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texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

In the Sept 27, 1989 issue

New Boundary Separates North, South Deer Seasons	1
Birders Getting Action at Richland Creek	3
Fall Colors Unpredictable At Lost Maples	4
Lake Whitney Park Hosts 10K Run For Charity	6
Correction Issued On Crane Hunting Zone	7
Fishing Report	9

EDITORS For your planning purposes, next week's packet will include a lengthy deer hunting season forecast by ecological region

NEW BOUNDARY SEPARATES NORTH, SOUTH DEER SEASONS

AUSTIN -- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials want white-tailed deer hunters to be aware that the boundary for the firearms season between the north and south portions of the state are slightly different this year

The regular season for most of the state is Nov 4-Jan 7, while the season for all or portions of 28 South Texas counties is Nov 11-Jan 14

The Parks and Wildlife Commission authorized a change in a portion of the boundary between the two zones. The change affects only three counties -- Kinney, Uvalde and Medina. In those counties, the boundary between the two zones will be U S Highway 90 rather than the counties' northern boundaries as was in effect last season.

Thus the south zone includes the southern portions of Kinney, Uvalde and Medina Counties, plus Atascosa, Live Oak, Bee, Refugio and Aransas Counties and all counties to the south. Hunters in the change area will have the

earlier regular season starting date, but will not have the Jan 20-Feb 4 special antlerless-only season authorized for South Texas

The special early antlerless-only firearms season for whitetails in East Texas is Oct 21-29 It is authorized for Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches (south of State Highway 7), Polk, Trinity and Walker Counties

The archery season in Texas is Oct 7-Nov 5, for both mule and white-tailed deer The mule deer season is Nov 18-Dec 3 in the Panhandle and Nov 25-Dec 10 in the Trans-Pecos

Prospective deer hunters also are reminded that whitetail bag limits have been altered in some counties, and certain tagging procedures have been changed All deer hunting regulations are contained in the department's 1989-90 Hunting Regulations Guide, available free from department offices and hunting license outlets across the state

JC 9/27/89

BIRDERS GETTING ACTION AT
RICHLAND CREEK

CORSICANA -- Bird watchers in the North Texas area could be in for a treat by visiting the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's newly-acquired Richland Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The area is 13,800 acres and is only about 90 miles south of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex on U.S. Highway 287.

Officials said the best area for observing birds is on the 4,000-acre north unit of the WMA where shallow water impoundments have been built to provide habitat for migratory ducks and geese. The impoundments were jointly funded by Ducks Unlimited, Inc., and the department as part of the DU-MARSH program.

"We knew that the impoundments would be beneficial in providing feeding, resting and roosting sites for ducks and geese and to some extent to other wetland wildlife," said Hayden Haucke, area manager, "but we didn't realize what a tremendous benefit these newly-created wetland sites would be to non-game water birds."

Non-game birds identified by department biologists on the area during the summer included wood storks, white pelicans, snowy egrets, white ibis, Louisiana herons, great blue herons, roseate spoonbills, black-necked stilts, American avocets, cattle egrets, great egrets, olivaceous cormorants, least bitterns, white-faced ibis and many varieties of

shorebirds Haucke said more than 300 wood storks used the site during the summer This species has been listed as "threatened" in Texas since July 1984

The construction phase of the project was completed last January, and this year's spring flooding filled all the waterfowl compartments with water six inches to two feet deep Many small fish, crayfish and numerous varieties of aquatic invertebrates provided a rich food base for wetland birds and other wetland wildlife

Richland Creek is a Type II WMA Holders of a \$35 Type II permit are permitted entry to Type II WMAs for hunting, fishing and other activities Those interested in visiting the area only to observe birds may purchase a Type II Limited Use Permit for \$10 from any TPWD law enforcement office

The north unit is located north of U S Highway 287, just east of the new Richland-Chambers Reservoir dam.

