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Editor MARK ROMANACK

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Inside

Tips, Tricks and Techniques brought to you by
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SCAN. TROLL. CATCH FISH.

SNAP-AND-GO

BY RICH MEALEY
NPAA # 55

As I was driving home the morning after the FLW National Guard Walleye Tournament on Green Bay, my cell phone rang. It was a call from my good friend, Bruce DeShano, congratulating me on my placement in the tournament. As only Bruce can do, he lifted my spirit by saying, "Great job buddy, you did good". As the conversation proceeded he laughed and asked if I had noticed that Off Shore dominated; 99% of the pros use only his planer boards. In fact, in my ten days of fishing Green Bay, other than a few odd and end manufactured or home made boards, all I had seen was all Off Shore all the time.

For those who are familiar with me, they know I love to troll. I have had the privilege of spending hundreds of hours trolling with the "Chairman" himself. During these times, we have discussed all kinds of subjects; in fact, I think we have solved some of the major problems of the world while trolling. Eventually we always

come back to the performance of the planer board. The magic of the OR12 Side Planer Board is twofold. One is it's simplicity and the other is the ability to customize the board to ones own personal fishing style and need.

I have set up my boards in a number of different ways but my favorite, by far, is what I call the snap-and-go. Using an OR12 Side Planer Board with an OR18 Snapper Release on the bracket, I simply let out the length of line I desire and snap the board on,



Rich Mealey with the "Chairman", Bruce DeShano.

walleye can lead to panic time as you wonder if you or your co-angler is exerting enough pressure to resurface the board. In the snap-and-go system with the back clip not attached, a board that has been pulled under water will roll over and resurface quickly and easily.

Try the snap-and-go system for yourself, you might like it. It takes a little time to get used to re-reading the boards, but in the right situation, it can be a game changer.

not hooking the rear snap. This set up allows for a quick attachment to the line. You drop the board in the water, let it work itself out to the position you want and you are ready to fish.

There are many advantages to this set up, but I will list only the main ones for now. On any light bite, the board will move instantly. Because there is no back release, the board will pull out of formation to the back of the boat, easily clearing the other lines. Now you reel in your fish and when the board gets to the rod tip you only have the OR18 Snapper Release to remove the board from the line. When worm fishing and in a light bite situation, you will find that the fish will pull the board back with ease, giving you time to feed a finicky "eye".

Lastly, we have all had monster walleye sink our boards, especially on a short lead. Because of the normal set up of a planer board, the board becomes a diver. Fighting a diving planer board AND a big

OR34 TRICKS

BY MARK ROMANACK

The OR34 Mini Planer Board is one of the most unique products introduced by Off Shore Tackle. About the size of a regular sized envelope, the OR34 is half the size of its larger cousin the OR12 Side Planer. Small in size, but not in function as the OR34 can be used for both trolling and shore fishing applications.

Ideal for trolling in shallow or calm water conditions, this little board will effectively carry most spoons, crankbaits and live bait rigs out to the side of the boat. Easily reversible, the OR34 can be used to fish out the port or starboard side of the boat.

Because this board is light, it can be used with almost any rod and reel combination eliminating the need for a dedicated trolling outfit. Perfect for fishing small to medium size crankbaits and stickbaits, one great pattern is to troll these lures early in the year on shallow flats. A little later in the year when weed growth starts to kick in, fishing shallow diving crankbaits over the top of emerging weed cover is a great way to target walleye, bass and pike.

THE RIVER OPTION

Anglers who fish in rivers will find the OR34 just as handy. To fish spoons, spinners, crankbaits and live bait rigs out away from the shoreline, simply make a long cast and then attach the OR34 to the fishing line using the release on the tow line and the snap swivel at the back of the board. Lower the board into the water, start playing line off the reel and let the current carry the board and your lure off shore!

A great way to target steelhead and salmon on heavily fished rivers, the OR34 can be used with any rod suitable for these species including both spinning and baitcasting models.

Board fishing from the shore or while wading is a particularly deadly method for fishing crankbaits or spawn to undercut banks, log jams and other tight spots that would be impossible to fish by casting.

RIVERS AND SMALL BOAT OPTIONS

I recently used the OR34 to catch catfish on the Saginaw River in Michigan even while fishing in a modest current. The OR34 helped me position bottom rigs out away from the boat, increasing bottom coverage and allowing two additional lines to be set without having everything fishing directly downstream of the boat.



It's also possible to drop back live bait or cut bait into log jams and other places hard to cast to with the help of the Mini Board. Some of the best catfishing takes place among submerged wood that's often hard to reach by casting.

The OR34 also works exceptionally well in faster flows that hold steelhead and stream trout. Drop back fishing with crankbaits is a popular way to target spring, fall and winter steelhead. Incorporating a Mini Board on each side of the boat allows anglers to target even more water without the fear of fishing too many lures in a confined space.

SUMMING IT UP

The OR34 Mini Board isn't designed to replace the larger OR12 Side Planer, but rather benefits from a fishing niche all its own. Sometimes less is more and in the case of the Mini Board anglers are sure to find this dog will hunt.

MICHIGAN STEELHEADER THUMB CHAPTER'S NET PEN PROGRAM FOR CHINOOK SALMON AND STEELHEAD



BY JACK NOBLE
thumb.michigansteelheaders.org

Those of us, that are old enough, can remember that Lake Huron in Michigan has always had a good fishery. Since the 1950's thru the mid 2000's there were ample quantities of either perch, herring, smallmouth bass, walleye, lake trout, steelhead and chinook salmon to attract anglers from all over the tri-state area to the eastern shores of Michigan. Most of the small towns on Lake Huron did quite well during this period. Cabins and motels were normally full during the summer months; grocery stores, gift shops, bait shops, small boat liveries and most small businesses thrived on the tourism created by the fishing in Lake Huron. Since 2005, with the loss of the chinook salmon, there has been a steady decline in the general economy associated with tourism. Since the 1970's the chinook salmon has by far been the fish of choice for anglers throughout the Great Lakes.

In 1994, the Thumb Chapter of the Michigan Steelhead & Salmon Fishermen's Association (MSSFA) purchased 4 net pens to assist the Michigan Division of Natural Resources (DNR) in determining the best method of restocking the chinook salmon throughout the Great Lakes. The DNR wanted to determine whether or not there would be a better return rate if the chinook fingerlings were held in net pens for 5 to 6 weeks prior to their release into the lake. It was determined that the return rate was considerably better for those fingerlings kept in pens. This program continued until 2010 at which time the DNR decided it was a waste of time and money to continue planting chinook fingerlings in most Lake Huron ports.

With the demise of the chinook salmon fishery in Lake Huron it became necessary to find another species of game fish to fill the void left by the chinook. The DNR looked at the steelhead (AKA rainbow trout) as the most likely candidate. Due to the success of the net pen project pertaining to the chinook salmon, the DNR has embarked on a 3 to 6 year study program to determine if keeping 1 to 1 1/2 year old fingerlings in net pens would result in a greater return rate. The Michigan Steelheader Thumb Chapter net pen program was chosen for the trial run in 2010. Steelhead fingerlings had never been housed in net pens before, so this was a new experience for everyone.

In 2010 the Thumb Chapter purchased 2 additional net pens and 3 additional floating docks to accommodate the much larger steelhead fingerlings. Where 4 pens could handle up to 100,000 chinook fingerlings, 6 pens are required for the larger fish and the space requirement for steelhead. The trial run of 15,000 steelhead housed in pens in 2010 was very successful with a loss of only 29 fish!

The primary purpose of keeping the steelhead in net pens is to see if they can be acclimated to the Lake Huron waters. These fish were hatched and raised in Lake Michigan waters and may want to return to Lake Michigan.

This steelhead study program started in 2011 and will continue in 2012 and 2013.

There will be approximately 100,000 yearling steelhead fingerlings with coded wire tags in their heads and planted in 3 different Michigan locations on Lake Huron. Harbor Beach will receive 30,000, Harrisville 30,000 and Oscoda 40,000 each year. One half of the fish in each location will be kept in net pens for a period of time and the other half planted directly into the AuSable River or lake at the same time the fish in the pens are released.

All steelhead planted, regardless of whether they were kept in net pens or planted directly into the lake or the river, will have a microscopic coded wire tag implanted in its head. These fish can be identified by a missing adipose fin. For this program to be successful, it is imperative that the DNR recover as many of these coded wire tags as they can. The only way enough of these tags can be recovered is if each angler that catch a steelhead with an adipose fin missing, saves the head and freezes it in a plastic bag along with recording the size of the fish, date and location caught. There will be placards placed in most locations indicating where the heads can be dropped off or phone numbers that can be called for pick up.

If all of us anglers make sure this program is successful, the number of steelhead planted in Lake Huron will be in the millions instead of a few hundred thousand per year in the future. It is estimated that 1.1 million were planted in Lake Huron in 2011. Maybe the Lake Huron fishery can be restored to where it used to be.

As most of us know in the 50's and 60's, Lake Erie was considered a dead lake and experts said it would take a hundred years of tremendous effort to restore its fishery. Lake Erie is currently known all over the world for its

If all of us anglers make sure this program is successful, the number of steelhead planted in Lake Huron will be in the millions instead of a few hundred thousand per year in the future. It is estimated that 1.1 million were planted in Lake Huron in 2011. Maybe the Lake Huron fishery can be restored to where it used to be.

FANTASTIC steelhead fishery; a revived fishery achieved in a much shorter time span than the experts expected! From 1993 thru 2011 the surrounding states and Ontario Canada have planted between 1.7 million to 2.0 million steelhead fingerlings per year in Lake Erie and a total of 1.93 million were planted in 2011.

The bottom line is: please do your part in helping our industry have the success record as physically shown by the accomplishments of Lake Erie. Working together, we can strive to make Lake Huron known all over the world as well a premier steelhead fishery!

NOTE: Consider joining or making a donation to the Thumb Chapter of the Michigan Steelhead & Salmon Fishermen's Association to help support the net pen projects. Thumb Chapter MSSFA, PO Box 23, Harbor Beach, MI 48467-0023 or go to www.thumb.michigansteelheaders.org.

THE BIG SWITCH

BY MARK BRUMBAUGH

Using Off Shore Tackle's OR12 Side Planer in-line planer boards are the best way to spread lines while trolling. Sometimes when the waves are white capping, one OR12 planer board may hop over another and tangle the two lines.

To remedy this, I switch the rods around from their normal position in my rod holders. Generally, when trolling with OR12's, the rod connected to the outer board is positioned in the holder ahead of the inner board(s). By switching this sequence when waves are breaking, it keeps the boards from jumping over one another. It's also important to troll only with the wind in heavy wave conditions. Problem and frustration solved.

RELEASE TENSION

The spring tension on a planer board or downrigger line release is critically important to trolling success. This topic is like those lectures about using sharp hooks. Everyone knows what they should be doing, but precious few anglers actually act on these important details of fishing.

It's common for trollers to sum up their fishing day by saying they went 6 for 10 or 5 for 11. Fish that bite, but are not hooked are often the fault of using poorly designed line releases or the wrong releases for a particular type of fishing. Using the right planer board or downrigger release can dramatically increase the number of fish that are hooked and landed.

Choosing line releases that offer the correct amount of spring tension for the fish species, trolling speed, line diameter and water depth are important details to consider. If the release tension is too heavy, detecting strikes can be more difficult. If the release tension is too light, getting a solid hook set is unlikely. Finding the "just right" spring tension is part of the process of becoming an efficient and successful troller.

DOWNRIGGER RELEASES

Off Shore Tackle manufactures three different line releases for downrigger fishing including the OR4 (light), OR1 (medium) and OR8 (heavy) tension line releases. The OR4 (white in color) is ideal for trolling for smaller in-land trout, Great Lakes brown trout, spring coho and walleye with lines from 10-20 pound test.

The famous OR1 Medium Tension Downrigger Release (black in color) is the most popular release of its kind in the industry. This release features a medium tension that's ideal for general purpose lake trout, steelhead, salmon and striper fishing application. The recommended line diameters for this release are 14-25 pound test.

The heavy tension OR8 (red in color) downrigger release has extra tension for trolling at faster speeds, pulling big and deep diving lures, using high resistance hardware like oversized rotators and for a wealth of saltwater applications. This release works well with 20-50 pound test fishing lines.

