

# LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Hunting Texas



Special section inside  
Hunting Annual 2008

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## INSIDE HUNTING



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Lake Tawakoni is producing summer limits of channel and blue catfish, reinforcing its official title of the "Catfish Capital of Texas."

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# Sandies, hybrids hot bites

Schools keep anglers in class

By CRAIG NYHUS

Summer means hot white bass and hybrid striped bass action at many Texas lakes, and North Texas lakes like Lake Ray Hubbard, Ray Roberts, Lewisville and Richland Chambers lead the way for many.

Gary Goldsmith, a retired principal, fished Lewisville Lake with Art Kenney and Michael Anderson. "We caught and released more than 100 sand bass reaching the 2-pound mark," Goldsmith said. "With 30 minutes of daylight left we went to an area called Queen's Point for hybrids. As soon as we started the bite was on — we caught 20 more fish at that spot."

The group was fishing Lead Babies Slabs in 18 feet of water. "It's best to keep them as close to the bottom as possible when fishing for hybrids," Goldsmith said.

East Texas lakes find crappie fishermen switching gears to chase sandies when the crappie bite slows. West Texas reservoirs see the whites hitting on top. And in the Hill Country, the Highland Lakes often get hot.

"All of the fish are on the main lakes," said Joe Bray, who guides on several Hill Country lakes. "The white bass are the easiest to see on a depth finder; they're usually schooled up and around the schools of shad."

Bray usually fishes for crappie and bass, but finds the whites near humps or ridges. "They are almost

See BITES, Page 17



WHITE GOLD: Flower Mound fifth-grade teacher Steve Fogle holds up one of the many sand bass he has caught on Lewisville Lake. He's one of the regulars in the lake's sand bass fishing fleet. Photo by David J. Sams.



NEW DESTINATION: Joe Knolle pilots his 26-foot Glacier Bay Catamaran on his way to the next fishing spot in the Gulf. Photo by David J. Sams.

# Comfortable cats

Smooth cruising offshore

By DAVID J. SAMS

On a crowded Sunday morning Billy Holmes slipped his catamaran into the narrow dock at Billings Bait stand at North Padre Island. His goal was to buy fresh bait for a routine offshore trip.

"Are you going out?" yelled a man on the dock. "It's nasty out there. I just tried it and couldn't get out — the ocean is a mess. I'm going to fish the bay."

Holmes just smiled and said, "Let's go," as he idled past the 20-foot deep-V craft.

Holmes wasn't worried. But at the mouth of the narrow Packery Channel the waves were 4 feet, with some larger ones mixed in, creating very choppy conditions.

See CATS, Page 15

# Dove, teal seasons set

Texas Parks and Wildlife finalized the early season migratory game bird regulations, including dove and teal seasons for 2008-09.

A proposed dove season rule that would have removed one week of hunting opportunity from the end of the first season segment in the South Dove Zone and added it to the end of the second season segment was not approved.

"Public comment received by the department indicates a growing

concern among hunters, landowners, outfitters, and local businesses that economic factors are increasingly affecting hunting habits or will affect them in the future," said Mike Berger, TPW wildlife director. "The department therefore made the decision to leave the traditional season structure in place for the current year while launching an outreach effort to determine if the traditional and historic dove season structure

See SEASONS, Page 21

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## CONSERVATION

# USDA announces no CRP early outs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it would not allow acres of the Conservation Reserve Program to be put into production without repayment.

Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer cited robust corn and soybean yields

and less-than-expected crop damage as the reasons to not change the program.

One of the factors in the decision to not allow acres out without repayment was that many landowners were choosing to take their land out

of the program and paying back the rental rates and interest from their contracts, Schafer said. USDA figures show a 50-percent increase in the number of landowners removing their land from the program in the past year.

Schafer said that there are 1.1 million acres set to expire from the program in September, and 8 million more acres during the following two years.

Rental rates on CRP land will also remain unchanged. Because the

rental rates are determined from land prices over the previous three years, the recent spike in commodities has left CRP rental rates well below the rental rates for crop production.

— Staff reports.

## Wildlife Forever names Stinchcomb top educator

Zoe Ann Stinchcomb of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center was named the 2008 "Educator of the Year" by Wildlife Forever.

The award recognizes educators who have made significant contributions towards conservation education benefiting students. Stinchcomb received the award in Bloomington, Minn., during the 10th Annual State-Fish Art Expo.

"This individual has served long and hard to promote aquat-

ic conservation education across her home state of Texas," said Douglas H. Grann, president and CEO of Wildlife Forever. "The State-Fish Art contest has grown 100-fold since her involvement.

"Back in 1999, Texas had but four entries. It set a record in 2007, when she first ran the program, with 580 entries. Today the Texas State-Fish Art program is the largest participating state thanks to her leadership."

— Wildlife Forever report.



**AWARD-WINNING EDUCATOR:** Zoe Ann Stinchcomb, the education team leader at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, was named "Educator of the Year" by Wildlife Forever. Photo by Larry Hodge.

## Awards to honor quail stewardship

The Texas Wildlife Association Foundation announced its first annual Conservation Awards. The first year's awards will recognize outstanding quail stewardship. The 2008-2009 TWAF Conservation Awards will continue the legacy established by the prestigious Purdey Award, focusing on the recognition of land stewards who have demonstrated innovation and dedication in management strategies that promote quail and quail habitat.

Six awards will be presented in the categories of Habitat and Lifetime Achievement. The conservation awards are open to ranches, leases and individuals within Texas. Nominations are due by Aug. 31. Quail experts will judge the nominations and conduct on-site visits with finalists.

Recipients of the 2009 TWAF Conservation Awards will be honored at a banquet on April 16, 2009 at the Omni Hotel in Houston.

— Texas Wildlife Association report.

## Gray Thornton to head Wild Sheep Foundation

The board of directors of the Wild Sheep Foundation (formally the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep) announced the appointment of Gray Thornton as president/CEO effective May 1.

"Gray Thornton will be a tremendous asset to the organization," Chairman Lou Rupp said. "He brings his 11 years experience

as executive director of the Dallas Safari Club, 18 years in conservation association management and development, and the talent and leadership skills we need to help us achieve our purpose of 'Putting and Keeping Sheep on the Mountain.'"

"I am looking forward to building the Wild Sheep Foundation and furthering the mission as well

as expanding the scope of our efforts to a new world-wide focus which is reflected in our new logo and trade name, Wild Sheep Foundation," said Thornton.

"The Foundation for North American Wild Sheep has been the premier wild sheep advocate in the U.S.A., Canada and Mexico. Our mandate has expanded to duplicate our North

American successes to sheep ranges everywhere and become the preeminent wild sheep conservation organization worldwide."

The Wild Sheep Convention and Western Hunting and Conservation Expo is scheduled for Feb. 5-8, 2009 in Salt Lake City.

— Wild Sheep Foundation report.

## Louisiana coastal restoration gets boost from industry

Ducks Unlimited received \$25,000 from the Sempra Energy Foundation to help restore more than 900 acres of eroded marsh in Cameron Parish, La.

The Sempra Energy Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that supports sustainable, measurable, community-based change in places where Sempra Energy does business.

"DU will leverage this gift with funding from other partners to secure a North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant," said DU Manager of Conservation Programs

Bob Dew.

The project includes construction of approximately 70,000 linear feet of earthen terraces and associated vegetative plantings at two project locations.

Terraces reduce wave energy, diminish erosion and improve water clarity, promoting the growth of submerged aquatic vegetation like widgeon grass, pondweeds and other beneficial waterfowl foods.

— Ducks Unlimited report.

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## HUNTING

# New rule OK'd for wild hog transports

## Males only may be moved to approved game ranches

By BILL MILLER

Oct. 1 doesn't have the mass appeal of Dec. 25, but this year it will be a golden day for hunters and trappers of feral hogs in Texas.

It is the date that a new rule becomes law, allowing the transporting of wild pigs — males only — without testing them for swine diseases.

Since 1992, hog trappers and hunting guides have clamored against an old rule that required blood tests for swine disease. They asserted that it cramped their efforts to bring new hogs to game ranches, and that the tests were too difficult to do.

But on July 29, the Texas Animal Health Commission agreed to chuck the old rule for the new one.

It states, in part, that male hogs — barrows or boars — can be moved untested if they are tagged and brought to authorized game ranches that have pig-proof fences.

"Overall, I'm pleased," said LeRoy Moczygemba of Natalia, who traps hundreds of hogs each year. "They made a lot of improvements."

Moczygemba represented hog trappers on a special advisory committee appointed by the TAHC to recommend changes to Rule 55.9, which required the tests to keep swine diseases from reaching domestic livestock.

The committee also included representatives for hunters, domestic swine producers and state regulators.

Convening the group in 2007 coincided with a fever pitch of anti-Rule 55.9 rancor, much of it carried by hog blogs on the Internet.

TAHC officials decided to engage their detractors by inviting some of them to join the advisory committee.

By the end of 2007, critics were surprised and encouraged that the

committee had come up with some recommendations. Public comments were accepted until July 6, setting the stage for the commission's approval on the 29th.

The new rule applies only to land owners who operate game preserves that acquire hogs for hunting.

It will require hunting preserve operators to be licensed by Texas Parks and Wildlife, but the ranches must also have fencing strong enough to deter the rooting tusks of persistent hogs.

Tagging the pigs will help TAHC identify the ones that might get loose.

Also, trappers will be allowed to keep pigs in escape-proof pens on trailers for up to seven days.

One recommendation, however, didn't make the cut. It called for fences 5 feet tall, but the commission decided only to make ranchers prove that their enclosures are impenetrable.

"It just has to be hog-proof," said Gene Nelson, the TAHC's lawyer. "We didn't want people to redo their fences, especially since what they have may be adequate."

There were 42 written comments before the new rule was approved on the 29th, said Carla Everett, TAHC spokeswoman. She added, however, that no one came to the meeting in Austin to testify about it.

Moczygemba predicted not everyone will be happy about the rule, especially those who wish there could be a market for female feral hogs.

Sows, however, aren't covered by the new rule; they will continue to be killed where they're caught, or taken directly to a slaughter facility.

Allowing sows to be transported to game ranches would only accelerate their breeding capabilities, which state officials say they want to limit.



**BOAR RULING:** A new rule allowing the transport of boars without testing them for swine diseases takes effect Oct. 1. The old rule required the tests in an effort to keep swine diseases from reaching domestic livestock.



**ON TARGET:** Above, Zach Gauntt, Freestone County, left, and Parker Smith, Comal County, right, participate in the Texas 4H Shooting Sports State Games.

**STANDING TALL:** At right, Junior Division participants from Comal County are Dylan Noble, Jacob Clark, Colton Anderson, William Onderdonk IV and Parker Smith. Anderson was High Overall American Events Champion. Photos by Heidi Anderson.



