

# texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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HUNTING, FISHING  
REGS APPROVED

AUSTIN--The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved fishing and hunting regulations for the 1991-92 season during a public hearing May 23 here. Some adjustments were made from the original proposals.

The commission approved reducing the deer bag limit in the East Texas Pineywoods to one buck and no more than two antlerless deer. Those counties are Angelina, Bowie, Cass, Cherokee, Hardin, Harrison, Jasper, Liberty, Marion, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Newton, Panola, Polk, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler and Walker. A nine/nine "doe-day" experiment was instituted for 10 of those counties, which are Cherokee, Nacogdoches, Shelby, Rusk, Panola, Harrison, Marion, Cass, Morris and Bowie. The "doe-days" regulations mean that antlerless deer may be harvested only during the first nine and last nine days of the general hunting season. The experiment is scheduled for two years. Commissioners also instituted a two/two "doe-day" experiment for Walker, Harris and Montgomery counties. Antlerless deer may be harvested only during the first two and last two days of the season.

On public lands such as national forests, river authorities and U.S. Corps of Engineer lands, the "doe-days" regulation applies, but in addition, antlerless deer permits may also be required. In Austin, a portion of Colorado, Lee, Waller and Washington counties, the commission further restricted the "doe-days" to only the first two days of the general season.

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"Deer in the Pineywoods, on average, are at or near the habitat's carrying capacity," said Dr. Rudy Rosen, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department fisheries and wildlife division director. "Department research shows a slight, but continuing decline in deer numbers on average throughout the area."

The special October early antlerless-only deer season, which has been in effect in six counties in East Texas for the past few years, has been eliminated. The counties are Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Polk, Trinity and Walker. Commissioners also approved an archery season for antlerless deer in Upton County, and antlerless permits will not be required.

Another regulation involves "doe-days" and antlerless permits. Currently, in counties with two/two and nine/nine either-sex, "doe-days" seasons, antlerless deer may be harvested only during the first and last two days or first and last nine days of the season. The new regulation allows the issuance of antlerless permits on properties with department-approved wildlife management plans; this will allow antlerless deer to be harvested throughout the entire regular season on these properties.

The opening day of whitetail season in most of Texas will remain the first Saturday of November (Nov. 2). The season will close Jan. 5. The South Texas season will be Nov. 9-Jan. 12.

Other whitetail seasons will be Oct. 1-31, archery; Jan. 18-Feb. 2, late South Texas antlerless only; Nov. 23-Dec. 8, Hartley, Moore, Potter and Oldham counties in the Panhandle; Nov. 2-10, Hunt County (the rule requiring hunters to check or register all deer harvested at a deer check station has been deleted). Mule deer season is Oct. 1-31 for archery; Nov. 23-Dec. 8 in the Panhandle; and Nov. 30-Dec. 15 in the Trans-Pecos.

The spring turkey season in certain portions of Houston, Trinity and Angelina counties will be closed because a turkey restoration program is underway.

Commissioners approved an experimental catfish limit on six lakes, Meredith, Lewisville, Conroe, Whitney, Palestine and Canyon. The minimum size limit will increase from nine to 14 inches and the daily bag limit will decrease from 25 to 15.

On the saltwater side, a proposal to place a 12-inch maximum length limit on mullet was approved for October through January. Other saltwater changes include placing a 32-inch minimum length, three fish daily bag on greater amberjack; a two-fish bag on cobia; an eight-inch minimum length on lane and vermilion snapper; and a seven-fish bag on red snapper. These changes, along with a prohibition on the harvest of jewfish, will provide rules similar to these in federal waters off the Texas coast. Commercial crab traps are to have white buoys and recreational crab traps are to have white with a two-inch-wide center stripe of contrasting color. Per traps are to have orange buoys. Also, only the right claw of stone crabs can be removed. This was enacted to improve enforcement of the previous law that allowed either claw to be removed, and which could lead to adverse impact on the stone crab resource.

The department's proposal to allow fishing guides to retain only one game fish per day was withdrawn. Other fisheries regulations approved by the commission included reducing the minimum size limit for spotted and Guadalupe bass from 14 inches to 12 inches; removing the 10-inch minimum size limit for yellow bass; removing the 10-inch size limit on crappie at Lake Fork and Lake O'the Pines from December through February anglers must keep the first 25 crappie they catch regardless of size; an 18-inch minimum, three-fish bag on black bass at Cooper Lake, scheduled to open this fall; a 14- to 18-inch slot limit for black bass on Lake Pinkston and Lake Waxahachie; a 14- to 21-inch slot for black bass at Mill Creek Lake; a 500 daily bag limit and 1,000 possession limit on shad in the Trinity River below Lake Livingston; and the length of legal minnow seines was retained at 60 feet.

The new regulations will go into effect Sept. 1.

