

Interviewer: So it's June 6th, this is Amanda [Phonetic] [00:00:01] and we are with--.

Interviewee: Captain Matt Davie.

Interviewer: And we are in Sarasota. So I want to start, Captain Matt with just a little bit about your background here, what you fish for. How long you have been in the industry and everything like that?

Interviewee: Got it. So what would you like me start.

Interviewer: How long have you been in Sarasota?

Interviewee: So in Sarasota, I have been here since 1982, grew up here, so that is been 35 years or so, 36 years I have been here, over the past couple decades, we've seen a couple big bouts with red tide.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: And as far as, the fishing has been relatively pretty good. Of course, you know, last year was probably our worst time you know, for us. I have been charter fishing for seven years, if it happens again, it would probably put me out of business, just because it takes a toll on the trickle-down effect as well, for businesses down here in Sarasota.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Yeah, and it's -- that's pretty much the gist of it right there.

Interviewer: Before you started chartering in this area, were you working in the fishing industry at all or anything like that?

Interviewee: No it's hospitality industry--

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewee: For the most part. I probably spent in the hospitality industry, you know, restaurants mainly and also the bar business, you know, you see a big influx from that, and obviously trickle down effect again, it comes from that. I've always fished, I have fished my entire life, that's for sure, especially on Sarasota Bay.

Interviewer: And with the chartered, is it more inshore, offshore, what do you, what do you target?

Interviewee: Majority of my fishing is inshore and also inside nine miles of course, that kind of thing, it's mainly the bay, near shore reefs, you know, with probably three to five miles, that's probably on my max, for most part.

Interviewer: So I want to talk about –

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-- the red tides, that you've experienced in this area, starting with the first one, that you've experienced, and then just talk about, you know everything about it from what you saw, where you saw, where it was --especially how it affected your business, and then go forward in time, talk about the next one and then just move forward from there until we talk about last year.

Interviewee: Okay. So you want to talk about the...

Interviewer: So in Sarasota...

Interviewee: Business part or just in general, as in growing up and things like that.

Interviewer: Yeah, just everything you know about red tide in this -- in this area—

Interviewee: Okay, yep--

Interviewee: From since you moved here in 82?

Interviewee: So in the 80s we've definitely had it, you know, we've seen it come and go and dead fish on the beach and has been a -- keep growing up, you know not be able to go to the beach and stuff like that, you know, the fishing didn't see a huge impact until I really was able to acknowledge what was going on later on. We'll start of you know, pretty much early to mid 90s, you know, there's a little bit here influx here and there, you know, you see it come around, like I said you see the dead fish you have the smells. I'd never really noticed a very large impacts on fish kills and fish population until early 2000's, and that's pretty much 02, 04's right around in that area.

Interviewer: When were you fishing that, like when did you start doing fishing?

Interviewee: So I've been, I've been known on this seven years.

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewer: So twelve, so 2012. So--

Interviewer: Okay. That's when we started our business 2012?

Interviewer: I know, right around that are—so, you know, obviously, you know, weather, and sometimes weather like Red Tide, I mean besides Red Tide, we had obviously the smoke 2010 and stuff like that, that was more of a freeze obviously. Coming up to a -- I think 2008 that was pretty bad and I know from being in the hospitality business and it really hurts, some of the guys around you, that kind of thing. It's always been –

[00:04:00]

--pretty light as far as we've recognized, you know, as far the base-- able to recover stuff like that already used, its quicker, but quite well.

Interviewer: So let's focus in on the 90s and you said you saw the 90s and you some minor events, do you remember any particular years that were more or less--?

Interviewee: No it's always been, you know, it's always kind of one of those things everybody will talk about it, it's always been here.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: And we see it, you know and we don't notice -- I personally don't notice unless the water is brown.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Or the fish kills—really --.

Interviewer: What's the, yeah so what's the first fish kill, you notices or you some around in the 90s or--?

Interviewee: Late 80s.

Interviewer: Late 80s?

Interviewee: You know, right around that –yeah, late 80s you know, you simply go to the beach.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You know, you go the beach, and its fish kills, so you know, and obviously.

Interviewer: What kind of fish?

Interviewee: Mainly the small bay fish, pinfish [*indiscernible*] [00:04:54], your-- Sardine's mixture that kind of thing, that's a lot of the first fish kills, and usually it's in the summer time, so you do see the silk water watched upon the beach because, that's where they get spot obviously, haven't seen anything, it was really major, some red fish here and there and that's, that's pretty much gist of that one.

