

# texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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## NEW BOAT, MOTOR TAX IN EFFECT

AUSTIN--Texans who buy a taxable boat or motor must pay a 6.25 percent sales or use tax. This new law went into effect Oct. 1.

Part of House Bill 11, passed during the second special session of the Texas Legislature, imposes the sales tax on all sales of taxable boats and motors. Also, new residents who bring a boat registered in another state to Texas must pay \$15 for the boat and \$15 for the motor.

A taxable boat is a boat other than a canoe, kayak, rowboat, raft, punt or other vessel designed to be propelled by paddle, oar or pole. A taxable motor is an outboard motor with an internal combustion engine.

The bill was passed to create more money for the state. Jim Ramsey, assistant revenue branch manager at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, said estimates from the state comptroller's office indicate that this bill will raise approximately \$600,000 over the next biennium for the state's General Revenue Fund.

The taxes may be paid to the TPWD or the county tax assessor collector. If they're not paid within 20 working days of the date of sale or the date of entrance into the state, 5 percent of the tax due will be assessed as a penalty. If they're not paid in 30 days after the due date, another 5 percent penalty is added, he said. It is a criminal offense to knowingly operate a taxable boat or motor in Texas and the person knows the tax imposed has not been paid and is delinquent.

For more information about the tax call the state comptroller's office at 1-800-252-5555, (512) 463-4600 or, for telecommunications devices for the deaf, 1-800-248-4099. For information about a boat or outboard title and registration call the TPWD at 1-800-262-8755 or (512) 389-4828.

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#### GCCA GIVES MONEY FOR CORPUS HATCHERY

AUSTIN--The GCCA-CPL Marine Development Center in Corpus Christi has received a donation from the Gulf Coast Conservation Association that, when combined with federal aid, will be worth more than \$20,000.

GCCA provided the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department fish hatchery a \$5,214 grant to install tank covers and other energy-saving measures, said Gene McCarty, director of fish hatcheries. The grant will be used as in-kind matching funds that will allow the department to receive federal aid reimbursement at a three to one ratio. The total grant will be worth \$20,856.

"This could potentially save the state up to \$100,000 a year in operating costs through energy savings and reduction in maintenance requirements," McCarty said. The money will provide fiberglass covers for the top of 24 broodfish tanks. The covers will reduce the amount of energy used to heat and cool water in the brood tanks, and to reduce maintenance needs associated with humidity build up in the brood rooms.

'We're striving to increase the operating efficiency and decrease energy consumption, and this is a perfect example of our diligence," said Executive Director Andrew Sansom. "This agency also is moving forward to encourage private support. This donation from the Gulf Coast Conservation Association is one more example of how private groups have helped."

"Covering the tanks was a fine engineering discovery," said Ben Vaughan of Austin, chairman of GCCA's hatchery committee. "It will be very beneficial for the operations budget and that's something we surely support.

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## BIG GAME AWARDS BEGIN THIS FALL

AUSTIN- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Texas Big Game Awards program will kick off this fall in an effort to recognize the importance of habitat and wildlife population management as essential to the welfare of wildlife resources and the habitats upon which they depend.

The program, which is new to Texas but is being used in 27 other states, will begin with the 1991 antelope and archery deer seasons. David Synatzske, a wildlife biologist on the Big Game Awards committee, said the program's goals are to recognize the quality of animals reflective of management efforts by land managers; the importance of hunting as a population management tool; and to encourage participation by young and new hunters.

Awards will be regionalized with categories for typical and non-typical white-tailed and mule deer, and antelope. A special "Texas 400" certificate will be awarded to the top 50 typical white-tailed deer within each of the eight established regions. All scored entries will be recognized in a ranked listing and certificates awarded to participants with equal recognition made to land managers on whose lands the animals were produced.

Entry into the program is open to wild-reared native white-tailed deer, mule deer and pronghorn antelope that are legally harvested in Texas during the current year's hunting season. The program will recognize the quality of the animal, the hunter, the land manager upon whose property the animal was taken (optional) and hunters harvesting their first animal.

Hunters harvesting their first deer or antelope will be recognized in an alphabetical listing. Certificates will be awarded for first deer in youth and older hunter categories.

All scoring will be based upon Boone & Crockett Club guidelines utilizing net green scores. Entries must be scored by a Texas Big Game Awards certified scorer. More than 200 certified scorers will be available statewide. Entry into the ranked listing requires hunters to complete and sign an entry form and certified score sheet. Entries must meet minimum scores for the region of harvest.

Eight regions have been established for white-tailed deer: two for mule deer and three for pronghorn antelope. Minimum entry scores for white-tailed deer will vary with each region and range from 125-140 (typical) and 140-155 (non-typical). Mule deer minimum scores are 145 (typical) and 160 (non-typical). Pronghorn antelope score must be at least 70.

"Today's ever-changing land use, and wildlife population responses to these influences, have created a need for management of both habitat and wildlife populations," Synatzske said. "Proper habitat and population management can result in an increased diversity of habitat and wildlife resources and healthier populations of wildlife within these habitats. In white-tailed deer and antelope, antler development may be used as an indicator of herd health. Recognition of the importance of proper habitat and population management is essential to the welfare of wildlife resources.

In addition, the TPWD will be able to gather valuable data on the status of regional management within the state. Annual recognition ceremonies will be held in each region, and the top three animals in each category will be recognized at a statewide ceremony.

"Land managers have the option through this program to be recognized for their management efforts," Synatzske said. "This is extremely important to the goal of promoting the wise use of wildlife and habitat resources within the state. The sponsors encourage participation in this program as a means of meeting this objective that is so critical to the welfare of habitat and wildlife resources in Texas."

The program is sponsored by TPWD, Texas Wildlife Association and Lone Star Brewing Company.

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### OUTDOORSMEN MEET FOR WILDLIFE CONFERENCE

KINGSVILLE--Some 300 landowners, hunters, wildlife biologists, game wardens and wildlife students heard about the economic relationship between wildlife, the landowner, the hunter and the non-hunter during the Fourth Annual South Texas Wildlife Conference Sept. 25-27 here.

