



Capt. Dave Sutton

## WATER TEST

I have been using the new Power-Pole for more than four months.

I have it mounted on a stainless bracket so as not to be drilling holes in my new boat, just to the starboard of my engine. I run a Mako Inshore series 2000, a 20-foot flats skiff that draws less than ten inches and a hull weight of just over 1,050 pounds and I have to tell you, I didn't think this rig would stop me in a 20-knot wind, but it does.

The weight of the whole system is 54 pounds with the stainless bracket and runs on a Bennett trim tab hydraulic unit. It is almost silent during operation, goes from top to fully extended in less than 10 seconds and has a definite place in the larger flats boat market.

The greatest advantage is that the pivot point is so close to the transom that your bow doesn't swing around like when you stick a poling pole. I have two switches mounted, one on the poling tower and one on the console.

When bonefishing, you sometimes have only seconds to position yourself for the shot, but if you see a tailer or an oncoming school of fish, you can drop the Power-Pole and still have your poling pole ready to swing the bow for the optimum angle. This is a real advantage when flyfishing with the wind up a little; you know, like all winter. Fishing Flamingo with the Power-Pole is the best!

Soft mud makes for a silent stop for that cast at a pothole or a tailing red on the flats. The smaller diameter spike is also less intrusive on the grasses and will also stop you on hard coral like we have on the outside Elliot Key flats.

I can tell you it has enabled me to catch quite a few fish that I would have missed without it. Come on out for a day on the bay and I will demonstrate the Power-Pole for you.

You can check out this new product and get specks on their web site at <http://www.power-pole.com>

### GRASSHOPPER LURES

I have been lucky enough to be allowed to give a few suggestions on the design of this new jig that is being made right here in Homestead.

The designer, Dave Keiser, couldn't find a weedless jig or the right style jig head to drag through the grasses of Flamingo and Biscayne Bay without becoming snagged up or fouled right away, so he made his own.

Keiser is the first to use more detailed fly-tying methods, rather than just bucktail and a feather, and a new style of jig head as well. He has added chenille and crystal flash and what a difference!

found on my jigs and the results have proved to me it is definitely worth it," says Keiser. "Top grade hooks, powder coated jig heads and genuine Whiting hackles are just some of the materials that make these lures stand out from all the rest."

I say that's what makes a Grasshopper the best jig on the market. I have been fishing these jigs for almost a year know and have found them to slay the redfish, snook and trout of Florida Bay. I have caught more than 20 bonefish using the Grasshopper.

This jig is responsible for two of my anglers winning Top Female Angler (Julie Sutton) and Top Junior Angler (Andy Rodriguez) and winning the Top Guide Award during the "A Day on the Bay" tournament sponsored by the South Florida chapter of the FNGA this year.

Go to your favorite tackle shop and ask for the Grasshopper. If they don't have it, ask them to get some. You can buy direct if you prefer, just call Grasshopper Lure Co. at 305-245-1744 and ask for Dave. You won't believe the difference.

### LEGAL POLAR BEAR FUR

All of you fly tiers out there have been looking for a product that has the qualities of polar bear fur but just can't seem to get it just right? Well, you don't have to look any more; the real thing is here and can be found at Biscayne Bay Fly Shop.

On my last trip to the I-Cast tackle retailer's show in July in Las Vegas, I met an Eskimo. He has permits to sell authentic polar bear fur and I said I would try it. Well, I'm here to tell you this stuff is bonefish and tarpon candy.

The properties of the fur are outstanding for light refraction and buoyancy. This stuff makes great crabs, bonefish critters, clowers and Crazy Charlies or use it on whatever your favorite patterns may be. But you need to try this fur. It comes in five subtle colors and lengths up to eight inches for you offshore guys.

My tarpon flies this year will be almost all polar bear fur from the response I have been getting from the juveniles and the bonefish have been eating them up. So give Franco a call and check out some of this newly available fur before it's all gone.

Look for my next Water Test "Kick Boating the Everglades" when I will give you a hint of a great new way to fish those little ponds and canals, as well as the back bays of Flamingo. I'll also tell you about Cortland's new "555" fly line and the Old Florida Reel Company's new saltwater pliers.

Until then, tight lines and quick releases.

*Capt. Dave Sutton is a Met Registered, IGFA Certified Captain, and a G.Loomis Endorsed Guide fishing Biscayne Bay, The Upper Keys and the Everglades National Park. Capt. Dave would like to hear your fishing stories and reports for use on his website and in print. Call him at 305-248-6126, address email to [djsutton@bellsouth.net](mailto:djsutton@bellsouth.net) or visit him on the*

# ideal for large a

BY LEE STEPHENS

With boats and ocean-going vessels getting larger and more powerful, the need for rapid fire-suppression systems is also growing.

To help yacht and shipbuilders, owners and offshore personnel be prepared for fire emergencies, Sea-Fire Marine now offers its new H-Series engineered marine fire suppression systems with FM-200 extinguishing agent.

H-Series engineered systems are designed for large craft, including pleasure boats, megayachts, transport vessels, work boats and even offshore platforms. These systems provide fast, economical solutions for protecting complex engine and generator compartments, bilges, communication centers, machinery spaces, paint lockers and electrical areas. The H-Series FM-200 systems are also engineered to achieve maximum extinguishing agent concentration in 10 seconds or less, with no residue cleanup required.

The elements of H-Series engineered systems, such as modular use of cylinders and stackable valve components, can be configured to accommodate spaces ranging from 1,500 cubic feet to 17,500 cubic feet. The systems are easy to assemble and service, requiring few if any replacement parts when they need to be recharged. Mechanical valve assemblies are made from corrosion-resistant brass. And FM-200 extinguishing agent is ideal for use in compartments that contain sensitive electronic equipment or where people are present.

Sea-Fire Marine has over 25 years of experience in the development of fire suppression systems for pleasure craft. The



H-Series engineered pleasure boats, megayachts, offshore platforms

- CRUISAIR
- MARINE AIR
- SUB-ZERO
- NORCOLD