## Young shooters flock to 4H games

### 1,600 compete in 41 events

By RALPH WININGHAM

Youngsters from all walks of life traveled the same path hoping to achieve a common goal July 22-26 as competitors at the Texas 4H Shooting Sports State Games held in San Antonio.

"This is the largest shooting event of its kind in the country, and our goal is to help make these kids into better citizens and better adults," said Ron Howard, state coordinator of the 4H Shooting Sports program.

"We have about 1,600 youngsters competing in 41 events. One family has six kids here. We have representatives from all but about 30 counties in the state.

"Through this activity, the kids learn responsibility, self-discipline, how to work together and develop other life skills better than any other activity that I can imagine," he said.

The event, held at the National Shooting Complex in western Bexar County, featured competitions in shooting disciplines from air rifles and archery to sporting clays and trap.

Nearly 4 inches of rain and the threat of a tornado on July 24 swamped the participants and forced the cancellation of the black-powder events, but did not put a damper on the youthful enthusiasm of the competitors.

"We all just had a blast," said Julie Baker, who brought her two boys and one girl, aged 11, 13 and 15, to compete in the games as part of the Brazos County contingent.

"It is just so much fun to see these kids develop great friends — lifelong friends — at the games.

Her three youngsters helped Brazos County score a repeat win of the annual Borden Award, the overall trophy for the county compiling the most winning points in all the events.

Brazos County fielded 44 participants at the games as the largest group from any county, with Comal County coming in a close second with 36 competitors.

"The Borden Award is the main trophy that the kids want to win," Baker said. "They are such a great team, working together as a group,

See SHOOTERS, Page 27

## Texas gets extended waterfowl seasons

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed continuation of liberal hunting season lengths for the upcoming 2008-2009 late waterfowl seasons.

"Though pond and duck numbers are down from the last few years on the breeding grounds, they remain above the thresholds necessary for a liberal season, and that is what we are proposing this year," said Service Director H. Dale Hall.

The Central Flyway duck hunting season will be 74 days. In the High Plains Mallard Management Unit, a 97-day season is proposed. Duck seasons will be held between Sept. 27 and Jan. 25, 2009.

In Texas, the daily bag limit will be five ducks, with species and sex restrictions as follows: scaup, red-head and wood duck — two; only one duck from the following group — hen mallard, mottled duck, pintail, canvasback. The possession

limit will be twice the daily bag.

In the other three flyways, the canvasback season will be closed.

Goose hunting proposals permit states to select seasons between Sept. 27 and Feb. 15, 2009 for dark geese and between Sept. 27 and March 10, 2009 for light geese. East tier states will select a 107-day season for Canada geese season with a daily bag limit of three. For white-fronted geese, states will select either a 72-day season with a daily bag limit of two birds or an 86-day season with a daily bag limit of one bird. The Western Goose Zone of Texas will select a 95-day season with a daily bag limit of four dark geese (including no more than one white-fronted goose). For light geese, all states will select a 107-day season with a daily bag limit of 20 and no possession limit.

— U.S. Fish and Wildlife report.



## New Web site focuses on tree-stand safety

The Treestand Manufacturers Association is offering a free, online tree-stand safety course that it hopes could prevent serious injury or death.

While statistics on tree-stand accidents are hard to find, it is one of the most common injuries hunters suffer in the field.

The online course covers what kinds of tree stands and ladders to avoid, how to use good equipment safely, safety devices, tree-stand placement and what to do if you fall.

The course is available at [tmas-tstands.com](http://tmas-tstands.com).

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## FISHING

# Dolly hammers lower coast

Despite flooding, water influx expected to benefit fish, wildlife

By **DANNO WISE**

It's been nearly 30 years — Hurricane Allen in 1980 — since the Lower Texas coast took the type of pounding Hurricane Dolly delivered on July 23. Significant damage was suffered by residents and business owners in the coastal communities of Port Isabel, Port Mansfield and South Padre Island.

Some Intercoastal waterway cabins took a big hit. "Our cabin was there," said Harvey Faulkner of Marion, who's cabin is nine miles south of Port Mansfield. "Just the poles were left and we salvaged the gen-

'As good as fishing was before this, it is really gonna be wild for the rest of the summer and into the fall.'

— CAPT. BRUCE SHULER

erator and found the door. I saw two other cabins in my area that survived, and they were badly damaged."

From a tourism standpoint, Dolly has severely hampered the remainder of the 2008 summer season. TIFT (the Texas International Fishing Tournament) was cancelled and the Port Mansfield Fishing Tournament has been pushed back to Aug. 14.

Despite the obvious negative results of the storm, fishermen and outdoors enthusiasts are likely to see some benefits from Dolly's visit. According to Calvin Byrd, owner of Quick Stop Tackle Shop in Port Isabel, many anglers aren't waiting long to experience the benefit.

"People are going fishing," said Byrd.

"We opened up — even without electricity — because we kept getting so many calls from people looking for bait. For a few days after the hurricane, they (fishermen) couldn't get to the island, but they were going wherever they could. I think everyone's looking for a distraction."

The few anglers out there are reporting the fish are still there, but the dirty water has changed fishing tactics. Color changes in the water have been indicative of the presence of fish. 'Bay Fisher' on the extremecoast.com forum posted the high water opened up some sloughs that were previously blocked, and they found redfish and drum in them without difficulty.

Just up the coast from Port Isabel and South Padre Island, Port Mansfield residents, fishermen and business owners saw the eye of the storm pass directly over them.

"We did have some damage," said Capt. Bruce Shuler of Get-A-Way Adventures Lodge in Port Mansfield. "We lost a lot of shingles, which allowed water to come in. We also had part of our boat house torn up when someone's boat washed up against it."

"We'll be back up and running soon," he said. "Fishing's gonna break wide-open. Mark my word. As good as fishing was before this, it is really gonna be wild for the rest of the summer and into the fall."

Up the coast from Corpus to Rockport, the effect of Dolly hampered fishing success for some. Weekend anglers and guides are experiencing tougher fishing in the Rockport area. "It scattered the fish with all the high tides," said Jeff Austin, owner of Texas Tops in Flour Bluff. "A week after the storm there were four tide days near Rockport and the water just stayed high."

Austin said the Gulf water was green and choppy out almost 20 miles. "The storm blew all the bluewater out of here along with the fish; it has scattered everything. It

See **DOLLY**, Page 12



**REPAIRS NEEDED:** A fishing boat lays on its side on the remnants of a dock on the bayside of South Padre Island, one day after Hurricane Dolly roared through. Some fishermen are experiencing good catches while others are not after the storm. Photo by Erich Schlegel.



**CRAZY WITH CATS:** Consistent summer limits of channel and blue catfish at Lake Tawakoni helped it earn the distinction of the "Catfish Capital of Texas" by the Texas Legislature.

## IT'S HOT AT THE CAPITAL Tawakoni 'incredible catfish lake'

By **BOB HOOD**

When it comes to catching catfish, the action just doesn't get any hotter than at Lake Tawakoni. After all, any lake that can consistently produce 100 or more channel and blue catfish per boat on a daily basis as Tawakoni has been doing this summer

certainly deserves being called the Catfish Capital of Texas.

Actually, the title was handed to the town of West Tawakoni located along the lake's west shoreline in 2001 by the 77th Texas Legislature, but it is the tremendous number of catfish the 37,879-acre lake has produced since being impounded in 1960

that earned that recognition.

"It's always been an incredible catfish lake," said fishing guide David Hanson of Little D's Guide Service. "In June, we were catching them in 3 to 7 feet of water in the flooded willows. There still are some fish in the shallow water but it's an early bite.

See **TAWAKONI**, Page 12

## Texan takes permit fly-fishing title

Canyon surgeon fools 26.125-inch fish in Florida Keys tournament

By **DIANA KUNDE**

An orthopedic surgeon from Canyon won the prestigious Del Brown Invitational Permit Tournament in the Florida Keys in July with one permit caught on a fly — a 26.125-inch fish.

Greg Smith, whose surgery practice is in Amarillo, said he's fished the Keys since he was a child, despite his West Texas address. As a kid "we did conventional rigs with artificials and some live bait," Smith said.

He moved to Texas in 1997, and about

seven years ago started fly-fishing on the Texas coast, out of Port O'Connor and Port Aransas.

Smith fished the tournament with Capt. Scott Collins of Marathon, Fla. Smith was named Grand Champion Angler and also caught the largest fish in the tournament.

Collins was named Grand Champion Guide.

The permit tournament is named in honor of the late angler Del Brown, who caught and released more than 500 permit on a fly during his lifetime, and

helped popularize the difficult sport.

"They have to be the toughest to fool on a fly," Smith said. "You throw live bait, and they're pretty reliable. On a fly, it's hard to fool them into thinking it's a real crab."

The fish are caught, measured, photographed and released, said Tournament Director Charlotte Ambrogio. The Grand Champion is the angler who has caught the most inches of fish.

"This year's tournament weather was 'too good' for catching large numbers of

See **PERMIT**, Page 27



**AVID ANGLER:** Dr. Greg Smith of Canyon shows a permit he caught fly-fishing in the Florida Keys. Smith won the Del Brown permit fly-fishing tournament, but then lost his camera and the photos of the prize-winning fish.





**SMART SAVINGS:** Maximizing fuel efficiency starts on the drive to the lake or river. Using a boat cover and making sure the trailer's — and tow vehicle's — tires contain the proper air pressure will help cut the fuel bill. Photo by Dan Armitage.

## Tips offered for fuel-efficient trailering

BY DAN ARMITAGE

With the price at the pumps this summer, it pays to know how to squeeze every mile out of a gallon of fuel — both on the water and on the way there. For those who tow boats, that means getting peak efficiency out of what they pull down the road as well as the tow vehicle itself.

A fellow who makes his living towing and selling boat trailers, Rick Heeren of Shoreland'r has learned through first-hand experience how to maximize mileage when towing a trailered boat. In addition to adapting his driving habits and keeping the tow vehicle in top-towing shape, he makes certain his boat and trailer rig are as fuel-efficient as possible.

Here are seven fuel-saving, trailer-tweaking tips Heeren has gleaned from his years of over-the-road, boat-towing experience:

**Tip 1:** Check tire pressure on the boat trailer and the tow vehicle. Low tire pressure can drag both the vehicle and trailer, reducing fuel mileage. Low tire pressure can also lead to heat-caused tire failures. Refer to the trailer's owner's manual to learn the recommended tire pressure rather than using that posted on the tire itself, which is usually a maximum pressure rating and may not represent the most fuel efficient for that tire or that particular rig.

**Tip 2:** Maintain the proper tongue weight. The boat trailer's tongue weight should be between 5 to 7 percent of the total tow package, which should include the weight of the boat, all loaded gear and the trailer weight. This helps the trailer tow properly by reducing swaying or "fishtailing," which can drastically reduce the rig's miles per gallon.

