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TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

In the May 3, 1989 issue:

Trotliners Catch 97-pound Smallmouth Buffalo	1
Hurst Man Almost Sets State Striper Record	2
Ospreys Again Calling Rayburn Lake Home	2
Many Birds Shortened Migratory Trips	4
Fawns Found In Woods Should Be Left Alone	5
Changes Proposed For Texas Alligator Regulations	6
Public Hearings Set For Game, Fish Regulations	7
Jet Ski Competition Set For Fairfield Park	10
Longhorn Caverns Plans C.C.C. Festivities	12
TPWD Receives Gift of White-winged Dove Habitat	13
Fishing Report	15

TROTLINERS CATCH 97-POUND SMALLMOUTH BUFFALO

AUSTIN -- Two Longview fishermen have earned a state record for a 97-pound smallmouth buffalo they caught during February on a trotline at Lake O' the Pines.

Frank A. Saladino and Ray E. Priestly caught the 48-inch-long buffalo from the East Texas reservoir on Feb. 1.

The fish replaces a 81-pound, eight-ounce buffalo caught from the Sabine River in 1985 as the state record in the unrestricted division. Fish in this division were caught on legal means other than rod and reel.

The Texas rod-and reel record for smallmouth buffalo, caught from the Sabine River two years ago, weighed 64 pounds, eight ounces.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's fish records committee also certified two new saltwater state records. They were a two-pound, 6.4-ounce bigeye caught by Suzannah K. Creech of Helotes off Freeport

during March, and a six-pound, 4 64-ounce vermilion snapper caught by Mark O Bamberg of Matagorda in the Gulf of Mexico out of Matagorda, also during March

Persons catching potential state or water body record fish should contact a game warden or department office to obtain an official record sheet. They also can be obtained by mail by calling the department's toll-free number 1-800-792-1112

JC 5/3/89

HURST MAN ALMOST SETS
STATE STRIPER RECORD

DENISON -- A fisherman from Hurst came within a couple of pounds of setting a new state record for striped bass last week below Lake Texoma's Denison Dam

Biologist Bruce Hysmith of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said Doug Norwine was fishing from the bank with a surf spinning outfit and half-ounce jig April 23 when he landed a 40-pound, 14-ounce striper

The fish sets a Red River record, beating a 36-pounder caught from the same area in 1982. The current state record striper is a 43-pound, 8 8-ounce fish caught below the Mansfield (Lake Travis) Dam near Austin in March 1986 by Wayne Savoie of Round Rock

Hysmith said Norwine's big striper was 11 years old, judging from examination of scales. He added that fishing in the tailrace below the

Texoma dam has been good this spring for white bass, crappie and blue catfish in addition to striped bass

JC 5/3/89

OSPREYS AGAIN CALLING
RAYBURN LAKE HOME

JASPER -- Ospreys are nesting in a dead tree on Sam Rayburn Reservoir for the third consecutive year, according to Dan Boone, a wildlife biologist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

The birds are the only pair known to have successfully produced young in Texas during the past two years

Boone said efforts of the department and the U S. Army Corps of Engineers in marking a protective zone around the nest area may have helped the birds nest successfully "The concern of boaters and fishermen and patrolling by game wardens also are reasons the ospreys have produced the first Texas-hatched ospreys in more than two decades," said Boone

Bruce Thompson, nongame program leader, said he hopes continued awareness of the birds' presence will lead to another productive year

JC 5/3/89

MANY BIRDS SHORTENED
MIGRATORY TRIPS

AUSTIN -- If you didn't see as many birds at your backyard feeder during the winter, there may be an explanation for the shortage

Project Feeder Watch, a nonprofit organization headquartered in New York, reports that some species of migratory birds remained farther north than usual. This was due to good supplies of tree seeds and a relatively mild winter.

Nongame biologist Catrina Martin of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said Project Feeder Watch enlists the aid of birding enthusiasts who report sightings of birds at their feeders on a nationwide basis.

Interested persons should contact Erica Dunn, Project Feeder Watch, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Dr., Ithaca, NY 14850.