DUAL BOARD MAST SYSTEM RELEASES

Those anglers who fish with a planer board and mast system need line releases that have the ability to hold the line firm enough to generate a good hook set, yet be gentle enough not to damage the line. The overwhelmingly popular OR10 Adjustable Light Tension Planer Board Release (yellow in color) is hands down the favorite among Great Lakes walleye trollers who often encounter fish on the small side. For targeting bigger walleye, the OR14 Medium Tension Planer Board Release (black in color) is perfect. Both of these releases function well with 10-17 pound test line.

Trout and salmon anglers need a little more tension in their planer board releases. The OR3 Light Tension Planer Board Release (white in color) has a larger surface area than the OR10 and is a great choice for targeting coho, spring salmon, brown trout and trophy class walleye. The OR3 works well with lines in the 10-20 pound test range.

The OR17 Medium Planer Board Release (black in color) is perfect for targeting bigger fish like adult salmon, northern pike, muskie and light duty saltwater fishing. This release work well with lines in the 14-25 pound test range.

The OR30 Heavy Planer Board Release (red in color) is the product favored by those who troll at high speeds, for trophy sized muskie or for heavy duty saltwater applications. The heaviest tension release in the Off Shore Tackle family is well suited to trolling with 17-50 pound test line.

One additional release; the OR19 (orange in color) is sized similar to the OR10 and OR14 but features a much heavier spring tension. This unique release fills the niche of fishing with in line planer boards like the famous OR12 Side Planer and also has use as a planer board release for targeting larger fish like salmon in the spring and fall when these fish are often found close to the surface. Good line options for the OR19 range from 10-20 pound test.

Matching up the right release to the right fishing conditions is the fast track to fishing success with downriggers and planer boards. Next trip out, the goal is to go 10 for 10 and know the line releases you've chosen are perfect for the job.

CONTROLLING THE SPREAD OF THE SPINY WATERFLEA AND THE FISHHOOK WATERFLEA

BY TODD VERBOOMEN

Associate Planner West Winnebago
Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

The Spiny Waterflea (*Bythotrephes cederstroemi*) and the Fishhook Waterflea (*Cercopagis pengoi*) entered the Great Lakes in ship ballast water of ocean going ships from Europe in the 1980s and the 1990's.

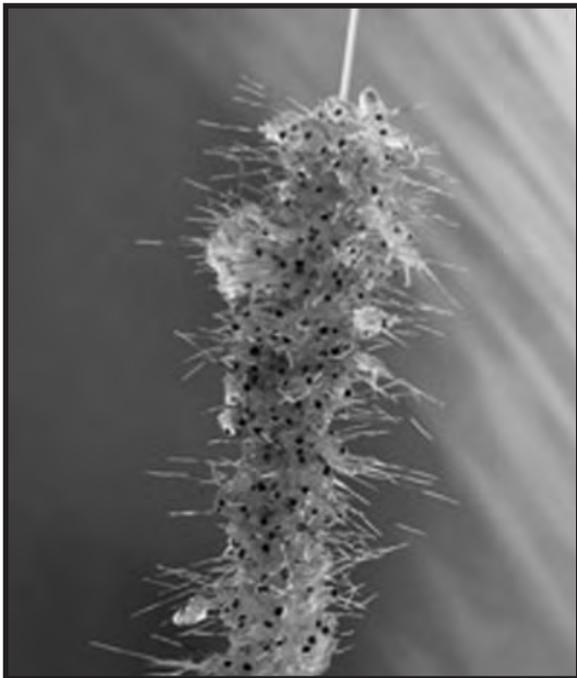
These tiny aquatic invasive species can have huge impacts on lakes by competing for the same food sources (tiny crustaceans and zooplankton) as native juvenile fish. Waterfleas reproduce rapidly (upwards of ten offspring every two weeks) and have limited predators because native fish cannot digest the waterfleas' long spiny tails.

Both waterfleas collect in masses on fishing lines and downrigger cables. These masses can clog the first eyelet of rods, damage a reel's drag system, and prevent fish from being landed.

Waterfleas can be spread to inland lakes by contaminated fishing gear and recreational equipment. In general, the adult waterfleas will die during periods of time out of water; however waterflea eggs can survive for long periods out of water (long after the adults are dead) and can be responsible for establishing new populations in inland waters.

Currently, there is no successful way to eradicate waterflea infestations completely. The only defense that we have to protect our lakes from new waterflea infestations is through good stewardship by following these four prevention steps:

- **Learn** to recognize these waterfleas on fishing gear;
- **Inspect** and remove aquatic plants and animals, including gelatinous or cotton batting-like materials from line, especially where they meet a swivel, lure or downrigger ball connection (plucking like a guitar string helps);
- **Drain** lake or river water from live well and bilge before leaving access; Dispose of unwanted live bait in the trash; and
- **Report** new sightings – note exact location; put specimen in a sealed container with rubbing alcohol; and call your local DNR, Sea Grant or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Fishing line waterflea mass: Minnesota Sea Grant
(<http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/ais/waterflea>)



Photo by Peter Johnson, UW Center for Limnology, WDNR
(<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/fact/spiny.htm>)

1 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bythotrephes_longimanus

2 <http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/ais/waterflea>

3 2004 University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program

RIVER BOARDS AND TROLLING TECHNIQUES

BY THOMAS ALLEN

Rivers are some of the richest bodies of water we have to fish. In rivers fish of all species conform to the current and the water levels and clarity greatly dictate how and where fish will relate to available structure.

With flowing water any obstruction redirects the current, even if it's well below the surface it is fairly easy to determine where objects are located. The fish know this and position themselves accordingly to feed effectively. Traditional tactics are still very effective where anglers can pick apart the structure and get their presentation placed right where the fish are. But don't neglect water-covering tactics that help you pinpoint the bite.

Trolling rivers for any species can be done effectively with adequate electronics and understanding how the river's current is being affected by the structure. Much of the quality structure is most often fished perpendicularly and many anglers are missing the suspended fish. Suspended walleye usually exist in rivers when the water is at normal to lower levels. Typically, these fish are there to feed, but they can be very finicky as to what they will eat. To reach them you must spread out and go through as many presentations as possible to determine the specifics.

"There are multitudes of ways to use planer boards on rivers to create more success," says Off Shore Tackle Walleye Pro, Tommy Skarlis. "I like to troll a lot of three-way rigs, which are made out of a pencil sinker dropper that consists of about six to twelve inches of line. The trailer off of the three way could be a floating Rapala, some other type of stickbait or even spinner rig tipped with Gulp!"

"Pulling baits behind boards on rivers is best suited in less snaggy situations," Skarlis continues. "The use of planer boards turns your boat from a two-row picker into a combine allowing you to cover the maximum amount of water possible. By spreading your presentations out you can cover more water and you will be able to determine the most productive strategy in short order, thus allowing you to put more fish in the boat."

Skarlis feels that presenting your bait in a parallel fashion along shoreline breaks can be more productive than dragging a bait across the top of the break into deeper water. The fish stage along the break depending on the strength of the current, but are more likely to respond to a bait they will see for a longer period of time.

"You can use three-way rigs at different depths," Skarlis explains. "There doesn't have to be a lot of science in the rise over the run because as the line flattens out on sandy bottoms or dune-like landscape you can throw them up shallower as long as it is relatively snag free. By using



Thomas Allen is an up and coming outdoor writer with a passion for walleye.

these three way rigs with a floater being pulled behind them you are keeping your bait in the strike zone longer, which in turn will make you more effective."

"One of my favorite planer board tactics is trolling rip rap," he says. "I prefer to cast rip rap because you have your rod in hand, you're having fun, its more pinpoint precision fishing, but you have to locate those fish first. Sometimes coming from the bank out is not the most productive as trolling along the bank; you need to figure out what the fish want before picking the structure apart."

"I like to run a deeper diving crankbait like a Reef Runner or a #5 Salmo both with 10-12 foot of line out behind a planer board," the pro explains. You won't snag up as much because the deeper diving baits don't run as flat. Run that planer board about four to six feet from the rock and hang on. You might snag up with this rig every now and then, but you will contact lots of active fish because they are there to feed."

"When I am trolling crankbaits along rip rap," he continues. "I like to troll into the current, but don't ever for-

get that with dropping water conditions fish love things coming down stream. They are often on the move downstream as the water drops and feed in that direction. Don't be afraid to troll downstream quickly and be prepared to get more reaction strikes. You have to go downstream again anyways to prepare for another pass, might as well keep the baits wet."

Knowing the river system is a good place to start, but if you are looking for active fish or to determine a pattern consider trolling. Traditional trolling tactics are applicable, but sometimes thinking outside the box and running the combine instead of the two-row picker will make you more productive.

(Thomas resides with his wife and two children in Guthrie Center, Iowa. He is a professional outdoor writer, photographer, videographer, and outdoor talk radio show host; for more information visit www.outdoorpursuitsradio.com. If you have questions or comments feel free to email Thomas at tha481@gmail.com)

WHEN SALMON GO DEEP

BY MARK ROMANACK

Both king and coho salmon are notorious for being found in deep water. Deep is a relative term, because what amounts to deep water in an anglers mind and the depths that salmon call home are often fathoms apart!

King and coho salmon are most often caught in the Great Lakes from 40 to 100 feet below the surface. In part, this is because modern fishing methods are limited to some extent to fishing this depth range. Ironically salmon are capable of surviving and thriving several hundred feet below the surface!

During the last two decades the Great Lakes have endured some amazing changes. Most noteworthy the rapid expansion of the zebra mussel has made a profound impact on both water clarity and the amount of plankton found in the water column. This evasive species survives by filtering nutrients and plankton from the water. Collectively the countless zebra mussels in the Great Lakes consume so much plankton that they have actually changed the dynamics of the Great Lakes starting with the building blocks of the forage base.

Forage fish depend on plankton as the foundation of their food requirements. With less plankton available in the system, forage fish are forced to travel more in search of food and also to seek out food resources in deeper water. These changes also impact salmon as they are in turn forced to hunt harder and to seek food in deeper water.

Filtered water is clear water and anglers are also faced with fooling salmon into biting artificial lures that can be seen clearly and easily scrutinized. It's always tougher to fool fish into biting when targeting them in exceptionally clear water.

Not surprisingly the majority of the salmon being caught are taken early and late in the day when low light levels prevent salmon the luxury of seeing every detail. This

watching hour takes place twice a day and any salmon angler worth his trolling spoons is on the water at these key times of day.

TEMPERATURE PREFERENCES

It's well known that salmon have preferred water temperature ranges. Most seasoned salmon anglers feel that water temperatures in the 40 to 55 degree range represent the salmon's preferred haunts. By using a temperature probe on a downrigger, it's fairly easy to pinpoint at what depth these temperatures occur and zero in on the best water.

What isn't widely known is that salmon in recent years have been forced by environmental changes to feed outside of these recognized comfort zones.

"More than half the salmon I caught last season came from water much warmer than salmon prefer," says Captain Jerry Lee, a 30 year veteran of salmon fishing in the Great Lakes. "Some of these fish are feeding in water as warm as 70 degrees. Most of these fish are being caught in the morning before the sun even hits the horizon and again in the evening as the sun sets."

Captain Lee goes on to explain that in low light conditions salmon will leave their deep water haunts and water temperature preferences to feed on forage found in warmer waters closer to the surface.

"The bad news is this warm water bite is short lived," says Captain Lee. "Kings slash into the schools of alewives and shad feeding aggressively. Once they've fed for an hour or so, these fish quickly retreat to deep water and cooler temperatures where they spend the majority of their time."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



TATTLE FLAGS

BY RYAN BUDDIE

Sometimes when trolling harder pulling crankbaits or heavier weights, especially at higher speeds, the tattle flag spring just isn't enough to keep the flag upright. To fix this, add a small rubber band between the bracket/tow arm of the board and the wire attached to the flag of the board. This will increase the tension on the flag, and enable you to read your boards better.

That little extra give that you have with the flag upright, also allows the fish to bite and turn on it before the hook is set, resulting in better hook sets in the corner of the mouth. I always use tattle flags, they do more than just the obvious!

RIVIERA PLANER BOARD MASTS FIT ANY BOAT

BY LARRY HARTWICK

The Riviera Kachman Automatic Retrieval (DPMKA) or Manual Posi-Stop Retrieval Planer Board Mast (DPMPA) can be fitted to literally any boat. The factory provided base mounting system works well for thru-bolting near the bow of the boat. For smaller boats with a bow mounted seat base, Riviera makes adapters to fit Springfield Taper-Lock, Springfield Spring Lock, Springfield Uni-Lock and Attwood Swivl-Eze 2 3/8" seat base brackets. If you are unsure as to which mount you have in your boat, pictures of the mounts are available on rivieratrolling.com.

