

# texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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## NASH, GRAHAM NAMED TO FOUNDATION BOARD

AUSTIN--Former Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission members Bill Graham and Chuck Nash have joined the board of trustees of the Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas Inc.

Graham of Amarillo, owner of a real estate investments firm, served on the commission from July 1983 through January 1989. He replaces Bob Armstrong, a former Parks and Wildlife commissioner now serving with the U.S. Interior Department in Washington, D.C.

Nash, a car dealer from San Marcos, completed a six-year term on the commission in March. He served as chairman of the commission for two years. Nash is replacing C. Patrick Oles Jr. of Austin, president of a real estate company and involved in several conservation efforts.

The Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas Inc. is a tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation chartered by the state. Established in May 1991, the foundation is designed to provide private support for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Foundation members raise funds and provide resources to the agency and supplement its needs where use of public funds is either prohibited or restrained by lack of funding. Most notably, the foundation is involved with the building of the Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens and the newly named Share A Lunger Inc., the state's program to accept largemouth bass weighing 13 pounds and more for study and spawning.

Nash and Graham will join other board members Perry R. Bass, honorary chairman, businessman from Fort Worth and chairman emeritus of the Parks and Wildlife Commission; Edwin L. Cox Jr., chairman, businessman from Athens and a former member and chairman of the commission; Reed Morian, chairman and chief executive officers of DX Holding Company in Houston; Ed Rainwater of Freeport, vice-president of Dow North America, Texas Operations; Martin F. 'Bubba' Wood of Dallas, operator of a wildlife art gallery and publishing company; and Andrew Sansom, ex-officio member, TPWD executive director

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### **39 GAME WARDENS GRADUATE FROM ACADEMY**

AUSTIN--Thirty-nine game warden cadets joined the ranks of more than 500 game wardens across Texas during graduation ceremonies for the 43rd Game Warden Training School on April 9 at the state capitol.

The cadets began their six-month training program Oct. 1 in Austin. The graduates came from an original list of 1,369 people who took a written test in February 1992. They received about 1,100 hours of law enforcement training.

The new wardens studied game and fish laws, the penal code, water safety, fish and wildlife habitat identification and firearms training as well as several other subjects. Each cadet also completed a 40-hour course in first aid, CPR and emergency rescue training.

"Texas is changing, and today's game wardens are required to know more and do more than ever before," said Charles Hensley, law enforcement director at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. "Our cadets must learn not only the complete regimen of standard law enforcement basics, they also must acquire specialized expertise in wildlife management, game law, water safety law, public education and more."

The new game wardens bring the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's total field law enforcement strength to 539 officers across the state. The new officers will begin working at their new stations in May.

Below is a list of the new game wardens, their hometown and the city and county where they will be stationed.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Stationed</u>
Marco Antonio Alvizo	Eden	Aransas Pass, San Patricio Co.
Darla Beth Barr	Whitesboro	Dallas, Dallas Co.
Kris Rene Bishop	San Antonio	Santa Fe, Galveston. Co.
Donald Mark Blount	San Angelo	Kingsville, Kleberg Co.
Michael Craig Boone	Huntsville	Sour Lake, Hardin Co.
Randall Scott Brown	Eola	Fort Davis, Jeff Davis Co.
Patrick Andrew Canan	Wichita Falls	Cleburne, Johnson Co.
John W. Feist	Wallisville	Anahuac, Chambers Co.
Ernesto Rene Garcia	Rosharon	Brownsville, Cameron Co.
Jeff David Gillenwaters	Brazoria	San Saba, San Saba Co.
Kevin Lee Glass	College Station	Santa Fe, Galveston Co.
Byron Lynn Green	Pottsboro	Sulphur Springs, Hopkins Co.
Christopher Vance Green	Duncanville	Cooper, Delta Co.
Joseph Lynn Guidry	Fort Worth	Pecos, Reeves Co.
Michael J. Hanson Jr	Rusk	Center, Shelby Co.
Calvin B. Harbaugh Jr	San Antonio	Corpus Christi, Nueces Co.
L. Brent Isom	Idalou	Graham, Young Co.
David Paul Janssen	Bay City	Galveston, Galveston Co.
Thomas Floyd Jenkins	Marshall	Newton, Newton Co.
Grahame Lowndes Jones	Houston	Woodville, Tyler Co.
Robert Patrick Kana	Palacios	Galveston, Galveston Co.
Hector S. Leandro	Eagle Pass	Brownsville, Cameron Co.

Neal Reagan McCarn	Corpus Christi	Mathis, San Patricio Co.
Scott Douglas McLeod	Devine	Rockport, Aransas Co.
Joe Dyke McMahan	Electra	Palacios, Matagorda Co.
David Lawrence Modgling	Junction	Mathis, San Patricio
Kyle David Morris	Jasper	Livingston, Polk Co.
Michael Jay Morse	Lampasas	Rio Grande City, Starr Co.
Paul Duke Muller	Marble Falls	Houston, Harris Co.
Penelope Nixon	Del Rio	Austin, Travis Co.
Jeffery Tyree Parrish	Calliham	Falfurrias, Brooks Co.
Kerry Lee Peterson	Mason	Austin, Travis Co.
William Jesse Plumas	San Antonio	Arroyo City, Cameron Co.
Alan D. Teague	Portland	Corpus Christi, Nueces Co.
Robert J. Waggett Jr	Highlands	Houston, Harris Co.
Wesley Warren Wagstaff	Sour Lake	Houston, Harris Co.
Michael S. Wheelington	San Antonio	Corpus Christi, Nueces Co.
Malcom Lee Wilkes	Rockdale	Marlin, Falls Co.
John Gregory Williford	Austin	Paris, Lamar Co.

