



**Gulf Fisheries  
Symposium  
Recap**

*The Art of Ocean Conservation*  
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# GUY HARVEY

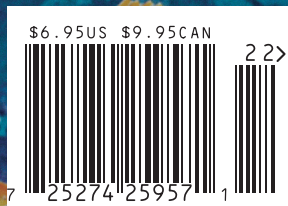
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## Battle in Boca Grande

Pressure mounts over  
tarpon fishing tactics

## Gulf Coast Billfish Classic

Biloxi's sure-bet  
tournament



**COMPLETE ANGLER:** Light Tackle Ethics,  
Ultimate Chill Chests, Jamie Walker

# BAHAMAS TRIPLE PLAY

BY CAPT. NED STONE

## Three new Guy Harvey Outpost properties offer the best of the Northern Bahamas and the heart of conservation.

Deep blue or aquamarine? Marlin or bonefish? Dive with sharks or snorkel for conch? Whatever your taste for enjoying the water, there are three new Guy Harvey Outpost Expedition properties in the Northern Bahamas that embody Guy Harvey's lifestyle with amazing fishing, diving, dining and maybe even a cold beverage or two. Best of all, each one is committed to Dr. Harvey's conservation mantra, so visitors can get the ultimate out-island adventure while conserving the natural surroundings for a healthy, sustainable future.

From the hustle and bustle of the Freeport to the sleepy fishing village at Sandy Point on the southern end of Great Abaco, the islands of the Northern Bahamas showcase the best of the Bahamas out-island lifestyle. West End is just 55 nautical miles and one Gulfstream crossing from Palm Beach, Florida. From there, Grand Bahama and the sprawling chain of islands, cays, and inlets stretch east for a hundred miles with mythical bonefish marls, pristine reefs and deep, blue water canyons—all home to one of the healthiest, most diverse fisheries in the world.

It's why Guy Harvey's Outpost resorts have landed on three of the best beaches in this island chain. In West End, Old Bahama Bay Yacht Harbour and Resort is now a member of the Guy Harvey family. On Green Turtle Cay in the Abacos, the famed Green Turtle Club has also joined with Guy, along with Black Fly Bonefish Lodge at Schooner Bay on the southern shore of Great Abaco. Each property offers a different experience, but all with Dr. Guy Harvey's mission at its core—to seek out stunning destinations, promote sustainability of marine resources, and enjoy world-class, environmentally responsible recreation. (Hint: that means fishing and scuba diving.)

Vacationing at a Guy Harvey resort is not just about digging into another

pretty beach and ripping into another rum punch (not that there's anything wrong with that). It's also about absorbing the experience through the lens of sustainability so you can travel with a clear conscience that the reefs and fish we love to catch will remain healthy for generations.

### Old Bahama Bay

Old Bahama Bay Yacht Harbour and Resort is located on the grounds of what once was the largest and most cosmopolitan resort in all of the Bahamas, Jack Tar Village. It was developed by Don Sammons, a Texan with a love of all things large. It included a half-million-gallon, saltwater swimming pool (the largest in the Bahamas at the time of its construction), 350 rooms, nine holes of golf, 16 tennis courts and a shopping mall. West End was the darling of the Bahamas resort scene for three decades, but was redeveloped in 2001 and has become a leaner, greener destination.

Today, it's a picturesque, luxury resort with 75 colorful, beachfront suites alongside a mega-yacht marina basin. Still luxurious, every suite is fully appointed with custom designed, plantation-style furnishings. The improved "shark free" marina includes 72 slips and the best in service, including on-site customs and immigration, making this the preferred point-of-entry for most mariners transiting into the Bahamas from the U.S. mainland. The marina is also one of the few in the Bahamas equipped with nighttime navigational aids. It also has been recognized with the prestigious Blue Flag award for its exceptional environmental conservation and awareness programs.

The resort offers access to world class bone fish flats and offshore walls that hold record marlin, tuna and wahoo. The flats run the entire north shore of



Top: Looking east the Old Bahama Bay villas nestled along the white sugar sand beach overlooking the Little Bahama Bank. Above: The Green Turtle Club overlooks the tranquil harbour of White Sound.

Grand Bahama Island, with miles of opportunity for hooking up double digit bonefish. West End is home to several of the island's top bonefish guides, as fishing is West End's heritage. There are always spots to be found where the sun and wind is at your back! Offshore, the action can be red hot. The West End of Grand Bahama is home for the big game pelagic, here at the confluence of the Gulfstream and the Northwest Providence Channel. With Grand Bahama on the north, and the Bimini bank on its south, the "Channel" is a funnel for bait fish and their predators. When the cooler weather brings the north winds and its white capped mountains in the steam, trolling the drop on the lee side of Grand Bahama in the Northwest Channel for wahoo is, as the old fishing saying goes, "like shooting fish in a barrel." It's a big barrel with some really big wahoo!