In addition, Riviera rail clamp reels (RCPK & RCPP) can be mounted to hard tops, fly bridges or radar arches using the Track Mount or Rail Clamp Mounts that come standard on these units. No matter what make, model or size of fishing boat.

GUPPY WEIGHT TROLLING DEPTHS

BY GARY PARSONS
AND KEITH KAVAJECZ

With in line weights or Pro Snap Weights such as the off Shore Tackle LLC OR20 series Guppy, we use a pretty simple way of determining how deep the Guppy is running by using the bottom. As we are trolling, say in 20 feet of water for instance, and find that it takes letting out 40 feet of line from the weight to tick bottom (just as an example), then we can pretty easily assume that by letting out 20 feet of line the same weight Guppy will go down to 10 feet, provided our trolling speed stays the same. This really helps us to make our trolling set-ups repeatable which are important to trolling success.

The OR20 series Pro Guppy Weights are available in a complete kit or as individual packs in weight sizes of 1/2, 3/4, 1, 1 1/2, 2 and 3 ounce 99.9% lead free weights!

LEAD CORE RIGGING OPTION

BY CAPTAIN STEVE MARTIN
www.mihicharters.com

For fishing lead core, I recommend blood knotting a two foot length of 50# monofilament to the backing line about five passes from the lead core. When setting these lines, I let out the lure, leader and all the lead core line. When the 50# section comes off the rod tip, I attach my OR12 Side Planer using both clips to this short section of line, lower the board in the water and let it work out to the side.

This simple trick insures that the board will never wear on the backing and weaken my lead core set ups. This works exceptionally well for anglers who like to use braided line as backing to get extra line on the reel.



YELLOW BASS: THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY

BY THOMAS ALLEN
WITH TOMMY SKARLIS

They're here, they're likely not going anywhere, they need to be caught, and they need to be consumed - 'cause they taste great!

Yellow bass have found their way into many of the lakes and fisheries throughout the Midwest by either chance or through underground stocking efforts. Yellow bass are an invasive species that certainly have long-term detrimental effect on habitat and forage. While the ugly truth about these fish is the negative impact they can have on our lakes and rivers, they do present an excellent opportunity at good fun and viable efforts to improve the future health of the system.

Yellow bass will take over the spawning grounds of other species such as crappies, bluegill, even walleye and largemouth bass. They reproduce rapidly and are very aggressive feeders, and consequently they add tremendous pressure and competition on the forage base.

There is no current daily limit on yellows and in fact, if you catch yellow bass its best to not even put them back in the water. For the angler whose 'bread and butter' is catching bucket loads of fish that fight hard and taste great, yellow bass fishing might just be for you. I have seen the effects these little yellow fish can have, but I'll be honest, they are a lot of fun to catch. They will eat jigs, crankbaits, spinners, and just about any live bait presentation you can come up with.

However, during summer trolling small crankbaits behind Off Shore's OR34 Mini Planer board is the most effective way to load the livewell. This board is reversible and includes the OR10 release, black bracket, split ring, snap swivel, nylon nut, and 6/32 x 1/2" screw. This is the best set up available for pulling light tackle for smaller fish.

Recently, I spent some time on the water with good friend and legendary walleye pro, Tommy Skarlis. We were working on putting together some work to promote Iowa's walleye resource and decided Clear Lake was the best place to accomplish our goals. We spent the day trolling small cranks on Off Shore planer boards. We managed to connect on a few 'eyes, but we could hardly keep the yellow bass off the lines. We filled the livewell

with a pile of yellow bass.

Early in the season during the spawn, these fish can be caught by the hundreds along rocky hard bottoms, shallow weed flats, and other standard spawning locations. However, as summer progresses they tend to spread out but still staying in smaller, more concentrated schools suspended in deeper water. If you hit one, others are nearby.

If you are a summertime crappie angler you know that crappies tend to suspend in open water, yellow bass do the very same thing as they chase pods of baitfish around. In comparison, the yellows will typically suspend below where the crappies prefer to be.

When trying to catch open water suspended fish, the best plan of attack is often trolling small cranks. These small baits only dive a few feet, but they are absolutely dynamite on fish of all types, especially yellow bass. In states where multiple rods are allowed per angler, you can really determine the hot bite in short order. With two anglers in a boat, you can cover a lot of water by setting out two flat lines off the back of the boat and two lines attached to Off Shore's OR34's Mini Planer out the side of the boat. All rigged with different colored crankbaits until you find the pattern. It can be quite the circus when all the rods load up at the same time!

Summertime yellow bass are easy to catch, love to fight, make great table fare, and by removing them from the systems they reside in you are helping the future of the fishery. But, above all else they present a great opportunity to introduce a new or young angler to the sport of fishing.



Yellow bass are one of the most overlooked species. Trolling for these fish always provides fast action and some very good eating.

TUNING DUAL AND TRIPLE PLANER BOARDS

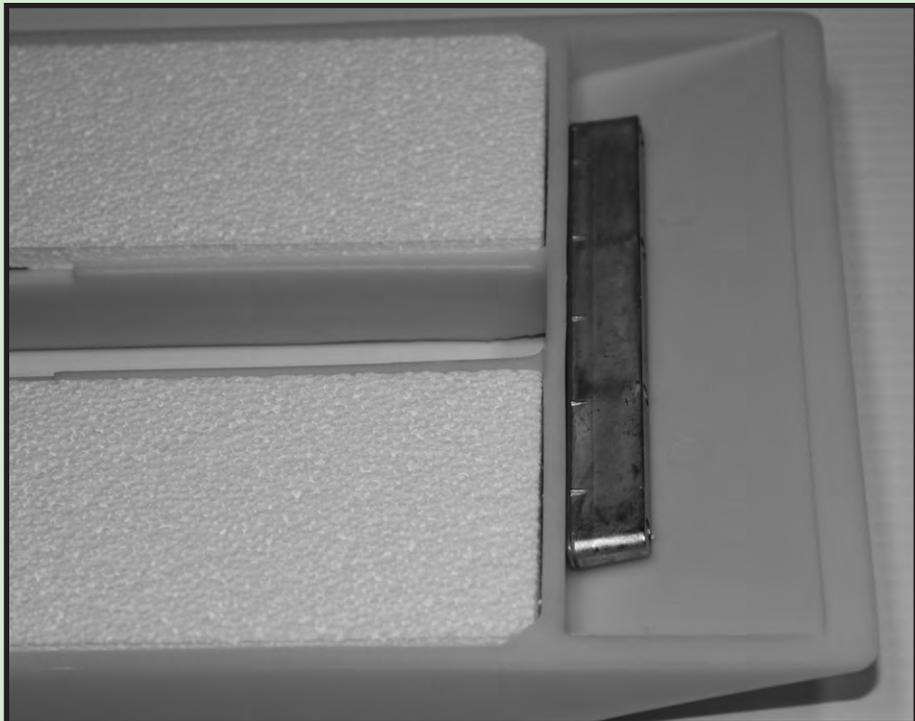
BY LARRY HARTWICK

The Riviera Dual Planer Board (DPB) and Triple Planer Board (TPB) are both designed to work in a large venue that includes low to high speed trolling, handling light to heavy pulling lures, and calm to extremely rough water. In order to achieve all of this in one product, some compromises have to be made. The biggest issue is for the planer not to have a tendency to dive and still be able to pull out from the side of the boat. Both the DPB and TPB achieve those goals.

All of the Riviera planer boards are weighted. The weights are not visible but they are there. These weights are placed to insure that the planer boards don't dive and are able to handle the amount of pressure put on the tow line from hard pulling rigs.

In some situations, usually extremely low speed, more "side bite" may be desired to keep more tension on the tow line. This can be accomplished very easily by adding up to 4 ounces of weight to the nose of the outside board or in the case of the TPB, the outside two boards as shown in the photo for the exact location. What this does is add water pressure to the leading edge of the planer board causing it to pull harder to the side of the boat. My suggestion to anyone trying this is to initially attach the weight with a piece of duct tape in case the weight is too heavy or too light. At some point, if this is deemed perfect for your application, the weight can be permanently attached with glue or screws. Never attach any weight to the inside planer board.

CAUTION: Most anglers will not need or benefit from this change. It only applies to some specific applications and striper or muskie anglers pulling heavy rigs should not do this as it can "unbalance" the planer board and cause it to dive.



EFFICIENT, EASY AND AFFORDABLE, THE RIVIERA PLANER BOARD TROLLING SYSTEM

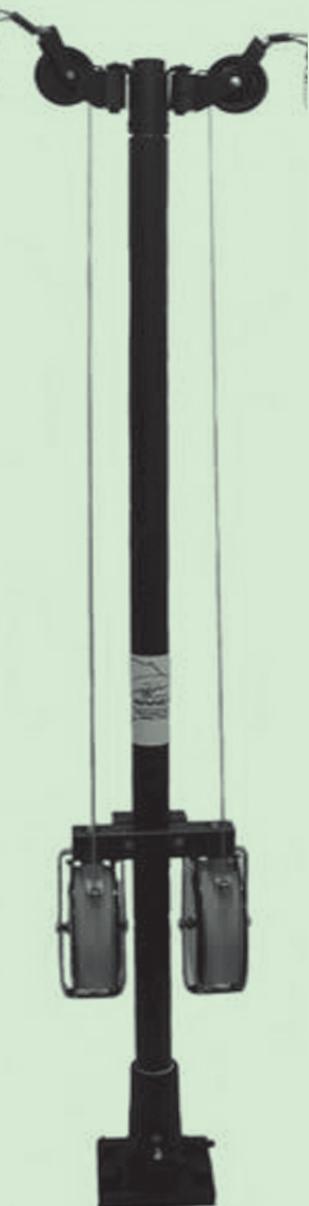
BY CAPTAIN BRIAN WISENBAUGH
Cluster Too

The last thing anyone wants is another problem with gear when fishing. I have found the Kachman Automatic Retrieval Mast (DPMKA) from Riviera Trolling Systems Inc. easy to use. All you need to do is attach your Riviera Dual (DPB) or Triple (TPB) planer board to the snap swivel at the end of the 200# test orange planer line. Then place the planer board into the water off of each side of your boat. The planer board will go out to your pre-set desired length (easy to do) as you start to troll.

Rods can be deployed at the same time the planer board is working its way out to the side of the boat, which ultimately is a time saver. Keep in mind that you can run multiple types of lines (mono, lead core, weighted system, etc.) all at the same time. The types of baits and diving systems that can be used are endless.

You can also catch several types of fish off this system. I use the planer board system for everything, from salmon to walleye. I also know of anglers that are successfully trolling suspended catfish in southern impoundments with this system. So the species that can be successfully fished with this system is endless. On most occasions this system has out fished downriggers. I normally use the Off Shore Tackle OR3 Light Tension Planer Board Release with this trolling set-up. They work great for my style of fishing for all types of species.

The Kachman Automatic Retrieval System takes a lot of strain off of the person at the helm and makes it effortless to retrieve your Riviera planer boards. Ease of operation equals more fish in the box and a more enjoyable day all efficiently, easy and in affordable fashion.



YOUNG ANGLERS ACTIVITY

WORD SEARCH

SIDE PLANER

MINI PLANER

TADPOLE

GUPPY

PRO WEIGHT

TATTLE FLAG

RELEASE

CLIP

DOWNRIGGER

MAST

DUAL PLANER BOARD

TRIPLE PLANER BOARD

TROLLING

FISHING

OFF SHORE TACKLE LLC

RIVIERA TROLLING SYSTEM

HAND LINE REELS

SNAPPER

S R N N R I G A P I L H D P E N E E I E R E
P L E A E M S N T G C O O S D O H F P V A N
K H R G L A C L A L A I N M R F P F A L E O
R L S E G I I O K A F P O P E F I R N R S G
S L L G I I L F T U I G Y I E S F A E N A P
W T T A A Y R T L P R P E P H H G M A L E L
O T R O L L I N G E A S L I C O G P F L L L
R A I E R E C C W R G E N A D R P E O C E E
S G P B N L I L A O O G F U T E L P S O R G
T S L E E R E N I L D N A H R T D T A S G P
S M E T S Y S G N I L L O R T A R E I V I R
A M P E L I P G N O P I L A T C L Y R I E E
M L L R D R A A D L F A T A F K O R P E L S
S E A N O R E N A L P E D I S L I P R L E S
N E N A A W G N G L F S L L E E H T O E L L
L M E I I E E A A D D A S L I L R R T E T N
I R R N N R G I B L O I S D D L I A N H F N
L E B E B S I W G U P P Y L L C I T E I E N
T K O O R E N A B H L I U B A R T P E A R I
E R A H E N O R G I T L N T V O L S O D K A
S R R A R E I S T T S C A I L N T M O T V N
D R D N L M D R L N P T E I M L A N H T D Y

Answers can be found on page 19.

