

**GEORGIA SALTWATER GAMEFISH RECORDS PROGRAM
REVIEW COMMITTEE**

DATE: 3-15-2021

Name: Richard Bjorneby, Darien, GA

SPECIES: Alectis ciliaris - African Pompano

DIVISION: WOMEN'S ~~MEN'S~~

CURRENT RECORD: 37 lb. 1.28oz


WEIGHT NEEDED: 37 LBS. 8.28OZ.

ENTRY WEIGHT: 40 LBS. 0.48 OZ.

DATE ENTRY RECEIVED: 3-15-2021

notes

ID'ed by Eddie Leonard
weighed by Donna McDowell
→ Beats 2018 record

REVIEW COMMITTEE	APPROVED <u>NEW</u> RECORD	APPROVED <u>TIE</u> RECORD	DISAPPROVED RECORD <i>(explain below & back)</i>	APPROVED Outstanding Catch	DISAPPROVED Outstanding Catch <i>(explain below & back)</i>
Doug Haymans, Director Coastal Resources Division					
Carolyn Belcher	<u>Carolyn Belcher</u>				
Jared Flowers	<u>JF</u>				
Paul Medders	<u>PM</u>				
Tyler Jones	<u>TJ</u>				

APPLICATION FORM

STATE OF GEORGIA
SALTWATER GAMEFISH RECORDS ENTRY FORM

Read all angling rules Georgia Saltwater Gamefish Record requirements before completing and signing this application. This application must be accompanied by photographs as specified in the State record requirements.

1. DIVISION _____ Women's Men's

2. SPECIES (Common name): Florida Pompano (Alectis ciliaris)

3. MEASUREMENTS

Weight 40.03 lbs. _____ oz. 40 lbs 0.48 oz

Fork Length ¹: 1150 ^{45.28} inches Total length ²: 1215 ^{47.83} inches Girth ³: 790 ^{31.10} inches

¹ Tip of snout to the inner fork of the tail. ² Tip of snout to end of tail – maximum length. ³ Distance around thickest part of body.

4. DATE OF CATCH: 3-13-2021

5. PLACE OF CATCH (Be specific as possible):

R4

6. METHOD OF CATCH (trolling, casting, fly fishing, etc.):

Jigging

7. ANGLER (print name as you wish it to appear on certificate): Richard Bjerneby

Permanent address (include Zip code):
██████████, Marietta GA 30067
██████████

Phone: (912) ██████████

Fishing Club Affiliation (not required): _____

Angler's Age (not required): 26

8. EQUIPMENT

Rod: Shimano Talavera 6'6" Reel: Penn Slammer 7500
(make & length) (make)

Line (make & test): 8516 Braid Spiderwire Name of lure or bait: Diamond Jig

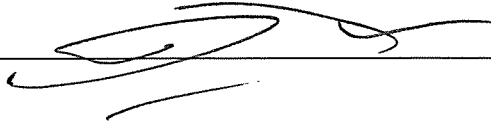
Terminal rig description (include hook number, types, & arrangement):

1 jig on 3ft of 60lb mono leader tied to a swivel

9. BOAT (if used)

Name: concrete up

Captain's Name: Johnny Wildes

Signature: 

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

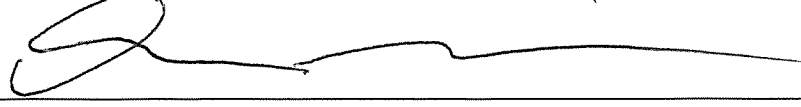
10. SCALES

Location: CRD

Date last certified: June 2020

Certifying Agency: Dept. of Ag

Weighmaster Name: Donna McDowell

Signature: 

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

11. WITNESSES

Witness to catch (other than angler or captain):

Brent Tatum

Phone: ([REDACTED]) _____

Witnesses to weighing (other than angler, captain, or weighmaster):

Donna McDowell, Eddie Leonard

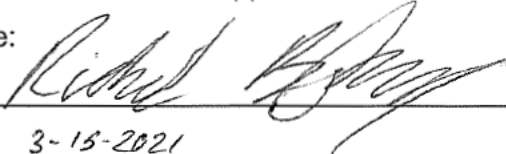
Phone: () CRD

12. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (fighting time, equipment used, additional witnesses, etc.):

13. AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned, hereby take oath and attest that the fish described in this application was hooked, fought, and brought to gaff by me without assistance from anyone, except as specifically provided in the regulations, and that it was caught in accordance with Georgia Saltwater Gamefish Records angling rules. I further declare that all information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:



Date: 3-15-2021

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When completely filled out and signed, mail this application with photos by quickest means to:

Saltwater Gamefish Records Program
Coastal Resources Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
One Conservation Way
Brunswick, Georgia 31520
(912) 264 - 7218

Or email a scanned copy to Paul.Medders@dnr.ga.gov

DARIEN MAN BREAKS AFRICAN POMPANO RECORD

BRUNSWICK, Ga. -- A 26-year-old Darien man landed a record-breaking African pompano (*Alectis ciliaris*) off the Georgia coast Saturday, March 13, 2021, and has been certified as the new state record holder for that species.

Richard Bjerneby of Killdeer Road caught the 40-pound, 0.48-ounce fish near Navy Tower R4 aboard the vessel Anchored Up, captained by Johnny Wildes. The fish breaks the previous record of 37-pounds, 1.28-ounces held since August 2019 by Alvin Dezern of Brunswick.

“It feels strange. I never expected to hold a state record,” Bjerneby told the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) after he was notified of his catch’s record certification. “I’ve been fishing as long as I can remember, but I never thought I’d hold a record.”

Doug Haymans, director of DNR’s Coastal Resources Division, which oversees the state’s Saltwater Gamefish Record Program, said Bjerneby’s catch is a credit to the years of experience he has as an angler.

“This achievement recognizes not only the size of the catch, but Mr. Bjerneby’s skill as an angler and the sportsmanship displayed in landing a record-setting gamefish,” Haymans said.

Bjerneby landed the African pompano using a 6-foot, 6-inch Shimano Talavera rod with Penn Slammer 7500 reel with 85-pound braided Spiderwire line and a diamond jig as bait at the end of a 3-foot, 60-pound monofilament leader on a swivel.

The catch was weighed at the Georgia DNR regional headquarters in Brunswick on Monday, March 15, 2021, on scales certified by the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The Saltwater Gamefish Records Committee, comprised of DNR marine biologists and staffers, approved the new record Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

Bjerneby will receive a certificate signed by Gov. Brian Kemp acknowledging his record catch, and the record will be added to the list published at CoastalGaDNR.org/RecreationalFishing. It will also be included in the 2022 Georgia Sport Fishing Regulations guidebook.

For the current list of men’s and women’s saltwater fishing records, as well as information on how to submit a catch to the Georgia Saltwater Gamefish Record, please visit CoastalGaDNR.org/RecreationalFishing.