JC 9/27/89

FALL COLORS UNPREDICTABLE
AT LOST MAPLES

VANDERPOOL -- Each autumn, prospective visitors hope weather conditions will be right for a colorful display of bigtooth maple leaves at Lost Maples State Natural Area

"If weather conditions are just right, the leaves turn bright reds, oranges and yellows," said Park Superintendent Roy Heideman Cloudy days

and warm temperatures produce dull colors, he said

The leaves usually begin to change color in mid-October, and in good years they reach their peak during the first two weeks of November, Heideman said. But drought conditions have alternated with rainy spells at Lost Maples during the past three years. "It has been especially dry this spring and summer, so we don't know how that will affect the fall colors," he said.

The park, located on the Sabinal River northwest of San Antonio, has a combination of steep Hill Country canyons, springs, plateau grasslands, wooded slopes and clear streams.

Heideman said campsites are almost fully booked for weekends in October and November, so he recommends weekday visitation. "Since only 250 cars are allowed in the day use parking area, it is especially important for visitors planning a one-day trip to schedule it for a weekday," Heideman said.

Newly renovated campsites are clustered in a meadow near the park entrance. The sites have water, electricity, a grill and shaded table. Each is within walking distance of a restroom with showers.

Beyond the developed area of the park, visitors can follow the Maple Trail along the river. Wayside plaques help hikers identify trees and other aspects of the canyons.

More adventurous backpackers can hike 10 miles of rustic, and at times strenuous, canyon trails and camp overnight at any of eight designated

primitive camping areas

Lost Maples is in Bandera County, four miles north of Vanderpool on FM 187 Call (512) 966-3413 for information and camping reservations

EC 9/27/89

LAKE WHITNEY PARK HOSTS
10K RUN FOR CHARITY

WHITNEY -- The Striper Streak, a 10-kilometer charity footrace, will start from Lake Whitney State Park and end in Whitney on Oct 7, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials

Runners or walkers can enter one of four divisions based on distances of 10k, 5k or two or one mile runs Registration begins at 7 30 a m. at the park, and the run starts at 9 a m. Awards to the top three finishers in each division will be made at 10 30 a m.

The nonprofit run has been organized by the Rehab Choice, Inc , Physical Therapy Department of Lake Whitney Memorial Hospital

"Campers are welcome to join the run and also enjoy the annual Pioneer Days festival in Whitney," said James C Karr, park superintendent The festival will feature food and craft booths, a parade and catfish dinner

The Striper Streak is named for the striped bass, a favorite of anglers at Lake Whitney "Fishing is important to most Whitney campers, and the festival offers an additional activity for the weekend," Karr said

The park has 187 campsites set among trees near the lake. Campers with minimal gear can stay in screened shelters, while other sites are set up for tents or equipped with parking and utility hookups for trailers. Each site has water and a picnic table and is within walking distance of restrooms with showers.

Lake Whitney State Park is located about 35 miles northwest of Waco and 15 miles west of Hillsboro on FM 1244, which connects with State Highway 22 in Whitney.

The \$11 entry fee for the run includes a T-shirt and tickets to festival events. Make checks payable to Lake Whitney Memorial Hospital and mail to 200 N San Jacinto, Whitney, TX 76692. For camping reservations call or write to Lake Whitney State Park, Box 1175, Whitney, TX 76692, (817) 694-3793.

EC 9/27/89

CORRECTION ISSUED ON CRANE
HUNTING ZONE

AUSTIN -- The hunting season dates for sandhill cranes in the state's newly-defined Zone B in North Central Texas were incorrectly reported by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department last week, officials said.

The correct season dates for Zone B are Dec 2, 1989-Feb 11, 1990. The sandhill crane season for Zone A (West Texas) is Nov 11, 1989 through Feb 11, 1990, and Zone C (South Texas) is Jan 6-Feb 11, 1990.

