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TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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## RESEARCH CONTINUING ON SPOTTED SEATROUT CULTURE

PALACIOS -- After several years of success in producing red drum, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department researchers are now making strides in the culture and rearing of spotted seatrout (speckled trout) in hatchery facilities

Biologist Britt Bumguardner of the department's Perry R. Bass Marine Fisheries Research Station said workers have modified light/photoperiod techniques used for spawning red drum in indoor tanks, and now are producing spotted seatrout eggs by the millions

"Since April 1, one group of trout has spawned 63 times, resulting in 24 million fertile eggs," Bumguardner said. Much of the current production of juvenile seatrout is going into further culture research, Bumguardner said, but the ultimate goal is to produce enough fingerling-sized trout to allow effective restocking programs for Texas bay systems

Initial fingerling production in ponds was successful this year, and although drought and high salinities held production down late in the season, survival was higher than in previous years, Bumguardner said

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About 12 million fry and 230,000 fingerlings were used in an intensive stocking experiment at Oyster Lake, a small bay in the West Matagorda Bay system

The experiment is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of fry and fingerling stocking. Follow-up sampling will determine whether numbers of juvenile trout in the area are higher than in surrounding unstocked areas.

Biologist Tim King said laboratory and pond studies are planned to find a commercially-available feed that juvenile trout will accept. Once the right food is found, biologists hope a much higher percentage of trout fry can be reared to fingerling size for more effective stocking programs.

Researchers also are working on cryopreservation, or the freezing of spotted seatrout sperm. If perfected, this technique could allow increased production of trout through strip-spawning of female fish by utilizing sperm collected over time.

JC 9/21/88

RESTORED MAGOFFIN HOME  
TRACES EL PASO'S HISTORY

EL PASO -- With the challenges of the Southwest as an unknown and untamed area, settlers came to El Paso with no idea of the struggles that awaited them on this raw frontier.

Joseph Magoffin, son of James Magoffin, who had settled in the El Paso area in 1849, was a civic and political leader of El Paso and was one of

the incorporators of the new town in 1873

Elected mayor four different times in almost 20 years, Magoffin witnessed the metamorphosis of El Paso from a rough frontier town to a commercial mecca for West Texas and Southern New Mexico

Constructed in 1875, Magoffin's home combined conventional Greek revival details with the regional adobe building material. This "Territorial" style was popular in the Southwest region and Magoffin's home is a rare Texas example of the style.

Three generations of Magoffin family lived in the 17-room house until it was sold in 1976 to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the City of El Paso.

Located on Magoffin Ave near Cotton St, Magoffin Home State Historic Site is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday with guided tours. There is a \$1 admission for adults and 50 cents for children 6-12.

In addition to the Magoffin house, the El Paso area has many other nearby historical attractions for visitors. These include Ysleta, the oldest mission in Texas, and Franklin Mountains and Hueco Tanks State Parks. Within a day's drive are Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Ft. Davis National Historic Site and McDonald Observatory.

CB 9/21/88

LAKE MINERAL WELLS PARK  
HAS EXCELLENT FISHING

MINERAL WELLS -- Lake Mineral Wells State Park boasts one of the state park system's best fishing lakes, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Fishery biologist John Moczygemba said the fishing lineup on the 600-acre reservoir includes largemouth bass, channel and blue catfish and white crappie

Bass fishing should be good this fall, Moczygemba said, because of shoreline vegetation that provides cover for largemouths. The department stocked Florida-strain largemouths in 1986 and 1987

Fishing for catfish in the lake got a boost recently when blue catfish ranging from 27 to 32 inches long were stocked in the lake. The fish, surplus hatchery brooders, are part of the department's "Veteran Broodfish" program. A veteran brooder can be identified by a plastic streamer protruding from its abdomen

Anglers catching one of these fish are urged to return it to the water and then contact the department by calling toll-free 1-800-792-1112. The number imprinted on the streamer is incorrect. The angler will be sent a certificate and information on the fish's background

A fishery survey conducted at the lake during July produced high numbers

of channel catfish and crappie, Moczygemba said

Facilities include a boat ramp, lighted fishing pier, five T-head fishing piers and a bait shop

The park entrance is off U S. Highway 180 between Weatherford and Mineral Wells. Standard entrance and facility use fees are in effect, and there is no extra charge to fish. The park offers campsites, screened shelters and various other facilities. To make reservations, call the park superintendent at (817) 328-1171.

