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TEXAS STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

# texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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EDITORS: The public hearing date for Uvalde was set too late to be included in last week's listing. It will be at 7 p.m. May 30 in the Reading Room, Uvalde Civic Center, 300 E. Main. Also, a second public hearing has been set for Hebbronville, at 7 p.m. May 30 at the County Courthouse. The first hearing, to be held May 15, is not official because of inadequate notice time. Public testimony at both hearings, however, will be recorded and considered by the commission.

## GULF SHRIMP SEASON CLOSURE SET FOR JUNE 1

AUSTIN -- The annual closure of Gulf of Mexico waters to shrimping will occur from June 1-July 15, both days inclusive, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials said.

C. E. Bryan, director of fisheries resource programs, said shrimping will cease at 12:01 a.m. June 1 and reopen at 12:01 a.m. July 16.

The state closure extends nine nautical miles offshore. The National Marine Fisheries Service is expected to close U.S. waters out to 200 nautical miles during the same period.

The annual cooperative closure is designed to protect immature brown shrimp during their emigration from the bays to the Gulf. Bryan said there was no indication of early emigration of shrimp from the bays, so the statutory June 1-July 15 closure will be in effect.

JC 5/3/89

LAKE O' THE PINES  
PRODUCING MORE LUNKER BASS

MARSHALL -- Lake O' the Pines may be blossoming as a producer of trophy-sized largemouth bass, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists

A recent gill net survey collected a 12 1-pound bass that was 24 1/2 inches long. Biologist Tim Schlagenhaft said the fish was the largest bass ever recorded from the 18,700-acre lake

Schlagenhaft said Lake O' the Pines has provided consistently good fishing for largemouths for years, but it was not known as a producer of big fish until recently. Florida-strain bass were stocked in 1982 and 1983, and since then the lake has produced two 10-pound-plus bass. One of the bass was genetically analyzed by electrophoresis, and it was found to be a Florida bass hybrid.

Schlagenhaft said Jack Hudson, owner of Willow Point Marina on the upper end of the reservoir, has maintained records of five-pound-plus largemouths weighed at his marina since 1976. "His records show more than a 350 percent increase in the number of bass over five pounds caught from 1984 to 1988," Schlagenhaft said, adding that more than 80 percent of those fish were reportedly released back into the lake.

Officials remind anglers that the department now maintains fish records

for individual lakes, and also gives big fish awards to anglers catching fish weighing more than standards set for the species

To qualify for a state record, water body record or big fish award, obtain a fish record application from the a department office, lakeside marina or tackle shop

Lake O' the Pines is located approximately 20 miles northwest of Marshall. Excellent camping and boat launch facilities are provided by the U S. Army Corps of Engineers and numerous private concessionaires, Schlagenhaupt said

JC 5/10/89

SATELLITE TELECAST TO  
EXPLORE WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT

AUSTIN -- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) officials said ranchers with satellite television receivers may be interested in watching a video program entitled "Agriculture and Wildlife" to be aired at 8 p m May 15 on Westar 5, channel 1

The 55-minute video is a cooperative effort by Kansas State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Great Plains Agricultural Council, U S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the TPWD and wildlife agencies of eight other Great Plains states. More than 60 wildlife and agricultural specialists from throughout the region helped develop the program

It explains how land managers in the Great Plains can use practices that benefit both agriculture and wildlife, according to Charles Winkler, TPWD big game program director

The program combines footage from a series of 11 videos and will address the importance of private lands to wildlife, ways to manage land to increase wildlife, and the benefits of the Conservation Reserve Program to wildlife

JC 5/10/89

ILLEGAL NETTING CASES TOP  
GAME THIEF REWARDS

AUSTIN -- The state's Operation Game Thief program was responsible for catching four persons catching fish in illegal nets, and fines in the two separate cases totaled more than \$23,000, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Two violators caught with gill nets in a freshwater lake were convicted on 22 charges of illegally fishing with nets and related charges and assessed \$11,671 in fines

Two other persons were convicted on 60 charges of taking red drum with nets in a saltwater case Their fines totaled \$11,618 50

Persons observing game or fish law violations can report the incident by calling toll-free 1-800-792-GAME. If the call leads to a conviction, the anonymous caller is eligible for a cash reward from the Operation Game

Thief (OGT) fund Money for these payments are derived only from tax-deductible contributions by private individuals, sportsmen's clubs, corporations and other groups, according to Capt Wayne Chappell, OGT coordinator Contributions should be sent to OGT, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744

As an enhancement effort for the fund on special request, one 12-inch by 18-inch aluminum "no trespassing" sign will be given for each \$10 contribution

Chappell said the signs identify the landowner as a donor to the OGT fund, encourage reporting of violations, display the toll-free number and will fulfill requirements of the Criminal Trespass Statutes when properly posted on property

The nine-member OGT committee, which serves without pay, currently is made up of W B. Osborn III of San Antonio, chairman; A. B Wharton, Vernon, vice-chairman; Walter Fondren III of Houston, Harry Tennison of Fort Worth, Ed Small of Austin, W W Jones II of Corpus Christi, Bill Roth of San Antonio and Stan Cook of Texarkana

JC 5/10/89

HYBRID STRIPERS ABUNDANT  
IN RED BLUFF LAKE

RED BLUFF -- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists say it should be easy to catch some nice hybrid striped bass from Red Bluff Reservoir these days Easy, that is, if you can find the lake

Red Bluff Reservoir is an 11,000-acre impoundment on the Pecos River, bounded on the north by the New Mexico state line, on the east by Loving County (the state's least populous county) and on the west by the creosotebush badlands of Culberson County. It's about 70 miles north of Pecos off U S. Highway 285. If you miss the turnoff your next stop is Carlsbad, N M

Biologist Billy Follis of San Angelo said it takes a hardy fish to thrive in Red Bluff's salty Pecos River waters, but hatchery-produced striped/white bass hybrids apparently have what it takes

"A fish kill reported last fall apparently did not significantly reduce the numbers of hybrid striped bass or white bass in the lake," said Follis

The fishery at Red Bluff is underutilized, especially for the hybrid stripers, Follis believes. He speculates that the lake's isolated location and reputation for periodic fish kills may have kept some fishermen away. "Whatever the reason, there are a lot of West Texas fishermen who are missing a bet by not fishing for hybrid stripers at Red Bluff," Follis said

Follis noted that during standard samplings in March crews picked up 129 hybrid stripers ranging in weight from four and a half to 11 1/2 pounds. The total gill net catch amounted to 826 pounds of hybrids. Also collected were 127 white bass that averaged 3/4 pound, with individuals as large as two pounds. Striped bass stocked in 1938 apparently have survived and should also contribute to the fishery, Follis said

"Hybrid stripers are easy to catch if you have a good depthfinder and some trolling gear," Follis said. He noted that any schools of fish located electronically are bound to be hybrids because they are the dominant species currently in the lake. "Fishing should be good, because a fish kill during the winter apparently trimmed the shad population," he said. "The hybrids should be hungry and biting."

