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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Hilton Head finishes the South Carolina Division**

HILTON HEAD, SC – The IFA Redfish Tour presented by Cabela’s rounded out the final event of three (3) in South Carolina for the 2006 season with a bang. Ninety-two (92) eager anglers were ready for take off from Harbour Towne Marina Saturday morning. Each team hit the water with hopes of taking home the first place prize of a Ranger Banshee rigged with a 40 HP, 4-stroke Yamaha outboard, Power Pole shallow water anchor, Minn Kota trolling motor, Humminbird electronics and Loadmaster trailer that afternoon.

Captain Steve Guthrie Sr. and partner Dan Utley brought to the scales two (2) redfish, weighing in at 4.50-pounds and 5.04-pounds, giving them a total weight of 9.54-pounds, a first place title and a Ranger Banshee to take home. Steve and Dan used inline spinner baits to catch their fish. The first fish was caught early, and they lost 5 fish before catching their second keeper 30 minutes prior to weigh-in. The team ran 15 to 20 miles total for the day. Steve and Dan fished out of a Ranger at the event and were Ranger Cup Powered by Yamaha qualified (go to [www.rangerboats.com](http://www.rangerboats.com) to learn how to qualify) giving them a bonus check in the amount of \$1,500 to take home as well.

Second place, with a total weight of 9.26-pounds, was the team of Captain Mike Upchurch and Josh Utsey. This team took home a check in the amount of \$2,694 for the 4.88 and 4.38-pound redfish they were able to snag during the day. With a total weight of 9.11-pounds, Captain John Merriwether and partner Danny Rourk also walked away with a check in the amount of \$1,793 and second place trophies. Big fish of the tournament went to the 11<sup>th</sup> place team of Fred Rourk and Ben Alderman for a 5.37-pound redfish.

The Hilton Head tournament ended the South Carolina division points race and the team of Chris Floyd and David Hopper are the South Carolina Divisional Team of the Year winners. This team finished 7<sup>th</sup> in Charleston, 1<sup>st</sup> in Georgetown and 13<sup>th</sup> in Hilton Head and for their successful year will be able to fish one full division, free of charge, in 2007. Chris and David will also be going head to head against the other five (5) divisional winners at the Championship for their chance at taking home the Cabela’s Team of the Year title and a \$5,000 check.

“We would like to thank Tom Jenkins and Jon Byrne, with WHHI-TV, for the great coverage they provided at this event,” stated Bart Schad, IFA Marketing. “WHHI-TV is the local TV station serving Hilton Head Island and surrounding areas. The station features approximately 15 hours of locally produced programming weekly and we appreciate them including this IFA event in their coverage.”

This year’s IFA Redfish Tour presented by Cabela’s is a series of one-day, catch and release, close-to-home events, with two-angler teams using artificial lures only. The tour consists of six divisions with three single-day local events each. The next event will take place in St. Augustine, FL, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Register online today at [www.redfishtour.com](http://www.redfishtour.com).

IFA sponsors include Ranger Boats, Yamaha Outboards, Cabela’s, Minn Kota, Humminbird, Choice Hotels International, Sebile Lures, JaxWraps, KeelShield, Loadmaster, Power Pole, Solar Bat, Shimano, Powertex Group, *Florida Fishing Weekly*, Audubon Nature Institute, Careco Multimedia and St. Joe’s RiverCamps on the Crooked Creek.

Now the strongest grass roots inshore tournament series dedicated to catch and release in competitive fishing, the IFA’s focus is centered on competition, recognition and education. For more information, please contact Bart Schad with Palmer Conrad Consulting by calling 870-431-8495 or e-mailing [info@palmerconrad.com](mailto:info@palmerconrad.com).