

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

1200 Glynn Avenue, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-9990

J. Leonard Ledbetter, Commissioner

Duane Harris, Director

Coastal Resources Division

912/264-7218

28 August, 1986

Ms. Wendy Mead
[REDACTED]

St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522

Dear Wendy:

I wish to personally congratulate you on your outstanding catch, which has been accepted as a Georgia Saltwater Gamefish Record. Enclosed is a certificate that serves not only to recognize the size of the catch, but also the angler's skill and the sportsmanship displayed in the landing of a gamefish record.

Again, congratulations on your achievement, and thank you for your participation in Georgia's Saltwater Gamefish Records Program.

Sincerely,



Duane Harris, Director
Coastal Resources Division

cc: Captain Frank Mead, Island CharterBoat Service

STATE OF GEORGIA
SALTWATER GAMEFISH RECORDS ENTRY FORM
FOR
GAMEFISH RECORDS AND OUTSTANDING CATCHES

Read all angling rules and 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.

DIVISION

Women's Men's

SPECIES

Common name: Tarpon

MEASUREMENTS (See measurements diagram below)

Weight: 139 lbs 0 oz 63.05 kg

Fork Length (x to x): 6' inches

Total Length (xx to xx): 6'9" inches

Girth: 36 1/2 inches

DATE OF CATCH: 8-18-86

PLACE OF CATCH: (Be specific as possible) Gould's

Inlet

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

fishing off the beach (Sea Isl. side)

ANGLER (print name as you wish it to appear on record certificate):

Wendy Anne Mead

19 AUG 86 7:41
Permanent address (include Zip code):

St. Simons Isl., GA 31522

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fishing Club affiliation Inland Charter Boat Service

Angler's age (not required): 17

EQUIPMENT

Rod: innick blanc (make & length) Reel: Ambassador 5000 (make)

Line (make & test) 30lb.

Name of lure or bait mullett (Frozen)

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

hook #7, 15ft. leader -

BOAT (if used)

Name: SS Wendy Anne

Captain's Name: Steve Arpo

Signature: [Signature]

Address: [REDACTED] SSI, GA

31522

SCALES

Location: DNR Scales - Brunswick

Date last certified: June, 1986

Certifying Agency: DOA

Weighmaster: Henry L. Cumby

Signature: Henry L. Cumby

Address: DNR - CRD, 1200 Glynn Avenue,
Brunswick, GA Phone: (912) 264-7219

WITNESSES

Witness to catch (other than angler or captain): _____

Steve Ariso (ARBO)

Phone: () _____

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

Frank Mead - Inland Charters

Phone: () _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: (fighting time, equipment used, additional witnesses, etc.) took 2 hrs. 45 min. to land

hooked at 4:01 PM

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: Wendy Anne Mead

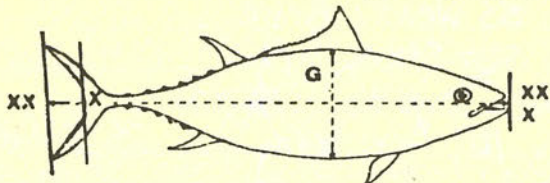
Date: August 18, 19 86

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

**Saltwater Gamefish Records
Coastal Resources Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
1200 Glynn Avenue
Brunswick, Georgia 31523-9990
Phone (912) 264-0610 or 264-7218**

SPECIES MEASUREMENTS

Measure as indicated below, taking lengths from X to X and XX to XX. Take girth around the fish on line marked G or at largest dimension location.



GEORGIA SALTWATER GAMEFISH RECORDS PROGRAM RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

Date: August 24, 1986

Please find attached for your review, comment, and approval/disapproval an application for consideration as a Georgia Saltwater Gamefish Record, Outstanding Catch, or both (indicate one).

SPECIFICATIONS

Species: TARPON
 Division: X Women's Men's
 Current Record: 128 lbs 8 oz
 Weight Needed 129 lbs 3 oz
 Entry Weight: 139 lbs 0 oz
 Date Received 8/18/86

NOTES: DNR photos are at Glynna Camera -
 Newspaper photo + article attached.
 Entry form + one scale (envelope) also
 attached for your review and interest.
 Will forward other photos when I can pick
 them up. HA

| REVIEW COMMITTEE | <u>Approved as New Record</u> | <u>Approved as Tie Record</u> | <u>Disapproved Record (Explain)</u> | <u>Approved as Outstanding Catch</u> | <u>Disapproved as Outstanding Catch</u> | Comments (use back for ad- ditional space) |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Duane Harris, Director Coastal Resources | DA | | | | | |
| Susan Shipman, Chief Coastal Fisheries | | | | | | |
| Jim Music, Leader Commercial Fisheries Program | JM | | | | | |
| John Pafford, Leader Recreational Fisheries | JMP | | | | | |
| Henry Ansley, Leader OCS Program | HA | | | | | |

