



## **Eschete and Lindham to be reckoned with after second Louisiana redfish win**

Pirates Jean and Pierre Lafitte are in the history books for ruling Louisiana's Gulf Coast waters around Barataria Pass in the early 1800s. Two centuries later, Captain Dwayne Eschete and Bruce Lindham appear to be on a similar quest for control of the famed sportfishing waters by winning their second IFA Redfish Tour presented by Cabela's tournament in a row for the area.

This time they took top honors at the recent Grand Isle event with their two redfish limit weighing 17.28 pounds. The fish were almost identical in size and allowed them to beat out runners-up Greg Devault and Dawn Scott's total weight of 16.27 by a solid pound.

"We knew we had some fish in the Hopedale area that would put us in the running for the event because they were there just a few days earlier for an FLW tournament," said Eschete, speaking for the team. "What we struggled with was whether or not the 90-mile run in our Ranger Ghost with a 90 HP Yamaha would give us enough fishing time, but we figured even an hour on the spot would be okay.

"We questioned our decision when we got to the first spot and nothing was there. Fortunately, we found a big school in the next cove and caught them for an hour straight on H & H Secret spoons and spinnerbaits," he explained.

The back-to-back win of both Louisiana Divisional IFA events held so far puts Eschete and Lindham at the top of the nearly 100-team pack fishing the Redfish Tour in the region. For the win, the pair was awarded a fully-rigged Ranger Banshee, valued at \$20,000 as equipped with a 50 HP, 4-stroke Yamaha outboard, Loadmaster trailer, Power Pole shallow water anchor, Minn Kota trolling motor and Humminbird electronics.

"Winning one IFA event against this kind of competition was special enough," Eschete added. "Getting the second is unbelievable. I'm confident I've got a horseshoe hanging over my shoulders right now because I have nothing but respect for all the guys we're fishing against."

The two anglers also pocketed the \$1,500 Ranger Cup check by being the top finishers qualified for the special incentive cash prize by owning and fishing from a Ranger boat (for Ranger Cup program details visit [www.rangerboats.com](http://www.rangerboats.com)).

Devault and Scott won \$ 4,540 for second place.

The other top five teams in the Grand Isle tournament: 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Scott Ritter and Bobby Abruscato, \$2,740, with 16.25 pounds; 4<sup>th</sup> place – Sal Fontana Sr. and Tony Grose, \$1,816, with 16.06 pounds; and 5<sup>th</sup> place – Raymond Chaghad and Eddie Adams, \$1,362, with 15.66.

The \$500 Big Fish check went to teammates Bill Pittman and Chaz Adams for an 8.22 pound redfish. Troy and Christine Perez took the \$100 Solar Bat incentive check for wearing their Solar Bat sunglasses across the stage as they weighed in.

The third and final Louisiana Division tournament of the year is September 15, 2007, at Venice, La. Teams that fish in all three events qualify to compete in the two-day, no-entry-fee IFA Redfish Tour Championship scheduled for November 2 – 3, 2007, at a site yet to be announced.

In addition to the Louisiana events, there are also Florida East Coast, Florida West Coast, Georgia, South Carolina and Texas IFA Divisions. All are one-day, three tournament tours with the same criteria to qualify for the national championship and vie for its \$34,000 first place prize package.

IFA Redfish Tour sponsors include Ranger Boats, Yamaha Outboards, Cabela's, Minn Kota, Humminbird, Loadmaster, Sebile Lures, Jax Wraps, KeelShield, Power Pole, Solar Bat, Shimano, Powertex Group, *Florida Fishing Weekly*, Palmer Conrad Consulting, Audubon Nature Institute, Choice Hotels International and Careco Multimedia.

For more information about the IFA Redfish Tour tournaments, visit [www.redfishtour.com](http://www.redfishtour.com) or call (478) 788-8871.

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