JC 5/3/89

FAWNS FOUND IN WOODS
SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE

AUSTIN -- Each year during May and June an unfortunate scenario is replayed by well-meaning Texans

A white-tailed deer fawn curled up in a hiding place looks so alone and helpless, the discoverers often succumb to temptation and "adopt" the animal

This is done in the belief that the fawn has been abandoned or its mother killed

This is almost never the case, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials. Biologists point out that female deer often leave their fawns unattended, but are usually close by

Adopting a fawn is usually counterproductive, because deer become difficult to provide for and can be dangerous

It also is a violation of state law. The only persons allowed to possess live white-tailed deer in Texas are holders of scientific breeder's permits, according to Law Enforcement Division officials, and these deer may not be taken from the wild

Anyone discovering a newborn fawns in the woods should move quietly away without handling or further disturbing the animal. The best policy is to have domesticated animals for pets and leave wildlife in the wild,

officials advise

JC 5/3/89

CHANGES PROPOSED FOR TEXAS
ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS

AUSTIN -- Provisions for alligator eggs and hatchling collection from the wild are among proposed changes in the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's alligator regulations

Dr Bruce Thompson, alligator program leader, said other proposals include standards for alligator farm facilities and changes in fees. He noted that increased fees are proposed to ensure that users of the Texas alligator resource support the cost of management, research and law enforcement necessary to protect and maintain the resource.

Other proposed changes include

- Definitions of egg collector and hatchling alligators
- Removal of minimum size requirement for harvested alligators
- Setting a 24-day harvest season for Sept 7-30
- Clarification of line attachment to legal harvest devices
- Elimination of required orientation for first-time alligator hunters

The proposed changes were published in the April 25 edition of the Texas Register. A complete packet of the rules and regulations and the proposed

changes can be obtained from the department at 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744, or by calling toll-free 1-800-792-1112, ext 4505 The public is encouraged to comment on the proposals

JC 5/3/89

PUBLIC HEARINGS SET FOR
GAME, FISH REGULATIONS

AUSTIN -- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has scheduled public hearings during May to obtain public comment on proposed changes for 1989-90 hunting and fishing regulations The public is urged to attend the hearings and comment on the proposals

Proposed hunting regulation changes include a reduction in the white-tailed deer bag limit in some counties, lengthening the spring turkey gobbler season in 1990 and a modification of the line dividing South Texas from the remainder of the state for deer and turkey hunting regulations

Proposed fishing regulation changes include minimum length limits for billfish, a one shark per day bag limit and clarification that crab traps may be used only in salt water Officials said confusion occurred last year when fresh and salt water rules were combined Also, the areas in Harris County limited to three crab traps per person (Burnett, Crystal, Scott and Black Duck Bays) would be redefined as the waters north and west of Highway 146 where it crosses the Houston Ship Channel

Proposed rules also include a reduction in the bag limit of striped bass over 20 inches long in Lake Texoma and alteration of red drum bag and size

limits in fresh water to make a limited supply of stocked fish available to most anglers

Additional information may be obtained by calling toll-free 1-800-792-1112, ext 4505, or (512) 389-4505

Below is a list of the hearings, listed alphabetically by city All hearings begin at 7 p.m

<u>CITY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Abilene	May 15	New County Courthouse 3rd Floor Central Jury Room
Alpine	May 15	Co Courthouse Annex Commissioners Courtroom
Amarillo	May 16	County Courthouse 4th Floor Commissioners Courtroom
Angleton	May 15	Old Courthouse Commissioners Courtroom 307
Arlington	May 17	Public Library, Southwest Branch 4000 W Green Oaks Rd
Austin	May 15	Parks & Wildlife Building Commission Hearing Room 4200 Smith School Road
Bay City	May 16	County Courthouse Large Courtroom
Beaumont	May 18	City Council Room
Beeville	May 18	County Courthouse
Big Spring	May 16	County Courthouse County Courtroom
Brady	May 15	County Courthouse
Brownwood	May 16	County Courthouse
Brownsville	May 15	Central Jury Room County Courthouse
Bryan	May 15	County Courthouse
Carthage	May 16	County Courthouse
Centerville	May 15	County Courthouse
Columbus	May 18	County Courthouse
Corpus Christi	May 17	A&M Extension Center Hwy 44
Cotulla	May 17	County Courthouse
Dalhart	May 17	Old Library Bldg 412 Denver Ave
Del Rio	May 15	Courthouse Annex Co Court-at-Law Courtroom

