

# LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital of Texas"



## "The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use" "Lines To Get Hooked On"

2 Sections

[www.fishguidenews.com](http://www.fishguidenews.com)

Free

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No. 171



Heaven must have needed another angler because they took one on October 19th. Albert Jordan owner of Coffee Creek Marina on Lake Fork passed away. Albert had been a longtime member of the Lake Fork Texas Trails Bassmasters, on the Board of Directors for The Wish to Fish Foundation and their pontoon captain, and had served in the past as a Director for the Lake Fork Sportsman Association. He loved Lake Fork, worked for Lake Fork and was a truly great friend. He is already dearly missed.

**The Texas Tackle, Hunting, & Boat Show is coming... January 10-12th, 2014 Mesquite Convention Center & Mesquite Rodeo Arena**

The Texas Tackle, Hunting and Boat Show is proud to bring the BIGGEST fishing and hunting event ever in the central United States. The Show will be held at the Mesquite Convention Center & Rodeo Arena, with all free parking. This event will have more outdoor related sports exhibitors than any show in Texas, more bulk tackle than any show in the U.S., and thousands of items discounted below wholesale prices. We market to all genders and ages through our products. (See The Texas Tackle.... Continued on Page 7-A)



Randy Hooker from Nevada, Texas caught this nice 8.58-pound hawg fishing the 8th Annual Berkley Tournament on Lake Fork. For his efforts he won \$500 in cash and a new 2013 Skeeter ZX200 powered by a Yamaha 200 SHO, equipped with Humminbird Electronics and a Minn Kota trolling motor. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Sue Hampton)



Peter Cherkas of Des Moines, Iowa won heaviest bass under the slot with this 2.67-pound bass in the Berkley Tournament winning \$400 in hourly cash and a Skeeter ZX 190 powered by a 150 motor. See Story on Page 4-A. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Sue Hampton)



# Bubba Thinks Everyday Should Be Thanksgiving

By Don J. Hampton

The four most important things in Bubba's life are God, family, country and of course, fishing. Imagine the last one!! I know this to be true because I have seen a sign in his house that reads "Fishing isn't a matter of life or death, it is much more important than that!" Bubba doesn't fish to live, he lives to fish! According to Bubba that is the order of importance in his life. The way he feels, if he loves the first three with all his heart and unwavering dedication, fishing is allowed. Always, no matter how strong the desire to be on the lake, the first three always come first.

In most everyday situations, if you asked Bubba what he would do, unless extremely serious, he would say, "Have a BBQ, drink a few beers and celebrate life." If it were a semi-serious situation he would counsel you... say something like, "Go fishing, relax, give it some thought and the answer will come to you!" In matters of extreme importance he has only one answer, "Trust in God and country, for the Lord helps those who help themselves!" This is probably the best answer anyone could apply to any given situation.

Bubette has told Bubba many times that he does have a way at times of being painfully honest. Just recently in a conversation he was having with another fellow fisherman he remarked, "I love all bodies of water except those darn pity puddles. A lot of people swim in them but nothing can survive in them. They are always filled with self remorse and pity. People sink into them and expect others to pull them out. At that time they quit helping themselves and just become dependent." To my way of thinking this was the most profound statement I had ever heard from Bubba.

Bubba has a way of comparing life and situations with fishing. He proved this to me by adding, "The only thing you can catch from a pity puddle is blame. People that swim in them want to blame everyone and everything in life for their problems. What people in these puddles need to do is take swimming lessons or grab their ears and pull themselves out." (Well, that is not quite how Bubba said it, but you get my drift!) Bubba opened my eyes that day and gave me some food for thought that nourished the spirit.

I believe in Bubba's way of thinking. If more people did, the enjoyment of living would be ever present. This shines in

Bubba's life everyday. Whenever you see him he has a smile and happiness to share. As a matter of fact, sometimes he smiles so much people wonder what he's up to!

To Bubba life is not a mystery that he has to go in search for the answer, it is a gift. Every morning when he opens his eyes for another day, it is Thanksgiving and he is thankful for the gift of life.

Maybe we all should make "Thanksgiving" an everyday ritual. "That's what Bubba does!"



Prairie dogs "kiss" by pressing their teeth against each other's face. The kiss enables each animal to tell whether the other belongs to the same family group.



The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet!

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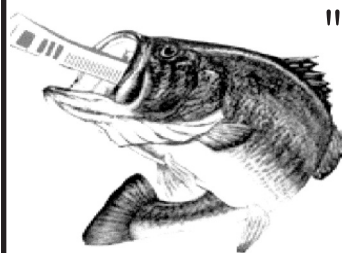
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By Don Hampton

The 8th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament presented by Bass

## 8TH ANNUAL BERKLEY BIG BASS TOURNAMENT ON LAKE FORK

Champs, Inc. was held on Lake Fork at Lake Fork Marina on October 19th and 20th. Ten places per hour for the two days of the tournament were paid for

the heaviest bass weighed in during each hour. For the angler catching the heaviest bass over the 24" inch slot that angler was guaranteed to be taking home the grand prize of a 2013 Skeeter ZX 200 powered by a Yamaha 200 SHO, equipped with Humminbird Electronics and Minn Kota trolling motor. For the heaviest bass under the 16" slot the winner would be acquiring a 2013 Skeeter SX 190 powered by a Yamaha 150, equipped with Humminbird Electronics and Minn Kota trolling motor. The tournament drew over 800 anglers to Lake Fork to compete with some anglers coming from as far away as Ohio and Iowa.

Chad Potts, President of Bass Champs, Inc. stated, "I'm excited to see this event continuing to grow each year. I was a little concerned about the participation heading into the weekend because of the threat of severe weather. However, we ended up avoiding the bad storms, and had a great turnout again." Potts continued, "I would like to thank Berkley for their continued support of this event and grass roots tournament anglers. They are a great partner."