All sandhill crane hunting regulations are contained in the department's 1989-90 Late-season Migratory Game Bird Regulations Guide, available from department offices and hunting license outlets. Hunters are required to have a federal sandhill crane hunting permit to hunt cranes in any zone. The free permits may be obtained in person or by mail by submitting the name and address of each hunter to department law enforcement offices within the zones, or from Austin headquarters, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744. They also may be obtained from the Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Box 228, Umbarger, TX 79091, (806) 499-3382, or the Muleshoe NWR, Box 549, Muleshoe, TX 79347, (806) 946-3341.

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JC 9/27/89

AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Sept. 28:

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water clear, 85 degrees normal level black bass are fairly good to 4 pounds on dark worms and minnows; striper slow; crappie slow; catfish slow

BELTON: Water clear, 82 degrees normal level; black bass good to 3 pounds on small white spinners in 5 feet of water; hybrid striper fair in number to 9 pounds on yellow jigs with chartreuse trailers; crappie slow; white bass fair to 12 fish per string on small Rat-L-Traps and L'il Georges channel catfish fair to 6 pounds on World Record dough bait in 30 feet of water.

BROWNWOOD Water clear, 4 feet low; black bass slow; striper good to 3 fish per string in the 19 inch range; crappie are good to 25 fish per string on minnows in 8 feet of water; white bass are slow; catfish are good in the 3-4 pound range from the docks on chicken livers.

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 78 degrees, 10 feet low; black bass have been fair to 5 pounds in the shallow water early on topwaters and worms or Getzits in the middle of the day; striper are good to 8 pounds on topwaters Pencil Poppers early and live bait later in the day; crappie are fair with some limits to 2 1/2 pounds on minnows; white bass are good around the Garrett Island area on slabs and topwaters under birds; catfish are fair in the 3-4 pound range baited holes on stinkbait.

CANYON: Water clear, 80 degrees, 4 feet low; black bass are fair to 4 1/2 pounds on Pig and Jig in 20-25 feet of water; striper slow, a few in the 5-6 pound range near the dam; crappie are good to 20 fish per string on minnows at night under lights; white bass slow; catfish are fair in the 5-8 pound range on trotlines baited with live perch.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 85 degrees normal level; black bass fair in the 19-20 inch range, no keepers, on Rat-L-Traps, Zara Spooks and Boy Howdies in 15 feet of water; winds high since weekend; crappie slow; catfish fair in the 6-7 pound range on rod and reel at night.

GIBBONS CREEK Water clear 78 degrees, 8 inches low; black bass fair but mostly within the slot; crappie fair to 9 fish per string on minnows; catfish fair to 5 pounds on rod and reel baited with a wide range of baits.

INKS LAKE: Water clear, 77 degrees, normal level; black bass fairly good to 3 1/2 pounds on buzz baits; topwaters and worms; striper are good to 22 pounds on live shad and chartreuse Tom's Minners with 1/2 ounce lead head jigs; crappie slow; white bass schooling between 2 and 5 p.m. with few fishermen on chartreuse and pearl Tom's Minners; catfish fair to 3 pounds on trotlines with strung on minnows mainly.

LBJ Water clear 79 degrees, lake full; black bass are good to 7 pounds, 12 ounces on Watermelon Getzits; striper are fair on live bait and deep trolling plugs; crappie are good around docks with brush on minnows, limits caught regularly; white bass are good to 16 inches with limits under birds; catfish are good to 5 pounds around baited holes.

LIMESTONE: Water clear to murky due to high north wind 80 degrees, 16 inches low; black bass fair to 6 pounds on Bulldog jigs, Jaw-Tec Wacky Craws and Poe's Ace in the Hole; crappie good with some limits on minnows in 12-20 feet of water on isolated creeks; white bass schooling around the dam, some limits on Rat-L-Traps and deep diving cranks; catfish fair to 5 pounds on live perch baited trotlines.