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### LLANO TO HOST BIG GAME AWARDS BANQUET

AUSTIN--The seventh of eight Texas Big Game Awards program banquets is scheduled for 1 p.m. April 24 at the Llano Community Center, 1.5 miles west of the Llano Courthouse on RR 152.

The Region 4 banquet, which covers the Edwards Plateau, is sponsored by the Llano Chamber of Commerce. For information, call (915) 247-5354. The Texas Big Game Awards program is designed to recognize quality deer and pronghorn antelope, the hunter and the land manager of owner up whose land the animal was taken as well as hunters harvesting their first animal.

The Texas Big Game Awards program, sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Wildlife Association, received 1,317 entries, 1,031 scored entries and 286 entries for first harvest.

The Edwards Plateau received 95 typical whitetail entries, 15 non-typical whitetail entries and 73 first hunter entries. The top five entries for Region 4 in each category are listed below.

*Typical White-tailed Deer*

1) K.N. Ferguson of Helotes, 162 2/8 Boone & Crockett net score, 10 antler points, 19 4/8-inch inside spread, taken in Medina County; 2) George Light V of Pearsall, 161 7/8, 11 points, 16 2/8 inches, Uvalde Co., Kincaid Ranch; 3) Frank Valois Jr. of Atascosa, 160, 10 points, 20 inches, Bexar Co., Lackland Training Annex-Lackland Air Force Base; 4) Raymond Lyssy of San Antonio, 158 6/8, 13 points, 22 6/8 inches, Medina Co., Wendland Ranch; 5) Mike Simpson of Conroe, 158, 10 points, 19 inches, Kimble Co., Whitetail Junction.

*Non-typical White-tailed Deer*

1) Richard McKinzey of Lake Charles, La., 179 3/8, 19 points, 15 3/8 inches, Sutton Co., 2) H. Rugeley Ferguson Jr. of Helotes, 172 2/8, 17 points, 17 2/8 inches, Medina Co., 3) Glenn Odstroil of Temple, 168 1/8, 14 points, 25 inches, Kinney Co., Hugh Coates Ranch; 4) Coy Hilliard of Burnet, 166 6/8, 17 points, 15 5/8 inches, San Saba Co., 5) Russell Cowan of Watauga, 160 4/8, 14 points, 15 3/8 inches, Crockett Co., J.L. Henderson Ranch.

*First Deer/Pronghorn Award*

Some selected entries include Zachary Berend of Wichita Falls, 8 years old, white-tailed deer, Val Verde Co., Bartley Gillan of Llano, 7, whitetail, Llano Co., Travis Robert Hill of Meridian, 7, whitetail, Real Co., Hillcrest Ranch; Justin Holub of Wallis, 7, whitetail, Kinney Co., Douglas Knight of Cypress, 9, whitetail, Crockett Co., Ashley Leifeste of Llano, 7, whitetail, Llano Co., Dayton Leifeste Ranch; Sean McConal of Kerrville, 7, whitetail, Kerr Co., Jeremy McMinn of Montgomery, 9, whitetail, Kerr Co., Theron Oatman of Llano, 7, whitetail, Llano Co., Bennett Creek Ranch; Travis Peterson of Houston, 9, whitetail, Gillespie Co., Schandua Ranch; Stephen Spikes of San Antonio, 5, whitetail, Comal Co., and Shane Webb of Gatesville, 9, whitetail, Coryell Co.

The final award banquet is scheduled for May 1 in Center. For information on the program and upcoming banquets contact TPWD at 1-800-792-1112 or (512) 389-4800. Cities interested in hosting a banquet in 1994 should call TWA's Charly McTee at (210) 826-2904.

## WHOOPERS MIGRATING NORTH TO CANADA

AUSTIN--Endangered whooping cranes have begun departing their Texas winter home for their nesting grounds in Canada, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials said.

Lee Ann Linam of TPWD's endangered species program said the first whoopers departed Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the Gulf Coast the last week in March to begin their 2,500-mile migration north to Wood Buffalo National Park in the Northwest Territories.

A total of 136 whooping cranes, including 121 adults and 15 young, the only wild breeding population in the world, spent the winter on the Texas coast. State and federal biologists had anticipated as many as 145 whooping cranes might have arrived at Aransas last fall, but losses apparently occurred late in the nesting season in Canada and during migration.

In contrast to some recent years, no whoopers died during their wintering period in Texas, a success attributed to good habitat conditions on the wintering grounds, Linam said.

This past winter also marked another step forward in the recovery of the species with an attempt to reestablish whooping cranes in Florida, she said. During January, 14 young whooping cranes raised in captivity were introduced into wetland habitats in the Kissimmee Prairie of Central Florida.

"It is hoped that the whooping cranes will establish a non-migratory flock such as once existed on Louisiana's coastal wetlands," Linam said. "If this initial release is successful, then plans are to release additional whooping cranes at the Florida site in future years. Members of the Whooping Crane Recovery Team feel that additional populations will help ensure the continued existence of the species."

Whoopers leaving the Texas coast now will travel through Central and North Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, South and North Dakota and the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. They may remain overnight in wetland areas along rivers, lakes or ponds and may feed briefly in grain fields and wetlands.

Anyone spotting a whooping crane in Texas is asked to report the time, place and other details to the department's endangered species program at 1-800-792-1112 or (512) 448-4311 or to other wildlife officials.

Adult whooping cranes are white with black wingtips and a red forehead. In flight, the bird's long neck is held straight forward and long, black legs extend beyond the tail. The adult's wingspan may be more than 7 feet, and when standing, they are as tall as 5 feet. Juveniles have white and rusty brown body feathers and black wingtips.

Linam encourages Texans to help safeguard this unique bird. Also, disturbance of the bird during feeding or roosting can lead to injury or harm.