Berkley baits made a great showing on Lake Fork but so did Mother Nature. Anglers were facing high winds and white caps on the first day of the tournament and a dense fog bank but nicer weather on the second day of competition. This

became quite evident when the large bass this reservoir is known for did not show up at the scales on the first day and only three on the second day. Anglers were not able to fish the main points and deep structure of the open

lake without being tossed on the first day. Many of the fishermen reported choosing a wind blocked cove in hopes of finding the larger bass moving up and being able to work

(Continued on next page)



Russell Oliphant from Altus, OK., won the 8 o'clock hour with this 6.69-lb. bass and had the lead for an hour for big bass over the slot.



Don Whisenhunt from Winthrop, AR., won the 9 o'clock hour with this 7.17-lb. bass and had the lead for an hour for big bass over the slot.

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their baits without being hindered by the wind and waves. This explained smaller weights recorded at the scales on the first day. Only three bass over the Lake Fork 24" slot were weighed in during the course of the tournament and these were brought to the scales in the first three hourly weigh-ins of the second day. More than a few anglers reported their hearts being broken by bass that didn't quite reach the 24-inch mark or exceeded the 16-inch mark.

The winning bass under the slot was weighed in during the 10 o'clock hour of the second day. Peter Cherkas of Des Moines, Iowa brought his catch weighing 2.67-pounds to the scale in hopes that it would hold up for the grand prize for the heaviest bass under 16-inches. "My dad and I have fished a couple of the Berkley tournaments, but this year I got to fish with my fiancé and this was her first tournament," said Peter. Peter caught his prize winner on a Berkley Flicker Shad clear with a black back crank bait. "I only caught three bass during the tournament but one of them was the right fish," he said. His fish held up as the heaviest bass under the slot winning him not only the 2nd Place check of \$400 for the hour but also a Skeeter ZX 190 powered by a Yamaha 150, Humminbird Electronics and Minn Kota trolling motor.

The heaviest bass over the slot was caught by Randy Hooker of Nevada, Texas weighing

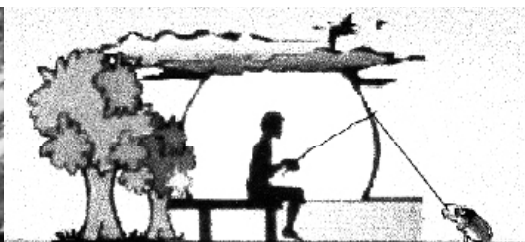
8.58-pounds. "I think I have fished in all of the Berkley Big Bass tournaments," he commented. "I didn't get to fish Saturday at all, and it was tough fishing Sunday. My targeted spots were grassy areas with drop-offs to deeper water nearby. The fish would move up to feed in the shallows, then go back out to the deeper water." Randy caught his winning bass on a stripped down buzz bait that he had put a Berkley black & blue skirt on and dyed the head chartreuse using a slow retrieve method, just barely keeping it on the surface. His catch won him \$500 in the hour and the grand prize of a 2013 Skeeter ZX 200 powered by a Yamaha 200 SHO, and equipped with Humminbird Electronics and Minn Kota trolling motor.

Andrew Marks of Berkley addressed the crowd before the presentation of the checks and prizes, and thanked everyone for their continued support of this event and for choosing Berkley/Sebile products for their fishing needs. Marks stated, "This event is always a learning experience for us. The feedback we receive helps us with product development, research and marketing. It also gives us a clearer idea of what our customers want from Berkley in the future. We look forward to seeing everyone next year."

Highlights of the tournament will be recapped on the WFN Network. For show times, follow the WFN link on [www.BassChamps.com](http://www.BassChamps.com).



Haden Sickles from Sulphur Springs and a member of the Lake Fork Texas Trails Bassmasters won in a couple of hours. He tied for 2nd place in the hour with this 2.36-lb. bass and weighed in another in the 2 o'clock hour on Sunday that weighed 2.02-lbs. winning him an 8th place check.



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## November Bassin on the Fork

By John Tanner

Fall is here and the bass are moving. This time of year the bass are right in the middle of the fall feeding frenzy and boy can it be a blast. There are all kinds of ways to catch those Lake Fork lunkers during this time so you can usually fish your strengths and do well. Shallow or deep, either way can be good. A lot of the bigger fish we catch all year long seem to bite in November. Some shallow and some deep, so it is kind of a tossup day to day.

There are usually a good number of fish that show up out deep at the mouths of the creeks and on some of the main lake offshore structure. These fish are feeding on shad with the bigger bass feeding on shad and yellow

bass. Carolina rigged Berkley Havoc Bottom Hoppers and Berkley Hollow Belly swimbaits rigged on one ounce jig heads or an A-rig are good choices on the deep fish.

The shallow fish usually are feeding on shad pretty heavy and will follow them just about anywhere they go. The baitfish usually wind up in some of the main lake pockets and the backs of some of the major creeks. The bass will set up in ambush points along the way. Grass lines close to deep water in the area, points, channel bends and tree lines are all good places to fish for fall fishing. On the grass beds try bigger topwaters like the Sebile Slim Stick.

Frog fishing can be awesome this time of year as well so I would go with the Ribbit by Stanley. Speaking of Stanley, it's hard to beat a white Stanley Vibra Shaft spinnerbait this time of year. Chatterbaits with a Berkley Havoc Sub Woofer for a trailer is a big bass killer and for the stumps always flip the Berkley Chigger Craw and they have a new larger 5 inch size for the big bite! Fall fishing is some of the best of the year so come on out to Lake Fork and catch you a trophy bass.