Interviewer: Are there any fish that are, aren't affected by red time as far as you know?

Interviewee: I really don't know if there is any that are aren't affected, you know, as far as like go at -- last year of the shipyard population really thrived, they did well, you know, as far as what I can see, you know, when the [*indiscernible*] [00:05:41] turns around after the red tide, in February they respond, there were pretty, pretty solid, black gem, did pretty well, snoek actually, some of the snoek made it, just for the simple fact, of the low salinity levels, I think that's why they cannot run and hide. We had all that rain pushing off, and the red tide had—

[00:06:00]

-- hard time getting up tributors rivers, creeks, etcetera.

Interviewer: So in the 90s, when you would see a red tide in this area, where was it especially, do you remember a specifically, and where were you fishing in that area, because I know that was kind of before you were chartering were there any main places that you wanted to go fish for--?

Interviewee: Well I mean, where we were trying to fish would be anywhere from north Sarasota which is long about right here, Ringling Causeway I mean –

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: From up to Ringling mansion stuff like that, we fish the big bay stuff like that, you have to make treks every year, if there was red tide, you would have to make treks down to where midnight hash used to be thorough beach area, that kind of thing.

Interviewer: So where is that area on the trek?

Interviewee: So this is big passes between Kasey [*Phonetic*] [00:06:52] ended, basically we're right where, CST [*Phonetic*] [00:06:55] right down here and this whole general vicinity right here. Now--

Interviewer: And that's the area where it would be clean?

Female Speaker: And it has --

Interviewee: It would be cleaner.

Interviewer: Cleaner? And can you just draw like a circle around where you would go fishing?

Interviewee: Sure.

Interviewer: And where it wasn't affected by a red tide, and then was that-- is that kind of consistent with all the red tides?

Interviewee: Yes, pretty consistent.

Interviewer: So in the 80 and the 90s and what was your -- where-- can you show me where your fishing area was, and where you would go?

Interviewee: As in that--as in where we would fish in general?

Interviewer: Yeah, usually typically, yeah.

Interviewee: Yeah. So anywhere from Roberts Bay it should be here.

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewee: North on Long Bar--Bay--

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewee: And where we're at now.

Interviewer: Yeah.

[00:08:00]

Interviewee: And then also – I los where we are – those thing.

Interviewer: There as well.

Interviewee: So in the 80s, in the 90s and then, with these minor red tides that you would see, you kind of see them in your fishing area and then you go?

Interviewee: We'd have to live now, the fishing has never been consistent as in down here, but red tide had hard time, because there isn't any water flow.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: The next one is the Geddes and then first one is big Pats—

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Big Sarasota Pats, so there wasn't as much water flow down here, and that's why hardly and we would fish down there, fish didn't get as much low red tide coming in.

Female Speaker: So you're saying there's not as much fishing consistency in the late past, but you would still go down if there's no red tide--

Interviewee: Correct.

Female Speaker: So there may not be great fishing but, clean water —

Interviewee: You know, here -- and further you get, you made your way down and it's almost that kind of area and stuff you would see that swing bridge there and you would see that fish flowing there, because it flow down there, and you could – obviously you're right across from the beach and you could still smell it, and stuff like that.

Interviewer: And what were some of the species that -- before you were chartering, what were some of the species that you targeted?

Interviewee: Red fish trout and snoek mainly.

Interviewer: And were there any major red tides that you can remember before that 2004 like that?

Interviewee: Not that I can remember.

Interviewer: Okay, well let's just, let's talk about 2004 then.

Interviewee: Okay.

Interviewer: And try to figure out everything.

Interviewee: Sure.

Interviewer: For 2004 what was the extent— like what did you see, where did you see red tide, what did it look like, how did you know it was there and--?

Interviewee: I mean first thing is the color of the water.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You know, so water color—

[00:10:00]

Interviewer: I mean we'll be all the way from here, you know, and then obviously *[indiscernible]* [00:10:06] off, so it was in, but it was all the way up here in Sister's Keys, top of Long bar, longboat pass, you know, anything that water flow into it, you know, that I fish, you know, it could have been, further it could have been north or south, but this is where I generally go about -- generally be.

Interviewer: Did you fish, and you didn't fish in the gulf at all or --?

Interviewee: It just wouldn't be worth it.

Interviewer: What?

Interviewee: It wouldn't be worth it, because it would-it would sack in the Gulf and it would flow into the bay and that's how I got into the bay in first place, plus passes.