### Top-off on the road

The price of gas at roadside pumps may be 20 percent less than the per-gallon rate for the same fuel sold at waterfront fuel docks. One of the benefits of owning a trailerable boat is being able to fill its fuel tanks at landlocked pumps where gasoline is usually cheaper. Don't be tempted to use the same 87 octane you may put in your tow vehicle's tank, however. Most marine engine manufacturers recommend octane of at least 89 to get the most out of their outboards and sterndrives.

**Tip 3:** Adjust the trailer to fit the boat. Make sure the boat is level on the trailer and the trailer/boat is level when hooked to the vehicle. For adjusting the trailer for the boat it cradles, V-frame trailers allow for the lowest adjustment of the boat into the trailer and at the same time enable easy loading and unloading of the boat without any damage to the trailer or boat. Proper boat and trailer adjustment also reduce wind resistance.

**Tip 4:** Match the vehicle's tow rating to trailer weight. When towing, make sure the tow vehicle is capable of towing the boat and trailer package by checking the vehicle's tow rating in the owner's manual. Using a 2,000-pound tow package to tow a 3,000-pound boat and trailer package not

See TIPS, Page 27

## Katy man takes tagged redfish in tournament

On July 20, Shelly Acker of Katy and his cousin, Mark, launched at Offatts Bayou around 6 a.m., then found a spot to catch mullet for bait. From there, they went to the Galveston railroad bridge and anchored up.

His cousin quickly caught two nice reds and kept catching fish. But in mid-afternoon Acker stood up in the boat and started catching fish. His first fish of the day was an oversized 31-inch red that was released. The next fish caught was a 21-inch keeper red. "After all the redfish caught and not one had a CCA tag," Acker told his cousin.

Acker put on another mullet and pitched it out, and within thirty seconds had a hit. After landing and inspecting the fish, no tag could be seen until turning the red over and tag No. 834 appeared.

Acker successfully passed the required polygraph exam to become the second winner of the year in the Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division. Acker will be presented a 2008 Ford F-150 "Texas Edition" truck, Triton 22LTS boat, Mercury 150 motor and McClain trailer package at the CCA STAR Awards Ceremony in October.

On a sadder note, Joe Lopez caught Tag No. 856 in the Arroyo City area on the same



**BIG WINNER:** Shelly Acker's redfish catch won him a truck, boat and motor as the second winner of the year in the Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division.

evening but unfortunately was not entered. But Lopez's disappointment didn't diminish his quick-thinking.

He released the catch, planning to enter and go back to try and catch it again.

— CCA STAR report.

## Briefs

### Pontoon angler lands 11.68-pound bass to win Dodge Mega Bass

Fishing out of a pontoon boat, Steve Rutledge of Kountze brought home the big prize at the Dodge Mega Bass event at Sam Rayburn Reservoir. The prize for his largest bass of the event was a Dodge mega cab valued at more than \$44,000.

Rutledge caught his fish in Ayish Bayou on a jig. Lonnie Stanley of Stanley Jigs in Huntington also won a truck with his 9.26-pound bass caught on a 12-ounce football head jig in 10 feet of water.

Twelve trucks were given away during the 12-hour tournament.

### Consumption advisory issued for spotted seatrout from Galveston Bay

The Texas Department of State Health Services advised limiting consumption of speckled trout and all species of catfish from Galveston Bay because of concerns about chemicals known as PCBs and dioxins. This marks the first time the state health department has issued an advisory for an inshore gamefish species from an entire major bay system.

The advisory recommends limiting consumption to no more than 8 ounces per adult per month. For more information, call TPW at (800) 792-1112.



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## HOT SPOT



### Lake Athens

Water stained; 82-90 degrees; 2.64' low. Black bass are good on plugs and buzzbaits early, later switching to white/chartreuse spinnerbaits, weightless flukes and Texas rigs. Night fishing is good on black spinnerbaits and black/blue jigs. Charles Spearman at Lake Athens Marina [(903) 675-8686] said the worm bite is good at midday, and crappie are excellent vertically fishing shiners over brush piles in 20 feet of water. Catfish are good on cut bait and nightcrawlers. See full fishing report on Page 19.

## GAME WARDEN BLOTTER

### FALCONER'S PAPERWORK INVALID FOR PROPAGATING HAWKS

•After receiving information that a falconer was propagating hawks without a license, Tarrant County Game Wardens Chelle Mount and Clint Borchardt traveled to the man's home to conduct an inspection. The wardens knocked on the door and heard movement inside the house, but no one would answer the door. After about a 15-minute wait, the individual finally opened the door. The wardens found four birds of prey, three Harris' hawks and one Cooper's hawk, and later found another adult red-tailed hawk and two baby Harris' hawks that were about one week old. The falconer did not have valid paperwork for possession of the breeding pair of hawks. Citations are pending for illegal propagation and illegal possession of hawks.

### TWO SHRIMP BOATS TRAWLING DURING CLOSED SEASON

•A commercial shrimp boat was caught dragging a trawl during the closed season approximately 6 miles off of the Jefferson/Galveston counties shoreline by Brazoria County Game Warden Vu Nguyen and Mack Chambers. The next day, Galveston County Game Wardens Fred Ruiz and Ray Canales filed on a second shrimp boat captain for the same violation. Two thousand five hundred forty-six pounds of shrimp were seized from the second vessel and sold for \$5,092. Cases pending.

### MAN SPINS VEHICLE INTO MULTIPLE CHARGES

•Newton County Game Warden Ellis Powell observed a vehicle driving erratically. The vehicle spun completely around in a

### ANGLER PROUD OF CATCH, BUT ONE PROBLEM

•San Patricio County Game Wardens Kevin Mitchell, Laura Peterek and Intern Trenade Paddock were checking fishermen on the Nueces River and discovered a man with a 30-inch tarpon. They noticed some

marks on the tarpon's head and found the man in possession of the undersized fish to be sitting on a bag with 75 feet of gill net. Another man came walking down the bank and proudly showed off the catfish he had

caught. The only problem was he caught them in a cast net. The wardens then waited for the last boat to come into the boat ramp. An oversized, untagged red fish was discovered in the boat.

ditch. After finally stopping, a man exited the vehicle with no shirt on and with blood covering his face and chest. The man advanced on Ellis' patrol vehicle and was placed in custody. A small bag of suspected marijuana was recovered from the vehicle. While transporting the man to jail, he attempted to eat the baggy by retrieving it with his mouth from the console of the patrol truck. The man was charged with DWI, possession of marijuana, tampering with physical evidence and assault on a public servant.

### GILL NETTERS FOUND RELAXING WITH ICE CHEST FULL OF FISH

•A wade fisherman ran across a gill net while he was fishing and reported it to Brazoria County Game Warden Jason Richers. Two men had driven in off the Blue Water Highway and had set a gill net along the south shoreline of Christmas Bay. The two men were found relaxing in a nearby duck blind, and were in possession of an ice chest full of fish, including several redfish and speckled trout, already taken from the net. Cases pending.

### 10 BAIL OUT OF TRUCK, FLEE IN VEHICLE CHASE

•On County Road 2687 in Zapata County, Game Warden Jake Cawthon noticed three suspi-

cions vehicles driving north down the road. After the third vehicle passed, Cawthon pursued the vehicles. He activated his red and blue lights and a green Dodge pickup truck fled. A chase ensued. After about 5 miles, 10 occupants of the truck bailed out, climbed a fence, and fled into a local ranch. Cawthon, the Zapata County Sheriff's Department, as well as the U.S. Border Patrol, tracked the occupants of the green truck onto the ranch late into the night and located two of the occupants. Charges pending.

### GAME WARDENS SEIZE BOAT, MOTOR, GILL NET

•Zapata County Game Warden Jacob Phillely and Webb County Game Warden Colt Gaudlen were patrolling Falcon Lake when they noticed a Mexican boat enter Texas waters and set out gill nets. The Mexican boat finished setting their nets and headed north out of sight. The wardens followed and observed the boat setting more gill net in the back of a cove in Texas waters. Phillely and Gaudlen pursued the boat, but the occupants beached it before they could get to them. The boat had run aground and the motor was about 4 feet up on the bank. Phillely and Gaudlen waded into the water and spent the next hour and 15 minutes pulling the boat out of the mud

and back into the water. The boat and motor were seized along with approximately 2,200 feet of gill net.

### 256 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA FOUND AFTER HIGH-SPEED CHASE

•While leaving Falcon State Park in Zapata County, Game Warden Roy Martinez observed Border Patrol agents making a vehicle stop of a Ford F-150 extended cab. Martinez came in behind and assisted in the vehicle stop. As Border Patrol agents and Martinez approached the F-150, the driver sped away and a pursuit followed. The driver was heading south on U.S. Highway 83 at speeds of more than 100 mph. The pursuit lasted about seven miles when the driver bailed out. Border Patrol agents seized approximately 256 pounds of marijuana, which were found on the passenger seat and in the extended cab of the truck.

### POCKET'S CONTENTS LAND MAN IN JAIL

•Atascosa County Game Warden Derek Iden was patrolling Calaveras Lake and approached a boat occupied by four fishermen. One of the men quickly put his fishing rod down. The man had no fishing license, and was wanted out of Frio County for a probation violation on a marijuana

charge. Upon completely emptying the man's pockets and removing his shoes, the deputy discovered a half-smoked marijuana cigarette and four small Ziploc-type bags. The man admitted that the little bags were used for cocaine. The man was taken to the Bexar County Jail.

### TEEN ADMITS TO KILLING DEER, SEVERING HEAD

•Comal County Game Warden Michael McCall was following up on a deer that had been killed in New Braunfels. The deer carcass was discovered near an elementary school with its head removed. McCall visited the residence of a juvenile suspected of illegal hunting during last hunting season. The teen initially denied any knowledge of the killing of the deer. About 30 minutes later, the teen called McCall admitting he knew who killed the deer and to being a passenger in the vehicle from which the deer had been killed. Several other teens, including the vehicle driver and the shooter were also identified. McCall met with the shooter who admitted to killing the deer, and he also provided the severed head of an 8-point buck still in velvet. Cases and restitution pending.

### SKI BOATERS FLEE SCENE AFTER COLLISION WITH FISHING BOAT

•Game Warden Jerry Ash worked a two-boat accident on Lake Bob Sandlin. A ski boat with five people struck a bass boat with three people who were drift fishing. The occupants of the ski boat refused to give their names or addresses and then fled the scene. Ash located the ski boat about one hour later in a park. Two men were arrested for public intoxication. Cases pending.

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## Dolly

Continued from Page 8

may take another week to settle things."

As much as the news coverage has focused on the three water-front communities in South Texas — Port Isabel, Port Mansfield and South Padre Island — the storm's impact wasn't limited to the coast.

Much of the worst flooding occurred far inland, as many of the towns in western Cameron, Hidalgo and Starr counties are situated in low-lying areas. But the rain dumped by Dolly will benefit the Valley's wildlife and enrich the health of the Lower Laguna Madre.

The influx of freshwater has already caused an explosion of vegetation across the typically arid region. This should result in an abundance of food for a variety of wildlife, particularly in areas such as the sprawling Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, as fall and winter arrive.