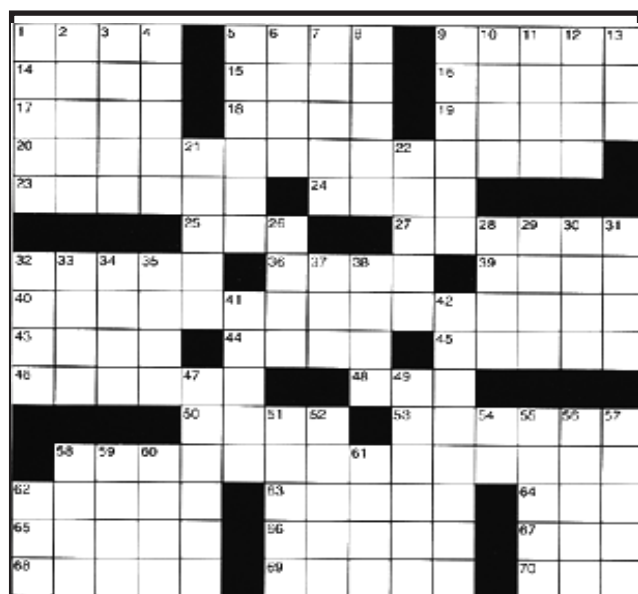
Crappie fishing is awesome here in the fall and winter months. We also offer crappie trips so if you want to go catch a limit of those tasty morsels, give us a ring.



Thank you for reading this article and hopefully it will help you catch more and bigger bass this fall.

If you would like to book a big bass or crappie trip, give us a ring a 903-569-7451 or check us out on the web at [www.lakeforkbassguide.com](http://www.lakeforkbassguide.com) or at [www.tanneroutdoors.com](http://www.tanneroutdoors.com). Click on the trip info page and be sure to check out the cool fishing videos and photo page. Come have a blast with us here on Lake Fork.

Please pray for our country. Also pray for our



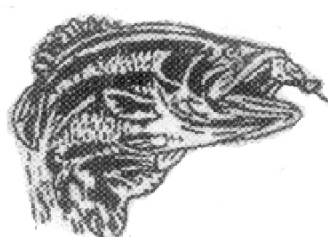
### CLUES ACROSS

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Wood sorrels                        | 40. Vacillates                       |
| 5. The lowest part in polyphonic music | 43. Hair                             |
| 9. Military authority in Turkey        | 44. Mental objects                   |
| 14. Straiten                           | 45. Cedar Rapids and Des Moines      |
| 15. Strain                             | 46. Felt                             |
| 16. Town in Surrey, England            | 48. Vietnamese offensive             |
| 17. Release                            | 50. Chinese dynasty                  |
| 18. Tall evergreen of Japan            | 53. Write                            |
| 19. Fern seed, for one                 | 58. Steamed up                       |
| 20. George Stevens' Oscar winner       | 62. Excessive use of drugs           |
| 23. Places to stay                     | 63. Ocean sunfish                    |
| 24. Sped                               | 64. Separate                         |
| 25. Nucleotide, abbr.                  | 65. One seeded fruit                 |
| 27. Torment                            | 66. Settled down                     |
| 32. Cyprinids                          | 67. A former copper coin of Pakistan |
| 36. Ancient Greek City                 | 68. Mexican Indians                  |
| 39. Italian Island                     | 69. Ball club                        |
|  | 70. Pastries                         |

### CLUES DOWN

- |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Kind of church                     | 33. Wings                             |
| 2. Field (Spanish)                    | 34. Steer                             |
| 3. Inclined                           | 35. Female sheep                      |
| 4. Stalks of moss capsules            | 37. Confined condition, abbr.         |
| 5. Worst                              | 38. Geographic region                 |
| 6. Wild sheep                         | 41. Sven __, Swedish explorer of Asia |
| 7. Gestures                           | 42. Give up                           |
| 8. Speaks, archaic                    | 47. Excites                           |
| 9. Monetary unit of Spain             | 49. Hacienda, for one                 |
| 10. Vipers                            | 51. Promoter                          |
| 11. Cabbage, for one                  | 52. Weight units                      |
| 12. A wading bird                     | 54. Go over                           |
| 13. They __                           | 55. A citizen of Iran                 |
| 21. Station                           | 56. Capital of Switzerland, var.      |
| 22. Russell __, author                | 57. Icelandic poems                   |
| 26. Labourer                          | 58. Maori war dance                   |
| 28. Art __, around 1920               | 59. Be obedient to                    |
| 29. Radiance                          | 60. __ Turner, rock singer            |
| 30. City 3000 B.C.                    | 61. Oil company                       |
| 31. Radioactivity units               | 62. An unskilled actor who overacts   |
| 32. Database management system, abbr. |                                       |

Answers on Page 21-A



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troops and their families as they put it on the line for our freedom everyday. Good fishing and God Bless! Read John 3:16. Got Jesus?

John Tanner is a professional resident fishing guide on Lake Fork. He has been fishing Lake Fork since 1982. John is professionally sponsored by Ranger Boats, Ranger Trail Trailers, Mercury, International Precious Metals, Minn Kota Trolling Motors, Lowrance Electronics, Navionics, Berkley, ABU Garcia, All Star Rods, Tru Tungsten, Hambys Beach Bumpers, Mustad Hooks, Talon Lures, BTS Line and Lure, Diamond Sports Marine and Oakley Sunglasses.

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## The Texas Tackle, Hunting, & Boat Show (Continued from Page 1-A)

ucts and entertainment. We have booked tons of pros and attractions for our 2014 show.

Our Headliner for Sun Jan 12th, 2014 is Fishing Legend Jimmy Houston. Jimmy will be doing a seminar on the seminar stage Sunday at 11a.m. followed by a Meet & Greet from 12p-2p.m.

FISHERMEN, come listen and learn from our great lineup of World's famous Pro fishermen, like Bassmaster's Pros Brent Chapman Fri 6-8p & Sat 10a-2p, Mike Iaconelli Friday TBD, Alton Jones Sat 11a-4pm, 2-time Crappie Tour Champion Todd Huckabee, Cat Fish Legend Danny King, Chuck Justice Trophy Bass Guide, and many more. Check our seminar schedule for full details online at [www.texastackleandhuntingshow.com](http://www.texastackleandhuntingshow.com).

HUNTERS, see legendary archer Frank Addington perform his "Aspirin Buster Archery Show" where Frank will shoot an aspirin out of the air with his bow from behind his back. See the Worlds Outstanding Whitetail Kings Display with some of the largest deer ever recorded. Listen to hunting pro Harry Wood share how to find monster elk and mule deer in the Midwest. Bring your deer mounts or antlers out for Boone & Crockett/Pope & Young official free scoring and display on our Big Buck Wall for your chance at cash prizes by the People's Choice Contest.