"Despite its recent population increases, the whooping crane, whose only natural population winters in Texas, is still a highly endangered Texas treasure," she said. "It is only through the cooperation of Texas residents that we can effectively ensure its safe travel through its migration route."

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## **BIRDING TOURS HIGHLIGHT MAY PASSPORT EVENTS**

AUSTIN--Many Texas Conservation Passport events in May focus on birds and bird watching, but there also are events for people with other interests, including fishing, muzzleloading, biking, horseback riding and several other tours and shows.

Birding tours are scheduled for the Chaparral and Black Gap wildlife management areas, Kickapoo Caverns SNA and Cedar Creek Islands, among other places.

A new event is a pre-season pool day on May 23 at Abilene State Park.

Events scheduled for Texas Conservation Passport holders during May include:

- \* Abilene SP near Abilene, pre-season pool day, 1-6 p.m., (915) 572-3204.
- \* Big Bend Ranch SNA near Presidio, bus tour with chuckwagon lunch, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 1, (915) 229-3613, and May 15, (915) 424-3327, reservations strongly suggested but not required.
- \* Black Gap WMA in Brewster County, bird banding in the Chihuahuan Desert, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., May 1, (915) 376-2216. Also desert bird seminar, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., May 23 and 24.

- \* Cedar Creek Islands WMA/Telfair Unit near Athens, nesting water bird colony tour, 8 a.m. to noon, May 8, 15 and 22, (903) 566-1626.
- \* Cedar Hill SP at Joe Pool Reservoir, fishing clinic with guide Reggie Stewart, 9-11 a.m., May 1, (214) 291-3900. Also, Penn Farm walking tour, 9-11:15 a.m., May 22, additional fee.
- \* Chaparral WMA in Dimmit and La Salle counties, birding in the brush slide show and tour, 9 a.m. to sunset, May 22 and 23, (512) 676-3413.
- \* Dinosaur Valley SP near Glen Rose, mountain bike trail ride, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 8, (817) 897-4588.
- \* Fairfield Lake SP near Fairfield, wings on the thermals: tour and slide show, before sunset, May 8, (903) 389-4514.
- \* Gene Howe WMA near Canadian, nature tour, 8 a.m. to noon, May 8, (806) 492-3405.
- \* Guadalupe River SP near Boerne, hydrographics: flood patterns and effects of the Guadalupe River, 1:30-4 p.m., May 29, (210) 438-2656.
- \* Hill Country SNA and Running R Ranch in Bandera County, interpretive horseback riding tour with mount and lunch provided, 9 a.m. to noon, May 9, additional fee, (210) 796-4413.
- \* Honey Creek SNA in Comal County, lower Edwards Plateau ecosystem tour, 9-11 a.m., May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, (210) 438-2656. Also, tour on insects focusing on butterflies, 1:30-4 p.m., May 8.
- \* Kerr WMA near Hunt in Kerr County, birding tour focusing on endangered species, 8 a.m. to noon, May 7, (210) 238-4483.
- \* Kickapoo Cavern SNA near Uvalde, tour of the cavern and Green Cave bat flight observation, 4-9 p.m., May 1 and 15, (210) 563-2342. Also, a bird banding observation and birding tour, 9 a.m., May 8 and 22.
- \* Lake Livingston SP near Livingston, fishing seminar, 8 a.m. to noon, May 5, (409) 365-2201
- \* Lake Mineral Wells SP near Mineral Wells, plant identification and birding tour, 8 a.m. to noon, May 8, (817) 328-1171
- \* Matador WMA near Paducah, nature tour, 8 a.m. to noon, May 22, (806) 492-3405.
- \* McKinney Falls SP near Austin, muzzleloading demonstration, 10 a.m. to noon, May 1 and 8, (512) 243-1643.



\* M. O. Neasloney WMA in Gonzales County. walk on the wild side slide show and tour, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 15, (210) 875-9230 or 424-3407

\* Old Tunnel WMA near Fredericksburg, bat emergence tour, one hour before sunset to one hour after sunset, May 15, (210) 868-4186.

\* Peach Point WMA in Brazoria County, spring migration birding tour, 8 a.m. to dark, May 1, (512) 729-2315.

\* Pedernales Falls SP in Blanco County, Twin Falls nature trail walk, 9:30-10:30 a.m., May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, (210) 868-7304.

\* University of Texas Coastal Studies Lab on South Padre Island, marine life in South Texas slide show and tour, 10 a.m. to noon, May 7, (210) 350-4490.

\* Walter Buck WMA near South Llano River State Park in Junction, hike or mountain bike bird watching weekend, self-guided, 30 minutes before dawn to 30 minutes after sunset, May 29 and 30, (915) 446-3994.

\* Washington-on-the-Brazos SHP near Brenham, aquatic ecology slide show and demonstration, 10 a.m., May 29, (409) 878-2214.

A Texas Conservation Passport is required to attend these events for each person 17 years old and older. The \$25 passport also provides a waiver of park entry fees, discounts for camping and is a way for everyone to contribute directly to the preservation and enjoyment of Texas' natural and cultural resources.

Other benefits of the passport include entry to some currently undeveloped park lands, discounts on some department items such as the Texas Parks and Wildlife magazine and news of special outdoor programs.

The Texas Conservation Passport is sold at all state parks, TPWD regional law enforcement offices and through two vendors, Whole Earth Provision Company in Austin, Dallas and Houston and REI (Recreation Equipment Inc.) in Austin.

For more information about a tour, call the telephone number given above for the specific tour. For more information about the Texas Conservation Passport, call your local state park or department headquarters in Austin at 1-800-792-1112.

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## ANTELOPE HARVEST, NUMBERS INCREASE

AUSTIN--About 68 percent of pronghorn antelope hunters successfully harvested a buck during last fall's nine-day season in the Panhandle. Antelope numbers also continue to rise statewide, according to results from 1992 surveys.