Additionally, vital marine nursery areas such as San Martin Lake and the Bahia Grande, much publicized as the nation's largest wetlands reclamation project, are brimming with runoff water. This should result in a bountiful crop of

shrimp, crab and finfish through the next spawning cycle.

Another area expected to benefit from Dolly's dance with South Texas is Falcon Lake. Rainfall over and above Falcon in both Texas and Mexico will eventually make its way into this popular border impoundment. However, the rain that fell downriver in Cameron and Hidalgo counties will also benefit Falcon, according to guide Speedy Collett of Beacon Lodge.

"When you're talking about our lake level, it's not just the water that flows into Falcon, but also the water being let out to the areas below us that's important," said Collett. "When Cameron County, in particular, and Hidalgo County get a lot of rain, less water has to be let out of Falcon for their use. So, the more water we can hold on to, the longer the lake level remains steady."

Despite the potential long-term benefits of the additional water, Collett says anglers may not feel so fortunate.

"If the lake level rises too much, it could make fishing a little tougher," he said.

"But, this is South Texas. Rain is always a good thing and we'll take it whenever we can get it because you never know when you'll get it again."



**DOLLY DAMAGE:** A fishing boat was tossed onto dry land by waves caused by Hurricane Dolly on South Padre Island one day after Hurricane Dolly passed through. Photo by Erich Schlegel.

## Tawakoni

Continued from Page 8

Most of the fish have moved out to deeper water but we still are catching limits of 25 fish per person in the mornings."

Both Hanson and George Rule of George's Guide Service use punch bait exclusively to lead their customers to quick limits of catfish that generally weigh from 1 1/2 to 5 1/2 pounds and larger. They bait their holes with soured grain and often catch their limits while tied up to a

single stump or tree.

"I'm catching most of my fish in 21 feet of water," Rule said. "We will be on the water by 6 a.m. and usually if I have three or four customers everyone will have their limits by 9:30 or 10:30 a.m. That way, they can be off the water before the temperature starts to get hot."

Marshall Cauthen of Graham, who limited out with his sons, Lance, of Granbury, and Stacy, of Wichita Falls, aboard Rule's boat July 27, asked one of the most often-asked questions about Tawakoni: "How can this lake consistently produce 75 to 100 fish per boat day after

day?"

"It's hard for anyone to realize just how many fish must be down there when you are catching that many in one place," Rule said. "It's just an incredible fishery."

Tawakoni also is well known for producing trophy bluecats in the 20- to 50-pound plus range in the winter and early-spring months on cut shad. "It usually starts in December and is really good in February and March," Hanson said.

Meanwhile, the name of the game is large numbers of fish rather than large sizes. Finding and catch-

ing Tawakoni catfish during the summer months is relatively easy but requires some preparation. Just do as the guides do: In a five-gallon bucket, pour either maize or wheat to about three-quarters full and add enough water to fully cover the grain. Apply a lid to the bucket and let stand in the sun for several days or until the grain has soured. You may need to add more water as the grain swells.

Locate a tree or stump in 20 to 25 feet of water and bait the area around it once or twice a day by broadcasting about a half-gallon of the soured grain each time. Tie your

boat to the stump at daybreak or soon after and fish vertically with punch bait on a No. 4 treble hook on a Carolina-type rig. Generally, a one-quarter-ounce weight will suffice, but you may want to use a heavier weight on windy days. Re-bait the area occasionally with a few cattle cubes or a cup or two of soured grain as you fish.

Remember to carry along a pair of needle-nose pliers for removing the hooks from the fishes' mouths and keep a towel handy to clean your hands after handling the fish — and the smelly bait.

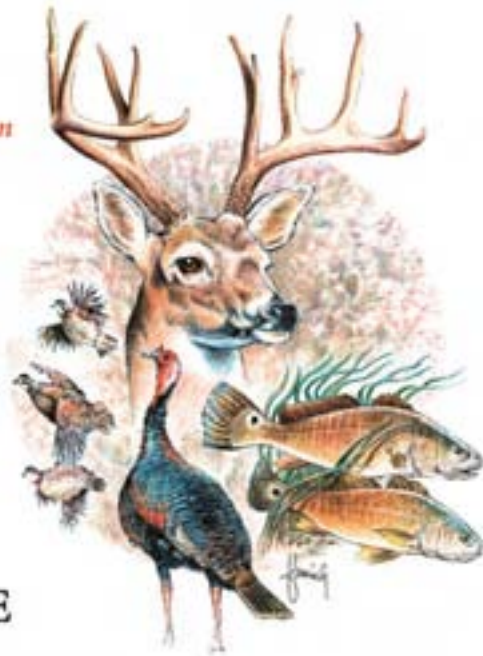
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## STEINER GERMANY

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**SETTLING SEAS:** Fishing the rigs offshore from Corpus Christi at 80-foot depths, Joe Knolle, a dairy farmer from Sandia, and Dr. Al Harper of Dublin caught their limit of red snapper. Billy Holmes and Jeff Austin show a kingfish they caught while trolling a Ballyhoo. A week after Hurricane Dolly, the ocean still had not settled down and the fish were harder to find. The storm moved in cooler water which may have caused the fish to scatter. Photos by David J. Sams.

## Cats

Continued from Page 1

Holmes kept the throttles steady at 4500 rpm as the twin Suzuki 150 hp outboards pushed the 26-foot Glacier Bay Catamaran (2665 Canyon Runner) right through the thick of it. The cat sliced through wave after wave as the craft steered to 180 degrees.

"Today, it should take about an hour and a half to get to the rig," Holmes said.

The boat leaped from wave to wave with ease. The catamaran hull gave a very smooth and stable ride in the rough waves. "There's a lot less operator fatigue with these

catamarans," Holmes said during the run. "When I get someone to test ride in one of these, it doesn't take them long to decide that a catamaran is the way to go for the Texas coast. The only hard thing is they look a little funny, and it will take a while for people to get used to it."

Some have caught on to the comforts of a cat. Holmes said has sold more than 100 Glacier Bay cats.

Too bad the guy at the dock wasn't in a cat, since this was a typical Corpus Christi day. Two- to 4-foot waves with a 2-foot chop. Not always a lot of fun in a smaller boat, but the die-hards are out there.

As the craft neared the gas rig in

the Mustang Island block, there was another boat already fishing: another cat. And Holmes had sold the man the boat — the same model boat Holmes was operating.

Holmes has worked in the family business for more than 30 years. The Corpus Christi dealership, Gulf Coast Marine, was established in 1954 by his father, Bill Holmes.

Jeff Austin, a fishing guide and friend of Holmes, was restless until he figured out who was fishing "his" rig.

"Hey, Joe (Knolle, of Sandia), catching anything?" Austin yelled. There is a little discussion about how Knolle isn't fishing the rig just right. Holmes starts a drift and there are a few hook-ups.

"Smaller than last week," Holmes said.

"The Hurricane most have moved the big ones off," Austin replied.

The cat made drift after drift and had as stable of feel drifting as it did running. The catching was OK but the fish were small, so the two head east to fish a working shrimp boat.

The water color is "king green," and Austin rigged a few trolling baits as Holmes moved in close to the dragging shrimper.

"Get right over the nets, Billy," Austin said.

The starboard flat line goes screaming. "Fish on," Holmes said. A spinner shark jumps almost 5 feet in the air and tail

whips the braided line. "Fish off."

Holmes continued to troll over the nets and in between the porpoise pods, and they catch a black tip and two kings.

On the ride downsea, the cat cut through the now larger waves with whitecaps. Comfort was there, too. The boat did sway back and forth a bit and some bow spray coated the hot body of Austin who was sitting in the shade of the T-top, but it was a welcome feeling.

On the estimated 45-mile trip, the two 4 strokes burned about 20 gallons of fuel.

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# HEROES



**GREG HODGE** of Round Rock caught this 6 1/2-pound gafftop aboard the Flipper with Captain Brad Stanford out of Dolphin Dock.



From left, **NICOLE BROUSSARD**, **BILL CANNAN** and **LINSEY HUMES** caught these red snapper out of Port O'Connor.



**NOAH BARBER**, 4, of Allen, caught his first fish while fishing with his granddad, **CHARLES BARBER**, at Lake Tawakoni.



**GREG CRONE** caught these sturgeon on a recent trip to the Columbia River in Oregon.

## SHARE AN ADVENTURE

Want to share your great hunting or fishing photos with the *Lone Star Outdoor News* family? E-mail your photo, phone and caption information to editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com, or mail to: Heroes, Lone Star Outdoor News, 9304 Forest Lane, Suite 114 South, Dallas, TX, 75243.



**ZACH STARR**, 9, with his first trophy, a Black Hawaiian Ram, taken at the Triple S Ranch in Calvin, Okla.

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**HYBRID IN HAND:** Steve Schiele, a fishing guide at Lewisville Lake, has no trouble finding good schools of hybrids and sand bass throughout the summer.

## Bites

*Continued from Page 1*

always next to the deeper water of the river channel," he said.

The shad are more often in areas with current or wind. "And when you find the shad, you'll find the white bass," Bray said.

Good fishing usually attracts fishermen and, combined with the sum-

mer boating and PWC crowds, the clusters of boats can take some of the fun away. Guides calling the Texas Fishing and Outdoors radio show said more than 100 boats were fishing near the dam at Lake Ray Hubbard on July weekends.

Those looking to catch fish away from the crowds may want to give Cooper Lake in Delta and Hopkins counties a try. At Cooper, Steve Pebley is the lone guide. "We're bringing in all the sand bass you can

catch plus 25 to 50 hybrids from 5 to 6 pounds," he said. "We're throwing white slabs as far as you can throw them, letting them go to the bottom, and ripping them up five or six reels, then letting them fall."

Pebley said most of the fish are on humps adjacent to deeper water and bite best from 3 p.m. until dark. "Cooper is nothing but a maze of humps and points," he said. "If you have fish-finding skills, you can find them."

One might think Pebley and other Cooper anglers would want to keep their honeyhole a secret, but the opposite is the case.

"We need more fishermen for Parks and Wildlife to justify fish stockings in the future," Pebley said. "There's no one out here. We have two great state parks and they look brand new. Guides from Lake Ray Hubbard and other lakes are coming up here to fish to get away from the crowds."

## Texas teams medal in nationals

Youth shooting teams from 15 states competed at the SCTP Skeet and Sporting Clays National Championships in Sparta, Ill.

Texas teams won three medals. The Three Stooges team took an Intermediate Advanced title in sporting clays. Team members were Garrett Fairbanks of Mansfield, Hunter Milligan of Fort Worth and Will Roberts of Haslet.

The Alpine team of Kyle Ford of Burleson, J. William Henderson of Mansfield and John Howard Kane of Fort Worth took second in the Varsity division sporting clays and third in skeet.

— Scholastic Clay Target Program report.



