

LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital of Texas"



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

2 Sections

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Free

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No. 194



Bubba Sadler from Gladewater, Texas won 1st Place in the 29th Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash with this 9.48-pound bass.



Stephen Fatheree from Alba, Texas won 2nd Place in the 29th Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash with this 8.84-pound bass.



By Don Hampton

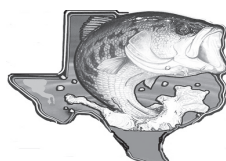
For you anglers that are not only big fans of fishing Lake Fork but also love doing it with Berkley and Sebile baits, here is the time you have been

waiting for. The 10th Annual Berkley Big Bass Tournament on Lake Fork hosted by Bass Champs October 17th and 18th will be at Lake Fork Marina just off Highway 17N. Registration times

will be Friday October 16th from 12 to 8 P.M. and on October 17th and 18th from 4:30 A.M. to 7 A.M. at tournament headquarters. Entry fee for one (See Berkley Big Bass Continued on Page 7-A)



James Williams from Jonesboro, Louisiana won 3rd Place in the 29th Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash with this 8.76-pound bass. (See Story on Page 4-A)



**Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork
Open Bass Tournament Oct. 24th
Oak Ridge Marina See Entry on 7-B**

"If That's Your Fishing Hole, Where's Your Mailbox?"

By: Don Hampton

"Back by Special Requests"

When Bubba speaks of owning something, you can bet it is definitely his stuff. He is also very possessive over his stuff! Everyone knows Bubba needs stuff especially Bubbette and when he gets out of hand getting stuff, she puts him straight again. What Bubba truly cannot understand is people laying claim to something that can't possibly be theirs.

When it comes to fishing in public waters he is under the impression that those waters actually belong to the State of Texas. He also holds dear the belief that anyone that purchases a fishing license and abides by the laws can fish those waters anytime and anywhere they so desire. After all this is Texas and Bubba even has a bumper sticker that reads, "MADE IN TEXAS BY TEXANS". So, what Bubba would really like to know is if there has been a new "Homestead Act" put in effect that he has not heard of that allows anglers to claim portions of water. If so, he is going to be out of luck because Bubbette won't let him get anymore stuff!

If there has not been a new "Homestead Act" implemented why are so many anglers claiming waters? It seems more and more that Bubba is hearing, "That's my fishing hole, you can't go there!" Some anglers will say this in a sportsmanship jest, but then again you hear some say it with meaning. Bubba has the tendency to

laugh with the sportsmen and laugh at the others.

Bubba had a long extensive conversation with one of the latter the other day on Lake Fork. Bubba was out fishing one of his favorite spots, (it's even called "Community Hump"), when he was made to feel like he'd eaten someone else's fried chicken at a family reunion. Well, Bubba doesn't stay in a hurt mood for too long at a time and soon put the chicken bones on another plate. He apologized for trespassing and not spotting the individual's mailbox when he pulled in with his boat. Bubba didn't let it stop there though! This boy has seen an Enquirer and has an inquiring mind.

The next thing Bubba wanted to know was if he had pulled in the driveway or ran over his lawn because his trolling motor did tear up some lily pads and he didn't want to be held responsible. Well this gave the other boat something to discuss, but they were soon interrupted by Bubba's next question. "What do property and school taxes run a year on a place like this?" Bubba sincerely asked. "I've been thinking of getting a place like this of my own to retire to but don't know if Bubbette and me can quite afford it! And, seeing you are a guide, is this portion of the lake zoned business or residential and where does your property line end?" Bubba went on to add with all the conviction and sincerity of a Baptist preacher at a hot summer night tent revival. Well the only reply Bubba got referred

to his mother and something about his heritage and then they left. He thought they didn't show very much sportsmanship and they weren't very sociable either because they wouldn't even accept his invitation over.

Bubba being the type of person he is didn't wish to trespass on this individual's property anymore. To make sure of this he followed them all day to see if he had any other property on the lake with maybe a mailbox in front of it. Bubba did not locate one at any of the places they went to and fished. He did of course mark the spots on his GPS and gave them to all his friends so they would know these spots did not belong to anyone and they would not be trespassing if they fished there. Bubba is just that kind of guy!

Another drawback on individuals that claim fishing holes as their own is that now you have Bubba thinking! If the fish school there, shouldn't you pay school taxes? If you plant a cedar tree there, isn't that an improvement and property value would increase thus increasing your property taxes?

So, when you are out on the lake, if you are one of those that seriously claims a fishing hole as your own, Bubba just might call the tax assessor on you!

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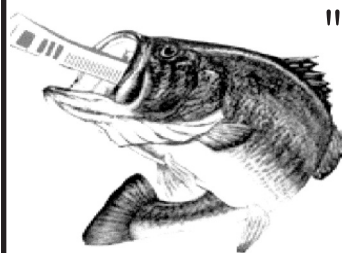
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2015 Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash on Lake Fork

By: Don Hampton

It was an exciting weekend on Lake Fork for 2,440 anglers that came to this great reservoir to fish the 29th Annual Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash Tournament held September 18, 19, and 20. Anglers could not have asked for better weather with a slight breeze and lower temperatures. Lake Fork did not produce the number of trophy bass it is known for, but as we all know, that is why it is called fishing and not catching.

Anglers did report catching good numbers and large bass that did not quite touch the 24" mark or went over the lower end of the slot of 16". There were a couple of anglers that visited with our game wardens that

said they did not know there was a 16" to 24" slot on Lake Fork. These anglers were given a written explanation of the state law and educated at their own cost. As all anglers know, whether fishing a tournament or just for recreation, all rules and state laws should be learned and adhered to before the first cast. KMOO radio station announced in almost every broadcast of the hourly updates the slot on Lake Fork and that all anglers should measure their catches before coming to the scales. Tonya and Kimberly of KMOO 99.9 FM Radio did an excellent job on informing anglers of the hourly updated weights and the rules and regulations of Lake Fork.

Over the course of the three day tournament there were 818 bass weighed in for a total weight of 1,510.56-pounds. With fifteen places being paid per hour and added bonus card hours and T-Shirt hours many anglers were not only satisfied with a great

weekend of fishing but with a lot of extra cash in their pockets.

Through the course of the tournament, Lake Fork and anglers only produced eleven bass over the 24" slot. This made many of the anglers that brought 2-pound average of bass to the scales happy increasing their pay. There were two over brought to the scales on Friday, seven on Saturday, and two on Sunday.

(Continued on Next Page)



Top 5 Grand Prize Winners in the 2015 Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash on Lake Fork.



Winners in the Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash Kid's Divisions.



Jayna Nance, representing St. Jude's Children's Hospital was presented a \$10,000 donation from Sealy Outdoors.



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Bubba Sadler from Gladewater, Texas brought the heaviest bass of the tournament to the scales weighing 9.48-pounds. Bubba weighed his winning fish on Saturday in the 8 to 9 o'clock hour. For his catch he won a 2015 Triton 20TRX powered by Mercury, 2015 Ram Truck plus \$7,000 in cash, plus \$2,000 for the bonus hour.

