

texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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EXPANDED WILDLIFE EXPO DRAWS HUGE CROWD

AUSTIN--Almost 20,000 people of all ages shot guns, fished for trout, watched birds of prey in flight, tasted wild game, listened to hunting and fishing seminars and visited about 300 exhibits during Texas Wildlife Expo '93 on Oct. 1-3 at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department headquarters here.

The Expo, presented by TPWD, was designed to celebrate the role hunters and anglers have played in conservation and to interest youth and others in becoming involved in outdoor activities. About 19,900 people, mostly families, visited the department grounds during the three days.

A sellout crowd of about 650 attended the celebrity sporting clays shoot and banquet on Oct. 1.

Former University of Texas and NFL lineman Doug English won the celebrity sporting clays shoot after a four-round shoot off with Travis Zibilski, a 16-year-old world champion skeet shooter from Austin. Other participants included Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, rock star and avid bowhunter Ted Nugent, entertainer Gary Morris and others. Austin radio personality Bob Cole emceed the shoot.

Local celebrity Cactus Pryor acted as emcee of the banquet. Banquet speakers were Jones and Gov. Ann Richards.

Lifetime combination hunting and fishing licenses worth \$800 were presented to winners of the Expo poster, essay and poetry contests. Winners of the Texas Big Game Awards and Share a Lunker programs also were honored.

On Oct. 2, 11,500 people visited the Expo. Another 7,750 visited the Expo on Oct. 3. About 6,183 adults and youths shot targets at three five-stand sporting clays stands and air gun, archery and muzzleloader booths.

Of the 2,632 who shot sporting clays, records show 15.8 percent (416) were females, a strong indicator of the interest in outdoor sports among women and girls.

A total of 5,234 youths fished for rainbow trout. TPWD officials awarded 65 first fish awards for those who caught a fish for the first time and 120 rod and reel combinations to participants who caught tagged fish. A total of 1,041 youths practiced casting at the Zebco youth casting exhibit.

A list of participatory events and their weekend totals are listed below.

| <u>Event</u> | <u>Oct. 2</u> | <u>Oct. 3</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| TPWD/NSSF Sporting Clays | 293 | 222 | 551 |
| Winchester Sporting Clays | 475 | 280 | 755 |
| Youth Sporting Clays | 876 | 486 | 1,362 |
| Archery | 904 | 973 | 1,877 |
| Air Guns | 450 | 284 | 734 |
| Muzzleloading | 528 | 412 | 940 |
| Zebco Youth Casting | 485 | 556 | 1,041 |
| Trout Fishing | 2,900 | 2,334 | 5,234 |
| Coastal Fish Prints | 800 | 700 | 1,500 |
| Pathways To Fishing | 162 | 285 | 447 |

'We've got hunting and fishing. We've got endangered species. We've got bats. We've got nongame. We've got all those things and more, said Andrew Sansom, TPWD executive director. 'All of these different interests are represented and nobody is hostile. Nobody feels like they're in a strange place. They're all in a place they enjoy being in together

Some of the other popular events were John Karger of Last Chance Forever and his birds of prey show, a shooting demonstration by former International Skeet Shooting Champion John Satterwhite, the live animal exhibit, which included a jaguarundi and an ocelot, sporting dog demonstrations, alligators and the saltwater touch tanks. Visitors also were able to visit hunting, fishing or outdoor related booths.

Morris sang several of his country songs and talked to patrons about standing up for their right to hunt. Nugent discussed the positives of hunting and spoke to the audience about Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.).

"The people who use the out of doors here in Texas pay our bills here in this agency," Sansom said. "I received comments from some of the exhibitors saying we should charge people to come to this thing. No way! This is a very important thing for our agency to do for the people who support us."

LW 10/8/93

EXPO CONTEST WINNERS

AUSTIN--While the vast majority of the 19,900 people who came to Texas Wildlife Expo '93 on Oct. 1-3 wanted to see exhibits, shoot, fish and participate in other events, some of those came strictly to compete in one of the calling contests put on by various groups.

The Texas Chapter and Austin Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and Mossy Oak Camo sponsored the Texas State Turkey Calling Contest and the Lone Star Classic Turkey Calling Contest on Oct. 2. Bushlan Camo sponsored the 1993 World Championship Deer Calling Contest also on Oct. 2. On Oct. 3, REI, Bicycle Sports Shop and TPWD sponsored the McKinney Falls Mountain Bike Time Trial on Oct. 3 on the newly opened mountain bike trail in McKinney Falls State Park.

The turkey callings contests paid cash prizes for each category in the two events. Winner of the Lone Star Classic open division received \$1,000 and qualified for the NWTF Champions in February.

Mark Drury of Columbia, Mo., successfully defended his title in the Lone Star Classic open division and qualified for the Champions. Second place went to Jerry England of Sulphur Springs, followed by Dick Webb of Dallas in third, Ben Horst of Garland in fourth and Jay Stevens of Abilene in fifth.

Friction division finishers were Gary Setton of Nashville, Tenn., first; Webb, second; Dick Clevenger of Camden, W.V., third; Stevens, fourth; and Steve Morgenstern of Greentop, Mo. fifth.

Webb also was named the Texas State Turkey Calling Championship open division winner. Stevens finished second, followed by Allan Evans of Arlington in third and England in fourth. The friction division winner was Stevens, followed by England in second, Webb in third and Randolph Hollo of Dallas in fourth. Hollo won the amateur division. Tom Granberry of Austin placed second and Dr Tom Schulze of Austin placed third.

The deer calling contest was divided into adult and youth divisions with the winners receiving trophies and prizes.