The conference was held on the campus of Texas A&I University. Though most landowners represented the South Texas area, speakers came from a wide area of the state as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Horace Gore, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department wildlife biologist who organized the conference, said such programs provide an excellent opportunity for the wildlife biologist, landowner land manager and hunter to meet and discuss and solve mutual problems.

Because of the continuing popularity of the South Texas conference, Gore said a fifth annual conference is being considered for next year but no date or location has been set.

Deer quail and mourning dove got most of the attention during the conference, although endangered species shared some of the spotlight.

The conference was sponsored by King Ranch, Inc. the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce, Quail Unlimited, Texas A&I University and the TPWD.

PH 10/4/91

## OPERATION ORPHANS SETS DATES FOR DOE HUNTS

AUSTIN - Operation Orphans, Inc. which allows orphans to hunt deer has scheduled dates for its four white-tailed deer hunts this year. This is the 31st year these children from across the state will participate in the hunts.

Doe hunts are scheduled for Nov. 16 (all boys), Nov. 23 (boys), Nov. 30 (girls) and Dec. 7 (boys). An exotic hunt, co-sponsored by the Exotic Wildlife Association, traditionally is scheduled for the last Saturday in January after the whitetail season.

Through 30 years, 11,630 children have participated in the hunts and they have harvested 11,033 deer said Mike Dail, hunt chairman. Only boys hunted the first 20 years of the program. A girls' hunt was added in 1980 and the exotic hunt began in 1982.

Operation Orphans, Inc. began when game warden Gene Ashby realized that the Hill Country, primarily Mason and Llano counties, had an excessive deer population and there was a necessity for removing a large number of antlerless deer. Ashby received help from local landowners who allowed the children to harvest antlerless deer. Also, with the backing from sportsmen's clubs and other individuals, a 320-acre tract of land on the north bank of the Llano River in Mason County was purchased at a fraction of its market value.

Through donations, a 42-foot by 86-foot bunkhouse capable of housing 100 children, was built. A 50-foot by 100-foot kitchen and dining room, as well as another bunkhouse/recreation hall and counselor's quarters have since been added. Today the camp has a live-in supervisor and is capable of housing and feeding 200 children.

When it's not deer hunting season, the camp is used periodically by other non-profit, social and religious organizations for summer camps, etc. at nominal costs.

Dail said the number of children participating in the hunts will depend upon the number of ranchers participating. The children are brought to Camp Gene Ashby on Friday preceding the hunt. They will be housed, fed and transported to the host ranches before daylight the following morning by guides. Participation is encouraged from ranches within 150 miles of the camp in Mason County.

For more information contact Dail at (915) 347-6653.

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## RE-ENACTMENT SET FOR FORT RICHARDSON PARK

JACKSBORO--Abandoned by the army 113 years ago, Fort Richardson parade grounds again will echo with the sound of troops marching as veterans of the Staked Plains Indian Wars return from the field on Oct. 26-27 to the state historical park.

Cavalry, buffalo soldiers, infantry, artillery, Plains Indians, doctors, gamblers, wives and laundresses will portray the fort as it would have appeared in October 1872. Also, there will be a ceremony to honor all military personnel, from the historic period through to the Operation Desert Storm era; but in particular the Lost Battalion of World War II will be honored.

The state historical park preserves buildings dating from the post-Civil War period when a line of federal forts was established on the Texas frontier to protect citizens and wagon trains from Indian attacks.

"Authentic guns, gear and clothing are always the hallmark of these re-enactments," said Danny Peterson, park superintendent at Fort Richardson.

The Lost Battalion of World War II was organized Oct. 4, 1922. Jack County men occupied old Fort Richardson as a base of operation for Battery F 131st Field Artillery, Texas National Guard. The 99-member unit left Jacksboro in January 1941 for induction into the 36th Division of the U.S. Army with which it served during World War II. After the war Battery F was recognized and members occupied Fort Richardson until 1954 when a new armory was built in Jacksboro.

Shortly before the outbreak of war in December 1941, Battery F was sent to the Pacific Ocean for service in the Netherland East Indies. On March 8, 1942, 66 members of the battalion were captured on the island of Java and became part of the famed "Lost Battalion" of the 36th Division. The men spent the remainder of the war building the notorious "death railroad" in Thailand and Burma, including the legendary bridge over the River Kwai.

In late 1945, after the surrender of Japan, 58 members of Battery F were released and returned to Jack County as heroes. The eight who did not return died as prisoners of war. Many of the veterans still live in Jacksboro or neighboring areas.

Re-enactment activities begin at 8 a.m. on Oct. 26 and end about 2 p.m. on Oct. 27. The Lost Battalion ceremony will be at 4 p.m. A \$3 per vehicle entry fee will apply, but no additional fees will be charged for the re-enactment activities. There will be Indians from Texas and Oklahoma, artillery firing rounds, infantry and cavalry drills, a dress parade, sick call and others. Some traders will be there with period toys, pins and other articles.

The park has complete RV and tent camping facilities, including restrooms with hot showers and trailer hookups. Fort Richardson is located one mile south of the courthouse on U.S. 281 in Jacksboro. Call (817) 567-3506 for more information.

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#### VERMILION SNAPPER RECORD BROKEN TWICE THIS YEAR

AUSTIN--A new state record for vermilion snapper has been set for the second time this year, this time by a Missouri angler.

Stanley Cernik III of DeSoto, Mo., caught a 4-pound 5-ounce vermilion snapper Sept. 4, 35 miles east of Port Aransas. The fish was 21 3/4 inches long. The previous record of 3 pounds, 11.5 ounces was set by Martin David Bomalaski of San Antonio on July 14.

The first vermilion snapper state record was caught by Louis A. Kusey III of Schertz on Aug. 4, 1985. That fish weighed 2 pounds, 13 1/2 ounces. The new record represents the seventh time a record has been set for this species.

The state record in the unrestricted category is 6 pounds, 4.64 ounces. It was caught in the Gulf of Mexico by Mark O. Bamburg in March 1989 using an electric rod and reel.

