have my name associated with his.

I started guiding in 1998 and have run charters from the Land Cut to the Louisiana Shoreline in Sabine. I've fished and guided in virtually every named bay (and most of the lakes, coves and other waterways) in Texas. Once I'd seen almost all there is to see along the wide, wild coast of Texas, I decided I wanted to live and work in the Upper Laguna Madre/Baffin Bay system. I've fished here almost exclusively since 2003.

My passion in fishing is the pursuit of monster specks, and here in south Texas we have plenty of them. I am a conservative-minded sportsman when it comes to fishing, never pursuing limits or killing fish for the sake of my own or my customers' egos. If we keep trout to eat, we keep smaller specimens and, at most, half the state's allowed ten per person.

What I love in fishing is the thrill I get when I'm able to trick a fish into striking something made entirely by the hand of man, especially if the fish is a trout of magnum proportions. Consequently, I do everything I can to maximize my knowledge and skill level as it relates to all the equipment and strategies that help me achieve my angling goals.

I have strong beliefs about many things related specifically to the pursuit of trophy speckled trout and about saltwater fishing in a more general sense. In these blogs, I'll share many of those beliefs, opinions and pass along observations I make about things I learn along the way.

I will at times try new products like rods, reels, lures, lines and other equipment, and will use these blogs to review them, always with the goal of remaining true to myself when doing so, placing honest evaluation above the desire to promote products for my own personal gain.

I've written and published many things related to this sport over the last fifteen years or so. For one, I've penned a monthly feature column in *Texas Saltwater Fishing Magazine* since 1998. I've authored three books to date and created three DVDs, all in attempt to document my journey and to help others ascend more quickly to higher levels of proficiency in their endeavors on the water.

I hope the readers of these blogs will find them informative, genuine and truthful, and will take them for what they are--one man's take on a complicated,

fascinating and inexhaustible subject.