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# texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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## WMA CHANGES MADE; APPLICATION DEADLINES SET

AUSTIN--The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission adopted several regulations changes for Type I and Type II Wildlife Management Areas during its public hearing May 23, including the addition of many more Type II areas to either-sex archery deer hunting and providing for muzzleloader hunts in five Type I areas. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department also has announced deadlines for applying for drawings for Type I hunts.

### TYPE II WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Under changes adopted by the commission, 61 Type II units will be open to either-sex deer hunting during the October archery season, up from five in 1990, said Herb Kothmann, public hunts coordinator. All other deer hunts on Type II areas will remain buck only.

The department has 83 Type II units, the same as last year, but the acreage has increased from 745,000 to 760,000. Type II WMA hunting is open to anyone who purchases the \$35 Type II permit.

Also, the TPWD will not delay opening dates for deer hunting as has been the case on some units the previous four years. Kothmann said the change will add six Type II areas to opening day status, putting 130,000 acres of choice Type II deer hunting areas on line for opening day (Nov. 2). Those areas are Alabama Creek, Bannister, Caddo, Moore Plantation, Richland Creek and Unit 120 in Anderson County.

"It's a considerable increase in opportunity," he said. "In the past we delayed the opening date at these areas because we recognized they were our choice areas and we were concerned they would get hammered on opening weekend. But years of restocking efforts on other Type II areas have brought those areas up to par and we feel like we can open up all of them on opening weekend now."

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Another change has the Black Gap WMA, which had javelina hunting open for 45 continuous days last year, scheduled for four four-day hunts this year. The hunts will be from noon Friday to noon Monday, beginning Jan. 17 and ending Feb. 17. Javelina hunters must check in at Black Gap headquarters and be assigned to a specific hunting compartment.

Deadline for applying for drawings on Type II hunts will be Sept. 17 for pronghorn antelope; and Nov. 5 for mule deer. Holders of Type II permits may participate in hunts for other species without selective drawings. Type II books will be available Aug. 1 from the department's headquarters (4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744) and from regional field offices.

### **TYPE I WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS**

New regulations on Type I areas provide 400 positions for muzzleloader deer, exotics and feral hog hunts on five areas. Those areas are Seminole Canyon SHP, Choke Canyon-North Shore, Lost Maples SNA, Enchanted Rock SNA and Guadalupe River SP.

Other changes include closing night hunting for coyotes and furbearers on the Granger WMA to avoid disturbing wild turkey brood stock and extending the period for taking feral hogs by archery on Somerville WMA to include not only the October archery season, but also Jan. 15-March 15.

Kothmann reminded hunters that nontoxic steel shot is now required statewide for hunting waterfowl, including WMAs. The use or possession of lead shot while hunting waterfowl is prohibited.

Type I hunting for most big game species is available through drawings. Deadlines for applying for public hunts on Type I areas are Aug. 6 for alligators; Aug. 27 for archery deer; Sept. 17 for gun deer (includes muzzleloading); Nov. 12 for gun feral hogs; Dec. 10 for javelina; and Feb. 11 for spring turkeys.

Information on Type I hunts and drawings will be in Type I books that will be available to the public on Aug. 1. The books will automatically be mailed to everyone that applied for a Type I special permit last year. Others can get a book from the department's headquarters or from a department regional field office. Alligator applications will be available in a separate publication free upon request from Austin headquarters July 1

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HATCHERY RECEIVES  
MONEY FOR NETS

SAN MARCOS- The Boating Trades Association of San Antonio donated \$3,600 to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's fish hatcheries branch for the purchase of netting to cover ponds, protecting brood stock from fish-eating birds, particularly cormorants.

The money, presented to Gene McCarty, director of fish hatcheries, is proceeds from the BTA-sponsored San Antonio Sport, Boat and RV Show. The donation qualifies for matching Wallop-Breaux Sportfish Restoration Funds, which will bring the total to \$14,400.

McCarty said the donation will enable the department to cover three acres of ponds at the hatchery. The department hopes to have the project underway in the next month.

"Cormorant predation traditionally is a problem on fish hatcheries, he said. "They zero in on 8- to 12-inch fish. We plan to cover ponds where we can protect this size of fish.

