

Chumming

It is done for all species in Florida

Chumming American English from Powhatan is the practice of luring animals, usually fish or sharks, by throwing "chum" into the water. Chum often consists of fish parts and blood, which attract fish, particularly sharks due to their keen sense of smell.

Chumming is illegal in some parts of the world, such as Alabama, because of the danger it can pose by conditioning sharks to associating feeding with the presence of humans. [BLOG POST LINK](#)

How to Chum

In North America elaborate schemes of chumming are usually not needed. Most of the time throwing or catapulting 20 or 30 maggots into the water will start the fish swarming. You will want to select a bit of cover or structure to be the focus of your feeding because this is where the fish will be or go to at some time on their cycle. Fish need a lot of food as long as they are active and can be triggered to eat if the conditions are right. Begin simply and see what happens.

The easiest way, as pointed out above, is to throw some bait into the water. If you plan to stay in one place, and the fish indicate some interest, it is better to chum a second area too. This is done for several reasons: first, it gives you a quick alternative in case you have made a mistake and frightened the school from your primary spot. More importantly it lets you keep on fishing when you have caught all of the fish at the first site that will allow themselves to be caught.

About 10% of the fish on one chumming site will be caught before the fish adapt. At this point you can either change tactics

or go to another site. The latter is easier and if you continue to feed the first site, you can switch back after a suitable period when either the fish have forgotten, or new fish have moved in. Even better is feeding a third and fourth site in a diamond pattern. You should end up with near and far sites as well as right and left fishing areas. This means you will become very active, feeding all of the time and will probably tire after a while. This variation of match techniques is rarely needed.

If you chum or groundbait in moving water, especially rapidly moving water, remember that different baits sink at different rates. Assuming that a maggot drops one foot every eight seconds (this varies with the age of the maggot) you have to calculate the drop rate against the flow rate to figure out where you should throw in the bait. This may be 20 yards upstream in fast waters. The idea is to have the chum and your hook moving at the same rate at the same time. This way the fish will take your offering while eating the free ones. Fishing with one bait and feeding with another means you have to make two calculations in order to get the fish in the correct place.

Philosophy

Many of you may think that chumming is illegal or not fair. (I concede it is illegal in some states, but for the wrong reasons.) I suppose that if you chum then drop some dynamite in the water there will be a good case for this type of thinking. But there is, to my mind, little difference between feeding and using 18,000 dollars worth of equipment to catch a bass.

Feeding is an art. If you place the feed in the wrong place, use too much or too little, you will lose fish. Using the wrong bait to feed will result in no fish or the wrong fish. Feeding takes practice and planning and is only a part of the system.

In this continent it is fairly easy to catch fish without chumming but you will catch more fish for a longer period of time if you do. In this era of catch and release it is not a crime to catch a lot of

fish you won't be eating.

The System

Chumming is the basis of the match fisherman's success in Europe. These fishing matches have a time limit (usually five hours) during which the angler has to attract a school of fish, keep them in his area and away from his opponents, and catch as many as possible. The rules allow a preliminary period during which the contestant can feed the waters with whatever he wants within the rules. After that he can only loose feed his bait.

In this preparation period an angler might throw several gallons of bait into the water. He usually tries to bait the structure in his section of the swim because he knows that the fish will key on structure or cover. If he does this skillfully, he will place in the match.

We don't fish these types of matches very often in North America but the system remains valid. Fish are always looking for food and chumming draws the active fish very quickly. More important, chumming triggers the neutral fish and changes the negative fish to an active feeder, even in very cold water.

American fishermen have been known to use these match techniques in trout tournaments and out fish the competition twenty to one! I can't promise this type of success, but you will find that correct chumming is a terrific fishing tool.

Groundbait

Is used in coarse fishing in order to attract fish to the fishing area. It is a mixture of various natural ingredients, for example bread crumbs, vanilla sugar, hemp, maize and other ingredients, and moistened with water so it's possible to make balls. These balls are then thrown out into the water at the fishing spot. Depending on the groundbait mixture, the balls may break up quickly and create a "cloud" of particles in the water attractive for mid-water feeding fish, or sink to the bottom where they slowly release feed

to species feeding on the bottom.