JC 5/10/89

SPOTTED SEATROUT ON ROAD  
TO RECOVERY IN BAYS

AUSTIN -- The prospects of catching a trophy-sized spotted seatrout (speckled trout) along the Texas Gulf Coast are better than they have been since before the 1983-84 freeze, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Dr. Gary Matlock, director of the department's Fisheries Division, said the agency's gill net and creel surveys, as well as comments from fishing guides and sport anglers, indicate spotted seatrout fishing has rebounded from the freeze.

"Barring any natural catastrophes, there's no reason why the state record couldn't be broken in the near future, Matlock said. A number of individual bay records also should be set this year, he added.

The current state record is a 13-pound, nine-ounce trout caught from the Upper Laguna Madre in March 1975. Bay records include a 9 1/4-pounder caught from Corpus Christi Bay in 1974; an 8 1/3-pounder from Galveston Bay

in 1988, and a 10-pounder from the Lower Laguna Madre in 1987. No bay records have been established for Sabine Lake, Matagorda, San Antonio, Aransas or the Lower Laguna Madre.

Fall 1988 gill net catch rates reflect a recovery from the 1983 freeze, Matlock said, and are about 25 percent higher than the 10-year average. Spring gill net catch rates also show a steady recovery from the freeze.

Matlock said the size distribution of trout caught in net samples is especially encouraging. "The length distribution in the fall 1988 sample was very similar to that found during fall 1983 just prior to the freeze," Matlock continued. Trout over 30 inches in length disappeared from fall surveys for five years of the seven-year period 1975-81. However, 30-inch-plus trout have been collected every year since 1982, except for 1987.

Trout over 30 inches were collected during five out of nine years of spring sampling from 1976 through 1984. Since 1985, these large fish have appeared every year in spring sampling.

Matlock noted that the percent of fish greater than 25 inches in fall gill nets has remained fairly stable, but the 1988 figure was the highest since 1980 and the second-highest on record. "The percentage of trout longer than 25 inches has generally increased since the early 1980s," said Matlock.

The sport boat fisherman landings and catch rate for spotted seatrout also has steadily increased since the freeze-related decline in 1983. The 1987-88 catch rate was 0.14 per angler-hour, remaining the same as the



previous year in spite of a continuing increase in fishing pressure

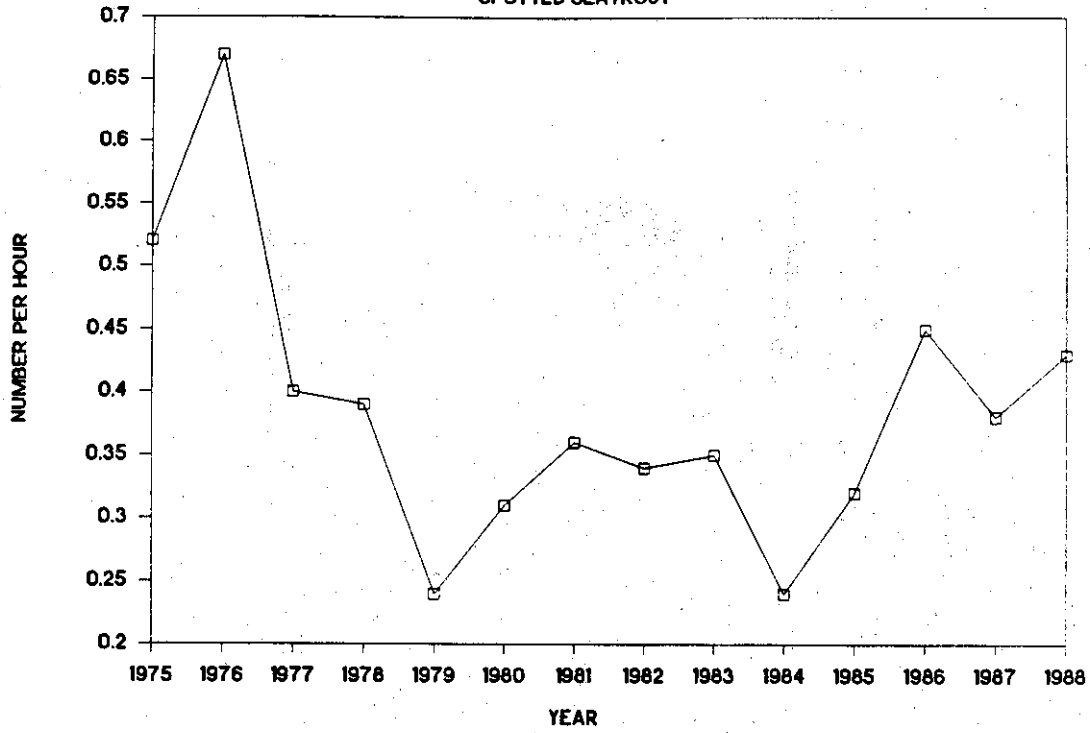
The percent of 25-inch-plus trout caught by sport-boat fishermen is relatively small, Matlock said, but has increased since 1982-83. Preliminary data from 1988-89 indicate the largest percentage of 25-inch-plus fish since the survey began in 1974.

Matlock noted that there has been some recent interest in establishing a maximum length limit for spotted seatrout, but he believes such a limit is not appropriate at this time. "The current 14-inch minimum length limit allows spotted seatrout to reproduce at least once, and the bag limit of 10 spotted seatrout per day, the possession limit of 20 fish, and the prohibition of nets in salt water should be sufficient to offset the loss of fish in February of this year," he said. "However, the continued monitoring of fish populations and fishermen's harvest will allow us to determine if the situation changes," he added.

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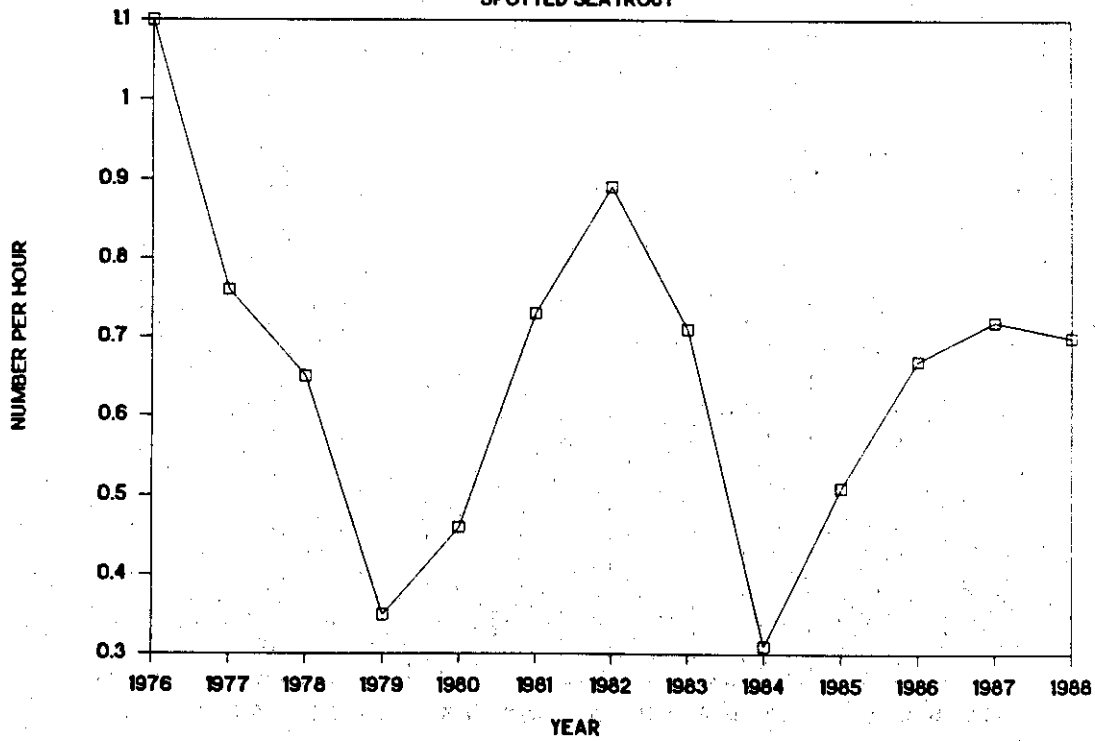
# FALL GILL NETS

