

TXD
P400-6 P235n 89/7/19

NON-CIRCULATING

TEXAS STATE
DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

In the July 19, 1989 issue:

Two Big Fish Make State Saltwater Record Book	1
Coastal Surveys Important For Fishing	2
East Texas Park Lake Offers Unusual Fishing	2
Small Lake Producing Big West Texas Bass	3
Sunfish Abound in Three State Park Lakes	4
Catfish Rodeo A Hit With Georgetown Kids	6
TPWD Offers Help For Prospective Gator Hunters	6
Remodeling Closes Campsites At Lost Maples	7
Camp n' Texas	9
Fishing Report	10

TWO BIG FISH MAKE STATE SALTWATER RECORD BOOK

AUSTIN -- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has certified two separate saltwater state fish records for fish that were caught on the same day, May 20.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials said a 258-pound Warsaw grouper caught off Port Lavaca by Thomas D. Howard of Point Comfort has been certified as a state record. The fish was caught with an electric reel, so the record is in the unrestricted category, reserved for fish taken on legal means other than rod and reel.

The former unrestricted record Warsaw was a 255-pounder caught by handline off Freeport in 1982.

A new saltwater record in the rod and reel category is a 179-pound blacktip shark caught by Gary L. Rooth of Bay City about 35 miles southeast of Matagorda Bay. The big blacktip was 81 inches long. It bested a 166-pounder caught off Port Aransas in 1980.

Persons catching potential state record or water body record fish can obtain official fish record applications from any Parks and Wildlife Department office, or by calling toll-free 1-800-792-1112

JC 7/12/89

COASTAL SURVEYS IMPORTANT
FOR FISHING

ROCKPORT -- Coastal anglers returning to the dock after a hard day's fishing may be asked to spend a few minutes answering questions about their day on the water

Biologists of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are conducting angler interviews to gather data not only on the size and numbers of fish caught, but also on anglers' expectations, motivations, satisfactions and expenditures

Fishery technician Beth Houseman said department personnel ask questions about the fishermen's frequency of saltwater fishing trips, satisfaction with that day's trip and expenses incurred on the trip

"We need the cooperation of fishermen for these interviews," Houseman said "They allow us to gain valuable information on the interests of fishermen while monitoring the recreational fishing harvest "

She added that social and economic information from anglers is necessary to better justify the need for conservation of sport fishing opportunities in Texas

JC 7/19/89

EAST TEXAS PARK LAKE
OFFERS UNUSUAL FISHING

DAINGERFIELD -- One of Texas' most unusual sport fish can be caught by anglers at Daingerfield State Park

Fishery biologist Mark Webb of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said chain pickerel, often referred to as "pike" in East Texas, are abundant in the 80-acre park lake

Pickerel are native to Texas, but only in the northeast corner of the state, Webb said

Pickerel were the dominant predator fish taken in a recent gill net survey, comprising 30 percent. They ranged from 14 to 22 inches in length

"Pickerel are voracious feeders often found around vegetation in shallow water," said Webb. He added that although more pickerel are caught during early spring, they can be caught year-round on a variety of lures including crippled minnow imitations and spinners

Daingerfield State Park is located off State Highway 49 between Daingerfield and Hughes Springs. It has complete camping facilities including cabins which are excellent for a fall outing. For reservations or information, call the superintendent at (214) 645-2921

JC 7/19/89

SMALL LAKE PRODUCING BIG
WEST TEXAS BASS

EULA -- It apparently doesn't take a big lake to produce big largemouth bass, judging from 400-acre Lake Clyde in Callahan County

Robert Cole, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department fishery technician from Abilene, said the little lake located south of Clyde produced two bass in the 10-pound class during spring 1989, along with several in the seven- to nine-pound class

Cole said Lake Clyde is one of the many Texas reservoirs that have started producing larger bass since the introduction of Florida-strain bass

JC 7/19/89

SUNFISH ABOUND IN THREE
STATE PARK LAKES

AUSTIN -- Visitors to three popular state parks can find some excellent panfishing to spice their summertime camping trips

Fishery biologist Richard Ott of Tyler said lakes at Tyler, Rusk and Purvis Creek State Parks have excellent populations of sunfish of several species

Spring electrofishing surveys showed good populations of large redbreast sunfish at Tyler State Park "About 60 percent of the 138 sunfish collected were six inches or longer, and some were up to nine inches long,"

said Ott.

