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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IFA Redfish Tour Record Participation in Jacksonville, FL

JACKSONVILLE, FL – The IFA Redfish Tour Presented by Cabela’s had record turnout for the 2007 season kick-off tournament in Jacksonville, FL this past weekend. The start of a 2nd year for the new and improved regionalized one-day format guaranteeing 1st place boat prize and 100% payback for each event is attracting many new teams. 107 teams registered to compete for the 1st place prize of a Ranger Banshee rigged with a 40 HP, 4-stroke Yamaha outboard, Loadmaster trailer, Power Pole shallow water anchor, Minn Kota trolling motor and Humminbird electronics.

The 1st place prize of a fully rigged Ranger Banshee, valued at approximately \$20,000, went to the deserving team of Captain Stephen Szczepanik and partner Jeremy Schillo for the 8.13-pound and 6.73-pound redfish they brought to the scales on Saturday, giving them a two-fish total weight of 14.86-pounds and 200 points towards the Cabela’s Eastern Florida Divisional Team of the Year race. Stephen and Jeremy also received the Ranger Cup bonus of \$1,000. To learn more about the Ranger Cup bonus program, please visit www.rangerboats.com.

Captain Jeff Holland and partner Tim Tharp also walked away with their 2nd place awards and a check in the amount of \$5,000. Jeff and Tim brought in a two-fish team weight of 14.79-pounds and earned 199 points towards the Cabela’s Eastern Florida Divisional Team of the Year race. 3rd place and a \$4,000 check went to the team of Captain Phil Rizzo and partner Mike Futch, with a two-fish total weight of 14.64-pounds. Phil and Mike received an additional \$500 for Big Fish of the tournament, with a one-fish weight of 8.84 pounds. The team of Captain Wade Hastings and Randy Padgett received the \$100 Solar Bat contingency, awarded to the team who wears their Solar Bat sunglasses and recognizes Solar Bat on stage at the weigh-in.

“It was really great to set a new participation record at the kick off of the 2007 season. A huge thanks goes out to all the teams that came out to fish with us and help grow the sport. We hope to continue this trend throughout all of our divisions, including our next event taking place in Savannah, GA on March 31st. We would also like to thank the local support we received from Bill Allen, with Crews N II, AIA Ale Works, FLA Lure Club, Wingate Inn and Mr. Marty Simmons, with Elite Hospitality,” stated Jerry Stakely, IFA Tournament Director.

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 tournament of the season will take place in Savannah, GA, March 31st. To get more information on the IFA Redfish Tour or to register for a tournament, taking place in your region, please go to www.redfishtour.com.

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

Now the strongest grass roots inshore tournament series dedicated to catch and release in competitive fishing, the IFA’s focus is centered on competition, conservation, 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.

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