Interviewer: So this area, one that was -- in 2004 out in the Gulf was actually more consistently red tide.

Interviewee: Correct.

Interviewer: Okay. Do you know how far it went out or you just didn't even go.

Interviewee: No, I didn't --

Interviewer: And then how long did that 2004 went last?

Interviewee: From what I remember is a good three months.

Female Speaker: Summer months.

Interviewee: Summer months --

Female Speaker: Like June, July--

Interviewee: June, July or something like that and right in the September or so.

Female Speaker: Okay.

Interviewer: What do you -- do you remember seeing any fish kills and so what species that you see killed there, and were there any species that you know, got away somehow or anything like that?

Interviewee: I mean red fish, snoek, trout, are main species right there, lots of dead cat fish, lady fish, uh, tarpon -- mainly some you know, just you don't really recognize what they are, really they're blooded, or they're beat up there, so --

Interviewer: Yeah --

Interviewee: These can, you know, decomposing and you're just seeing all the small bay fish and stuff like that, you just see white flex everywhere. So white flex in bay and white flex in the Gulf and, you know, and that's what they look like in those--

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-- waters, even some of ...are out later in those months, where -- used to try to get off shore to see how far it was, or how far it is, and you will see later red fish dead, you know *[indiscernible]* [00:12:16] later red fish that go up and they move up in on the coast.

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewer: Are there any indicators or triggers or anything that you can tell that a red tide is coming like before this one in 2004, did you like know before in anyway?

Interviewee: None, zero.

Interviewer: Okay. And then was that the same, did you just fished down in this area, or how did you change your fishing pattern?

Interviewee: When we change our fish pattern we go south or north, so if we had report say okay, this was absolutely damaged to appear, we would have to go further up, and you know we get reports from, okay, North Tampa camp or whatever big Tampa bay on what side and where at -- that kind of thing, yeah it's been okay, here so we have to move.

Interviewer: And where were you checking for reports like where did you got your info?

Interviewee: Pretty much medialets for the most part or you know it wasn't a big Email thing at that time or social media yeah, but it was, more or less you know talking to the local fisherman that would've been moving around, you know, that's for the most part, that's who we talk to, so local fisherman and the local crabbers, the local mullet, you know, in general that would --that's who we would talk to.

Interviewer: What about your -- what about the health impacts of red tide, and, you know, how does red tide affect your health and, you know, what is that?

Interviewee: My personal health, I -- you know, I can feel a tickle in the, you know, throat or cough for --you know it doesn't really affect me, some even if I made it for a long period of time, it doesn't affect me. Long term I don't know, you know, I haven't, but I know some people it really makes them ill, and especially and most of it's, like it's when air borne --

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--to a point where some of the other captains like are sick for two days, you know, I mean physically ill for two days. So--

Female Speaker: We had guys falling in sick, yesterday it was just they were getting sick, like they're sick, and then –

Interviewer: So like this ,you know, you said there, it was here for three months in 2004 and then how long after could you fish in this area again, and how long does it take for the area to recover?

Interviewee: Recovery was couple years.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Year, maybe a year, I mean it wasn't, I don't think it ...some of those fish moved and didn't like affect about the population, so I don't know how far up, you know, and how far down it actually, you know, sometimes fish could move, some don't obviously.

Interviewer: And so you noticed the kind of the negative impacts of the fish that were killed in 2004, and you thought that lasted for the next couple years?

Interviewee: Next, we would just call the next year.

Interviewer: Next year.

Interviewee: Yeah within the next year, you know--

Interviewer: And then what other, you know in what other ways, did it take, can you talk a little bit more about that recovery and anything else you saw, yeah?

Interviewee: Sure, absolutely. As far as the recovery, we didn't have the big fish restart programs, you know, at that point, but as far as like the fish coming in, moving in and out. I don't think it had a long term affect, I don't think it's been killed it's -- sorry I lost my thought – can't figure what I'm trying to say -- starting from the bottom, you know the shrimp and the crabs and the small bay fish, I think a lot of those, you know, were healthy population and I think they did pretty well as far as –

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-- getting killed off, and I think that helped us far as, rest of the population have something for those fish to eat, starting about from the bottom of food chain up.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You know, that still kills and there might have been patches where they made it, whatever, just in Sarasota, where they made it, and stuff like that, you know, I've seen fish all stalked up on one side and this is I mean pretty much almost every kind of fish that's going to be in the bay, and we're talking about tarpon and red fish, snook and black drum and sheepshead all in a pocket, because that's the only where there could survive until that red tide moved.