WHEN SALMON GO DEEP

— CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4 —

It's almost like a magical switch that controls feeding activity is turned on a half hour before the sun rises and turned off about thirty minutes after the sun pops above the horizon. After the morning bite ends, it's futile to continue fishing in warm water. The fish simply retreat to deeper and much cooler water.

The duration of these feeding forays into warm water vary from day to day, but rarely last more than an hour or two at most. On calm and sunny days the bite is very brief. On windy or overcast days the bite stretches out a little longer. Typically this feeding frenzy is so short in duration that it's hard for a salmon angler to catch more than five or six fish before the bite is completely done!

Half a dozen salmon in a morning is pretty good action for a recreational angler, but a charter with five or six customers aboard needs to catch two or three times that many fish to satisfy his clients. This is precisely why the most astute charter captains have learned how to milk additional salmon from deep water as the sun rises and the day progresses.

THE DEEP WATER MOVEMENT

After the morning bite, salmon tend to slip back into deep water, adjacent to the structure they fed on earlier in the day. "It's difficult to tempt fish that have already fed into feeding again, but not impossible," says Captain Lee. "Salmon are opportunistic feeders and some of those fish will bite even in the middle of the day."

FISH DEEPER THAN NORMAL

After the morning flurry of activity salmon start moving to deeper water. Fish that were feeding actively at first light from 40 to 100 feet down and along the edges of structure, quickly slip down to 100, 200 or even 300 feet of water by eight or nine o'clock in the morning!

Reaching these ultra deep fish is a little challenging, but they can be caught by being persistent and targeting deep fish with a strategy that puts lures at maximum depth.

DOWNRIGGERS ARE IMPORTANT

A downrigger like the Riviera Model 700 equipped with at least 300 feet of cable plays an important role in targeting salmon deeper than 100 feet. Rather than the standard 10 pound downrigger weight, lots of captains are using 12 and even 15 pound cannon balls to fish this deep water.

It's also a good idea to equip these larger downrigger weights with a heavier than normal line release. The Off Shore Tackle OR8 Heavy Tension Downrigger Release is perfect for fishing in deep water and with tackle that has lots of resistance in the water like rotators. The extra tension prevents false releases and insures that fish that bite are hooked solidly.

A boat equipped with two downriggers is ideally rigged for targeting deep water salmon. Adding more riggers doesn't necessarily improve fishing success. A better approach is to use other presentations to incorporate additional trolling lines.

WIRE DIVERS

Using wire line to fish diving planers is another method that helps to reach fish found in deeper water. Wire line fished in combination with the largest divers like the Walker Deeper Diver 124mm model and the Magnum Dipsy Diver can approach and exceed 100 feet down. For specific "dive curves" consult the book Precision Trolling Big Water Edition II.

Achieving these ultra deep depths requires setting divers back 200-300 feet which requires a line counter reel capable of holding at least 450 to 500 feet of 30# test stranded wire.

COPPER LINE

Copper wire fished as a sandwich between a fluorocarbon leader and backing of spectra braided line is another common method anglers employ to target deeper salmon. Copper is tricky stuff as it is very dense and sinks quickly. For best results copper line should be deployed with the bait clicker engaged so there is some tension on the line as it is played out. This helps to keep the copper line from sinking to the bottom and the lure dredging up zebra mussels before the line is even ready to fish.

The most common set ups of copper line include 300 feet and 400 feet of 45# test material, but some hard cores are fishing as much as 600 feet of copper line. The drawbacks to copper are many. It takes an extra large reel to handle all that copper line. Secondly, copper has a tendency to kink and unravel making it tough stuff to work with and keep working properly.

Once the copper line is all played out, the preferred way to fish this rig is with an Off Shore Tackle OR12 Side Planer board rigged with an OR18 Snapper line clip on the tow

"More than half the salmon I caught last season came from water much warmer than salmon prefer," says Captain Jerry Lee, a 30 year veteran of salmon fishing in the Great Lakes. "Some of these fish are feeding in water as warm as 70 degrees. Most of these fish are being caught in the morning before the sun even hits the horizon and again in the evening as the sun sets."

arm of the board. The Snapper is designed to hold spectra braided lines securely.

Stacking two or even three copper lines fished with boards per side helps to flood the deeper water column with various lures.

All the common salmon hardware and lure options catch fish in combination with downriggers, wire divers and copper line rigs. Some of the more popular options include Silver Horde plugs, Magnum Wolverine Silver Streak spoons, Dreamweaver Spin Doctor attractor/fly combinations and the new kid on the block are cut bait rigs.

THE CUTTING EDGE ON CUT BAIT RIGS

The cut bait rig requires a little more effort to fish, but there are a growing number of captains who feel cut bait is worth the extra effort. "Cut bait works, plain and simple," says Captain Steve Martin who fishes out of Frankfort. "When I first started fishing cut

bait I used a couple exploratory rods while keeping my trolling rig mostly set up with standard salmon lures. Now I'm using more cut bait rigs than traditional lures when the salmon move deep."

The beauty of cut bait is it can be fished with all the common salmon presentations and it can also be fished with and without a wide variety of attractors. Most cut bait rigs function in a similar way. A plastic head accepts a whole or cut piece of frozen herring, alewife or shad. A tooth pick is typically used to pin the herring into the plastic head and a leader with a single hook or single treble hook is positioned alongside of the cut bait. The shape of the plastic head causes the herring to spin when trolled.

Of course, this basic cut bait rig can be fished as is with the help of downriggers, wire divers or copper line. Most anglers however are adding other attractors to the cut bait rig. The most common is a three foot long teaser that incorporates several small but colorful mylar teaser flies. Attached to this teaser is a Spin Doctor type rotator or paddle rotator like the Luhr Jensen Coyote. The cut bait rig replaces the trolling fly normally fished

on these attractors.

A lot of salmon trollers are incorporating cut bait rigs into their normal trolling program. Some even say that cut bait works best when multiple rigs are fished at the same time, the theory being that increasing the amount of scent in the water creates a stronger desire to feed.

SUMMING IT UP

Cut bait isn't likely to replace traditional salmon trolling tackle, but it does work and certainly helps anglers target fish in deeper water and at times of day when catching fish is more challenging.

The most important point is to understand that salmon are moving up and down in the water column at different times of day. Early in the morning before the sun hits the horizon traditional salmon methods and locations are producing nicely. Later as the sun gets up, it's increasingly difficult to catch fish using the standard methods.

Relocating to deeper water and concentrating on fish found holding in cooler bands of the water column is a good starting place. While these deep fish may not be feeding actively, they can be caught by incorporating some gear changes and by a little old fashioned persistence!



Ken Matousek, the editor's brother-in-law, enjoys salmon fishing.

TROLLING WITH BRAIDED LINES AND OFF SHORE PLANER BOARDS

BY GREGOR EIGSTI

For years anglers have known that if you want to catch the largest fish in the lake you usually have to troll; but, if you just troll behind the boat you are missing some of the largest fish in the lake. Using planer boards from Off Shore Tackle will get your lures, spinners, or bait away from the boat, and provide more opportunities for hook ups.

Braided lines are a great way to get a better connection between the angler and the fish. The problem is, when using braided lines they have very little or no stretch. The connection from rod tip to fish is so direct that on occasion when trolling, the lure is pulled straight out of the fish's mouth. By using a very small barrel swivel at the end of the braided line capable of going through the guides of your rod and reel with a lengthy leader of either monofilament or fluorocarbon, the angler can reduce the number of fish lost due to the no-stretch braided line. Other benefits include, the clearer monofilament or fluorocarbon line is, the more difficult it is for fish to see. You can also easily see when your fish is getting close because the line changes from your color braid you are using to a clear line.

Leader length takes some practice to determine. I like to use 40 feet of leader between the swivel and the lure. I rarely troll less than 40 feet behind my Off Shore OR12 Side Planers therefore this is the length that works for me. The OR18 Snapper

Adjustable Tension In Line Planer Board Release is what I use to get the best possible connection between rod tip and planer. Some fish with softer mouths might require a longer leader with more stretch from the line. Fish with harder mouths like pike and stripers can handle a shorter leader, with less stretch.

When selecting a line to spool on your reel, I always look for a braided line that has a 10 pound diameter so when I go to the Precision Trolling depth charts, I know exactly what depth the lures are running. Another thing to determine is the braided line color, I prefer to use black line. It is easier to see and when the fish starts getting close to the boat the angler with the net can see the line color change.

In closing the biggest fish in the lake got that way because they didn't eat just everything that came along. It could be the fish got larger because they spook easily so they stay in deep water where few people fish for them, or bury themselves in cover. The fish that are buried in cover do not stay there forever and come out to feed at some point. The fish that spook easily are probably easier to catch at night and the fish that don't like lures just haven't seen the right one yet.

When you fish differently from everyone else and have confidence in what you are doing, you will catch what no one else is catching. Take chances; it could prove to be interesting. Remember, while I want to see more people catch fish, I also want to see larger fish for people to catch. Keep a couple for the table but if you catch a fish of your lifetime, release it so it can become someone else's fish of a lifetime too.

THE SMALLMOUTH AND THE MINI BOARD

BY MATT STRAW

Slicing water like the bill of a sea hawk, my little Off Shore Tackle OR34 Mini Planer carried a Rapala X-Rap up along the bank. When a smallmouth takes it, the little board plunges backwards. If it goes under, hair rises.

Anytime the water is cool to downright cold, suspending baits are right for smallmouths. In the Great Lakes, hill-land reservoirs in the South, or wherever the water is really clear, smallmouths often suspend in spring and fall, enroute to the habitats right for the coming seasons. Finding them can be tough because they're spooky and it takes time to maneuver into casting position.

If you don't have them wired, trolling is the way to go about it. The stealthy little OR34 Mini Planer takes less resistant, shallow diving suspending baits well off the boat path to intercept smallies on the move in 40°F to 54°F water. The OR34 is more effective than standard planers way up on the shallow flats where smallmouths forage from ice out to spawn because it disturbs less water, and has a smaller profile. It not only fails to spook fish, they sometimes attack it (providing another method for finding them).

The OR34 is right for getting up against those long, steep dropping banks in rivers and reservoirs where you otherwise have to place the boat over their heads and cast parallel to the bank. And because some baits don't pull very hard, why put extra strain on your line and tackle with heavier boards? The OR34 allows for lighter tackle too. The same rods you would use to cast the same baits match it perfectly.

We sometimes use a special kind of rod to put two boards out on one side or both sides of the boat. Putting a light 10 to 12 foot trolling rod in the holder farthest forward helps keep lines and rod tips apart. Otherwise I use 7 foot medium to light spinning rods with a tough 10 pound monofilament. The lure can be quite close to the board on shallow flats to keep it under 5 feet in depth, but I generally put it back 20 to 50 feet, depending on the type of cover and clarity of water. The snaggy the cover, the closer the lure should be to the board thus giving you greater control over where it goes.

Sharp hooks are critical! Smallmouth bass have hard mouths, so you need to invest in premium trebles to make up for the hook set delay.

Trolling for bass? Some think it's illegal. A tournament mentality rules the thinking of the bass angling public. But trolling isn't only legal for bass, some of the biggest names in fishing do it to find concentrations when pre-fishing for tournaments.

The OR34 Mini Planer is just so darn cute. And it breaks down flat and fits anywhere. When bass are scattered on shallow flats in the Great Lakes or spread out along breaks in reservoirs, take an OR34 out of your shirt pocket and clip it on. Slicing through the water, that cute little planer takes on a rather predatory air.

Matt Straw is one of the nation's most seasoned fishing writers. His articles always help anglers be more successful on the water.





OFF SHORE TACKLE

Your Leader In...

Side Planer Boards

Model # OR34 Mini Planer Board

Each OR34 Mini Planer includes an OR10 release, black bracket, split ring, snap swivel, nylon nut, 6/32 x 1/2" screw, and instructions. **One board...Dual Purpose....It's Reversible** and runs directly off of your rod line! Ideal for light tackle fishing.



Replacement Parts Are Available For The OR34.

Model # OR34B Bracket 2 Pack

Model # 34SCR BE 6/32 x 1/2" Screw



Model # SS BE Snap Swivel

Model # OR12L Side Planer Left

Model # OR12R Side Planer Right



Each OR12 Side Planer includes a stationary flag, two OR19 releases, instructions and is carefully balanced to run flawlessly in rough water off of your rod line. Ideal for Walleye and most fresh water fish.