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**NATIONAL**

# Federal judge puts hold on wolf seasons



**DELISTING DELAY:** A Montana federal judge stopped planned gray wolf hunts in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming after a challenge from animal rights groups. Photo by USFWS.

A federal judge has halted state authority to manage wolves alongside other resident wildlife.

A preliminary injunction was granted last week to animal rights groups, including the Sierra Club and the Humane Society of the United States, which had challenged the delisting of gray wolves as an endangered species. The injunction cancels planned wolf hunts in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming.

The groups claimed that wolves are not dispersing enough to ensure genetic diversity among packs. Veteran wolf biologists say the Endangered Species Act doesn't use genetic criteria for delisting. Genetic connectivity was carefully considered and hunting seasons were structured to optimize mating-season dispersal.

"We're disappointed. This ruling not only supports needless lawsuits, it fails to address real problems in those states. We needed active, local management through the respective state wildlife agencies," said David Allen, president and CEO of the Elk Foundation.

"And it's a sad day when unsubstantiated scientific theories can commandeer the very conservation system that made America's outdoors the envy of the world," he said.

The North American model of conservation, unique to the U.S. and Canada, is considered the most successful system ever developed for wildlife. Science-based, it utilizes hunters for funding and balancing wildlife within local tolerances.

"The irony is that the judge's ruling

opposes the very conservation system that enabled wolf restoration in the first place," Allen said. "Remember, it was state-based, hunter-driven management that built the very elk herds that wolves now depend on."

Wildlife managers are concerned about the wolf's increasing population damaging the elk herds. "In my opinion, without active management, including hunting, we will have even more predation, more conflict and more injury to elk herds, livestock and hunter opportunity and related economies," said Cal Groen, Director of Idaho Fish and Game. Studies indicate that one wolf can kill three elk per month.

— Staff reports.

## State record striped bass landed in Missouri

Greg Blair and his cousin, Derek Blair, both of Bradleyville, Mo., were fishing the upper reaches of Bull Shoals Lake for big striped bass on July 13 when Greg hooked a 56.35-pound striper, a new state record.

"There had been several around 40 pounds caught, and guys fishing from the bank had lost a lot of lures," Greg said. "I was fishing a King Kong. It is a kind of oversized jerk bait with four segments. It is about as big around as a half-dollar and looks kind of like a snake coming through the water."

The fish was all the angler's baitcast-

ing reel spooled with 17-pound test line could handle. "He didn't do a lot of headshaking like smaller striped bass do," said Greg. "He was just strong. He took off for the bottom. We were in about 35 feet of water. I kept bringing him back to top and he kept going back down."

The striper would not fit in the boat's live well, so they wrapped it in a damp towel and left it in the bottom of the boat while they continued to fish.

— Missouri Department of Conservation report.



**STATE'S TOP STRIPER:** Greg Blair set the Missouri state record with the 56.35-pound striped bass he caught at Bull Shoals Lake. Photo by Amy Blair.

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# FISHING REPORT

## HOT BITES

### LARGEMOUTH BASS



**FORK:** Black bass are good on topwaters and soft plastic frogs early and late, midmorning switching to deep-diving crankbaits, drop shot rigs and Carolina rigs — night fishing has also been good.

**RAY ROBERTS:** Black bass are good on Carolina-rigged plastic worms in 8-25 feet on points and main lake structure.

**STILLHOUSE:** Black bass are good on minnows and soft plastic worms.

## WHITE/HYBRID/STRIPER



**BRAUNIG:** Striped bass are excellent on liver and shad off points, and down rigging silver and gold spoons near the jetty and dam.

**CEDAR CREEK:** White bass are good on slabs and topwaters. Hybrid stripers are good on swim balls.

**COOPER:** White bass are good on Rooster Tails and Little Georges. Hybrid stripers are good on Sassy Shad and live shad.

**RAY HUBBARD:** White bass are excellent on topwaters and slabs.

## CATFISH



**CALAVERAS:** Channel and blue catfish are excellent on liver, cheesebait, shrimp, and shad near the railroad trestle and 181 Cove.

**LAVON:** Catfish are good on cut shad and prepared bait.

**SAM RAYBURN:** Catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait, cut bait, and liver.

**TAWAKONI:** Catfish are very good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

## CRAPPIE



**ALAN HENRY:** Crappie are good on minnows and jigs.

**NAVARRO MILLS:** Crappie are very good on minnows and blue tube jigs.

**WALTER E. LONG:** Crappie are good on crickets and red wigglers.

## BREAM



**TOLEDO BEND:** Bream are excellent on crickets and nightcrawlers off docks in 4-5 feet.

**ALAN HENRY:** Water lightly stained; 83 degrees; 0.78' low. Black bass are good on white buzzbaits early and late in day, and white spinnerbaits and black/chartreuse jigs along timber lines.

**AMISTAD:** Water stained; 83 degrees; 17.48' low. Black bass are good on Carolina rigged watermelon seed lures and Senkos in 12-16 feet, and on spoons and swimbaits in 4-12 feet. Catfish are good on stinkbait, liver, and frozen shrimp over baited holes. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with live perch.

**ARROWHEAD:** Water lightly stained; 83 degrees; 4.12' low. Black bass are good on topwater frog baits in surface vegetation and spinnerbaits along rocky points. White bass are good shallow while chasing shad. Catfish are good on jugs and drift fishing with shad or punch bait.

**BASTROP:** Channel and blue catfish are good on shrimp and stinkbait. Yellow catfish are slow.

**BRAUNIG:** Water stained; 83 degrees. Redfish are excellent on perch, tilapia, shad, and silver spoons, and down rigging near the jetty and dam. Channel catfish are excellent on liver, shrimp, cut bait, and cheesebait near the dam.

**BRIDGEPORT:** Water lightly stained; 80-85 degrees; 2.47' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to crankbaits, Carolina and Texas rigs. White bass and hybrids are good on Storm WildEyes, Humdingers and topwaters.

**BROWNWOOD:** Water clear; 84 degrees; 3.97' low. Black bass are good on watermelon red spinnerbaits near the docks, and on June bug plastic worms over brush piles in 15-20 feet. White bass are good on L1 Fishies and crankbaits off lighted docks at night.

**BUCHANAN:** Water clear; 83 degrees; 6.17' low. Striped bass are good on Rat-L-Traps in Silver Creek below the bridge, and on plastic swim baits around Lighthouse Point at daylight. Yellow and blue catfish are very good on goldfish and perch upriver.

**CADDO:** Water stained; 82-88 degrees; 0.9' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to lures, Senkos and Texas rigs. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows and jigs. White bass are good on white Road Runners and minnows.

**CALAVERAS:** Water stained; 83 degrees. Black bass are good on dark soft plastic worms, spinnerbaits, and crankbaits over reed beds. Striped bass are good on spoons and stripers jigs near the dam, and on chicken livers and shad along the shoreline.

**CANYON LAKE:** Water clear; 82 degrees; 4.89' low. Yellow and blue catfish are good on goldfish and perch upriver.

**CEDAR CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 81-87 degrees; 0.79' low. Black bass are good on Ribbits early, later switching to Texas rigs, Senkos and spinnerbaits. Catfish are good on prepared bait.

**CHOKE CANYON:** Water lightly stained; 92 degrees; 2.77' low. Black bass are good on chartreuse/white spinnerbaits and large soft plastics. Channel and blue catfish are good on punchbait. Yellow catfish are good on live perch and goldfish.

**COLEMAN:** Water clear; 84 degrees; 3.48' low. Black bass are good on watermelon red and watermelon seed soft plastic worms and lizards. Crappie are good on minnows. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live perch and liver.

**CONROE:** Water clear; 1.03' low. Black bass are good on pumpkinseed and watermelon red Carolina rigged soft plastics. Catfish are good on stinkbait, nightcrawlers, and shrimp.

**COOPER:** Water lightly stained; 80-87 degrees; 1.1' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to drop shot rigs, Carolina and Texas rigs and Senkos. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows over brush piles.

**FALCON:** Water murky; 85 degrees. Black bass are fair flipping Brush Hogs in 2-8 feet. Channel and blue catfish are excellent on stinkbait.

**FORK:** Water lightly stained; 81-87 degrees; 0.21' high. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows around the bridges and over brush piles. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

**GRANGER:** Water clear; 85 degrees; 1.05' low. White bass are good trolling Rat-L-Traps and crankbaits along main lake roadbeds and early and late in 5-10 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and tube jigs in 5-15 feet. Blue catfish are good drifting shad across main lake flats in 15-20 feet.

**GRAPEVINE:** Water off-color; 81-88 degrees; 1.88' low. Black bass are good on crankbaits, Texas rigs and wacky rigs. White bass are good on Rooster Tails, topwaters, slabs and spoons. Catfish are good on cut bait and nightcrawlers.

**GREENBELT:** Water lightly stained; 77 degrees; 26.67' low. Black bass are good on topwater lures early and late in day, white spinnerbaits, and Carolina-rigged pumpkin soft plastic lizards around sandy humps and grass lines. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass are good on live baits and shad-colored crankbaits. Catfish are good on live bait.

**HOUSTON COUNTY:** Water clear; 89 degrees; 0.29' low. Black bass are good on black/blue tailed worms and poppers near the marina in 5-6 feet. White bass are good along the northeast shore. Bream are good on live worms off piers and near grass beds.

**HUBBARD CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 82 degrees; 1.51' low. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass and hybrid stripers are good on live baits. Catfish are good on live baits.

**JOE POOL:** Water off-color; 81-87 degrees; 0.75' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to Texas rigs and crankbaits. White bass are good on slabs.

**LAKE O' THE PINES:** Water stained; 81-88 degrees; 1.43' high. Crappie are good on minnows over brush piles.

**LAVON:** Water stained; 80-88 degrees; 2.06' low. Black bass are good on crankbaits, Senkos and Texas rigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs — moving to deeper water.

**LBJ:** Water stained; 83 degrees; 0.37' low. Striped bass are good on Spoiler Shads and Little Fishies at night. White bass are good on L1 Fishies at night. Channel catfish are very good on nightcrawlers, liver, and dipbait. Yellow and blue catfish are very good on trotlines baited with goldfish and perch.

**LEWISVILLE:** Water off-color; 81-87 degrees; 1.57' low. White bass are good on Humdingers and Rooster Tails. Catfish are good on prepared bait and cut shad.

**LIVINGSTON:** Water fairly clear; 88 degrees; 0.25' low. Black bass are good on soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and crankbaits. White bass are good on hellbenders, pet spoons, and Charlie slabs. Blue catfish are good on shad.

**MACKENZIE:** Water lightly stained; 75 degrees; 74.14' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass and striped bass are good on minnows and shallow diving crankbaits.

**MONTICELLO:** Water fairly clear; 81-89 degrees; 0.28' high. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to Texas rigs, spinnerbaits and chrome Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are good on minnows.

**NAVARO MILLS:** Water stained; 86 degrees; 0.89' low. Black bass are good on motor oil soft plastic worms. White bass are very good on silver dollars and Little Georges. Channel and blue catfish are good on dough-bait and frozen shad near the dam.