McCarty said the department would like to put netting on ponds at other hatcheries as well. "In the past we've had problems at Jasper and Tyler. Given the opportunity, we'd do it at the other ones, too.

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EXPERTS TO DISCUSS  
LAGUNA'S BROWN TIDE

AUSTIN- Brown tide, which has haunted the Laguna Madre for months, and under the right conditions can cause fish kills, will be discussed at a symposium and workshop July 15-19 at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute (UTMSI) in Port Aransas.

The program is sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, UTMSI and the Environmental Protection Agency's Gulf Program. Nationally and internationally recognized experts will meet with Texas researchers to compare notes and pool knowledge about this new and potentially devastating phenomena in those South Texas waters.

"The Laguna Madre is unique in the world, said Dr. Larry McKinney, resource protection division director at TPWD. "What has been happening there over the last two years is frightening because it could mean the loss of the Laguna's characteristic and productive seagrasses and there doesn't seem to be anything we can do about it.

Brown tide is the result of blooms of a very small form of Chrysophyta, which is a phytoplankton. This single cell algae appears to be new and has not been seen in the Laguna Madre before, he said. Unlike the organism that causes red tide, the brown tide organism is not toxic, yet it is so abundant that with calm winds, warm temperatures and shallow depths, the blooms can deplete oxygen in the water and cause fish kills.

More importantly, McKinney said, it can become so dense that it cuts off light to submerged seagrasses, killing them. Department coastal fisheries staff and UTMSI researchers have been monitoring and tracking the brown tides for some time.

"Short of flushing the entire Laguna, which would take a hurricane and more rain than I've ever seen in South Texas, I can't see a ready solution, McKinney said. "That's why the Gulf Program's interest and financial support of the symposium is so important. They have set aside funds to help address critical Gulf problems by bringing in recognized experts together, and our brown tide certainly qualifies.

Dr. Warren Pulich of the resource protection division and a noted Texas expert on Laguna seagrasses, said recently he has seen large rafts of dead seagrass at the northern end of the Laguna.

"The water in the area was murky brown, like coffee, and visibility was reduced to less than six inches, which is characteristic of brown tide, he said. "I have never seen such large rafts of dead grass this early. It's usually late summer or fall when that occurs. If we are seeing it now, because the brown tide is shading the grass beds and the low light is resulting in early die off, it is very serious.

The Laguna grass flats are an important habitat to young trout and redfish, as well as forage animals such as crabs and shrimp on which these valuable sportfish feed. Grass beds can contain 10 times as many animals as nonvegetated bottoms. Their loss would destroy the valuable and unique ecosystem within the Laguna Madre, McKinney said.

According to Joe Martin, department fisheries biologist from Corpus Christi, it also could be affecting the feeding activity of small surf clams that are the staple diet of black drum, an important food fish. The tide may be having other impacts the department hasn't recognized yet.

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BEACH MOUNTAINS RECEIVE  
DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

VAN HORN- Twenty-three adult and four juvenile desert bighorn sheep were released May 12 in the Beach mountains north of here as part of a cooperative effort between the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Beach Mountain Ranch and the Texas Bighorn Society.

The Texas Bighorn Society also constructed a water collection device and made water storage improvements on Beach Mountain with the help of the department and the ranch.

Bob Cook, TPWD big game program leader, said the sheep came from the department's brood pens at the Sierra Diablo Wildlife Management Area near Van Horn. In December, the sheep were brought from Sierra Diablo to a soft release enclosure on Beach Mountain Ranch until four lambs were born and until range conditions improved before being released.

The Beach Mountains are centrally located among mountain ranges in the area and constitute the key to movements from one range to another. Mike Hobson, TPWD district leader from Alpine, said the extensive rocky ledges and cliffs in this range will provide the bighorns protection from predation.

"This area provides some of the best habitat for desert bighorn sheep in the western Trans-Pecos region of Texas, he said.

According to Charles Drechsel, president of the Texas Bighorn Society, Beach Mountain Ranch owner Lief Johnson gave the group permission to construct a water catchment device on his ranch to supply water for sheep and other wildlife species. The water catchment was located in a remote part of the mountain and construction materials had to be flown in by helicopter. The 40 people involved in the project took two days to build the device.