Bluegills were the most abundant sunfish found at Rusk State Park's lake, while both redear and bluegill sunfish were abundant at Purtis Creek in Grimes County.

The 350-acre lake at Purtis Creek already has gained some notoriety as a largemouth bass lake. Anglers are not allowed to retain largemouths in the lake, which is entirely within the state park's borders. The catch-and-release-only regulation is an experiment to determine if it can help maintain quality bass fishing in the face of heavy fishing pressure.

Ott said the best summer baits for sunfish are crickets and earthworms. He said the bait should be fished with a bobber close to the bottom for bluegill, while redear and redbreast sunfish will bite a bait fished on the bottom in deeper water.

"Although there are no bag limits on sunfish in Texas, anglers should only harvest as many as they can use," said Ott.

For campsite reservations or other information, call the parks at the following numbers: Tyler, (214) 597-5338; Rusk, (214) 683-5126; and Purtis Creek, (214) 425-7241.

JC 7/19/89

CATFISH RODEO A HIT WITH
GEORGETOWN KIDS

GEORGETOWN -- A community-supported fishing tournament on July 4 proved successful as about 500 Georgetown area youths caught 1,500 catfish from an enclosed area on the San Gabriel River

The Georgetown Kiwanis Club purchased 2,000 pounds of channel catfish from a private fish farm for the event, while the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department provided a fish-hauling truck and assistance in constructing a net enclosure in the river

For three and a half hours, the kids gleefully caught catfish and released them into hatchery hauling units, later to be released in nearby Lake Georgetown. Officials said the goal of the event was to expose the youngsters to fishing and encourage the catch and release concept.

Pat Hutson, regional fish hatcheries director from San Marcos, said the fishing day, the third annual event of its kind held in Georgetown, was a positive fishing experience for all the participants.

JC 7/19/89

TPWD OFFERS HELP FOR
PROSPECTIVE GATOR HUNTERS

AUSTIN -- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department can assist prospective alligator hunters in locating a place to hunt during the upcoming Sept

1-17 gator hunting season

The department has prepared a list of contacts for possible alligator hunts available to the public. The contacts on the list have expressed interest in making tags available for either guided or unguided hunts. There are various costs associated with these tags and hunts, officials said.

This September marks the sixth consecutive alligator season since statewide alligator management planning was initiated in 1984. Harvest quotas have continued to increase as the alligator populations are better understood and more areas are surveyed and included for quota calculations.

Copies of the list may be obtained by writing the TPWD, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744, or by calling toll-free 1-800-792-1112, ext 4505.

JC 7/19/89

REMODELING CLOSES
CAMPSITES AT LOST MAPLES

VANDERPOOL -- Lost Maples State Natural Area has closed 30 regular campsites while construction is in progress to add electricity and shade shelters, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials.

"Primitive camping areas are still available while we are adding electrical hookups and putting shade shelters over the picnic tables in the improved camping area," said Robert C. Hauser, chief of park operations.

The construction should be finished by late August and the campground partially reopened while the shelters are completed, he said

The state natural area is a combination of steep, rugged limestone canyons, springs, plateau grasslands, wooded slopes and clear streams. It is known best for its unusual stand of bigtooth or canyon maple trees. This species is believed to have survived in protected canyons after the Pleistocene Ice Age as the Texas climate became hotter and drier in recent geologic times.