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## BIG GAME AWARDS SCORERS

<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
Albany	Johnnie Hudman	915/762-3695
Alpine	Tim Bone	915/837-2051
	Ruben Cantu	915/837-5609
	Robert Culpepper	915/364-2429
	Mike Hobson	915/837-2051
	Jack Kilpatric	915/364-2228
	Charles McEntire	915/364-2228
	Billy McKinney	915/376-2216
Amarillo	Gene Miller	806/353-3141
	Danny Swepston	806/353-0486
Arlington	Claude Hicks	817/472-0333
	E. R. Reinhart	817/275-8783
	Joe Shaefer	817/460-1102
Artesia Wells	James Alexander	512/676-3413
	Bill Brummel	512/676-3413
	Alberto Castilleja	512/676-3413
	Melisa Montemayor	512/676-3413
	Jimmy Rutledge	512/676-3413
	David Synatzske	512/676-3413
Athens	Kay Fleming	903/677-2069
Austin	Glenn Boydston	512/389-4766
	Kirby Brown	512/389-4395
	Ron Collier	512/452-8234
	Phil Evans	512/389-4974
	Horace Gore	512/389-4776
	Kathy Kirwin	512/389-4409
	Herb Kothmann	512/389-4770
	Dan Moulton	512/389-4779
	Mike Reagan	512/389-4777
Azle	Joe Porter	817/244-1313
Ballinger	Stan Bickel	915/365-2322

<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
Bay City	Donald Bujnoch	409/244-7634
	David Reid	409/244-7634
Bonham	Mike McDonald	903/583-5445
Breckenridge	Tommy Hailey	817/362-4463
Bronson	Jasper Marcantel	409/586-4400
Bronte	Garland Richards	915/743-6132
Brownwood	Kyle Cutbirth	915/646-3356
	Larry Holland	915/643-5977
Burton	Robert Lehmann	409/289-3416
Calliham	Jeffery Parrish	512/274-3573
Canadian	Tom Hinkle	806/323-8508
	Robert Rogers	806/323-8642
Carrizo Springs	Donny Worthington	512/374-3500
Centerville	Shedrach Moore	409/536-3034
Cherokee	R. L. Lehren	915/622-4569
	Glen Schneider	915/622-4249
Clarksville	Terry Martin	903/427-5869
Clifton	Jose Cano	817/675-8729
College Station	David Rideout	409/845-7471
Columbus	Royce Jurries	409/732-3611
	Edgar Stancik	409/732-3611
Conroe	Mike Simpson	713/367-2745
	Carl Williams	713/367-2745
Corpus Christi	Alex Cox	512/991-4168

<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
Cotulla	Darwin Avant	512/879-3041
	Ernie Davis	512/879-3395
	James Hillje	512/725-3667
Cypress	L. W. Dossman	713/351-9547
	Sonny Elzner	713/373-1265
	David Saye	713/893-5376
Dallas	Michael Colier	214/494-2575
	Larry Grimland	214/350-7721
	Doug Groom	214/388-2464
	David Lott	214/368-0700
	Larry Rigsby	214/239-8181
	Cary Tischler	214/398-0145
Del Rio	J. K. Finegan	512/775-3129
	Sylvestre Sorola	512/774-7406
Devine	Martin Binnion	512/663-4958
	George Hundley	512/663-4225
Driftwood	Roy Welch	512/847-9619
Dublin	Will Long	817/445-2301
Edinburg	Felipe Prieto	512/383-8982
	Greg Sheguit	512/383-8982
	Gary Waggerman	512/383-8982
El Campo	Hefner Appling	409/543-1021
	Monte Hensley	409/543-3297
	Dan Kyle	409/543-6205
Falfurrias	Randy Fugate	512/325-2785
Fort Davis	Rick McIvor	915/426-3138
	Mike Pittman	915/426-3960
Fort Worth	Steve Plemons	817/334-0195
Fredericksburg	Betty Sagebiel	512/997-7961
	Don Steadman	512/997-7217

<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
George West	Joe Herrera	512/274-3573
	Gene Riser	512/449-2500
Goldthwaite	Pac Hamblen	915/648-2515
Gonzales	Tim Lawyer	512/437-5103
Graham	Raymond Sims	817/549-7638
Grand Prairie	Rocky Calvert	214/647-2563
Hamilton	Ron Dickson	817/386-8440
Harker Heights	John MacIntyre	817/698-6753
Harper	David Lively	512/864-5005
Hearne	James Yantis	409/279-2048
Hebbronville	Leif Henderson	512/527-4927
Houston	Mike Baird	713/469-2920
	Nick Baird	713/469-2920
	Irvin Barnhart	713/622-4750
	Rocky Cooper	713/895-0702
	Jimmy Farr	713/721-3111
	David Majors	713/690-6603
	Homer Saye	713/893-5376
	Petey Smallwood	713/861-1796
Mark Sullivant	713/682-1826	
Humble	Randy Brown	713/446-3536
Hunt	Donnie Harmel	512/238-4483
	Joe Johnston	512/238-4483
	Kathy McGinty	512/238-4483
	Gary Ploch	512/238-4830
Ingram	Jimmy Dieringer	512/367-5081
	Eugene Fuchs	512/238-4340
Jacksboro	Jim Lionberger	817/567-5434

<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
Jasper	Dan Boone	409/384-6894
	Tammy Ellis	409/384-6894
	Mike Ratcliff	409/384-9572
	Paul Seidensticker	409/384-9572
	Gary Spencer	409/384-6894
Jefferson	Richard Boimott	903/665-2588
Junction	Bryan Booth	915/446-2531
	Homer Mansfield	915/446-2514
	Jim Perkins	915/446-3617
Katy	Joe Carroll	713/391-8665
Kaufman	Don Nation	214/932-4359
Kerrville	Ray Aguirre	512/896-2500
	Fielding Harwell	512/896-2500
	Max Traweek	512/896-2500
Killeen	Don Davis	512/556-6069
Kingsville	Butch Thompson	512/595-4158
La Grange	Mike Bertsch	409/968-5889
	Bob Carroll	409/968-6591
Linden	Delanne Pruitt	903/756-7220
Livingston	Chris Gregory	409/566-5591
	Danny Moye	409/327-4850
Llano	Jerry Butler	915/247-4847
	Bart Gillan	915/247-4217
	Donovan Hohmann	915/247-5889
Lolita	Mark Mitchell	512/874-4401
Lubbock	Steve Demarais	806/742-2843
	Jim Ray	806/791-3040