Two additional water catchment devices are scheduled to be built in the Beach Mountains in the future. Drechsel said funding for this project comes from membership dues, donations from other interested parties and proceeds from items auctioned at the annual Texas Bighorn Society meeting.

"The sheep release probably could not have been done without the assistance of the folks from the Texas Bighorn Society, Hobson said. "They are dedicated, enthusiastic, well organized and remain committed to the welfare and re-establishment of desert bighorn sheep in Texas.

The Texas Bighorn Society's primary purpose is to help the TPWD, under the department's supervision, do everything possible to further re-establish bighorn sheep in the Trans-Pecos region of West Texas.

## T.P.W.D. NOTEBOOK

AUSTIN- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department now has a toll-free number for boaters to receive information regarding boat registration titling and outboard motor titling. The number, 1-800-BOATS 55, is already operational.

A previous boater information line, which gives the same information, continues to operate, too. That number is (512) 389-4828. The toll-free number was instituted to provide better service to the public and the other number will remain operational in case the toll-free number is busy. Both numbers will be open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on working days.

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AUSTIN- For the second time in less than a month the Texas State Fish Records Committee has approved a record yellow bullhead catfish.

The new record belongs to James W. Stone of Tyler. Stone's catfish weighed 1.60 pounds and was 12.83 inches long. It was caught May 18 on rod and reel in Lake Palestine.

Another Tyler angler, Tod S. Salts, caught the previous record weighing 1.18 pounds and measuring 13 inches long. It was caught on rod and reel May 10, also in Lake Palestine.

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TILDEN- Spring turkey hunters at the James E. Daughtrey Wildlife Management Area had a 32 percent harvest success during April hunts on the WMA in McMullen County.

Joe G. Herrera, area manager, said 31 hunters harvested 10 gobblers. Seven of the gobblers were jakes, confirming a good turkey hatch in 1990. Herrera considered the success rate excellent despite rainy weather conditions during both weekends.

The only disappointment, he said, was that standby hunters did not take advantage of the nine vacancies created by cancellations.

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COLLEGE STATION--A poster, 'Important Food Plants for East Texas White-tailed Deer,' will soon be available in several East Texas areas. The 16 color photographs illustrate some of the more important plants found in the Post Oak Savannah and Pineywoods ecological areas of East Texas that provide food for white-tailed deer in the form of browse and mast.

The posters will be displayed at field offices of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service and other state and federal wildlife resource agencies in East Texas. The poster also may be distributed in feed stores, agriculture co-ops, to agriculture-science and biology teachers and to landowners that request assistance from TPWD wildlife biologists in developing wildlife management plans for their property.

A joint effort of the TPWD and TAEX, the poster is designed to help landowners and land managers identify some of the vegetation important to deer in East Texas. This, in turn, could help them in making habitat manipulation decisions concerning deer management, said David Rideout, technical guidance biologist with TPWD's Private Lands Enhancement Program in College Station.

"Many land managers don't realize how important many kinds of trees, shrubs and vines are to deer and many other wildlife species, and that only a small percent of a deer's diet includes grasses," he said.

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JUNCTION--South Llano River State Park will celebrate its first anniversary by helping Junction celebrate an old-fashioned Fourth of July, and will receive an American flag that flew over the U.S. Capitol.

At 4 p.m. July 4, the park will host the beginning of a canoe race on the Llano River that will end at the Junction city park. Following the race, the city park will host several other events, concluding with a fireworks display.

Lamar Smith, U.S. Congressman from Kerrville, arranged for a U.S. flag to be flown over the Capitol on July 3, the state park's first anniversary. It will be presented to the park at a later date. Donnie Coleman, Assistant U.S. District Attorney for the 198th Judicial District in Junction, bought the flag and will donate it to the park.

The 506-acre park, adjacent to the Walter Buck Wildlife Management Area, had 95,829 visitors through May 27, much more than the expected 50,000 for the first year.