Replacement Parts Available For The OR12 Side Planer

Model # OR12P2 Pigtail And Split Ring

Model # FLGSCR BE Flag & 6/32 Screw

Model # SCR BE 6/32 Screw

Model # NN BE Nylon Nut

Model # BRKT BE Bracket With Two Pop Rivets

Model # RVT BE Pop Rivet

Model # FOAM BE Foam Insert

Model # TAB BE Tab To Hold In Foam With Two 6/32 Screws

Model # BLSTSCR BE Ballast Screw

Model # BLSTWGHT BE Ballast Weight And 8 x 1/2 Screw



Tattle Flag Upgrade Kit

Model # OR12TF Tattle Flag Upgrade Kit

Each kit includes flag, 2 OR16 clips, wire, spring, washer, screw eye, split ring, 6/32 screw and instructions. One kit will upgrade one OR12 Side Planer.



Replacement Parts Available For The OR12TF

Model # ORS2 Spring

Model # WIRE BE Wire

Model # NW BE Nylon Washer

Model # SCREYE BE Screw Eye

Model # SPLTRNG BE Split Ring

Planer Board Releases

Our three full size planer board releases come with a quick clip for use on dual planer boards. Their large diameter pinch pad design holds monofilament lines securely. Tension can be adjusted further by how deeply the line is placed into the pads.

Model # OR3 or OR3BWW Light Tension Planer Board Release —White

This release is ideal for Walleye fishing in choppy water or Brown Trout using 10-25 pound test monofilament line.



Model # OR17BWW Medium Tension Planer Board Release —Black

This release is ideal for Salmon, Steelhead, Trout and Muskie using 10-25 pound test monofilament line. It can also be used to pull lead core, Snap Weights and deep diving crankbaits.



Model # OR30BWW Heavy Tension Planer Board Release —Red



This release is ideal for Muskie, trophy Pike and salt water fish using over 20 pound test monofilament line.

Model # OR18 Snapper Adjustable Tension In Line Planer Board Release—Black

The OR18 is a full size release designed with an adjustable cam action locking arm that can be set to release at a range of tension settings or tightened down to hold even super braid lines and lead core securely. This release is made to attach to the bracket of our OR12 Side Planer. With the wide range of tension settings this release is ideal for Walleye, Striper, Salmon, Steelhead, Trout, and Muskie.

Our three half size adjustable tension planer board releases come with a quick clip for use on dual planer boards and split ring for use on in line planer boards. Tension can be further adjusted by simply sliding the spring toward the pads to increase tension or away from the pads to decrease tension.



Model # OR10 or OR10BWW Adjustable Light Tension Planer Board Release—Yellow

This release is ideal for light biting fish such as Walleye or smaller fish using 10-25 pound test monofilament line.



Model # OR14 or OR14BWW Adjustable Medium Tension Planer Board Release—Black

This release is ideal for dual planer board trolling for Walleye and Salmon using 10-25 pound test monofilament line. This is the release most commonly used for rigging add-a-lines or fixed slider lines among downrigger anglers.



Model # OR19 or OR19BWW Adjustable Heavy Tension Planer Board Release—Orange

This release comes as standard equipment on the OR12 Side Planer and is ideal for Striper, Salmon, Trout, and Muskie using 10-25 pound test monofilament and lead core.



Pro Weights

Model # OR20 Pro Weight System



Each system includes instructions, four OR16 clips, four split rings, two of each of the following guppy weights: 1/2 oz., 3/4 oz., 1 oz., 1 1/2 oz., 2 oz., and 3 oz. all contained in a plastic tackle box. **Use as Snap Weights or In Line Weights - you decide.** This system is used off of flat lines, dual planer boards and side planer boards.

Model # OR16 or OR16BWW ProSnap Weight Clip—Red

This half size clip has an extra heavy spring tension and includes a split ring. You simply position your fishing line behind the pin that protrudes through the center of the pads to hold your snap weight securely on the line. This item is ideal for use with snap weight fishing and super braid lines.



PRODUCT SHOWCASE

...Trolling Technology



Replacement Pro Guppy Weights



Model # OR20 1/2
1/2 Ounce Pro Guppy Weight

Model # OR20 3/4
3/4 Ounce Pro Guppy Weight

Model # OR20 1
1 Ounce Pro Guppy Weight

Model # OR20 1 1/2
1 1/2 Ounce Pro Guppy Weight

Model # OR20 2
2 Ounce Pro Guppy Weight

Model # OR20 3
3 Ounce Pro Guppy Weight



Resettable Diving Weights

Model #OR36 1
Tadpole Size 1

Model #OR36 2
Tadpole Size 2

Model #CS BE
Coast Lock Snap

Downrigger Releases

Our downrigger releases are all full size and therefore have the large diameter pinch pad design that holds monofilament lines securely. Tension can be adjusted further by how deeply the line is placed into the pads.

Model # OR4
Light Tension Single Downrigger Release, White



This release is ideal for Walleye, spring Coho, or other small to medium size fish using 10-25 pound test monofilament line.

Model # OR1
Medium Tension Single Downrigger Release, Black



This release is ideal for Salmon, Steelhead, Striper and Trout using 10-25 pound test monofilament line.

Model # OR8
Heavy Tension Single Downrigger Release, Red



This release is ideal for Muskie, Salmon, trophy Pike, and salt water fish using over 20 pound test monofilament line.

Model # OR7
Light Tension Stacker Downrigger Release, White



This release is ideal for Walleye, spring Coho, or other small to medium size fish using 10-25 pound test monofilament line and allows you to run two lines off of the same downrigger.

Model # OR2
Medium Tension Stacker Downrigger Release, Black



This release is ideal for Salmon, Steelhead, Striper and Trout using 10-25 pound test monofilament line and allows you to run two lines off of the same downrigger.

Replacement Pads



Model # ORRP8
Replacement pads for OR1, OR2, OR3, OR4, OR7, OR8, OR17, and OR30 releases.



Model # ORRP8SN
Replacement pads for OR18 releases.



Model # ORRP16
Replacement pads for OR10, OR14, OR19 releases along with OR16 clips WITHOUT the pin protruding through the center of the pads.



Model # ORRP16HL
Replacement pads for OR16 clips WITH pin that protrudes through the center of the pads.



Promotional Items

For promotional item updates, go to www.offshoretackle.com.



Model # CLR



Model # DCLLG



Model # PTCH



Model # HT



Model # LYND



Model # TWL



Model # PN



Model # FRSB



Model # OYTSHT



Model # OATSHRT



Model # OASWSHRT



Model # OYPOLO



Model # OBHSWSHRT (frontside)



Model # OBHSWSHRT (backside)



Model # PRO (frontside)



Model # PRO (backside)

PHOTOGRAPHY IS FOREVER

BY MARK ROMANACK

It's a sad fact that nothing much stays the same in this world. That boy or girl you loved in high school is probably not the one you're in love with today. Time marches on, but photos are forever. It's true that a high quality photograph lives on for years after the memories of a special event or noteworthy relationship start to fade.

Everyone enjoys looking at pictures, but most of us don't take nearly enough to document our favorite activities. Of the shots we do take, many are poorly framed and don't do justice to the activities or people we're trying to honor.

For more than 25 years I've clicked away at taking pictures suitable for publishing in magazine articles, books and manufacturer ad campaigns. In recent years, many photos end up on Facebook and other social networking sites.

Taking photos that are ultimately judged by professional photo editors, advertising types and graphic experts has taught me how to go beyond the act of simply pointing and shooting. Real good photos don't just "happen"; it takes time to set them up. This effort is something few "shutter bugs" bother with and that's a shame. Every photo worth taking is worth taking a little time to do right.

PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNOLOGY

The technology of photography has changed dramatically in recent years, but the need for photos has steadily increased. The age of film has passed and digital photography is firmly entrenched as the obvious choice.

Cameras today tend to double as a phone instead of being dedicated to the sole purpose of taking better pictures. As a result, the "art" of photography has gotten lost in our hustle and bustle lifestyles. To be fair, a smart phone will take great pictures, but only if the person using it is smarter than the phone!

Let's talk a little about film. Some people are still using film cameras and that's cool. The biggest problem with film is the images are not going to easily be cropped or adjusted for exposure once they are developed. I shot my last roll of film about 10 years ago and never looked back.

Digital technology is the way to go for photography on a number of fronts. Electronic images save the cost of film and processing which is no small number. More importantly, digital photographers have the ability to preview a shot to determine if the exposure or framing are correct instantly. With a digital camera if the shot isn't right you know it immediately and can shoot it again. Also important, electronic images are easy to share with others via e-mail and social networking sites or just displaying on your smartphone as conversation starters around the water cooler.

COMPOSITION

Composition or how a shot is set up and framed is the number one area overlooked by would be photographers. Remember what you see when shooting the photo is what's going to turn out in the finished product.

Get in close and crop the picture to the point you are only seeing the subjects of most importance. In the case of a fish picture, have the angler hold the fish so the side of the fish is facing the camera and no fingers or other items block the view of the fish.

Focus on the fish, not the person holding it and frame so the angler and fish are both fully represented. Don't cut off the angler's head or the fish's tail. Show the entire scene, but crop the image close enough that the fish really pops from the image. Shots framed too wide downplay the size of the fish and the drama of showing those fish photos off!

It's very hard to lie about the size of a fish when the photo is poorly framed and the fish looks about the size of an emerald shiner! Making a fish look bigger than it really is boils down to understanding how the focal length of the camera lens works.

I can make a five pound walleye look like it's 10 pounds by simply shooting the photo using a wide angle lens and then getting very close to the subject to take the shot. The further in front of the person the fish is held, the bigger the fish looks in the image. This kind of creative photography helps to put emphasis on the fish and make the images striking to the eye.

It's also necessary to shoot images from both the vertical and horizontal perspective. For a vertical shot have the angler hold the fish canted a little from the true vertical



The best time to take a fish picture is seconds after the fish is landed. Fill the frame, keep the light at your back and make sure both the fish and the angler are cleaned up and smiling.

position. This adds interest to the shot and helps compose the angler into the shot in a pleasing way.

For horizontal shots, crop in tight enough that the picture is framed just a little wider than from the fish's head to tail. Have the angler tilt the fish a little with the head up and tail down slightly and make sure the sides of the fish are clearly visible to the camera. Keep your fingers behind or on the bottom of the fish, so the fish becomes the primary point of interest.

SHOOT NOW

The only time to take a picture is seconds after a fish is caught. Putting the fish in the livewell with the intention of shooting photos later is almost always a bad idea. Nine times out of 10, the fish dies and the opportunities for quality photos become lost forever.

As soon as the fish is landed, get out the camera and snap a couple shots. If the fish has a little blood on it, clean it with a cloth or rinse the fish in the lake or a livewell. When a fish is fresh out of the water it will look tense, the fins will be extended and the image created will be striking.

It doesn't hurt to clean up the angler a little as well. Make sure to put on a shirt. For God's sake put on a shirt! Tuck that shirt in and smile at the camera.

A nice fish picture requires the angler to be smiling and it's amazing how often that doesn't happen. If you want pictures that look like fugitives on the Post Office wall, take them, but don't bother incorporating an innocent fish!

LIGHTING MATTERS

The very word photography means to paint with light. Paying attention to light and how it angles onto a subject is a huge part of making images sparkling to the eye. Watching the light angle also helps the photographer avoid shadowing that can be very distracting to the image.

The old adage to "keep the sun at the photographer's back" is true and important. However, how the light strikes the subject matter is influenced by the angle the light reaches the subject. Simply turning the subject a few degrees one way or the other can make all the difference on the subject becoming completely "Illuminated" with ambient light.

When the subject is washed with uniform light the photos that result are bright, crisp and the images appear to literally pop. One pitfall to watch is preventing the photographer's shadow from casting onto the subject. Often taking a lower shooting angle will help eliminate this problem.

EYE TO EYE

Photos of people (and fish) look best when the photographer takes an eye to eye angle on the shot. Looking up someone's nose is rarely going to deliver a pleasing

photo. Try to shoot your photos as much as possible by getting at the level of your subject. For kids or other height challenged individuals that often means getting down on your knees to shoot the photo.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY

Unless the ambient light is especially warm and pleasing, I recommend using fill flash on all outdoor photos. The flash helps to illuminate the dark spot under an angler's cap and also helps the colors of the fish and angler's clothing to pop. Fortunately, most modern cameras have a built-in flash.