<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
Lufkin	Charles D. Muller	409/639-1879
	Freddie Flournoy	409/639-1879
	Michael Krueger	409/639-1879
	Roy Oglesby	409/639-1879
Malakoff	M. D. Marks	903/489-2734
Mansfield	Jim Parker	817/572-4838
Marathon	Don Martin	915/376-2216
Marfa	Gilbert Guzman	915/729-4438
Marshall	Kyle Fitch	903/938-3485
Mason	Ira Willmann	915/347-5218
Medina	James Baker	512/589-7232
	Tommy Thompson	512/774-1957
Merkel	Randy Rifenburg	915/928-3588
Mesquite	Mike Walker	214/681-4411
Mineral Wells	Jim Dillard	817/325-0359
Mission	Baldomero Loya	512/383-8982
Mont Belvieu	Vernon Moorhead	713/576-2618
Nacogdoches	Charles Boyd	409/564-3224
	David Whitehouse	409/564-8375
Nocona	John Cox	817/995-2210
	Terry Robertson	817/995-2210
Nolan	Bill Del Monte	915/798-3152
Paducah	Richard Cranford	806/492-3817
	Dave Dvorak	806/492-3405
	E. M. House	806/492-3405

<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
Paris	Larry Tischler	903/785-1318
	Joe Worley	903/785-6923
Pearsall	Joyce Moore	512/334-3825
	Ervin Shed	512/334-3700
Pineland	Norman Dew	409/384-6894
Port Arthur	Bill Hartje	409/736-2551
	Dan Summerlin	409/736-2551
	Joseph Thomas	409/736-2551
	Terry Turney	409/736-2551
Presidio	Xavier Rodriquez	915/229-3190
Red Oak	Paul Kirk	214/617-3134
Riviera	Dale Elrod	512/296-3388
Rockport	Don Frels	512/729-2315
	David Mabie	512/729-2315
Rocksprings	Albert Baker	512/683-2223
Romayor	Bill Hudgins	713/592-3354
Salado	Dennis Herbert	817/947-8633
San Angelo	Lee Miller	915/944-4580
	Ralph Suarez	915/949-4757
	Robert West	915/655-2231
San Antonio	Jaime Billups	512/342-4141
	Jack Harper	512/698-3803
	Steve Lewis	512/733-1930
	Mike McLean	512/342-5303
	John Stein	512/377-3648
	Susan Wardroup	512/349-2174
	W J. Williams	512/349-2174
Bob Zerr	512/349-2174	
Sanderson	Bill Russ	915/345-2954

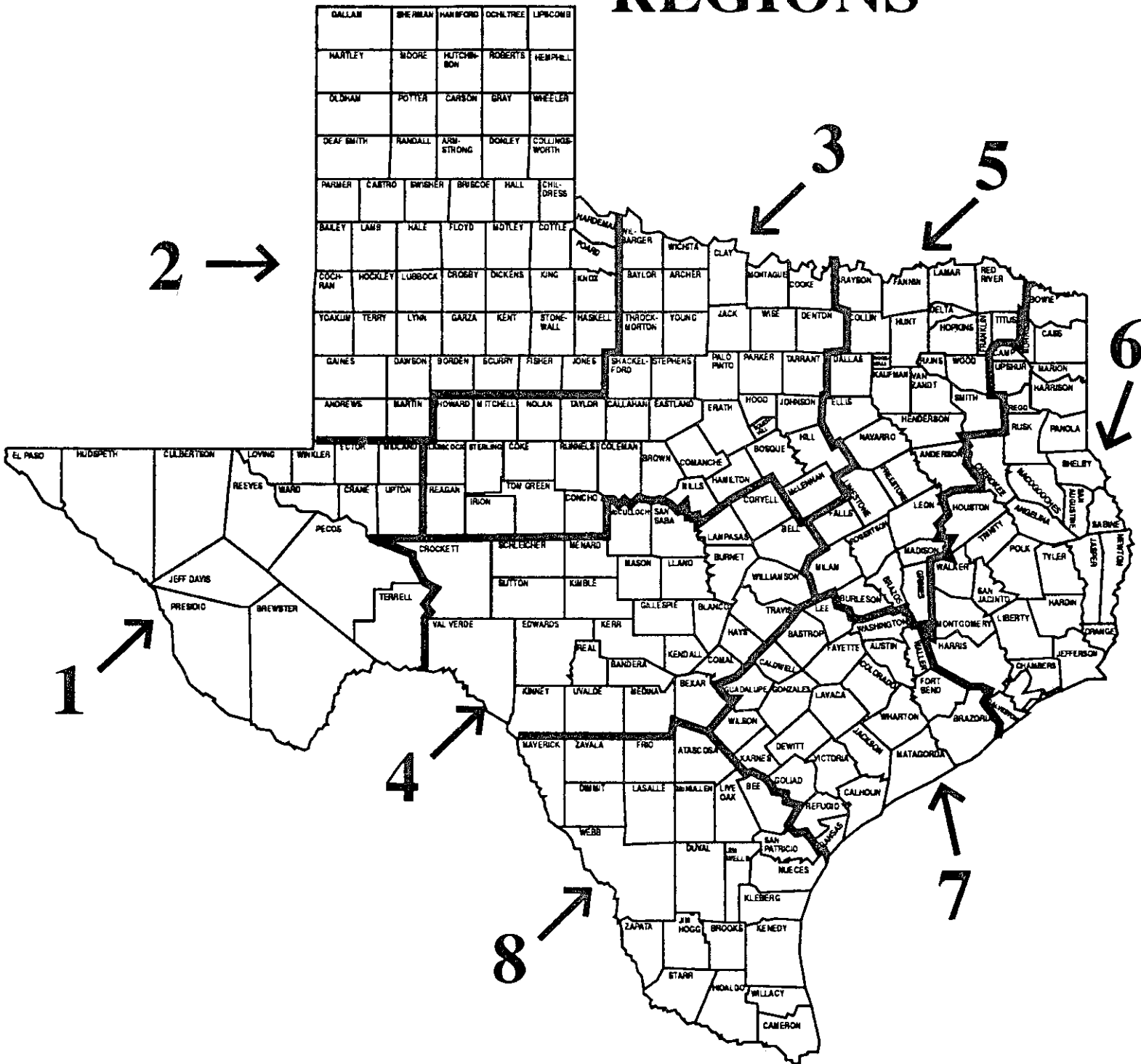
<u>City</u>	<u>Scorer's Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
Santo	A. C. Gilbert	817/769-3315
Sonora	Mary Humphrey	915/387-2818
Spring	David Gregory Jimmie Klenk David Verrips	713/376-8629 713/320-9354 713/367-2745
Springtown	James Hutcheson	817/523-4676
Stephenville	John Collier	817/967-6696
Sulphur Springs	David Sierra	903/885-3922
Tennessee Colony	Roy Alexander Kenneth Bambeck Don Frels Jr. Hayden Haucke John Jones	903/928-2251 903/928-2251 903/928-2251 903/928-2251 903/928-2251
Texas City	Jerry Tkac	409/945-7430
Tuscola	Trey Carpenter	915/572-3103
Tyler	Judit Gowen John Wallace	903/566-1626 903/566-1626
Uvalde	Rick Taylor	512/278-1619
Van Horn	Ross Bullard Ray Watley	915/828-3383 915/283-2962
Victoria	Dennis Brown Gary Homerstad Leroy Reinecke Lyndon Schatz	512/575-6306 512/729-2315 512/573-9298 512/575-5275
Waco	George Litton	817/799-2447
Waller	Guinn McKnight	409/372-9263
Wharton	David Lobpries	409/532-2170



