

The run-and-gun technique is popular with South Florida anglers in search of dolphin, but sometimes it's better to sit and wait.

That's what Roray Kam and Dave and Karen Pfeiffer did Saturday morning fishing on Lite Duty, and their patience paid off with a 68-pound bull dolphin.

"We went out 8-9 miles off Hollywood and we saw three boats together," Kam said. "They were around a big wooden crate, like 4 feet by 20 feet. We saw a couple of schoolies and some tripletails, and it was loaded with baitfish."

The Pfeiffers caught three tripletails on chunks of bait, but the schoolies wouldn't cooperate. Kam spoke with some friends via cell phone who were fishing inshore of him as well as some friends who were farther offshore, and they all said the fishing was dead.



That was enough incentive for him and the Pfeiffers to stay with the crate for nearly three hours. During that time, more than 20 other boats stopped to check out the crate and fish a little bit before leaving.

"One boat caught one little schoolie," Kam said, adding that the Pfeiffers were content to catch bar jacks, triggerfish and blue runners while they waited for something more impressive to show up.

"All of a sudden, a big school of dolphin comes and there's a big splash. A big blue marlin is chasing the schoolies — probably a 300-pounder — then it goes down. We tried to catch the

schoolies, but they wouldn't bite, so I said, 'Let's try for the blue.'"

**They put out a single-hooked Bionic ballyhoo** on a Shimano TLD 25 outfit spooled with 40-pound Momoi monofilament line and started trolling.

"Thirty seconds later the line just took off — zoom!" Kam said. "I said, 'Wow, we got the marlin,' then it jumped and I thought it was a white marlin. I gave the pole to Karen; she fought the fish for a minute, then she gave it back to me. The fish jumped again 50 yards back, and we saw it was a big bull, then it went straight down."

Kam fought the dolphin for 25 minutes while Dave drove the boat. When the fish came to the boat, he handed the fishing rod to Dave, and Karen handed Kam the gaff.

"I gaffed the fish in the head, we pulled him in the boat and we started yelling our brains out," Kam said. "That was the fish of a lifetime for them."

By then it was 11:45 a.m., and they were off Boca Raton. They went in Hillsboro Inlet and weighed the fish at Lighthouse Point Marina. When Kam cleaned the big bull, he found a 26-inch schoolie in its stomach.