Eagle Pass	May 16	Natl Guard Armory 489 S Monroe
Edinburg	May 19	County Courthouse
El Paso	May 17	Golden Key Plaza Suite 130, 1200 Golden Key
Fairfield	May 16	County Courthouse District Courtroom
Fort Stockton	May 16	Small Community Bldg
Fredericksburg	May 15	County Courthouse District Courtroom
Greenville	May 19	Criminal Justice Center
Hebronville	May 15	County Courthouse
Hemphill	May 17	County Courthouse
Hillsboro	May 15	County Courthouse
Houston	May 18	Civil Courts Bldg Rm 310, 310 Fannin
Huntsville	May 16	County Courthouse
Jasper	May 16	1st Natl Bank Community Room 301 E Houston
Junction	May 16	County Courthouse
Kingsville	May 16	County Courthouse District Courtroom
Laredo	May 16	Laredo Civic Center
Leakey	May 17	County Courthouse
Lubbock	May 17	County Courthouse, Room 103 Commissioners Courtroom 103
Lufkin	May 19	County Courthouse Commissioners Courtroom
Madisonville	May 17	County Courthouse
Marshall	May 16	County Courthouse District Courtroom
Mount Pleasant	May 16	Titus Co Extension Ofc
Nacogdoches	May 18	County Courthouse
New Boston	May 18	County Courthouse Jury Room
Newton	May 15	County Courthouse District Courtroom
Odessa	May 17	County Courthouse Commissioners Courtroom 300 N Grant
Paducah	May 18	County Courthouse, Commissioners Courtroom
Palestine	May 17	County Courthouse County Courtroom
Pampa	May 18	EnerGas Bldg Flame Room 220 N Ballard
Paris	May 18	County Courthouse
Plainview	May 15	County Courthouse Commissioners Courtroom
San Angelo	May 18	J P Courtroom

San Antonio	May 15	122 W Harris Naval Reserve Center 3837 Binz-Englemann Rd Room 219
Sherman	May 18	County Courthouse 2nd Floor Extension Ofc Auditorium
Sonora	May 18	4-H Center
Stephenville	May 17	TAMU Research Center Hwy 281 & Hwy 8
Throckmorton	May 16	County Courthouse Criminal Courtroom
Tyler	May 19	County Courthouse
Uvalde (to be announced)		
Van Horn	May 16	County Courthouse District Courtroom
Victoria	May 15	Town Plaza Mall
Waco	May 16	TPWD Office, 1601 E Crest
Wichita Falls	May 15	Field and Stream Bldg 2005 Southwest Parkway

JC 5/3/89

JET SKI COMPETITION SET
FOR FAIRFIELD PARK

FAIRFIELD -- Qualifying time trials for the Mid-America Jet Ski Challenge will be held at Fairfield Lake State Recreation Area this Sunday (May 7)

Park Superintendent Dennis Walsh said the trials will begin at 8 a.m. "Last year spectators in the park were enthusiastic about this unique water recreation, and we're expecting a big crowd this year," Walsh said

Walsh noted that Fairfield is especially attractive as a spring location for such an event since the water is warmed by the lake's power plant

Fairfield Lake SRA offers 135 campsites, including 40 with RV pull-throughs. Camping pads, tables, grills and water are furnished at every

site and electricity is available at 99 campsites The park is located 90 miles southeast of Dallas From Fairfield, take FM 2570 six miles northeast to the park For further information, call the park at (214) 389-4514

EC 5/3/89

LONGHORN CAVERNS PLANS
C C C FESTIVITIES

BURNET -- Longhorn Cavern State Park will host a variety of activities beginning Saturday, May 13, honoring the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps at the park and in Texas

Dedication ceremonies for an official historical marker and an exhibit covering the role of the CCC in state parks will begin at 2 p.m. The annual reunion of Company 854 will be held with CCC veterans coming from throughout the state. Anderson van Dyke, assistant leader of the company, will unveil the historical marker

The Texas Historical Commission marker commemorates the original administration building constructed by the company in 1934, and the work that went into opening Longhorn Cavern to the public as a state park

Between 1933 and 1937, Company 854 removed over 2 1/2 million cubic yards of mud, rocks and bat guano from the cavern. An elaborate stone stairway was built in the sink hole that forms the cave entrance. Park Road 4 was designed and paved, and the original park administration building was constructed

The cave had been known since the mid-19th century when it was reputed to be a hideout for outlaws and stolen treasure. By the 1930s, however, some passages were blocked by debris from a large colony of bats and tangled rubble that washed in through the sink hole with each rain

Visitors today notice the distinctive 1930s era architecture of the administration building and the cave entrance. Known as National Park Service Rustic, the stone construction is a lasting remembrance of the CCC

Longhorn Cavern is located 40 miles west of Austin, between Burnet and Marble Falls. A sign on U.S. Highway 281 indicates the turn onto Park Road 4; the cavern is 5.5 miles from the highway. There are no park entrance fees and visitors are welcome to attend the dedication ceremonies and meet CCC alumni. Regularly scheduled tours of the cavern are available. Call (512) 756-4680 for tour times. Tour ticket prices are \$5.75 for adults and \$3.25 for children 5-12. Children under five are admitted free.