<b>City</b>	<b>Scorer's Name</b>	<b>Telephone #</b>
Wichita Falls	Bob Laurick	817/767-0953
Winters	B. D. Davis	915/754-5093

# TEXAS BIG GAME AWARDS PROGRAM

## WHITE-TAILED DEER REGIONS



AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Oct. 3:

#### CENTRAL

BELTON: Water clear, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 3 pounds on Craw Worms and Ring Worms in motor oil and chartreuse; hybrid striped are fairly good on slabs, jigging spoons and shad; crappie are good on minnows; white bass are excellent in number; catfish are fairly good in the 3-4 pound range on commercial catfish bait.

BROWNWOOD: Water fairly clear, 70 degrees, 6 inches above spillway level; black bass are fair to 3 1/2 pounds on deep running lures; striped are schooling some with white bass to 5 1/2 pounds on shrimp; white bass are good on silver spoons; crappie are fairly good on minnows in 8 feet of water; yellow catfish are fairly good to 16 pounds on live bait; channel catfish are good in the 3-4 pound range drifting and shrimping.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 79 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are fair through 4 pounds, 2 ounces on pig and jig; striped are good through 9 pounds on live bait and topwaters; crappie are good in shallow through 10 feet of water on minnows; white bass are good around Garrett Island and Paradise Point area on slabs and jigs under the birds; catfish have slowed down. A \$10,000 amateur striped tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday.

CANYON: Lake and river are clear below the dam, 56 degrees, 322 CFS flow; largemouth bass and Guadalupe bass are good in the river to 3 pounds on small Rapalas and spinners; striped are slow; catfish are good to 7 pounds on nightcrawlers; rainbow trout are good to 4 pounds on nightcrawlers and Roostertails.

COLORADO BEND: Water muddy, normal level; black bass are slow; striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; yellow catfish are good to 46 pounds on trotlines with live bait; blue catfish are fair to 4 pounds on worms and cut bait, blood bait; channel catfish are fairly good in the 4-5 pound range on worms and cut bait.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 84 degrees, normal level; black bass were good Thursday, Friday and Saturday to 7 pounds, good numbers of boats were on the lake Saturday and Sunday but fishing fell off, fishing good midday Monday; best fishing was around the grass beds on Slug-Gos and live bait; crappie are fairly slow on minnows; catfish are fair to 35 pounds and several in the 2 pound range.

GIBBONS CREEK: Waters clear, 79 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are fairly good but most are in the slot on cranks; crappie are fairly good in 9-12 feet of water on minnows; catfish are fairly good in number but most are fairly small and were caught on shrimp and stinkbait.

INKS LAKE: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 3 pounds on buzz baits and topwaters; striped are fair to 8 pounds on live bait; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on

trotlines with minnows and shrimp. LBJ: Water clear, 80 degrees, lake full; black bass are fair to 3 pounds, 9 ounces on chartreuse spinners; striped are slow; crappie are good under docks with structure with minnows, some limits caught; white bass are good on lower end lake under the birds; catfish are slow.

SQUAW CREEK: Water clear, 85 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 2 1/2 pounds in 12 to 30 feet of water on minnows, slabs and worms; smallmouth bass are good in the 16-inch range in 30 feet of water on shrimp, minnows and Rattle Traps; crappie are picking up from the bank in 30 feet of water on minnows and Rattle Traps; white bass are good in 30 feet of water; catfish are good in the 2-9 pound range in 8-40 feet of water on worms, shrimp and bloodbait.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 78 degrees, 8 feet low; largemouth bass are very good to 4 pounds on chrome Crazy Shad, Jerkin' Sams and chartreuse spinners; Guadalupe bass are good to 16 inches on same lures; bass limits are fairly easy; striped are slow; crappie are fair in 25 feet of water on minnows around brush; white bass are slow; catfish are fair to 4 pounds on blood bait.

WACO: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 12 1/4 pounds on spinners, a possible lake record; striped are slow; crappie are fair to 2 pounds on minnows; white bass are fair to 1 1/2 pounds on slabs and spoons; catfish are fair to 15 pounds on dough bait and trotlines with live bait.