Other hunting season dates are:

antelope, Sept. 28-Oct. 6;

javelina, Oct. 1-Feb. 23;

squirrel, May 1-31 and Oct. 1-Jan. 15;

elk, no closed season, by permit only;

aoudad sheep, Nov. 2-Jan. 19 in eight Panhandle counties;

prairie chicken, Oct. 19-20;

pheasant, Dec. 14-29 in the Panhandle and Nov. 2-Feb. 23 along the coast;

quail, Nov. 2-Feb. 23;

turkey, Oct. 1-31 for archery, the gun season is Nov. 2-Jan. 5 in most of the state, Nov. 9-Jan. 12 in South Texas, a spring season of April 4-May 3 for Rio Grande turkeys and April 4-19 for eastern turkeys;

chachalaca, Nov. 2-Feb. 23;

alligator, Sept. 10-30.

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COMMISSION APPROVES

FEE INCREASES

AUSTIN- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved higher fees for park visitors, hunters and fishermen during a public hearing May 23 here.

Park fees will affect the most people — an estimated 21 million people visited Texas state parks last year. Park entrance fees will range from \$2-\$6 depending on the popularity and facilities at individual parks. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials will present the commission a list of particular fees for each park prior to implementation of the new fees on Sept. 1.

Campsite fees will range from \$4-\$16 depending on utilities offered and/or the site's desirability. Commissioners approved a yearly recreational vehicle fee of \$5-\$25 for small pop-up campers to self-contained motorhomes, and screened shelters will increase from \$12 to \$15-\$20 instead of the proposed \$20. Andy Sansom, TPWD executive director, also received authorization to discount or waive fees.

Resident hunting and fishing licenses will increase to \$13 each, a \$3 increase in the hunting license and \$5 increase for fishing licenses. The combination hunting and fishing license will increase from \$15 to \$25.

Motorboat registration fees will increase from \$6 to \$9 for livery boats; \$12 to \$18 for Class A boats (under 16 feet); \$18 to \$27 for Class 1 boats (16-26 feet); \$24 to \$36 for Class 2 boats (26-40 feet); and \$30 to \$45 for Class 3 boats (more than 40 feet).

"The fee increases will allow the Parks and Wildlife Department to reduce its small dependence on general revenue funds, said Andrew Sansom, TPWD executive director.

Some other changes were made from the department's original fee proposal. The annual park permit, originally scheduled to be scrapped, has been modified and reinstated for some parks. The cost will increase from \$25 to \$25-\$50. Selected parks that will qualify for an annual permit and the exact cost also will be decided later this summer. Also, the menhaden boat permit, originally scheduled to increase from \$2,000 to \$5,000, instead will cost \$3,500, and the alligator hide tag will remain at \$5 instead of increasing to the proposed \$7.

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GOV. RICHARDS SPEAKS  
AT COMMISSION MEETING

AUSTIN--Gov. Ann Richards reassured hunters and fishermen in a speech at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission public hearing May 23 that she is a sportsman and that hunting and fishing are important to Texas.

The governor told the standing room only crowd that the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department means a lot to her and other Texans, and that, unlike many other agencies, Texas citizens have a direct and personal contact with the TPWD.

'I know what this land has meant to me when I was growing up, Richards said. "There was very little leisure time for us. When my mother and father took time off it was usually on a Saturday and a Sunday and it was to head to the Bosque River to go fishing. It was fun, but it also put meat on the table, and in those years, that kind of deal was hard to pass up.

Richards also spoke about her memories of hunting, from the times she went hunting with her father until her married days. 'I remember those hunts (with her father) fondly with the smells of kerosene oil and wet wool jackets and gun oil mixed with tall tales and men's laughter, she said. "Of course, my courtship was spent cleaning birds that were taken on outdoor adventures with my future husband.

The governor also said she understands how important the state's natural resources are economically. 'Parks, hunting and fishing are major industries in Texas. Hunters and anglers spend more than \$4 billion a year in Texas and sports and travel are a \$17 billion industry.

In addition to speaking to attendees about her hunting and fishing beliefs, Richards also complimented the department for being the first state agency to comply with her request to present the governor's office with a plan for being more efficient, more accessible and more accountable.

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COMMISSION APPROVES  
HATCHERY RENOVATION

AUSTIN- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission authorized acceptance of bids for renovation of the Dundee State Fish Hatchery during a public hearing May 23 here.

Gene McCarty, director of fish hatcheries, said design for phase one is near completion. The total renovation project calls for 101 production ponds, water supply, a 40,000 square-foot hatchery building, utilities and site work. Phase one consists of 42 acres of ponds, or 52 ponds.

The \$6 million price tag for phase one will not cost the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department any money, he said. Federal Wallop-Breaux Sport Fish Restoration Program funds will provide for 75 percent of the cost while the other 25 percent will come from in-kind contributions, which is existing property values.