Interviewer: Yeah, and they're able to survive in that pocket there, when that red tides comes and then they can go --

Interviewee: You know, they're coming on the wind tide, you know --

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You know, it's a -- you know, heavy west wind and you know if they're on the east bank, there were never going to get that red tide it's just going to get blown in there, which is like anything else, so --.

Interviewer: Yeah, are there any pockets like --where you saw, like really significant fish kills back in 2004?

Interviewee: I mean the bay was covered up.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: So you know, you would have to drive and sometimes you would see a few fish, but you left them alone.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You try to -- like I said and then we go up the Long bar and, you know, you would have a pocket of fish in there and those fish were thriving and everything else, but like I said once that, red tide pushed upon, you go back and then all will be there.

Interviewer: Yeah. What do you think causes red tide?

Interviewee: To my understanding it's a natural occurring algae bloom and that's never been proven here and there, I know -- time and time again you know—

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Reports about centuries I guess whatever, so that's something that you know we have to deal with, lot of contributing factors to the bigger outbreaks.

Interviewer: Yeah, so you said after 2004, what's the next big red tide of that?

Interviewee: We haven't had a real big one, but it's been here, you know -- we have had a --

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Interviewer: 90 mile blue mount in Tampa, and it was off shore and that was reported off, let's call five years ago, you know, that was a huge and we were afraid about, you know we were scared about that.

Female Speaker: But it stayed off shore?

Interviewee: It stayed off shore, stayed out there.

Interviewer: And then you said there was another one in 2008?

Interviewee: You know, that was pretty much the same, 08 was the same time, 07, 08 right there --

Interviewer: Yeah the 07, 08?

Interviewee: Yeah.

Interviewer: So the one in 07, 08 they never came in shore.

Interviewee: No that was the one that wiped out, that was one --it was pretty hard.

Female Speaker: So that's I think, you're telling the 2004 one but --

Interviewee: Oh, it's 04 I'm sorry.

Female Speaker: No, no I think we wrote down 2004, but I think maybe it's --

Interviewer: For this one where it was, all of the bay, was this 2004?

Female Speaker: Yeah, no its hard to get like the dates, right --

Interviewee: Yeah.

Female Speaker: So if you would think about, just like other things that may have happened in your life at the same time or, because I know it's hard to like think back and remember things exactly. But we're talking about kind of the first one you remembered like being really major and that was the 2004 one?

Interviewee: I'm really sure, it was 04, I mean there could've been 07 one too, I mean that's -- it could've been that one I'm talking the other way, but I know this red tides been here at this time as *[indiscernible]* [00:19:20] as far as red tides are concerned so --.

Female Speaker: Do you remember if there were two—

Interviewer: Where 2004, 2007, 2008 are those, are we talking about one bigger event, are we talking two separate big events?

Interviewee: Two separate event.

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewee: And one might have been not as pronounced the other.

Interviewer: But they were both.

Interviewee: They both had fish kills, absolutely.

Interviewer: Yeah. As far as, if you put them on like scale of one to ten as far as impact?

Interviewee: So as the thing, I remember 07 was the worst one, really was the worst one at that point –

Interviewer: Yeah, so—

Interviewee: You know, as -- that was on the eight scale, you know.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You can call either 04, 08 –

[00:20:00]

-- 2004, 2008, one was on eight scale, and one was on six scale, five scale.

Interviewer: So they're both worst then.

Interviewee: I mean, you know, so --

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: But, you know, over the years, I mean if you went 2010 was cold, it was cold --

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: For us, so we didn't see that much, so it went dormant, where it went killed off or whatever you want to call it.

Interviewer: So then around 2012 that's when you started chartering?

Interviewee: Yes.

Interviewer: And so from 2012 until now have there been any other major red tides in this area that you've experienced before?

Interviewee: Before the last one.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: No, nothing major.

Interviewer: Okay. So let's talk about 2018 then.

Interviewee: Okay.

Interviewer: And this past year, how long was, 2018 red tide, how long did it affect this area, do you, remember like when it started exactly when you no -- when you first noticed that?

Interviewee: Okay. Absolutely, so that would be mid 18 in July, I don't know, rather it got pushed up coast or whatever, you know, the wind, so we had the southwest wind which kept it onshore I know that, and -- so we didn't have anything break it up, but I was out -- tarpon

fishing at the time, and the tarpon was still moving up and down the coast, but you'll get some Flaccid , you would have Bait and *[indiscernible]* [00:21:31] wouldn't die.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewee: So the bait and *[Indiscernible]* [00:21:34] would live in the water, for right now and so as you put on, and you run over a patch or little patch, it doesn't matter how big or whatever it was -- the bait wouldn't die. So--

Interviewer: And then when was it finally gone from --.