Unfortunately, many cameras will not use fill flash in bright light while set in the automatic function. To use fill flash, set the camera on the manual setting and engage the flash function. If the shot is washed out, step back a little, zoom in with the camera lens to reframe the shot and shoot again. This crude form of bracketing helps to manage the amount of light that the flash imparts on the subject.

Most modern cameras will sync the flash with the exposure at shutter speeds up to 1/250th of a second. In other words you can shoot a flash photo using 1/60th, 1/100th, 1/150th, etc., up to 1/250th of a second. Any faster and the flash will not sync with the camera and the image will appear as if half the photo was flashed and half not.

SUMMING IT UP

Taking good pictures is something that doesn't just happen, they happen because someone takes the time to make them happen. Making sure a camera is handy at all times is the first order of business. Shooting photos the moment a fish is caught is paramount to getting the best shots.

Spend a little time thinking about framing. In general, shots that are framed tightly and show just the angler and the fish are best. Shoot a few images in vertical and horizontal format so both perspectives are captured.

Pay attention to light angle and work at shooting eye to eye with your subject. Remember the fish is the object of interest, so focus on the fish and not on the angler.

Most of all, the next time you're tempted to take a picture of a bunch of fish laying on newspaper laid out on the tailgate of your truck, stop, drop and roll. The world doesn't need any more bad photographs, but a few more good ones certainly would cheer things up a bit. Go fishing. Have fun and make that fun obvious in your pictures.

EDITOR NOTE: Send your favorite fishing pictures to mark@fishing411.net and we'll include the best pictures in the next Off Shore Release.

Be prepared when you hit the water – purchase your Off Shore Tackle Company LLC products at your local dealer or send in your order today!

Prices in effect January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012



Order Blank

MODEL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PACKAGE	NUMBER OF PKGS. ORDERING	PRICE	EXTENDED AMOUNT
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC SIDE PLANER BOARD PRODUCTS					
OR34	Mini Planer Board; One Board...Dual Purpose...I'm Reversible	Pkg. of 1		\$17.15	
OR34B	Replacement Bracket For OR34	Pkg. of 2		\$2.80	
34SCR BE	Replacement 6/32 x 1/2 Screw For OR34	Pkg. of 1		\$0.20	
SS BE	Replacement Snap Swivel For OR34	Pkg. of 1		\$0.65	
OR12L	Side Planer Left	Pkg. of 1		\$38.40	
OR12R	Side Planer Right	Pkg. of 1		\$38.40	
OR12P2	Pigtail and Split Ring For OR12L and OR12R	Pkg. of 2		\$3.75	
FLGSCR BE	Flag and 6/32 Screw	Pkg. of 1		\$3.35	
SCR BE	6/32 Screw For OR12L, OR12R, and OR12TF	Pkg. of 1		\$0.20	
NN BE	Nylon Nut	Pkg. of 1		\$0.40	
BRKT BE	Bracket With Two Pop Rivets For OR12L and OR12R	Pkg. of 1		\$2.95	
RVT BE	Pop Rivet	Pkg. of 1		\$0.40	
FOAM BE	Foam Insert For OR12L and OR12R	Pkg. of 1		\$0.85	
TAB BE	Tab To Hold Foam Insert In and Two 6/32 Screws For OR12L and OR12R	Pkg. of 1		\$0.85	
BLSTSCR BE	Ballast Weight Screw	Pkg. of 1		\$0.20	
BLSTWGHT BE	Ballast Weight and 8 x 1/2 Screw	Pkg. of 1		\$1.90	
BTRY BE	Replacement Battery For Previously Purchased Night Lights	Pkg. of 1		\$0.85	
OR12TF	Tattle Flag Upgrade Kit	Pkg. of 1		\$26.50	
ORS2	Tattle Flag Replacement Spring	Pkg. of 2		\$7.55	
WIRE BE	Tattle Flag Replacement Wire	Pkg. of 1		\$2.10	
NW BE	Tattle Flag Replacement Nylon Washer	Pkg. of 1		\$0.40	
SCREYE BE	Tattle Flag Replacement Screw Eye	Pkg. of 1		\$0.20	
SPLTRNG BE	Tattle Flag Replacement Split Ring	Pkg. of 1		\$0.15	
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC PLANER BOARD AND SIDE PLANER BOARD RELEASES					
QC BE	Quick Clip	Pkg. of 1		\$0.20	
OR3	Light Tension, White With Quick Clip	Pkg. of 2		\$15.60	
OR3BWW	Light Tension, White With Quick Clip	Pkg. of 50		\$372.10	
OR17BWW	Medium Tension, Black With Quick Clip	Pkg. of 24		\$178.45	
OR30BWW	Heavy Tension, Red With Quick Clip	Pkg. of 6		\$53.65	
OR18	Snapper Adjustable Tension, Black	Pkg. of 1		\$15.30	
OR10	Adjustable Light Tension, Yellow With Split Ring and Quick Clip	Pkg. of 4		\$22.00	
OR10BWW	Adjustable Light Tension, Yellow With Split Ring and Quick Clip	Pkg. of 100		\$533.65	
OR14	Adjustable Medium Tension, Black With Split Ring and Quick Clip	Pkg. of 4		\$22.00	
OR14BWW	Adjustable Medium Tension, Black With Split Ring and Quick Clip	Pkg. of 100		\$533.65	
OR19	Adjustable Heavy Tension, Orange With Split Ring and Quick Clip	Pkg. of 2		\$11.35	
OR19BWW	Adjustable Heavy Tension, Orange With Split Ring and Quick Clip	Pkg. of 100		\$533.65	
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC PRO WEIGHT PRODUCTS					
OR20	Pro Weight System	Pkg. of 1		\$46.60	
OR16	Extra Heavy Pro Snap Weight Clip, Red With Split Ring	Pkg. of 2		\$13.15	
OR16BWW	Extra Heavy Pro Snap Weight Clip, Red With Split Ring	Pkg. of 100		\$582.75	
OR20 1/2	1/2 Ounce Replacement Pro Guppy Weight	Pkg. of 3		\$4.00	
OR20 3/4	3/4 Ounce Replacement Pro Guppy Weight	Pkg. of 3		\$4.40	
OR20 1	1 Ounce Replacement Pro Guppy Weight	Pkg. of 3		\$4.85	
OR20 1 1/2	1 1/2 Ounce Replacement Pro Guppy Weight	Pkg. of 2		\$4.65	
OR20 2	2 Ounce Replacement Pro Guppy Weight	Pkg. of 2		\$5.10	
OR20 3	3 Ounce Replacement Pro Guppy Weight	Pkg. of 1		\$3.80	
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC RESETTABLE DIVING WEIGHTS					
OR36 1	Tadpole Size 1	Pkg. of 1		\$7.15	
OR36 2	Tadpole Size 2	Pkg. of 1		\$7.40	
CS BE	Coast Lock Snap	Pkg. of 1		\$0.40	
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC SINGLE DOWNRIGGER RELEASES					
OR4	Light Tension, White	Pkg. of 1		\$9.70	
OR1	Medium Tension, Black	Pkg. of 1		\$9.70	
OR8	Heavy Tension, Red	Pkg. of 1		\$13.65	
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC STACKER DOWNRIGGER RELEASES					
OR7	Light Tension, White	Pkg. of 1		\$15.80	
OR2	Medium Tension, Black	Pkg. of 1		\$15.80	
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC REPLACEMENT PADS					
ORRP8	Pads For OR1's, OR2's, OR3's, OR4's, OR7's, OR8's, OR17's, and OR30's	Pkg. of 8		\$3.50	
ORRP8SN	Pads For OR18's	Pkg. of 8		\$8.35	
ORRP16	Pads For OR10's, OR14's, and OR19's, Along With OR16's WITHOUT Pin Protruding Through The Center Of The Pad	Pkg. of 16		\$4.50	
ORRP16HL	Pads For OR16's WITH Pin Protruding Through The Center Of The Pad	Pkg. of 16		\$6.05	



Be prepared when you hit the water – purchase your Off Shore Tackle Company LLC products at your local dealer or send in your order today!

Prices in effect January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012



ORDER BLANK CONTINUED FROM PRIOR PAGE

MODEL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PACKAGE	NUMBER OF PKGS. ORDERING	PRICE	EXTENDED AMOUNT
OFF SHORE TACKLE COMPANY LLC PROMOTIONAL ITEMS					
DCLLG	8 1/2" x 11" Yellow Decal With Black Logo	Pkg. of 1		\$1.00	
PTCH	White Patch With Yellow and Black Logo <i>(Limited Inventory Available)</i>	Pkg. of 1		\$2.00	
HT	Yellow and Black Hat	Pkg. of 1		\$8.75	
LNVD	Lanyard With Line Clippers	Pkg. of 1		\$7.75	
TWL	Yellow Towel With Grommet and Hang Clip	Pkg. of 1		\$8.50	
PN	Yellow & Black Pen With Black Ink	Pkg. of 1		\$1.00	
FRSB	Yellow Frisbee With Black Print	Pkg. of 1		\$3.00	
CLR	Yellow Soft 6 Pack Cooler With Front Pocket and Black Silkscreen Logo	Pkg. of 1		\$5.00	
OYTSHRT	Yellow Short Sleeve T Shirt With Black Silkscreen Logo, 50/50 Blend, No Pocket	Adult Small	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Medium	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Large	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$11.00	
OATSHRT	Ash Short Sleeve T Shirt With Black Silkscreen Logo, 50/50 Blend, No Pocket	Adult Small	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Medium	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Large	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$9.00	
		Adult Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$11.00	
		Adult Extra, Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$12.00	
OASWSHRT	Ash Long Sleeve Sweatshirt With Black Silkscreen Logo, 50/50 Blend	Adult Small	Pkg. of 1	\$13.50	
		Adult Medium	Pkg. of 1	\$13.50	
		Adult Large	Pkg. of 1	\$13.50	
		Adult Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$13.50	
		Adult Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$16.00	
		Adult Extra, Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$19.50	
OBHWSHRT	Black Long Sleeve Hooded Sweatshirt With Silkscreen Logo On Front, and Silkscreen Web Address On Back, 50/50 Blend	Adult Small	Pkg. of 1	\$35.00	
		Adult Medium	Pkg. of 1	\$35.00	
		Adult Large	Pkg. of 1	\$35.00	
		Adult Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$35.00	
		Adult Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$38.50	
		Adult Extra, Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$40.00	
OYPOLO	Yellow & Black Polo Short Sleeve, 60/40 Blend	Adult Small	Pkg. of 1	\$23.00	
	With Black Embroidered Logo On Left Breast,	Adult Medium	Pkg. of 1	\$23.00	
	No Pocket	Adult Large	Pkg. of 1	\$23.00	
		Adult Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$23.00	
		Adult Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$26.00	
		Adult Extra, Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$29.00	
PRO	White, Gold, Grey & Black Short Sleeve Embroidered Custom Pro Shirt, No Pocket (Note this item has a 6-8 week delivery time)	Small	Pkg. of 1	\$200.00	
		Medium	Pkg. of 1	\$200.00	
		Large	Pkg. of 1	\$200.00	
	<i>Our PRO custom embroidered shirt is available in both Men's (M) and Women's (W) sizes.</i>	Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$200.00	
	<i>Please indicate quantity desired in the appropriate column.</i>	Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$200.00	
		Extra, Extra, Extra Large	Pkg. of 1	\$200.00	

Prices and packaging subject to change without notice.

NOTE:
Due to cotton shortage, prices and availability on our items containing cotton may change without notice, as supply is very limited.

*SHIPPING CHARGES WITHIN THE 48 MAINLAND UNITED STATES:	MERCHANDISE TOTAL	SHIPPING CHARGE
	\$0.00 - \$15.00	\$8.00
	\$15.01 - \$30.00	\$9.00
	\$30.01 - \$50.00	\$10.00
	\$50.01 - \$80.00	\$11.00
	\$80.01 - \$100.00	\$12.00
	\$100.01 - \$200.00	\$13.00
	\$200.01 - \$300.00	\$14.00
	\$300.01 - \$400.00	\$15.00
	\$400.01 - \$500.00	\$16.00
	Over \$500.00	FREE

Product Total _____
 *Shipping Charges _____
 Subtotal
 (Product Total Plus Shipping Charges) _____
 Michigan Residents, add 6% Sales Tax Based On Subtotal _____
 Total (Subtotal Plus Sales Tax) _____
 U. S. Funds Enclosed

*For orders being shipped outside of the 48 mainland United States, please call for shipping charges. Duties and taxes will be your responsibility. Send THIS completed order form, along with your U.S.P.S. money order, check, **(sorry, no out of country money orders or checks can be accepted)**, or COMPLETE credit card information to:

Off Shore Tackle Company LLC, P O Box 88, Port Austin, MI 48467-0088.