JC 9/21/88

REVISED CRP LEAFLET  
AVAILABLE FROM TPWD

AUSTIN -- The free leaflet "Wildlife Benefits of the Conservation Reserve Program" has been updated and made available by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The leaflet, produced in cooperation with nine other conservation organizations, lists 13 conservation practices currently permitted under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

The CRP is a federal program designed to conserve and improve soil and water resources by taking highly-erodible land out of crop production. This conversion of cropland can benefit wildlife through improved habitat, and benefit landowners who may lease the CRP lands to hunters, according to Ron George, the department's CRP coordinator.

To obtain the leaflet write Literature Section, TPWD, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744, or call toll-free 1-800-792-1112, ext 4505.

JC 9/21/88

RECORD NUMBER OF WHOOPERS  
POISED FOR MIGRATION

AUSTIN -- Birders and wildlife agency workers from throughout the Central United States will be watching as a record number of endangered whooping cranes migrate south to the Texas Gulf Coast during the next few weeks

Approximately 150 of the big birds, including some 20 juveniles hatched last spring, will make the trip from their nesting grounds at Wood Buffalo National Wildlife Refuge in Canada to the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Aransas County, Texas, during late September to October

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 seven feet, and the bird is up to five feet tall. Many of the birds have colored leg bands. People who think they may have seen a whooping crane should consider the similarity in appearance of white pelicans, snow geese and egrets.

Observers are asked to report any sightings of whooping cranes to state wildlife agencies or the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. In Texas, sightings can be reported to the Wildlife Division of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department by calling toll-free 1-800-792-1112, ext 4505.

JC 9/21/88

AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for September 24:

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear, 85 degrees, 10 inches low; black bass excellent early in the 3-5 pound range on topwaters, minnows and buzz baits; crappie fair slow to 4 fish per string on minnows in 18 feet of water; catfish good to 8 pounds at night on jug lines baited with live perch.

BELTON: Water clear, 84 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass good to 5 pounds on cranapple worms in shallow water; hybrid striper good to 3 pounds trolling shrimp in 10 to 20 feet of water; crappie fair to 20 fish per string on minnows in 10 feet of water; white bass fair to 1 1/2 pounds on small topwaters to 20 fish per string; channel catfish fair to 9 pounds on Legal Limit dough bait.

BROWNWOOD: Water clear, 2 feet below spillway; black bass slow; striper slow; crappie good to 1 pound with limits on minnows in 10 feet of water; white bass slow; catfish slow.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 82 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass fair to 4 pounds on crawdad colored cranks in 8-10 feet of water; striper fair to 10 pounds on white jigs and large live shad; crappie fair to 15 fish per string on minnows in 18 feet of water; white bass good with limits on topwaters early and black and silver Rebel cranks later in the day; catfish fair to 1 1/2 pounds on trotlines baited with stink bait.

CANYON: Water clear, normal level; largemouth bass good to 7 pounds on dark worms and Rat-L-Traps in shallow water early and to 10 feet around noon; smallmouth bass fairly good to 3 pounds also on dark worms and Rat-L-Traps, many undersized fish caught; striper slow; crappie good at night to 25 fish per string on minnows; white bass spotty; catfish good to 6 pound average on trotlines at night baited with live perch.

COLORADO BEND: Water clear but some muddiness expected Wednesday, 81 degrees, river low; black bass slow; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish fair but nothing to brag about. Hurricane Gilbert produced no rain in the area; few fishermen over the weekend.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 85 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass slow and spotty; crappie slow; catfish fair to 4 pounds on rod and reel baited with live perch and goldfish. The area was dry over the weekend with some heavy winds in the afternoon.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear, 85 degrees, 6 inches low; black bass fair but mostly within the slot, no keepers since the middle of August; crappie fairly good in 11 feet of water on minnows around rocky points up the creek; catfish good to 4 pounds on rod and reel near the boatramp and up the creek.

LBJ: Water clear to murky, 83 degrees, normal level; black bass fair to 3 1/2 pounds on crawfish colored cranks in 6-12 feet of water; striper fair to 8 pounds on Sugar Shad in 15 feet of water; crappie fair to 10 fish on minnows; white bass fair to 15 fish per string on silver Bayou Boogies; catfish fair to 3/4 pound on shrimp in baited holes.