The commission authorized site testing, surveys and design development for the renovation in March 1990. Site plans and bid documents are scheduled for completion in June for the pond renovation phase. Total cost of renovation as estimated from preliminary design schedules, McCarty said, is expected to be about \$15 million. Pond renovation is expected to cost about \$10 million.

The Dundee hatchery, the largest of the state's six freshwater hatcheries, was built in 1927, second oldest after the Tyler facility built in 1926. The original hatchery had 44 ponds (32 acres of water); in 1977, it was expanded to 91 ponds (89 acres of water).

Dundee annually produces about 4.5 million striped bass, largemouth bass and channel catfish, McCarty said. After renovation, the facility will focus on striped bass, Florida largemouth bass, channel and blue catfish. Renovation should increase production to 11.5 million fingerlings annually.

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**SMITH POINT NONGAME AREA  
NAMED FOR CANDY ABSHIER**

**AUSTIN-** The first acquisition of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Special Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Fund will be dedicated on June 25.

Representatives of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Abshier family and others will be on hand for a ceremony dedicating the Candy Cain Abshier Wildlife Management Area. The ceremony is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the area, which is southeast of Houston in Chambers County

TPWD executive director Andrew Sansom and Rudy Rosen, fisheries and wildlife division director, will speak for the department at the dedication. They also will accept a \$1,000 donation to the Special Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Fund from Ted Eubanks, president of the Texas Ornithological Society.

Located on Smith Point, the 207-acre WMA is the first nongame area purchased by the department through the Special Fund. The acquisition was made possible by Oryx Energy, which contributed 50 percent of the land's appraised value to the fund. The Special Fund, which began in 1983 and is sustained by donations and the sale of nongame artwork, stamps and decals, enables the department to acquire habitat or conduct research and management projects specifically for nongame and endangered wildlife.

Catrina Martin, assistant program leader for nongame resources, said the site, bounded on the south by Galveston Bay, was acquired as an important "stopover" area for spring migrant birds returning from Central and South America. Thousands of birds utilize the oak mottes as first landfall after an exhausting flight over the Gulf of Mexico. The area also serves as an important migration pathway for the southward movement of hawks and falcons in the fall.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission voted in August to name the area after Abshier, a former TPWD employee who died June 24, 1989, in recognition of her dedication to environmental concerns.

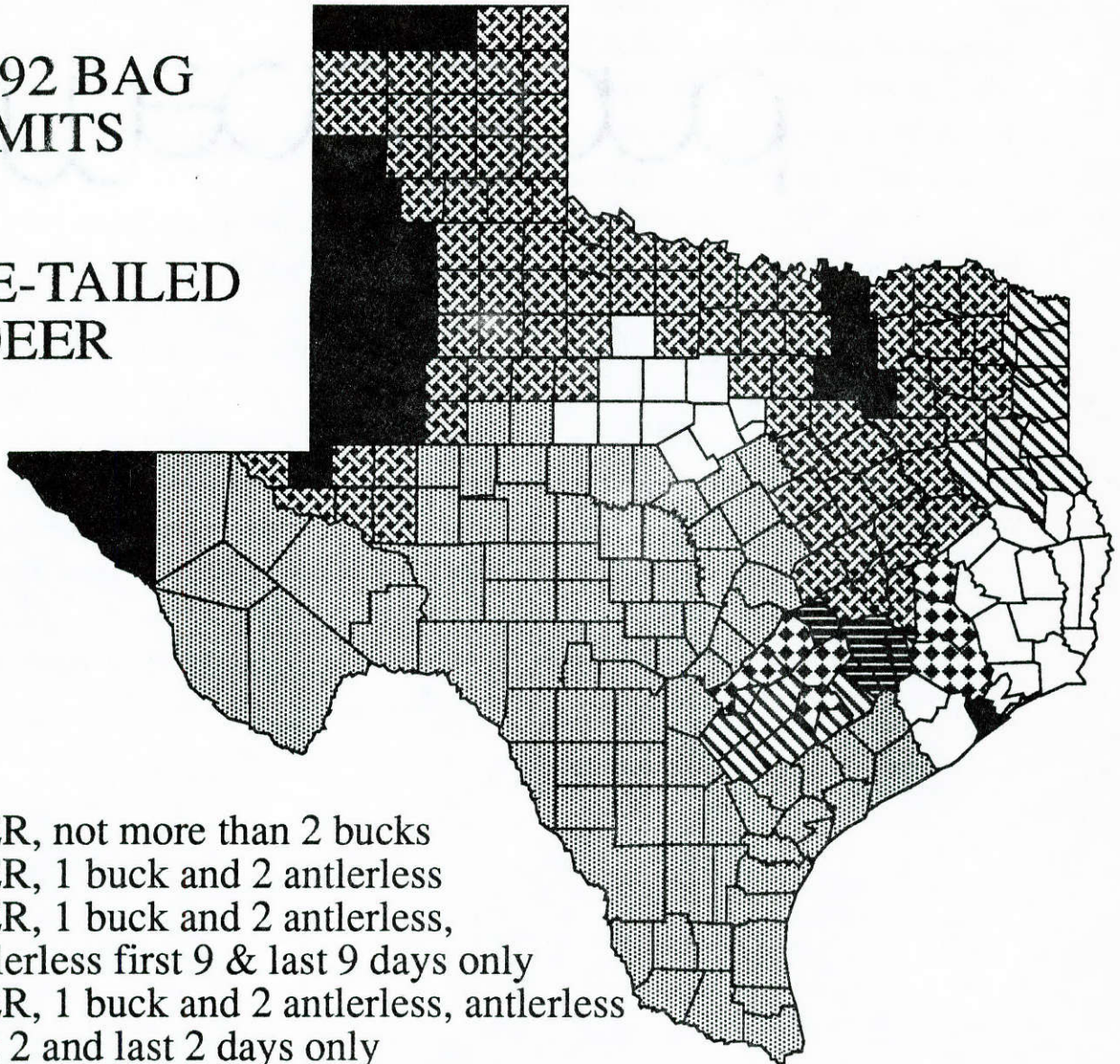
Born in Beaumont in 1946, Candy graduated from the University of Texas. While practice teaching in Austin, she began her involvement with environmental issues. From 1970-77, Candy was an audio-visual specialist with TPWD, as well as serving as editor of several publications for the department, the Texas State Senate and the LBJ School of Public Affairs. From 1978 until her death at 42, she freelanced alone or with partners in Austin, Houston and Gila, N.M. Her longtime devotion to nature and conservation was evident in the media shows, scripts, speeches and articles she produced to advance worthy causes, such as the preservation of precious lands, rivers and historic sites.