SOMERVILLE: Water clear, normal level; black bass fair to 3 pounds on purple worms; striper slow; crappie fair to 12 fish per string on minnows in 8-10 feet of water; white bass are fair to 12 fish per string on slabs; catfish fair to 2 pounds on shrimp baited trotlines

STILLHOUSE: Water clear 80 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass slow; hybrid striper slow; crappie are good to 1 pound to 15 fish per string on minnows and jigs; white bass are good to 1 1/2 pounds on white jigs at night to 10 fish per string; channel catfish are good to 3 pounds on rod and reel baited with shrimp; trotliners are using cut bait, shrimp and liver.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 77 degrees, 22 1/4 feet low; largemouth bass excellent to 32 fish per half day with 5 keeper sized fish to 4

pounds, Guadalupe bass good to 15 inches, all bass hit chartreuse spinners until mid morning and then switch to salt and pepper and firecracker Ringworms and Getzits later in the day in 10 feet of water. Striper fairly slow to 13 1/4 pounds in the Lakeway area on Boy Howdies. Crappie slow; white bass slow; blue catfish fair to 5 pounds on prepared catfish bait.

WACO: Water off color. 75 degrees. 1 foot low. Black bass good to 6 pounds on dark worms in 5 feet of water. Striper slow; crappie good to 25 fish per string on minnows and jigs in 20 feet of water. White bass fair only on topwaters early and slabs later in the day. Catfish fair to 20 pound on trotlines baited with yellow catfish, some channel catfish caught from the bank on shad and shrimp.

WHITNEY Water clear, 73 degrees, 6 inches high; black bass are good to 5 1/2 pounds with a few limits on topwaters and spinners; smallmouth bass are fair to good to 4 pounds on cranks. Stripers are slow to fair on topwaters and live baits in the 3-10 pound range with a few limits; crappie are very good with limits to 1 3/4 pounds in 15 to 20 feet of water in the trees and brush and around barges and boat docks. White bass slow mostly small with a few keepers; catfish are good drifting shrimp with channel catfish to 4 1/2 pounds, blue catfish to 11 1/2 pounds.

NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water clear, 76 degrees. 10 inches below normal; black bass are good in numbers to 6 pounds. 1 ounce on Baby Minus One and Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are good to 25 fish per string with limits in 20-25 feet of water on minnows; white bass are good trolling chrome L'il Georges and slabs around schools in 15 feet of water. Some white bass caught on the surface with shad for bait; catfish slow.

CEDAR CREEK: Water clear. 74 degrees. 22 inches low; black bass are fair to good to 5 1/2 pounds on Rat-L-Traps and black worms in 8 feet of water; striper slow; crappie fair with strings to 15 fish in the stump fields and around bridge pilings on minnows; white bass surfacing in the late afternoon around shallow points, fish are caught on chartreuse Rooster Tails and L'il Georges. Catfish are good to 5 1/4 pounds on shrimp.

CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water clear. 76 degrees, normal level. Black bass good to 6 pounds, 10 ounces on black Craw Worms with red claws; crappie good to 2 1/2 pounds with limits in 25 feet of water on minnows and jigs. Channel catfish good to 13 1/2 pounds on jigs and minnows. Yellow catfish good to 26 1/2 pounds on chicken livers and hearts.

FAIRFIELD Water fairly clear. 88 degrees. 1 foot low. Black bass and all fishing are fairly slow.

FORK: Water clear, 74 degrees, lake full; black bass have been fair to 11 pounds, with a 10 several 7s and 6s on worms and black and blue lizards and topwaters early and late; crappie are improving with more keepers, limits caught on minnows; catfish slow.

GRAPEVINE: Water off color. 77 degrees, normal level. Black bass slow and spotty. Some in the 3-4 pound range beginning to hit dark worms. Cranks, Rat-L-Traps and buzz baits; crappie slow; white bass spotty and are still in deep water. Some caught on Suicide Tail Spins. L'il Georges and spoons. Catfish are fair to 8 pounds in 15 to 20 feet of water drifting shrimp.