LIMESTONE: Water clear, 4 feet low; black bass very good to 5 1/2 pounds on blue Silkworms and white spinners in 5 1/2 feet of water; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish picking up to 6 pounds on rod and reel baited with shrimp in 9 feet of water.

SOMERVILLE: Water clear, 78 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass slow; hybrid striper slow; crappie fairly good on minnows and jigs early and late in 8-10 feet of water; catfish fairly good to 14 inches on crickets.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear, 88 degrees, 11 feet low; black bass slow; hybrid striper good to 4 pounds on slabs, minnows and jigs; crappie good at night on jigs and minnows at the marina, Cedar Gap Bridge and around the park in 10 feet of water; catfish good to 4 pounds on rod and reel as well as trotline on liver, shrimp and cutbait.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 81 degrees, 12 1/2 feet low; black bass good to 50 fish per boat per day but only about 6 are big enough to keep on topwaters, chrome Crazy Shad, chrome PopRs, chartreuse and white spinners; smoke glitter grubs good in 15 to 20 feet of water; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish fair to 9

pounds.

WHITNEY: Water murky, 74 degrees, 11 feet low; largemouth fair to 3 pounds, 7 ounces on plastic worms and spinners; smallmouth fair but mostly below keeper size on cranks; striper fair to 10 pounds on shad and Pencil Poppers; crappie good and moving into shallow water, some limits to 2 1/4 pounds on minnows. white bass good to 25 fish per string on the surface on topwaters and jigs; catfish fair to 12 pounds on live perch. Many fishermen stayed away due to the weather.

#### NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water very clear, 78 degrees, 18 inches low and falling; black bass improving to 6 pounds on topwaters, such as Zara Spooks and chuggers, and worms in shallow water with several limits of 5 fish; crappie are very good in 20 feet of water in brush piles on minnows; white bass fair to 4 pounds on small spinners such as Roadrunners and Beetle Spins; catfish slow. Redear and bluegill sunfish are plentiful at 6 feet on top of the bottom moss on crickets and red worms.

BOB SANDLIN: Water clear, 80 degrees, 3 1/2 feet low; black bass fair to 8.22 pounds on buzz baits, worms and spinners in 6-10 feet of water; crappie picking up some to 20 fish per string on minnows and jigs; white bass slow; catfish good on trotlines in the 2-10 pound range on large nightcrawlers, shrimp and bloodbait yellow catfish good to 20 pounds on trotlines baited with live perch.

BRIDGEPORT: Water murky, 13 feet low; black bass slow; striper slow; crappie good to 25 fish per string on minnows in 15 feet of water; catfish fair drifting worms and shrimp.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 76 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass fair to 7 1/2 pounds on topwaters and black worms in 10 feet of water; hybrid striper fair with some surfacing in open waters to 7 1/2 pounds on large silver spoons; crappie good with limits to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass good with late afternoon surfacing, best bait are chartreuse Rooster Tails; channel catfish are good in 15 feet of water on trotlines baited with shrimp.

FAIRFIELD: Water clear, 89-93 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass fair to 4 1/2 pounds on dark worms in deep water; catfish fair to 7 pounds on commercial catfish bait, most catfish will die on the line after 2 hours due to heat; redbass slow on deep diving cranks.

FORK: Water clear, 87 degrees, 5 inches low; black bass good to 8 pounds, 9 ounces on plum worms in 20 feet of water, many small bass in the 13 inch range on smoke grubs; crappie fair to 18 fish per string on minnows; catfish slow.

GRAPEVINE: Water clear, 85 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass excellent early to 3 pounds on chuggers and white spinners; striper slow, some around Twin Coves in 27 feet of water on live shad; crappie good in 17 feet of water around marinas, none caught in lake; white bass good early to 2 1/2 pounds to 8 fish per string on white L il Georges and live shad around aerators; catfish slow.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 81 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass fairly good to 5 1/2 pounds on chartreuse and black buzz baits, frogs and worms in 6 to 8 feet of water; crappie slow; white bass fairly good on jigs and cranks around the river channels; catfish slow.

LAVON: Water clear, 4 1/2 feet low; black bass slow; crappie are very good to 1 1/4 pounds with full strings on minnows in deep water; white bass very good on silver slabs when surfacing; catfish good to 9 1/4 pounds on shrimp.