In the adult division, Gary Sefton of Nashville, Tenn., won first place, followed by Robert Newman of Kerrville in second and Waylan Owens of Abilene in third. Youth division winners were Chad Warner of Kerrville, first, Ryan Dodds of Corpus Christi, second, and Jeremy Faught of Brownwood, third.

There were six categories in the mountain bike time trial. More than \$700 in prizes were awarded. (Hometowns were unavailable.)

For advanced males, 18-34, first place went to Marty Christman in 12:29 over the 3.5-mile natural surface course. Second place went to Stewart Stafford in 12:42 and third went to Will Ross in 12:43. Brian Lambert won the advanced male, 35 & up category in 12:48, followed by Doug Johnston in 12:57, second, and Jack Hicks, 13:19, third.

In the advance female, 18-34 category, first place went to Mary Paige Muehlegger in 14:56 and second went to Karen Yates in 16:19. In the beginner female, 18-34 category, Teresa Anderson won in a time of 16:30, followed by Rachel Scott in second at 17:29 and Kathy Waller in third at 19:36.

In the beginner male, 18-34 category, Kevin Hawk won in 13:49, Bart Koettig finished second in 14:05 and Brad Bretz was third in 14:20. For the beginner male, 35 and up category, John Pomeroy won in 16:37 and Lewis Rompala finished second in 17:28.

LW 10/8/93

TEXAS IN FOR ANOTHER GOOD QUAIL YEAR

AUSTIN--Although most of Texas has been in a drought since summer, a mild, wet winter and plenty of spring rains produced good nesting and brooding habitat for quail, which should enable hunters to have good quail hunting for the second consecutive year

Last year, Texas had its best quail hatch since 1987. A quail harvest of 1.9 million also was the best since 1987.

Most regions of the state showed a decline in numbers of quail according to August counts, but only because the previous year was so exceptional. The Cross Timbers region improved dramatically.

The 20-mile roadside count in South Texas was 26 birds per route, down from 61 in 1992, but about average since 1976. In the Rolling Plains, the count declined from 28 per route to 23, also about average over the long-term. The Edwards Plateau count dropped from 15 to 10.5.

The Cross Timbers quail count increased from 5 in 1990 to 10.5 in 1991, 12 in 1992 and 19.5 this year. This year's count is the fourth highest year since 1976 and the highest since 1987. Gulf Prairies region counts remained low at 5, which it has been four of the past five years, while the Trans-Pecos dropped from 18 last year to 2.5 this year and the lowest since almost no quail were seen in 1984.

'We had a mild, wet winter, excellent spring and early summer rains which produced good nesting and brooding habitat,' said Don Wilson, upland game program leader at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. 'The rains ended in May and a drought began that was the longest period without rainfall in the approximately 100 years of weather data.'

'Despite the dry weather we still had good August counts. Twenty-three or greater is a good count," he said. 'The Trans-Pecos is in an extended drought. The Cross Timbers got good rains when they needed them. They had a good weather pattern.

Even though much of the state has not received rainfall of late, Wilson said 1993 promises to be another good year - it won't be as good as last year except in the Cross Timbers.

'We have had a very severe summer drought, but it has not hurt the quail population at this point, he said. "We had a tremendous increase in the harvest last year. We'll have a little less this year but we're going to have a good quail year, unless it falls apart this fall. We're going to have two good quail years in a row, which is unusual.

The statewide season runs from Oct. 30-Feb. 27. The daily bag limit is 15, 45 in possession. Legal shooting hours for all non-migratory game birds are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. The bag limit is the maximum number that may be killed during the legal shooting hours in one day. The possession limit is the maximum number that may be in one person's possession at any time, after the first day. On the first day of any open season the possession limit is the same as the daily bag limit.

(NOTE: Graphics of August quail counts in the different ecological regions can be found toward the end of the news packet.)

LW 10/8/93

POOR ACORN CROP PREDICTED FOR EAST TEXAS

TYLER--Recent field reports that indicate poor mast production throughout much of East Texas this fall are leaving Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists concerned about the region's white-tailed deer population.

'Summertime is typically the biggest stress period for deer in East Texas, but this winter may be tougher, said David Rideout, TPWD technical guidance biologist. "I think we're going to be pretty short on acorns this year. We're not seeing much on the post oaks, or even the water oaks, which are usually pretty good, but appear to be short on acorns.

Deer rely heavily on acorn crops as a primary source of carbohydrates to help carry them through the breeding season and the harsh winter months. With less hard mast available, deer will be looking to other forage supplements in the months ahead, he said.

'Deer will be going more to corn this fall, and with the threat of aflatoxin, it could increase the problem, Rideout said. "Just make sure your corn has been tested for aflatoxin, mainly to protect our turkeys out there."

With corn a possible hazard and acorns slim, Rideout is urging East Texans to look into the possibility of creating supplemental food plots for wildlife this fall. "Now is the time to plant," he said.

As a rule of thumb, Rideout recommends planting 1 percent to 3 percent of the total habitat in food plots of at least an acre in size. "A plot about the size of a football field is a good reference to go by," he said. "And, you want to plant along areas already cleared such as along interior road sides, pipeline right-of-ways, logging roads and fallow fields.

"This time of year you want to look at your cool-season species, such as elbon rye mixtures with wheat or oats and rye grass, he said. "You might look into over seeding those with yucci arrowleaf clover in your upland areas and S-1 clover in the bottomlands. Austrian winter peas also are a good choice, but you want to make sure you close off your food plots to cattle."

In addition to food plots, Rideout suggests managing native forage by fencing livestock out of wooded areas from now through the winter months.

For more information on supplemental food plots, contact your Texas Agricultural Extension Service county agent. For a TPWD wildlife biologist near you, call the department at 1-800-792-1112.