WHITNEY: Water clear, 76 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are good at night to 4 1/2 pounds on slow rolling spinners; smallmouth bass are good to 4 1/2 pounds on cranks and spinners in 3 to 10 feet of water; striped are slow to 11 pounds on live bait and jigs; crappie are good to 1 3/4 pounds on minnows, limits caught; white bass are slow; blue and yellow catfish are fair to 12 pounds on worms and shrimp.

#### NORTHEAST

BOB SANDLIN: Water clear, 75 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are slow; crappie are good to 25 fish per string on minnows in 15 feet of water; white bass are slow; catfish are fair in the 3-4 pound range on worms mainly.

BRIDGEPORT: Water clear, 80 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on Ring Worms and June Bugs; striped are good to 6 1/2 pounds; crappie are very good on minnows and jigs in 8-12 feet of water; white bass are good in number and are caught on slabs and spoons; catfish are fair in number on shrimp, and trotlines baited with shad.

CADDO: Water clear, normal level; black bass are fair to good but most fish are small and were caught on Craw Worms and purple worms; striped are slow; crappie are fair to good on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are slow in Texas, but good in Louisiana.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 79 degrees, 9 inches low; black bass are good to 7 1/2 pounds on buzz baits and cranks; hybrid striped are slow; crappie are fair with strings to 12 fish per string on minnows in shallow water as well as around 20 feet; white bass are good early and late on chrome slabs and chartreuse Roostertails; catfish are good on rod and reel

to 5 1/2 pounds on nightcrawlers. CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 10 pounds on cranks; crappie are good to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows in 12-15 feet of water; catfish are good to 12 pounds on nightcrawlers.

FAIRFIELD: Water clear, 80-85 degrees, 4 inches above normal level; black bass are good in the 3-5 pound range on Slug-Gos; hybrid striped are good to 10 pounds on shad; redfish are good in the 16- to 20-pound range on shrimp; catfish are fair to 10 pounds on shrimp.

FORK: Water clear, 79 degrees, lake full; black bass are good to 15 pounds on a crappie jig and jigs; crappie are good to 25 fish per string on minnows in 14-21 feet of water; catfish are slow. Fairly good numbers of fishermen were on the lake midweek.

JOE POOL: Water clear, 76-82 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds; crappie are good to 2 pounds on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 8 pounds on shad and shrimp.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 76 degrees, 6 inches above winter level; black bass are good to 7 pounds on black neon Ring Rascal worms and deep diving shad colored cranks, some topwater action around schooling bass with Tiny Torpedoes and Rogues; crappie are fairly good around Alley, Johnson and Brushy Creeks and south of 155 bridge on Cypress Creek, most are caught on minnows and jigs; white bass are slow in the main lake, whites are good below the spillway on jigs and minnows; catfish are good along the creeks especially along Alley and Big Cypress Creeks to 7 1/2 pounds on rod and reel baited with nightcrawlers.

LAVON: Water clear, 78 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are excellent to 6 pounds with full strings to 15 pounds in the stumps and around the riprap on orange worms, spinners and cranks; crappie are good to 14 inches on minnows in 6-12 feet of water, crappie are good near the dam and around the island in 15-18 feet of water; white bass are slow; catfish are excellent to 7 pounds drifting shrimp and shad near the dam in 30 feet of water; catfish are good on good to 7 pounds on jug lines with live shad.

LEWISVILLE: Water clear, 74 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are excellent to 5 pounds, 5 ounces on June Bug Power Worms; striped are slow; crappie are good with limits in 5 feet of water around marinas on minnows and jigs; white bass are slow, schooling is slow, some white bass were caught in deeper water on slabs; catfish are fair to 6 pounds on shad.

MARTIN CREEK: Water clear, normal level; black bass are good in the 14-inch range; striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are good in the 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 pound range on worms with rod and reel as well as trotlines.

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 85 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds on 8-inch purple worms and Rattle Traps; crappie are fair to 10 fish per string on minnows in 15 feet of water; catfish are good to 35 pounds on trotlines with live bait.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 79 degrees, 4 1/2 feet low; black bass are slow; crappie are fair in number on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are fair to 7

1/2 pounds.

**MURVAUL:** Water clear, 80 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass are good to 8 pounds, 9 ounces on Ringworms, metal flake worms and topwaters; crappie are good in 13 feet of water on minnows and jigs and under 1971 bridge; catfish are good to 4 1/2 pounds on nightcrawlers.

**PALESTINE:** Water clear, 6 inches low; black bass are good to 7 1/4 pounds on worms; striper are slow; crappie are good to 2 1/2 pounds around 155 and 315 bridges on minnows; white bass are still schooling, best baits are spoons and cranks, limits caught; catfish are good to 18 pounds on rod and reel as well as trotline baited with chicken blood, catalpas and worms.

**RAY ROBERTS:** Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 9 1/4 pounds on black shad fire worms; crappie are good to 25 fish per string on minnows at 10 and 25-30-foot depths; white bass are schooling and fishermen are catching limits on slabs; catfish are good to 7 pounds on shrimp and shad.

**RICHLAND-CHAMBERS:** Water clear, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly good to 7 pounds; white bass are slow; crappie are fairly good to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; catfish are slow.

**TAWAKONI:** Water clear, 74 degrees, 14 inches low; black bass are good to 6 pounds on worms and spinners; striper are poor; crappie are fair to 2 pounds on minnows; white bass are good with limits on slabs and spoons; catfish are excellent on worms, shrimp, grasshoppers and stinkbait.

**TEXOMA:** Water murky, 74 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 5 pounds, 14 ounces on topwaters, worms and cranks in 3 feet of water off points; striper are good to 10 pounds with live bait, slabs, Sassy Shad and topwaters; crappie are fair on minnows in the brush piles in 15 to 20 feet of water; white bass are good to 2 1/2 pounds on L'il Georges, spoons and popping corks; catfish are good to 26 pounds on shrimp and cut bait behind the islands.