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AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for June 6:

#### CENTRAL

BELTON: Water clear, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are slow; crappie are fair to 10 fish per string on minnows; white bass are fair to slow; catfish are fair in the 1 1/2 pound range around marinas on minnows

BROWNWOOD: Water clear, 70 degrees surface, spillway level; black bass are fair to 6 pounds on black and red Smooes; striper are slow; crappie are good on fleafly, small jigs and minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are fair in the 1 1/2 to 2 pound range on live bait and frozen shrimp.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 78 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are fair through 4 pounds, 2 ounces on white spinners; striper are good with some topwater activities through 16 pounds on live bait; crappie are slow; white bass are good on points where shad are running with slabs and jigs, limits daily; catfish are good through 5 pounds in baited holes with stinkbaits, limits daily.

COLORADO BEND: Water murky, 74 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass are poor; striper are poor; crappie are poor; white bass are poor; channel catfish are good to 3 pounds on rod and reel baited with bloodbait and worms; yellow catfish are good to 10 pounds on trotlines baited with perch.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 90 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly good to 7 1/4 pounds early and late on plastic worms, spinners and buzz baits; crappie are slow; catfish are fair to 7 pounds on jug lines baited with live bait, dead shrimp and frozen shrimp.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 8 pounds, 13 ounces on spinners, buzz baits and plastic worms; crappie are fairly good with near limits on minnows; catfish are good to 41 pounds on jug lines baited with chicken livers.

INKS LAKE: Water clear, 73 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 3 pounds on spinners and topwaters; striper are slow on live bait such as shad and perch; crappie are slow; white bass are fair to 12 fish per string trolling Tom's Minners and casting spinners; catfish are slow.

LBJ: Water clear, 78 degrees, lake full; black bass are good through 5 pounds, 9 ounces on chartreuse spinners; striper are slow; crappie are fair with some limits in deeper water with minnows; white bass are good early on points where shad are reunning, midday, white bass can be found under birds; catfish are good in baited holes through 8 pounds on stinkbaits.

LIMESTONE: Water clear to murky, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on Poe's RC#3 and Jawtec Wacky Worms in black and chartreuse; crappie are slow; white bass are good with limits early and late on Rattle Traps; catfish are good to 7 pounds on trotlines baited with perch.

SOMERVILLE: Water murky, 80 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are fair to 3

pounds on dark worms; striper are slow; hybrid striper are good to 18 inches, the largest weighed 5 pounds and was caught on a Bomber slab; crappie are fair on minnows and jigs, no limits landed; white bass are good with many limits caught trolling Pet Spoons; catfish are fair to 15 pounds on cut shad and live perch.

SQUAW CREEK: Water clear with 25 foot visibility, 72 degrees, normal level; black bass are good in 10 feet of water on worms, cranks; striper are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are fairly good in 10-20 feet of water on stinkbait and shrimp.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are slow. Fishing has been fairly slow midweek.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 79 degrees, 18 inches low; largemouth bass are good to 3 pounds to 55 fish per boat on chrome topwaters early, firecracker grubs and strawberry Ringworms are good later in the day; Guadalupe bass are good to 15 1/2 inches on the same lures with good numbers in the 13 to 13 1/2 inch range; striper slow; crappie are slow; white bass are good with schools all over the lake, fish are caught on grubs and Hot Spots; catfish are fair to 6 pounds around Lakeway.

WACO: Water off color, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on Craw Worms and buzz baits; striper are slow; crappie are fair on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are fair to 20 pounds on trotlines with live bait.

WHITNEY: Water clear, 75 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are good to 4 pounds on topwaters; smallmouth bass are good to 5 pounds on topwaters; striper are slow; crappie are fair to good with a few limits caught on minnows and jigs; white bass are good early and late on slabs and spoons; catfish are good to 7 pounds on cut bait.

#### NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water clear, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to near 9 pounds on plastic worms, cranks produce smaller fish; crappie are excellent at night on minnows in 21 feet of water; white bass are good early on spinners; catfish are good to 12 pounds at night on nightcrawlers.

BRIDGEPORT: Water off color, 18 inches low; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on Rat-I-Traps off points and rocky banks, good numbers of undersized fish caught; striper are very good in number; crappie are good on minnows and jigs in 20 feet of water; white bass are very good on slabs, Rattle Traps and spoons; catfish are very good on shrimp, shad, worms and perch.