FAMILIES, watch Jason Reynolds and his Fetch-n-Fish's High Flyin' Retrievers Dog Show off his Bass Tub. Watch Bob Steele's, Great Bear Show, with his fully trained grizzly bears. Bring the kids to the Army Bass Angler's Kids Fishing Pond where every kid is guaranteed to catch a fish. Listen to Cody Ryan, The Outdoor Zone Austin Radio, will be doing seminars on youth outdoor education. Tons of other fun things for the kids like paintball shooting, mechanical bull riding, and bungee bounces.

See boats like Skeeter, BassCat, Legend, Ranger, Triton, Phoenix, Express, SeaArk, as well

as kayaks, hunting boats, and atv's. Get great deals on Coleman camping and outdoor equipment. Come book guides and outfitters from places around the world. Trade, sell, and get appraisals on antique lures. Purchase guns, knives and ammo, and get great discounts on hunting supplies and apparel.

Friday Night is Kids Night! Jan 10th at 6:00pm kick off kid's night where the first 500 kids will get free products from participating companies. Go on a scavenger hunt and look for the Red Balloons! Kids night tickets will be handed out starting at 6:00pm, so Don't Be Late! Remember to take your kids fishing at the

show. Kids are the future of the great outdoors, so bring them to the show to experience and learn what fishing and hunting is all about.

Saturday is the "Red Balloon" sale. Get the best deals of the whole year through 5 minute red balloon specials from participating vendors. We will have red balloons at specific booth locations for show special sales that will only be found during that time under the red balloons. Come buy all your tackle supplies for the upcoming seasons!

Sunday is our Super Savings Day where every vendor will have even more discounted items in hopes to sell more of their inventory before closing at 5pm. Ask for discounts and don't miss out on all the special prices. Jimmy Houston, our headliner, will be finishing up our show with a meet & greet at 12pm on the seminar stage. SHOWTIMES are: Friday Jan 10th Noon-9pm, Saturday Jan 11th 10am-8pm, Sunday Jan 12th 10am-5pm

If you only go to one show this year, this is it! Don't miss out on all the giveaways, great deals, and family fun. Buy your tickets at the door.

The Texas Tackle, Hunting, & Boat Show is brought to you by Montgomery Productions and EzAngler.com - "Minds shaped by Nature" [www.texastackleandhuntingshow.com](http://www.texastackleandhuntingshow.com) or Call (918) 343-4868 or 918-520-9256 for more info or email us at [montgomeryproductions@yahoo.com](mailto:montgomeryproductions@yahoo.com).

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# "The Moon Report"

## NOVEMBER IS "SUPER SLAB" MONTH

By Terri Moon

It's here - November - probably my very favorite month to fish! The crappie start their fall migration up the creeks, and just like in the spring, the first fish coming through is generally the biggest.

The falling water temperatures will trigger the fall feeding frenzy. They will be following the baitfish so keep a close eye on that depth finder and watch for balls of shad. A really good graph will show you if the fish are following these shad and at what depth they are moving through. This will take a lot of the "guess work" out of how deep you need to be fishing. Just because you caught crappie at 20 ft. yesterday doesn't mean they will bite at that depth today. These depths will even change throughout the day. So, it's necessary to keep checking your graph for any changes in depths of these active fish. I sure appreciate my Lowrance HDS units. They are my number 'one' piece of equipment for targeting crappie - especially this time of year!

Another reason these



fish can be at different depths in different areas of the lake is because of the lake "turning over." This process will work its way around the lake. So, if you are fishing in an area that's not producing fish and you notice a lot of brown foamy bubbles on the surface, you're probably in an area where this is taking place. It's best to just go try another area with clearer water and better oxygen levels.

The baits that have been working for us have been Lake Fork Tackle's 'Live Baby Shad' in 'Electric Chicken' or blue & pearl or Bobby Garland's 'Black Gum' (black & pink) or chartreuse - also, Bob Young's 'Ghost' (grey w/blue) or 'Slick Willie' (chartreuse w/blue tail.)

For the rest of your crappie fishing needs, check with Lake Fork Marina. They have got a great assortment plus

some great "holiday gifts" available for the fisherman in your family. Probably the coolest "holiday gift" available at Lake Fork Marina this year has to be the new "Easy Step System." Oh my goodness - has this ever been a lifesaver for me and my customers. With the drastically low lake levels this year, we no longer have boat slip availability - so needless to say - loading people in and out of the boat has been a major issue - until now!! This is a ladder with a hand rail that attaches to the front of your boat trailer. So, no more crawling in and out of the boat - "PRICELESS"!! For more info on these call Ken or Dana Donahue at Lake Fork Marina @ 903-765-2764. It's always a bonus to come across something that makes life easier! So, in my opinion, this has to be the best "holiday gift" idea available this year!

I hope you all get the chance to get out and enjoy Fork's great fall fishing. Also, be extra careful with the low lake levels. My best to you all!





## Alien Plant in Lake Quitman

In recent weeks, the Inland Fisheries Division of Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) discovered a resurgence of the non-native aquatic plant water hyacinth at Lake Quitman. This plant is a free-floating (non-rooted) aquatic plant native to South America. It was originally introduced into North America in the late 1800s and has been widely spread around the country through the water garden and aquarium trade, and by boaters. The plant is popular with water garden enthusiasts primarily due to its attractive lavender or pink flower; however, water hyacinth is a prohibited plant in Texas and is illegal to sell or possess.