**O. H. IWIE:** Water lightly stained; 83 degrees; 11.36' low. Crappie are good on silver crankbaits and jigs. White bass are good on live baits and shad-colored crankbaits along points. Channel catfish are good on live baits.

**POSSUM KINGDOM:** Water stained 86 degrees; 1.12' low. White bass are good on silver crankbaits and jigs around the bridges and in the marinas. Small white jigs in the mid-lake area early in the day and at night.

**RAY HUBBARD:** Water stained; 81-88 degrees; 0.83' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs around the bridges and in the marinas.

**RAY ROBERTS:** Water clear to; 82-87 degrees; 0.66' low. Crappie are excellent over brush piles and around isolated trees on minnows. White bass are excellent on jigging spoons and topwaters when schooling.

**RICHLAND CHAMBERS:** Water off-color; 82-87 degrees; 1.38' low. White bass are good on slabs. Hybrid stripers are fair to good on Sassy Shad and live shad.

**SAM RAYBURN:** Water lightly stained; 83 degrees; 3.12' low. Black bass are fair on minnows and watermelon soft plastic worms.

**STILLHOUSE:** Water clear; 85 degrees; 1.02' low. White bass are good on Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are good on minnows. Channel and blue catfish are good on hot dogs and stinkbait.

**TAWAKONI:** Water lightly stained; 82-88 degrees; 0.87' low. Black bass are good on buzzbaits and Zill Pops early, later switching to Texas rigged lizards, white spinnerbaits, and Senkos. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on slabs and minnows.

**TEXOMA:** Water off-color; 80-87 degrees; 1.59' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs over brush piles and around bridge columns. Striped bass are good on live shad and topwaters. Catfish are good on cut and live shad.

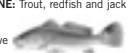
**TOLEDO BEND:** Water clear; 82 degrees; 2.31' low. White bass are good on spoons. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait, stinkbait, livers, and hearts in 30 feet.

**TRAVIS:** Water clear; 84 degrees; 16.51' low. Black bass are good on chrome topwaters, watermelon soft plastic worms, and small crankbaits in 5-20 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on nightcrawlers, bait shrimp, and cut bait.

**WALTER E. LONG:** Water clear; 89 degrees. Black bass are good on minnows and chartreuse crankbaits and spinnerbaits. Hybrid stripers are good on minnows and chartreuse crankbaits and spinnerbaits. Channel and blue catfish are good on nightcrawlers and doughbait.

**WEATHERFORD:** Water stained; 80-87 degrees; 2.42' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on slabs and minnows.

## SALTWATER SCENE



**NORTH SABINE:** Trout are fair to good in the river on live shad and shrimp. Redfish are good in the marsh on small topwaters, and in the middle of the lake under birds.

**SOUTH SABINE:** Trout, redfish and jack crevilles are good around the jetty on live bait. Redfish are fair to good under diving birds and around the rocks on live shrimp.

**BOLIVAR:** Flounder are fair to good around Rollover Pass on jigs tipped with shrimp. Redfish are good around Rollover Pass on croakers and live shrimp.

**TRINITY BAY:** Trout are fair to good on the shell for waders tossing limpetreuse plastics. Trout and redfish are good on the reef near the spillway on red plastics and mullet.

**EAST GALVESTON BAY:** Trout are fair to good around the channel on croakers. Trout are fair to good on shell pads on live shrimp and plastics.

**WEST GALVESTON BAY:** Trout, redfish, whiting and sand trout are good in the surf on shrimp. Trout are good off the spoil banks on croaker. Gafftop, sand trout, trout, redfish, sharks and whiting are good from the beachfront piers on live bait.

**TEXAS CITY:** Black drum, redfish and gafftop are fair to good around the rocks on shrimp. Trout are good at night under the lights on live shrimp and DOA shrimp. Redfish are fair to good in Moses Lake on shrimp.

**FREEPORT:** Trout are fair to good on the shell in Christmas Bay. Trout, redfish and sand trout are good at San Luis Pass on live shrimp and plastics. Trout, sand trout, gafftop and sharks are good along the Surfside Beach on live bait.

**EAST MATAGORDA:** Trout are fair to good while drifting deep shell on live shrimp, Gulps and topwaters. Redfish are good on the west end of the bay on live shrimp.

**MATAGORDA:** Trout are fair on the edge of the channel on soft plastics and croakers. Redfish are fair to good in the guts due to the low tides.

**PORT O'CONNOR:** Trout are fair to good on the grass beds near Pass Cavallo on croakers and soft plastics. Trout are fair while drifting the flats on live shrimp under a popping cork.

**ROCKPORT:** Redfish are fair to good on the grass in Mesquite Bay on gold spoons. Trout are fair to good at Allyn's Bight on glow/chartreuse plastics.

**PORT ARANSAS:** Trout are fair to good along the drop-off of the Lydia A Channel on croakers and piggy perch. Redfish, whiting and sand trout are fair to good at the jetty on shrimp. Offshore is good for snapper, ling, dorado, amberjack and kingfish.

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Trout are good around the spoil islands on Gulps and live shrimp. Redfish are good on the grass beds adjacent to the channel on piggy perch and live shrimp. Low tides have congregated fish on the edge of the channels.

**BAFFIN BAY:** Trout are good on piggy perch on the edge of the channel in the Landcut. Trout are good on topwaters around shallow rocks and deep grass beds.

**PORT MANSFIELD:** Few anglers have fished while trying to recover from Hurricane Dolly. The eye wall of the storm crossed through Port Mansfield.

**SOUTH PADRE:** Few anglers are fishing due to the effects of Hurricane Dolly. The island received a direct hit from the storm before it moved north.

**PORT ISABEL:** Light winds have persisted since Hurricane Dolly, but few anglers are fishing.

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MERCURY

"It's The Water"

See Hot Spot on Page 9.

# WEATHER

## AccuWeather.com

For up-to-the-minute weather forecasts, please visit [www.accuweather.com](http://www.accuweather.com).  
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2008

### Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Aug 8	Aug 16	Aug 23	Aug 30

### Solarar Table

Houston	Dallas	San Antonio	Austin
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### Tides

Saline Pan	High	Low	High	Low	Forecast	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low			
86	6:55 a.m.	3:23 a.m.	9:17 p.m.	2:49 p.m.	86	6:50 a.m.	12:51 a.m.	9:08 p.m.	2:19 p.m.	86	7:04 a.m.	12:29 a.m.	9:46 p.m.	1:57 p.m.

### Sun and Moon

#### Sunrise/Sunset

Houston	Dallas	San Antonio	Austin	
86	6:44 a.m.	6:45 a.m.	6:50 a.m.	7:00 a.m.

#### Moonrise/Moonset

Houston	Dallas	San Antonio	Austin	
86	10:57 a.m.	10:57 a.m.	10:59 a.m.	11:09 a.m.

### Fun Facts

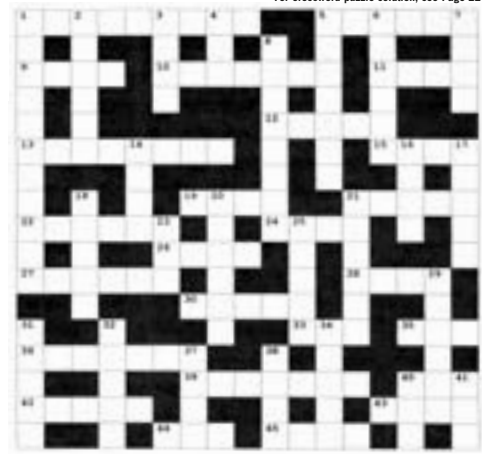
Fun Facts	Fun Facts
86	8:10 a.m.

### Fun Facts

Fun Facts	Fun Facts
86	8:04 a.m.

## OUTDOOR PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
1. An archer
  5. A three-bladed arrow
  9. Bow with weak limbs at the tips
  10. A type of arrow
  11. Hunted animals and wildfowl
  12. He shows where to hunt or fish
  13. Using antlers to lure deer
  15. Deer markings on trees
  19. Bow with too great draw weight, \_\_\_ bow
  21. This will mask a human's scent
  22. Bowhunting game in Florida
  24. A deer food supply
  26. A group of animals
  27. A game trail
  28. Fistmele over 7 inches is \_\_\_ braced
  30. Maker of nock sets
  33. A male sheep
  35. This can be revealed by teeth
  36. This has a bearing on a deer's movement
  39. The bow and arrow sport
  40. The female deer
  42. Archer who engages in field shooting
  43. Name for the Hawaiian goose
  44. Bowhunter's travel method in snow
  45. The wind that blows toward game



- DOWN**
1. Device used to set up a bow
  2. Of an arrow measured in grains
  3. Secures the bowstring
  4. A bowstring loop
  5. Term for a deer resting place
  6. Brand of expandable broad-head
  7. Maker of archery products
  8. A brand of tree stand
  14. An animal den
  16. A number of targets on a course
  17. Keen sense of a deer
  18. A species of sheep
  20. Broadhead good for turkey shooting
  21. Storing cabinet for archery tackle
  23. A deer trail
  25. Too little draw weight is \_\_\_ bowed
  29. A brand of motion decoy
  31. A trophy
  32. A furred swimming mammal
  34. Inlay over bow handle is the \_\_\_ plate
  37. A drop that has been shed
  38. Act of losing the antlers
  40. An animal's lair
  41. The snake-like fish

Outdoor Puzzler, Wilbur "Wib" Lundeen

## WILD IN THE KITCHEN

### On The Border Shrimp Salad

- Ingredients:**
- 1 Pound cooked shrimp, peeled and deveined
  - 1 15-ounce Can black beans, rinsed and drained
  - 1 8 3/4-ounce Can whole kernel corn, drained
  - 1/2 Cup chopped red bell pepper
  - 1/2 Cup chopped celery
  - 1/4 Cup chopped red onion
  - 1/4 Cup chopped cilantro or parsley
  - 3 Tablespoons chopped Florida green onions
  - 1 Jalapeño pepper, seeded and finely chopped
  - 1/4 Teaspoon cumin
  - 1 Avocado, sliced



Vinegar Dressing. Garnish with avocado slices.

- Red Wine Vinegar Dressing:**
- 1/4 Cup olive oil
  - 3 Tablespoons red wine vinegar
  - 3 Tablespoons lime juice

**Instructions:** Combine all ingredients except avocado and dressing; refrigerate for one hour. Serve with Red Wine

**Red Wine Dressing:** In a small bowl, combine all ingredients; mix well. Pour over shrimp mixture.

— Recipe from Florida Bureau of Seafood and Aquaculture Marketing.

### Quick & Easy Duck in a Bag

- Ingredients:**
- 1 Whole duck
  - 1 Large oven cooking bag
  - 1/2 Stick butter
  - 1/2 Can beef consommé
  - 1/4 Cup orange juice
  - 1/2 Cup currant jelly
  - 1 Large onion, sliced
  - 1 Cup raisins

**Instructions:** Put duck in bag with all ingredients. Follow directions for using the oven bag. Bake at 350 degrees for 3 hours.