CADDO: Water clear, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are fair to 3 1/2 pounds on Chatterboxes and Rattle Traps; crappie are fair to 1 pound in the river bed on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are good at night to 7 pounds on trotlines and throw lines with goldfish and cut bait.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 7 1/2 pounds on Rattle Traps and plum Sensations; hybrid striper are fair in number trolling magnum Hellbenders with jig trailers; crappie are fair to 10 fish per string in 22 feet of water around bridge pilings and

stump fields; white bass are very good during the day on silver slabs and chartreuse Roostertails; catfish are fair to 35 pounds on cut bait in 12 feet of water.

CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water clear, 74 degrees, 5 inches above normal level; black bass are fairly good to 5 pounds on Rattle Traps and black and red worms; crappie are good around the tire reefs in 15-16 feet of water and around brush piles on minnows and white jigs; catfish are good to 18 pounds in shallow water off points on shrimp, large minnows and nightcrawlers.

FAIRFIELD: Water clear, 85-90 degrees, 10 inches above normal level; black bass are fair to 10 pounds on worms; striper are good to 15 pounds on shad; crappie are very slow; catfish are good to 10 pounds on live bait; redfish are good to 16 pounds on deep diving cranks in the deeper water.

FORK: Water clear, 86 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 9 pounds on plastic worms; crappie are good on minnows; catfish are slow.

JOE POOL: Water clear, normal level; black bass are good in the 5-8 pound range on DB#3s and pumpkin seed worms; crappie are good to 2 pounds on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 10 pounds on shad gizzards and minnows and bloodbait.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 83 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are fairly good to 6 pounds on black neon and Texas smoke Ringed Rascal Worms, white and chartreuse buzz baits and shad colored Bomber cranks; crappie are slow but improving under the birds and at night under bridges in 10 15 feet of water; white bass are good to 2 pounds on small cranks and white jigs catfish are fairly good below the dam on nightcrawlers; bream fishing excellent on crickets and nightcrawlers around points, islands and sand bars in the shallow water.

LAVON: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 4 1/2 pounds on spinners in the grassy beds and shallow rocky points late in the afternoon; hybrid striper are slow; crappie are good on minnows, some limits caught in 15 feet of water around big trees; catfish are good to 8 pounds in 20-25 feet of water on fresh shad and cheese stinkbait.

LEWISVILLE: Water a little off color, 76 degrees, 2 inches high; black bass are excellent to 4 pounds on 4 inch camo Power Worms; striper are fair in the 21-22 inch range or about 5 pounds jigging spoons and slabs, live shad also are productive; crappie are excellent on minnows in 8 feet of water around willow points; white bass are schooling all over the lake, on the surface fish will hit Tiny Torpedoes and Hellraisers, spoons and slabs are good when the fish are not on top; catfish are fairly good to 8 pounds on trotlines baited with blood bait fished around willows.

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 90 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds, 15 ounces on Chatterboxes; crappie are fair on minnows; catfish are good to 11 pounds on nightcrawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 70 degrees, 4 1/2 feet low; black bass are plentiful but most are small, very few keepers, on worms, jigs and pigs; crappie are slow; white bass are good to 15 fish per string on minnows;



catfish are slow.

MURVAUL: Water clearing, 79 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 7 pounds on worms, Tiny Torpedoes and buzz baits are good early in the morning; crappie are fair in number, good numbers of undersized fish are caught on minnows; catfish are fair due to the lack of fishermen, some to 4 1/2 pounds caught on trotlines with live minnows.

PALESTINE: Water clear, normal level; black bass are good to 7 3/4 pounds on worms, spinners and topwaters; striper are slow; crappie are good to 2 1/2 pounds on minnows and jigs; white bass are good on cranks or spoons with a few limits; catfish are good to 14 pounds on rod and reel as well as trotline on bloodbait, catalpa worms and nightcrawlers.

PURTIS CREEK: Water clear, 74 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 12 pounds with several 9s caught on jigs and cranks in 12 feet of water just outside of the grassy area; crappie are slow; catfish are improving to 19 1/2 pounds on bloodbait.

RAY ROBERTS: Water clear, 67 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are good to 20 inches on Slug-Gos, pumpkin and blue Craw Worms; crappie are good with limits of 25 fish on minnows in open water at 20 feet and around pillows under bridges; white bass are good around the points on white cranks and Rattle Traps; catfish are good in deep water in the backs of coves on shad and shad gizzards. Good numbers of fishermen are fishing below the spillway with good numbers of catfish, hybrid striper and crappie landed.