Interviewee: I don't know when it was gone, but it cleaned up around November, December, I don't think it was gone.

[00:22:00]

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Still, say contributing factors helped out a little bit on that one as well --

Female Speaker: Like what contributing factors.

Interviewee: Waste run off, I mean had a few big waste of course --

Female Speaker: Oh, yeah.

Interviewee: In Tampa we had one, Sarasota have one. And I'm not sure if this had anything to do with it , but they're also *[indiscernible]* [00:22:28] pass out of new pass, so kind of seen when that Ridge kicked up-whatever and that type of move in those picked it off the bottom what have you, it just seemed like it stayed for a while, was it bad no, but it was the after affects, it was still there and it's still stern it up so.

Interviewer: If we drew where the 2018 red tide was especially on this map and where you saw, where you experienced it?

Interviewee: Me personally.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: On the inside or outside or both?

Interviewer: On both. So any areas where you saw it.

Interviewee: Actually it's probably a few. That will be pretty much it.

Interviewer: And then were there any areas to where it didn't impact, any areas where it didn't --

Interviewee: Only for a short time, seeing about those fish in pockets, those fish were in pockets, so they were no longer there, so I don't know where there could've gone to or if they moved around.

Interviewer: Mm-mm.

Female Speaker: And so during that time like would you, were you still fishing, would you go out to Manatee and then you do the fishing.

Interviewee: I would -- And that's exactly so on the east bank, that west exactly, almost same thing happened, you could fish on that east bank, but --

[00:24:00]

-- coming in from Long bar which was coming Long bar pass all that water got pushed in there, killed off all those fish, some of those fish made it out here, by rain, I'd have to run all the way to Manatee river and lot of fresh water runoff over there, there might have been traces out here towards the past --

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewee: But you would have to go a little bit on the inside Terra-Ceia Bay and I know they got a little bit as well, but they didn't have anything major like we had.

Female Speaker: Nothing like that bad.

Interviewee: So then we would fish up the Manatee River, so we come up, we run from here all the way around, or we put in basically 64 Cortez [*Phonetic*] [00:24:35] and 6 ramp and all the way up here.

Interviewer: Or did you feel like fishing is good in the Manatee River like all of the species were after or heading up there or was it just okay.

Interviewee: Just -- I mean it was okay.

Interviewer: It wasn't like great fishing that comes up here.

Interviewee: No --yeah, I mean, so those fish that were already there survived.

Interviewer: Right.

Interviewer: So did all fish move, I don't think so.

Interviewer: So did you go up to the Manatee, you talked about in the past kind of going down to the southern area –

Interviewee: Mm-mm, yep.

Interviewer: Is there reason why fished up in the Manatee River instead of fishing down south or did you fish on south as well?

Interviewee: Fishing was slower down south, and it always has been, it's --I mean, it doesn't have as much as water flow down there, it's okay in the winter time, sometimes you'll fish down there, but this never been consistently great, so that way. So up here as more water flow, bigger bodies of water, more fish, more breeding possibilities, more estuaries for sure.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Yeah.

Interviewer: Other than fishing in the Manatee river, during the past year and during that long red tide what other things did you do, how did your business change and how does it impact on it?

Interviewee: So in the early on right after red tide left the water – they're usually slow anyway in that September month, but nobody wanted to be here anyway, so we used to do a lot of business as far as like –

[00:26:00]

-- clienteles coming in for conventions and stuff like that, we get phone calls, but it went national-national news and then just pretty much primitive after that, so I did other things that I had to do to make ends meet, yeah.

Interviewer: Were there other things that were also in the fishing industry or were they completely different?

Interviewee: For most part completely different, so -- little bit of I guess construction you could say, bar business.

Interviewer: Mm-mm.

Interviewee: What are need to be done actually, so--.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: And that lasted up three months September, October, November -- October, November, December, no December I was probably done about 15 trips --

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Which was a good chunk of income right there.

Female Speaker: You were down 15 trips like that?

Interviewee: That's a holiday season obviously November, December right there.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Interviewee: And --.

Interviewer: So you're usually bucks --?

Interviewee: Usually, there's --so, yeah that, you know. That took a big hit, in all the hotels obviously.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Kind of thing, and like I said when it went national everybody is like, uh, we don't want to do that.