— Recipe from basspro.com.

# OUTDOOR DATEBOOK

**Aug. 8-24:** The Fall Hunting Classic will be held at all Bass Pro Shops stores. Seminars, vendors, and events. Visit [basspro.com/classics](http://basspro.com/classics) for information.



**Aug. 13:** The Houston Safari Club monthly meeting will be held at The Omni Hotel at 4 Riverway with featured guest Jim Shockey. For information, call Jennifer at (713) 623-8844 or [Jennifer@houstonsafariclub.org](mailto:Jennifer@houstonsafariclub.org).



**Aug. 14:** The Dallas Woods and Waters Club monthly meeting will be held at the Sheraton North Dallas Hotel. Call (214) 570-8700 for information or reservations.

**Aug. 14:** The Paris Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at the Love Civic Center. Call Donny at (903) 491-4910 for information.

**Aug. 15-17:** The TTHA Hunter's Extravaganza will be held at Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth. Call (800) 800-3207 or visit [ttha.com](http://ttha.com) for information.

**Aug. 15:** The Mesquite Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at the Double D Ranch in Mesquite. Call Steve at (214) 395-1540 for information.

**Aug. 15:** The Lost Pines NWTFF dinner

will be held at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Rockne. Contact Matt at (512) 751-0480 or [maas5@ddc.net](mailto:maas5@ddc.net) for information.

**Aug. 16:** The Texas Grand Slam billfish tournament will be held at Virginia's on the Bay Restaurant at Port Aransas. Call John at (361) 815-5158 or visit [ccbgfc.org](http://ccbgfc.org) for information.

**Aug. 16:** The Greater Texas Hill Country RMEF banquet will be held. Call Pat at (830) 997-9889 for information and location.

**Aug. 17:** The Uvalde NWTFF dinner will be held at the Oasis Restaurant. Contact Brad at (830) 591-0742 or [lala1988@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lala1988@sbcglobal.net) for information.

**Aug. 21-Sept. 7:** Cabela's Great Outdoor Days will be held at the Buda and Fort Worth stores. Visit [cabelas.com](http://cabelas.com) for details, or call (512) 295-1100 (Buda) or (817) 337-2400 (Fort Worth).

**Aug. 21:** The Frisco DU banquet will be held at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Frisco. For information, contact Ron at (972) 743-5230 or [ron.geels@eds.com](mailto:ron.geels@eds.com).

**Aug. 21:** The Dallas Safari Club monthly meeting will be held at the Marriott DFW Airport North, featuring Alyse Roan, 2008



Colin Caruthers Youth Award winner. Call Debi at (469) 484-6776 for information.

**Aug. 21:** The Houston Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at Cadillac Bar and Grill. Call Andy at (832) 746-5076 for information.

**Aug. 21:** The Rockwall-Lake Ray Hubbard DU dinner will be held at the Buffalo Creek Golf Club Pavilion. Contact Scott at (972) 771-0222 or [scott@hoopercpa.com](mailto:scott@hoopercpa.com) for information.

**Aug. 22:** The Fort Worth Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at the Colleyville Center. Call Matt at (817) 714-3172 for information.

**Aug. 22-24:** The Texas Women Angler's billfish tournament will be held in Port Aransas. Call Sharon at (361) 749-4096 for information.

**Aug. 22:** The Sam Houston NWTFF dinner will be held at the Walker County Fairgrounds. Contact Robert at (936) 439-7050 or [conniemariethatsme@yahoo.com](mailto:conniemariethatsme@yahoo.com) for information.

**Aug. 23-24:** Cabela's in Fort Worth is hosting a Youth 3D Archery Shoot for ages 16 and under. Contact the Archery Department at (817) 337-2400 for information.

**Aug. 23:** The 16th Annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Clay Shoot

benefiting the Outdoor Mentoring Programs will be held at Alpine Shooting Range in Fort Worth. Call (972) 573-2383 or e-mail [daguirre@bbbstx.org](mailto:daguirre@bbbstx.org) for information.

**Aug. 23:** The Panhandle Big Game Awards will be held at Fair Park Auditorium in Childress. Call (210) 826-2904 or visit [TexasBigGameAwards.com](http://TexasBigGameAwards.com) for information.

**Aug. 28:** The Johnson County DU dinner will be held at the Cleburne Civic Center. Contact Doug at (817) 905-5049 or [djones@lochinar.com](mailto:djones@lochinar.com) for information.



**Aug. 28:** The Dallas Safari Club Austin Regional Meeting will be held. Call (972) 980-9800 for information.

**Aug. 28:** The Tomball NWTFF dinner will be held at VFW Post 2427. Contact Jess at (281) 806-9066 or [jw1217@gmail.com](mailto:jw1217@gmail.com) for information.



**Aug. 30:** The Cabela's Fall BBQ Blast competition will be held at the Fort Worth store. No entry fees. Call Stephanie at (817) 337-2400 for information.

**Sept. 4:** The Lake Lewisville DU dinner will be held at Marine Max in

Lewisville. Contact Ron at (972) 786-6630 or [tate-ron@aramark.com](mailto:tate-ron@aramark.com) for information.

**Sept. 5-6:** The Dallas Safari Club Members Only Dove Hunt will be held at the Hailey Ranch in Abilene. Call (972) 980-9800 for information.

**Sept. 6:** The Gulf Coast Quail Forever banquet will be held at the Houston Distributing Company. Contact Dave at (281) 332-6672 or [info@gulfcoastquailforever3066.org](mailto:info@gulfcoastquailforever3066.org) for information.

**Sept. 11:** The Dallas Delta Waterfowl dinner will be held at Royal Oaks Country Club. Call Bryan at (214) 561-1963 for information.



**Sept. 11:** The Dallas Woods and Waters Club monthly meeting will be held at the Sheraton North Dallas Hotel. Call (214) 570-8700 for information and reservations.

**Sept. 12-14:** The Legends Dove Hunt and Concert benefiting Hendrick Children's Hospital will be held in Abilene. Visit [legendsdovehunt.com](http://legendsdovehunt.com) for information.

## HAVE AN EVENT?

E-mail it to [editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com](mailto:editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com)

# Olympic shooters, archers on television, Internet

A computer will be a necessity for those wishing to watch most of the shooting and archery competitions at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. A few events will be broadcast on USA and MSNBC, but the majority will be on live streaming broadband at NBCOlympics.com. NBC and its sister networks released the TV and streaming broadband coverage for the games that begin Friday, Aug. 8 and conclude Sunday, Aug. 24. Daily schedules are subject to change.

The shooting and archery schedules are as follows:

**Fri., Aug. 8**  
NBCOlympics.com:  
Women's Archery  
Men's Shooting — Trap & 10m Air Pistol  
Women's Shooting — 10m Air Rifle & Gold Medal Final

**Sat., Aug. 9**  
USA and USA HD:  
2 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Women's Shooting — Air Rifle Gold Medal Final

NBCOlympics.com:  
Men's Archery  
Women's Archery  
Men's Shooting — 10m Air Pistol  
Gold Medal Final, Men's Trap  
Women's Shooting — 10m Air Pistol  
Competition & Gold Medal Final



GLENN ELLER

**Sun., Aug. 10**  
USA and USA HD:  
2 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Women's Archery — Team Gold Medal Final

MSNBC:  
5 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Men's Shooting — Trap Gold Medal Final

NBCOlympics.com:  
Women's Archery — Team Semifinal & Gold Medal Final  
Men's Archery — Team Semifinal & Gold Medal Final

Medal Final, Men's 10m Air Rifle & Gold Medal Final  
Women's Shooting — Trap

**Mon., Aug. 11**  
USA and USA HD:  
2 a.m. - Noon  
Men's Archery — Team Gold Medal Final

NBCOlympics.com:  
Men's Archery — Team Semifinal & Gold Medal Final  
Women's Archery  
Women's Shooting — Trap Gold Medal Final  
Men's Shooting — Double Trap 50m Pistol  
Competition & Gold Medal Final



BRET ERICKSON

**Tues., Aug. 12**  
NBCOlympics.com:  
Men's & Women's Archery — Individual  
Men's Shooting — Double Trap Gold Medal Final

Women's Shooting — Women's 25m Pistol

**Wed., Aug. 13**  
NBCOlympics.com:

Men's & Women's Archery  
Women's Shooting — 25m Pistol Final  
Skeet Three Position & Gold Medal Final



DOMINIC GRAZIOLI

**Thurs., Aug. 14**  
USA and USA HD:  
2 a.m. - Noon  
Women's Archery — Individual Gold Medal Final

NBCOlympics.com:  
Women's Archery — Individual Competition, Semifinals & Final  
Men's Archery — Individual Competition  
Women's Shooting — Skeet Gold Medal Final  
Men's Shooting — Skeet

50m Rifle Prone & Gold Medal Final  
25m Rapid Fire Pistol

**Fri., Aug. 15**  
USA and USA HD:  
2 a.m. - Noon  
Men's Archery — Individual Gold Medal Final

NBCOlympics.com:  
Men's Archery — Individual Competition, Semifinals & Gold Medal Final  
Men's Shooting — 25m Rapid Fire Pistol & Gold Medal Final  
Skeet Competition



SEAN MCELLELAND

**Sat., Aug. 16**  
NBCOlympics.com:  
Men's Shooting — Skeet Gold Medal Final  
50m Rifle Three Position & Gold Medal Final

## Seasons

Continued from Page 1

should be altered for future seasons."

The North Zone runs Sept. 1-Oct. 30, with a 15-bird bag and not more than two white-tipped dove; the Central Zone is Sept. 1-Oct. 30 and reopens Dec. 26-Jan. 4, with a 12-bird bag and not more than two white-tipped dove.

The South Zone dove season is Sept.

20-Nov. 9, reopening Dec. 26-Jan. 13 with a 12-bird bag and not more than two white-tipped dove. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

The Special White-winged Dove Area, which now encompasses land west of I-35 and south of U.S. Highway 90, rather than just the Rio Grande Valley, opens to white-winged dove afternoon-only (noon to sunset) hunting Sept. 6-7 and 13-14 and reopens Sept. 20-Nov. 9 and again from Dec. 26-Jan. 9. The daily bag limit during the

first two weekend splits is 12 birds, not more than four mourning dove and two white-tipped dove. The daily bag limit during the remainder of the Special White-winged Dove Area is 12 birds, not more than two white-tipped dove. Possession limit is twice the daily bag.

Teal season is Sept. 13-28 with a daily bag limit of 4 birds. Possession limit is twice the daily bag.

—A Texas Parks and Wildlife report.



### ANTICIPATION:

Stewart McSwain, 11, turns on his Mojo Dove decoy during an afternoon hunt with his dad near Waco last season.