When used by match-anglers, the amount of groundbait being introduced is aimed at a balance where over-feeding, which will stop the fish feeding and biting, is avoided, while as many fish as possible are drawn to the fishing place and stimulated to feed. Due to concerns about the ecological impact of introducing nutrients to a water, acting as fertilizer, angling in some waters is affected by regulations on groundbait use. Where groundbait is banned, soil or loam is sometimes used as a substitute.

One method of distributing groundbait is by using a method feeder. The method feeder is a wire made container that allows you to compact moistened groundbait and other particle baits above the hook bait on the fishing line. When you cast out the line, with the method feeder it will disperse right over the bait attracting fish from a wider area.

List of other related chumming items

Fish Chum Pot

For those who take fish chumming serious, we've built this fishing chum pot for the serious fisherman who needs a fish chum holder product that will hold up to fish chumming in saltwater for many years of use. Also our intentions were to make a fish chum product very durable to eliminate wasted expense on buying those throw away fish chum bags. Most fish chum bags absorb the fish oils, water etc. which in return causes a very fishy smell if not washed out with soap and water, then hung out to dry after every use. This fish chum pot has a very slick finish and will not absorb any water or fish chum oils for virtually no cleanup.

Simply empty and rinse the fish chum cage of all remaining fish chum, it's that easy! Unlike regular fishing chum block bags, this fishing chum pot sinks very rapidly to be able to chum fish when fishing at any desired depth under normal current conditions. For fast currents or deep water use, please see our 3 lb (48 oz.) lead

bar for fish chumming at any depth.

Fish chum pot dimensions 8" Wide x 4" High x 14" Long

Chum grinder

Fish Oil "Menhaden" is an excellent addition to your fishing arsenal. The product is refined so it retains the natural attractants you are looking for. In addition our (menhaden fish oil) has also been filtered to remove any large particles and is treated with an antioxidant to keep it fresh and ready to use.

Use this fantastic blend of menhaden oil to create an enormous scent slick for bringing in a large variety of live baits and trophy fish right to your finger tips. Simply adding a few drops on your live bait, cut baits, or artificial lures can be extremely effective. Pouring extra menhaden fish oil over your frozen fish chum blocks that you may already use or even dry fish chum can definitely increase results dramatically. This extra menhaden fish oil creates an abundance of fish scent in the water causing a scent trail irresistible to baits and Big Game!

Shark Chum

Contains two types of fish meal and 20% fish oil. Rigorously tested in the coastal waters of Maryland and Delaware, this chum formula will produce a slick that will pull the trophy sharks from the depths. This bait is formulated to ensure maximum dispersion and longevity. A 24 lb. supply of this concentrated fishing chum formula is equal to 100 pounds of fresh fish. Take advantage of the performance and convenience of shark formula on your next blue water fishing trip.

My list of Florida fish related term

[Amberjack](#), [Ballyhoo](#), [Banded Rudderfish](#), [Bluefish](#), [Bonefish](#), [Bonita](#), Chumming, [Cobia](#), [Florida](#), [Flounder](#), [Flying Fish](#), [Gag Grouper](#), [Greater Amberjack](#), How to Make pilchard rings, [Ladyfish](#), [Lesser Amberjack](#), [Mahi Mahi](#), [Mangrove Snapper](#), [Menhaden](#), [Mud Minnow](#), [Mullet](#), [Permit](#), [Pinfish](#), [Red Snapper](#), [Redfish](#), [Sailfish](#), [Salt Water](#), [Shrimp](#), [Snook](#), [Spanish Mackerel](#), [Spotted Seatrout](#), [Squid](#), [Tarpon](#), [Tides](#), [Tilefish](#), [Triggerfish](#), [Triple Tail](#), [Vermillion Snapper](#), [Wahoo](#), West Palm Beach Florida,

[Bud Karas](#) walterkaras44@gmail.com