Interviewer: And then most of your clients are people from out of town from--.

Interviewee: Yeah a little bit everywhere.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You know lot of in mid-west and some are on the boundary of east coast obviously like too.

Female Speaker: Not the Ohio people right now.

Interviewee: Unfortunately no, and sometimes we'll you know, sometime European, can't tell--

Interviewer: So there was another big red tide, if-if we had another one in the next year that like also lasts a bit long, are there any changes you can make or out of station anything you could do in your business, to keep fishing or what would that look like?

Interviewee: My business would have the change completely either moving out of Sarasota to make the business work or whatever, or the other option would be buying, investing in a bigger boat—

[00:28:00]

-- in running offshore --

Interviewer: Mm-mm, way offshore, you know, so I think, that would be the only two options that would have as far as fishing business to be concerned.

Interviewer: What are some of the hindrances to -- changing your business into an offshore business, what are some... like I know it's -- it's got to be more than just buying a big boat right, what are the --?

Female Speaker: Yes.

Interviewee: *[indiscernible]* [00:28:23] is number one, and just like anything else, and economy has really gone up, permits are pretty expensive more fuel, more overhead, more maintenance or tracking devices.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: I know it's-it's so crazy, I think it's crazy I think.

Female Speaker: Actually there are – like there are \$1000 like if you invest, but sometimes— but there is a program that you'll get reimbursed once you get one, so not the same, same doesn't go for permits, because that's expensive.

Interviewee: Yeah I think there were about 25 gram.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: For about per month.

Interviewer: Yes.

Interviewee: It's pretty much, so that was my -- pretty much those are my options, as far as getting hit, as far as in the last two big ones.

Interviewer: Yeah. So—

Female Speaker: Did you look in like disaster reliefs, small business administration stuff like during red tide?

Interviewee: So I looked into the first one and it was a predatory loan—

Female Speaker: Oh, yeah, yeah, I saw that.

Interviewee: The first one that came around from -- 16% or something crazy.

Female Speaker: And then like nine months we have it pay it back kind of thing.

Interviewee: And it was the –it was the credit card predatory loan for sure and then the second one, is business quick backup that kind of thing I really financially I didn't think I needed it and come around and taking out basically on mortgage 3.9% for whatever, years for a loan to keep my business on flow, yeah if it put me out, yeah probably enough to do it, if it happen again next time, we would probably have to do it.

Female Speaker: Yeah. Just until I find something else.

Interviewer: Yeah.

[00:30:00]

Interviewer: Yeah. Has this area recovered at all since the last red time and what's -- what's come back and what hasn't?

Interviewee: Yes, so it's, it's more the migratory species-- species excuse me, so your bay fish number one is starting, your tarpon are migratory, I didn't see lot of Koi this year, obviously, . I was think Mackerel, Spanish Mackerel, King Mackerel that kind of thing.

Interviewer: Didn't come back you saying.

Interviewee: It's more of a migration kind of thing, you know.

Interviewer: Okay, yeah.

Interviewee: Obviously, you know, there's sometimes --the sharks go up and down the coast you know, migration pattern and stuff like that, what made it for -- what I've seen so far is some of the snoek population did really well, you know in east, should not say that you know, didn't wipe them out, but some of their population did really well and that's what I can contribute to the estuaries where, you know a lot of rain run off, that kind of thing, where they had somewhere to go--

Interviewer: Mm-mm

Interviewee: Either off shore and backend shore, our near short ribs took a big hit, stone crabs took a big hit, they had to move all the traps up north of Tampa. Just because we just wiped out the population or mangrove snapper population that hit really hard. Short, short ribs group of populations, and even ones in the *[indiscernible]* [00:31:17] got hit. Smaller red grouper of population inside nine miles got hit, I mean it just-- so they haven't recovered yet. So some of those fishes moving in are... like our pin fish population is now starting to come back, trout completely decimated.

Interviewer: And they're close right?

Interviewee: Yes ma'am, it is closed, yes ma'am. Trout really don't migrate anyway, they move around a little bit, but they live in the grass, *[indiscernible]* [00:31:45] completely decimated.