Weighing in the second heaviest bass of the tournament with a weight of 8.84-pounds was Stephen Fatheree from Alba, Texas. Stephen weighed his bass

in during the 9 to 10 o'clock hour on Saturday. For his catch he won a 2015 Triton 19TRX powered by Mercury, 2015 Ram Truck plus \$2,000 in cash plus \$1,000 for the hourly. Our office and Sealy Outdoors office has had numerous calls of protest in regards to Stephen being a guide on Lake Fork and not eligible to fish the tournament. True, Stephen is a guide on Lake Fork, but they need to read the rules. The rules clearly state any guide on the lake that has had a compensated guide trip within 90 days is ineligible to compete in the tournament. Mr. Fatheree had not taken a guide trip beyond that time making him as eligible as any other angler in the tournament as was proven in the polygraph test that he passed.

The third heaviest bass of the tournament to come to the scales weighed 8.76-pounds. This bass was caught by James Williams from Jonesboro, Louisiana and weighed in during the 7 to 8 o'clock hour on Saturday. For his catch he won a 2015 Triton 18TRX powered by Mercury, plus \$1,000 in cash, plus \$1,000 for the hourly.

The fourth heaviest bass of the tournament was weighed in on Sunday during the 7 to 8 o'clock hour. This winner was caught by Donald Beleck, III from Laurel, Mississippi and weighed 8.51-pounds. For his catch he won \$8,000 plus \$1,000 for the hourly.

Scott Davis from Bossier City, Louisiana weighed in the fifth heaviest bass of the tournament winning him \$6,000 in cash, plus \$1,000 for the hourly. Scott weighed in his 8.05-pound bass during the 11 to 12

o'clock hour on Friday.

Tony Climer from Mesquite, Texas caught the heaviest bass under the slot winning him not only \$900 in the hour, but the bonus cash for his bass of \$2,500.

As in all of Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Tournaments, all the cash and prizes are guaranteed. The exact weights of 2.50-pounds were not brought to the scales during the course of the tournament. In an open drawing of all the entries \$5,000 was awarded to Phillip Hope from Kaufman, Texas, Jeremy Davis from Benton, Arkansas, and Robert Dennison from St Louis, Missouri. In the Elimination Drawing, Clayton Belanger from Orange, Texas won a 2015 Triton 189TRX powered by Mercury.

For the Kidfish finals visit Sealyoutdoors.com for the results.

Anglers can now mark their calendars for the 30th Annual Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash to be held on Lake Fork September 17, 18, 19, 2016. This being Bob's 30th Anniversary, 1st Place in each hour will be \$3,000. This means if you catch one in the bonus T-shirt hour, it will be worth \$6,000. Good luck and we hope to see you on Lake Fork "The Big Bass Capital of Texas".

For more information and the daily hourly weights go to www.sealyoutdoors.com. To learn more about Sealy Outdoors Tournaments and schedules you can contact Nicole Sealy at nicolesealy@sealyoutdoors.com or call 409-382-3876 or 888-698-2591.



Lance Grantham from Tulia, TX., received a replica of his 2014 winning bass in the Sealy Outdoors Big Bass Splash on Lake Fork. I must say I really like his T-shirt.



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October on the Fork

"October has arrived and with it, cooler temps and the anticipation of bass feeding up for their winter survival. Currently, autumns first cold fronts have started rolling in and the annual turn over has started. This process happens when the top layers of the water column cool down enough to become heavier than the water layers underneath and the upper mass sinks creating less oxygen in the water and problems for the bass population. This process is very evident when you see brown bubbles floating on the surface across the lake. The occurrence doesn't happen all at once but in stages according to the strength of the cold fronts as they pass.

This phenomenon usually lasts about three weeks and throws bass fishing into a tail spin

especially for the deep fish. During this transition period, you will need to read the conditions and adapt accordingly. Fall will usually issue in more cloudy days and as the water temps decline, fish will migrate to the shallows in search of food and suitable water conditions thus opening the door to easier catches on moving baits. The sixty-four dollar question is "where do we start"? The answer to that question is wrapped up in the fall bass habits. Creeks will be your starting place and finding the shad will lead you to some of the best bass fishing of the year.

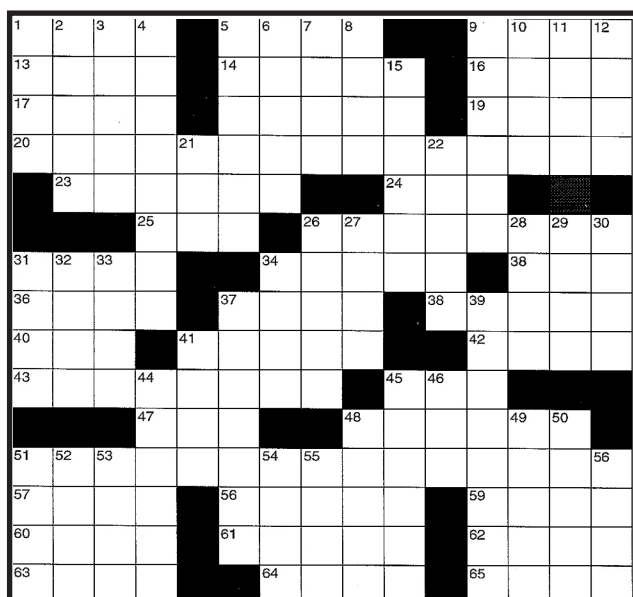
Gear up with a top water for the early bites and focus on any vegetation that you can find such as milfoil, lily pads or alligator grass. Zara Spooks are my all time favorite and will draw strikes from the largest bass around. Buzzbaits, Yellow Magic's and frogs are also excellent choices and truly have a place on the deck of the boat. Once that bite tapers off, I will switch to a Texas rig worm of any sort and work the same areas until noon. If the vegetation is more sparse, use a 1/8th ounce tungsten weight with a 3/0 hook and rig it with your favorite worm. Trick worms, curl tails or speed worms all work great. For thicker grass, move up to a 5/16 ounce weight so that it will get down to where the monsters live. As for worm colors, stick to



dark hues on cloudy days and more translucent shades on sunny days. If the water has pitiful clarity, go with the darker colors. If the wind is howling, head to the windiest bank and throw a Talon spinner bait. If the water is on the clear side, use the willow blades. Murky water will call for the Colorado blades.