SL 10/8/93

TPWD, GCCA TO SAMPLE ESPIRITU SANTO BAY

AUSTIN--Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists and volunteers from the Gulf Coast Conservation Association will be collecting samples in Espiritu Santo Bay on Oct. 8-9.

The sampling, scheduled to take place adjacent to Matagorda Island State Park and Wildlife Management Area, is a step in the continuing cooperative study on coastal resource contaminant levels, said David Sager, TPWD environmental quality branch chief.

"The study will provide information on contaminant levels in resources located in areas with no known pollution problems," he said. "This will give baseline data to compare with areas where there are pollution problems and provide a balance to the studies conducted in known contaminated areas."

Volunteers from GCCA will collect fish while department biologists from the environmental quality branch of the resource protection division collect samples of sediments, crabs and oysters from the area. All of the samples will be analyzed at the department's analytical chemistry laboratory in San Marcos. Once results are available, the information will be shared with other state and federal agencies.

The study already has generated information from Christmas Bay in the Galveston Bay system and South Bay near Brownsville. These bays have been designated as coastal preserves and the data gathered has been beneficial for evaluating environmental impacts in other coastal areas.

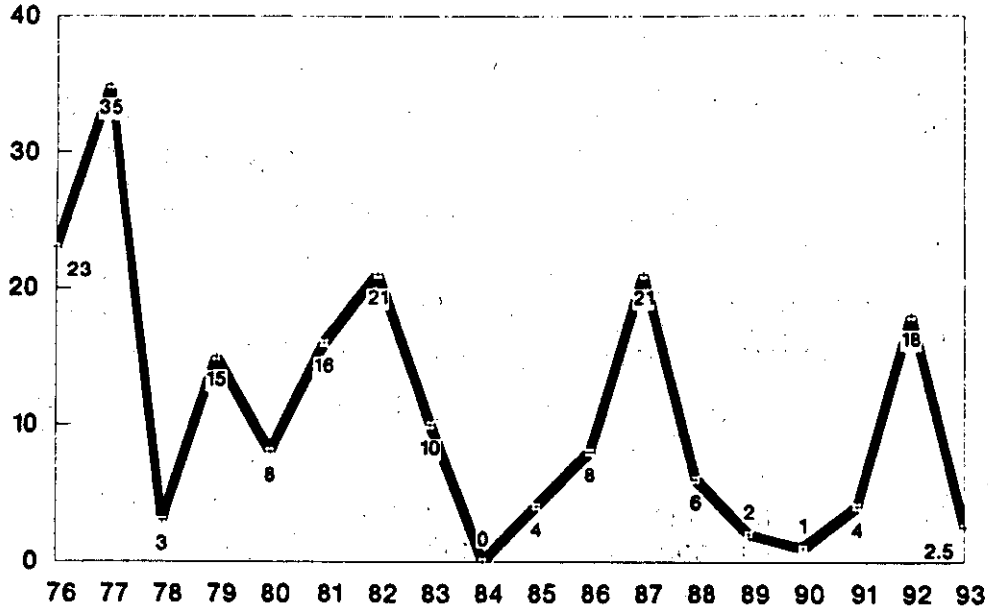
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TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE TELEVISION SHOW
October/November 1993 Schedule
(All times p.m. unless otherwise noted)

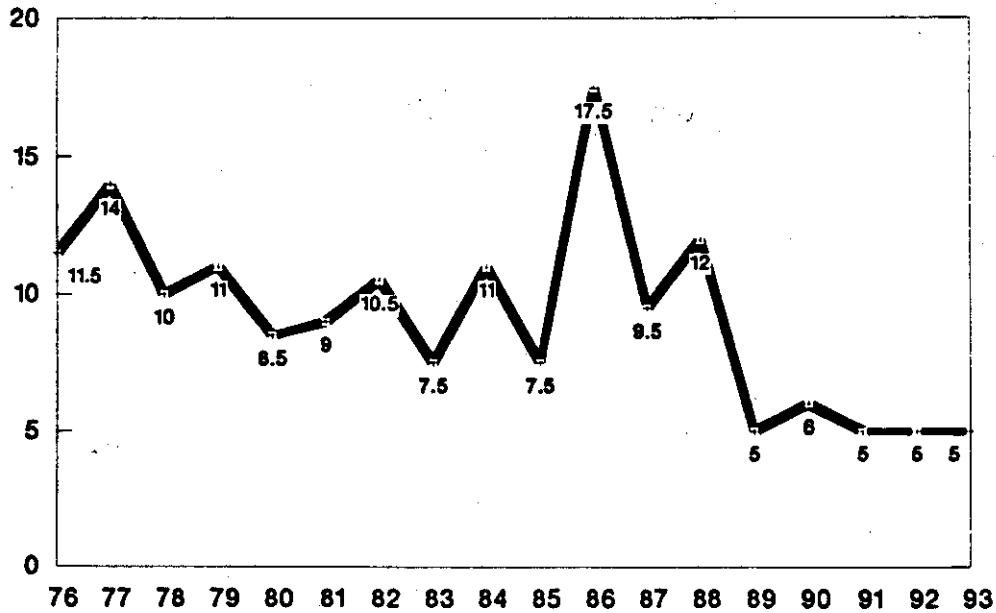
| <u>CITY/STATION</u> | <u>DAY</u> | <u>TIME</u> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Amarillo KACV-TV CH 2 | Sunday | 4:00 |
| Austin KLRU-TOO Cable CH 21 | Tuesday, Thursday | 9:30 2:00 |
| College Station KAMU-TV, CH 15 | Saturday | 6:30 |
| Corpus Christi KEDT-TV, CH 16 | Thursday, Friday | 7:30 10:30 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Dallas/Fort Worth KERA-TV, CH 13 | Friday | 6:30 |
| El Paso KCOS-TV, CH 13 | Sunday | 3:00 |
| Harlingen KMBH-TV, CH 60 | Saturday | 6:30 |
| Houston KUHT-TV, CH 8 | Saturday | 4:30 |
| Killeen KNCT-TV, CH 46 | Tuesday, Thursday | 3:00 1:30 |
| Waco KCTF-TV, CH 34 | Thursday | 11:30 |
| Lubbock KTXN-TV, CH 5 | Thursday | 1:00 |
| Odessa KOCV-TV, CH 36 | Saturday | 7:30 |
| San Antonio KLRN-TV, CH 9 | Thursday | 12:00 |