Interviewer: One thing I keep hearing about, and that's isn't related to red tide, but I'm just curious for your point of view like Sharks, comparing there's more --more sharks, people are seeing this year -- seen it this year definitely --

[00:32:00]

Interviewee: Maybe -- yeah not really I mean, I've seen it sometimes, you can't get passed them, you know, the small reef sharks and stuff like that, like lemons, and Brown and, you know, whatever they are, they're sandbar sharks whatever they're and--

Interviewer: Yeah, that is there --

Interviewee: The Black Tips, you know, obviously, and what --I've just now saw the Black Tips coming back in --

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewee: So I've seen it, and people were seeing the hammerheads on the on the beach I know, like --

Interviewer: Oh, yeah-yeah.

Interviewee: Yeah, there's couple reports of that, but they've always -- they always follows the trout --

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: You know, that's -- that's the big lunch for them, so same thing with the bull sharks.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: So --

Interviewer: Do you have suggestions for management changes or weather monitoring, and forecasting or anything that could help, you know charter fisherman feel as retires [Phonetic] [00:32:45]?

Interviewee: This is just a personal thing that we needed to have to little bit of management as far as eco system and what's being dumped.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: So infrastructure wise it is short in Sarasota, I mean you look around, you don't see any mangrove trees, you see houses and condos and cranes, building and building, building and you just can't handle it, so well our main break or whatever is the --or it rains and every time it rains, you can be sure so we had to dump partially treated waste into the water, we had to dump, because we couldn't -- they can't handle. So that is my biggest concern right there and that's for not only retired, for everything.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Yeah as far as our eco system is concerned.

Interviewer: What about forecasting, because I know you said that, you can sometimes get an idea of where Red Tide is, what are some kind of -- to avoid that area is there, would there be a way of improving forecasting or making that easier or somehow?

Interviewee: Yeah, monitoring systems may be, but I mean that's, you know, it's our mother nature, you know, I mean that's, when comes in and sits, you know, if we don't --if we don't have a big stone to break some of that out, and really clean it up and we had --

[00:34:00]

-- a storm that was out there and basically you pushed it back in and it broke it up a little bit, but it just -- all the big waves pushed it, so it didn't really help us, so monitoring systems as far as weather, I mean if you control which way the wind flows, yes, other than that, no --

Interviewer: Mm-mm

Interviewee: I don't see that, it's been a big thing, you know.

Interviewer: So you said the events, the one in 2014, and then the one in 2008, where it was like around like maybe a six or seven or eight like on the scale of one to ten. Well, if you put that 2018, Red Tide on the scale of one to ten, what would it be?

Interviewee: It's a ten.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: It's ten.

Female Speaker: Do you feel like your businesses recovered like people are coming, tourists are coming back or is it still in the recovery stage?

Interviewee: Yeah, it's a little bit in the recovery stage as well right now, or is that, don't want it, that live here, you know, the –

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewee: There's nobody they want to go fishermen and stuff like that, they don't want to go, they –they know that the fishermen –it's good to say, well it's -- there could be for sure.

Female Speaker: My husband fishes a lot and he -- I wanted to go last weekend and he's like, I don't want to go, fishing fish -- don't want to go.

Interviewee: So when you have people to have 50, 60, 80 fish days, you notice, might – would've just, whatever fish --

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewee: And then you come back and you struggle to -- four, four hours to catch eight fish.

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewee: It makes a big difference.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: And they don't want to do. I don't want do it --.

Female Speaker: Yeah

Interviewee: It more it's on my psyche –

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewer: Yeah

Interviewee: And there is no way, no way. As of late, I found a few fish here and there, you know and it's been pretty good days which was my confidence, you know, which is great, but --.

Female Speaker: Are you going offshore more like recently you're staying more?

Interviewee: Yeah we -- I mean, we try to do that a little bit, you know, especially, you know, the kids and stuffs, they just want to catch fish.

Female Speaker: Oh yeah.

Interviewee: I have to remember that sometimes, and there's Mackerel and stuff like that and species --

Female Speaker: Yeah-yeah.

Interviewee: The species that migrates and stuff like that, so it's fun.

Female Speaker: You *[indiscernible]* [00:35:59]

[00:36:00]

Interviewee: Yeah, you know this thing -- and that's, but when it-when it, kicks out for me, like --yes it's starting to kick up right now, it's going to be-- it's going to be crazy the next week, it's going to be rough for me, and then I have to come back to the bay and do it all over.

Interviewer: Do you mean when the weather picks up.

Interviewee: So, I've been catching my feed -- my fish from this side out.

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewee: Beach.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: Short ribs, stuff like that, but when if it's nasty I can't keep--.

Interviewer: Right.

Interviewee: And there's just no way and then I have to – again struggle and either make my run to here, or way down here passed this, you know –

Female Speaker: Where do you keep your boat?