EC 5/3/89

TPWD RECEIVES GIFT OF
WHITE-WINGED DOVE HABITAT

AUSTIN -- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has accepted a gift of 2.08 acres of white-winged dove habitat in Hidalgo County.

The site, located six miles southeast of Donna, was presented to officials of the department by the Rio Grande Valley Audubon Society. The land was originally owned by Marion Champion and her late husband, Andrew, who deeded the tract to the Audubon Society with the intention of eventually transferring it to the department, according to Ron George, TPWD dove program leader.

The tract has been named the Champion Unit, and it will be part of the department's Las Palomas Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Most units of the

management area were purchased with funds derived from the \$6 White-winged Dove Stamps required of all whitewing hunters. George said the Champion Unit already provides nesting habitat for white-winged, white-tipped and mourning doves as well as chachalacas. It is located one mile north of the McManus Unit of the Las Palomas WMA.

George estimated that the current whitewing nesting density of some eight pairs per acre could be increased to about 30 pairs with proper management during the next 10 years.

George said "Future generations of Texans and Texas wildlife will benefit from this gift, and the Champions and the Rio Grande Valley Audubon Society are to be commended for their generosity."

JC 5/3/89

AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for May 4:

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear. 70 degrees 2 inches low; black bass fair in the 2-3 pound range on plastic worms crappie slow; catfish slow
BELTON: Water clear 73 degrees, normal level black bass good to 6 pounds on strawberry Ringworms in 20 feet of water; hybrid striper fair to 8 pounds on chrome Jigging Spoons in 32 feet of water; crappie fair to 10 fish per string on minnows in 22 feet of water; white bass fair to 20 fish per string on small spinners channel catfish good to 12 pounds on dough bait and shrimp.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 79 degrees on upper end, 73 in the lower end, 9 feet low; black bass fair in 12 feet of water to 6 1/2 pounds, most are in the 2-4 pound range on purple worms with chartreuse tails, white spinners; striper good to 15 1/2 pounds on Redfin topwater; crappie fair in 2-5 feet of water and off the points in brush on minnows; white bass good early and late when shad are running around points throwing 1/2 to 1/8-ounce Castmasters catfish fair to 6 pounds on shad; yellow catfish fair to 28 pounds on trotline with live bait.

CANYON: Water clear. 70 degrees, normal level black bass good to 5 1/2 pounds on chartreuse or shad colored Rat-L-Traps in 2-10 feet of water near deeper water; striper slow crappie good to 1 1/2 pounds on grubs and live minnows with good numbers of limits; white bass good early schooling on surface around main lake points on topwaters and L'il Georges catfish fair to 3 1/2 pounds on shrimp and nightcrawlers.

COLORADO BEND: Water clear 76 degrees 9 feet low; black bass fair; white bass are fair on minnows. striper poor crappie poor yellow catfish good on live perch and goldfish channel catfish good to 1 1/2 pounds on crawfish and worms

FAYETTE COUNTY: Water clear. 78 degrees normal level black bass good through the weekend to 6 1/2 pounds, slow this week, on plastic worms and lizards; crappie slow; catfish slow.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear, 77 degrees normal level black bass fair with good numbers in the slot, a single keeper which weighed 9 pounds was caught over the weekend, on dark colored baits; crappie fair to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; catfish fair to 5 pounds on rod and reel baited with stinkbait, doughbait, worms and shrimp.

INKS: Water murky. 73 degrees, normal level; black bass good on topwaters to 3 pounds on frog colored Tiny Torpedoes Tom's Minners and 6 inch worms in motor oil colors striper good to 12 pounds on live shad below the dam; crappie fair off the pier; white bass fairly good early and late with surfacing; no birds working; catfish fair on rod and reel from piers and the bank in shallow water, trotline activity slow.