JOE POOL: Water a little stained. 81 degrees. Normal level; black bass good to 5 pounds in 14-18 feet of water on June Bug worms. White spinners and black or blue chrome Rat-L-Traps or Rattlin' Spots; crappie are good to 2 pounds on white jigs and minnows in 25 feet of water. Catfish are slow on rod and reel. Trotlines are fairly good in 18 feet of water on minnows, shrimp and blood bait.

LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 71 degrees, 1 foot above winter level; black bass have been fairly good to 6 pounds on jig and Craw Worm, Rat-L-Traps. Model A Bombers Tennessee Shad. Crappie have been fair on minnows in 10-12 feet of water. White bass have been schooling, most are running small in size on a wide assortment of cranks; catfish have been fairly good to 12 1/2 pounds on goldfish and cut bait. Flights of wood ducks and widgeons have been spotted on the lake.

LAVON Water clear, 78 degrees, normal level; black bass are good to 7 pounds with many in the 3-4 pound range on cranks and purple worms. Striper good below the dam in the discharge; crappie are good to 2 pounds in brush up the East Fork near the power plant and near the dam in 12 feet of water on minnows; white bass are good with

schooling many limits on L'il George and silver slabs; channel catfish good to 2 pounds on worms and liver

LEWISVILLE: Water clear normal level black bass fair to 5 1/4 pounds on cranks; striper slow; crappie slow; white bass are very slow; catfish fair to 35 pounds

MARTIN CREEK: Water clear, 72 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass good to 18 inches on blue and black worms; all other fishing has been slow.

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 85 degrees, normal level black bass good to 7 1/2 pounds on 11 inch black worms and 8 inch Pumpkin Seed worms in 12 feet of water; crappie fair to 10 fish per string to 1 1/2 pounds on minnows; catfish are good to 9 pounds on nightcrawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear 77 degrees, normal level black bass are slow; crappie are good to 2 pounds on minnows and jigs in 15 feet of water no limits; white bass slow; catfish are good to 12 pounds on chicken livers and shrimp.

MURVAUL Water clear, 74 degrees, 4-6 inches low; black bass have been fair to 6 pounds, 1 ounce on worms winds have been in the 15 to 25 knot range; good numbers of undersized fish on topwaters and spoons; crappie have been fair due to lack of fishermen and high winds catfish have been fair to slow on trotline baited with cut shad and Canadian nightcrawlers.

PALESTINE: Water clear 74 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass have been good to 6 3/4 pounds on spinners, cranks and worms in 8-12 feet of water; striper have been fairly good on live bait and cranks to 7 1/2 pounds crappie are slow; white bass have been fairly good on spoons, some schooling no large strings; catfish are good to 24 pounds on trotlines and rod and reel baited with blood bait, nightcrawlers and catalpa worms.

PURTIS CREEK Water clear, 2 feet low; black bass fair to 8 pounds on dark worms; crappie have been slow; catfish good to 15 pounds on shrimp and worms

RAY HUBBARD: Water clear, 71 degrees, normal level black bass fair to 2 1/2 pounds on white spinners; striper have been slow to 5 pounds; crappie good to 25 fish per string on minnows white bass have been good with many full strings on chartreuse slabs; catfish have been good to 3 1/2 pounds drifting shrimp.

RICHLAND-CHAMBERS Water clear, 75 degrees, 2 1/2 feet low; black bass have been slow since the norther; crappie have been good with several limits on jigs and minnows white bass have been good with limits on slabs, Rat-L-Traps and spoons. catfish slow.