Interviewee: *[Indiscernible]* [0:36:33]

Female Speaker: Okay. So it's easy for you to get up there, okay.

Interviewee: Yes – so, but yeah, I just run up from here up and down, so, like I said I mean it's - - but it, tried to keep the business full, you got to catch fish.

Female Speaker: Yeah, and it's just you, or you have friends too.

Interviewee: It's just me.

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewee: Yeah so, I'm a—I mean in person, but you know I work with couple other guys you know, so I mean we're all independence, whatever, but we're friends.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Interviewee: That's one of those things

Interviewer: Are there any other environmental changes or algae blooms or anything else that you've noticed in this area that you think?

Interviewee: In this area no.

Interviewer: Mm-mm

Interviewee: No, like I said there's --exactly our waste run off, or not even waste or run off alone, needs to be addressed, whether it would be fertilizers or septic tanks or something like that, and then, you know, pollution had something to do, to keep the air, and I would say as many thing to do with Red tide, I believe it helps that's my personal belief on that, it definitely helps it.

Interviewer: Is there anything else that you wanted to add about Red tide or anything else in general?

Interviewee: No, not, not really just for the simple facts that everybody has a different opinion about it, so, it's just somebody –

[00:38:00]

-- needs to -- we need to figure out a way to come back a little bit, you know, and I understand that, you know, there's a clay, whatever, you know, but then it kills everything else, so it's something like that filter system I know, that's a lot of water to filter.

Female Speaker: Mm-mm, scallops is good.

Interviewee: Yep, and I know they were trying to restart scallops last year and I know they probably got wiped.

Female Speaker: Oh, yeah sure

Interviewee: For most ...nothing else I talked to New College, you know they --they weren't happy about this, I talk to them actually a quite a bit up the ramp, New College does a lot of research and stuff like that on Sarasota. I talked to them and they said, you know, they were worried about the *[indiscernible]* [00:38:40] and they were worried, you know and what they noticed, there's storm and a lot of stuff, in which they're absolutely correct, there's not a lot of stuff going on, so -- and only really goes storm until we get cold weather, so how do we come better I don't know

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewee: And help ourselves absolutely, you know, that's what I talk about environmental things.

Interviewer: Paula *[Phonetic]* [00:39:05] do you have any questions or –

Female Speaker: I don't think so. I -- well I guess, I do like what's your prediction for this year.

Interviewee: Fingers crossed.

Female Speaker: I have a friend who charters and Anna Maria, and he was telling me last night that he's like a it's right offshore it's coming in and I'm like our business is devastated too so, I'm like we'll put it into another yeah, just like you were saying and so I'm like please no--

Interviewee: Yep so --

Female Speaker: Keep the winds flow in the right way.

Interviewee: I know there's, yep light traces right now, but I mean now that wind just do the same thing, last year to kick this way, south west winds or it doesn't matter anything out in the west is going to push it on shore for us, and then, you know, I don't know if there was a recent report, I guess FWC reports I don't know if it's recent reports that I-I read, because its heavier concentration there so --

Female Speaker: Have your concentration offshore --

[00:40:00]

-- like I did it to see how far, I checked, this morning, just for the bay, it said background concentration.

Interviewer: Yeah, yep.

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewer: There's always background --

Female Speaker: Yeah, so but I think like the previous guy he was talking about the background concentration that's now making the news like people are like there's background or --

Interviewer: Yeah --

Female Speaker: It's not the very same thing, and the next thing is different.

Interviewee: You know, that's it. Yeah, every guys they do, so just like you said if it happens again, we're all *[indiscernible]* [00:40:31].

Interviewer: Yeah.

Female Speaker: Yeah.

Interviewer: I think we covered most of what we wanted to ask you about.

Interviewee: Good.

Interviewer: So, yeah thank you so much for your time today –

Interviewee: Okay, absolutely.

Interviewer: And for helping us with this, and then I have a form here a release form, so it's just your name up here, and then your signature at the bottom –

Interviewee: Sure.

Female Speaker: What's the name of your charter company?

Interviewee: Ensure Attic [*Phonetic*] [0:41:02] –

Female Speaker: Like I said my husband is also fishing, but I do so, I have to tell you.

Interviewee: That's the thing so, I've been out runner around I've going almost to KCK units there's a lot fish on the beach.

Female Speaker: Oh, yeah.

Interviewee: You're still recording it.

Interviewer: Oh –mm-mm.

Female Speaker: Yeah.