Twelve Panhandle counties were issued 295 pronghorn buck permits by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in 1992, up from 226 in 1991. Biologists said 134 antelope were harvested by 198 hunters. Statewide, 652 bucks and 13 does were harvested by 741 hunters, a 90 percent success rate.

Pronghorn antelope occur in three regions of Texas, the Panhandle, the Trans-Pecos and the Permian Basin, said Calvin Richardson, TPWD district wildlife biologist in Amarillo. In 1992, 73 percent of the antelope were in the Trans-Pecos, 20 percent in the Panhandle and 7 percent in the Permian Basin.

Aerial surveys in June and July - 292 hours of flight time - led biologists to estimate the pronghorn population at 24,342 statewide, 28 percent bucks, 51 percent does and 21 percent fawns.

The Panhandle population was estimated at 4,876, an increase of 15.5 percent over 1991, Richardson said. The herd makeup included 1,067 bucks, 3,254 does and 555 fawns. The buck:doe ratio was 1:3.05 and fawn survival was 17 percent. Despite a slight increase in antelope numbers in the Panhandle, fawn production and the proportion of bucks in the herd continues to be low compared to other pronghorn herds in Texas.

In the Trans-Pecos, the 1992 fawn crop was 47 percent and there was a buck:doe ratio of 1:1.7. The Permian Basin herd had an excellent 84 percent fawn survival and a buck:doe ratio of 1:1.

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## STATE PARK EVENTS CALENDAR

### MAY 1

- \* Annual River Cleanup, Guadalupe River State Park, Bulverde  
Park staff, along with volunteer participants will clean the Upper Guadalupe River. Following the cleanup, ACCO Wastepaper of San Antonio, one of the event sponsors, will recycle the waste.  
(Contact the park at 210-438-2656)
  
- \* Bus Tour/Chuckwagon Lunch, Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, Presidio  
(TCP activity) TCP holders can take the Big Bend Ranch bus tour while enjoying a chuckwagon lunch with guide exhibits technician David Alloway. Bus leaves from Fort Leaton.  
(Contact the site at 915-229-3613)
  
- \* Cave Tour and Bat Flight, Kickapoo Cavern State Natural Area, Bracketville  
(TCP activity) The Kickapoo Cavern tour and Green Cave bat flight observation with guide Park Manager D.K. Stuart.  
(Contact the site at 210-563-2342)

### MAY 2

- \* Wildflower Tours, Matagorda Island State Park, Port O'Connor  
(TCP activity) These tours will cover the wildflowers and plants that have adapted to the harsh conditions of the Texas Gulf Coast.  
(Contact the park at 512-983-2215)

### MAY 8

- \* Mountain Bike Trail Ride, Dinosaur Valley State Park, Glen Rose  
(TCP activity) Mountain bike trail ride, guide bike shop owner G. Shannon. Reservations available but not requested.  
(Contact the park at 817-897-4588)

- \* **Save Our American Raptors, Fort Richardson State Historical Park, Jacksboro**  
This educational program presents a fascinating close-up view of our national symbol, the bald eagle, and the many reasons for appreciating and protecting this endangered species. In addition to the live bald eagle, the program will feature other live raptors on stage.

(Contact Danny Peterson at 817-567-3506)

- \* **Wildflower Tours, Matagorda Island, see May 2, (TCP activity)**

#### MAY 9

- \* **Marine Ecosystems, Matagorda Island State Park, Port O'Connor**  
(TCP activity) Experience the marine environment through a variety of sampling methods, both on the bay and gulf beach of Matagorda Island.

(Contact the park at 512-983-2215)

#### MAY 15

- \* **Bus Tour/Chuckwagon Lunch, Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, Presidio**  
(TCP activity) TCP holders can take the Big Bend Ranch bus tour while enjoying a chuckwagon lunch with guide exhibits technician David Alloway.

Bus leaves from Lajitas.

(Contact the site at 915-424-3327)

- \* **Mountain Bike Tour (MS Society), Hill Country State Natural Area, Bandera**  
The MS Mountain Bike Tour is designed for cyclists of all riding abilities. This tour promises to be one of the best cycling events of the season, with the goal being to pedal into raising money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

(Contact 1-800-683-1637 or 735-9366)

- \* **Bat Flight, Old Tunnel Wildlife Management Area, near Fredericksburg**  
(TCP activity) Bat emergence tour, guide biologist R. Welch.

(Contact the site at 210-868-4186)

- \* **Marine Ecosystems, Matagorda Island, see May 9, (TCP activity)**

MAY 16 and 23

- \* History Tours, Matagorda Island State Park; Port O'Connor  
(TCP activity) TPWD will conduct historical tours of the island, covering its 5,000-year history, including Karankawa through European settlement, up to World War II.  
(Contact the park at 512-983-2215)

Events are free unless otherwise indicated. TCP activities require a \$25 Texas Conservation Passport, which offers holders free daily entry and overnight camping discounts at state parks across Texas, as well as access to guided tours and events like those listed above. To obtain a TCP, visitors should contact their nearest state park.

**TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE TELEVISION SHOW  
MAY 1993**

(All times PM unless otherwise noted)

<u>CITY/STATION</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>
AUSTIN KLRU-TV CH 18	CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS	
AUSTIN KLRU-TOO CABLE CH 31	MONDAY FRIDAY	7:30 3:00
CORPUS CHRISTI KEDT-TV, CH 16	THURSDAY	7:30
HARLINGEN KMBH-TV, CH 60	SATURDAY	6:30

KILLEEN	THURSDAY	1:30
KNCT-TV, CH 46	SUNDAY	5:30
LUBBOCK	THURSDAY	1:00
KTXT-TV, CH 5		
ODESSA	SATURDAY	7:30
KOCV-TV, CH 36		
WACO	THURSDAY	11:30
KCTF-TV, CH 34		
SAN ANTONIO	SATURDAY	6:30 AM
KLRN-TV, CH 9		

Paul Hope, Fishing Report No.582  
April 14, 1993

AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for April 14:

#### CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are good through 4 pounds on cranks and spinners; crappie are good at night on live minnows; catfish are good to 15 pounds on Bill's Sponge Baits.

