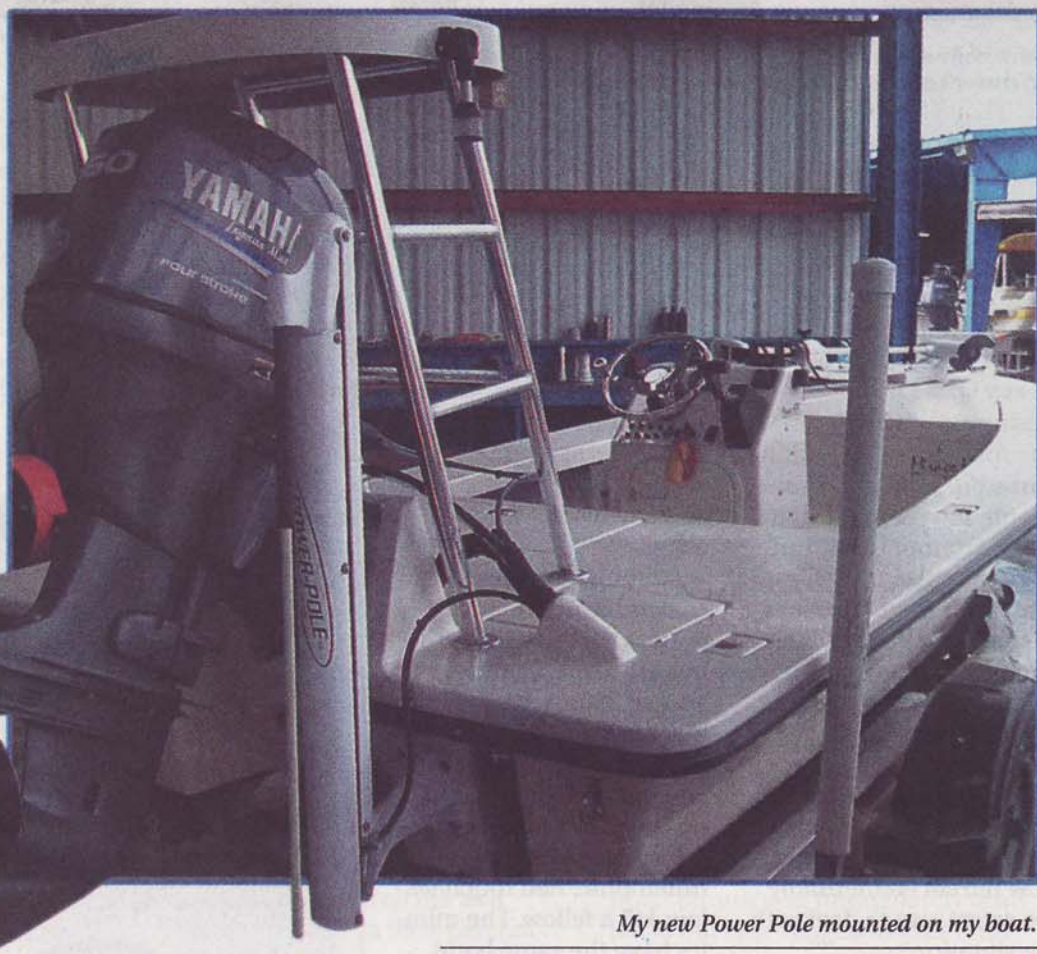


Setting up to take the shot

Maybe it was the two redfish that cruised right by the boat on Tiger Shoals in the Mosquito Lagoon. It didn't help that the wind was blowing 20 knots out of the northwest, but that was just one of many isolated instances when we were not able to get an efficient cast or good shot at a moving fish. I have had similar situations in Pine Island Sound. I am specifically referring to the ability to stop the boat in time to present a bait as technically sound as possible. For example, in the Mosquito Lagoon, the wind was pushing the boat so quickly, that by the time we saw fish, there was no way we were going to be able to stop before we would roll right over top of them. As hard as I tried from the poling platform with my push pole, the strong breeze was just too overwhelming, and there was just no way I could have got down on the deck in time to stake out



My new Power Pole mounted on my boat.

with my Cajun anchor. If we could have stopped the boat quickly, we would have gotten more than one good shot. This ability is particularly important when throwing artificial baits.