Water hyacinth, along with other non-native plants like giant salvinia and water lettuce, provide virtually no benefit to fish or the aquatic environment. The plants reproduce rapidly and can quickly cover large portions of a lake's surface, blocking access for boaters, reducing dissolved oxygen available for fish and other aquatic organisms and generally impairing water quality. Of course, not all aquatic plants are bad. In fact, Inland Fisheries staff conducted plantings of a native species called water willow at Lake Quitman during the summer to try and increase beneficial habitat for fish in

the lake and give anglers more areas to target fish. Water hyacinth was first discovered in Lake Quitman in fall of 2001 and has been managed through cooperative efforts by Wood County, local angling organizations and TPWD. The plants have primarily been controlled by manual removal and herbicide applications. As a result of treatment efforts and drought, the species has not been observed in recent years during routine fisheries habitat surveys by TPWD Inland Fisheries staff. However, recent rains created heavy flows in the creek, allowing hyacinth to be dispersed around the western portion of the lake. The plant is difficult to control due to its high rate of reproduction and the persistence of seed banks in the sediment. The seeds of water hyacinth have been known to remain viable for over a quarter century, so it is necessary to monitor lakes for new growth from year to year.

The plants were observed by Inland Fisheries staff during routine sampling of the fish populations at Lake Quitman conducted in October. Following discovery of the plants, TPWD staff manually removed plants in the western portion of the reservoir and deployed a containment boom in Brushy Creek to attempt to

prevent dispersal of plants around the lake before a herbicide treatment can be done. Unfortunately, there was too much water hyacinth in the creek for it to be practical to remove it manually. A herbicide treatment proposal has been prepared to treat the remaining plants in the lake, and the treatment will likely be conducted in November. Water hyacinth will probably require continued treatment efforts through the spring of 2014 followed by periodic monitoring.

Fisheries surveys at Lake Quitman continue to show that the lake contains a quality fishery for largemouth bass, crappie, channel catfish and a diverse sunfish community. Water hyacinth poses a threat to maintaining these important fisheries, and TPWD biologists want to control the spread of this aquatic nuisance. Aquatic recreation is very important to the local economy. In a 2010 spring survey at Lake Quitman, TPWD estimated that anglers spent approximately \$18,000 in association with their fishing activities on the lake in just a three-month period.

Water hyacinth has also been present in Lake Fork since 1993. Its distribution is monitored annually, and cooperative treatment efforts by the Sabine River Authority and TPWD are conducted as needed to control the spread of the plants.



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Texas Game Wardens Organize First-Ever K9 Unit

For the first time in their history, Texas Game Wardens have a full-time, statewide canine team. The first five canine handlers and dogs have graduated from an intense eight-week training program located at the world famous Utah POST canine facility in Salt Lake City. The second wave of canine handlers and dogs will attend the course in January 2014. "The K9 program has been a long time coming, and we are extremely proud of our handlers for their hard work - an effort which resulted in a 100 percent pass rate," said Grahame Jones, Chief of Special Operations for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Law Enforcement Division. "In addition to excellent support from the department and the Parks and Wildlife Commission, we would like to thank the Travis County Sheriff's Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation for assisting during the planning phase." Funding for the purchase of dogs and travel to and from Utah was provided by the TPWF Foundation through a private donor. Utah

Post provided the training at no cost with the exception of a minimal administrative fee, an amount also paid for by the private donor. Depending on geographical location, the dogs will be used for various functions including detection of illegally taken or smuggled game and fish, search and rescue, cadaver search, and narcotics enforcement. "Most of the dogs will have dual functions such as wildlife detection and search and rescue," said Game Warden Capt. Kevin Davis, who oversees the canine program. "I am gratified to assist Texas Game Wardens in their efforts to diminish the trafficking of contraband in their communities," said Sgt. Wendell Nope, Utah Post K9 Training Director. "I look forward to working with TPWD in the near future to further enhance the abilities of the canines and handlers in search and rescue situations." "We cannot thank Utah Post enough for their partnership and professionalism," said Col. Craig Hunter, LE Division Director. "The department is extremely excited to see the Texas Game Warden K9 team become a reality." Check out a video news release about the new K9 unit on YouTube.

Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Applauds Texas Game Wardens for BWI Enforcement

Recently in Austin, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) honored the local law enforcement community for its work in enforcement of Texas' intoxication laws. Texas Game Warden Theron Oatman received the Commitment Hero Award and Game Warden Capt. Scott Jurk received the Diamond Hero Leadership Award for their efforts in enforcing Boating While Intoxicated (BWI) and Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) laws on Lake Travis and Lake Austin. "Boating While Intoxicated is a serious prob-

lem all across Texas, the leading contributing factor in boating fatalities and accidents," said Grahame Jones, Chief of Special Operations with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's law enforcement division. "We are proud that MADD has recognized Warden Oatman and Capt. Jurk for their dedicated work in the Highland Lakes area, and we would note that their efforts represent what game wardens do every day on lakes, rivers and bays all

(See Mothers Against... Continued on Page 21-A)



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## 13 STEPS TO CATCHING A 13-POUND BASS

By Larry Hodge

Every year Toyota ShareLunker program coordinator Juan Martinez talks to anglers still excited and shaking from the experience of landing a 13-pound or bigger largemouth bass, and every year almost all the stories are the same: The person never expected to catch a bass that size and was unprepared to deal with it.

Take a hint from the Boy Scouts: Be Pre-

pared. Follow these 13 steps to catching a 13-pound bass and you will be ready. 1. Program the Toyota ShareLunker numbers into your cell phone NOW. Voice: (903) 681-0550. Pager: (888) 784-0600. Both are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during the season, which runs October 1 through April 30. Be sure to include your area code if leaving a message. (And by the

way: There is no need to call either number in the middle of the night just to see if they are working. They are.) 2. Check your tackle and respool with fresh line, preferably braided. Big bass tend to hang out in the nastiest cover they can find and are quick to wrap your line around a tree. Chances are you are going to have to pull them out by brute strength.

(See 13 Steps....