BELTON: Lake clear, rivers murky, 62 degrees, 7 feet above normal level; black bass are good to 8 pounds, 6 ounces on jigs and spinners; striper are slow; crappie are good on minnows and jigs in 2-12 feet, most caught by bass fisherman. White bass are slow; catfish are good in the Leon and Cowhouse on worms.

BROWNWOOD: Water clear, 58 degrees, 2 feet below spillway; black bass are fair to 5 pounds, most are in the 2 1/2 to 3 pound range, on spinners and cranks at the dropoffs; striper are fair under birds on silver spoons and Sassy Shads; crappie are good from the docks on minnows and jigs; white bass are fair at night under lights, some caught around points and sand flats; channel catfish are fair in the 1 1/2 to 2 pound range on minnow and shad.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 64 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are good to 8 pounds, 12 ounces on purple worms in shallow water; striper are excellent to 15 pounds on live shad in 25 to 30 feet of water with some topwater activity early; crappie are slow; white bass are good around Garrett Island and up the river; catfish are good on trotline baited with fresh shad.

CANYON: Water clear, 60 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair on minnows and cranks, nothing hot and heavy; striper are good to 32 pounds trolling cranks in the lake; crappie are good to 2 pounds on minnows in 20-25 feet of water; white bass are good up the river on spoons and minnows; channel catfish are good to 4 pounds on worms and shrimp; yellow catfish are fairly good to 51 pounds on trotline baited with large minnows, goldfish and perch.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 72 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 1 1/2 pounds on spinners, jerk baits, Rattle Traps, lizards and live water dogs; crappie are slow; catfish are excellent to 45 pounds on live water dogs, perch, minnows and goldfish on jug lines and rod and reel.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear, 67 degrees, normal level; black bass are slowing down; crappie are picking up on minnows, no limits; catfish are fairly good to 5 pounds.

INKS LAKE: Water clear, 66 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on frog colored topwaters and chartreuse worms; striper are fair to 18 pounds on live shad below the dam; crappie are poor; white bass are fair on live minnows and live shad; catfish are slow to 20 pounds on live perch; channel catfish are fair to 4 pounds on minnows.

LBJ: Water clear, 64 degrees, lake full; black bass are good to 9 pounds, 14 ounces on chartreuse DB#3; striper are slow; crappie are good up the Colorado on points with structure; white bass are

still up Llano River and caught on Fleaflies and jigs; catfish are good to 6 pounds in baited holes. LIMESTONE: Water murky, normal level; black bass are fair to 6 pounds on Bulldog Spinners; crappie are fair in the shallows on minnows; catfish are good to 20 pounds on live perch in the creek channels.

NAVARRO MILLS: Water murky, 69 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow to 3 pounds on live bait and spinners; crappie are good but small on minnows in the brush and creeks; white bass are slow; catfish are fair to 4 pounds on shad or perch baited trotlines.

SOMERVILLE: Water fairly clear, some color, 2 feet above normal level; black bass are good in the 5-7 pound range on worms and spinners; striper are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are picking up in the 3-7 pound range on rod and reel.

SQUAW CREEK: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are good in the 3-5 pound range in 4-10 feet of water on Power Worms, buzz baits and spinners; smallmouth bass are good in the 3-4 pound range on minnows, grubs, buzz baits and spinners; white bass are good in the 2-4 pound range on chrome spinners and cranks in 2-20 feet of water; crappie are slow in the 1-2 pound range in 1-6 feet of water on minnows; catfish are good to 14 1/4 pounds in 15 feet of water on Mr. Whiskers Cheese Bait.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear, 58 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 20 inches on minnows; striper are slow; crappie are good on minnows in 14 to 25 feet of water; white bass are good on worms and minnows; catfish are good to 19 pounds.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 64 degrees, 2 feet low; largemouth bass are good to 4 1/2 pounds on chartreuse spinners, chartreuse Rapalas and smoke glitter grubs; Guadalupe bass are good to 15 inches on same lures with frequent limits; striper are fair to 23 inches or 4 pounds on plastic grubs off points; crappie are slow; white bass are spotty but some large fish caught in coves; catfish are fair to 6 pounds on fresh cut bait.

WACO: Water off color, 67 degrees, normal level; black bass are good through 7 pounds on spinners and Crawworms; striper are slow; crappie are good on minnows in 5 feet of water; white bass are good on small Roadrunners and grubs; catfish are slow.

WHITNEY: Water clear, 60 degrees, 6 inches low; largemouth bass are fair to 9 pounds on Slug-Gos, spinners and Carolina Rigs; striper are fair to 14 pounds on topwaters, shad and perch; white bass are good up river and in the creeks on ghost minnows slabs and spoons; catfish are good to 35 pounds on live perch.

#### NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water clear, 62 degrees, one half inch high; black bass are good through 8.69 pounds on French Fries, black and blue Power Worms with strings to 19.51 pounds; crappie are good on minnows, jigs and roadrunners in shallow water; white bass are slow; catfish are slow.

BRIDGEPORT: Water clear, 58 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; crappie slow; white bass and all fishing is slow.

CADDO: Water clear, normal level;

black bass are good to 8.27 pounds on purple worms; white bass are slow; yellow bass are plentiful; crappie are good to 1 3/4 pounds on minnows at the big lake near the trees on minnows; catfish are good to 13 pounds at night on trotline baited with goldfish.