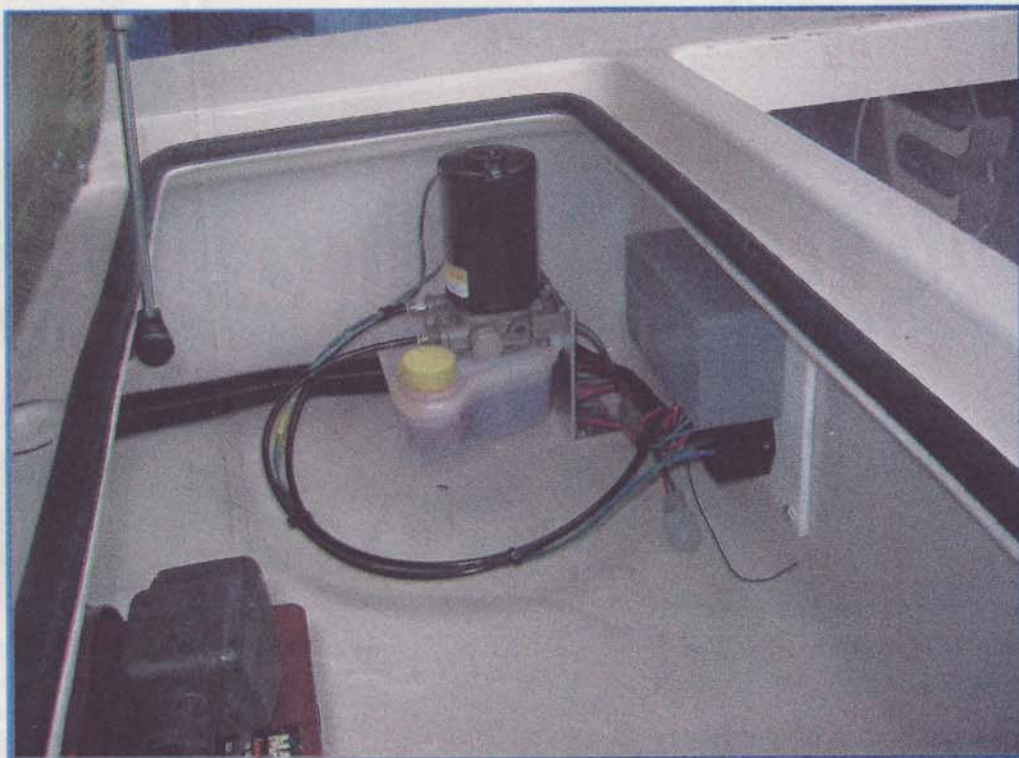
I consider myself a traditionalist when it comes to setting up my skiff; and if you remember, it took

me a while before I finally broke down and installed a trolling motor. In a perfect world, if I were not running the outboard, then I would completely work my boat from the poling platform with the help of my push pole. However fishing and, most importantly weather,

isn't always that simple, particularly in such a diverse place as Charlotte Harbor, so I have had to adjust in order to make it work. All this trial and error has led me to finally break down and have a power pole installed on my skiff. I have had the good fortune to spend

some time fishing on a boat that utilizes this shallow water anchor system and I can tell you it will definitely spoil you.

If you use it in conjunction with the remote control feature, it really helps position the boat at a seconds notice, putting you in position to take a shot. The power pole unit comes with a switch, usually installed on the console, that will deploy and raise the anchor. You can also order two remote control units that are key-chain-sized and will operate the system. With these, I have control from anywhere on the boat. Think of the possibilities: anchoring from either the poling platform or the front of the boat while operating the trolling motor. The power pole will stop your boat efficiently and in addition to helping setting up a good



The pump and electronic components take up very little space.

Think of the possibilities: anchoring from either the poling platform or the front of the boat while operating the trolling motor.

cast, you can use it to simply anchor the boat for any old reason or even for when you get a fish on and don't want to drift out

of the spot where you hooked up. In our case, both anglers have a

remote and as soon as one angler is hooked up, the other angler stops the boat until the fish is safely released. To help stop the

boat as quickly as possible when we are on the trolling motor, a drift or navigating with the push pole, we like to leave the end of the pole down far enough so it sits just on top of the water. This will literally stop you on a dime.

The pole will work in water up to six feet deep and there is now a newer model that will even work in up to eight feet of water. The system is pow-

ered by a small motor and there is a pump that works in conjunction with the remote. The techs at Ingman Marine installed my unit and worked with me to make sure I understood to the best of my ability how all the parts worked together. Life on my poling platform just got a lot easier and I can't wait to run into those two big reds again. 

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