LBJ Water clear, 76 degrees lake full black bass good to 8 pounds on chartreuse DB#3 in 6-13 feet of water. striper fair to 12 pounds on Storm's Thunder Stick in the Colorado arm; crappie good around docks and brush on points with brush cover on minnows; white bass good with some limits in the Llano arm with Castmasters and jigs; catfish good in baited holes with blood bait and worms; yellow catfish good to 38 pounds on trotline with live bait.

SOMERVILLE: Water clear, 6 inches low; black bass fair to 3 pounds on plastic worms; striper fair to 5 1/2 pounds on spinners, no limits crappie slow; white bass fair to 15 fish per string on Castmasters catfish slow.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 72 degrees, 14 feet low black bass good to 4 pounds to 75 fish per boat per day with about 10 keepers on chartreuse spinners gold Rogues and smoke glitter grubs; striper slow; crappie good in 15 feet of water on crappie jigs and minnows around boat docks and any submerged brush; white bass good in mid lake on smoke glitter grubs, fish are spawning in main lake sloughs; catfish fair to 6 pounds around lakeway, should be doing well on trotlines in the upper end of the lake.

WHITNEY Water clear. 63 degrees 3 feet low; black bass fair to 4 1/2 pounds with some limits on spinners and buzz baits in the weed

lines striper good to 21 pounds in good numbers but most are small on Hotspots, jigs and spoons. crappie fair to 1 3/4 pounds on minnows and jigs at night; white bass good with limits under the birds on Hotspots and live bait. blue and yellow catfish good on trotline to 22 1/2 pounds; channel catfish good to 2 pounds on rod and reel with shrimp and minnows

NORTHEAST

ATHENS. Water clear, 74 degrees, 1 inch overflow; black bass good to 7 1/2 pounds with lots of limits on lizards, Crawworms, Sensations and Rogues in 4-8 feet of water; crappie good to 2 pounds over brush in 20 feet of water with minnows and jigs; white bass slow on Model A Bombers at 15 feet in 20 feet of water; catfish slow.

BOB SANDLIN: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 7 pounds on Red Rat-L-Traps, Long A Bombers, grape worms, frogs and lizards. crappie fair on minnows under the bridges and in the tree lines white bass good with many limits on a wide variety of baits near Cypress Springs dam; catfish fair in creek channels on trotlines; bream are good on beds, best bait is a cricket.

BRIDGEPORT: Water clear, 13 1/2 feet low. black bass fair to 3.84 pounds on worms and cranks along with good numbers of small bass; hybrid striper fair to 6 3/4 pounds on Rat-L-Traps; crappie slow and small, some from 4 feet of water on minnows and jigs; white bass good with several large catches on spoons. Rat-L-Traps and slabs; catfish good to 28 pounds on trotline baited with bream, goldfish and cut bait.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 68 degrees, normal level; black bass slow early and late to 5 1/4 pounds on Rat-L-Traps and dark metal flake worms in 4-8 feet of water; hybrid striper are fair to 7 pounds on Rat-L-Traps and L'il Georges; crappie improving in the shallow water on minnows, no limits; white bass good with early and late surfacing off shallow points on Rooster Tails and Chrome L'il Georges channel catfish to 7 pounds on rod and reel as well as trotlines yellow catfish slow on south end of the lake

FAIRFIELD Water slightly muddy, 18 inches low bass slow, hybrid striper are good on artificials and natural shad colored baits; crappie slow; catfish good in shallow timber and creek channels on natural baits; rough fish plentiful for bowhunters redfish good to 15 pounds in 25 feet of water on cranks

FORK: Water clear 78 degrees, normal level black bass fairly good to 8.21 pounds on dark worms crappie slow; catfish fairly good to 23 3/4 pounds on trotline with live bait.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 74 degrees, 2 feet above normal level; black bass fairly good to 6 1/2 pounds on black lizards with blue or chartreuse tails, gold Bomber Long As; crappie fair in 10-15 feet of water on minnows; white bass slow; catfish fairly good to 8 pounds on trotline with various baits bream good on crickets and worms.

LAVON Water clear, 70 degrees 2 1/2 feet high; black bass good to 5 pounds on spinners in the grass beds, bass are good early and late on topwaters; striper and hybrid striper are good to 10 pounds below the dam and in the creeks on large shad; crappie good with many limits on minnows in 3-6 feet of water white bass good to 3 1/2 pounds schooling on the points with silver spoons and slabs and trolling; catfish good to 10 pounds in the rocky areas on large worms and stink bait on trotline.