For more information about the area of the Special Fund, contact the Nongame Resources Program at 1-800-792-1112, ext. 4505, or (512) 389-4505.

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# 1991-92 BAG LIMITS

## WHITE-TAILED DEER



-  4 DEER, not more than 2 bucks
-  3 DEER, 1 buck and 2 antlerless
-  3 DEER, 1 buck and 2 antlerless,  
antlerless first 9 & last 9 days only
-  3 DEER, 1 buck and 2 antlerless, antlerless  
first 2 and last 2 days only
-  3 DEER, 1 buck and 2 antlerless, antlerless  
first 2 days only
-  3 DEER, 1 buck and 2 antlerless, antlerless by permit
-  SEASON CLOSED



AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for May 30:

#### CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear, 81 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 1/2 pounds on worms and topwaters; crappie are fair at night on live minnows; catfish are fair to 4 pounds on Bill's Sponge Bait.

BELTON: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are slow.

BROWNWOOD: Water clear, 72 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds on red and black lures; crappie are good in 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass are good at night under lights; channel catfish are good to 32 pounds on shad baited trotlines.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 76 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass are fair in number to 4 pounds, 9 ounces on chartreuse spinners; striped are fair to 10 pounds on live bait; crappie are slow; white bass are fair on points where shad are running, limits caught; catfish are good through 50 pounds on trotlines baited with live perch.

CANYON: Water clear, 78 degrees, 6 inches low; black bass are good to 4 pounds in the Jacobs Creek area around the island on black lizards with chartreuse tails and live minnows, chartreuse grubs, smaller bass are caught off main lake points; striped are good in 15-20 feet of water downrigging Redfins, with large red headed jigs; crappie are fair only on minnows around Crane's Mill Park; white bass are fair on live minnows.

COLORADO BEND: Water murky, 74 degrees, 18 inches above normal level; black bass and all fishing slow with few fishermen out.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 92 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly good to 7 1/4 pounds on worms, Ring Rascals, Slug-Gos and spinners; crappie are slow; catfish are slow.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level; black bass are fairly good in the slot or smaller on worm type baits; crappie are fairly good, no limits, on minnows; catfish are good on rod and reel baited with shrimp.

LBJ: Water clear, 77 degrees, lake full; black bass are fair through 3 pounds, 7 ounces on chartreuse Ringworms; striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are good on points where shad are running in mid lake on jigs and slabs; catfish are good in baited holes through 5 pounds, 7 ounces on stinkbaits.

LIMESTONE: Water clearing, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds on Poe's RC#3s in chrome and black and Jawtec Salty Sensations and Jawtec Wacky Worms in black and blue; crappie are improving on minnows; white bass are good early and late on Rattle Traps; catfish are good to 12 pounds on live perch.

SOMERVILLE: Water stained, 78 degrees, 2 feet normal level; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on cranks and worms; striped are good to 5 pounds on slabs, hellbenders and Pet spoons; crappie are fair but no limits caught, on minnows; white bass are excellent with many

limits on slab spoons and trolling, limits caught in 2 hours; catfish are fair to 3 pounds on shad.