After lunch, start looking deep for bait and you will find bass that just flat live there year round. The electronics are key to this success and once you locate a sizeable wad of fish, pitch out a marker buoy and go to work. You can start with a Carolina rig using any big worm to fool the bass. Blue fleck, watermelon red and plum

(See October on the....
Continued on Page 20-A)



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. An equal exchange | juniper berries |
| 5. Blemish | 41. Trade |
| 9. Workplaces | 42. Record |
| 13. Ebb or rip | 43. Repeats |
| 14. Cleat, naut. | 45. Relative biological effective |
| 16. Incite | ness (abbrev.) |
| 17. Liquor from toddy palms | 47. ___ Lilly, drug company |
| 18. Ridge | 48. Softnesses in music |
| 19. William __, Buffalo Bill | 51. Wishful pursuit |
| 20. Hospital employee | 57. A way to look |
| 23. Leased | 58. Language used in nonliteral |
| 24. Angular unit | sense |
| 25. Emergency workers, abbrev. | 59. Bog down |
| 26. Script | 60. Show off |
| 31. Radioactivity units | 61. Overhang |
| 34. Become drunk | 62. Calendar month |
| 35. Defensive nuclear weapon | 63. Monetary unit of Western |
| 36. Wings | Samoa |
| 37. An open skin infection | 64. Chest (Scandinavian) |
| 38. Sock | 65. Runs down |
| 40. Strong liquor flavored with | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Excel | Asian part of Russia. |
| 2. One who cables | 31. Finger millet |
| 3. Saying | 32. Settled down |
| 4. Toy dog | 33. Hamlet for one |
| 5. Sports equipment | 34. Lonely |
| 6. In a way, wrapped up | 37. Make a pig of oneself |
| 7. Affirm | 39. Tumors |
| 8. Network of nerves | 41. Brine |
| 9. An ornamental sunken panel | 44. Change mind |
| in a dome | 45. Most prevalent |
| 10. Miri | 46. Howl |
| 11. Stratum | 48. Spiritual leaders |
| 12. Eyelid infection | 49. Pen name of Louise de la |
| 15. Ridges | Ramee |
| 21. Type of recall, abbr. | 50. Thong |
| 22. Composition for nine | 51. Cheats |
| 26. Infections | 52. Giant |
| 27. Pool sticks | 53. Mounted soldier |
| 28. Isodor __, American Nobel | 54. Asian nation |
| physicist | 55. Yugoslavian city |
| 29. Wading birds | 56. His and ___ |
| 30. A city that's located in the | |

Answers on Page 21-A

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Berkley Big Bass Tournament (Continued from Page 1-A)

day is \$120 or \$170 for both days.

OFFICIAL 2015 BERKLEY BIG BASS TOURNAMENT RULES

The following rules are for the 2015 Berkley Big Bass Tournament on Lake Fork, October 17th & 18th, 2015.

Special Rules:

- All contestants must use Berkley and/or Sebile baits EXCLUSIVELY during this event. Sebile hard baits are part of the program for 2015.
- Spinner bait frames, jig heads, buzz bait frames, ect may be used only when broken down to terminal tackle where ALL skirts

and plastics have been removed and replaced with ONLY BERKLEY PRODUCTS.

- All terminal tackle must include a "functional" full length Berkley skirt and/or Berkley soft plastic.
- Non-Berkley skirts and soft plastic trailers are NOT permitted.

To protect the integrity of Bass Champs and anglers, all winners will be subject to a polygraph exam before the prizes are distributed at the event. Contestants must pass the polygraph exam at the tournament site to receive prize money and awards for the event. The Tournament Director reserves

the right to waive any violation of these rules that are disclosed to him before the polygraph exam, in his sole and absolute discretion.

1. Rules: Decisions of the Tournament Director are final and are not subject to appeal. Interpretation of these rules will be left exclusively to the Tournament Director in his sole and absolute discretion. Each competitor agrees to report any rule violation to the Tournament Director immediately upon discovery of the violation. The violation of a tournament

*(See Berkley Big Bass....
Continued on Page 11-A)*

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"The Moon Report"

"Ulterra Excitement" and Crappie

By Terri Moon

Unbelievably—I've started a new adventure with the "amazing" MinnKota Ulterra Trolling Motor! It's been a roller coaster of emotions. The excitement of knowing it's on its way – the thrill of it getting here – and actually seeing it being put on the boat – WOW! I've thought about this trolling motor just about every day since the Skeeter Boat Owners Tournament in June where they were demonstrating it. I knew that day, I had to have one! Now because of many "blessings" – it was rigged and ready on my boat!

Those MinnKota guys are "Awesome" – they are definitely the best in the business! A huge "thank you" to Mike Harvey, Keith and Art (all from Louisiana) for all your hard work and attention to detail! It was exciting just to watch you guys do what you do with such enthusiasm for such a GREAT piece of equipment! When they finished the installation and handed me the remote and the quick reference sheet, I headed home on "Cloud Nine"!



Then the reality hit – that I had a trip in the morning and didn't even get a trial run in! Oh Boy!! I have to say we had a couple of "iffy" moments when I realized this unit was smarter than ME! I had the remote in one hand – the quick reference sheet in my lap and my phone in the other hand calling Mike Harvey to talk me through it – (it was all basically "operator error"!)

I realized I had to retrain my foot that was used to the "cable driven" trolling motors. So not to be defeated – I was on the water at daybreak by myself for "Ulterra 101". All I needed was time alone with it. I love-love-love the "anchor" button. I gave it a workout in front of the marina with all the Sealy tournament boat traffic – "PRICELESS"! Now on every trip I make everyone stop what they are doing to watch every deploy and stow! How

could you not love it!

We've been easing up to the brush piles in 16 to 24 ft. of water – deploying the Ulterra – then hit the anchor button and I'm free to get everyone ready to fish without being attached to my trolling motor anymore! The crappie have been hitting anywhere between 8 – 20 ft. depending on the time of day. They had been wanting the bait dead still, but today they wanted it moving over the tops of the brush. So don't be afraid to change up your presentation.

Bobby Garland's Blue Ice Baby Shad and Lake Fork Tackle's Yellow and Pearl or Chartreuse Live Baby Shad have been producing for us.

Cooler weather is on the way and I'm very excited for the fall fishing with my new Ulterra.

Many – many – thanks to ALL involved!

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Dr. Sam Trinca w/granddaughter, Charlotte Knight, Raleigh, N.C. with her bream!



Will Eglin
Baton Rouge, LA.,



Elliott LaBorde, Lake Fork, with buddies 'Dabo' & 'Duck' from LA



Congratulations to Noah Jarrett for his 3-day-1st Place Sweep, in the crappie division of the Sealy Outdoors Tournament!

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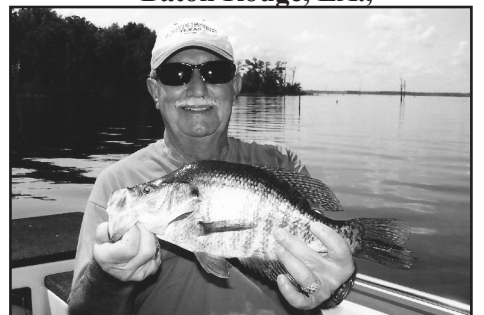
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Dr. Sam Trinca w/granddaughter, Samantha Knight, Raleigh, N.C. and her biggest bass she ever caught!