SPOTTED SEATROUT



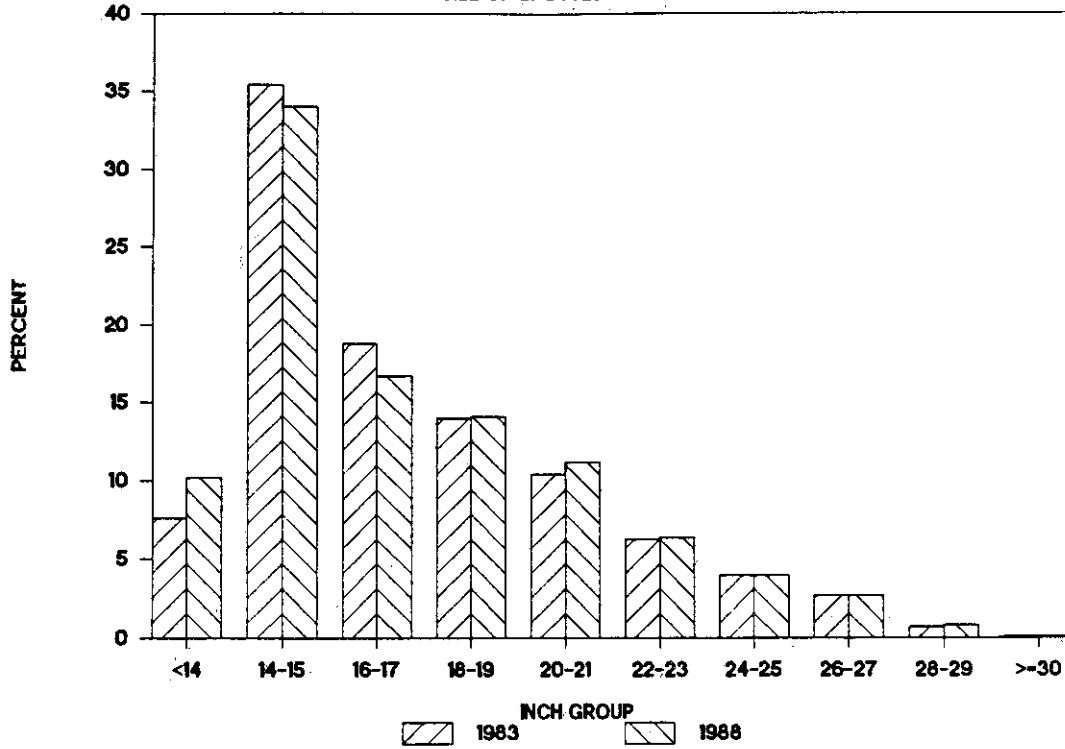
# SPRING GILL NETS

SPOTTED SEATROUT



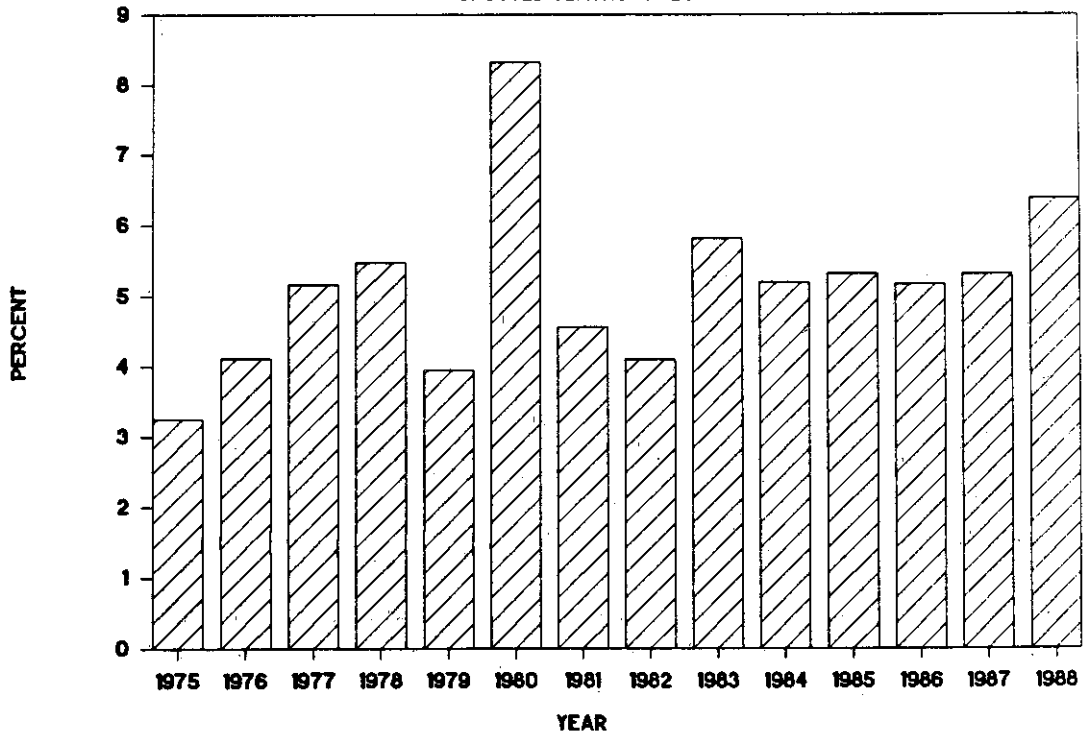
## FALL 1983 VS FALL 1988

SIZE OF SPOTTED SEATROUT