CEDAR CREEK: Lower lake clear, upper end muddy, 65-70 degrees, normal level; black bass are excellent in the 3-7 pound range on a wide variety of baits; hybrid striper are slow; crappie are excellent in shallow water on minnows and jigs; white bass are picking up under bridges on minnows; catfish are good to 58 pounds on cut bait.

CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water clear, 72 degrees, normal level; black bass are good through 8.7 pounds on Power Worms; crappie are good in shallow water on jigs and minnows; catfish are good to 36 pounds in 17 feet of water on live minnows.

FAIRFIELD: Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 8 pounds on Bass Assassins; striper are slow; catfish are fairly good to 10 pounds on bloodbait; redfish are fairly good to 11 pounds on DB#3s, shrimp and perch.

FORK: Water clear, 62 degrees, lake full; black bass are good to 11.96 pounds on Crawworms; crappie are good to 2 pounds on jigs; catfish are slow.

GRAPEVINE: Water slightly off color, 62-63 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 8 1/4 pounds on jigs and lizards in 5-10 feet of water; crappie are good around boat stalls on minnows and red and white tube jigs in 3-10 feet of water; white bass are good to 2 pounds on 1/4-ounce chrome and blue Rattle Traps and small yellow grubs in 10-15 feet of water in Denton Creek; catfish are good to 10 pounds on shad and shrimp drifting in 15 feet of water early and late.

JOE POOL: Water clear, 60 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds on jigs and Crawworms in 6 feet of water; crappie are good in the 1 1/2 pound range on minnows in 12-14 feet of water; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 9 pounds on dead minnows.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 63 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 10.1 pounds on Slug-Gos, Fliptail Floating Lizards and spinners; crappie are fair on minnows in 10 feet of water; white bass are fair along creek channels on small cranks; catfish are good to 11 pounds on nightcrawlers and cut bait.

LAVON: Water clear, 60 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 3 pounds on plastic worms and cranks; striper are fair to 9 pounds on cranks while fishing for white bass; crappie are very good in brush near the shore; white bass are fair to 1 1/2 pounds on silver spoons; catfish are picking up on live minnows and live shad.

LEWISVILLE: Water off color, 64 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 5 1/2 pounds on spinners; striper are slow; crappie are improving in 2-4 feet on minnows and jigs; white bass are fairly good; catfish are slow, some caught in the running creeks.

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds on live water dogs; crappie are fair to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; catfish are good to 7 pounds on Canadian crawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 58 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds on worms and

pig and jig combinations; crappie are excellent to 1 3/4 pounds on minnows and jigs; white bass are slow; catfish are fair in number to 3 pounds.

MURVAUL: Water dingy from rains, 60 degrees, 8 inches high; black bass are fair to 6 1/2 pounds on spinners, worms and jigs; crappie are good all over the lake, around the 1971 bridge and in the coves; catfish are good to 5 pounds on trotlines baited with cut shad.

PALESTINE: Water clear, 58 degrees, 6 inches high; black bass are good to 9 1/2 pounds on worms and spinners; striper are slow; crappie are good to 2 1/2 pounds on minnows in shallow water; white bass are slow; catfish are picking to 12 pounds on catappa worms, blood bait and cut bait.

PURTIS CREEK: Water off color, 58 degrees, 3 inches high; black bass are good to 11 pounds, 5 1/2 ounces, a new lake record caught by 13-year old Brad Taylor of Dallas; crappie are good on minnows and jigs 6-8 feet of water; catfish are slow.

RAY HUBBARD: Water clear, 58-60 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 5 pounds on white spinners; striper are slow; crappie are good around marinas on minnows and jigs; white bass are excellent around Robertson Park on chartreuse slabs fished on the bottom; catfish are slow.

RAY ROBERTS: Water clear, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are slow below the dam; crappie are fair to 2.7 pounds or 15 1/2 inches long on minnows; catfish are slow.

RICHLAND-CHAMBERS: Water stained on the upper end, clear in lower lake, 62 degrees, normal level; black bass are good in shallow water to 8 pounds on spinners and lizards; hybrid striper are slow; crappie are good at night in the backs of creeks next to the channels; white bass are fair in 15 to 20 feet of water on slabs and spoons; catfish are fair on jug lines and rod and reel baited with shad, perch and shrimp.

TAWAKONI: Water off color, 58 degrees, 4 inches high; black bass are excellent in number to 7 pounds on spinners and cranks; striper are poor; crappie are good through 2 pounds, 7 ounces on jigs and minnows; white bass are good through 2 1/2 pounds on Rattle Traps and slabs; catfish are slow.

TEXOMA: Water murky, 53 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on cranks and pig and jig combinations in 15 feet of water; striper are good through 14 pounds on Sassy Shad, deep diving Redfins and live bait; crappie are good on minnows in 5 feet or less of water; white bass are fair to good to 2 pounds on Sassy Shad; catfish are fair.

WRIGHT PATMAN: Water murky to clear from the south to the north, 64 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are fair to good to 6 1/4 pounds on spinners, jig and pig combinations and lizards; crappie are fair and improving to 1 3/4 pounds on minnows in 18 inches to 2 feet of water; catfish are slow to 23 pounds on trotlines; white bass are fair to 1 1/2 pounds below the dam but poor in the main lake; sunfish are poor.

#### SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water a little off color, 61 to 70 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are slow; crappie are good in clear creeks

and under 1097 bridge; all other fishing slow.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear, 67 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 12 1/4 pounds on water dogs; crappie are good to 2 pounds at Golden Acres, at the dam and around the islands in 14 feet of water; white bass are good in the same area to 15 fish per string on minnows; catfish are good near the dam to 8 1/4 pounds on rod and reel baited with worms.