Kasey Eglin
Baton Rouge, LA.,



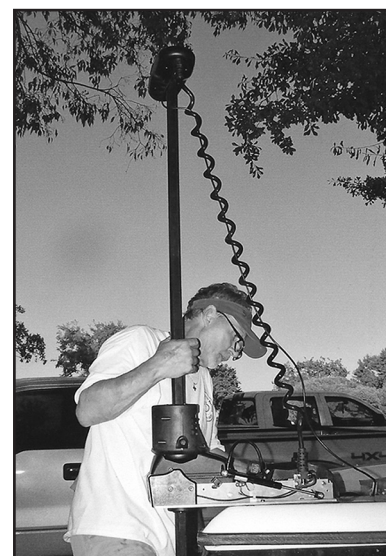
Elliott LaBorde,
Lake Fork, TX.,



John, Chris & Nathan Tatum



Robert Jacobs, Pampa, TX.,
on Shimano 5' Ultralite



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Irving Bass Club Celebrates 75th Semi-Annual Open on Lake Fork

By Jack Ward

The Irving Bass Club celebrates its 75th semi-annual Open Bass Tournament on October

10th, 2015. Thirteen original members from the Dallas Ft. Worth area began meetings and monthly tournaments in January, 1968. The club quickly grew to over 200 members making

it one of the largest bass clubs in Texas. Club members, young and old learn new bass tactics at the monthly meetings from both experienced members and guest speakers. Most of the early members did not have boats, but would either team up with other club members or rent a boat at designated lakes. Early on, the club decided to sponsor two semi-annual open tournaments per year to promote club functions. It donated funds to needy families and to several non-profit outdoor organizations. The highlight of these activities took place in 1989 when the club donated \$9,000.00 to the "ShareLunker" program. Those funds were matched by \$27,000.00 from a federal grant resulting in a total donation to the program of \$36,000.00. In gratitude for the club's efforts, the Texas Fish Hatchery in Athens, Texas hung a plaque at their new facility honoring the Irving Bass Club.

Over the last fifteen years there has been a steady decline of members in most bass clubs, including the Irving Bass Club. The high cost of fishing has led to many changes in most bass club operations. Two day tournaments changed to one day competitive tournaments involving cash payouts. Family bass clubs with RV's, travel trailers and outdoor camping became a thing of the past. However, bass fishing is still one of the most popular sports enjoyed by young and old.

Unlike other clubs, the Irving Bass Club fishes for plaques and boasting rights. Club members enjoy cook-outs, Saturday night get-togethers and two day tournaments. The Irving Bass Club is constantly seeking new members who like to get away for a weekend and fish for fun. If that sounds good to you, come fish with us.

Practice C.P.R.

Fish Friendly



75th SEMI-ANNUAL OPEN CATCH AND RELEASE INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENT ON LAKE FORK

Saturday - October 10, 2015

Lake Fork Marina

903-765-2764

On Highway 17

Visit www.irvingbassclub.org



\$5,000 CASH + DOOR PRIZES
GUARANTEED - BASED ON 200 ENTRIES - HEAVY CATCH - 5 FISH PER ENTRY

FIRST PLACE	\$1,500.00
SECOND PLACE	\$800.00
THIRD PLACE	\$600.00
FOURTH PLACE	\$400.00
FIFTH PLACE	\$300.00

SIXTH PLACE	\$200.00
SEVENTH PLACE	\$190.00
EIGHTH PLACE	\$180.00
NINTH PLACE	\$170.00
TENTH PLACE	\$160.00

One additional place paid for each five entries over 200 to a maximum of 15 places.
There will be an optional BIG BASS POT - \$20.00 per person. **BIG BASS PAYS THREE PLACES**

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Early entry fee is \$45.00 - Late entry fee is \$50.00.
2. Early entries to be postmarked by October 3, 2015.
3. All entry fees must be paid before 6:45 am, Oct. 10, 2015.
4. Check in times: Friday 9:00 - 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm and Saturday 7:00 - 4:00 am to 6:45 am.
5. To qualify, contestant must check in at headquarters before fishing.
6. Fishing hours 6:45 am to 4:30 pm (Official clock at sign in starts) **NO FISHING** from midnight to start time.
7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork ONE. (Trailering allowed)
8. All State, Federal and Local laws must be obeyed or contestant & fish may be disqualified. No slot fish may be brought to weigh-in.
9. No one may have more than five (5) fish in their possession at any time. Only one (1) may be 24" or greater. (See Rule 18 below)
10. Largemouth bass 12 inches to 16 inches or 24 inches or greater in length may be weighed. **NO FISH BETWEEN 16" and 24" WILL BE WEIGHED.** (Or State Law at the time of this tournament)
11. All fish must be caught on an artificial bait by casting. (No trolling with gear engines) Park trailer may be used.
12. Weigh-in starts at 8:30 pm (Official clock at sign-in). You **MUST** be in the weigh-in line by 8:30 pm.
13. All fish must be brought to scales in weigh-in bags. (Bags will be provided)
14. No live or frozen fish will be weighed. Ice may be added **ONLY** to aid in survival of fish.
15. Each contestant will be responsible for weighing his or her own fish. (No pooling of fish). This question will be on the polygraph.
16. Dead fish at weigh-in will be penalized by 1/2 (.50) pound.
17. All fish weighed in become the property of Irving Bass Club & will be released with the exception of trophy or dead fish.
18. In the event of a tie for any position, prize money for that position

- and the following position will be combined and evenly divided between the tying contestants.
19. Contestants cannot have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork during the previous six (6) months prior to this Irving Bass Club tournament.
20. Contestants cannot have fished with a compensated guide on Lake Fork within 14 days prior to fishing this Irving Bass Club Tournament.
21. Use of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES or CONTROLLED DRUGS is prohibited during tournament hours. Prescription drug use should be declared at sign-in. If list is long, it is ok to attach a list.
22. Anyone who has ever been disqualified for cheating or misconduct from any tournament is ineligible to fish.
23. Any contestant who violates any rule may be disqualified. Any act of a competitor, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon Irving Bass Club's effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy and safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future Irving Bass Club Tournaments.
24. Parent or guardian must accompany contestants under age 18.
25. All protests must be registered in writing with the Tournament Director within 75 minutes after designated weigh-in time ends. All decisions of the Tournament Director/Judge will be final in all matters.
26. An elevated live well is recommended to aid in fish survival for live release.
27. Contestants must possess and present their photo I.D. and fishing license at time of polygraph. **POLYGRAPH TESTS WILL BE GIVEN AT RANDOM AND MUST BE PASSED** to be eligible to receive prize money.