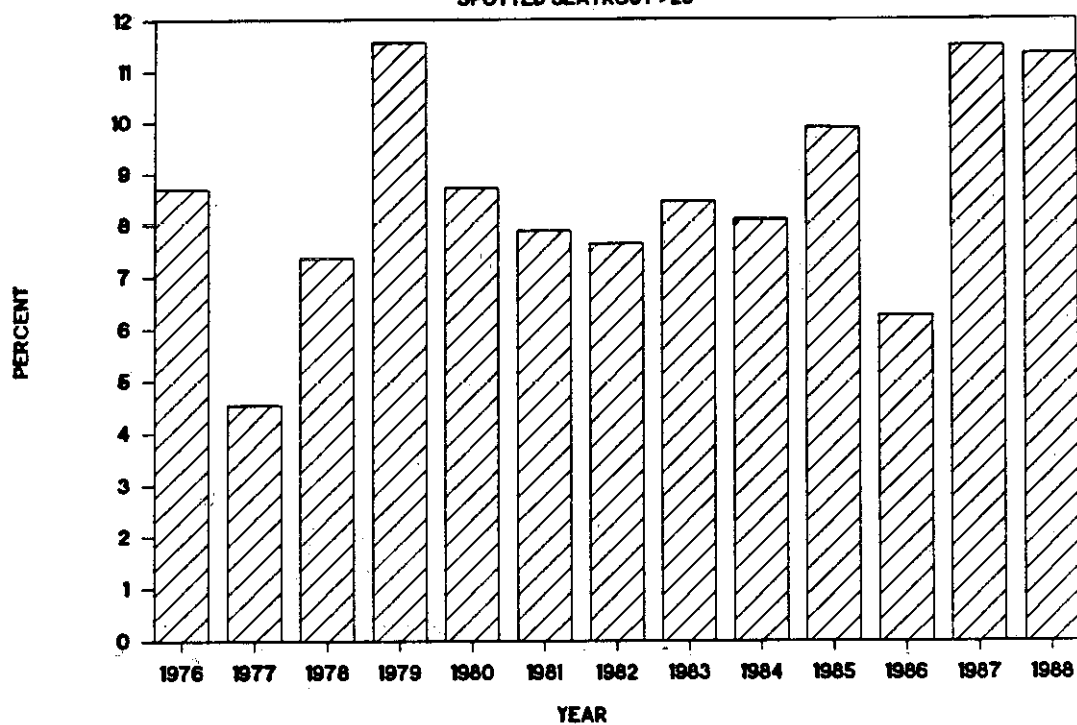
## FALL GILL NETS

SPOTTED SEATROUT >25"



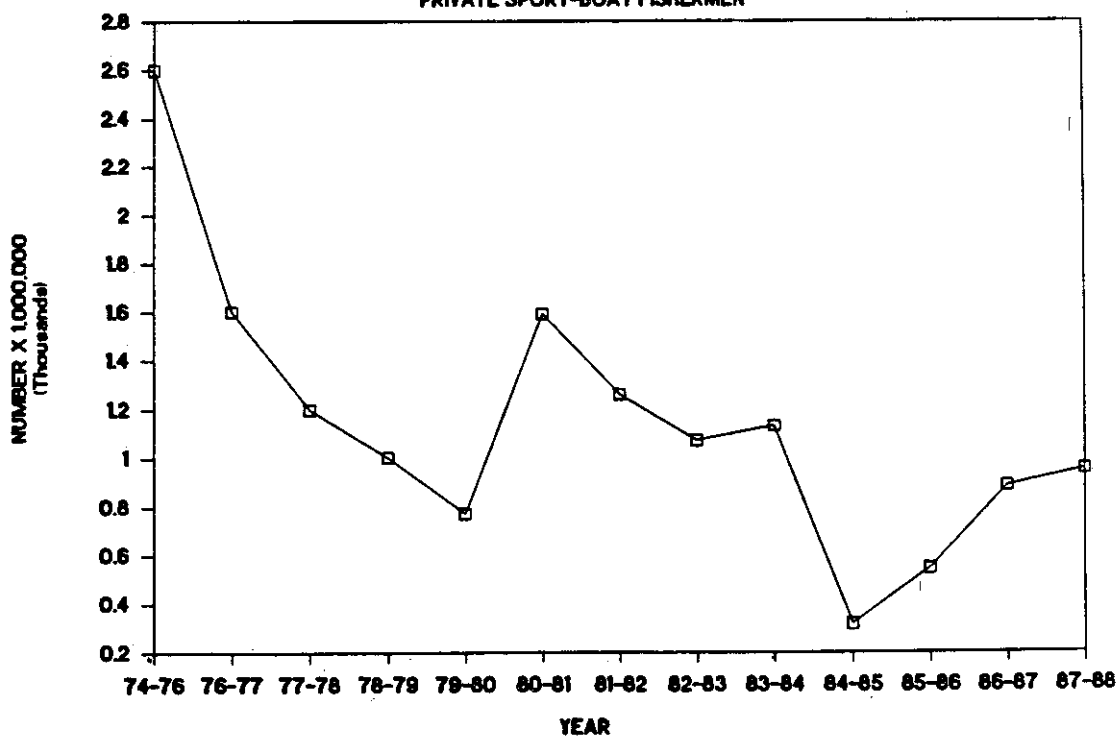
# SPRING GILL NETS

SPOTTED SEATROUT >25"