RICHLAND-CHAMBERS: Water clear, 84 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly good to 6 pounds on spinners and worms; white bass are very good with schooling twice daily in the main lake; crappie are slowing some; catfish are slow.

TAWAKONI: Water clear, 81 degrees, spillway level; black bass are good to 6 pounds on spinners and worms; striper are good to 16 pounds on Flat Flutterers and shad; crappie are good on minnows and jigs; white bass are excellent and everyone gets limits with fish up to 3 pounds on Flat Flutterers and Bug Eyes; catfish are excellent to 6 pounds on bloodbait and worms; 377,000 small stripers were stocked in the lake last Saturday.

TEXOMA: Water clear, 74 degrees, 6 inches high; black bass are good to 5 pounds, 9 ounces on worms; striper are good to 16 pounds on live bait; crappie are fair on minnows; white bass are good; catfish are excellent to 10 pounds on shrimp, worms and stink bait in shallow water.

WRIGHT PATMAN: Water slightly stained on the south end and in the river, water is clear on the north end, 85 degrees, 3 feet above summertime level; black bass are fair to good on lake points with Rattle Traps, spinners and plastic worms; crappie are fair on minnows near the river channel; white bass are good schooling on points, over ridges and old road beds with Rat-I-Traps and L'il Georges; catfish are fair to good on trotlines baited with large minnows.

#### SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water clear, 83 degrees, 4 inches above normal level; black bass are fair to good to 6.84 pounds on black worms with blue

tails, pumpkin seed colored worms, Rattle Traps; white bass are slowing down, some caught on minnows, jigs and pigs, jigs and spoons on top of the dropoffs near the river bed; crappie are fairly slow, some caught under 1097 bridge on minnows; catfish are fairly good to 4 pounds on rod and reel, trotlines are slow; bream fishing is fantastic on earth worms with small pieces of shrimp around rocks, bulkheads and in the weeds.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds, 15 ounces on purple worms with tomato colored tail; crappie are good around boat stalls to 15 fish per string on minnows; white bass are good off points with full strings on minnows; catfish are good to 75 pounds with minnows on rod and reel, a 17 pounder also caught on a shad baited trotline.

LIVINGSTON: Water clearing but still a little off color, normal level; black bass are good early with limits to 4 1/2 pounds on black worms with blue tails, chrome Rattle Traps and spinners; striper are spotty; crappie are fair in the creeks with half limits on minnows; white bass are picking up in clearer pockets of water around Dove Island and the Walker Lake area; catfish are excellent to 68 pounds with several in the 20 to 50 pound range on cut bait or live bream baited trotlines; rod and reels are producing catfish to 10 pounds on stinkbait and shrimp.

RAYBURN: Water clear, 83 degrees, 9 feet above normal level; black bass are fair to 9 pounds on spinners, buzz baits, PopRs early; white bass are excellent on the bottom off main lake points on spoons; crappie are excellent to 25 fish per string around 147 bridge pilings and in brush piles of main lake on minnows at 15 feet in 30 feet of water; catfish are fair to 50 pounds but most in the 3-5 pound range on trotlines and drop lines at the outer edges of the bushes on soap and live perch. TOLEDO BEND: Water is slightly off color, 89 degrees surface, 5 inches above normal level; black bass are fair to 5 1/2 pounds on jigs, topwaters and Junebug worms; striper are good trolling around generators; crappie are fair trolling jigs; white bass are slow; catfish are slow on live bait.

#### SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear, 79 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass are fairly good to 8 pounds on purple worms with yellow tails in 10-15 feet of water; striper are in 50-70 feet of water and are caught on 2 ounce Bananahead jigs; crappie are fair on minnows up the Pecos; white bass are good in Caballo Canyon in 20 feet of water on slabs; catfish are good in 6 to 15 feet of water under cork on cheese bait and shrimp.

BRAUNIG: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are good and are moving off the rip rap to summer patterns, cranks and jigs are good; striper are fair downrigging spoons; catfish are fair to 4 pounds on shrimp and shad; redfish are good to 21 pounds downrigging spoons and crawfish; corvina are slow.