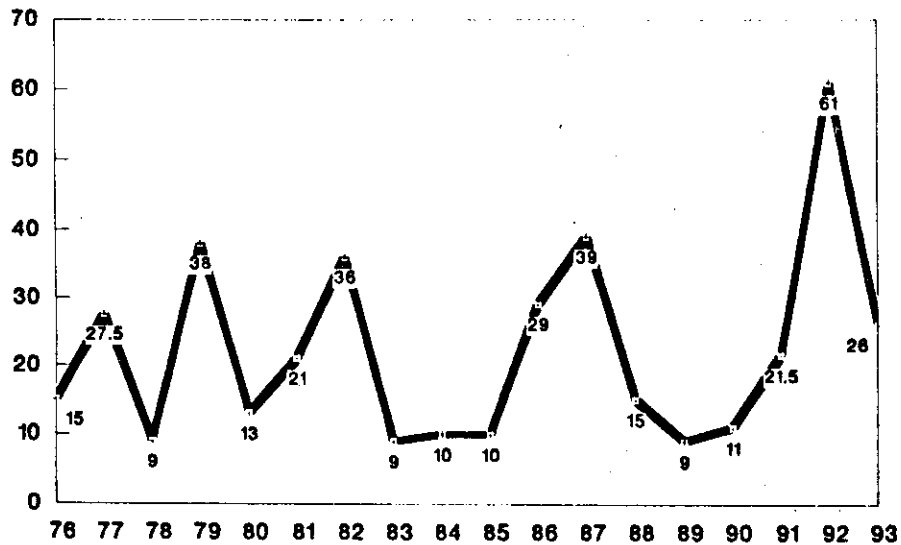
MEDIAN QUAIL COUNTS TRANS-PECOS 1976-93



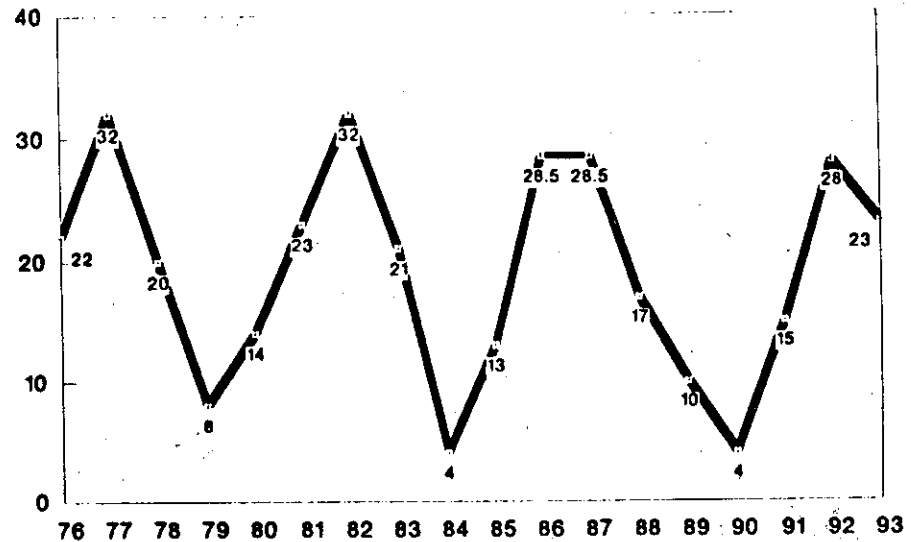
MEDIAN QUAIL COUNTS GULF PRAIRIES 1976-93



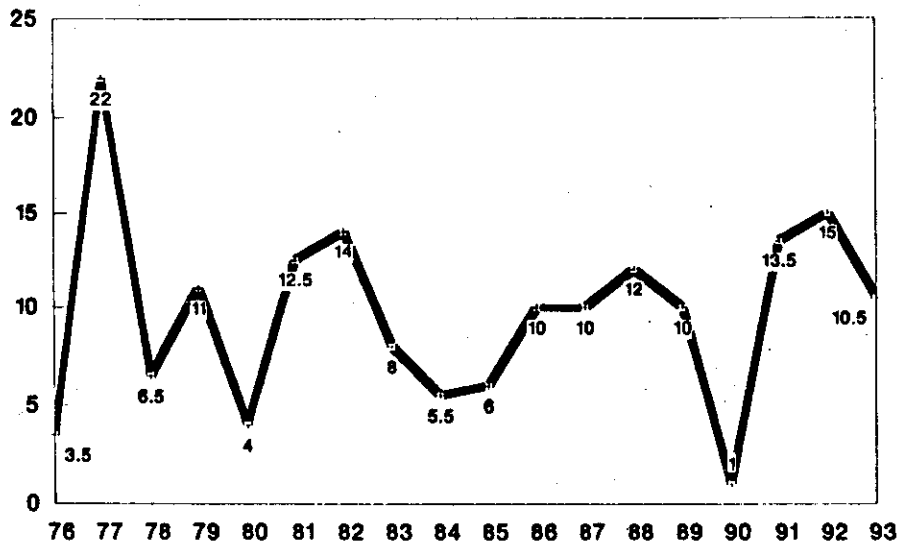
**MEDIAN QUAIL COUNTS
SOUTH TEXAS
1976-93**