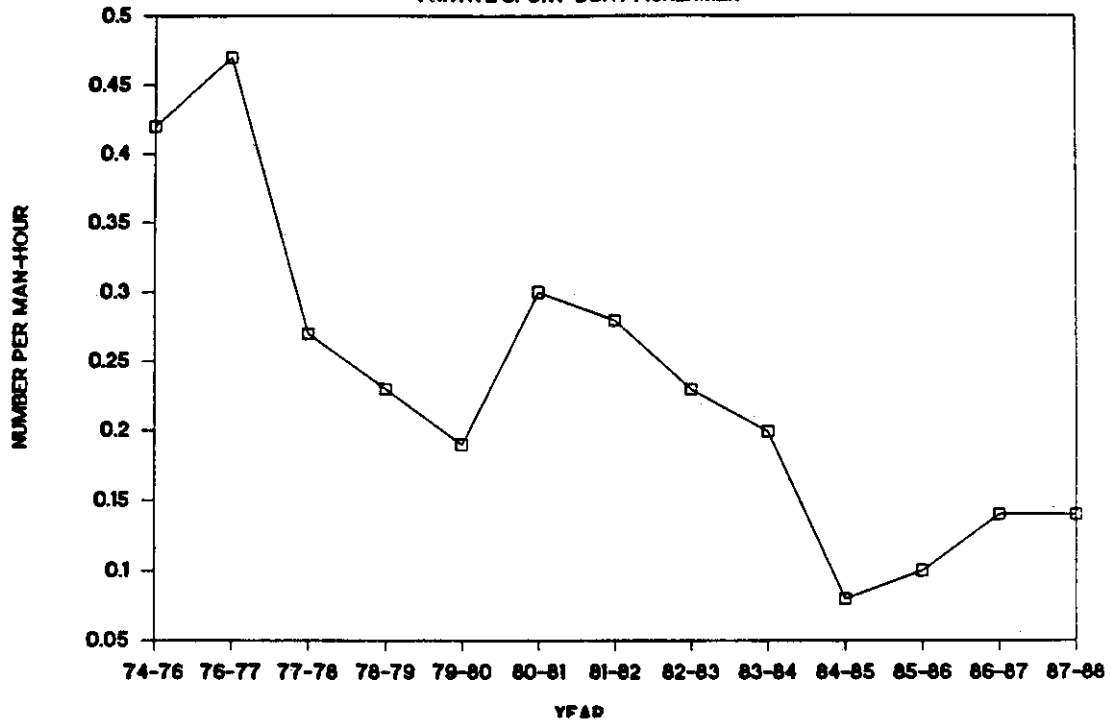


# SPOTTED SEATROUT LANDINGS BY

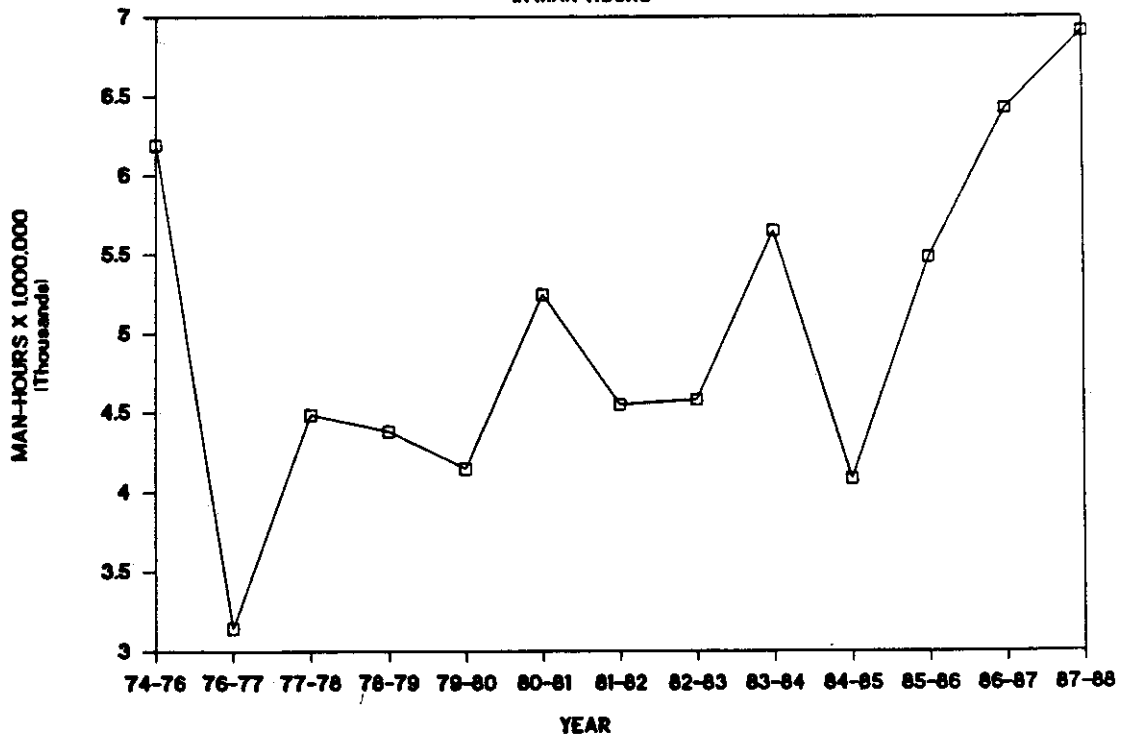
PRIVATE SPORT-BOAT FISHERMEN



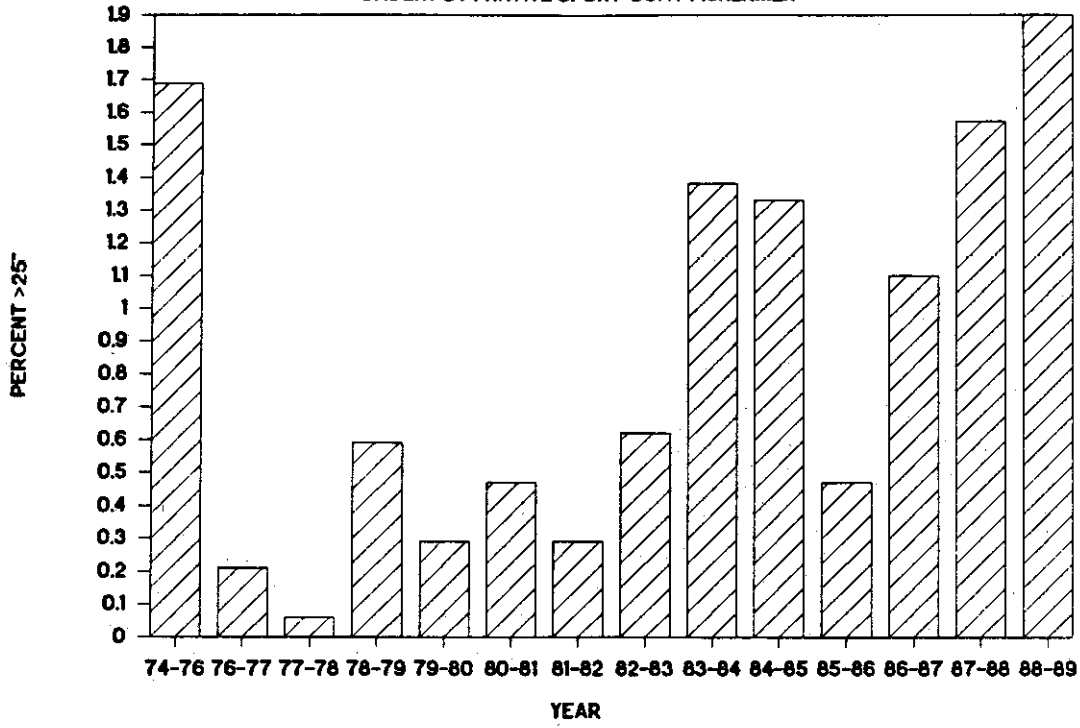
## SPOTTED SEATROUT CATCH RATES FOR PRIVATE SPORT-BOAT FISHERMEN



## PRIVATE SPORT-BOAT FISHING PRESSURE IN MAN-HOURS



# PERCENT OF SPOTTED SEATROUT >25' CAUGHT BY PRIVATE SPORT-BOAT FISHERMEN



AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for May 11:

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear, 72 degrees, 8 inches low; black bass fair to 4 pounds on dark worms; crappie slow; catfish slow.

BELTON: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level. black bass good to 3 pounds on clear topwaters; hybrid striper fair to 9 pounds on shad in 32 feet of water; crappie fair to 10 fish per string to 1 1/2 pounds each on minnows; white bass good to 20 fish per string on chrome Rat-L-Traps; catfish good to 4 pounds on dough bait.