### Green Turtle Club

If you're traveling by boat (and after all, isn't that the only way?) from West End to the Abacos, your ride across the bank takes you past mostly hardscrabble, iron-shore outcroppings. Slowly, your easterly course turns south into the Sea of Abaco, and on to Green Turtle, the first settlement of the popular Abaco Islands. Some 100 nautical miles east of Old Bahama Bay lies the Green Turtle Club, tucked into the northern shoreline of Green Turtle Cay's White Sound.

Rich in history, New Plymouth is the only settlement on Green Turtle dating to Revolutionary War times, when Colonial loyalists took refuge here. With faded pastel clapboard cottages and white picket fences, the town is reminiscent of a colonial New England fishing village, and of another seafaring town, Key West. As its official sister city, the so-called "conchs" of Key West can trace their roots to New Plymouth, when many of the cay's residents emigrated in the 1830s after devastating hurricanes. Left behind is a quiet island, three miles long with some 450 residents, one of whom is the famed Bahamian painter Alton Lowe who has helped foster annual "twin cities" celebrations.

Like much of the Abaco's heritage, the



venerable Green Turtle Club began as a boat house, later acquired by the famous British boat designer Allan Charlesworth who transformed it into a bar for traveling yachtsmen. Hanging dollar bills on the wall to treat subsequent travelers to a drink became a tradition that continues today, surely making it one of the most valuable (and popular) bar establishments in the out-islands! Few visitors to the Abacos miss an opportunity to visit the cozy bar and imbibe a Tippy Turtle, the club's signature libation.

Over the years, the bar became the center of social activity for the cay. First came the marina, and then the clubhouse, followed by guest cottages sprinkled around the harbor front. Today, the Club has more than 30 rooms and cottages. If you don't arrive in your private yacht, you can also get there by ferry where you'll be met by the Green Turtle's dock staff and hospitality team.

Owners Adam Showell and his sister Ann have plans to deepen the channel entrance to accommodate the increasing number of larger sportfish and cruising motor yachts. This past spring marked the 25th anniversary of the Green Turtle Club billfish tournament. With the new channel complete, the Guy Harvey Outpost Billfish Invitational will be relocating to Green Turtle April 29–May 2, 2013, to fish the fertile blue marlin grounds just offshore, creating a series of events showcasing sportsmanship and conservation.

*Top: End of the day and the fleet is in at Old Bahama Bay; telling tales of the day's fishing. Right: Black Fly's Paul Pinder, an Abaco native has been guide to a veritable "Who's who," of the flats world. Photo: Pat Ford.*

The Green Turtle Club also has been at the forefront of efforts to eradicate the Pacific lionfish, supporting famed Bahamian scuba diver Brendal Stevens and his wife Mary in hosting the first Lionfish Derby in 2008. As an outspoken advocate for controlling this invasive species, Dr. Harvey and his Outpost team are bringing added support to the popular derby event, in addition to establishing other research and marine education programs that will help protect the world-renown reefs that surround Green Turtle and the Abaco islands.

## Black Fly Bonefish Lodge

At the southern end of Great Abaco, a new community is being built on the design heritage of a traditional Bahamas settlement. It is the new home of Black Fly Bonefish Lodge on Schooner Bay and the work of fly-fishing expert Vaughn Cochran. With



*Left: A full service marina with fuel, ice, drinks and sundries; The Green Turtle Club is protected from all sides. Or The Green Turtle Club's full service marina is just a few steps from the Tippy Turtle where tall tales of fishing can surely be heard. Bottom: Sunrise and Sunset at Blackfly with a whole lot of fishing in between.*

the essentials of a great lodge—an inviting dining room, convivial bar and, of course, a fully-equipped fly tying table. There's plenty of fishing to be had, too. Lower Abaco is classified into six distinct fishing grounds with pristine flats that stretch to the horizon, holding schools of bonefish and monster permit too numerous to count. And, when the flats turn off, offshore fishing with a 14-weight rod for tuna, wahoo, mahi and marlin is ready and waiting.

## The Good Life

his good humor and wealth of stories—he used to be one of Jimmy Buffett's first Coral Reefer Band members in Key West—Vaughn is the quintessential down-island angler. He, along with his wife Jean, and partner Clint Kemp, all long-time guides and lodge operators, is transforming their popular angling destination into a ground-up commitment to sustainable tourism.

Scheduled for a spring 2013 opening, work is well along on the new property. Presently, they have a four-bedroom, beachside villa, equipped with all

Whether its shark dives or wall dives, fishing backcountry or offshore, shooting lionfish or killing time in a hammock overlooking a deserted beach, each Guy Harvey Outpost Expedition property offers a unique out-island experience. And at the heart of each one is a commitment to conservation and sustainability, so the adventure never has to end. It's having your fun and being good all at the same time. 🐟