TAWAKONI: Water clear, 84 degrees, normal level; black bass fair to 6 pounds on worms and spinners in the moss; striper slow; crappie fair to 2 pounds on minnows and jigs white bass have been schooling with limits to 2 pounds each on slabs; catfish have been good since the rains

TEXOMA: Water clear 77 degrees, 1 foot above normal level; black bass good to 5 1/2 pounds on Pig and Jig and worms striper have been good to 13 pounds on live bait, slabs and topwaters under the birds crappie are very good with limits to near 3 pounds on minnows and jigs; white bass fair around the islands on topwaters; catfish are good from the banks with trotlines and jug lines on stink bait, live bait and shrimp.

WELSH Water clear, 83 degrees, 3 feet low black are very good to 7 1/4 pounds on dark worms in 8 feet of water along creek channels with much schooling activity in the mid lake area; crappie are fair in 15 feet of water on minnows and tube jigs, few fishermen out; catfish are good to 7 pounds on shrimp, shad and dough bait in 12 to 15 feet of water near the dam; bream have been good to 3/4 pound in good numbers on wigglers EurOlarvae and shrimp in 10-15 feet of water around bushes.

SOUTHEAST

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear 77 degrees normal level black bass have been good to 6 1/4 pounds on black and blue Rat-L-Traps and black worms, spinners; crappie have been good with limits on minnows white bass fair to 17 fish per string on slabs, minnows and L'il Georges in the dam area; catfish are slow.

LIVINGSTON: Water clear, 74 degrees, normal level black bass are fairly good with several limits to 8 3/4 pounds on dark worms with chartreuse or blue tails Pumpkin Seed Worms, most bass are in the 2-3 pound range. striper slow, some near the dam; crappie are

improving. fish are moving into the creeks to 12 fish per string on minnows, white bass are spotty some limits; channel and blue catfish are good to 12 pounds on shad; yellow catfish are good to 45 pounds on trotline with live bait.

RAYBURN Water clear 78-81 degrees, 18 inches below pool level; black bass have been fair to 3 fish per boat to 5 pounds each on worms, Rat-L-Traps and jigs in the moss. striper slow; crappie are fair in baited holes in 15 feet of water; white bass spotty no limits; catfish have been fair to good on trotlines baited with catfish Charlie, catfish have been fair on rod and reel baited with live shad.

TOLEDO BEND Water clear, 72 degrees, 3 feet low; black bass good to 5 pounds, 14 ounces on chartreuse spinners with chartreuse trailers, motoroil worms and topwaters such as chuggers and Boy Howdies striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish good to 30 pounds in baited holes on trotlines.

SOUTH

AMISTAD Water clear, 81 degrees, 5 3/4 feet low; black bass have been good to 6 pounds on red crawfish Bombers and purple white tailed worms in 8-10 feet of water; striper are good to 14 pounds, 1/2 ounce Ponyhead jigs in 10 feet of water; crappie slow; white bass are scattered around the dam area; catfish have been fair to 5 pounds in 80 feet of water Good flights of ducks spotted in the San Pedro area.

BRAUNIG Water murky 81 degrees, normal level black bass slow; striper slow; crappie slow; catfish have slowed some since the cold front, some from trotline and rod and reel in the 2-6 pound range on tilapia, chicken liver and shad. redfish were good but the cold front slowed them down; corvina slow.

CALAVERAS Water murky, 89 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass poor all month. striper fair to 4 pounds downrigging spoons; crappie slow; catfish good to 11 pounds on cutbait; redfish good to 10 pounds on chicken liver or live crawdads; corvina good to 9 pounds downrigging green grubs

CHOKE: Water clear, 83 degrees, 12 3/4 feet low black bass have been fair in number on spinners and Rat-L-Traps in 1-5 feet of water and on plastic worms in 5-15 feet of water, best area is Calliham Point to San Miguel Creek, the lower half of the lake if slow; crappie have been fair in 12-15 feet of water next to deep water on medium sized minnows, some fish are showing up along the river channel from Mason Point to Highway 99 bridge; catfish have been good in 20-25 feet of water off points along Possum Creek and around Calliham and Mason Points; blood bait and cheese baits are the best for catfish, many 3-6 pound fish have been caught.