Continued on Page 20-A)



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3-time All Star second baseman Ian Kinsler of the Texas Rangers who fished with Lake Fork guide Tom Redington on October 14. He's new to bass fishing, but a quick study. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo Tom Redington Guide Service)



"Hooked on Jesus will always put a smile on your face!" But, when your hooking up big crappie with Lake Fork Crappie Guide Brad Williams, you even have a happier smile! (Courtesy Photo Brad Williams Guide Service)

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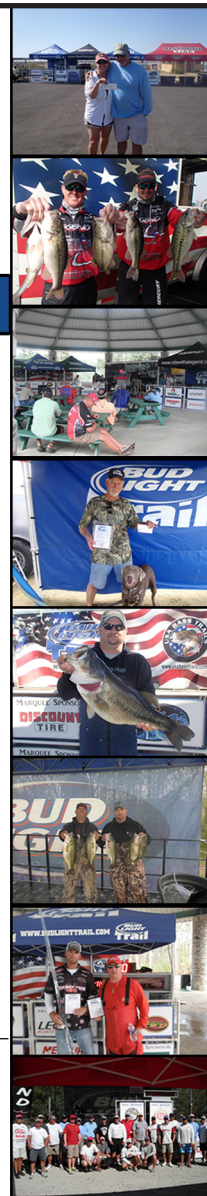
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4th:	\$500	\$600	\$675	\$700
5th:	\$350	\$500	\$500	\$500
6th:	\$250	\$300	\$350	\$450
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## Lake Fork Sportsman's Association to Host Dallas Water Utilities Informational Meeting

By Dick Walker,  
Secretary LFSA

On Tuesday, November 12, 2013, the Lake Fork Sportsman's Association will host a presentation by the Dallas Water Utilities regarding its plans for pumping water from Lake Fork. Dallas is ready to

pump, but says it understands Fork's importance.

Dallas has invested more than \$200 million to build the infrastructure to move Lake Fork water to Dallas. They have the right to a large percentage of the water at Lake Fork, which was impounded on the Sabine

River in 1980. The remaining water belongs to the Sabine River Authority, which sells its share to other municipalities.

Up to this time Dallas has managed to provide its citizens with adequate water without tapping into the Lake Fork supply. This is about to change.

To get the facts and dispel any rumors, Mr. Ken DelRegno, Assistant Director of Water Production, Dallas Water Utilities, will make a brief presentation. Following his presentation Mr. DelRegno will take questions from the floor.

The LFSA would like to invite interested members of the community to attend this meeting. The meeting will be held at the Emory City Centre located on Highway 19. The doors will open at 6:00 PM, with the presentation beginning at 7:00 PM. Although this is a Lake

Fork Sportsman's Association free public service forum, attendees are asked to bring a donation of non-perishable canned goods or unused toys to assist with the LFSA Christmas Sharing Program. Cookies, soft drinks and coffee will be sold at the event.

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Jeff Erb was fishing Lake Fork with guide John Morris when he caught this nice 6.9-pound bass. Good Catch! Great to see our youth on the lakes. C.P.R. (Courtesy Photo J & M Guide Service)



Becky Marler from Shreveport, LA., caught this Lake Fork flathead weighing 29-lbs. Bass Pro Crappie Maxx Ultralight rod, Bass Pro bait cast reel, 17 lb test line, and 2/0 hook. Released to the Grease.



Ken Gilbreath from Mineola was Bassin' With Bubba in a TTB tournament on October 27th when he caught this nice Lake Fork bass. C.P.R. (Fisherman's Guide Photo by Don Bubba Hampton)

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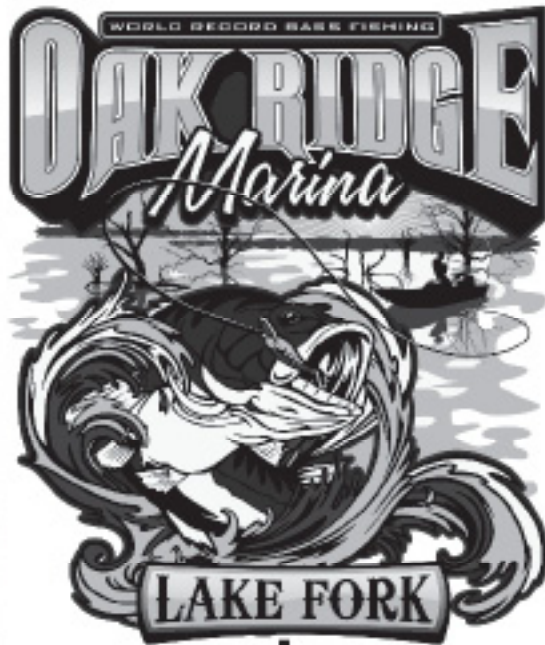
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## "Pack of Knowledge" Isolated Cover: When Less Is More

By Tom Redington

As a kid growing up on the farm, I was often dispatched by my father to round up cattle. Some of our pastures were solid forests running along the river and it could take over an hour just to locate the herd. Other pastures had just a couple of lone trees and a single watering hole. In this case, the cows could be found predictably hanging out in the shade under a single tree or getting a drink. Finding bass is often similar. Sure, we all love huge

coves just full of lily pads, hydrilla, or cypress trees. However, the euphoria of finding a treasure trove of fish habitat is quickly overcome by the helpless sense of looking for a needle in a haystack.

Fishing isolated cover can be a great strategy when you're catching a lot of fish and also when you're struggling. On days when the bite is good, isolated pieces of cover often produce a big kicker to anchor your limit, or might have a number of good fish to provide considerable upgrades. On the other hand, if you're struggling to catch anything on a tough day, scrapping your plans and just hitting any random piece of isolated cover you locate is often a good backup plan to fashion a limit.