For additional information contact: President Jack Ward, cell: 214-914-2852 or e-mail: president@irvingbassclub.org
Tournament Director Roger Beall, cell: 214-543-7216 or e-mail: tournamentdirector@irvingbassclub.org

ENTRY APPLICATION

Entry fee of \$45.00 must accompany this entry blank and be postmarked on or before Oct. 3, 2015 and sent to: Irving Bass Club, P.O. Box 171064, Irving, Texas 75017-1064, or you may pay \$50.00 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. Please print clearly.

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Email _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Prescription Drugs Declared

"Having read and understood the tournament rules, with my signature, I agree to accept all decisions of the tournament judge as final. I further agree that I will be an associate member of the Irving Bass Club and my continued membership shall be confirmed by my presence at the next regular meeting of the Irving Bass Club and the payment of the regular membership fee. With my signature I waive and release all members, officials, and sponsors of all liabilities to me and/or my equipment."

Contestant Signature _____ Social Security # _____
(For 1099 Purposes only)

Minor's Release: Signed By (Parent/Guardian) _____

PHOTOCOPIES OF THIS FORM ARE ACCEPTABLE

I.B.C. Use Only	
Entry # _____	
Live Entry <input type="checkbox"/> Early <input type="checkbox"/>	
Big Bass <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____	
I.B.C. reserves the right to refuse any application	
10/2015	

D.H.

Berkley Big Bass Tournament (Continued from Page 7-A)

rule may result in weight loss, the loss of weight up to a specific time during the tournament day, total loss of weight for that particular day, the ineligibility to participate in future Bass Champs events, or any other penalty deemed appropriate by the Tournament Director in his sole discretion. Protests must be made in writing within 10 minutes of the official closing of the scales at each tournament day.

2. Participation and Eligibility:

Any person entering a Bass Champs Tournament under the age of 18 years must also have the signature of their parent or legal guardian in the provided space on the official entry form.

Bass Champs Tournaments are open to all anglers except professional anglers. A professional angler is defined as:

Any angler that has entered more than one bass tournament that required an entry fee greater than \$2,500 in the immediately preceding six months prior to the date of the Bass Champs Tournament being entered.

Any angler that has guided for Bass (as defined in Rule 14 below) on tournament waters within 30 days of the official event for any method of compensation.

All Contestants must have a valid Texas fishing license.

3. Off-Limit Period: Contestants may not be on Lake Fork Reservoir for the purpose of fishing between: 8:00pm Friday, October 16th, 2015 thru 6:30am Saturday, October 17th, 2015.

8:00pm Saturday, October 17th, 2015 thru 6:30am Sunday, October 18th, 2015.

Fishing Times: Competitors may launch from any ramp on Lake Fork. Fishing will begin at 6:30am on competition days. The official start time will be broadcast by KMOO 99.9 radio. The scales will open the top ½ of every hour beginning at

8:00am. Scales are closed the bottom ½ of each hour. The final weigh-in will begin at 2:00pm and end at 2:30pm each competition day.

5. Registration Times: Each contestant must register in person at Lake Fork Marina during the official registration hours: 12:00pm-8:00pm Friday October 16th or each tournament morning beginning at 4:30am. A completed and signed entry form must be received before the start of competition.

6. Safety: Safe boating must be observed at all times. Each contestant is required to wear a fastened (fully zipped and/or all clips fastened), U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is in operation during official tournament hours. All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device, which must be securely attached to the

driver's body any time the combustion engine is in operation. The driver must be seated in the driver's seat anytime the combustion engine is engaged in gear. Tournament day may be shortened or canceled due to unsafe weather or any conditions that would endanger the safety of the competitors at the Tournament Director's sole and absolute discretion. Competitors are allowed to leave the boat and seek shelter in bad weather, at which time no fishing may occur.

7. Permitted Fishing Methods: Only artificial lures may be used. Only one fishing rod per angler may be used at any one time. Additional rods may be in the boat and ready for use; however, each cast and retrieve must be completed before another cast is attempted or rod is used. Trolling with the combustion engine as a method of fish-

(See Berkley Big Bass.... Continued on Page 14-A)



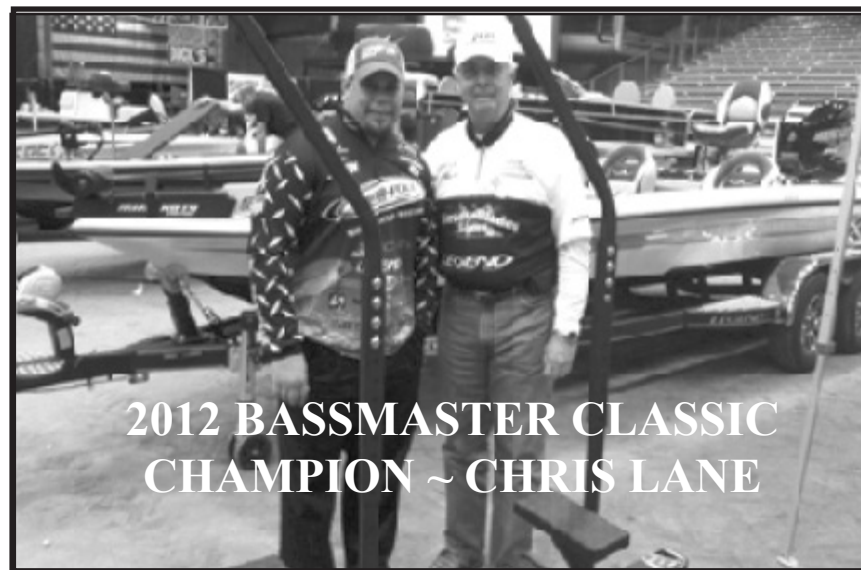
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Four (4) Legend Bass Boats, Powered by Mercury, MotorGuide, Lowrance Electronics. To Be Awarded For: 2 for the 2 Heaviest Bass Over The Slot, 1 for Heaviest Bass Under The Slot, 1 for Draw Boat (Early Entries ONLY and must be present to win.)

8 PLACES PAID HOURLY 1ST — \$500 • 2ND — \$400 • 3RD — \$300 • 4TH — \$200
• 5TH — \$175 • 6TH — \$150 • 7TH — \$125 • 1ST OUT OF 7TH \$100 GC

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All Tournament Contestants can
Purchase Temple Fork Outfitters Rods \$178 Retail ~ \$50 Each (Assortment of Sizes)

Early Entry Incentive: Only Early Entries Qualify for Drawing To Win a 2016 Legend Boat, Powered by Mercury, MotorGuide, & Lowrance Electronics. To Qualify for Drawing, Entries must be received on or before April 30, 2016. "Legend Advantage Members Win Double Hourly Cash Awards"



Berkley Big Bass Tournament (Continued from Page 11-A)

ing is prohibited. All bass must be caught alive, in a conventional, sporting manner. All angling must be conducted from the boat. At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish, or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. Bank fishing is not permissible.