COLETO CREEK: Water clear. 85 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass have been good to 4 pounds on worms early and late; striper slow; crappie have been good at night on minnows, average size is 3/4 pound; white bass slow; catfish have been good in the 2-4 pound range on trotlines and rod and reel.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water clear 82 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass have been good to 7 1/2 pounds in 3-5 feet of water with 6 inch plum colored worms; striper slow; white bass good under the birds near the dam on chrome slabs and white Roadrunners crappie fair with some limits from the state park and Sunrise Beach Piers at night and early morning on minnows; blue catfish are good to 15 pounds on soap and shad; channel catfish are good on rod and reel from KOA point on shrimp and shad; yellow catfish slow.

FALCON: Water clear. 19 feet low; black bass are fairly good into 7 pounds on worms and spinners; striper fair near the state park on jigs and trolling; crappie have been fairly slow; white bass good near the state park; catfish good in number with many small fish.

TEXANA: Water murky in main lake, clear in the river and creeks, 81 degrees 1 foot low; black bass good to 4 pounds on worms around moss beds; striper slow white bass slow; crappie are fairly good up Sandies Creek on minnows with a few limits caught; catfish fair on trotline with cutbait.

WEST

ARROWHEAD Water slightly murky, 75 degrees spillway level, black bass fair to 10 inches on minnows and shad striper have been good in the 12-15 inch range on Super Shad; crappie have been poor white bass have been good late at night on minnows

BAYLOR: Water clear, 79 degrees normal level black bass good from

2 1/2 pounds to 11 pounds 14 ounces on motor oil Craw Worms with pink pinchers in 4-6 feet of water; crappie slow; catfish good from 5 3/4 pounds to 17 3/4 pounds on water dogs and stink bait.

GRANBURY: Water clear, 78 degrees, 6 inches low; black bass and all fishing slow.

GREENBELT Water clear, 79 degrees, normal level black bass good to 4 1/2 pounds on cranks and minnows; crappie slow; white bass good trolling minnows blue catfish and channel catfish are good to 8 1/2 pounds on minnows; yellow catfish slow; walleye good to 7 pounds on slabs in deep water.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear 7 feet low black bass have been fair in the 3-5 pound range on topwaters and worms striper are fair in 6-20 feet of water; crappie are improving fish seem to be moving into shallow water; white bass slow; yellow catfish good to 38 pounds on trotline baited with small live carp in 6 feet of water blue catfish good to 5 pounds on trotline with stink bait, cut bait and large minnows; channel catfish are good to 2 pounds on dough bait and minnows

MCKENZIE: Water clear, 72 degrees, normal level black bass slow; striper good to 9 pounds, 3 ounces on jigging spoons crappie fair; white bass slow catfish are good in the 4-5 pound range on water dogs and minnows

OAK CREEK: Water clear, 71 degrees, 6 feet low; black bass have been fair to 6 pounds 9 ounces on cranks; crappie are improving with fairly good strings to 12 fish on minnows in deep water; white bass slow; catfish have been fair to 5 pounds on rod and reel baited with minnows

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear 75 degrees, normal level; black bass have been fair to 6 pounds on topwaters. striper have been fair to 9 pounds, most are in the 3-5 pound range on slabs crappie have been fairly good on minnows and flea fly jigs white bass good with limits on slabs catfish are beginning to pick up in the 4-5 pound range on live bait and blood bait.

SPENCE: Water clear, 72 degrees, 31 feet low; black bass fair to 4 pounds on spinners in 1 foot of water; striper fair to 11 pounds on topwaters and drifting live bait; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish fair to 4 pounds on shrimp and nightcrawlers.