SQUAW CREEK: Water clear with 8-10 foot visibility, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass are good in about 15 feet of water on Hotspots, cranks and Rattle Traps, a few smallmouth caught on the same lures but most smallmouth are below keeper size; crappie are very slow; white bass picking up in 15 feet of water on Kastmasters, Hot Spots and Rattle Traps; channel catfish are good in number on shrimp, worms and chicken livers.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 1 1/2 pounds on the docks with large minnows; striped are slow; crappie are good near the river in the tree tops on small minnows; white bass are good on minnows around the docks at 9 p.m., catfish are fair to 2 pounds on blood baits.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 80 degrees, normal level; largemouth bass are good to 45 fish per day to 3 pounds per boat but no limits caught on chrome Jerk'n Sams, firecracker grubs and L'il Georges; Guadalupe bass are good to 15 inches on the same lures; striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are good with surfacing fairly regularly, best baits are topwaters and grubs; catfish are good on trotlines to 5 pounds.

WACO: Water off color, 79 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on spinners and Craw Worms; striped are slow; crappie are fair to 10 fish per string on minnows; white bass are fair to 15 fish per string on small running baits; catfish are good to 25 pounds on trotline with live bait.

WHITNEY: Water very clear, 73 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow to good to 6 pounds on topwaters; striped are fair in number to 16 pounds on live bait; crappie are good on minnows and jigs with strings to 15 fish to 1 3/4 pounds each; white bass are good early and late along the flats and in the tree lines on wide variety of baits including slabs and spoons; blue catfish are good to 5 pounds on cut bait; yellow catfish good to 10 pounds on trotlines baited with live bait.

#### NORTHEAST

CADDO: Water clear, normal level; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on Chatterboxes; striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are fair to 15 fish per string on minnows and slabs; catfish are good in the 3-4 pound range on minnows and live sunfish; sunfish are slowing down, best bait is an earth worm.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 79 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 7 1/2 pounds on pumpkin seed worms and buzz baits; striped are fair to 9 1/2 pounds trolling Magnum Hellbenders with chartreuse Roostertails; crappie are fair to 10 fish per string in 18 to 22 feet of water around the ridges; white bass are excellent with early and late surfacing and at night, best bait is a minnow; catfish are fair to 7 1/2 pounds on rod and reel baited with nightcrawlers and shrimp.

CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water fairly clear, 74 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are fair to 6 pounds on salt and pepper Fat Gitzits and firetailed worms;

crappie are good in 10-15 feet of water on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are good in shallow water around docks at night on nightcrawlers or large minnows.

FAIRFIELD: Water clear, 85-90 degrees, 10 inches above normal level; black bass are fair to 7 1/2 pounds on cranks and worms; striped are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on jiggling spoons; catfish are fair to 4 pounds on stinkbait and live bait; redfish are fair to 12 pounds on cranks.

FORK: Water clear, 85 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 10 pounds early and late on topwaters and Craw Worms; crappie are good with limits on minnows and jigs; catfish are slow.

JOE POOL: Water clear, normal level; black bass are good to 8 pounds on red and black Craw Worms; crappie are good to 1 1/2 pounds on red and white jigs; white bass slow; catfish are fair to 7 pounds on shad gizzards and night crawlers.

LAKE OF THE PINES: Water clear, 78 degrees, 2 1/2 feet above normal level; black bass are good to 7 1/2 pounds on black neon worms, Rattle Traps, PopRs and Tiny Torpedoes; crappie are slow; white bass are fairly good with schooling to 2 pounds each, some limits caught on small cranks and white jigs; catfish are good to 14 pounds on trotlines baited with worms and minnows; bream fishing has been fairly good on crickets and worms.

LAVON: Water clear, 84 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are good to 4 pounds around rocks in 3 feet of water on spinners and cranks; crappie are fair early on minnows; white bass are excellent with many limits on slabs and L'il Georges; catfish are good to 7 pounds on jug lines baited with shad or shrimp.

LEWISVILLE: Water clear, 80 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are excellent to 4 pounds on 4 inch pumpkin seed colored worms in 22-23 feet of water; striped are fair to 20 inches on slabs in the cuts; crappie are slow; white bass are good schooling on the surface, limits are fairly easy to catch on Bomber slabs; catfish are good to 8 pounds around the rocks on shrimp, liver and blood bait.

MARTIN CREEK: Water clear, normal level; black bass are good with limits; striped are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are good on trotlines baited with stinkbait and shrimp.

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 86 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 10 pounds, 6 3/4 ounces on black neon worms; crappie are slow; catfish are good to 9 pounds on nightcrawlers and shrimp.

MURVAUL: Water murky, 74 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are slow due to murky water, some smaller fish to 5 pounds caught on worms and buzz baits; crappie are fairly good but most are undersized on minnows in 6 feet of water; catfish are picking up on trotlines baited with cut shad and small bream.