LEWISVILLE: Water fairly clear, 14 feet low; black bass fair in the 3-7 pound range on minnows and artificials in 15 feet of water; hybrid striper slow; crappie good in 15 feet of water to 3 1/4 pounds on minnows with limits of 25 fish; white bass fair; catfish fair on trotlines baited with minnows and worms.

MARTIN CREEK: Water clear, 4 feet low; black bass fair in number with some limits; striper slow; crappie slow; catfish good in number. Sunfish are plentiful.

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 93 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 6 1/4 pounds on 8 inch black worms in 20 feet or 3 feet of water; crappie slow; catfish are excellent to 6 pounds on Canadian crawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 80 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass slow; crappie fair to 1 pound on minnows to 10 fish per string in 12 feet of water; white bass slow; catfish good to 3 pounds on liver and



shrimp.

MURVAUL: Water clear, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass fair to 6 1/2 pounds on buzz baits and topwaters early and late, worms and cranks good in the middle of the day; crappie fairly good on minnows but 1 pound but no limits; channel catfish good to 5 pounds on trotline baited with cut shad and Canadian nightcrawlers

NACOGDOCHES: Water clear, 81 degrees, 3 1/2 feet low; black bass good to 7 1/2 pounds on shad colored Rat-L-Traps and red Salt and Pepper worms as well as plum colored worms; crappie good at night on live bait to 25 fish per string in 15 to 17 feet of water; catfish slow.

PALESTINE: Water clear, 2 feet low; black bass good to 6 1/2 pounds on dark worms in 12-15 feet of water; striper good around Highway 155 bridge to 8 pounds on white or chrome cranks; crappie slow; white bass good on white or chrome colored cranks in 15 to 20 feet of water; catfish good to 16 pounds on trotlines baited with shrimp, nightcrawlers and stinkbait.

RAY HUBBARD: Water clear, 84 degrees, 42 inches low; black bass fairly good to 5 1/2 pounds on Crawworms or plum colored worms along shoreline in 8 feet of water; striper good in the afternoon to 12 pounds on topwater lures, Zara Spooks and Pencil Poppers; crappie good to 2 1/4 pounds on minnows with good numbers of limits around bridges; white bass good in the same area with good numbers of limits; catfish fairly good to 5 pounds on chicken livers and shrimp on trotline.

TAWAKONI: Water clear, 84 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass good to 4 pounds on chartreuse and white spinners, purple worms with white tails in the mossbeds; striper fair to 15 pounds on white jigs and white worms as well as shad; hybrid striper are very good to 12 pounds on live bait and Roadrunners; crappie good to 18 fish per string to 2 pounds each on minnows; white bass slow; catfish very good to 4 pounds on shrimp and bloodbait

TEXOMA: Water fairly clear, 79 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass good to 5 1/4 pounds on Pig and Jig, worms and spinners; striper good on topwaters under birds to 4 pounds average, some larger fish are caught while down rigging; crappie fair around boathouses on live minnows in 12-15 feet of water; catfish excellent to 39 pounds on trotline with live bait, many strings of catfish to 2 pounds each on worms, shrimp, stinkbait and live bait.

WELSH: Water fairly clear, 94 degrees, 2 1/2 feet low; black bass fair to 8 pounds on chartreuse worms in 8-12 feet of water, crappie are slow; good numbers of catfish to 3 pounds on cut shad and shrimp.

#### SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water clear, 78 degrees, 2 1/2 feet low; black bass slow to fair but most below 14 inches, largest for the week weighed 7 1/2 pounds on dark plastic worms, plum worms, purple worms or smoked blue tail worms, deep running cranks are good at night and early morning; bass provide good action for about 15 minutes then shut off for about 6 hours; fishermen should watch solunar tables; striper, white bass and crappie slow; channel catfish fairly good to 2 pounds on stinkbait, liver, chicken parts on trotlines as well as large nightcrawlers around baited holes; white amur good to 15 pounds on Papa Earl's Sunfish are plentiful

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear, normal level; black bass fair in number but no large bass caught, few fishermen since last weekend; striper slow; crappie good to 1 1/2 pounds near marina in 12 feet of water on minnows; white bass fair to 6 fish per string on minnows; catfish good to 10 pounds on minnows and dough bait with trotline.