**WRIGHT PATMAN:** Water clear, 73 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 3 pounds on spinners and worms; white bass are fair to 1 1/4 pounds on L'il Georges; crappie are slow and small; catfish are fair to 5 pounds on trotlines and rods and reels baited with cut shad, liver and nightcrawlers.

#### SOUTHEAST

**CONROE:** Water clear, 78 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are good to 10 pounds on worms, a few caught on cranks and Rattle Traps, good numbers of undersized fish caught; white bass are small; crappie are picking up under the 1097 bridge and the boat docks on jigs and minnows in 12 feet of water; bream are small; catfish are fairly good to 3 pounds on trotlines and on rod and reel baited with shrimp and stinkbait.

**HOUSTON COUNTY:** Water clear, 68 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds, 1 ounce on topwaters; crappie are good to 15 fish per string on minnows; white bass are good to 20 fish per string off points; catfish are good to 5 pounds on rod and reel with bloodbait.

**LIVINGSTON:** Water clear, 74 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 1/2 pounds around

boat docks and marinas with many limits landed; striper are fairly slow in the lake, river fishermen are doing fairly well with striper; crappie are picking up with several strings around boat docks, fish seem to moving into creeks and shallow water; white bass are spotty and hard to locate; catfish are good 45 pounds on trotlines baited with live bait; blue catfish are good to 28 pounds on cut bait; channel catfish are good to 8 pounds on shad and worms.

**TOLEDO BEND:** Water clear, 83 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass are fair to 6 pounds on topwaters, spinners and worms; striper are slow; crappie are good to 2 pounds over baited holes; white bass are slow; yellow catfish are fair to 25 pounds on trotlines baited with cut bait, live bait; blue and channel catfish are running in the 2-6 pound class on trotlines baited with cut bait and live bait.

#### SOUTH

**AMISTAD:** Water clear in lake, the Pecos River is muddy, 80 degrees, 2 feet above normal level and dropping; black bass are fair to 8 pounds on spinners in shallow water early and worms in the middle of the day, fishing has been a little unpredictable since the rise; striper are fair under feeding birds, fish are spotty and not eager to hit; crappie are slow; white bass are fairly good on 1 ounce slabs; catfish are good to 3 1/2 pounds on cheese baits or blood baits, fish are scattered and can be caught in 5 to 60 feet of water in the muddier areas.

**BRAUNIG:** Water murky, 77 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are slow; catfish are good to 5 pounds on cheese bait in 4-5 feet of water; blue catfish are good to 18 pounds, 2 ounces, a new lake record caught on live sunfish; redbass are excellent to 25 pounds on a Tony Accetta Pet Spoon along the dam in 10 feet of water; corvina are slow.

**CALAVERAS:** Water murky, 88 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are slow; catfish are fair to a 3-pound average on chicken liver and shad; redbass are good to 15 pounds on crawfish and shad; corvina are fair to 12 pound on shad.

**CHOKE:** Water clear from Mason Point to dam, water is murky from Mason Point up, 79 degrees, 16 1/2 feet low; black bass are good with limits to 10 1/2 pounds on topwaters, spinners and Rattle Traps early near Mason Point, Four Fingers and South Shore, deep diving cranks and plastic worms are good in 10-20 feet of water are good after 10 a.m. off points; striper slow; crappie are fairly good but not easy to find on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 35 pounds on a goldfish baited rod and reel in 2 1/2 feet of water in the river.

**COLETO CREEK:** Water clear, 77 degrees, normal level; black bass are good in the 3-5 pound range on Rattle Traps and plastic worms; striper are slow; crappie are good with several keepers on minnows at night; catfish are fair in the 1 1/2 to 3 pound range with cheese bait and liver on trotline.

**FALCON:** Water clear in the creeks, main channel of the Rio Grande is a little murky, 80 degrees, 8 feet low and rising fast; black bass are good to 9 pounds on worms; striper are fair to 12 pounds near

the dam area on jigs and trolling deep diving cranks; crappie are slow; white bass are good sized but fishing is spotty, most can be found under feeding birds; catfish are good to 23 pounds on rods and reels baited with shrimp.

**MEDINA:** Water clear, 37 feet low; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on motoroil worms; striper are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are fair to 14 inches on chrome slabs; catfish are fair to 3 pounds on nightcrawlers and shrimp.

**TEXANA:** water murky, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 4 pounds on dark worms in the jugle area; crappie are fair on minnows; catfish are fair to 4 pounds in the main lake on live perch.

#### WEST

**BAYLOR:** Water clear, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly slow; crappie are slow; catfish are good to excellent to 14 1/4 pounds on rod and reel and live bait.

**FORT PHANTOM HILL:** Water stained, 74 degrees, lake full; black bass are fair to 3 pounds on dark worms; hybrid striper are slow; crappie are fairly good on minnows in 10 feet of water; white bass are poor; catfish are fair to 11 pounds on shad.

**GREENBELT:** Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are picking up with 30 weighed in over the weekend to 4 1/2 pounds on Slug-Gos and plastic worms; crappie are slow; white bass are fair to 15 fish per string while schooling, some caught on slabs; catfish are fair to 11 1/2 pounds on jug lines baited with liver and shrimp; walleye are picking up to 7 1/2 pounds at night on nightcrawlers.

**HUBBARD CREEK:** Water clear, lake full; black bass are good to 8.34 pounds over the weekend on buzz baits; striper have been fair to 8 pounds on slabs; crappie are good on minnows; white bass are good on spinner baits; blue catfish are good to 20 pounds on live perch and large minnows.

**IVIE:** Water clear, 29 feet low; black bass are good with a majority in the 14-inch range with an occasional keeper above 18 inches on cranks and spinners early and worms in the middle of the day; crappie are poor to fair with a few fish showing up in the half-pound range on minnows; catfish are fair to good to 3/4 pounds with some to 7 pounds on a wide range of baits.

**MCKENZIE:** Water clear, 70 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are fair to 7 pounds on big minnows; crappie are good to 14 inches on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are slow; walleye are good to 6 pounds, 9 ounces on minnows.