Because the park is devoted to resource preservation, development has been kept to a minimum. But in some areas the natural environment had already been disturbed by historical settlement and use. All buildings, roads and improved campsites, including the construction area, are located on the site of old roads or in fields that had been cleared and cultivated before the park was established in 1973.

Backpackers can hike more than 10 miles of rustic canyon trails, camping overnight at any of eight designated primitive camping areas. Water must be packed in, and ground fires are not allowed, so backpaker's stoves are recommended. Ecologically sound composting toilets are located along the trails.

Lost Maples is located northwest of San Antonio in Bandera County north of the intersection of FM 337 and FM 187. Take FM 187 to the park entrance. Call (512) 966-3413 for camping information and reservations.

EC 7/19/89

TEXAS STATE PARKS

July 17, 1989

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information call

Emily Carter 512/389-4690
Parks Information Coordinator

RUSK STATE PARK
HAS EAST TEXAS CHARM

Red-headed Woodpeckers flying among towering pine trees are part of the charm at the Rusk state park campground. Located in deep East Texas, the park is part of the Rusk/Palestine State Recreation Area that offers woodland camping within easy driving distance of early Texas historic attractions

This summer the Rusk/Palestine SRA is offering a bargain to campers at the Rusk Unit. From Sunday through Thursday nights, fees for campsites with water and electricity are reduced to \$7 per night, and campsites that also have sewer hookups are reduced to \$8. The regular \$9 and \$10 fees are charged on Friday and Saturday nights. The reduction in camping fees began on June 1 and ends Aug 31.

Open pine woodlands in the Rusk park are home to white-tailed deer and several species of rabbits including cottontails, swamp rabbits and jackrabbits. The park's small lake is stocked with largemouth bass, catfish and sunfish; fishermen can use jonboats,

-- MORE --

canoes and rubber rafts on the lake or cast their lines from a fishing pier

A picnic area and two regulation sized tennis courts overlook the lake. One of the concrete courts has been recently improved with a new texturized surface, and both courts have partially fenced backcourts and lights for evening play

Rusk state park is extremely popular with groups for camping rendezvous or family reunions. It has a group camp area that can accommodate 46 trailers with electrical and water hookups and two dump stations. An open-air picnic gazebo on the lake's edge has room for 75 to 100 people. It is equipped with a fire pit in the center, two double-sized standup charcoal grills, an enclosed kitchenette with a sink, hot water and a serving area.

A second, screened-in dining hall with a complete kitchen is also big enough for 75 to 100 people. Large standup charcoal grills are outside as well as a horseshoe pit and volleyball net. Balls and horseshoes can be checked out at park headquarters.

In the camping loops, each site has a picnic table, a ground fire ring, a standup grill and a prepared tent pad. A pullout for parking cars or trailer campers has a level, paved surface with utility hookups close by. Centrally located restrooms have hot showers.

The Texas State Railroad, a fully operating steam-powered locomotive and train, usually operates from a depot adjacent to the park. But, the Rusk train operation has been closed since April for track repairs following this year's major spring floods. However, the train is running on a short trip out of the Palestine depot about 30 minutes away on U S Highway 84.

In the city of Rusk, the first native-born governor of Texas is remembered at the Jim Hogg State Historical Park which has a small museum. Within 20 miles, the visitor will find the remnants of earthen burial mounds at Caddoan Mounds State Historic Site, and nearby is the Mission Tejas State Historical Park named for the first Spanish settlement and mission in East Texas.

Rusk state park is located three miles west of the city of Rusk on State Highway 84. Reservations are needed for all the group facilities and are recommended for the campsites. A \$2 entry fee is standard but all the campsites have been discounted by \$2 between Sunday and Thursday nights until Aug 31. Call (214) 683-5126 for reservations.

-- END --

AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for July 20

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear, 90 degrees, normal level black bass fair to 4 pounds on topwaters. Ski Jacks and strawberry worms; crappie fair at night on live minnows to 20 fish per string in 18-20 feet of water; catfish fair to 5 pounds on live perch baited jug lines.