Orders will be released upon clearance of checks, please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. Credit card orders are normally shipped within 5 business days of receipt of order. Please check:

MAILING ADDRESS (Check here _____ if this is an address change): Name: _____ c/o: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____ - _____ E-Mail Address: _____	SHIP ORDER TO (Must have street address for UPS/FedEx delivery): Name: _____ c/o: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____ - _____ _____ _____ _____
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Please check: **Your mailing address MUST match the address that your credit card bill is mailed to – no exceptions.**

To charge your order on your MasterCard or Visa, enter your credit card number, expiration date, card ID number and sign below, or call 989-738-5600.

MasterCard **Number** _____ **Exp. Date:** _____ **ID Number:** _____
 Visa **Signature** _____
 (ID Number is located on the backside of your MasterCard or Visa after your credit card number [3 Digit Code]).

Riviera Product Showcase



Kachman Automatic Retrieval Reels With Collapsible Aluminum Mast, Base, Deck Plate and Four Hold Down Knobs (Shown right)

Unit Includes:

- Aluminum Pulley Brackets
- 7' Collapsible Aluminum Black Powder Coated Mast
- Nylon Mounting Bracket
- Kachman Automatic Retrieval Reels
- 150' Fluorescent Orange 200# Planer Line On Each Reel
- Multidirectional Pulleys
- Stainless Steel Guid Bushings
- Two OR10 Adjustable Light Tension Planer Board Releases

This Unit Is Available in Different Base Options

- **Model # DPMKA**
Has The Regular Base
- **Model # DPMKSA**
Has the Springfield Taper-Lock Seat Mount
- **Model # DPMKSLA**
Has The Springfield Spring-Lock Seat Mount
- **Model # DPMKSUA**
Has The Springfield Uni-Lock Seat Mount
- **Model # DPMKSZA**
Has The Attwood Swivl-Eze 2 3/8" Seat Mount

Aluminum Manual Retrieval Posi-Stop Reels, Collapsible Mast, Base, Deck Plate and Four Hold Down Knobs (Shown right)

Unit Includes:

- Aluminum Pulley brackets
- 7' Collapsible Aluminum Black Powder Coated Mast
- Nylon Mounting Bracket
- Aluminum Manual Posi-Stop Retrieval Reels
- 150' Fluorescent Orange 200# Planer Line On Each Reel
- Multidirectional Pulleys
- Stainless Steel Guide Bushings
- Two OR10 Adjustable Light Tension Planer Board Releases

This Unit Is Available in Different Base Options

- **Model # DPMPA**
Has The Regular Base
- **Model # DPMPSA**
Has The Springfield Taper-Lock Seat Mount
- **Model # DPMPSLA**
Has The Springfield Spring-Lock Seat Mount
- **Model # DPMPSUA**
Has The Springfield Uni-Lock Seat Mount
- **Model # DPMPsza**
Has The Attwood Swivl-Eze 2 3/8" Seat Mount



Base Options



Regular Base

Springfield Taper-Lock Seat Mount

Springfield Spring-Lock Seat Mount

Springfield Uni-Lock Seat Mount

Attwood Swivl-Eze 2 3/8" Seat Mount

Track Mount For RCPK And RCWIRE

Model # TM Track Mount

This 6" track permanently mounts to your, gunwale, hard top, fly bridge or radar arch of your boat. The RCPK or RCWIRE is mounted to the track's adapter and is easily put into use or removed.



Planer Board Rail Clamp Mounts

Model #RCPK Kachman Automatic Retrieval Reels With Rail Clamp Mount

Unit Includes:

- Kachman Automatic Retrieval Reels
- 150' Fluorescent Orange 200# Planer Line
- Aluminum Clamp Bracket That Fits 3/4" to 1 1/4" Rails



Model #RCPP Aluminum Manual Retrieval Posi-Stop Reels

Unit Includes:

- Aluminum Manual Retrieval Posi-Stop Reels
- 150' Fluorescent Orange 200# Planer Line
- Aluminum Clamp Bracket That Fits 7/8" to 1" Rails



Dual and Triple Planer Boards

Model # DPB Dual Planer Board—Collapsible For Easy Storage



Model # TPB Triple Planer Board—Collapsible For Easy Storage



The DPB's and TPB's are used in conjunction with a mast system. They are ballasted so the nose is slightly raised to cut through the waves easier and have a 3 position tow point to allow you to adapt to different water conditions instantly. To store, simply fold the outside board forward. Each board can be used on either port or starboard. A sample OR10 Adjustable Light Tension Planer Board Release comes with each DPB; a sample OR30 Heavy Tension Planer Board Release comes with each TPB.

Hand /Wire Line Reels



Model # RCWIRE Kachman Automatic Retrieval Hand Line Reel Kit

Unit Includes:

- Kachman Automatic Retrieval Reel
- 200' Coated 60# Wire With Snap Swivel Termination
- 5' Pro Shank
- Aluminum Clamp Bracket That Fits 3/4"-1 1/4" Rails
- Tempress Rod Holder Adapter Replacement Parts Available

Model # WGHT 1 1/4 Pound Weight

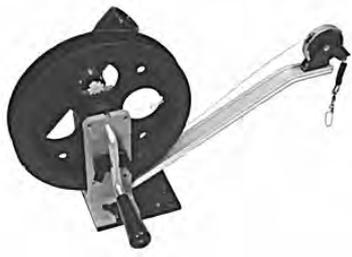
Model # SHNK 5' Pro Shank

For more information
call (989) 738-5700.
www.rivieratrolling.com

Riviera Product Showcase



Manual Downriggers



Model # 300-15

Unit Includes:

- 15" Flat Arm
- 200' Of 150# Stainless Steel Wire
- Re-termination Snap Swivel Assembly
- Deck Mounting Plate
- Two Hold Down Knobs
- Gear Driven Depth Meter
- Safety Clutch
- Rod Holder
- Off Shore Downrigger Release



Model # 500

Unit Includes:

- 200' Of 150# Stainless Steel Wire
- Re-termination Snap Swivel Assembly
- Deck Mounting Plate
- Two Hold Down Knobs
- Gear Driven Depth Meter
- Safety Clutch
- Rod Holder
- Off Shore Downrigger Release

This Unit Is Available in Three Different Arm Lengths

Model # 500-18

Comes With An 18" Arm (Shown above)

Model # 500-30

Comes With A 30" Arm

Model # 500-48

Comes With A 48" Arm



Model # 700

Unit Includes:

- 200' Of 150# Stainless Steel Wire
- Re-termination Snap Swivel Assembly
- Deck Mounting Plate
- Swivel Base
- Four Hold Down Knobs
- Gear Driven Depth Meter
- Safety Clutch
- Dual Rod Holders
- Off Shore Downrigger Release

This Unit Is Available in Three Different Arm Lengths

Model # 700-24

Comes With A 24" Arm (Shown above)

Model # 700-48

Comes With A 48" Arm

Model # 700-72

Comes With A 72" Arm

For more information

call (989) 738-5700.

www.rivieratrolling.com

TADPOLE TIPS

BY DARRELL WOOD,
Pro Staffer

The new Off Shore Tackle OR36 1 and OR36 2 Tadpoles are an excellent choice for depth control fishing. The tadpole diver holds a depth well even in rough water, unlike other trolling weights that rise and fall in the water column dramatically as trolling speed fluctuates.

To get a little more depth, try adding one, two or three colors of lead core line to your trolling reels. Rig a short leader on the lead core and attach to the tadpole. Each color (approximately 33 feet) will add about six to eight feet of additional depth.

Another option is to fish with a super thin diameter braided line that has less friction and allows the tadpole to dive deeper. When using lead core or braid line, remember to lighten your drag to avoid putting too much pressure on hooked fish.

The tadpole produces best when combined with the OR12 Side Planer. Let the Tadpole take care of depth and the Side Planer help with covering more water. Together the Tadpole and Side Planer catch more fish, period.

SIDE PLANER READING TIPS

BY TERRY KUNNEN,
TKO Charters, www.tkocharters.com

When fishing harder pulling crankbaits and/or heavy the OR20 series Pro Guppy Weights behind Off Shore Tackle OR12 Side Planer boards, pay special attention to the nose of the planer board. Hooking larger fish is usually easy to recognize as the board quickly falls out of sequence; but what about smaller fish and weeds that can often take your bait out of play?

When smaller fish are hooked or weeds foul on the lure, the board telegraphs what's going on if you know the subtle clues to look for.

Pay special attention to the nose of the board. When running clean, the nose of the board is tilted slightly upward (AKA nose high). A small fish or fouled debris on the line will cause the nose of the board to tilt upward even more or sometimes the nose of the board jumps a couple times from the struggling fish.

Paying attention to the little details while board trolling will keep your baits running clean and in the game.

OR19 STACKERS

BY CAPTAIN JERRY LEE

I use an OR19 release for rigging stackers when I'm fishing attractors or rotators on my main downrigger lines. Take a six foot length of 20 to 25 pound test fluorocarbon line and slide it through the brass rivet/eyelet in the OR19 release. Next, tie a snap swivel on both ends of the line and attach a favorite spoon on one of the snap swivels.

Set the rotator or attractor behind the boat and place the line into the downrigger release. Lower the rigger 5 to 50 feet deep and then take the OR19 release and clip it onto the main line. Clip the snap swivel over the main line as well and toss the spoon over the side. Finish lowering the downrigger to the desired fishing depth.

The OR19 has enough resistance that it takes a pretty big fish to pull it all the way to the downrigger weight. Often I land these fish with the OR19 positioned part way between where I rigged it and the downrigger weight!

If you have a fish on the main line attractor, simply unsnap the OR19 and let it slide down to the fish. This is a slick system that puts lots of bonus fish in the boat for me every season.

PRO GUPPY WEIGHTS

BY RYAN BUDDIE

I love the Off Shore Pro Guppy Weights because of their versatility. Increases in speed, turns, and wave surges all make weights rise and fall in the water column, hence making your bait rise and fall.

In cooler water or on rough days, walleye tend to want steady moving baits with less vertical rise and fall. To accommodate in this situation, let out 30 to 60 feet of line, snap an OR16 Pro Snap Weight Clip on with a Pro Guppy Weight, then let out enough line to reach the desired depth. The increased horizontal distance between the rod tip and the bait will result in less vertical rise and fall. This can be key on days when it seems to be a tough bite or just after a cold front.

On the other hand, in warmer water and on calm days, walleye tend to want bait rising and falling in the water column. In this case, place the Pro Guppy Weight right to end of your line, with a 4 to 8' leader behind it to your bait. Now your bait is moving up and down almost directly with the pattern of your weight. Increases in speed and turns will extenuate this even more and can be the key to a great day of walleye fishing. If you want to carry just one box of weights, the OR20 Pro Weight system can do it all.

Be prepared when you hit the water – purchase your Riviera Trolling Systems products at your local dealer or send in your order today!