CALAVERAS: Water a little murky, 85 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds on plastic worms and live bait; striper are fair to 5 pounds on

Pet Spoons and chicken livers; catfish are good to 4 pounds on liver and shrimp; redfish are good to 10 pounds on crawfish; corvina are good to an average of 10 pounds on shrimp, shad, Rattle Traps and tilapia.

CHOKO: Water clear, 81 degrees, 12 feet low; black bass are good to 10 pounds in 5 to 15 feet of water on plastic worms and deep diving cranks early morning and around noon; striper and white bass are slow; crappie are slow, a few caught at 15 feet in the Mason Point and dam area on live minnows; catfish are good in 2-3 feet and at 5-10 feet of water on cheese baits, shrimp and nightcrawlers.

COLETO CREEK: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly good to 4 pounds on worms; crappie are slow; catfish are fair with keeper sized fish caught on shrimp baited trotlines. Fairly good numbers of fishermen out this week.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water clear, 83 degrees, 6 feet low; black bass are good with some limits to 7 pounds on white willow leaf spinners, a 5 fish limit weighing 20 pounds won last weekends Honey Hole tournament; striper are fair near the buoy markers on half ounce Roadrunners; crappie are fairly good in the dam area and at Alice Pumphouse on minnows; white bass are good out from Hoffman's Camp to the the dam on slabs and L'il Georges; blue catfish are good to 14 pounds on trotline baited with cut shad; channel catfish and gaspergou are good in 6 feet of water on prepared cheese baits and shrimp.

FALCON: Water murky, 76 degrees, 15 feet low; black bass are good in the 7-7 1/2 pound range on worms; striper are good to 16 pounds trolling Deep Sixes; crappie are slow; white bass are good but most are fairly small on Knockers, L'il Georges; catfish are good to 4 pounds on shrimp baited rod and reel.

MEDINA: Water clear, 35 feet below normal level; black bass are slow to 2 pounds on plastic worms, many small fish landed and returned to the water; striper are slow; crappie are fair on minnows, no limits landed; white bass are fair on minnows, no limits, at night; catfish are good to 60 pounds on trotline baited with live bait, catfish are good to 8 pounds on rod and reel baited with nightcrawlers or minnows.

TEXANA: Water murky, 1 foot low; black bass are fairly good to 4 pounds in the jungle area on buzz baits and spinners early and late; crappie are fair in the Navidad River on minnows in 2-6 feet of water; blue catfish are fair to 8 pounds on trotlines on shad.

#### WEST

ARROWHEAD: Water muddy, 74 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass are slow; striper are fair to 9 pounds on live bait; crappie are slow; white bass are fair to 12 fish per string on minnows; catfish are good to 28 pounds on shrimp, goldfish and worms.

BAYLOR: Water clear in main lake, some muddiness in the creeks, 2 foot rise since the rains; black bass are good to 6 pounds, 7 ounces over the weekend on plastic worms; crappie are fair; catfish are good to 8 pounds on live minnows, shrimp or worms.

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water murky, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly good to 4 1/2 pounds on

purple worms; striped are fair on Bomber slabs and shad; crappie are good on minnows, with limits of 25 fish; white bass are good with limits on minnows; catfish are good in the 2-8 pound range on worms and shad; walleye are slow. GRANBURY: Water clear, 81 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on plastic worms in 20 feet of water; striped are slow; crappie are slow, some caught late at night in 15 feet of water on minnows; white bass are schooling in the middle of the day, best baits are L'il Cleos and L'il Georges; channel and yellow catfish are good to 13 pounds on perch baited trotlines.

MCKENZIE: Water clear, 74 degrees, 4 inches low; black bass are fairly slow to 3 1/2 pounds on a Hula Popper; white bass are fairly good; all other fishing is slow.

MEREDITH: Water clear, 68 degrees, 2 inches above normal level; black bass are good in the 2-3 pound range on minnows; smallmouth bass are good in the 1-2 pound range on minnows; crappie are good to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass are good to 2 pounds on minnows; catfish are good to 3 pounds on liver and worms.

OAK CREEK: Water clear, 72 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass are good to 7 pounds, 5 ounces on Slug-Gos; crappie are fair on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are fairly slow.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water is a little muddy, 68 degrees, 1 foot above normal level due to rains; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on topwaters; striped are slow; crappie are fair to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass are picking up, good numbers of fish caught on slabs; catfish are picking up especially in the upper lake where the fresh water is coming in.