8. Sportsmanship and Conduct: All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Examples of conduct not complying with those

standards include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or any mind-altering substance during tournament hours extending through the weigh-in procedure;
- Any previous conviction, charge, arrest, or investigation for a felony, a crime involving moral turpitude, or a crime related to, arising out of, or involving any fishing tournament or event, except

with full, prior written disclosure to the Tournament Director under oath and by affidavit of all facts and circumstances surrounding such conviction, charge, arrest, or investigation at least ten (10) days before the Bass Champs event being entered, and thereafter subject to the Tournament Director's sole and absolute discretion that such conviction, charge, arrest, or investigation does not result in the Contestant's honesty, integrity, character or qualifications to enter the event being unreasonably questionable.

Actions or words which reflect unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, and fair competition;

Chemical substance abuse or addiction.

Disqualification from Bass Champs tournaments or other fishing organizations that resulted from unexplained rule violations that result in a contestant's honesty, integrity, character, and qualifications for entry into a Bass Champs event being questionable in the Tournament Director's sole and absolute discretion.

Upon review of the circumstances by tournament director, Bass Champs, Inc., and the Tournament Director shall have the right to refuse any application, or to deny a confirmed application, by returning the entry fee of a previously accepted application, or disqualifying a contestant. Bass Champs reserves the right to place an official observer in a contestant's boat at any time during competition hours.

9. Assistance: During hours of competition, contestants may not receive fishing information from non-competitors or participate in the practice of "hole sitting." The use of mobile communication devices such as cellular phones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CBs, etc., to communicate fishing information during tournament hours is strictly prohibited. In the event of an emergency call "911" first and then contact tournament officials at 817-439-3274.

10. Boat and Horsepower Regulation: Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. Boats must contain a properly aerated live well space to maintain alive a limit catch of bass. Maximum horsepower for all outboards used in tournament competition may not exceed the horsepower limitations as set by the U. S. Coast Guard in such vessel. Falsifying information on entry forms or altering the horsepower numbers on the motor or rating plate to conceal such limitations will be cause for disqualification from the tournament.

11. Permitted Fishing Locations: Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters accessible by boat, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by state or federal officials, or within 50 yards of a competitor's boat which was first anchored (an anchored boat is a boat held in

(Continued on Next Page)

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a stable position by a line attached to a weight with the trolling motor in the up position), or within 25 yards of a non-anchored competitor's boat unless otherwise agreed upon by the other tournament angler. The act of moving bass from one area of the lake to another confined area of the same lake at any time, whether or not during official practice days or competition days, is not permitted.

12. # Of contestants in boat: Boats may have up to 3 paid entrants aboard. Non-contestants are not allowed in any competitor's boat.

13. Trailering is allowed: Trailering is allowed throughout the competition days. Anglers may launch and leave from any available location on Lake Fork.

14. Scoring: Only Largemouth, Spotted, or Smallmouth Bass are accepted species. One bass only is allowed to be weighed in during any Tournament hour per contestant. Bass entered in the Big Bass of the Hour contest do not carry forward from hour to hour. Your biggest bass is registered into the final overall standings. No contestant may possess more than 3 bass at any time during the tournament. Any contestant who possesses more than the tournament limit at any time will have their catch for that day disqualified. Switching or sharing fish with other contestants is a violation of these rules and will result in immediate disqualification. Any artificially weighed, preserved, or altered bass will

be disqualified and that contestant will be subject to prosecution under federal laws.

15. Live Fish: Only live bass will be weighed-in during the event. Every effort must be made to keep bass alive through the use of a properly aerated live well. The use of chemical live well additives made by Sure-Life which promote the healthy return of bass to their natural habitat are recommended. No dead bass will be weighed.

16. Slot lake limits: Lake Fork is a slot lake. No bass over 16 inches or under 24 inches in length may be presented to the scales. Bass will be measured with mouth closed, tail compressed and swiped to achieve overall greatest length. The Pro-Rule is the official measuring board of Bass Champs. Any contestant who receives a citation from TPWD for presenting a "slot" fish to the scales will be disqualified from violation point forward each tournament day.

17. Ties: A tie for the overall biggest bass over or under the slot will be determined by the contestant's second largest bass weighed-in during tournament hours. In the event that a winner may not be determined by the above stated method, the winner will be determined by which angler weighed-in the winning fish first. All other ties will be resolved by splitting equally all money involved in the tie.

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Clean**

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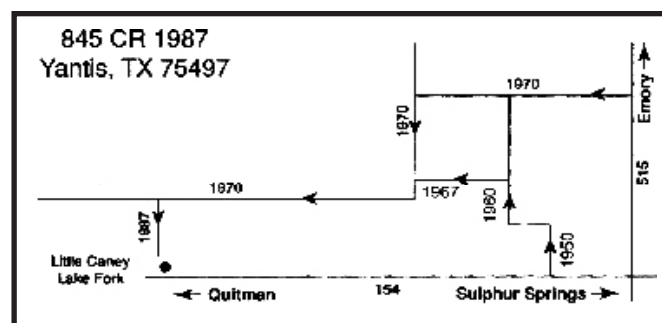
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Toyota ShareLunker Season Begins October 1

The 30th season of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Toyota ShareLunker program will begin October 1.

Anyone legally catching a 13-pound or bigger largemouth bass from Texas waters, public or private, between October 1 and April 30 may submit the fish to the Toyota ShareLunker program. Fish will be picked up by TPWD personnel within 12 hours.

ShareLunker entries that genetic testing shows are pure Florida largemouth bass are used in a selective breeding program at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) in Athens. Offspring from ShareLunkers that spawn are stocked into each waterbody that produces an entry during the season. Some offspring may be used for research, while others may be retained by the hatchery system for use as future brooders.

The angler catching each fish decides what will happen to it following its use by TPWD. Most anglers choose to return the fish to the waterbody where it was caught. Some donate the fish to TPWD for display at TFFC.

Fish that are intergrades, or hybrids of Florida and northern largemouth bass, are not used for spawning and are returned to the waterbody where caught as soon as possible. Genetic test-

ing of ShareLunker entries shows that pure Florida largemouth bass have as much as 18 times greater chance of producing a 13-pound offspring as intergrades do. Limited capacity at TPWD hatcheries requires using all available pond space for the offspring of pure Florida fish.

Anglers entering fish into the Toyota ShareLunker program receive a free replica of their fish, a certificate and ShareLunker clothing and are recognized at a banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. The person who catches the season's largest entry will be named Angler of the Year and will receive a prize package from G. Loomis of a top-of-the-line rod, Shimano reel, PowerPro line and G. Loomis hat. If the Angler of the Year is a Texas resident, that person will also receive a lifetime Texas fishing license.

Prizes and funding for the banquet are provided by Toyota, which also provides a Tundra pickup truck for use in picking up and returning the majority of lunkers and their offspring.

ShareLunker catches can be reported 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the season, by calling (903) 681-0550. If poor cellphone service prevents use of the voice number, anglers can leave a phone number (including area

code) at (888) 784-0600. That number is also monitored 24/7 during the season.