LIVINGSTON: Water clear, 76 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass fairly good with limits to 6 1/4 pounds on spinners and cranks in the creeks in 3-5 feet of water; striper fairly good to 14 pounds around Pine Island at daylight; crappie spotty in the lower end, upper end producing good numbers of fish in the creeks; white bass spotty and hard to locate, some limits on slabs; catfish excellent with limits of blue and channels in the 2-5 pound range. Yellow catfish slow.

RAYBURN: Water clear, 78 degrees, 7 feet below pool level; black bass good on topwaters and worms early, grubs, worms and jigs good around structure later in the day; striper slow; crappie fair in the brushy areas; white bass fair schooling off points but nothing

regular; catfish slow.

TOLEDO BEND: Water clear, 86 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass fair to 4 pounds on motor oil worms in 10-20 feet of water; striper fairly good to 5 pounds near the dam on topwaters; crappie fairly good with limits of 25 fish on minnows; white bass slow; catfish slow.

#### SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear in the main part of the lake, river is muddy, 76 degrees, 3 feet above conservation level; black bass excellent to 11 1/2 pounds on topwaters and purple or red worms in 5-15 feet of water, most fish were in the 4-5 pound range; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish excellent with many limits in the 3-5 pound range on cheese bait and shrimp.

BRAUNIG: Water murky, 88 degrees, normal level; black bass good in number on plastic worms but most too small to keep; striper slow; crappie slow; catfish good in the 5 pound range on wide range of baits; corvina slow; redbass slow in number to 25 pounds, 12 ounces on tilapia.

CALAVERAS: Water murky, 83 degrees, normal level; black bass and all fishing slow; corvina good to 6 pounds drifting tilapia or down rigging silver spoons; catfish fair from the bank on chicken liver and shrimp. The lake was closed to all boat traffic from Thursday through Sunday morning.

CHOKO: Water slightly off color up the river, lake clear, 1 foot low; black bass slow, a few to 7 pounds on dark worms; striper slow; crappie excellent to 2 pounds on minnows; white bass slow; catfish excellent on Roger's Cheese bait in 20 feet of water.

COLETO CREEK: Water clear, 85 degrees, 2 feet below normal level; black bass good between 14-16 inches with a few to 2 1/2 pounds on dark worms early; striper slow from pier but most are undersized; crappie good late on minnows, most fish are under 1 pound; white bass slow; catfish poor.

FALCON: Water rising fast midweek, lake should be full by this weekend; black bass are slow due to rising water, some small fish are being caught; striper slow; crappie fair from docks; catfish are good in the 4-5 pound range on rod and reel baited with frozen shrimp. White bass are good but most are small. The lake had a 3 inch rain over the weekend. There were heavy rains in the mountains in Mexico.

MEDINA: Water clear, normal level; black bass slow due to the hurricane; striper slow; crappie fair near 1 pound on minnows; white bass slow; catfish fair to 30 pounds on trotlines baited with live bait. Rains were spotty from 1 1/2 inches to 6 inches over the weekend.

TEXANA: Water murky due to rain and wind, 3 feet low; black bass fair to 3 pounds on spinner baits around mossbeds; striper and white bass are slow; crappie very slow; catfish fair to 5 pounds on trotlines baited with cutbait.

#### WEST

ARROWHEAD: Water murky due to 2 inch rain, 75 degrees, 46 inches low; black bass slow; crappie good to 3/4 pounds to 20 fish per string with some limits on minnows and jigs; striper slow; channel catfish good to 2 1/2 pounds on shrimp, minnows and worms.

BAYLOR: Water beginning to clear, some muddy water at intake areas; few fishermen mid week due to winds.

GREENBELT: Water clear, 84 degrees, normal level; black bass fair to 6 1/4 pounds which was caught last Sunday on a white spinner; crappie slow; white bass excellent to 20 fish per string on minnows and topwaters; catfish good on liver, worms and minnows to 5 pounds, walleye improving but not plentiful yet.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear, 76 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass excellent to 9 pounds on buzz baits and spinners in 3-10 feet of water; hybrid striper fairly good to 8 pounds on silver or white slabs; crappie very good with limits on minnows; white bass good but mixed in with hybrids; catfish slow; sunfish excellent on worms.