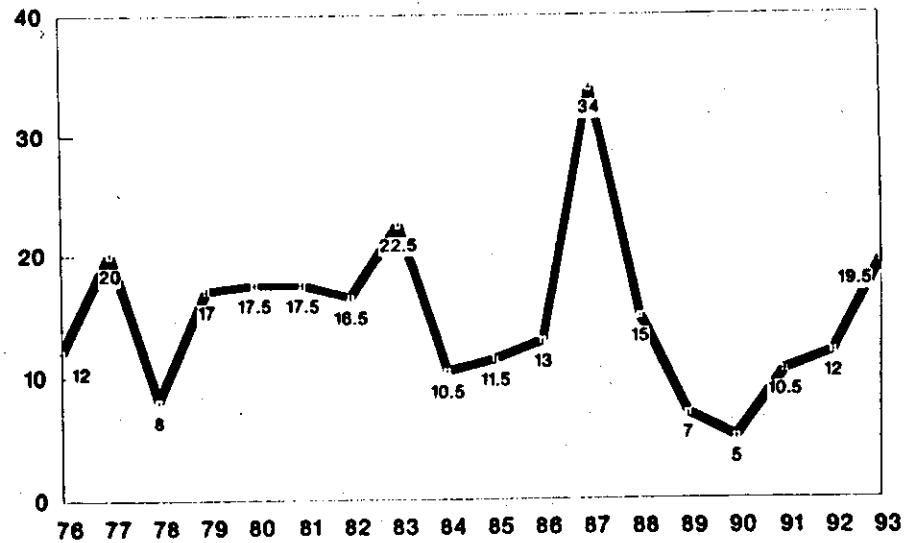
**MEDIAN QUAIL COUNTS
ROLLING PLAINS
1976-93**



**MEDIAN QUAIL COUNTS
EDWARDS PLATEAU
1976-93**



**MEDIAN QUAIL COUNTS
CROSS TIMBERS
1976-93**



AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Oct. 6, 1993.

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear, 81 degrees, 8 inches low; black bass are fair to good to 10 pounds on topwaters in 4 feet of water, schooling activity slowing; crappie are fair at night on live minnows near the dam in 18-20 feet of water; catfish are fair to good on prepared baits in 8-12 feet.

BELTON: Water off color in places, clear main lake, 83 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass are slow to 6 pounds in 12-15 feet of water on spinners and worms; hybrids and whites are good to 11 pounds in the schools on jigging spoons; crappie are fair; catfish are slow.

BROWNWOOD: Water clear, 70, 6 feet low; black bass are slow to 7 pounds on worms and lizards on drop offs in 20-30 feet of water; hybrid striper are good to 3 pounds schooling off the points late on slabs and spoons; crappie are good on the docks in 15-20 feet of water on minnows; catfish are fair on shrimp, fair on trotlines; white bass are good early and late off the points on spoons and jigs.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 80 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass are fair to 3 1/2 pounds on spinners in 6 feet or less; striper are good to 9 pounds on live shad with most running small in 50 feet of water; white bass are fair near Garrett Island and Paradise Island in 25-30 feet of water on slabs and jigs; crappie are fair near docks with structure on minnows in 25 feet of water; catfish are good to 7 pounds on fresh cut shad in 10-18 feet.

CANYON: Water clear, 81 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 5 pounds on large minnows at various depths; white bass are slow; striper are fair to 25 pounds on down riggers in 60 feet on gold and silver spoons; crappie are good at the fishing pier at Toms Creek and many other areas around the lake; catfish are good to 50 pounds on trotlines up river and Potters Creek in 18-22 feet.

DECKER: Water clear, 88 degrees, normal level, black bass are good to 7 3/4 pounds on dark colored soft jerk baits in the afternoons in shallow water near the grass; hybrid striper are excellent on perch and slab minnows in 20 feet of water; crappie are excellent on live minnows near the power line in 17 feet of water; catfish are excellent to 40 pounds on stink baits.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 83 degrees, 18 inches high; black bass are fair in some schooling activity to 4 pounds on topwaters, good in the grass to 6 pounds on waterdogs early and late; catfish are fair to 8 pounds on waterdogs or live carp; redear sunfish are good on night crawlers shallow to 12 feet on shell bottoms and in the trees.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear, 80 degrees; black bass are excellent to 8 pounds on black worms, crank baits and jerk baits near the grass, deep water humps, intake area and in the creeks; crappie are slow; catfish are slow.

INKS LAKE: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on spinners

and buzz baits in shallow water; striper are fair to 20 pounds below the dam on live bait; white bass are fair on minnows and topwaters in the schools; crappie are slow; catfish are fair on trotlines and rod and reel with shrimp.

LBJ: Water clear, 80 degrees; black bass are good to 5 pounds 9 ounces on chartreuse spinners in 5-8 feet of water; striper are slow; white bass are excellent in the large schools near Lighthouse Point on slabs and jigs; crappie are fair on docks with structure in 18-22 feet of water on live minnows; catfish are fair to 10 pounds in baited holes on stink baits.

LIMESTONE: Water clear, 79 degrees, 3 1/2 feet low; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on Bulldog spinners and Lunker Lure buzz baits in the grass and mouths of creeks; white bass are fair early and late in the schools and trolling other times; catfish are fair to 12 pounds on perch baited trotlines.