LIVINGSTON: Water clearing, 65 degrees, 6 inches high; black bass are good to 8 1/2 pounds on spinners in shallow water, pig and jig combinations also good; striper are slow; crappie are fairly good with a few limits but mostly 10-15 fish per string on minnows and jigs; white bass are beginning to return to the lake, several catches over the past weekend; catfish are good in shallow water on trotlines and rod and reel. The Challenge America Outreach Fun Tournament for the handicapped will be held April 24 with headquarters at Penwaugh Marina.

RAYBURN: Water clear to stained in the south end, stained to muddy in the upper end where the Attoyac and Angelina Rivers come in, 62-66 degrees, 2 1/2 feet above pool level and rising; black bass are good to 9 pounds on Flat As, lizards and spinners, bass are on beds on the north end and are starting on the south end; white bass and hybrid striper are doing fairly well; crappie are good on cranks while bass fishing, some channel catfish also caught on cranks; catfish are good to 8 pounds on soap and bloodbait baited trotlines.

SHELDON: Water murky, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 10 pounds off Garrett Road on minnows and plastic worms; crappie are poor; catfish are fair at the south end on cut bait.

TOLEDO BEND: Water slightly off color, 65 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are slow, some caught on topwaters early and late, some on lizards and cranks during the day; striper are good to 13 pounds on live bait; crappie are picking with limits from the docks on chartreuse artificials, most fish are around 1 pound each; white bass are slow; catfish are fair to 40 pounds on live bait in 10-20 feet of water near the creeks and rivers.

#### SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear, 59 degrees, 2 feet above normal level; black bass are very good with limits to 5 1/2 pounds on Power Worms and grubs; striper are slow; crappie slow; white bass are fair in the river; catfish are good in the 6-8 pound range on stinkbait and shrimp.

BRAUNIG: Water murky, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are good in the 8 pound range on Power Worms, many undersized 4 1/2 to 5 pound caught; striper are fairly good in the 3 1/2 to 5 pound range on chicken liver and shrimp, great numbers of undersized fish caught; channel catfish are fair in the 4-5 pound range on chicken liver, shrimp and shad; redfish are good to 20 pounds, some caught from the bank on crawfish and shad with down riggers and from the boat on spoons.

CALAVERAS: Water murky, 72 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are good to 6 pounds on artificials; striper are good to 7 pounds on live perch, liver and

spoons; crappie are slow; catfish are good to 2 pounds on shad and liver; corvina are slow; redfish are good to 15 pounds.

CHOKE: Water clear, 65 degrees, 6 inches low; black bass are good to 11 1/4 pounds on deep diving cranks, spinners, Slug-Gos, plastic worms, shallow running cranks and Rattlin' Thinfin, most bass over 6 pounds have now spawned and are holding in 7-15 feet of water at the outer edge of grass and points, most bass under 5 pounds are trying to spawn in 1-5 feet of water; striper are slow; crappie are slow on minnows around trees; white bass are good around 99 bridge and boat ramps, larger fish are still up river and are beginning to move back into lakes on jigs, grubs and Roadrunners and chrome cranks; catfish are good and are moving into spawning area in 10 feet of water or less, chicken liver and cheese bait under corks are best; baited areas are best; trotline fishing in the 2-5 pound range is good in 5-10 feet of water.

COLETO CREEK: Water murky, 74 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 9 pounds, 2 ounces on spinners; striper are fair on spoons; crappie are fair on minnows at the pier and in brushy areas; catfish are fair to 3 pounds on trotlines baited with shrimp and blood bait.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water stained to muddy in main lake, clear in most coves; 65 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are fair to 3 1/2 pounds in 2-3 feet of water on white spinners and minnows; striper are slow; crappie are fair with 6-8 fish per string in the back of coves on minnows and jigs; white bass are good at night off both state park piers under the lights on L'il Cleos and minnows; blue catfish are good to 8 pounds on trotlines baited with shad and carp; channel catfish are good to 3 1/2 pounds from the lake shorelines and below the dam on chicken livers.

FALCON: Water clear, 70 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass are excellent to 11 pounds on blue flake Power Worms and white spinners in shallow water and around points; striper are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 5 pounds on frozen shrimp.

TEXANA: Water muddy, normal level; black bass are fairly good to 3 pounds in the jungle area on buzz baits early; striper and crappie are slow; catfish are fairly good to 26 pounds on trotlines baited with shad.

#### WEST

ARROWHEAD: Water a little murky, normal level; black bass are slow; crappie are poor to 12 inches on minnows; all other fish are slow.

GRANBURY: Water off color, 58 degrees, normal level; black bass are good in the 2-3 pound range on purple and blue worms; striper are good to 10 pounds on live shad; crappie are very good on small minnows and small jigs; white bass are good on Roadrunners and Fleaflies; catfish are improving.

GREENBELT: Water clear, 53 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 4 pounds on minnows and spinners; crappie are good to 2 pounds on minnows in 4-12 feet of water; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 8 pounds on minnows; walleye are good to 6 pounds on minnows.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear, normal



level; black bass are slow; striped are slow; crappie are good on minnows in the shallows; white bass are slow; catfish are slow.

MEREDITH: Water clear, 49 degrees, normal level; smallmouth bass are fair to 6.47 pounds, a possible lake record caught by Bryan Stewart of Fritch, on minnows; largemouth bass are fair to 5 pounds on minnows; crappie are picking to 1 pound on minnows in 20 feet of water; catfish are slow.

OAK CREEK: Water clear, 61 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are fair and small most are in the 13 to 1 1/2 inch range on spinners; crappie are good on minnows from 8-20 feet of water; white bass are excellent in number trolling spoons and deep diving baits; catfish are good to 4 pounds on shrimp and chicken livers.