LEWISVILLE: Water clear, 69-72 degrees, 3 feet above normal level; black bass fair to 5 pounds on spinners, striper slow; crappie are slow; white bass good to 3 1/4 pounds on Sassy Shad, L'il Georges and slabs; catfish good with many channel catfish in shallow water.

MARTIN CREEK: Water clear, normal level black bass are good to 18 inches on Rat-L-Traps and jigs; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish good on minnows.

MONTICELLO: Water fairly clear, 87 degrees, normal level. black bass good to 8 pounds, 10 ounces on 8 inch black worms; crappie slow; catfish good to 8 pounds on Canadian crawlers and shrimp

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 9 1/4 pounds on Rat-L-Traps and spinners; crappie slow; white bass good to 15 fish per string on bass lures; catfish slow.

MURVAUL: Water clear 67 degrees, normal level. black bass good to 9 pounds, 9 ounces on red metal flake worms and lizards crappie

good around 1971 bridge on minnows. catfish good to 73 pounds on trotline baited with live perch; channel catfish good to 6 pounds on cut bait, blood bait and live minnows; redear sunfish plentiful on crickets and worms

PALESTINE: Water clear 68 degrees, 70 inches high; black bass fair to 6 1/2 pounds on worms in the creeks in 6-10 feet of water; striper good to 8 1/2 pounds on cranks and slab spoons; crappie fair on minnows to 2 1/4 pounds. white bass good on spoons and cranks with some surfacing; catfish are good on trotline as well as rod and reel on nightcrawlers, shrimp and stink bait.

PURTIS CREEK: Water clear, normal level. black bass good to 6 pounds on topwaters; crappie good late to 3 pounds on crickets; catfish fairly slow.

RAY HUBBARD: Water clear. 78 degrees normal level; black bass fair to 3 pounds on white or chartreuse spinners; striper good to 20 pounds on live bait in 18 to 20 feet of water. crappie fair to 2 pounds in good numbers with many limits on minnows. white bass schooling and breaking the surface near the parks, many limits caught on popping corks and jigs. catfish good to 6 1/2 pounds on cut shad. Sunfish are excellent in number around the docks and under the bridges.

TAWAKONI: Water clear, 69 degrees normal level. black bass good in the 4-6 pound range to 4 fish per string on cranks and spinners; striper fair to 15 pounds on live bait, white worms and jigs; hybrid striper good to 12 pounds on the same bait; white bass good with many limits on slabs. spinners Allison Baits and Castmasters; channel catfish good to 5 pounds near the dam on shrimp and worms

TEXOMA: Water clear 64 degrees 3 feet low; black bass good in shallow water to 6 pounds on spinners. lizards, striper good to 15 pounds on live bait and some topwaters; crappie slow; white bass good on live bait and some Rat-L-Taps with limits; catfish good to 10 pounds with many full strings for bank fisherman in shallow water on live bait, worms. stink bait.

WELSH Water clear, 87 degrees higher in midlake area, lake full; black bass fair to 6 1/2 pounds on worms and topwaters. crappie slow; catfish good to 12 pounds in good numbers on live bream and nightcrawlers.

SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water clear. 70 degrees, normal level. black bass fair to 8 1/2 pounds. most fish are in the 2 1/2 to 3 pound range with many undersized fish on smoke worms with blue tails and plum colored worms. a few hybrids caught near the dam to 8 pounds on chrome Rat-L-Traps; yellow catfish good to 42 pounds on north end of lake; channel catfish good to 2 1/4 pounds in the river on a wide variety of baits

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water fairly clear 65-72 degrees, normal level; black bass to 7 pounds on dark lizards, craw worms and Vortex Darters in 3-6 feet of water. white bass good in 8-12 feet of water with good size strings near the marina and near the dam on minnows and jigs; crappie good in 8-15 feet 6 of water on minnows to 15 fish per string to 2 pounds each; yellow catfish good to 15 pounds, 2 ounces caught by a crappie fisherman in 18 feet of water. channel catfish good to 5 pounds on worms and blood bait.

LIVINGSTON: Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass slow in the 2-4 pound range but no limits on white spinners and black lizards. striper good to 20 pounds with many in the 10-14 pound range on white or chartreuse slabs during the day, Rat-L-Traps and Vortex Klipr and slabs at night; minnows good at night; white bass good with many limits on white slabs during the day and minnows at night; crappie good in the creeks in 4-6 feet of water on minnows, many strings to 20 fish in the 2-2 1/2 pound range. catfish good in shallow water around the banks. Most are in 1-4 pound range on shad and shrimp from the bank; trotliners catching blue and channel catfish in the 5-8 pound range on shad.