Most anglers who catch ShareLunkers are unprepared to catch and care for large fish. Yet catching a 13-pound bass is possible almost anywhere you fish in Texas. Taking a few simple steps can help ensure the survival of ShareLunkers. Carry a landing net, preferably a rubber one or a net with unknotted mesh, to avoid damaging the fish's slime coat. Always handle big fish with two wet hands, one gripping the lower jaw and the other supporting the tail. Fill your livewell before you begin fishing. Program the ShareLunker numbers into your phone before the season begins. If possible take the fish to a bait shop or marina with a minnow tank for holding until pickup. Locate a place near where you will be fishing that has a certified scale and will weigh fish, such as a feed store, grocery store or bait shop. Official ShareLunker weigh and holding stations equipped with certified scales have been established at a number of reservoirs; a list is at <http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/sharelunker/holding/>. For complete information and rules of the ShareLunker program, tips on caring for big bass and a recap of last year's season, see www.tpwd.texas.gov.

(Continued on Next Page)

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tpwd.texas.gov/sharelunker/. The site also includes a searchable database of all fish entered into the program along with pictures where available.

Information on current catches, including short videos of interviews with anglers when available, will be posted on www.facebook.com/sharelunkerprogram. "Like" this page and you can receive notification and photos of catches as soon as they become available.

The Toyota ShareLunker Program is made possible by a grant to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation from Gulf States Toyota. Toyota is a longtime supporter of the Foundation

and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, providing major funding for a wide variety of education, fish, parks and wildlife projects.

Official ShareLunker Rules

The program is limited to largemouth bass weighing 13 pounds or more. Fish must be weighed on certified or legal-for-trade scales. Certified scales are scales that have been certified as accurate by the Texas Department of Agriculture, the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) or a commercial scales calibration company.

The program is normally in effect from October 1 through April 30. The fish must be legally caught in Texas waters.

A Texas Parks and Wildlife Department employee will be solely responsible for accepting a fish into the program based on the expectation that the fish will be able to survive and spawn.

Possession of the fish must be transferred to a designated Texas Parks and Wildlife Department representative within 12 hours after capture. The angler must sign a release absolving all sponsors, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department employees of any liability resulting from the loss or death of their fish.

Employees and families of program sponsors (See ShareLunker Season... Continued on page 19-A)

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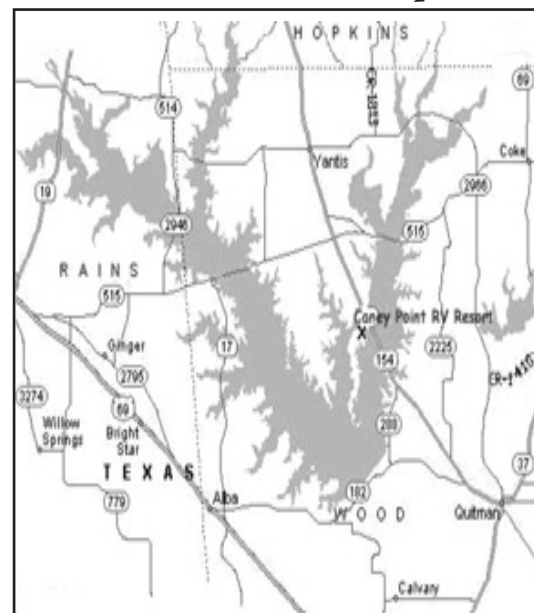
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Concrete Boat Ramp



"Pack of Knowledge" The Barfish Connection

By Andrew Grills

I've never tasted the meat of a yellow bass, although I'm told by many of our local fishermen that they are delicious. Lake Fork is full of these little guys and I know for a fact that they are a delicacy for big largemouth as well.

Although adult yellow bass (or "Barfish" as they are commonly referred to) only average a half pound in weight, they are considered big forage. I always pay attention to the bigger forage such as gizzard shad, juvenile white bass, and yellow bass because big meals are

what the biggest bass are looking for. A bass weighing ten pounds or more managed to grow to that size by being effective at capturing big prey, and an eight inch yellow bass is the perfect size.

I believe big bass feed on yellow bass every chance they get throughout the year. However, Fall is the season that yellow bass and largemouth bass cross paths here on Lake Fork. This pattern seems to be at its peak during the month of November.

I start to notice yellow bass covering deep water structure during the month of October. They can be easily identified because they always seem to be right on the bottom (when present on structure), and will position tightly in vast schools. Often, they stack on top of each other, and can almost look like aquatic vegetation growing three or four feet from the bottom because they school so tightly. When I see them show up, I know the bigger largemouth are soon to follow.

The areas I often find yellow bass are submerged roadbeds, long tapering points, and offshore humps. They seem to prefer depths in the fifteen to thirty foot zone and group up better on brighter days. When I see what appear to be largemouth on my graph near yellow bass schools, I am confident that they are likely going to be big!

After seeing this scenario on your electronics there are a variety of techniques you can use. I haven't had much success on lures that have the realistic yellow

bass imitating paint jobs that we often see on various crankbaits and spoons. However, I target these big largemouth with big flutter spoons, Carolina rigged magnum flukes, or umbrella rigs.

It is important to pay attention to the yellow bass because when they are schooled up on a spot, the largemouth will be there too at some point, if they aren't already. I hope this helps you catch a few more big fish this Fall. Be sure to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Andrew is a professional guide on Lake Fork and is sponsored by Skeeter Boats, Nautical Mile Marine in Tyler, Costa Sunglasses, Under Armour, and M-Pack Lures.



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ShareLunker Season Begins October 1 (Continued from Page 17-A)

sors are not eligible for participation in the program.

Anyone catching a fish that may qualify can call our toll-free, 24-hour pager at 1-888-784-0600 (October 1-April 30 only) or (903) 681-0550.

Tips for Proper Care and Handling of Lunker Bass

Land the fish as quickly as possible. Playing a fish to exhaustion diminishes its chance of survival. If possible, refrain from using a dip net that has a mesh larger than ¼ inch and /or is not a smooth mesh. When using a net, always make sure it is wet before it touches the fish. Avoid excessive handling or dropping of the fish while removing the hook. The fish will benefit from re-maining in water (boat livewell or a large cooler filled with water) while the hook is removed with needlenosed pliers. Hold the fish vertically by the lower lip while it is in the water so that the total weight of the fish doesn't rest on the lower jaw.

Take the fish to a marina or closest certified scales as soon as possible. Transport the fish in a properly aerated live-well or a large cooler equipped with an aerator.

Before removing the fish from the transport container, have the certified scales ready for

weighing. Try to arrange to hold the fish in the marina's minnow vat after it is weighed.

To reduce stress when removing the fish from the transport container for weighing, move the fish as close as possible to the scales and holding vat before removal. If everything is ready before the fish is removed from the transport container, weighing time can be less than one minute.