O.H. IVIE: Main lake clear, upper end murky, 61 degrees, 2 inches low; largemouth bass are excellent to 7 pounds on dark worms, cranks and spinners in 4 to 20 feet of water, some limits; smallmouth bass are good to 13 inches in 5 to 20 feet of water along rocky points on worms, slabs and jigs; crappie are good to 2 pounds on minnows and jigs in 2 to 10 feet of water along brushy areas; white bass are fair to good to 2 pounds on jigs, spoons and slabs trolling over points and flats; channel catfish are good to 6 pounds on rod and reel and trotline baited with worms, minnows and stinkbait up rivers and in main body; yellow catfish are good to 30 pounds on trotlines midway up rivers and in lake with live perch and goldfish.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, 64 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 9 pounds on Carolina rigged floating lizards, smoke grubs, bass are on the beds; striped are fair to 7 pounds or live shad, some scattered surface activity; crappie are good to 14 inches on minnows and Fleaflies; white bass are fair and hard to find, a few caught trolling at 10-15 feet of water; catfish are fair to 13 pounds on jug line with cut bait and Mr. Whiskers.

PROCTOR: Water murky, 52 degrees, normal level; black bass are good through 6 pounds on spinners; striped are slow; crappie are fairly good to 2 pounds on jigs; white bass are slow; catfish are slow.

SPENCE: Water clear, 58 degrees, 23 feet low; black bass are good to 6 pounds on spinners and worms; striped are good to 22 1/2 pounds or cut shad; white bass are good trolling near the dam and on the north side of the lake; crappie are fairly slow to 3 fish per string on minnows; catfish are slow.

STAMFORD: Water clear, normal level; black bass are slow; crappie are good from the crappie house on minnows and boat docks; catfish are good in the 3-6 pound range on worms.

#### COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Fishing has been fairly poor; a lot of rain north of the area, water salinity low; some catfish, redfish and flounder and drum caught; no great numbers of fishermen out; fish caught in Old River Cove, Hickory Cove and East Pass; no live bait shrimp available; most fish caught on dead shrimp.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Water has been good since Monday; specks in the 18 to 24 inch range are hitting on

the south end reef; good numbers of limits caught on worms and Fin S in Rainbow trout colors; redfish are hitting along the south levee road on fresh shrimp; flounder to 20 inches are hitting around the causeway bridge; drum and sheepshead are scattered and caught on dead shrimp; no live bait shrimp available.

GALVESTON: Good numbers of drum, many oversized, around the jetties and ship channel; good numbers of keeper redfish and a few oversized fish caught at the jetties and at the beach front and East and West Bays; good numbers of large gafftops along the beach front in the 3-5 pound range; good numbers of big sheepshead at the jetties; offshore fishermen are catching limits of snapper to 11 pounds each when boats can get offshore; live bait shrimp available in the \$10-\$12 per quart range.

FREESPORT: Bay fishermen are catching big redfish from barges, many are oversized; a trout to 9.86 pounds was caught on Kelley Wigglers; offshore fishermen are catching good numbers of snapper to 33 1/2 pounds on ice fish or squid; live bait shrimp available at \$8 per quart.

PORT OCONNOR: Weather has been lousy for a week with high winds, little rain and few fishermen out; some snapper caught offshore; some redfish, trout and big drum caught in the usual places; surf fishing has been good when wind lays.

PALACIOS: High winds through mid week have kept most fishermen away; back bays are fresh and water color is poor; few fishermen out; some live bait shrimp available.

ROCKPORT: Winds have been high all week, still good numbers of fish caught; water off color, come clear water in protected coves; good numbers of trout around shell reefs and dropoffs; redfish are good in Redfish Bay, South Bay, Mesquite Bay, San Antonio Bay, St. Charles Bay and in the Mud Island area; live bait shrimp are available.

FORT ARANSAS: Winds have been high; people who went out caught fish, but boating is difficult; redfish and trout are caught in good numbers around Dagger Island points and Estes Flats; some flounder caught, live bait shrimp and live perch are available. Spoons and Broken Back baits are working.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Fishing has been slow in the Upper Laguna through Baffin Bay; winds have been fairly high for about a week; live bait shrimp plentiful. Back bay fishing has been slow due to high winds; live bait shrimp available at 15 cents each.

PORT MANSFIELD: High winds hampered most of the better fishing areas on the west side of the bay; live bait fishermen are catching good numbers of redfish and trout in Land Cut from Marker 18 north; wade fishermen are catching limits or near limits of redfish on the flats just southwest of the Land Cut; white shad with yellow tails seem to be the best baits; the deep water north Dub Island produces good numbers of trout to 4 pounds by the drift fisherman using touts for live shrimp under corks; East Flats and the Northeast Flats are beginning to produce good numbers of redfish and trout, although no limits reported; jetties are producing large sheepshead and large numbers of sandtrout on live or dead shrimp; most fishing holes south of Port M are not producing

fish; high winds have kept offshore fishermen in port; live bait shrimp plentiful at \$12 per quart. Good number of Portuguese Man-o-Wars coming into the cut now. large groups of peregrine falcons staging near the Mansfield channel, good aerial combat shows in the afternoon.

SOUTH PADRE: Some good numbers of redfish caught and good numbers of trout caught at Marker 6 near Three Islands; some limits caught on live bait; trout are running well along the Long Bar and around Unnecessary Island; jetties are good for sandtrout, drum, pompano, sheepshead, whiting and some flounders; offshore fishermen are doing well if they are able to get out; winds have been high for the past two days; pier fishing is good in the day for sandtrout, croaker and small drum; night pier fishing is excellent for specks; brown tide is disappearing; live bait is available at \$10 per quart.

PH 4/14/93

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