**MEREDITH:** Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; white bass are good to 3 pounds on minnows and shad with limits; crappie are fair to 5 fish per string on minnows; catfish are good to 8 pounds on worm baited rod and reel; walleye are fair to 18 inches or 2 1/4 pounds on minnows.

**MILLER CREEK:** Water clear, 75 degrees, lake full; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on flipping jigs; striper are poor; crappie are fairly good to 10 fish per string on minnows and jigs in 12 feet of water; white bass are excellent on the surface with jigs; catfish are fair to 10 pounds on live perch; carp are excellent in number to 15 pounds on any bait.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, 68 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are good to 4 pounds on Slug-Gos in 6-8 feet of water; striper are good on Rob's orange and yellow slabs, near the dam the Bananahead jig is a good bait; crappie are good on live minnows in 12 feet of water; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 8 pounds on Lewis King stinkbait; trotline producing catfish to 22 pounds on live bait.

PROCTOR: Water murky, 1 foot high; black bass are fairly good to 4 1/2 pounds on cranks and worms; striper are slow; crappie are fairly good with some limits on minnows; catfish are fair to 5 pounds on shad.

SPENCE: Water clear, 72 degrees, 34 feet low; black bass are slow; striper are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are fairly good on Rattle Traps and Castmasters in shallow water; catfish are good to 7 pounds on rod and reel and trotlines baited with nightcrawlers and shrimp.

STAMFORD: Water clear, normal level; black bass are fair to 4 pounds on Rattle Traps; striper are slow; crappie are fair to 15 fish per string on live bait; yellow catfish are fair to 20 pounds on trotlines baited with goldfish; channel catfish are fair to 3 pounds on live bait.

TWIN BUTTES: Water a little on the murky side, 70-72 degrees, normal summer level or about 14 feet low; black bass are good to 7 pounds on spinners and buzz baits; crappie are good on minnows, castmasters; white bass are good on minnows and Castmasters; catfish are good in the 15- to 40-pound range on trotlines baited with live bait.

WHITE RIVER: Water clear, 70 degrees at 12 feet, 8 feet low; black bass are very good to 6 1/2 pounds on topwaters early and late or worms fished deep in the middle of the day; crappie are very good with small minnows in 10 feet of water; catfish are excellent to 5 pounds at night on stinkbait.

#### COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Fresh water coming into Sabine from releases at Toledo Bend; most trout are undersized but some keeper sized fish are caught; redfish are fair with no schools spotted; most fish are caught in the shallows of Hickory Cove, around Stewt's Island and along the road sides; flounder are fair in number but good sized; some drum and some sheepshead also caught; fairly good numbers of night fishermen out; live bait shrimp available at 6 cents each.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Redfish and trout are fairly small until late in the afternoon; good numbers of flounder and croakers caught; some specks caught from the boats; live minnows available.

GALVESTON: Good numbers of specks and redfish in the bay along the flats and at the marsh lines at high tide; fishermen have to catch 5 trout to get 1 keeper and the redfish ratio is 4 to 1; old salts say this means fishing will be good next year; good numbers of bull redfish caught in the surf, the piers and San Luis Pass, many to 41 inches in length; flounder numbers are increasing, many to 4 pounds on live mud minnows; live bait is hard to find; good numbers of golden croaker and sand trout caught; water has cleared since the northers came through. Numbers of fishermen are down.

FREEPORT: Snapper, grouper and amberjack were caught some 40-50 miles offshore; limits are fairly easy; kingfish are caught about 80 miles offshore; snapper average 2-5 pounds with some in the 10-12 pound range.

PORT OCONNOR: Redfish are good near the jetties in the keeper range, a few oversized reds landed and released; some trout caught in Contee and Pringle Lakes; flounder have been plentiful for the giggers; live bait shrimp available but not plentiful at \$8.50 per quart or \$5 per pint.

MATAGORDA: Good flounder run going, fish range from 1-4 pounds and are caught on a wide variety of baits from cut bait, live bait and artificials, most fish are caught in the river and the canals; good numbers of trout were caught in the bays; limits of redfish also caught in the bays; fishing should be excellent for the next few days; live bait shrimp available at \$10 per quart.

PALACIOS: Some redfish caught around Green's and Cotton Bayou on strawberry metal flake Hogies with a white tails; redfish and some trout caught in Keller's Bay on copper spoons, strawberry and white Hogies Swimming Shad; all bay systems have a good number of undersized trout with some keepers; trout and redfish showing up at the Baptist Encampment with some limits landed; live bait shrimp available periodically.

ROCKPORT: Redfish and a few trout caught in Estes Flats; some fish caught around Dagger Island; live bait shrimp available at \$8 per quart.

PORT ARANSAS: Some redfish caught around Stedman Reef and around the north end of Ransom Island; good numbers of Spanish mackerel caught from the jetties; good catches of specks around the wells in Corpus Christi Bay; flounder gigging is productive at night; live bait shrimp available at 7 cents each; best baits have been live mullet and live shrimp. Fishermen were catching kingfish from the end of the jetties over the weekend; good snapper fishing with most catching limits from 35 fathoms to the snapper banks; some good amberjack in the 33 and 34 inch range in the same area; some good billfishing for blue marlin and white marlin and sailfish and will hold through November; water has been clearer inshore than offshore; weather looks good for the weekend with 2-3 foot waves.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Redfish are fairly good, with limits at the Boat Hole, at Emmerts and in Pure Oil Channel; Dead Man's Hole has been good for fishing at high tide; Shamrock has been good for redfish; some flounder caught around Humble Channel; live bait shrimp available at 12 cents each.

PORT MANSFIELD: Fishing has been very slow mostly due to lack of fishermen; plenty of live bait shrimp available at \$12 per quart.

SOUTH PADRE: Good numbers of specks caught on the East Side, around Submarine Bar and Three Islands on live shrimp and gold worms with fire tails; redfish have been slow; good numbers of kingfish have been caught around the jetties along with good numbers of bonito; some blackfin tuna caught around East Banks at 20 fathoms; surf is producing drum, redfish, trout but fishing is generally spotty up to the end of the road, about 11 miles above Port Isabel; live bait shrimp plentiful at \$10 per quart.