BELTON: Water clear, 85 degrees, 1 foot above normal level black bass good to 3 pounds on black and blue worms in 10 feet or less of water; hybrid striper good to 7 pounds on shad in 34 feet of water; crappie slow; white bass good with several limits on small white or yellow jigs; yellow catfish slow; channel catfish good with many limits with an average of 22 fish per string to 2 pounds each on dough bait and stink bait in 30 feet of water.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 84 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass slow; striper fair with a few limits to 14 pounds most are in the 3-7 pound range on live bait; crappie slow; white bass good on topwaters early and jigs in the middle of the day with many limits; catfish are good in baited holes in 25-30 feet of water.

CANYON: Water clear, 85 degrees, 2 1/2 feet low and dropping; black bass slow; striper slow; crappie fair at night on minnows to 15 fish per string; white bass fair at night near the dam on minnows; channel catfish good to 5 pounds on shrimp and nightcrawlers; yellow catfish slow.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 90 degrees, normal level black bass slow with several around 6 pounds few fishermen out, on spinners; Rat-L-Traps, Ringworms; crappie slow; bream very good with many over 1 pound on nightcrawlers.

LBJ: Water clear, 83 degrees, lake full black bass slow; striper slow; crappie fair off docks and in baited holes with minnows; white bass good on topwaters early and slabs in the middle of the day; catfish good in baited in 25-30 feet of water on worms and stinkbait.

LIMESTONE: Water clear, 85 degrees, normal level black bass fair to good to 6 pounds, 10 ounces on spinners, worms and buzz baits; crappie fair with some limits on minnows; white bass fair to good with limits trolling Hellbenders, Lil Georges, Rat-L-Traps; catfish good to 6 pounds on shad and perch.

SOMERVILLE: Water clear, normal level black bass fair to 5 pounds on dark worms; striper slow; crappie fairly good on minnows and jigs; white bass slow; catfish good to 10 pounds on trotlines baited with shad and shrimp.

WACO: Water clearing, 85 degrees, normal level black bass fair to 4 pounds on black chartreuse and black and blue worms in 3-5 feet of water; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow and spotty; catfish fair to 20 pounds on trotline baited with live shad.

WHITNEY: Water clear, 78 degrees, normal level black bass poor; striper excellent to 17 pounds on shad, shiners and down rigging jigs; crappie improving on minnows in 4-8 feet of water with a few limits to 1 pound; white bass good to 1 1/2 pounds on slabs and Hotspots with some surface schooling; catfish fair only.

NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level black bass good to 10 pounds, 14 ounces on buzz baits, Torpedoes and Rat-L-Traps early and late, worms good during the day and at night in 12-17 feet; striper slow; crappie good to 25 fish per string on minnows in 25 feet of water over brushpiles; white bass slow; catfish good to 22 pounds on trotline baited with shrimp, goldfish, minnows and nightcrawlers.

BOB SANDLIN: Water stained, 82 degrees, normal level black bass fair to 5 1/2 pounds on Craw Worms, spinners and buzz baits in 6 to 23 feet of water; crappie good to 3 pounds under the bridges early and late; white bass good with some schooling near the dam to 3 1/2 pounds per fish on slabs; catfish good in the creek channels to 19 1/2 pounds on shrimp, chicken hearts and bream.

CADDO: Water clear, normal level black bass good to 3 1/2

pounds on spinners; crappie fair to 1 1/4 pounds on minnows; striper fair to 3/4 pounds with full strings; white bass slow; catfish fair at night to 2 pounds on minnows and cut bait.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 83 degrees normal level black bass slow; hybrid striper slow trolling and drifting live bream; crappie good on minnows in 20 feet of water around stumps and bridges pilings white bass good with early and late surfacing with limits on chartreuse Rooster Tails and chrome L'il Georges; channel catfish good to 4 1/4 pounds in 12-15 feet of water on nightcrawlers and blood bait.

CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water fairly clear, 78 degrees normal level black bass good to 6 1/2 pounds on worms crappie are good to 3 pounds on minnows fairly good numbers of full strings catfish good to 19 pounds on worm baited trotlines

FAIRFIELD: Water clear, 77 degrees, 1 foot high; black bass slow with a foul hooked 10 pounder which was released; hybrid striper fairly good in number to 7 pounds; crappie fair in number; catfish good on trotline to 5 pounds with limits; redfish good in the 6-8 pound range in the hot water discharge area in 8 feet of water.

FORK: Water clear, 89 degrees, lake full black bass good to 7 1/2 pounds on deep diving cranks and worms crappie good with limits on minnows mostly; catfish good to 8 pounds on trotline; few pole fishermen for catfish.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 83 degrees normal summertime level black bass fair to 9 pounds 2 ounces on dark worms spinners Long As Redfins and buzz baits crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish fairly good on trotlines to 8 pounds mostly on cut bait; bream fairly good on worms and crickets around the brush.

LAVON: Water clear, 84 degrees 11 feet above normal level black bass slow; striper slow; crappie are very good to 17 inches on minnows white bass fair off points in 5-8 feet of water; catfish good on blood bait to 6 pounds Boat ramps are closed. The only people using the lake are bank fishermen and those who have boats already on the lake.

LEWISVILLE: Water clear, lake still high; few fishermen using lake because of high water.

MONTICELLO: Water stained, 95 degrees, normal level black bass good to 6-9 pounds on topwaters and 11 inch black worms crappie fair to 10 fish per string on minnows; catfish good to 10 pounds on trotline and drifting Canadian Crawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 86 degrees, normal level black bass slow; crappie slow; white bass fair to 8 fish per string to 1 1/2 pounds; catfish good to 7 pounds on shrimp.

MURVAUL: Water clear, 67 degrees, normal level black bass good to 8 pounds, 15 ounces with many 8s and 6s on worms, buzz baits and Rat-L-Traps; crappie fair around 1971 bridge on minnows; catfish good to 4 pounds on trotline baited with nightcrawlers under 1971 bridge.

PALESTINE: Water clear, normal level black bass fair to 5 3/4 pounds on worms and cranks; striper are fairly good to 7 1/2 pounds on live bait; crappie slow; white bass fairly good, no limits, on spoons and diving baits; catfish good on trotline baited with live bait as well as rod and reel baited with catalpa worms and nightcrawlers.

PURTIS CREEK: Water clear, normal level black bass slow during the day, good early and late to 7 pounds on dark worms; crappie good to 25 fish per string on minnows; catfish good to 5 pounds on blood bait, shrimp.

RAY HUBBARD: Water clear, 84 degrees, normal level black bass good to 3 1/2 pounds on Hotspots and Rat-L-Traps; striper good to 17 pounds on live shad; crappie have been fair to 1 pound with a few limits under the bridge on minnows; white bass good to 25 fish per string on small chrome and white slabs; catfish good over the baited holes with many limits on shrimp in 18 feet of water.

RICHLAND-CHAMBERS: Water clear, 84 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass and all fishing slow due to hot weather and bright sunshine; lake water is generally very clear.

TAWAKONI: Water clear, normal level black bass fairly good to 7 pounds on spinners and topwaters; striper good to 16 pounds on

live baits and Allison Baits: crappie fair on minnows; white bass good with schooling early and late; fish are good sized on Allison Slabs; catfish good to 8 pounds on rod and reels baited with blood bait, shrimp and worms.

TEXOMA: Water clear, 86 degrees, 3 feet high; black bass fair to 5 1/4 pounds on cranks; striper good to 18 pounds on topwaters; slabs and live bait; crappie poor; white bass fair to 10 fish per string on PopRs; catfish good to 45 pounds on trotline baited with cut bait and shrimp.