Prices in effect January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012



Order Blank

MODEL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PACKAGE	NUMBER OF PKGS. ORDERING	PRICE	EXTENDED AMOUNT
RIVIERA DUAL PLANER BOARD MASTS					
DPMKA	7' Collapsible Aluminum Black Powder Coated Mast With Kachman Automatic Retrieval Reels With Regular Base	Pkg. of 1		\$389.00	
DPMKSA	Fits With Springfield Taper-Lock Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$389.00	
DPMKSLA	Fits With Springfield Spring-Lock Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$389.00	
DPMKSUA	Fits With Springfield Uni-Lock Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$389.00	
DPMKSZA	Fits With Attwood Swivl-Eze 2-3/8" Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$389.00	
DPMPA	7' Collapsible Aluminum Black Powder Coated Mast With Manual Posi-Stop Reels With Regular Base	Pkg. of 1		\$279.00	
DPMPSA	Fits With Springfield Taper-Lock Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$279.00	
DPMPSLA	Fits With Springfield Spring-Lock Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$279.00	
DPMP SUA	Fits With Springfield Uni-Lock Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$279.00	
DPMP SZA	Fits With Attwood Swivl-Eze 2-3/8" Seat Mount	Pkg. of 1		\$279.00	
RIVIERA TRACK MOUNT					
TM	Track Mount For RCPK or RCWIRE	Pkg. of 1		\$49.00	
RIVIERA PLANER BOARD RAIL CLAMP MOUNTS					
RCPK	Kachman Automatic Retrieval Rail Clamp	Pkg. of 1		\$159.00	
RCP	Manual Retrieval Rail Clamp With Aluminum Black Powder Coated Posi-Stop Reels	Pkg. of 1		\$89.00	
RIVIERA DUAL AND TRIPLE PLANER BOARDS					
DPB	Dual Planer Board - Collapsible For Easy Storage	Pkg. of 1		\$72.00	
TPB	Triple Planer Board - Collapsible For Easy Storage	Pkg. of 1		\$95.00	
RIVIERA HAND LINE REELS					
RCWIRE	Kachman Automatic Hand Line Reel With Rail Clamp Mount, Wire, Weight, Shank, and Rod Holder Adapter	Pkg. of 1		\$189.00	
WGHT	1 1/4 Pound Weight	Pkg. of 1		\$5.00	
SHNK	5' Pro Shank	Pkg. of 1		\$4.00	
RIVIERA MANUAL RETRIEVAL DOWNRIGGERS					
300-15	Model 300 With 15" Arm	Pkg. of 1		\$175.00	
500-18	Model 500 With 18" Arm	Pkg. of 1		\$190.00	
500-30	Model 500 With 30" Arm	Pkg. of 1		\$200.00	
500-48	Model 500 With 48" Arm	Pkg. of 1		\$210.00	
700-24	Model 700 With 24" Arm ANGLERS PAC	Pkg. of 1		\$285.00	
700-48	Model 700 With 48" Arm ANGLERS PAC	Pkg. of 1		\$290.00	
700-72	Model 700 With 72" Arm ANGLERS PAC	Pkg. of 1		\$295.00	

*SHIPPING CHARGES	MERCHANDISE TOTAL	SHIPPING CHARGE
WITHIN THE 48 MAINLAND UNITED STATES:	\$0.00 - \$15.00	\$8.00
	\$15.01 - \$30.00	\$9.00
	\$30.01 - \$50.00	\$10.00
	\$50.01 - \$80.00	\$11.00
	\$80.01 - \$100.00	\$12.00
	\$100.01 - \$200.00	\$13.00
	\$200.01 - \$300.00	\$14.00
	\$300.01 - \$400.00	\$15.00
	\$400.01 - \$500.00	\$16.00
	Over \$500.00	FREE

Product Total _____
 *Shipping Charges _____
 Subtotal (Product Total Plus Shipping Charges) _____
 Michigan Residents, add 6% Sales Tax Based On Subtotal _____
 Total (Subtotal Plus Sales Tax) U. S. Funds Enclosed

*For orders being shipped outside of the 48 mainland United States, please call for shipping charges. Duties and taxes will be your responsibility. Send THIS completed order form, along with your U.S.P.S. money order, check, (sorry, no out of country money orders or checks can be accepted), or COMPLETE credit card information to:

Riviera Trolling Systems Incorporated, P.O. Box 507, Port Austin, MI 48467-0507.

Orders will be released upon clearance of checks, please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. Credit card orders are normally shipped within 5 business days of receipt of order.

MAILING ADDRESS (Check here _____ if this is an address change): SHIP ORDER TO (Must have street address for UPS/FedEx delivery): Please check:

Name: _____ Name: _____ Residence

c/o: _____ c/o: _____ Work

Address: _____ Address: _____ Other

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ - _____ Telephone: (_____) _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Please check: **Your mailing address MUST match the address that your credit card bill is mailed to – no exceptions.**

American Express To charge your order on your American Express, Discover, MasterCard or Visa, enter your credit card number, expiration date, card ID number and sign below, or call 989-738-5700.

Discover

MasterCard Number _____ Exp. Date: _____ ID Number: _____

Visa Signature _____

(ID Number is located on the backside of your Discover, MasterCard or Visa after your credit card number [3 Digit Code]; on American Express it is located on the front of your card usually to the upper right of your card number [4 Digit Code]).

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS, BRUCE DESHANO

This is our 19th edition of the Off Shore Release and we are trying to make this one even better than the last one. The Tips, Tricks and Techniques format was well received last year, and we are using much of the same ideas this year. If you have any tips, please let us know at OTCPRODUCTS@YAHOO.COM. We are always amazed at the great ideas from the anglers.

Weather across the nation this spring cost a lot of us fishing time and more. I hope we have a normal year in 2012 and everyone can make up for the lost fishing trips from 2011. It seemed like once the weather settled out, the fish were there and ready to bite. Tournaments had good participation and a lot of fish were caught. FLW, AIM, MWC and many local circuits had a lot of fun with a mixture of the seasoned anglers and some new and surprising faces showing up. There will be a lot of TV coverage this year on fishing programs with Off Shore products being used in almost every tournament.

FLW at Oconto, on Green Bay was won by Stephen Paulson, using Pro Guppy Weights to search the water column instead of in line weights that target a specific depth. Good call since the fish were moving up and down. Tom Keenan,

FLW Angler of the Year! Awesome job Tom and well deserved. AIM had Off Shore anglers such as Chad Shilling, Tom Kemos, Brett King and Robert Lampman winning in this unique Catch Record and Release format. Chase Parsons beat out his uncle and his dad at Oahe, trolling boards over treetops. This is a technique I used many years ago on that lake and I see it still works! It is interesting to be able to watch these events live while the anglers are going across the stage and even ride along with them on the final day of the tournament, Thanks FLW, AIM, WalleyeCentral.com and Walleyesefirst.com for this coverage.

However, the highlight of the year has nothing to do with fishing. My son, Nick, and his wife, Renee, blessed me with a grandson, Ari Nicholas DeShano, a future angler. This was the greatest event of 2011 and I am looking forward to taking him fishing and hunting in the future.

To all of the anglers on our promotional programs, the weekend anglers and the new anglers reading the Off Shore Release for the first time, thank you for your support in the past and looking forward to it in the future!



Meet the Chairman and Vice Chairman Of The Boards, Bruce and Nick DeShano.

NOTES FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS, NICK DESHANO

Lake Huron in Michigan is making a comeback!

Lake Huron is near and dear to me. It's where I caught my first fish. It's where I got my first job, as First Mate on my dad's charter boat. Today, it's where I still live and work, and yes, fish.

I've seen many changes, from "salmon fever" in the late 70's into the 80's and the world class lake trout fishery from the early 90's until today. We've seen our share of invasive species brought in by the ocean freighters, sea lampreys, freshwater shrimp, zebra mussels, and gobies, just to name a few. Couple all of those with that of extremely cold winters, the lake has taken a beating in the last decade. Things were looking pretty grim. Today, however, I see a different future for Lake Huron. Thanks to dedicated anglers, especially the Michigan Steelheaders, who refuse to take "no" for an answer from our legislators, Lake Huron is definitely making a comeback!

Along with Off Shore Tackle LLC, I also own Off Shore Marina in Harbor Beach,

Michigan. This spring, we had the best salmon fishing we've had in years, with nice, healthy looking fish. The steelhead are coming on strong as we have seen from some of the Harbor Beach reports. Harbor Beach is not alone. Ports all along Lake Huron have been reporting the same good catches. It looks like we're finally getting some help from the feds and DNR with steelhead stocking, and things are looking positive for herring and atlantic salmon. I am very excited about the steelhead fishery for the next few years! The Thumb Chapter of the Michigan Steelheaders net pen project just started a couple years ago and the biologists have been very pleased with the results so far. I don't see any reason not to have a good fishery. The smelt population is getting better and better, there are plenty of bugs, and the emerald shiners have been very good as well.

I think we all need to have a little patience, and with the cooperation from the DNR and Fish & Wildlife, I see good things for Lake Huron as a whole.

COMPANY MISSION STATEMENT

Our company's foundation is based on presenting products to the consumer that result in a more productive fishing experience by using the best materials available that are as eco friendly as possible. We have always set our standard's high for our consumers to have the best results. Our products are "Often Imitated but Never Duplicated." This is why Off Shore Tackle Company LLC remains, "Your Leader in Trolling Technology."

ABOUT THE EDITOR AND HOST OF FISHING 411 TV

Our editor remains active in many projects! It's hard to believe that five years has already passed since Mark Romanack and crew jumped into outdoor television with both feet. Title sponsor, Off Shore Tackle, has been instrumental in helping this new TV series grow rapidly from just eight million homes in 2007 to over 26 million homes in 2012! Season five of the Fishing 411 TV series will begin broadcasting in January 2012 and shows will run through-out quarter one and repeat in quarter two. January thru June anglers can tune into Fishing 411 for tips and techniques that are designed to help anglers become more successful on the water.

Highlights of the 2012 season include a killer salmon show out of southern Lake Michigan for spring kings, a lake trout adventure to Stannard Rock in Lake Superior, red hot coho action out of Benton Harbor, Michigan, small-mouth on Grand Traverse Bay and much much more.

After each episode broadcasts on national television, shows are loaded to the www.fishing411.net site so anglers can watch them at their convenience. Fishing 411 also maintains a very active Facebook site that provides anglers with additional fishing tips, photography, bonus video and encouragement to get out and wet a line. Be sure to make contact with Mark and his staff on Facebook. See you on the water!



Stannard Rock in Lake Superior is just one of the many exciting destinations featured on Fishing 411 in 2012 with our Editor and Fishing 411 host, Mark Romanack.

WORD SEARCH ANSWERS

S	R	N	N	R	I	G	A	P	I	L	H	D	P	E	N	E	E	I	E	R	E
P	L	E	A	E	M	S	N	T	G	C	O	O	S	D	O	H	F	P	V	A	N
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R	L	S	E	G	I	I	O	K	A	F	P	O	P	E	F	I	R	N	R	S	G
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DUAL OR TRIPLE PLANER BOARDS

BY LARRY HARTWICK

Planer board mast systems are fish harvesting systems. For walleye, trout, salmon and a host of other species it's hard to beat the fish catching powers of a good mast system and planer board outfit.

Riviera produces two collapsible planer boards including the Dual (DPB) and Triple (TPB) Planer Boards. Choosing the board that's right for you depends on the types of fishing an angler most often participates in.

The Dual Planer Board is ideal for the angler who targets mostly walleye and other smaller fish species. The Dual Planer Board runs beautiful out to about 80 feet to the side of the boat and will handle all the common lures and rigs routinely trolled for walleye, pike, in land lake trout, kokanee salmon, etc.

The Triple Planer Board is designed for anglers who fish in rough water or who pull deep diving lures and/or large lures. Muskie guys favor the Triple Planer Board because they are often pulling very large lures that have a lot of resistance in the water. The same is true of Great Lakes salmon and trout anglers who often troll lead core line, copper rigs, wire line set ups and other hard pulling gear.

Both the Dual and Triple Planer Boards are collapsible so they fold to store neatly and easily between trips. Both boards also feature an adjustable tow arm attachments that allow anglers to fine tune how the board runs based on wave conditions, trolling speed and how many lines are fished on the board. Either the DPB or TPB perform the best when used with the 7 foot collapsible Riviera Planer Masts. The additional height is critical in keeping the tow line out of the water and allowing the planer boards to perform to their full potential.

WE COVER ALL DEPTHS

OR12L, OR12R SIDE PLANER

Built to handle rough water, these boards can carry deep-diving cranks further to the side than other boards and they won't roll or dive. Whether you're pulling copper wire, deep diving cranks, or anything in between, the OR12 is the most versatile board on the market.



OFF SHORE'S RELEASE SYSTEM IS ADJUSTABLE AND EASY TO ATTACH AND REMOVE FROM THE LINE.

OR34 MINI PLANER BOARD

Our double agent—works for both sides! This smaller cousin of Off Shore's OR12 is perfect for pulling smaller cranks, spoons and spinners away from the boat. *And it's reversible!*



SWAP RELEASE ARM FOR LEFT OR RIGHT PRESENTATION!



OR20 SERIES GUPPY WEIGHTS

Environmentally friendly Guppy Weights are perfect for snap and in line applications and are available in 1/2, 3/4, 1, 1 1/2, 2 & 3 oz. sizes.



SNAP WEIGHT



IN LINE WEIGHT

OR36 SERIES TADPOLE WEIGHTS

Environmentally friendly Tadpole Weights are the ultimate resettable in line diving weights.

LINE TO ROD



LINE TO LURE

WHEN A FISH BITES, THE FRONT SNAP SLIDES DOWN WHILE FIGHTING THE FISH!

COMES RIGGED WITH TWO COAST LOCK SNAPS



SCAN. TROLL. CATCH FISH.



"Your Leader In Trolling Technology"

www.offshoretackle.com