So what exactly do I mean by "isolated cover?" As opposed to "structure" which is a change in the bottom contour (e.g. humps, creek channels, points), "cover" is anything in the water that provides shelter for smaller fish or an ambush spot for predators. Classic examples of cover are laydown trees, submerged weeds, brushpiles, docks, and stumps. What I'm specifically looking for is "isolated cover," so instead of a cove full of docks or trees, I scout for an area with a single dock or a shoreline with just one laydown in the water. With weeds, it might be a small clump of lily pads in a bay that's otherwise covered with hydrilla, or a small patch of milfoil that

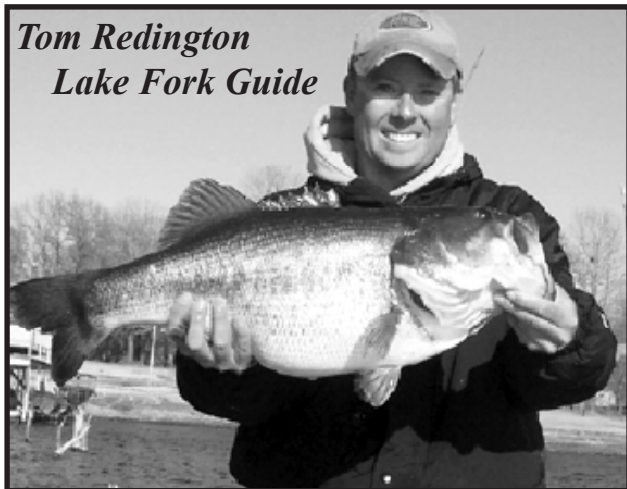
is separated from all the rest of the underwater grass in the creek and is slightly deeper. Basically, you're looking for oddities and anomalies.

Whereas bass are often randomly spread out in areas with lots of cover, they will frequently group up on isolated cover. If I'm going down a shore with 30 boat docks, I'll make a few quick casts to each one and keep moving. However, if another bank only has one dock on it, odds are good that if I find one bass on it, there are multiple fish there. In general, the less cover options fish have in an area, the more concentrated they'll be on the few pieces of cover there. This is also important to keep in mind if you plant brushpiles. In a cove or area with no docks, laydowns, trees, or weeds, your brushpile becomes about the only game in town and will likely be a bass magnet. Drop it in the middle of a big weed patch or stump flat and you're often just adding to the haystack in which the needle (bass) resides.

Fishing isolated cover is pretty simple. I start off probing the edges of the cover with a moving bait and try to catch active fish before they know I'm there. Square bill cranks like a Lucky Craft 1.5 trigger a ton of strikes as they deflect off of limbs, posts, or grass in the shallows, or switch to the 1.5DD version of the same bait if

(See Pack of Knowledge...Continued on Page 22-A)

Tom Redington  
Lake Fork Guide



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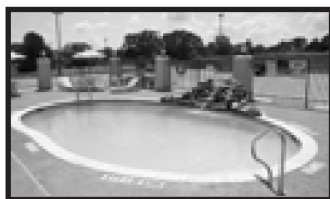
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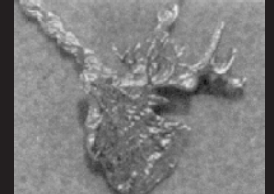
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**13 STEPS TO CATCHING A 13-POUND BASS** (Continued from Page 11-A)

3. If you do not have an oxygenation system installed in your livewell, get one. Instructions on how to do it yourself can be found at <http://www.slideshare.net/ramin-landfish/livewell-oxygen-injection-8773301>. Oxygenation is especially important during warm weather and tour-

naments, when bass may be held for several hours. 4. Don't have a livewell? You can use the information in step 3 to rig a large ice chest. Bass do not respond well to being dragged across a lake on a stringer. Remember that a 13-pound bass will probably be at least 24 inches long.

5. Get a rubber net. These are much kinder to fish than nets with knotted construction. Abrasions make a fish more vulnerable to infections. 6. Get a scale and check its accuracy using a known weight. (A five-pound sack of flour or sugar and a gallon of water in a plastic gro-

cery bag should weigh about 13.5 pounds.) This can save much time and frustration trying to find a place to weigh a fish. 7. Review the procedure for handling and caring for big bass at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/sharelunker/handle/>. 8. Know the locations of official ShareLunker weigh and holding stations (<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/sharelunker/holding/>). These places have certified scales for weighing your fish, a specially equipped tank for holding it, and personnel who have been trained by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department fisheries biologists on how to care for big bass. Taking your fish to one of these stations, if one is nearby, is

perhaps the single most important thing you can do to insure its survival. 9. Expect to catch a lunker. Many lunkers are caught by people who just went fishing and did not expect to hook a trophy bass, and they didn't have a net, or didn't fill their livewell, or didn't have a scale or know where to take a fish to have it weighed. Any time you fish in Texas, you have a chance to catch a 13-pound or bigger bass. Act like a Boy Scout. Expect the unexpected. 10. Buy a fishing license and know the regulations for the body of water you fish. Some big bass have not been accepted into the ShareLunker program because they were not legally caught. The first thing the TPWD employee does when picking up a fish is check the condi-

tion of the fish. The second is to ask to see your fishing license. Have one. 11. It's best to use a rubber net to land a fish, but if you must lip it, take care not to suspend the fish's weight from its jaw. This can break the jaw and make it impossible for the fish to feed. Grip the fish's mouth firmly with one hand and its tail with the other, and handle it as little as possible to avoid damaging its protective slime coat. 12. Treat the fish with respect after catching it. Quickly take photos of yourself with the fish, and then leave it alone. Don't let others handle the fish and have their picture taken with it. It's your fish. You want it to live to go back into the lake. The process starts with you.

13. Go fishing.



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## Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Applauds Texas Game Wardens

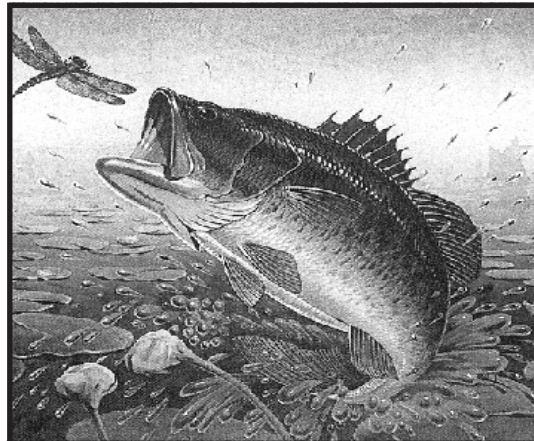
(Continued from Page 10-A)

over our state." Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Law Enforcement Division was also honored during the ceremony as one of five agencies to receive the DWI Enforcement

Agency Award. "This award truly embodies the spirit of each Game Warden across the state through their dedicated services and efforts to stop drunk driving and drunk boating every day across

this great state", said Cody Jones, Asst. Commander and Boating Law Administrator with TPWD's law enforcement division.