WELSH: Water clear, 93 degree water temperature, normal level; black bass are very good to 8 1/4 pounds with many 6-7 pound fish; fish are beginning to move into the upper end around moss beds on 11 inch worms; crappie are slow, a few fish on minnows and tube jigs; catfish good on rod land reel to 4 pounds on shrimp and cut shad; trotline fishing has been slow to 8 pounds on bream; bream are good to 1 pound in good numbers on red wigglers and EuroLarvae.

SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water clear, 85 degree water temperatures normal level; black bass fair in numbers but most fish are too small to keep, a 7 6 pound bass caught last Sunday black worm with a blue tail and cranks; hybrid striper slow; white bass good on chrome lures around 1097 bridge; channel catfish good to 2 1/2 pounds on Bill's Cheese bait and night crawlers; bream good in size and number.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear, 79 degrees, normal level; black bass good with 6 fish over 7 pounds, and 1 over 8 pounds on shad and bream; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass good near the pump station early and late with full limits on silver and black Rat-L-Traps; cranks, spinners and minnows; blue Craw Worms; catfish slow.

LIVINGSTON: Water clear, 81 degrees; normal level; black bass slow with a few keepers in the 1-3 pound range on dark worms in 6 feet of water; striper good to 12 pounds at 23 feet in 45 feet of water on large minnows; crappie fairly slow; white bass good on white Vortex Kliprs with many limits; channel catfish slow; blue catfish fair to 4 pounds on rod and reel with shad; yellow catfish good to 62 pounds on trotline baited with live bream. Big bream are doing very well on Mealies and large nightcrawlers.

RAYBURN: Water clear, 87 degrees, 7 feet above normal level; black bass good early and late in the willows and brush on spinners, jigs and worms; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass good with some schooling; catfish good to 4 1/2 pounds on rod and reel with Catfish Charly.

TOLEDO BEND: Water clear, 6 inches high; black bass fair to 4 pounds on black worms with red and green metal flake; striper slow; crappie fairly slow; white bass slow; catfish slow.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear, 84 degrees, 7 1/2 feet low; black bass good to 7 pounds on chartreuse and white buzz baits along with a few 5 pounders on topwaters; buzz baits and dark worms in 3-5 feet of water; bass good in 20 feet later in the day; medium sized striper fair with a few limits; larger striper slow; crappie fair toward the Pecos on minnows; white bass fair with some schooling around the dam; catfish fairly good in 5 to 40 feet of water.

BRAUNIG: Water murky, 98 degree water temperatures, normal level; black bass to 8 1/4 pounds on red and blue worms in 15 feet of water; hybrid striper slow; crappie slow; catfish good to 3 pounds with some limits on shad, liver and perch.

CALAVERAS: Water murky, 88 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass poor to 5 pounds with 2 bass only since July 4 on Pet Spoons; striper good to 6 pounds on gold and silver spoons; tilapia, Rat-L-Traps, Green Grubs and Pet Spoons; crappie slow; catfish fair to 5 pounds on shrimp, shad, tilapia and crawfish; yellow catfish slow to 90 pounds on cranks and tilapia; redbass have been good to 15 pounds on crawdads, shad, spoons; corvina good to 9 pounds, 12 ounces on shad, tilapia, shrimp and spoons.

CHOKO: Water clear, 90 degree water temperatures, 8 1/2 feet low; black bass fairly good in the 3-4 pound range on Swimming Grubs; striper slow; crappie fairly good with some limits on minnows in 15 to 20 feet of water; white bass slow; catfish are excellent

to 12 pounds on cheese baits.
COLETO CREEK: Water clear. 85 degrees. 1 foot low; black bass fair with few keepers to 3 pounds on Rat-L-Traps; striper slow; crappie fair but mostly small in size on minnows. catfish fair to 2 1/2 pounds on liver.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water clear at dam and around state park. stained in upper lake. 85 degrees. 6 feet low; black bass fair to good with a single 7 1/2 pound bass caught on black worms with chartreuse tail by an Alice bass clubber at Fiesta Marina. a 9 pound bass caught off point near state park along with smaller fish on white spinners. striper slow; crappie are excellent early on minnows at sunrise; white bass fair under birds from Hog Island to the bayou marker at the dam on jigs and chrome Rat-L-Traps; good numbers of pan sized catfish on chicken liver and frozen shrimp above and below the dam; blue catfish good to 17 pounds on trotlines baited with cut shad in 5 feet of water.