PALESTINE: Water a little murky in the creeks, water in lake is clearing, 6 inches high; black bass are good to 6 1/2 pounds on worms, spinners and topwaters; striped are slow; crappie are good to 2 1/4 pounds on jigs and minnows in 8-12 feet of water; white bass are good to 2 1/2 pounds on spoons and cranks with some limits caught; catfish are good to 31 pounds on rod and reel

and trotline on nightcrawlers, blood bait, catalpa worms and shrimp.

PURTIS CREEK: Water clear, 60 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are slow; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are good in the evenings to 25 pounds on rod and reel baited with shrimp.

RAY HUBBARD: Water clearing, 81 degrees, lake full; black bass are fair to 5 1/2 pounds on lizards and worms; striper are improving to 14 pounds drifting bream under white bass; crappie are good to 2 1/2 pounds in 15 to 25 feet of water under the I 30 Bridges on minnows at night; white bass are excellent with many limits, many undersized fish caught and released on blue, white and chrome minnow spoons; catfish are good to 12 1/2 pounds on shrimp dipped in bloodbait.

RAY ROBERTS: Water clear, 62 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass are good to 19 1/2 inches or 5 pounds, 2 ounces on a blue and pearl Slug-Go in 18 feet of water; crappie are good to 3 pounds on medium minnows and small white jigs; white bass are good off points and in the flats on white cranks and chrome and blue Rattle Traps; catfish are good to 6 1/2 pounds on shad gizzards; blue and yellow catfish are good to 25 pounds on shrimp. Fishing for hybrid striper, crappie and catfish has been good below the dam.

RICHLAND-CHAMBERS: Water clear, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds on worms in 8-18 feet of water; white bass are excellent with schooling early and late all over the lake, schools can be located by watching the birds; crappie are very good on minnows.

TAWAKONI: Water clear, 73 degrees, spillway level; black bass are good to 6 pounds with several limits with worms off the points; striper are improving to 14 pounds on Roadrunners; crappie are excellent with several limits on minnows in shallow water; white bass are good through 3 pounds on Flat Flutterers and minnows; catfish are good to 5 pounds on bloodbait and worms with some spawning.

TEXOMA: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 4 1/2 pounds on worms; striper are excellent to 15 pounds with many in the 10-12 pound range on live bait and topwaters; crappie are fair on minnows; white bass are excellent on live bait and topwaters; channel catfish are excellent to 10 pounds; blue catfish are poor; yellow catfish are slow.

#### SOUTHEAST

CONROE: Water clear, 77 degrees, 4 inches above normal and dropping; black bass are good in number but most are small, the largest weighed 7.74 pounds and was caught on pumpkin seed or black and blue worms and a few on Rattle Traps early; white bass are excellent with many limits over the humps on jigging spoons; catfish are good to 16 pounds on trotlines baited with small perch, most are caught on stinkbaits, nightcrawlers and shrimp.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 6 pounds, 15 ounces on black and blue Craw Worms, Ringworms and topwaters; crappie are fairly good in the dam area on minnows; white bass are good on points with minnows; catfish are

good to 10 pounds on trotlines baited with shad.

LIVINGSTON: Water clearing, still some color, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 6 3/4 pounds on buzz baits and dark plastic worms in deeper water; striper are spotty at daylight around Pine Island, otherwise no pattern on fishing; crappie are fairly good to 2 1/2 in the creeks with minnows; white bass are improving, several limits caught on slabs and spoons in the Walker Lake area; yellow catfish are improving to 68 pounds on live or cut baited trotlines; blue catfish are good to 30 pounds and channel catfish are fair to 8 pounds on shad.

RAYBURN: Water clear, 82 degrees, 8 feet above normal level; black bass are fair to 9 pounds on along the weed line on pumpkin seed green flake or June Bug worms; crappie are excellent on main lake brush piles around 147 bridge pilings on minnows in 15 feet of water; white bass are excellent on the bottom with spoons; catfish are fair to 60 pounds and a couple of 40 pounders, some good keeper sized fish caught on trotline; bream are good in number with several in the 1 to 1 1/4 pound range on worms.

TOLEDO BEND: Water slightly off color, 90 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are fair to 5 1/2 pounds on topwaters, spinners and plastic worms; striper are fair to 9 pounds on jigs and deep running Redfins; crappie are fair to 2 pounds on jigs, live bait in baited holes; white bass are slow; catfish are slow on live bait.

#### SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water clear, 70 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass are fair to 5 pounds, fish are going into deeper water, on purple or red and yellow tailed worms; striper are going to the 40-60-foot level of water; crappie are slow; white bass are fairly good in the lake and in the Devil's River and Caballo and Zorro Canyons; catfish are good in shallow water in 4-15 feet of water under cork with cheese bait and shrimp.