STAMFORD: Water clear, 75 degrees, 3 feet low black bass are good to 4 1/2 pounds on white jigs and spinners; striper fair to 9 1/2 pounds on liver crappie are very good to 25 fish per string to 2 pounds each on minnows. catfish slow.

COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Redfish are fairly good to 8 pounds, most in the 20-25 inch range, on shrimp and spoons in the marshes and in the lake; specks are improving with a greater percentage of keepers this week to 2 pounds mostly on shrimp; flounder are fair in number to 2 pounds on shrimp; good numbers of croaker a few drum and sheepshead; a 14 inch gaspergou caught on shrimp; live bait shrimp are available. North and northeast winds to 20 knots have been blowing all week

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Redfish are good to 7 pounds in 6 feet of water behind the barges in the lake and along the bank of the ship channel on shrimp; bull croaker to 3 1/2 pounds are good in number on shrimp in the lake and along the banks; specks are spotty; a few flounder to 3 pounds landed on mud minnows; no live bait shrimp available.

GALVESTON Good numbers of croaker to 2 pounds, most in the 1/2 to 3/4 pound range to 60 fish per string on dead shrimp along the beach front, off piers, around the jetties, Seawolf Park, Rollover Pass and all up and down the Galveston Causeways. flounder fishing has been improving around the channels and around the jetties to 3 1/2 pounds, most are restaurant sized; good numbers of oversized redfish along the beach front, piers and jetties. trout are scattered in the bays to 4 pounds, most are around 1 1/2 pounds on shrimp and Kelley Wigglers. Offshore fishermen are catching kingfish to 10 pounds, dorado to 5 pounds, snapper are still small; live bait shrimp available at \$8.50 to \$10 per quart.

FREEPORT: Offshore fishing has been slow since the front. Northwinds and east winds are clearing the surf, a few trout to 6 pounds on live shrimp and artificials in the surf. flounder to 5 pounds in Christmas Bay and San Luis Pass area; live bait shrimp are plentiful

PORT OCONNOR Fairly good numbers of redfish in the 22-24 inch range, good numbers of redfish have been spotted at night by flounder

fishermen some specks just above keeper size, few limits on shrimp mostly; good numbers of flounder by gig, most are fairly small; live bait shrimp available at \$8 50 per quart.

PALACIOS: Good numbers of trout to 4 pounds in South Bay on speck rigs; good numbers of redfish in the 26-27 inch range on fresh dead shrimp and mullet; live bait shrimp are not available

ROCKPORT: Redfish are good to 27 inches with limits from the surf at Cedar Bayou; some redfish at the Port Aransas jetties to 28 inches, many oversized fish, trout in the 16-17 inch range around and on the outside of Allan's Bight, Long Reef and Paul's Mott on pink Mirr-O-Lures; no live bait shrimp available

PORT ARANSAS: Fishing has been fairly slow because of low number of fishermen, fairly good flounder fishing, water is in good shape; head boats with 20 fishermen are catching 800 pounds of snapper, amberjack, grouper along with a few African pompano; charter activity slow. Horace Caldwell Pier fishermen catching trout above 14 inches, redfish in the 20-22 inch range and fair numbers of big drum at night; fishermen are catching whiting during the day.

CORPUS CHRISTI Croaker are fairly good in the Boat Hole, some flounder along the edge of the Intracoastal; trout and redfish to 5 pounds in Shamrock and in the Boat Hole and in the edges of the channels; no bait shrimp available. Oso Pier fishermen are catching a few golden croaker, butterfly drum and undersized trout.

PORT MANSFIELD: Fishing has been fairly slow since the norther hit; winds gusting to 30 knots, no live bait shrimp available. Good numbers of large redfish at the jetties some landed but most too big to keep.

SOUTH PADRE: Fair numbers of keeper sized redfish caught on live shrimp in the Three Islands area, no limits; trout above 14 inches near the Intracoastal Canal on live shrimp, no limits winds have been fairly high; live bait shrimp available at \$10 per quart.

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