BROWNWOOD: Water off color, 5 feet low; black bass good to 5 1/4 pounds on spinners; striper slow; white bass good early with limits; crappie fair to 10 fish per string on jigs and minnows; yellow catfish fair to 8 1/2 pounds on trotline baited with a live perch.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 75 degrees, 9 feet low; black bass fair to 7 pounds on Rogues early and purple worms and spinners mid day, shallow early and deep later in the day; striper good to 9 pounds on Redfins early and live bait later in the day; crappie fair on minnows in 6 feet of water in creeks and around points; white bass fair in the highline area; catfish good to 4 pounds on trotlines baited with worms, shrimp and shad.

CANYON: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level. black bass fair to 6 pounds on dark worms; striper slow; crappie good to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass good on Lil' Georges with some limits; catfish good to 5 1/2 pounds on shrimp and nightcrawlers; yellow catfish good to 36 pounds on live bait.

COLORADO BEND: Water murky, 79 degrees, 9 1/2 feet low; black bass poor; striper poor; crappie poor; white bass fair to 3 fish per 2 hours to 1 pound each on smoke gray jigs in 2 feet of water. no limits; channel catfish fair to 3 pounds on worms and blood bait with rod and reel, no limits.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 8 pounds over last weekend, good numbers of fish caught on dark plastic worms and lizards, winds fairly high early this week; crappie slow; catfish fairly good in the 20 pound range on live perch and goldfish.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level. black bass good within the slot and below, a single keeper at 7 pounds, 3 ounces on a Zara Spook; crappie slow; catfish good in the 4-5 pound range on shrimp, dough bait, stink bait.

INKS: Water clearing, 76 degrees, lake full; black bass good early and late on topwaters to 3 1/2 pounds, worms are good midday on chartreuse worms with a dark core; striper good on shad and live bait to 4 1/2 pounds; crappie slow; white bass fairly good early and late on yellow, white and chartreuse baits; catfish picking up with some in shallow water, trotline slow.

LBJ: Water clear, 74 degrees, lake full; black bass good to 9 pounds on PopR topwater early; striper slow; crappie fair on minnows in 6-8 feet of water off points and along creek channels; white bass good in the Llano arm trolling Hot 'n Tots and Hot Spots; catfish good to 32 pounds on trotline with live bait.

SOMERVILLE: Water slightly murky, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass fair; striper fair near the dam; crappie fair to 10 fish per string on minnows; white bass good to 15 fish per string from the bank; catfish fair to 2 pounds on liver baited rod and reel.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear, 69 degrees, 8 feet low; black bass slow; hybrid striper slow; white bass good to 15 fish per string in 6 feet of water on white jigs, silver slabs and minnows; crappie good with white jigs and minnows to 25 fish per string in 4-6 feet of water; catfish good to 6 1/2 pounds on trotline baited with liver, shrimp and cut bait; trotlines fairly productive.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 73 degrees, 15 feet low; black bass good to 60 fish per day mostly undersized to 4 1/2 pounds on chrome topwaters and chartreuse spinners early, smoked Tom's Minners later, some limits; Guadalupe bass excellent in number with a few

keepers, no limits; striper slow; crappie fair in 20 feet of water over brush with minnows and crappie jigs; white bass fair in the mid lake area with some in creeks on Tom's Minners; catfish fair. WACO: Water muddy, 75 degrees, normal level. black bass fairly good but most fish are small on spinners; striper slow; crappie fairly good to 1 1/2 pounds on jigs and minnows; white bass slow; catfish fairly good on trotline and some from the banks

WHITNEY: Water murky in creeks, clear in lake, 68 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; largemouth bass slow; smallmouth slow on topwaters to 4 1/2 pounds; striper good to 10 pounds on topwaters, some limits; crappie slow to 1 1/4 pounds on minnows; white bass good on ghost minnows, Rat-L-Traps, spinners and jigs to 1 1/4 pounds each off points; channel catfish are excellent to 4 pounds on worms cut bait and live perch; blue catfish are good to 25 pounds on live bait; yellow catfish are good to 28 1/2 pounds, good numbers of catfishermen out.

#### NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water clear, 73 degrees, 2 inch overflow; black bass good to 10 pounds on black and blue lizards, worms and Craw Worms in 10 feet of water; crappie good to 2 1/2 pounds on worms with limits in 20 feet of water over brush piles; white bass good at 10 feet in 25 feet of water on slabs, chrome and blue Rat-L-Traps, Model A Bombers; catfish slow.

BOB SANDLIN: Water clear. 81 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 8 pounds, 2 ounces on white spinners, buzz baits, worms, Red Rat-L-Traps with several limits; crappie fair to 3 pounds near the cypress dam on minnows; white bass fair to 2 1/2 pounds on minnows, Rat-L-Traps; catfish good to 6 pounds in the creek channels off deep points on blood bait, liver and shrimp.

BRIDGEPORT: Water muddy, 11 feet low; black good in number but most are too small to keep, largest fish weighed 4 pounds on worms and cranks; striper good with several large catches on Rat-L-Traps and spoons; crappie slow in 4 feet of water on minnows and jigs; white bass good with limits; catfish good to 28 pounds on trotline with live bait.

CADDO: Water clear, 1 foot high; black bass fair to 3 pounds on plastic worms, black lizards with blue tails, silver and red Chuggers, minnows; striper slow; crappie fair to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass good with full strings; catfish good to 35 1/2 pounds, some smaller on goldfish baited trotline.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 72 degrees, normal level. black bass slow; hybrid striper fair to 7 1/2 pounds while schooling with white bass; crappie good with limits in shallow and deep water on minnows, night fishing good; white bass are good early and late on all shallow points with Rooster tails, Li'l Georges; catfish good along riprap of the dam on nightcrawlers and shrimp to 7 1/2 pounds each.

CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level. black bass good to 6 1/4 pounds on cranks, Fire and Ice worms and Bloodline worms in 12 feet of water; crappie good to 25 fish per string on minnows and tube jigs; catfish fair in shallow water of the creek coves

FAIRFIELD: Water murky, 75 degrees, 8 inches low; black bass slow; crappie slow; catfish fairly good; redfish slow.

FORK: Water clear, 76 degrees, 1 inch high; black bass fair to 8 3/4 pounds on Zara Spooks in 10-12 feet of water; crappie slow; catfish good to 27 pounds on minnows.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 6 pounds on buzz baits, blue worms and Rat-L-Traps; crappie fair in 10 feet of water on minnows; white bass slow; catfish are fairly good to 8 pounds on trotlines baited with cut shad; bream fishing still good on crickets and worms.

LAVON: Water clear, 72 degrees, 2 1/2 feet above normal level; black bass fair to 4 pounds on chartreuse spinners late, high winds slowed the fishing over the weekend; striper and hybrid striper slow; crappie good in the creeks and coves on minnows with many limits in the 1 1/2 to 2 pound range in 5 feet of water; white bass good while schooling around points with many limits to 2 1/2 pounds each while trolling slabs; catfish good to 13 pounds on gizzard shad, mostly on rod and reel.



LEWISVILLE: Water stained 68 degrees, 3 feet above normal level; black bass good to 5 pounds on spinners hybrid striper good on ghost minnows and Tads; crappie slow; white bass good with limits to 3 pounds on Sassy Shad with blue back and Critter Gitters; catfish good to 7 pounds on nightcrawlers and shrimp.