BRAUNIG: Water murky, 75 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds, 5 ounces on worms; striper are good to 8 pounds, 12 ounces with strings to 45 pounds on chicken livers; catfish are fairly good to 6 pounds on worms, shad and shrimp; blue catfish are good in the 10-13 pound range on worms and spoons; redfish are good up to 18 pounds on crawfish and by trolling Tony Accetta spoons. The back side of the lake will be buoyed off for boat races to be held this weekend.

CALAVERAS: Water murky, 85 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass are slowing down to around 7 1/4 pounds on plastic worms; striper are fair to 5 pounds on chicken livers; catfish are fairly good to 3 pound average on cheese baits; redfish are good in the 12-13 pound range on crawfish, Pet Spoons or cranks; corvina are good to 14 pounds from the banks and from boats on crawfish, shrimp and cut bait.

CHOKO: Water clear, 79 degrees, 12 feet low; black bass are good with a few limits to 14 pounds, 10 1/2 ounces, a new lake record caught by Sterling Kelly of San Antonio, some good fish in the 6-9 pound range taken along Mason Point on June Bug 7-inch worms; striper are slow; crappie are very

slow, some caught at night around Mason Point on minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are good with fish moving into 2-3 feet of water around the South Shore flats, best bait is prepared cheese and nightcrawlers.

COLETO CREEK: Water a little murky, 80 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair, a few keepers on plastic worms; striper are slow; crappie are slow; catfish are fair to 10 inches on shrimp.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water clear, 83 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass are excellent to 7 1/2 pounds with several strings to 30 pounds with up to 30 fish per day on white spinners early and dark Berkley Power Worms late in very shallow water on points and in coves; crappie are fair from Indian Cove to Alice Pump House to 12 fish per string in 8-10 feet of water on minnows; white bass are good under lights at state park pier on minnows; blue catfish are good to 31 pounds on trotline baited with cut shad; channel catfish and gaspergou good below the dam on shrimp, worms and cheese baits.

FALCON: Water clear, 85 degrees, 15 feet low; black bass are good to 9 pounds on worms; striper are good to 22 pounds on Knocker Spoons; crappie are slow; white bass are good with limits caught on Knocker spoons near the dam; catfish are good to 5 pounds on rod and reel baited with shrimp.

MEDINA: Water clear, 35 feet low; black bass are fair to 7 pounds on black worms with chartreuse tails; striper are slow; crappie are fair on small jigs and minnows, no limits caught; white bass are slow; catfish are good to 45 pounds on trotlines with live sunfish; rod and reel catfish are good to 2 pounds on stinkbait.

TEXANA: Water murky, 78 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass are fair to 3 pounds in the jungle area on buzz baits early and late; crappie are slow; catfish are fair to 15 pounds on trotlines baited with shad.

#### WEST

ARROWHEAD: Water murky, 78 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass are fair to 3 pounds on black lizards; striper are slow; crappie are fair to slow on minnows; white bass are fair trolling chrome Rattle Traps; catfish are fair to 6 pounds on rod and reel baited with shrimp and goldfish.

BAYLOR: Water clear, 70 degrees, 6 feet low; black bass are good to 7 pounds, 7 ounces on Craw Worms, Pigs and Jigs, chartreuse spinners and buzz baits; crappie are slow; catfish are good to 9 1/2 pounds, caught by 10-year-old Thomas Humphrey of Amarillo on a minnow.

GREENBELT: Water clear, 70 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass are picking up in the 5 pound range on spinners, Rapalas, topwaters; crappie are good to 20 fish per string on minnows in 6-8 feet of water; white bass are good in the 1 1/2 pound range to 20 fish per string on minnows and Countdown Rapalas; catfish are excellent in the 13-14 pound range on shrimp and minnows; walleye are good to 7 1/2 pounds on nightcrawlers behind jigs on the rocks near the dam.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear, 18 inches below full; black bass are good to 8 pounds on worms; striper are improving in number; crappie are slow; white bass are improving on spoons; catfish are good to 54 pounds on trotlines with live bait.

MCKENZIE: Water clear, 74 degrees,

normal level; black bass are good to 2 3/4 pounds on minnows; crappie are slow; white bass are good on minnows; channel catfish are fairly slow; yellow catfish are fairly good; walleye are fair to 6 1/2 pounds on minnows.

MEREDITH: Water clear, 69 degrees, 10 feet low; black bass are fairly good to 6 pounds, 3 ounces on minnows and spinners; crappie are good to 1 1/4 pounds on minnows; white bass are good to 1 pound on minnows; flathead catfish are good to 15 1/4 pounds; walleye are very good but most are in the 15 3/4 inch range.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, normal level; black bass are good to 7 1/2 pounds near the shore; striper are slow; crappie are fairly good in the crappie house and under the lights at night on minnows; white bass are fairly good on spoons also under the lights; catfish are good to 33 pounds, most are in the 5-10 pound range, on trotlines on minnows and live perch.