RAYBURN: Water clear 65 degrees, pool level. black bass good around the edges of the moss to 5 pounds on worms. topwaters and jigs; striper slow; crappie fair in shallow water to 10 inches on minnows; white bass good with schooling off points early. catfish improving to 38 pounds on live perch.

TOLEDO BEND: Water clear 74 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass fairly

good to 9 pounds on Wacky worms and green spinners, Rattlin Rap; striper slow; crappie fairly good to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows and jigs; white bass slow; catfish good on trotline with live bait to 50 pounds.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear, 66 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass good off points in 5-10 feet of water on Bombers; striper good to 25 pounds on topwater Redfins from the dam to Marker 22; crappie slow; white bass slowing, but still some fish in the Pecos; catfish good in 5-10 feet of water in the creeks on shrimp and cheese.

BRAUNIG: Water murky, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass fair but few keepers on worms and cranks; striper good with strings to 10 pounds on chicken livers and a few spoons; crappie fair on jigs; catfish good with strings to 27 pounds for 6 fish on shad, worms; redfish good to 25 pounds over the weekend on artificial lures, gold and red spoons as well as crawdads from the bank.

CALAVERAS: Water clear, 73 degrees, normal level; black bass fair to 6 pounds on plastic worms and jigs; striper good to 5 pound average trolling Tony Accetta Spoons; crappie slow; catfish good to 30 pounds on perch and shad. Redfish are excellent off the banks, near power lines to 10 pound average on crawfish and downrigging silver Tony Accetta spoons.

CHOKER: Water clear, 5 feet low; black bass good to 6 1/4 pounds on grubs and topwaters; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish good to 6 pounds average on stink bait.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water clear, 72 degrees, 6 feet low; black bass good to 6 pounds with limits on white spinners with willow leaf blade and plum colored plastic crawfish rigged Texas style; striper good to 8 pounds on shad in the Sunrise Beach area, white bass good early under birds on jigs; crappie good with near limits off piers on minnows; blue catfish good to 12 pounds on shad near the state park on rod and reel, yellow catfish slow.

FALCON: Water clear, 5 feet low; black bass fairly good on worms and cranks to 7 pounds in 6-10 feet of water; striper fair but most are too small to keep, a few caught in the state park area; crappie slow; white bass fair around state Parks on slabs; catfish good on stink bait.

TEXANA: Water murky, 76 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass good to 5 pounds on jigs and worms up the Navidad; striper slow; white bass slow; crappie fairly good in the shallow area around culverts to 2 pounds on minnows; catfish good on trotlines to 38 pounds on live perch.

WEST

BAYLOR: Water clear, 63 degrees, normal level; black bass fairly good to 7 pounds, 6 ounces with several 5s; crappie good to 20 fish per string on minnows; catfish good to 10 pounds, 6 ounces.

GRANBURY: Water murky, lake full; black bass slow; striper slow; white bass are good up the river; crappie slow; catfish fair up river.

MCKENZIE: Water clear, 63 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 4 pounds on cranks, baits; striper fair on Fat Getzits; crappie fairly slow; white bass slow; catfish fair to 7 pounds on minnows.

OAK CREEK: Water clear, 70 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass good in number, small in size on cranks and Rat-L-Traps; crappie slow; white bass schooling early and late near the points; catfish slow.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, 60 degrees, 12 1/2 feet low; black bass good to 8 pounds, several in the 4-5 pound range on poppers; stripers are very good all over lake on slabs and topwaters to 17 pounds; crappie good to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass are beginning to hit; catfish good on trotline baited with perch.

PROCTOR: Water murky, 62 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair; striper fair on white jigs in the 8-12 pound range; crappie good on minnows to 2 pounds; catfish fair in the river, none caught in the lake.

SPENCE: Water clear, 62 degrees, 28 feet low; black bass good to 6 1/2 pounds on spinners; striper good 17 pounds on topwaters and some live bait; crappie fair to 1 1/4 pounds live minnows; white bass good with some limits on Rat-L-Traps and topwaters; catfish good to 37 pounds.