State of Georgia Saltwater Gamefish Record



Joe Frank Harris
GOVERNOR State of Georgia

J. Leonard Ledbetter
COMMISSIONER Department of Natural Resources

Quane Harris
DIRECTOR Coastal Resources Division

WENDY ANNE MEAD

holds the

Womens Record

for a

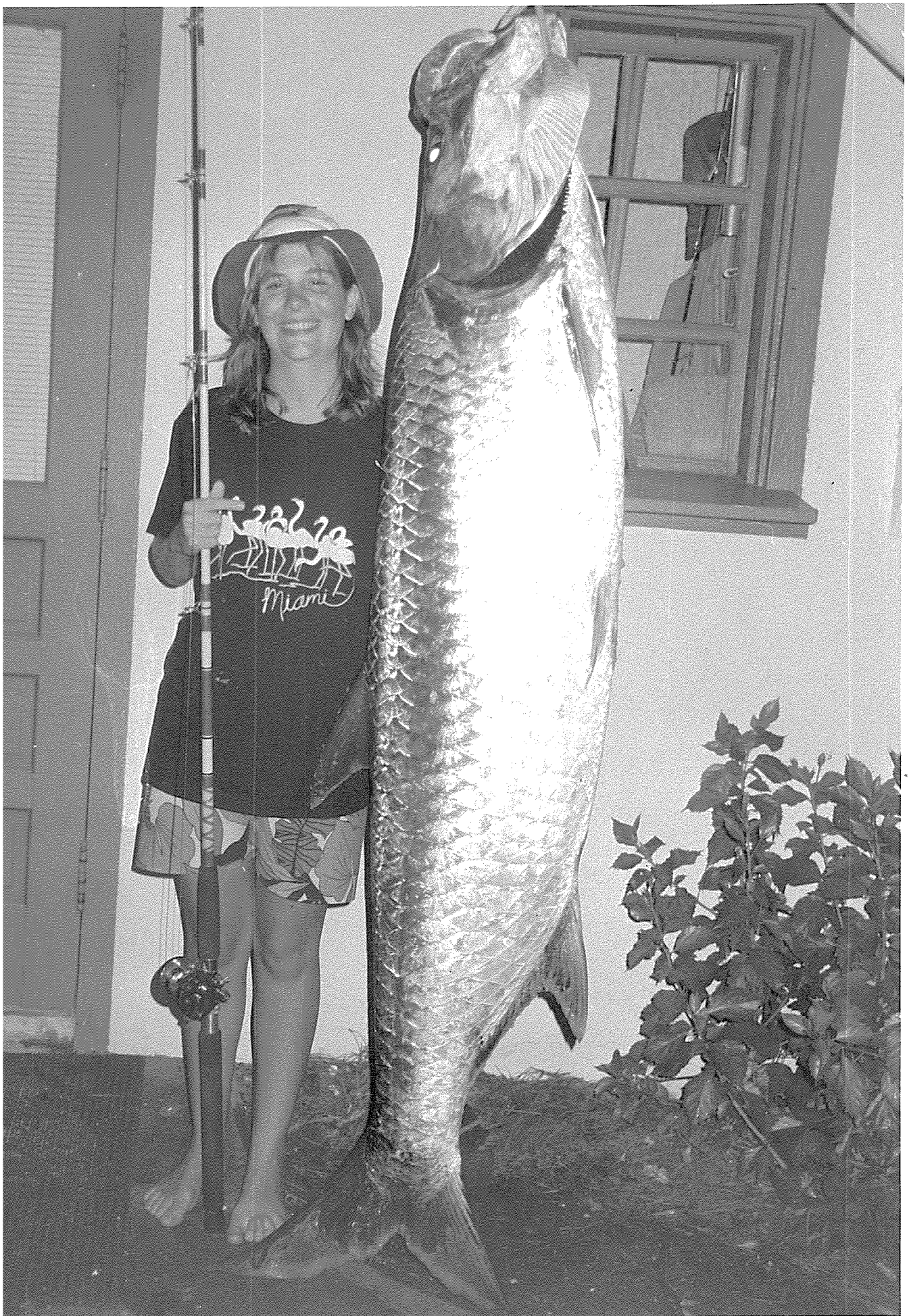
TARPON

Megalops atlanticus

Lbs. **139** Oz. _____

Kg. **63.05**

Date: **AUG 1986**



Georgia Department of Natural Resources

1200 Glynn Avenue, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-9990





THIS 139-POUND TARPON, measuring 6-feet-5-inches long, is a new Georgia record. It was landed by Wendy Mead, 17, from the south Sea Island beach. Wendy, who already holds the state record for black tip shark, stands with her tarpon at the Sea Island fishing dock in front of The Cloister. (Special Photo).

Wendy Mead Lands 2nd Fishing Record

It was a two-hour 45-minute battle that left her bruised and sore, but 17-year-old Wendy Mead landed a new state record tarpon.

The fighting fish weighed in officially at 139 pounds and measured 6-feet-5-inches to the fins and 36½ inches around.

Wendy, whose father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mead, run the fishing dock in front of The Cloister, landed the tarpon from the beach on the south end of Sea Island Monday evening.

Wendy already owns the state record of 94 pounds for catching a black tip shark. She was with her fiance, Steve Arbo, 23, when they decided to beach their fishing boat and cast into Gould's Inlet where they had seen tarpon jumping.

Using a rod with 30-pound test line and a whole mullet for bait on a 7/0 hook, Wendy cast into the ocean and in just a few minutes, about 4 p.m., had her tarpon. But it was a fight as the tarpon dove deep into the inlet behind a sand bar and made it a prolonged struggle.

Gradually Wendy, who weighs only 110 pounds herself, shortened the line. At 6:45 p.m., the tarpon finally was pulled onto the beach.

State officials measured the catch and declared the record. Wendy was left with bruises on her right thigh from hugging the rod and a sore left arm and back from all the effort.

The catch made a sort of wedding present. Steve, who has been running boats from The Cloister dock during the summer, and she will be married next year. He will return next month to complete studies at Georgia Southern College preparing for a career similar to that of his father, IBM technician Edward D. Arbo.

Both families reside on St. Simons Island.