PROCTOR: Water a little on the muddy side, level is rising because of rains; black bass are good to 5 pounds on flipping worms; hybrid striped are good trolling jigs and live shad; crappie are good on minnows from the docks; catfish are good in the muddier areas.

SPENCE: Water murky up river, clear in the lake, 74 degrees, 38 feet low but rising slightly; black bass are slow; striped are fair to 6 pounds on live bait; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are picking up or fair on nightcrawlers.

TWIN BUTTES: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 8 pounds with several in the 5-6 pound range on worms and spinners; hybrid striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are good in the 5-6 pound range on Roger's Cheese Baits.

WHITE RIVER: Water slightly off color, 75 degrees, 10 feet low and rising; black bass are excellent to 5 pounds on cranks and spinners; crappie are good in 8 feet of water on small minnows; catfish are good to 6 pounds on stinkbait.

#### COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Fishing has been a little slow due to freshwater; good numbers of good sized croaker, some flounder and sheepshead landed; no live bait shrimp available.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Fishing is improving; trout are beginning to hit in the channel near the Intercoastal in the 2-4 pound range on Wildfire Tiger worms;

flounder are fairly good along the channel and on the Louisiana side in the 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 pound range; some redfish caught in the keeper sized range over the weekend; drum are still hitting shrimp.

GALVESTON: Good numbers of small bluefish in the bays working under the birds; good numbers of trout under the birds, many throwbacks now; scattered redfish caught at the jetties; a good number of whisker fish about; good numbers of ling, king and snapper offshore; most fish in the bay are caught on live shrimp; live bait shrimp plentiful at \$8.50 to \$10 per quart. No tarpon showing up yet, the first should hit around July 4.

PORT OCONNOR: Tides have dropped and so have the winds, water is clearing; trout and redfish caught in Matagorda Bay in Boggy Bayou and Broad Bayou; some snapper caught at the big jetties; blacktip shark plentiful at the wells; barracuda, kingfish and ling caught at the wells and in the gulf; live bait shrimp and croaker are available at \$8.50 for shrimp and \$3.50 per dozen on croakers; some trout caught at the wells in Matagorda Bay; some fairly good numbers of flounder giggered at night all over the back bays; some flounder also caught on rod and reel.

MATAGORDA: Some flounder in the 2 pound range caught on live shrimp, no full limits; fishing has been slow this week so far because of low tides and full moon; good sized croaker caught in the bays and canals; live bait shrimp available but not plentiful at \$10 per quart. Offshore snapper slow; fairly good numbers of dolphin and kingfish landed in state waters.

ROCKPORT: Redfish are scattered, fairly good numbers of oversized redfish over the reefs on spoons and Cordell's; trout are plentiful in Copano Bay, Aransas Bay, parts of Redfish Bay, around Dagger Island and around Pelican Island in Corpus Christi Bay; most trout caught on live shrimp or croakers; offshore fishing has been fairly rough; winds have been fairly high.

PORT ARANSAS: Some redfish in the 25 to 27 inch range in South Bay and some around Klondike on live shrimp and live perch; specks were caught in Aransas Ship Channel, some trout caught around Pelican Island and in Corpus Christi Bay on live shrimp; good numbers of flounder caught during the day; night giggers are doing very well right now.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Fishing has been fairly slow because of winds and murky water; few fishermen out; a 6 1/2 and 7 1/4 pound speck caught at Indian Point on live bait; live bait shrimp available at 12 cents each or \$8.50 per quart. Water clearing and the winds are calmer midweek. Fishing has been slow all week at Oso Pier.

PORT MANSFIELD: High winds all week have kept most fishermen away from the water; live bait shrimp plentiful at \$12 per quart.

SOUTH PADRE: Trout have been good for a 2 pound average on live shrimp under corks, trout are caught in deeper holes all over Laguna Madre; gulf is producing Spanish mackerel, kingfish, jackfish and dolphin; billfish are beginning to hit in the canyon area at 47 1/2 miles offshore; redfish are spotty but picking up; live bait shrimp plentiful at \$10 per quart.