NAVARRO MILLS: Water clear, 79 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on various lures; crappie are slow; channel catfish are good on perch baited trotlines.

SOMERVILLE: Water clear, 2 feet low; black bass are good to 4 pounds on spinners in 2-6 feet of water near the rocks; white bass and hybrid stripers are slow; crappie are fair on live minnows over brush in 10-14 feet of water; catfish are good on nightcrawlers.

SQUAW CREEK: Water clear, 83 degrees, normal level; black bass are very good to 3 1/2 pounds in 10 feet of water on spinners and cranks; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 10 pounds in 8-20 feet of water on prepared baits and shrimp.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 80 degrees, 13 feet low; largemouth bass are very good to 4 pounds on silver Jerk-N-Sams topwaters, smoke colored grubs and chartreuse spinners in shallow water early and 15 feet later in the day; guadalupe bass are good to 2 pounds on the same baits; white bass and striper are slow; crappie are fair in 20 feet of water on live minnows near boat docks; catfish are good to 12 pounds on cut bait.

WACO: Water off color, 84 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are fair to 6 pounds on spinners in 2-5 feet of water near the lay-downs; white bass are fair on jigging spoons near the dam in 15-20 feet of water; crappie are fair on live minnows in 10-20 feet over brush; catfish are fair.

WHITNEY: Water murky, 79 degrees, 6 3/4 feet low; black bass are good to 2 pounds on topwaters in the schools; striper are fair to 14 pounds in the river channels; white bass are good in the schools with Kastmaster and road runners; crappie are fair in the barges and improving in the lake in 6-14 feet on minnows; catfish are fair on cut bait and shrimp.

NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water clear, 81 degrees; black bass are good to 7 pounds on 4 inch worms in 10 feet of water and shallow early; crappie are fair and picking up to 2 pounds on jigs and minnows; catfish are slow.

BOB SANDLIN: Water clear, 79 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are good to 7 pounds on jigs and soft jerk baits both shallow and

deep with larger concentrations near the grass; white bass are slow; crappie are good on live minnows in 17-20 feet over brush and creek edges; catfish are very good to 24 pounds on nightcrawlers in 8-20 feet of water near the creek edges.

BRIDGEPORT: Water clear, 2 feet low; black bass are fair to 2 pounds on pumpkin seed worms and spinners in 5 feet of water; white bass are fair; crappie are good on minnows in 5-15 feet over brush and rocky points; catfish are slow.

CADDO: Water clear, 2 feet low; all fishing slow due to lack of fishermen.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 78 degrees; black bass are good to 5 pounds on buzz baits early and worms and jigs during the day near the deeper boat docks; white bass are excellent on the humps and the schools at various locations with jigging spoons and Rat-L-Traps; crappie are good on minnows in 8-18 feet of water near the bridge pilings and the marina; catfish are good to 43 pounds on bream and shad baited trotlines and jug lines.

CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water clear, 72 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are good to 7 pounds on soft jerk baits in shallow water near the grass; crappie are good in 15 feet of water on live minnows; catfish are good to 12 pounds on nightcrawlers in 10 feet of water.

FAIRFIELD: Water clear, 85-90 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are good to 6 3/4 pounds on soft jerk baits and Rat-L-Traps; hybrid striper are slow to 4 pounds on shad and white trailers; catfish are good to 4 1/2 pounds on cut baited trotlines.

FORK: Water clear, 75 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are good in the 4-5 pound range with a few 7 pounders in 15 feet of water or less on spinners, topwaters and worms; crappie are good on jigs and minnows under the bridges.

GRAPEVINE: Water stained, 76 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are good to 5 pounds on buzz baits early and later in the day with 6 inch pumpkin seed worms along creek channels in 10 feet of water; white bass are fair early and late on topwaters in the schools in 20 feet of water; crappie are fair with some limits in boat stalls on minnows in 15 feet of water; catfish are good to 9 1/2 pounds on shrimp and shad baited trotlines and jug lines in 8-10 feet.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 79 degrees, 6 inches above normal; black bass are good to 6 pounds on buzz baits, spinners, rat-l traps, deep diving cranks and Carolina-rigged French Fries; white bass are fair but running small on crank baits; crappie are good on minnows in 10-20 feet of water along the river channel; catfish are very good with many limits in 10-15 feet of water.

LAVON: Water clear, 75 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass are fair to 6 pounds on Power worms in 8 feet of water, white bass are good in the schools with numerous limits on slabs and spoons; crappie are fair on minnows and jigs; catfish are good to 7 pounds on baited jug lines.

LEWISVILLE: Water off color, 78 degrees; black bass are good to 5 pounds on spinners and cranks early and late in 1-3 feet of water near timber and rocky areas; crappie are good in 12-15 feet of water on minnows and jigs; catfish

are fair to 3 pounds on shrimp near the rocks.

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 88 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds on 8-11 inch black worms in 10-15 feet of water; catfish are good to 8 pounds on Canadian crawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 75 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are fair on spinners in shallow water; white bass are slow; crappie are fair to 6 per stringer on minnows in 8-10 feet of water; catfish are slow.

MURVAUL: Water clear, 90 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are good to 7 pounds on buzz baits, top waters and spinners in 5 feet of water near the grass; crappie are fair under the bridge on live minnows; catfish are good to 6 pounds on night crawlers and minnows in the channels.

PALESTINE: Water clear, 2 feet low; black bass are fair to 5 1/2 pounds on worms and topwaters early and late near the grass in the creeks; white bass are fair in the scattered schools; crappie are good to 2 pounds on minnows on deeper brush piles; catfish are fair to 10 pounds on trotlines baited with prepared baits.