MARTIN CREEK: Water clear, 74 degrees, normal level; black bass slow; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish fairly good on worms and minnows in the 2 1/2 pound range.

MONTICELLO: Water murky 88 degrees, normal level black bass good to 7 pounds, 2 ounces on 8-inch black neon worms in 10 feet or less of water; crappie fair to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; catfish good to 11 pounds on Canadian Crawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 72 degrees, normal level black bass fairly good to 6 1/2 pounds on Rat-L-Traps and spinners; crappie slow; white bass fair to 1 1/2 pounds to 8 fish per string on spinners and Sassy Shad; catfish slow.

MURVAUL Water clear. 64 degrees, normal level black bass fair to 9 pounds, 3 ounces on dark worms crappie are improving around 1971 bridge to 1 pound with limits on small minnows. channel catfish good on trotlines with night crawlers and cut shad to 4 1/2 pounds; bream very good on crickets and small worms

PALESTINE: Water clear 8 inches high; black bass good to 6 1/2 pounds on cranks and worms; striper good to 8 pounds on spoons, cranks with some limits; crappie fair to 2 1/4 pounds on minnows in 8-12 feet of water on minnows; white bass good with a few limits on spoons and cranks; catfish good on trotlines and rods and reels to 34 pounds on Catfish Charly, Mr. Catfish, nightcrawlers

RAY HUBBARD: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass fair to 3 pounds on black and chartreuse spinners striper good to 15 pounds on live bream, some limits crappie good with a few limits to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass good on minnows with schooling on white slabs; catfish good to 3 pounds with good numbers of limits with shrimp in shallow water.

TAWAKONI: Water clear, 71 degrees, normal level black bass fairly good in the 2-4 pound range on water dogs and lizards in 2-4 feet of water; striper fair to 16 pounds to 2 fish per string on white spinners, worms and live bait; crappie fair to 12 fish per string to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows and jigs white bass good with limits on Allison Slabs and jigs catfish excellent on worms and shrimp while freeshrimping the rocks around the dam.

TEXOMA: Water clear, 67 degrees 3 feet low black bass good to 7 1/2 pounds on Zara Spooks, Getzits, lizards worms, stick baits in 3-5 feet of water; striper good to 24 pounds on live bait, topwaters and Sassy Shad while trolling, many limits; crappie good with limits with live minnows; catfish excellent in shallow water; white bass good west of the islands on live bait, some topwaters in 20-25 feet of water.

WELSH Water clear, 87 degrees average, normal level black bass fair to 5 1/2 pounds on 7-inch cranapple, strawberry worms crappie slow; catfish good on trotline baited with live perch and nightcrawlers on rod and reel

#### SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level black bass fair to good in number to 8 7 pounds on black worms with a blue tail smoke worms and black worms with blue tails, chrome Rat-L-Traps with blue backs in 3 to 12 feet of water. hybrid striper good to 8.5 pounds on chrome Rat-L-Traps with blue backs in 25 feet of water; white bass good on top with the same lures; crappie fair; catfish good along the river channels channel catfish good around the bulkheads, most small fish are full of eggs

HOUSTON COUNTY Water clear, 65-72 degrees, normal level black bass good to 9 pounds, 5 ounces on Zara Spooks around the marina, along with several 6s, 7s, and 8s crappie fair to 2 1/2 pounds to 6 fish per string on minnows; white bass good while schooling to 40 fish per boat on minnows catfish fairly good to 22 pounds on rod and reel with blood bait and chicken liver.

LIVINGSTON: Water clear, 73 degrees, normal level; black bass spotty to 5 pounds on grape and plum worms in 3-8 feet of water; striper good to 10 1/2 pounds with limits during the day on white

slabs crappie spotty to 5 fish per string on yellow jigs and minnows white bass good with limits on minnows and trolling in 18-22 feet of water, some close to the river channel; catfish good with limits to 7 pounds on rod and reel channel catfish to 3 pounds with limits on shad and cut bait; yellow catfish good to 73 pounds on trotline with live baits; channel and blue catfish good to 33 pounds on large shad and cut bait; bream good on Mighty Mealy worms and nightcrawlers

RAYBURN Water clear, 65 degrees, normal level; black bass good along the edges of hydrilla on worms, jigs, spinners to 5 pounds with some limits; striper slow; crappie good in shallow water and deep water on minnows; white bass good off points and around Highway 147 bridge on Rat-L-Traps; catfish good to 3 pounds; yellow catfish good to 63 pounds on trotline baited with live perch

TOLEDO BEND: Water clear, 74 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass fairly good in number but few keepers to 5 1/2 pounds on Wacky Worms; striper slow; crappie good with many limits on minnows in river beds; white bass slow; catfish slow.

#### SOUTH

AMISTAD Water clear, 72 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass good off the points in 5-10 feet of water on dark worms and spinner baits in the trees; striper fair with some of larger fish hitting topwaters on blue topped Redfins from the dam to Marker 18; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish good on cheese bait in 35 feet of water and on shrimp.

BRAUNIG Water murky, 79 degrees, normal level black bass slow; striper fair to 5 pounds on shad and chicken livers; crappie slow; catfish fair to 4 pounds on shrimp and shad; redfish fair to 12 pounds on spoons; corvina slow.

CALAVERAS: Water clear, 74 degrees, normal level black bass good to 8 pounds on cranks; striper good on green grubs while trolling at 18 feet; crappie slow; catfish good to 3 pound average on shad and chicken liver; redfish very good on chrome Rat-L-Traps from the banks corvina are very good on shad and chrome Rat-L-Traps.

COLETO CREEK: Water clear, 77 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass good to 8 pounds on cranks and lizards, no limits; striper fair mostly in the 11-12 inch range on minnows; crappie fair but mostly small in size on minnows to 10 fish per boat; catfish good to 35 pounds on trotlines with blood bait and worms; channel catfish fairly good with several over 4 pounds.

CORPUS CHRISTI Water stained in upper lake, clear at the state park and in the dam area, 6 feet low, 76 degrees; black bass good to 9 pounds in 3-5 feet of water on 6-inch plum curly-tailed worms and chartreuse spinners; striper good to 16 pounds on cut shad; white bass slow under birds due to high southeast winds; crappie good in the coves with near limits on minnows yellow catfish good to 33 pounds on trotline baited with live sunfish in the river channel near the KOA; blue catfish good to 21 pounds in 21 feet of water baited with cut shad and live bait.

FALCON: Water clear, 5 1/2 feet low; black bass fairly good to 6 pounds with many small fish on worms and cranks; striper fair near the dam trolling and jigging spoons; crappie slow; white bass fairly good near the state park on Jiggin Spoons catfish good in shallow water to 4 pounds on frozen shrimp and sponge baits

TEXANA: Water muddy in main lake, clear in jungle and rivers 76 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass fair to 3 pounds on worms up the Navidad and Sandies white bass and striper slow; crappie fair on minnows catfish good on trotlines to 22 pounds on live bait.