FALCON: Water clear. 15 feet low; black bass fair to 7 pounds but no great numbers on worms and cranks; striper fairly good around the state park on Jigging Spoons and by trolling; crappie slow; white bass fairly good around the state park under the birds with spoons mostly; catfish good to 4 pounds on frozen shrimp.

TEXANA: Water murky in main lake. clear up the creeks and in the rivers. 87 degrees. normal level. black bass good to 4 1/2 pounds on white spinners around moss beds. striper slow; white bass fair up the Sandies on chrome Rat-L-Traps. crappie fairly good on minnows up the Sandies Creek. catfish good to 20 pounds on live perch baited trotlines.

WEST

ARKOWHEAD: Water murky. 78 degrees. lake full. black bass good to 4 pounds on purple and chartreuse Ringworms; striper good to 8 pounds on chartreuse shad baits. crappie poor; white bass good to 2 pounds with limits. catfish good to 5 pounds on punch baits.

BAYLOR: Water clear. winds high midweek. 81 degrees. normal level. black bass fairly good to 8 1/4 pounds on Salty Craws in shallow water; crappie slow; catfish good to 11 pounds on water dogs. Bream are good to 1 pound on worms and crickets.

MCKENZIE: Water clear. 80 degrees. normal level. black bass slow to 3 pounds on a Weed Walker in the main lake; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish fair to 5 pounds on live perch; channel catfish fair to 2 pounds on minnows in Tule Creek.

MEREDITH: Water clear. 78 degrees. normal level. black bass slow; crappie slow. some to 2 1/2 pounds in very deep water on minnows mostly; white bass beginning to school.

OAK CREEK: Water clear. 75 degrees. 5 feet low; black bass fairly good to 6 pounds. 13 ounces on dark worms. crappie slow; white bass fair at night under lights; catfish fair to 5 pounds.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear. 84 degrees. normal level. black bass slow to fair to 4 pounds on buzz baits. worms and topwaters; striper good to 10 pounds with some schooling. some caught trolling Hellbenders with jig trailer; crappie fair; white bass beginning to school. catfish good to 8 pounds on trotline baited with liver.

SPENCE: Water clear. 84 degrees. 29 feet low; black bass fair to 43 pounds on worms in 15 feet of water; striper good to 15 pounds trolling Hellbenders. jigs and live shad; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish slow.

STAMFORD: Water clear. 85 degrees. normal level. black bass fair to 3 1/2 pounds on worms; striper fair to 10 pounds; crappie good early on minnows with strings to 15 fish to 1 1/2 pounds each; catfish good on rod and reel to 6 pounds on minnows. catfish good to 8 pounds on trotline baited with minnows.

TWIN BUTTES: Water clear. 4 feet low; black bass fair to 7 3 pounds on minnows; striper slow; crappie fairly good with no limits on minnows; white bass slow; catfish fair.

WHITE RIVER: Water clear. 82 degrees. normal level. black bass good on large minnows and plastic worms; crappie fairly good; catfish good to 4 1/2 pounds with good numbers of strings.

COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Scattered redfish but many in the 21 inch range on dead shrimp and mud minnows; a few flounder to 2 pounds on dead shrimp and mud minnows along the roads and south of the

islands: no live bait shrimp available; good numbers of sheepshead and croaker. North Sabine lake still fresh.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Some redfish along the Louisiana boat docks on dead shrimp and large mud minnows; some redfish over the sunken barges and north of the store on dead shrimp and mud minnows. flounder good to 4 pounds along the causeway bridge and along the ship channel bank across from Dick Dowling Park; a few specks at the West Jetties; fishing slow at the East Jetties; croaker and drum fair in 9 feet of water over the oyster reefs; several limits of drum caught, mostly on shrimp; water still off color. good numbers of fishermen all week. Good numbers of specks at the short rigs off Cameron, La. on white and pink touts MirOlures. No live bait shrimp available; fresh dead shrimp and mud minnows are available.

GALVESTON: Redfish scattered to 25 inches at the jetties. few oversized fish at the jetties; trout fishing is picking up but most are undersized. specks are working under the birds in slicks in both East and West Bays; gafftops good to 8 pounds in the slicks and under the birds on live shrimp; good numbers of sandtrout in the ship channel and along the beach front; frequent schools of tarpon off the jetties and in West Bay behind San Luis Pass. specks good along beach front when the water clears. live bait shrimp available at \$9-\$10 per quart.

FREEPORT: Offshore producing kingfish from 10 to 40 pounds around the shrimp fleet about 25 miles off shore; the snapper banks 40-60 miles offshore doing fairly well with snapper to 18 pounds on squid and ice fish in 140-180 feet of water; some grouper in the 1-5 pound range on squid; Safari trips producing a mixed bag of kings, snapper, large amberjack and grouper.

PALACIOS: Redfish have been good to 28 inches. a few undersized fish along Palacios Bay and Turtle Bay shorelines and in the rivers; rivers are somewhat muddy from runoff best baits are fresh dead shrimp and spoons; fishermen must catch 10 trout to keep 2 at the peninsula on artificials and live shrimp; flounder good to 3 pounds on rod and reel. gigging slowed during the full moon phase; occasional black drum to 5 pounds on shrimp and cut bait; live bait shrimp is available at \$8-\$9 per quart. Preparations are underway for tournament to be held mid August.

PORT OCONNOR: Good numbers of specks in the back bays and at the jetties to 22 inches a few larger, on live bait. limits redfish good in the 25-26 inch range with limits; southwest winds again, offshore activities slow with some ling and snapper; live bait plentiful.

ROCKPORT: Cedar Bayou producing good numbers of good sized trout and redfish on MirOlures; nice trout caught on the outside of Traylor Island, along St. Charles Bay on the reefs; fair numbers of redfish in the Estes Flats/ California Hole area. live bait shrimp available but small in size at \$7.50 per quart.

PORT ARANSAS: A few amberjack and ling from the Gulf grouper to 45 pounds; flounder to 2 pounds with a gig around the lighthouse; some specks from Estes Flats; no redfish this week. Caldwell Pier fishermen catching specks to 28 inches on live mullet and cut bait, shrimp; some redfish to 28 inches on live shrimp with limits of 3 fish; live bait available in the area.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Fishing has been fairly slow in the bays due to high winds; few fishermen out; live bait available. Oso Pier producing black tip shark to 7 pounds on the bottom; some specks in the 14-17 inch range on live and dead bait. Bob Hall Pier fishermen have been catching specks to 6 1/2 pounds on live bait and artificials. hot pink MirOlures; some hammerhead and bull shark at the pier; a 42-inch tarpon landed early Wednesday. fish was returned to the water; no Spanish mackerel or kingfish from the pier this week.

PORT MANSFIELD: Good numbers of redfish to 48 inches at the end of the jetties; oversized fish released, no keepers at jetties; good numbers of keepers in the 27 inch range east of Marker 301 south to Green Island; speck fishing has been fairly slow due to winds; no live bait shrimp available.

SOUTH PADRE: Fair numbers of redfish to 28 inches in flats near Three Islands; some specks just above keeper size in the Intracoastal flounder to 2 pounds also in the Intracoastal live bait shrimp available at \$10 per quart.