PURTIS CREEK: Water clear, 78 degrees, 16 inches low; black bass are good to 8 pounds in 12-18 feet of water on fire and ice colored worms; crappie are fair on minnows off the piers; channel catfish are good to 12 pounds on dog food.

RICHLAND-CHAMBERS: Water clear, 2 feet low; black bass are fair to 8 pounds on Carolina rigged worms, crank baits and top waters at various depths with some schooling near the points and pond dams; white bass are good in 15-20 feet of water on slabs with some schooling activity; crappie are fair and suspended in the tree tops and brushy areas in 10-20 feet; catfish are good on trotlines and rod and reel with shad and shrimp in 8-15 feet of water.

TAWAKONI: Water cloudy, 3 1/2 feet low; black bass are good in the smaller sizes on plastic worms and spinners; striper are good to 8 pounds on jigs in 15-20 feet of water; white bass are fair trolling with pet spoons; crappie are slow; catfish are good to 8 pounds with some limits in 15-25 feet on blood bait.

WRIGHT PATMAN: Water murky, 78 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are slow to 5 pounds on worms, spinners, jig and pigs and Rat-L-Traps; white bass are slow and scattered on Rat-L-Traps; crappie are slow to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows and jigs; catfish are fair to 25 pounds on trotlines, drift fishing fair on live shad, perch and stink baits.

SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water clear, 82 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass are fair to good to 9 pounds on worms and cranks in 8 feet of water; white bass are schooling at various times with trolling the best bet for numbers; crappie are good on minnows in 10-12 feet of water; catfish are slow.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds on top waters, Rat-L-Traps, buzz baits and worms in 5 feet of water; crappie are good to 2 1/2 pounds on minnows in 15 feet of water over brush; white bass are good in the schools near the mouths of

creeks; catfish are good to 9 pounds on worms.

LIVINGSTON: Water clear, 80 degrees, 14 inches low; black bass are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on crank baits and worms in various depths; white bass are good in schools with slabs and trolling with Pet Spoons; crappie are good on minnows in 12 feet over brush; catfish are good to 40 pounds on live perch, shad and cut bait.

RAYBURN: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 9 pounds on the outside edge of the grass with topwaters early and late, jigs on sunny days; crappie are fair on main lake brush piles on minnows in 15 feet of water.

TOLEDO BEND: Water clear, 79 degrees; black bass are slow to 4 pounds on topwaters, worms, jigs and spinners; striper are fair in the 5-12 pound range on jigs and topwaters with some schooling; crappie are fair over baited holes with shiners; catfish are good to 30 pounds on trotlines with live bait in 15-30 feet of water.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear, 79 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass are fair to 9 pounds on Power worms, topwaters and medium running cranks mid day; striper are fair to 10 pounds on slabs; white bass are fair on minnows at night; catfish are good at various depths to 80 feet on prepared baits.

BRAUNIG: Water murky, normal level; black bass are poor; striper are fair in the undersized range; redfish are good on downriggers with spoons in 15 feet of water; catfish are good on cut bait.

CALAVERAS: Water murky, 85 degrees, normal level; black bass are good but undersized on artificials near the shoreline; striper are slow; crappie are slow; catfish are fair on cut bait; redfish are excellent on live perch and cut bait; corvina are slow.

CHOKO: Water clear, 86 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are slow with top water baits and plastic worms early fished slow around outer grass beds in 5-12 feet of water; white bass are fair in the schools with shad over deep water with most fish near the flats trolling; crappie are fair and improving with some limits on live minnows in 15-35 feet; catfish are fair but scattered over deep water near the willow trees in 5-12 feet of water.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water off color; black bass are fair to 8 pounds on plastic worms; white bass are good in the schools; crappie are fair off the piers on live minnows and jigs; catfish are good to keeper size.

FALCON: Water clear, 79 degrees; black bass are good to 7 pounds on crank baits, jigs and worms in 5-15 feet of water; striper are good to 12 pounds on spoons and 1-2 ounce jigs; white bass are good on jigs and spoons; catfish are good on shrimp in 10-18 feet.

MEDINA: Water clear, 8 1/2 feet low; all fishing is slow except for catfish which are fair on night crawlers and shrimp in 8 feet of water.

WEST

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water murky, 75 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass are good to 4 pounds on spinners and cranks in shallow water; hybrid striper are fair to 11 pounds on shad in 15 feet of

water; white bass are fair trolling; catfish are good to 35 pounds on drift fishing.

FRYER: Water clear, normal level; black bass are slow; crappie are fair to 2 1/2 pounds on minnows in 3 feet of water; catfish are good to 9 pounds on minnows and shad.

GRANBURY: Water stained, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair on spinners; striper are fair at the warm water outlet; crappie are good in the brush at 16 feet of water; catfish are very good over baited holes on Mr. Whiskers; white bass are good in the schools on slabs.

GREENBELT: Water clear, 70 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are good to 5 pounds on artificial baits near the grass; crappie are fair and improving on minnows, catfish are excellent to 9 1/2 pounds on minnows, livers and shrimp; walleye are good to 7 pounds on minnows in shallow water.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear; black bass are good to 10 pounds; striper are slow; white bass are slow; crappie are excellent with easy limits in 5-10 feet of water on minnows; catfish are good to 27 chad live perch.

MCCLELLAN: Water murky; all fishing slow except for catfish which are good to 4 pounds on minnows and chaeta.

OAK CREEK: Water clear, 75 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass are fair to 1/2 pounds at night with plastic worms in 6 feet of water; crappie are fair off the docks with minnows; catfish are good to 8 pounds on chicken livers and minnows on rod and reel and trotlines.