It is best to sedate the fish in the transport container before weighing or taking pictures. Mari-nas and bait shops can supply the recommended chemicals. Wet your hands before handling the fish. Lift the fish from the water vertically by clamping your thumb on the bottom lip. To raise the fish into a horizontal position, support the fish's weight by placing your off-hand under the fish just behind the anal fin. This method should also be used if the fish is not sedated. Don't roll back the lip in an effort to paralyze the fish. This can damage the lower jaw and hinder or prevent the fish from feeding after being released. The fish should not be out of the water longer than 30 seconds. Persons taking pictures should have their cameras ready before the fish is removed from the holding container. Holding the fish out of the water two to three minutes, or holding it in a plastic

bag without proper aeration, causes stress that can damage the eyes or cause a bacterial and/or fungal infection. Such damage could cause mortality even several weeks later. Note that stress is increased by extremes in temperatures and/or windy weather conditions.

Ideal water temperature for holding fish is 55 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit, and the water temperature should not be changed more than five or six degrees per hour. If water is aerated and treated with bacterial/ fungal retardant, low water temperature may not be crucial.

Call Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at the numbers below as soon as possible with your name, where the fish is located, a telephone number where you can be reached and when and where you caught the fish. Be sure to include your area code when leaving a message on the pager. Every attempt will be made to collect the fish within 12 hours, sooner if possible.

To request pickup of a ShareLunker (large-mouth bass 13 pounds or over, legally caught in Texas waters between October 1 and April 30), call (903) 681-0550 or page 1 (888) 784-0600 and leave a number, including area code.

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October on the Fork (Continued from Page 6-A)

all work well. A standup head is also a great tool for these fish using the same worms. My mantra is "if I can see them, I can catch them". It's game on for video fishing and the drop shot rules the roost for this type of play. Put the worm right in front of their nose and wait for the rod to load up. It don't get much better than that. If you spot the big arc's suspended, dig out a 5 inch Talon spoon, count it down and hold on. A magnum fluke will work equally well if

the wind is not howling.

If you are headed out to Lake Fork in October searching for the trophy of a lifetime, I would love to be a part of this trophy quest. I still have a few dates open in October and some in November. I also have gift certificates available if you have friends or loved one's who have dreamt of landing a huge bass. You can contact me at 409 782-4269 or e-mail me at skeet21c@aol.com. You can follow me on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LakeForkGuideDavidOzio>. I post my daily trip results on this page. I run a Skeeter FX with a Yamaha 250SHO and would like to thank Skeeter for making my office on the lake the best in the country. I would also like to thank G-Loomis, Talon Lures, Shimano and Lowrance for making my job the blast that it is. A special shout out to Nautical Mile Marine in Tyler for all their help in keeping me on the water seven days a week, no issues. I hope to see a lot of you on the water. Romans 10:13. "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". I wish all of you a blessed day."

DAVID OZIO



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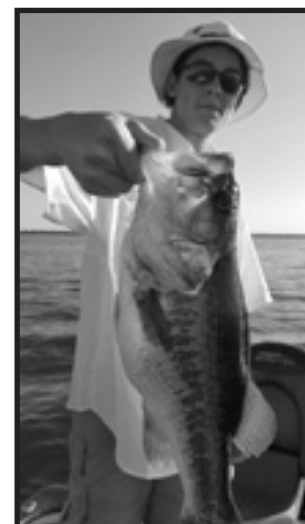
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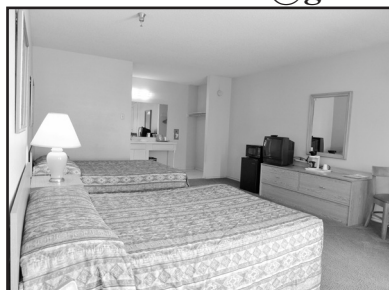


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Texas Game Wardens Destroy \$6 Million Marijuana Farm on Cooper WMA

Public hunters pursuing feral hogs at Cooper Wildlife Management Area in northeast Texas over the weekend stumbled upon a sophisticated marijuana growing encampment having more than 6,500 mature plants with a street value estimated at more than \$6 million.

Alerted by the public hunters, Texas game wardens led a multi-agency investigation of the well-established site tucked away in a remote swampy area of the 14,480-acre WMA about 70 miles northeast of Dallas. Wardens found a campsite with tents, farming tools, fertilizer, a generator and water pump irrigation equipment indicating the op-

eration had been ongoing for some time.

"This was not someone playing around and experimenting," said Texas Game Warden Captain Steve Stapleton. "The camp was at least a mile from any road in some harsh conditions. They picked this spot on pur-

pose and spent day and night out there for some time. There was a lot of trash to clean up."

An extensive search of the area from the air and on the ground by game wardens, Delta and Hopkins County Sheriff's

(See Texas Game Wardens..
Continued on Page 23-A)

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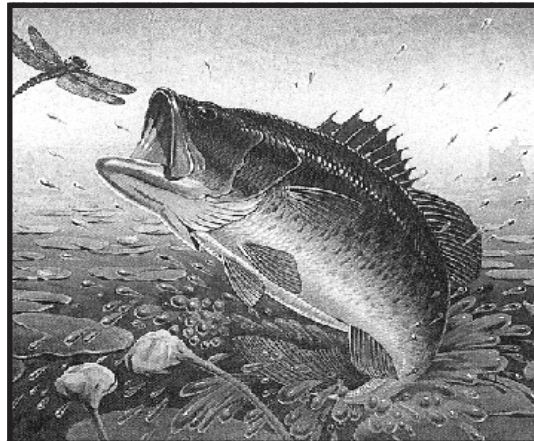
Animal Find

The names of 14 wild animals are hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

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RHINOCEROS
TIGER
WOLF

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R S U M P E P I H I H G
I U E L O P A R D E I R
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G O R I L L A O I R E D
R P A R B N O N P E O R
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Texas Game Wardens Destroy \$6 Million Marijuana Farm on Cooper WMA (Continued from 21-A)

Offices, Texas Department of Criminal Justice tracking dogs and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers netted no arrests. Officials destroyed all the marijuana on site and seized the property and equipment.

"The destruction to the habitat and the damage these people did to the environment is probably the worst part," said Texas Game Warden Chris Fried. "They cut mature hardwood trees, including a pin oak that was at least five foot in diameter, and cleared parts of a levee that will take many years to recover. The chemicals they sprayed, insecticides and pesticides that contaminated the soil and eventually run off into the streams will have lasting im-

pacts."

Fried said illegal marijuana growing operations are not unheard of in remote areas, both on public and private lands, but it is uncommon to catch the illegal farmers in the act.

"It's something we keep our ears open to, but this is the first one I've seen on Cooper," he said.

In all probability, the growers would have harvested their crops and left prior to the archery deer season opener in early October.

"They would've folded up shop by October 1 ahead of archery deer season opening, but obviously didn't figure in the opening of teal and feral hog hunting season in mid-September," Stapleton noted.

Instead, they got an early season wakeup as their efforts to grow marijuana crops valued at \$6 million went up in smoke.

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