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A	K	E	N	E		A	L	I	T		A	N	N	A
M	A	Y	A	S		N	I	N	E		P	I	E	S

### English Class Word Find

See how many words relating to English grammar you can find and circle throughout the puzzle below.

ADJECTIVE  
APOSTROPHE  
ENGLISH  
GRAMMAR

NOUN  
OBJECT  
PERIOD  
PREDICATE

PUNCTUATION  
SENTENCE  
SUBJECT  
VERB

D S E N T E N C E H T N  
P A P O S T R O P H E A  
R S S N C W G A B T R N  
E A S W N O U N O F K S  
D R B A S G R A M M A R  
I E R A D J E C T I V E  
C P U N C T U A T I O N  
A S K O F E N G L I S H  
T P E R I O D D N R L A  
E U O E A O E C Y T T I  
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## Pack of Knowledge (Continued from Page 18-A)

the isolated cover is in 4' - 9'. If the bass are feeding up on shad more than chasing near the bottom, a 3/8 oz bladed jig with a Live Magic Shad trailer tends to catch big fish that have become conditioned to so many spinnerbaits over the years. If it's 8' deep or less, I drop my Power Poles and make repeated casts from a distance.

After I'm convinced I've caught all the chasers, I'll quietly drift in a bit closer and drop my Poles again, staying back as far as I can while still presenting a roll cast with very little splash.

Jigs will certainly catch fish from these spots, but Texas rigged creature baits are more weedless, with less risk of ruining the spot by snagging. For bigger bass and on active days, a 3/8 oz bullet weight with a Lake Fork Craw Tube is my favorite to fling around. If the fish are smaller or the bite is tough, I'll drop down to a smaller Texas rigged Baby Fork Creature or Hyper Stick with a 1/8 to 1/4 oz bullet weight and slowly probe every square inch of their hideout.

Again, I can't emphasize enough how fish tend

to stack up on isolated cover and you can regularly catch multiple good fish from one little spot if you stay away and keep quiet. Long, accurate casts to key areas of the cover without snagging are the key to maximizing your catch. Roll casts with long rods allow the splashless entry of a pitch, yet from a much farther distance, especially with long rods. I've found the Dobyns 7'3" lineup of Savvy or

Champion rods to be perfect for moving baits like cranks and chatterbaits, while their ultrasensitive 7'4" Extreme models precisely cast Texas rigs and still deliver great feel from long distances.

In fishing, less is often more. Try some isolated cover on your next trip and you might just find a herd of lunkers hanging out there. For more fish catching tips, check out my website [www.LakeForkGuideTrips.com](http://www.LakeForkGuideTrips.com), or follow me at [www.facebook.com/tomredington-fishing](http://www.facebook.com/tomredington-fishing) and [www.twitter.com/Tom\\_Redington](http://www.twitter.com/Tom_Redington).

Tom Redington is a FLW Tour pro, host of TV's "Big Bass Battle" & a bass guide on Lake Fork. To make the most of your experience in the outdoors, he recommends the Boy Scouts of America, Lake Fork Trophy Lures, Dobyns Rods, Ranger Boats, Mercury Outboards, Diamond Sports Marine, Lucky Craft, Costa Sunglasses, Lowrance, & Power Poles.



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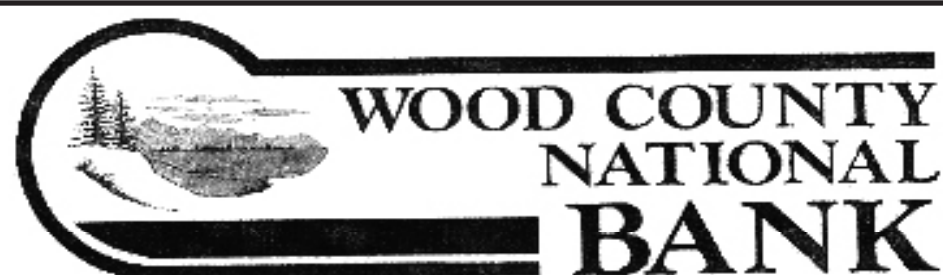
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No matter what anyone says, it's impossible to drink like a fish. Fish don't drink. When they take in water, it passes through their gills so they can extract oxygen.

One's friends are that part of the human race with which one can be human.  
—George Santayana

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**AFFORDABLE LAKE FORK WATERFRONT HOME** has great lake views from screened porch that spans across the back of home. Features include large living room with wood burning stove, Berber carpet, triple pane windows and large bedrooms. Property has fruit trees and lots of mature shade trees. It also has 2 workshops to store all equipment. Public boat ramp across the road at Rainswood Marina. \$154,900.



**BEAUTIFUL SETTING** on 2.72 acres, This 3BR 2BA, with 2360 sf of living space has 2 living areas, separate office, large utility room, open kitchen, dining and living area, wood burning fireplace, plus a large sunroom to take advantage of the gorgeous treed property. Also there is a shop/storage building. Near Lake Fork, this property gives you the opportunity to live within 2 miles of a public boat ramp and fishing, but not have to pay the waterfront price. \$149,000.



**NEW HOME ON 5.1 ACRES.** Barely lived in for 6 months. Beautiful custom work, approximately 12 ft. ceilings in living & dining. Formal dining area has wood floors, living area has tile with stone fireplace. Open kitchen/living area with breakfast bar and breakfast room. Kitchen has granite counters, tile backsplash, beautiful cabinetry, stainless appliances. Large master bedroom with laminate wood floors, tray ceiling. Master bath has double lavatories, separate tub and shower, large walk-in closet. On opposite of home are 2 bedrooms with laminate floors, separated by bath. 2-car garage and sprinkler system. Sitting on 5.1 acres, there is room for a small man-made pond. Property is on a county-maintained road. A nice, new place in the country. \$224,000



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