O.H. IVIE: Main lake clear, upper end murky, 77 degrees; 1 1/2 feet low; black bass are good to excellent to 8 pounds on cranks on crank baits, buzz baits and top waters along shorelines early and late, plastic worms along ledges, points and vegetation; small mouth bass are fair on jigs and cranks along ledges and points in 20 feet of water with some caught early and late in shallow water; crappie are fair on minnows in 15-30 feet of water at Observation Point and around the 1929 bridge; white bass are poor; channel catfish are fairly good on rod and reel over baited holes and on trotlines midway up the lake near the 1929 bridge and around Pony Creek; yellow catfish are fair on trotlines in the upper end using live bait in 15-25 feet of water.

PALO DURO: Water is clear, 75 degrees, very low; all fishing slow except for catfish which are fair but small.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, 78 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass are poor to fair to 5 pounds on top waters, soft jerk baits and spinners in shallow water; striper are good to 8 pounds in the schools early and late with topwater baits; white bass are good in the schools early and late on small top waters; crappie are fair on minnows in 15 feet of water; catfish are poor to fair to 2 1/2 pounds on jug lines in 25 feet of water.

PROCTOR: Water murky; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on crank baits off the points; hybrid striper are good to 22 inches on live shad; crappie are fair on live minnows with some limits in 10 feet of water; catfish are good on trotlines with shad.

SPENCE: Water clear, 76 degrees; 27 feet low; black bass are very good in the 2-4 pound range on buzz baits in shallow water in the

creeks; striper are excellent in the schools on topwaters; white bass are schooling but running small; crappie are slow; catfish are good on trotlines in the 2-3 pound range on shrimp and minnows. STAMFORD: Water clear, 75 degrees; 3 feet low; black bass are excellent to 6 pounds on jigs near the grass; crappie are good on minnows and jigs in 8-12 feet of water over drop offs; catfish are excellent to 30 pounds on carp baited trotlines and jug lines. WHITE RIVER: Water clear, 7 feet low; black bass are fair to 4 1/2 pounds; all other fishing slow.

COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Speckled trout and redfish are the best bet on various baits; spanish mackerel are hooked in the same areas on live shrimp and other baits; a few flounder and sheepheads are good in the wind just off the mouth of the Neches river and on the Louisiana side; live shrimp is available.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Numerous fish being caught with redfish and croaker the most common; flounder are running large to 6 pounds on mud minnows; dead shrimp and mullet good for good numbers of drum, redfish and trout; some live bait available.

GALVESTON: A lot of golden croaker in the serf from the piers and channels on dead shrimp; numerous flounder to 6 pounds are caught on mud minnows and live shrimp along the jetties and cuts, East Bay and West bay along the marsh fringes; numerous oversized redfish are hooked in serf on live and cut mullet; offshore is producing limits of red snapper to 20 pounds; limits of king mackerel; live bait available.

FREEPORT: Numerous spanish mackerel caught in the serf on live and dead bait; oversized redfish are hooked along the jetties; Christmas Bay producing good numbers of flounder to 4 pounds; live bait is available.

PORT OCONNOR: Numerous redfish are caught in the back bays and jetties; trout are good to 4 pounds with some limits on live bait near the wells and reefs; sheepheads are good around the jetties; some tarpon are being hooked along the shoreline; flounder are slow but improving; live bait available.

MATAGORDA: Colorado river producing good numbers of croaker, sand trout and small specks with some keepers; East and West Bay is excellent for wade fishing for redfish and trout on the south shoreline on Strawberry Hogies and topwaters; flounder gigging in both bays good; gulf is calm and good for snapper and dolphin; live bait \$10 per quart.

PALACIOS: Fair numbers of redfish and trout at the Baptist Encampment and Payilion piers under the lights using a variety of baits; good numbers of reds and trout at the long jetties and the Turning Basin on silver spoons; good numbers of reds at the E. Tres Palacios from the mouth of the river to Oyster Lake on red and white Hogie swimming shad; good numbers of trout caught at the wells; reds and trout are good at the shoreline near Bayside Camper Park; live bait available.

ROCKPORT: Aransas Bay along San Jose shoreline good for redfish and scattered number of trout; Copano Bay good for numbers of redfish; flounder are good to 10 pounds at near Cedar Bayou flats,

some good gigging action; live bait available.

PORT ARANSAS: Rock Island and Indian Point producing good numbers of redfish and trout on live mullet and shrimp; trout good off the rigs on live bait; flats and drop-offs producing good numbers of redfish and trout to 27 inches on live mullet; live bait available but becoming scarce.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Serf excellent for redfish and trout on live mullet with most oversized; north of the JFK Causeway Bridge the water is clear and good for wade fishing for undersized trout; Shamrock Cove and Naval Air Station producing fair numbers of reds and specks; live bait available.

PORT MANSFIELD: Fishing picking up this week with good numbers of redfish in the 22-24 inch range on the sand from the East Cut to Green Island on gold and silver spoons; trout good in the 18-22 inch range at shallow grassy areas on floaters and imitation shad working best; large schools of drum located in the Saucer area hitting slowly worked shrimp tails; jetties good for tarpon in the 40-80 pound range on live mullet, fly fishermen successful using flies; offshore action continues to be excellent for snapper and king fish within a mile from the jetties; live shrimp available but scarce.

SOUTH PADRE: North Laguna Madre near Three Island area good for keeper redfish on popping corks with live shrimp; big trout are slow until cooler weather arrives; jetties is good at Padre Island for mangrove snapper on live finger mullet and jigs; sand trout and speckled trout are good at night on live shrimp at the Port Isabel fishing pier; live bait available.

RD