STAMFORD: Water muddy, 62 degrees, normal level; black bass slow;

striper slow; crappie spotty, some caught to 1 3/4 pounds on live bait catfish excellent on trotline baited with shad and minnows
TWIN BUTTES: Water clear, 70 degrees, 6 feet low; black bass good to 10.71 pounds; striper slow; crappie good on minnows and jigs in 6 feet of water and in the brush; white bass slow; channel catfish to 5 pounds on goldfish baited trotline; a single 18 pound blue catfish caught on live perch.

COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Fishing has improved; redfish fairly slow; specks fair to 2 pounds on dead shrimp, shad and speck rigs dead bait shrimp and live mud minnows available; live bait crabs available also.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Specks and redfish good on mud minnows; a speck weighing 8 1/4 pounds caught on a black shad at sundown Monday; flounder to 5 pounds in good numbers on artificials tipped with shrimp; redfish good to 7 pounds on mud minnows and chartreuse touts along with shrimp tips just off the reefs. live bait shrimp available but not plentiful at \$1.60 per pound and mud minnows at \$2 per dozen. Water is a little dirty. winds are from the south.

GALVESTON: Redfish good to 28 inches and above at the jetties most are in the 22-26 inch range with many limits freeshrimping. big specks to 8 pounds. 11 ounces freeshrimping also; best trout fishing is in East Bay where limits are fairly easy to get on Broken Back lures along the edges of the marshes to 7 1/4 pounds. scattered redfish and flounder in the same area; reds, specks and flounder in West Bay with trout close to 7 pounds, best catches in both bays are on live shrimp; trout fishing has been reasonably good in Trinity Bay; when water clears along beach front, fishermen catch trout to 6 pounds, when beach water is sandy fishermen catch gafftops to 7 pounds. live bait shrimp available at \$8.50 to \$10 per quart.

PORT OCONNOR: Redfish are scarce; trout plentiful to 23 inches, some larger. on live shrimp, Super Jacks and shad lures mostly at the big jetties. some off Bill Day Reef, Falwell Island; live bait is scarce at \$8.50 per quart.

ROCKPORT: Specks have been good in the 19-21 inch range in Redfish Bay along Long Reef along Traylor Island on the outside beach; a few in St. Charles Bay with limits; redfish have been fairly good at Allan's Bight and Hog Island Hole with near limits in the 22-26 inch range. Live bait shrimp available but not plentiful to \$7.50 per quart; winds at 20 knots midweek.

PORT ARANSAS: Kingfish to 30 pounds off the end of the jetties on ribbon fish, which are scarce right now; some trout to 8 pounds around Mud Island on dead shrimp; fish seem to be scattered with no concentrations; strings to 1 or 2 fish no full limits. some drum in 2-3 pound range on live shrimp; live shrimp at \$7 per quart; gafftop have disappeared; crabbing has improved some, many small crabs showing up around docks; winds to 15 knots from south, skies overcast midweek. Caldwell Pier fishermen have been catching pompano hardheads and whiting; some shark caught from pier late at night.

CORPUS CHRISTI Fishing is great, catching is slow. Baffin Bay producing a few redfish to 27 inches and good numbers of trout to 9 pounds; few flounder; live bait plentiful at 10 cents trout and redfish scattered in Upper Laguna; few flounder showing up. Oso Pier fishermen producing a few trout just above legal size on live and dead shrimp. few limits. Bob Hall Pier fishermen are catching Hammerhead shark to 8 foot, 1 inch which weighed 225 pounds good numbers of smaller blacktip and bonnetnose shark; a kingfish to 25 pounds caught Tuesday, many hooked but not landed. trout to 8 pounds just after dark until midnight; redfish in the 24-28 inch range on live shrimp; good numbers of whiting, pompano and Spanish mackerel.

PORT MANSFIELD: Redfish in good numbers to 28 inches with good numbers of limits on topwaters south of Port Mansfield over the weekend; some redfish north of Port Mansfield along the King Ranch shoreline specks slow until Monday with good numbers of limits with some in the 7-8 pound range earlier this week north of Port Mansfield on the east and west side of the Intracoastal weather not good midweek; live bait shrimp plentiful at \$10 per quart.

SOUTH PADRE: Redfish good to 28 inches with some limits in South Bay and east of Three Islands, off Stover Point; trout good under

birds along Intracoastal to 8 pounds most are in the 2-3 pound range
along with many undersized fish; some flounder along the channel
good numbers of small undersized black drum; live bait shrimp
available at \$10 per quart.

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