MCKENZIE: Water clear but some muddiness up stream due to a 3-4 inch rain in Tulia, 71 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass slow; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish good to 8 1/2 pounds on water dog baited trotline.

OAK CREEK: Water clear, 79 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass good to 7 pounds, 14 ounces on a blue worm in 23 feet of water; crappie

good off docks to 10 fish per string on minnows; white bass slow; catfish good to 3 pounds on trotline baited with large minnows and shrimp.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, 80 degrees, 12 1/2 feet low; black bass good in number but most are not big enough to keep, most fish average 12-14 inches; striper good to 15 pounds trolling white slabs near the dam, smaller striper good in 35 feet of water; good numbers of white bass on the surface; catfish good on trotline, good numbers of channel catfish to 4 pounds but no yellow catfish yet.

SPENCE: Water clear, 68 degrees, 25 feet low; black bass good to 7 pounds on dark worms and spinners; striper very good on topwaters and drifting live bait with good numbers of limits to 15 pounds per fish; crappie fair to 10 fish per string on minnows; white bass good on topwaters with striper to 10 fish per string; catfish good on trotline baited with nightcrawlers and stinkbait.

TWIN BUTTES: Main lake clear, rivers are a little muddy, 75 degrees, 7 feet low; black bass fair to 4 pounds on spinners and shad, few fishermen over last weekend due to a 4 inch rain; white bass good to 8 fish per string on minnows; catfish fair.

WHITE RIVER: Water clear, 74 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass good to 8 pounds on topwaters; crappie fair on minnows to 20 fish per string to 1 3/4 pounds each; catfish good to 4 1/2 pounds average, the largest weighed 22 pounds on cutbait.

#### COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Tides have been 4-5 feet above normal; fishing has been fairly good; redfish good to 6 pounds along the roads and along highway 87; fishing should hit a slump in the latter part of the week; specks have been good to 4 pounds on shrimp around the channels north of the islands; good numbers of golden croaker; flounder plentiful along the roads at night; drum have been fairly good to 4 pounds on shrimp; live bait shrimp are available.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Redfish fair from the banks and over the shell reefs; fishermen are returning to the area since the winds have calmed; redfish have been good to 6 pounds in the bayous and guts; specks have been slow; golden croaker excellent to 14 inches have returned to the area and are running along the ship channel, a hotspot is Causeway Seafood Barge where the fishing is free; drum are good to 9 pounds, some limits on dead shrimp; flounder slow; mud minnows and fresh dead shrimp available, no live shrimp.

GALVESTON: Area had 5 foot tides which covered many low areas but caused little physical damage; good numbers of bull reds along the beachfronts, but most fish are too large to keep; some keeper redfish are caught along the marshes and in the bays; trout fishing slow due to sandy water; ship channels producing croaker, a few flounder; some live bait shrimp available; some flounder along the shore line in East Bay. Winds have been gusting to 25 miles per hour through Tuesday which have produced choppy sandy water.

PALACIOS: Very few fishermen out during the week because most residents left the coast before Gilbert; tides were very high but there was little wind or rain; good numbers of redfish caught in Carancahua River in the 20-28 inch range, some oversized fish were caught but had to be returned to the water; live bait shrimp scarce.

ROCKPORT: Redfish excellent Sunday in the deep water caused by high tides; tides very high over weekend; black spoons were productive with many oversized redfish; the ski basin in Rockport produced a limit of redfish before 8 a.m.; trout slow; live bait shrimp not plentiful. Doves plentiful in the area before the hurricane, few afterward.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Tides over the weekend were about 5 feet high in Laguna Madre, some piers down but most damage was light; midweek tides were about 1 foot above normal level; fishing has been slow due to lack of fishermen; no live bait shrimp available.

PORT MANSFIELD: Tides have been high and few fishermen out since the weekend. Fishermen report much floating plastic midweek, which is dangerous for boatmen's props; weather calm midweek; very little rain but plenty of wind over the weekend.

SOUTH PADRE: South Padre had about 7 inches of rain over the weekend; Los Ebanos Ferry has not run in 3 days due to swift current in the Rio Grande; one fisherman went out on Tuesday and caught 6 trout and 1 redfish, otherwise fishing has been slow; bays are beginning to clear; the hurricane did not seem to harm to dove population, hunters were getting limits of 12 birds in an hour; good numbers of mourning and whitewing remaining in the Brownsville area.