

# Atlantic Sailfish Recaptured!!

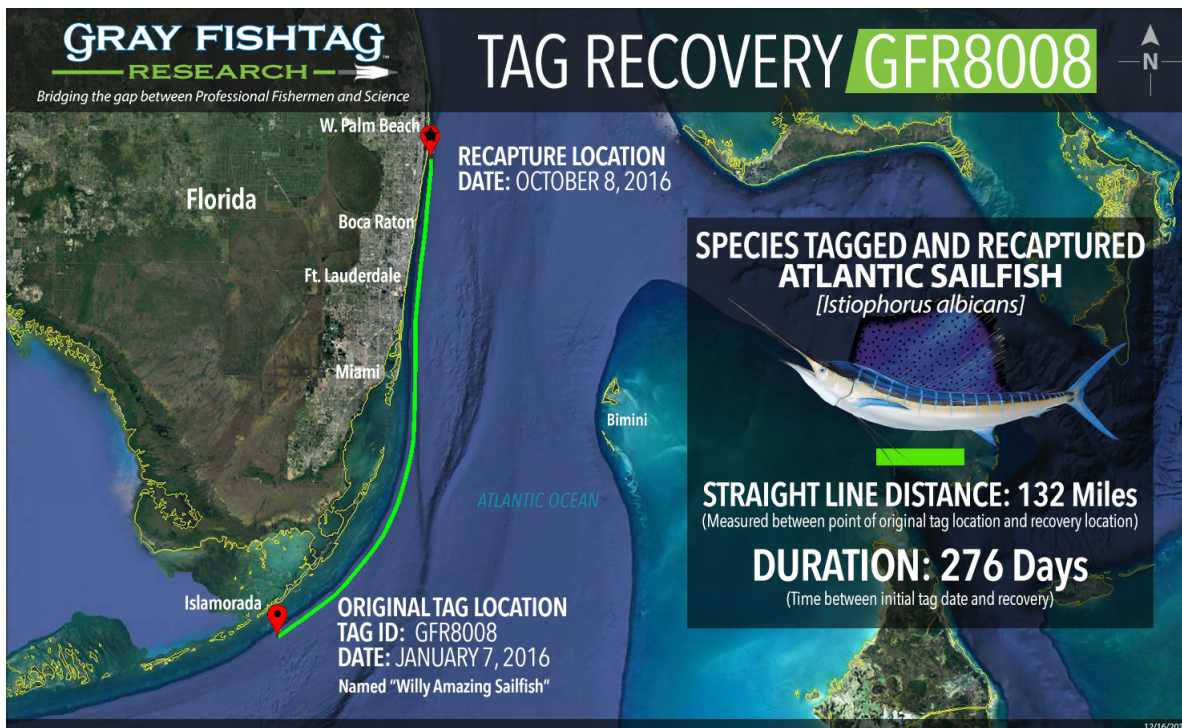
## GFR8008, Named “Willy Amazing Sailfish”

The Atlantic Sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) named “Willy Amazing Sailfish” (Tag ID: GFR8008) was originally tagged & released by angler Doug White on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 while fishing with Captain Justin Miller and mate Will aboard the charter boat *Reel McCoy*, out of Bud N’ Mary’s in Islamorada, Florida. The Sailfish was estimated at 84 inches (213.36cm) total length and had an approximate weight of 50 pounds.

The Sailfish was recaptured 276 days later on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 by Scott Federer while fishing with his wife Summer and son Kyle aboard their boat *Fatillac* out of Lantana, Florida. The recapture was just offshore of the Boynton Beach Inlet, approximately 132 miles (212 km) away from the original tag location.

At the time of recapture, the Sailfish had an estimated length of 86 inches and weight of 65 pounds. Based on the length measurements, this Sailfish was a mature fish. After the tag information was recorded, the Sailfish was subsequently released healthy and unharmed.

Atlantic Sailfish exhibits a dark blue color with white and brown spots along the ventral side of the body. There are also approximately 20 vertical running light blue bars. The body color can vary depending on the level of fish excitement. Sailfish is one of the smaller members of the Istiophoridae family and the most coastal of all the billfish species. The coastal waters around the continental shelf edge is ideal habitat with an abundance prey items (pilchards, sardines, small mackerels, etc.).



The Gray FishTag Research program has been able to shatter the expectations for fish recapture rates thanks to the hard-working professional fishermen on the water day in and day out. Tags are provided free-of-charge to the collaborating professional fishermen, and the tag data is available to the public at [www.GrayFishTagResearch.org](http://www.GrayFishTagResearch.org)

The *Reel McCoy* charter boat crew will receive some Gray FishTag gear for their tagging efforts. The tag recovery angler, *Scott Federer*, will receive a pair of Costa Del Mar sunglasses, a Tag & Recovery Certificate, and Gray FishTag gear for reporting the tag recovery.

The tagging and research efforts is made possible by our research centers and sponsors AFTCO, AA Video, American Fishing Wire, FECOP, Mold Craft, Costa Del Mar, CR Primo Fishing Tackle, Shadow Graphics, AquaWorld, Crocodile Bay Resort, Grande Alaska Lodge, Los Sueños Resort & Marina, Marina Pez Vela, The Pisces Group and The Zancudo Lodge.

For more information, please contact the Gray FishTag Research in-house fisheries scientist Travis Moore at [travis@GrayFishTag.org](mailto:travis@GrayFishTag.org) or 954-675-3896

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The success of the program is made possible by the participation of the hard working fishing professionals and the generous contributions from our partners and donors. Any contribution is tax deductible and will go directly to support our cause and help the growth of the program.

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