PROCTOR: Main lake clear, upper reaches are muddy, normal level; black bass are fair to 5 1/2 pounds on spinners, worms and topwaters early and late; striper are good to 13 pounds on jigs; crappie are good to 2 1/2 pounds on minnows and jigs in shallow water; catfish are fair to 3 pounds on shad.

SPENCE: Water clear, 74 degrees, 38 feet low; black bass are slow; striper are fair to 7 pounds on live bait; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are fair to 2 pounds on nightcrawlers.

STAMFORD: Water clear, 74 degrees, normal level; black bass are fair to 5 pounds on Rattle Traps around rocky points; striper are fair to 12 pounds on live bait; crappie are fair to 10 fish per string on live bait; catfish are good to 4 pounds on liver; blue catfish are good to 6 pounds on live bait; yellow catfish are slow.

TWIN BUTTES: Water murky, 76 degrees, 14 feet low; black bass are good to 5 pounds in 3-6 feet of water and around deep water worms; striper are slow on plastic worms; crappie are good at 8 in 22 feet of water on minnows; white bass are schooling near the equalization channel and Spring Creek; catfish are good to 8 pounds on trotline baited with Roger's Cheese Bait.

#### COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Good numbers of fishermen over the weekend; good catches of croaker, sheepshead, flounder and fresh water catfish and some redfish; most fish caught on dead shrimp; no live bait shrimp available.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Several good sized flounder in the 3 pound range caught over the weekend, some limits caught in the channel; other flounder caught at the South Levee Wall; amberjack caught at the end of the jetties on mullet; a king mackerel weighing 19 pounds caught 10 miles out; no live bait shrimp available.

GALVESTON: Fishing was fairly good over the weekend; some fair catches of trout in the bays; scattered redfish and fair catches of flounder in the bays; beach front producing gafftops, jack fish, croakers and sand trout; keeper redfish and some throwbacks at the jetties; offshore fishermen are catching king mackerel, limits of red snapper; live bait shrimp available at \$8.50 to \$10.50 per quart; bay waters are not clear; a

228-pound stingray caught over the weekend during the annual tournament.

FREEPORT: Offshore fishing has been very good with ling in the 40-60 pound class; amberjack in the 20-50 pound range; the average snapper and grouper are still good; offshore fishermen are book 7 days a week now; kingfish will be legal on July 1 and the shrimping season will open on July 7.

PORT OCONNOR: Fishing has been fairly slow due to high tides and scattered fish; tides are about 10 inches above normal level; a few scattered trout and redfish at the big jetties and at the pass and at Lighthouse Cove; few fishermen out midweek; offshore fishermen caught kingfish and snapper about 8 miles off shore; good numbers of black drum and snapper from the first rig offshore; bay fishing is slow; live bait shrimp available at \$8.50 per quart. Night floundering is good when the winds are calm.

MATAGORDA: Redfish and flounder are good along the south shoreline; trout are scattered, some caught over a wide area on gold spoons, cut mullet; oyster lake is producing redfish, flounder and trout; fishing is better in the evenings on falling tides; live bait shrimp available at \$10 per quart.

ROCKPORT: Good numbers of specks in the 3-5 pound range on live croakers off the ship channel off Pelican Island, Aransas Bay around Quarantine and Tray Islands, at the head of Copano Bay, and in the Mesquite area; redfish are scattered, several landed but many of these are oversized; offshore fishing has been good; gulf was calm over the weekend with many small dolphin caught and a couple of ling; live bait shrimp available at \$7.50 per quart.

PORT ARANSAS: Good number of trout in the 22-24 inch ranch in Corpus Christi Bay in the area of the wells; redfish are slow due to high tides; live bait shrimp available at \$7.25 per quart; live croaker, and piggy perch available.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Good numbers of flounder from 18-24 inches caught all over the area on live shrimp; good numbers of oversized redfish in the back bay area around Portland in the flats; a few trout landed on live shrimp; live bait shrimp available 12 cents each or \$8.50 per quart.

PORT MANSFIELD: Good numbers of fishermen out; good numbers of trout to 22 inches on live shrimp at the East Cut, from the north Land Cut to Three Islands; good numbers of snapper in the keeper range from off shore; 2 marlin in the 300-400 pound range caught in the hump area, 58 miles offshore, fish were tagged and released; lots of live bait shrimp available at \$12 per quart.

SOUTH PADRE: Good numbers of trout to 2 pound average with limits on live shrimp by waders caught near the high school; the gas well, Long Bar, West Bay and Three Islands areas are producing redfish in the afternoon; flounder are caught around South Bay and the old Causeway; offshore fishermen are catching a fair number of kingfish, some bonito and a few tarpon to 125 pounds.

PH 5/30/91