#### WEST

BAYLOR: Water clear, 63 degrees, normal level black bass good to 7 pounds, 15 ounces with many small fish, quite a few limits on jigs and pork frogs in black and brown, firetailed worms, crawfish colored cranks and Rat-L-Traps; crappie good on minnows around the cattails to 20 fish per string to 2 1/2 pounds each; catfish good on stink baits and water dogs averaging 5-6 pounds.

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water muddy, 72 degrees, 11 feet low; black bass slow; hybrid striper fair on Bombers; crappie good to 20 fish per string on minnows; white bass good to 12 fish per string on jigs and fleaflyies catfish fair on trotline in the 15-20 pound range,

the largest fish for the week weighed 52 pounds

GRANBURY: Water murky, 71 degrees, normal level. black bass slow; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow. catfish fair. Rains and tornadoes have plagued the area this week.

GREENBELT: Water clear, 64 degrees, 18 inches low. black bass are good to 7 pounds along with several 5 pounders on topwaters and spinners; crappie are good on minnows to 1 1/2 pounds to 25 fish per string; white bass are good to 1 1/2 pounds on chartreuse jigs with a chartreuse tail; catfish fair to 4 1/2 pounds on night crawlers; walleye good to 7 pounds near the dam on chartreuse jigs with a chartreuse tail; northern pike to 30 1/2 inches.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear, 65-69 degrees, 6 1/2 feet low; black bass good to from 3 1/2 to 7 1/2 pounds on purple worms with chartreuse tails, Rat-L-Traps, Pumpkin Seed worms. hybrid striper good to 5 pounds on Mr. Ted's Lures and spinners; crappie good on minnows in 10 feet of water with limits. white bass fair; catfish good to 39 pounds on trotline with live bait and cut bait.

MCKENZIE: Water clear. 64 degrees, normal level. black bass good to 4 3/4 pounds shad colored Shadrap; white bass good on Rat-L-Traps. all other fishing slow.

MEREDITH: Water clear, 54 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 6 3/4 pounds on live baits; smallmouth bass good in good numbers to 6 1/2 pounds on Rapala Count Downs and live bait as well as jigs; crappie good to 3 pounds in the 2-3 pound range on minnows; white bass good on jigs and live bait with full strings. catfish slow but improving to 8 pounds on rod and reel baited with minnows, nightcrawlers, shrimp and chicken liver. walleye good to 8 pounds on live minnows. jigs and Rapalas.

OAK CREEK. Water clear, 77 degrees, 6 1/2 feet low; black bass good to 6 pounds, 12 ounces a on wide variety of lures; crappie fair at night to 10 fish per string on minnows; white bass fair around the edges of points to 10 fish per string on slabs; blue catfish good on trotline to 10 pounds. yellow catfish to 32 pounds on live baits.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clearing, 65 degrees, 7 1/2 feet low; black bass fairly good to 9 pounds with many good keepers on worms, cranks and spinners; striper good to 10 pounds on white Roadrunner jigs and slabs; crappie good with full limits on jigs and minnows; white bass good with easy limits on slabs; catfish good to 15 pounds on trotline with live perch.

SPENCE: Water clear, 64 degrees, 29 feet low; black bass good to 6 pounds on spinners and black and chartreuse Craw Worms in shallow water. striper good to 31 pounds, 6 ounces with limits on live bait; crappie good in shallow water up creeks in 2-3 feet of water; white bass schooling and surfacing on Castmasters and Rat-1-Traps in Yellow Wolf Creek and at the pump station; catfish good to 26 pounds on trotline with live baits.

STAMFORD: Water muddy, 72 degrees, normal level; black bass slow; striper slow; crappie improving to 10 fish per string to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; catfish good on trotline to 7 pounds on live bait.

TWIN BUTTES: Water clear. 71 degrees, 6 feet low; black bass good to 7.91 pounds on artificials with red tails and red worms. hybrid striper slow; crappie fairly good but scattered in 4-5 feet of water on minnows. white bass good in 40 feet of water on slabs; catfish good on trotline with live bait.

#### COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Redfish were good to 26 inches over the weekend, winds high since Monday; specks were fairly good in the 14-15 inch range. some limits, over the weekend; some gafftop, croaker, drum, flounder but no sheepshead. live bait shrimp available, mud minnows available.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Redfish have been slow; specks good to 8 pounds on Salt and Pepper shad at the jetties; flounder good to 4 pounds on mud minnows; good numbers of croaker; live bait shrimp will be available midweek at \$3.75 per pint, \$7.50 per quart.

GALVESTON: West Bay sandy and fishing is very slow; a few trout in the off Gulf Piers; whiting and gafftop good off the piers; sheepshead, trout and flounder fairly good from the causeway; weather fairly good over the weekend, winds picked up to 40 knots.

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from the southwest late Sunday; trout fairly good over the weekend. Some live bait shrimp available at \$9-\$10 per quart.

PALACIOS: Fishing was slow Tuesday due to heavy winds and white caps in the bays; only a few reports of fish of reds and specks from Palacios and Carancahua Rivers. waters very muddy; winds high earlier this week.

PORT OCONNOR: Redfish fairly good with several oversized from the jetties some limits of redfish; good numbers of specks but no big fish around Pringle, wading up front; good numbers of trout around Barroom Bay; offshore good with snapper to 19 pounds with a total of 150 pounds for 4 people, along with amberjack, a single grouper and 5 shark in the 30 inch range. Live bait shrimp plentiful at \$8.50 per quart. Weather cloudy, wind at 8 knots from the south

ROCKPORT: Windy midweek, few fishermen out.

PORT ARANSAS: Redfish are good throughout the flats, California Hole, Mud Islands, Allan's Bight; redfish should be good because of low tides midweek; trout good with some limits on live bait in Lydia Ann Channel and shrimp boat channel and the Intracoastal; a few flounder showing up with the gig; a few sheepshead, some gafftop in the deep water channels, around Marker 13; offshore producing kingfish just at the end of the jetties to 40 pounds on ribbon fish which are hard to find. Live bait shrimp are available at \$4 and \$7 plus tax. Good numbers of small shark in the 8-10 pound range from the beach. Gulf trips producing snapper, a few grouper

CORPUS CHRISTI Redfish slow in the Laguna; some along the west bank of Bird Island along with some large trout in the same area; Land Cut fishing has been fairly slow number of flounder increasing near Kennedy Causeway Bridge; trout and redfish from the Kennedy Causeway to the bay are scarce, many small fish but few keepers live bait shrimp available but getting scarce. Oso Pier fishermen fishing has been slow because of high winds Water looks good, live and dead baits available

PORT MANSFIELD: Redfish are plentiful with many limits and many oversized fish south and west of Port Mansfield, around Three Islands and Green Island; trout slow because of weather live bait shrimp plentiful at \$10 per quart; snapper good to 7 pounds offshore.

SOUTH PADRE: Winds to 35 knots have been blowing since Sunday, water overall murky; a few trout in Mesquite Flats, a few redfish from South Bay; few fishermen out; live bait shrimp is available at \$10 per quart.

PH 4/10/89