## CCA State of Texas Angler's Rodeo (STAR)

LEADERS AS OF: 7-29-08

### STARKIDS DIVISION

(AGES 6-10)

**Flounder**  
Cole Crutchfield, 10, of Danbury  
6 lbs. 15 ozs.  
**Sheepshead**  
Albert Guzman, III, 10, of League City  
8 lbs. 2 ozs.  
**Gafftop**  
Grant Davis, 8, of Beaumont  
6 lbs. 2 ozs.

### STARTEENS TROUT & INSHORE DIVISIONS

(AGES 11-17)

**Upper Coast Speckled Trout**  
Charles Flowers, 14, of Alvin  
6 lbs. 1 oz.  
**Middle Coast Speckled Trout**  
Chandler Faickney, 15, of Lake Jackson  
8 lbs.  
**Lower Coast Speckled Trout**  
Christopher Walls, 15, of New Braunfels  
8 lbs. 3 ozs.  
**Sheepshead**  
Brett Green, 16, of Baytown  
9 lbs. 5 ozs.  
**Gafftop**  
Jessica Fontenot, 13, of Lake Jackson  
5 lbs. 15 ozs.  
**Flounder**  
Andrea Peters, 16, of Porter  
4 lbs. 9 ozs.

### STAR LEADERBOARD

**Upper Coast Speckled Trout**  
Jason Lingo of Seabrook  
8 lbs. 7 ozs.  
**Middle Coast Speckled Trout**  
Robert A. Daffern of Sargent  
8 lbs. 13 ozs.  
**Lower Coast Speckled Trout**  
Kristopher Anderson of Port Mansfield  
8 lbs. 10 ozs.  
**Flounder**  
Henry M. Mills of Houston  
7 lbs. 3 ozs.  
**Sheepshead**  
Rick Graham of Friendswood  
9 lbs. 12 ozs.  
**Kingfish**  
Robert Sanger, Jr. of Corpus Christi

54 lbs. 11 ozs.

**Dorado**  
Ryan David Foster of Harlingen  
65 lbs. 7 ozs.  
**Ling**  
Rachel Adams of Pinehurst  
74 lbs. 2 ozs.  
**Gafftop**  
Tina Guernsey of Beaumont  
6 lbs. 14 ozs.

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Thirteen tagged redbfish have been caught, 11 did not qualify. There have been two winners.

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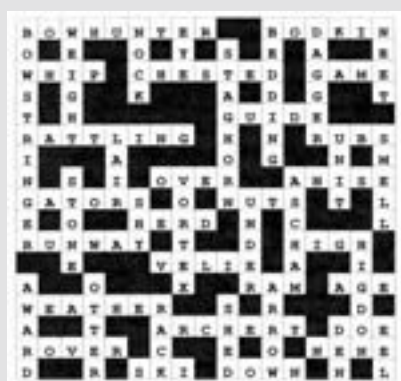
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## OUTFITTERS

Advertisement

# Whitetails ICC's main attraction

Starting this deer hunting season, Ike Conway will open his family ranch to those who want to experience a private whitetail deer hunt.

Set on 250 acres of East Texas thicket, the ICC Trophy Whitetail Ranch is home to about 170 deer, with many of the bucks in the 150 to 170 B&C range.

The ranch is an easy drive from the Metroplex, located just 35 miles southeast of Dallas.

Conway says his hunts are geared toward small groups of no more than two hunters and their guests. Conway thinks it would be the ideal family getaway for perhaps a husband-and-wife or a father-and-son team who want to do some hunting and relax in the outdoors.

Guests will stay on a 400-plus square-foot cabin that backs up to a 3-acre lake.

The cabin, which can sleep up to six, has a bedroom with a queen bed, a loft area with a queen bed, and a futon couch in the living area.

A stocked kitchen and meals are provided. Conway will offer such fare as steaks or grilled chicken with all the trimmings served under a covered pavilion or around a campfire.

But, the main attraction is the whitetail deer.

Hunters will have access to

an ATV to traverse the property. And, there are new tree stands for bow hunters and those who hunt with firearms.

Conway says both experienced hunters and novices are welcome. He is happy to take out novices to a firing range so they can practice their shooting before the hunt. He'll even provide the firearm.

For those who request it, he also can have the deer meat processed and the antlers mounted.

Conway, a lifelong deer enthusiast, started the ranch in 2003 after retiring from a 33-year career as a Dallas firefighter. He is a licensed deer breeder who raises DNA-guaranteed stock.

Ike and Jan Conway want to share their ranch — his parents and their son and daughter and their families also live on the property — with those who want to enjoy the outdoors.

During the non-hunting season, the cabin will be available to families who might want to fish the 3-acre lake for giant catfish, crappie or hybrid bluegill. Or, to those who want to photograph the majestic bucks.

Anyone seeking a peaceful getaway will find a warm welcome at the Conways' ranch.



**HUNT AND RELAX.** The ICC Trophy Whitetail Ranch will open its gates to hunters this season, with white-tailed bucks in the 150 to 170 class, a new cabin, a covered pavilion and a 3-acre lake for fishing.

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# PRODUCTS



**SLUG GUN:** Remington describes its **11-87 Sportsman ShurShot FR CL** (Fully Rifled Cantilever) as an ergonomically designed 12-gauge autoloader that significantly reduces recoil and delivers rifle-like accuracy. It's the firearm's soft-shooting, advanced gas-operating system that helps reduce recoil while its SuperCell Recoil Pad effectively absorbs the force of that recoil. Among the ShurShot's features are an ambidextrous stock designed for right and left-handed shooters; a 23-inch fully rifled barrel with built-in cantilever scope mount; and a 3-pound competition-style spring on the trigger assembly. Available with Realtree Hardwoods HD camouflaged stock and black matte finish on exposed metalwork, it sells for about \$994. For dealers, visit [www.remington.com](http://www.remington.com).

**FOLDING HUNTING KNIFE:** Knives of Alaska's new **Featherlight Series** folders include three models: the **Hunter**, with a drop-point blade; the **Bird/Trout**, with a Wharncliffe-style blade; and the **Defender**, with a Tanto-style blade. The blades are made from D2 tool steel and the locking liner mechanisms are made from 17-4 stainless spring steel. "During the manufacturing and testing process, each blade is locked open then individually torque tested several times to withstand over 100 pounds of force," says President Charles Allen. The 2-ounce knives are available with either Carbon Fiber handles (about \$80) or OD Green handles (about \$70). For information, visit [www.knivesofalaska.com](http://www.knivesofalaska.com) or call (800) 572-0980.



**FOR ON OR OFF THE WATER:** Strike King's new **SG-Camo 1** models are sunglasses with a semi-rimless frame and gray smoke polarized lenses, which are great for bright, sunny conditions. The lens' Advanced Polarization technology allows for improved contrast and sharpness and its coating creates greater resistance to scratches. They sell for about \$20. For retailers, visit [www.strikeking.com](http://www.strikeking.com)



**A NEW ICON:** Thompson/Center Arms has introduced several new extensions to its **ICON** bolt-action rifle line, including the **ICON WS** model, available in six variations. Featuring a Hogue over-molded composite stock along with a stainless steel barrel and Weather Shield finish that is applied to the barrel and other critical metal parts, this rifle is protected in the harshest conditions. The **ICON WS** is offered in black (shown); about \$1,010) or Realtree AP camo, and has all the amenities of the classic **ICON**. Features include a hinged floor plate; the Interlok bedding system, which provides a rigid and stable platform for securing the barreled action into the stock; a polished steel cocking indicator that has been integrated into the bolt sleeve; plus more. For dealers, visit [www.tcarms.com](http://www.tcarms.com) or call (603)-330-5659.

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**BEST SOFT LURE AT 2009 ICAST:** Berkley's **Gulp! Alive Jerk Shad's Crazy Legs** version features skinny, dancing legs that'll attract the bass. The scent-impregnated 5-inch soft bait is available in Black Shad, Chartreuse Pepper Neon, New Penny, Pearl White and Watermelon colors. The Gulp! Alive is sold in resealable buckets so that bait stays fresh and supple. It costs about \$20. For retailers, visit [www.purefishing.com](http://www.purefishing.com) or call (800) 237-5539.



## Product Spotlight

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## Shooters

Continued from Page 6

and the Borden Award is more important to them than anything else."

Ford Wagner, who was assisting in the coordination of the shotgun shooting sports events, said bringing the family together as participants and support groups is a big part of the event.

"Typically, we will have people start in a 4H program, grow up and leave to raise their family and then when their kids get old enough, they get them involved," he said.

"A lot of times the family mem-

bers following a shooter will be a huge group," Wagner added.

Many times at the different shooting competitions, three or four carts full of grandparents, parents, siblings and friends could be seen following shooters to cheer for their successes and provide support when the competitor was struggling.

Wagner, who was also part of the Comal County contingent at the games, said in addition to the other elements of the event, there is a lot of recognition for individual accomplishments.

"There are lots of awards," he said. "In some classes, the awards are six to eight places deep. This is all part of the effort to get young-

sters involved in the shooting sports — they are our future."

The age range of youngsters competing in the state games is from 8 to 19 years old.

"We have held these matches since the late 1970s and the program just continues to grow," Howard said. "We don't know of a better way to help these kids develop their life skills."

All that is required for a county to begin a program is for a coach to complete the state's instruction program and to gather at least five youngsters as a team, he said.

More information on the statewide program may be obtained at [shootingsports.tamu.edu](http://shootingsports.tamu.edu) or by calling (979) 845-1214.

## Tips

Continued from Page 9

only will reduce fuel mileage but is unsafe and illegal.

**Tip 5:** Use a boat cover. These snug-fitting tops will streamline and reduce the wind drag when towing the boat down the highway. Local marine dealers can be helpful in locating and fitting the right cover for a particular boat, which also pro-

TECTS the boat from the elements.

**Tip 6:** Check trailer bearings for proper lubrication. Most trailers come with bearing protectors to keep the hubs properly lubed. Even these need to be checked regularly to make sure they are full of grease. Most bearing protectors can be tested by simply pressing the spring-loaded piston. If the hub has adequate grease, it will rock back and forth slightly, but it will not fall fully compress. Visually check standard bearings for adequate grease and re-

pack as needed. Refer to the trailer owner's manual for specific instructions.

**Tip 7:** Watch your speed. When towing, accelerate slowly and steadily from complete stops. Maintain constant speeds — if the speed limit is 55 mph, maintain this speed. In interstate driving where the posted speed limit is 65 to 75 mph, Heeren recommends driving 5 mph slower than the posted speed limit to get the most out of every precious gallon of gas.

## Permit

Continued from Page 8

permit on a fly, Ambrogio said. "There was no wind. That makes the fish, that are in very shallow water, very hard to catch," she said.

"They know you are there. Just lifting the rod to cast to the fish makes them run away," she said. Just three permit were caught by 18 anglers — a record low total for the eight-year-old event.

Smith said he ties his own flies, crab imitations, modeled after a pattern used by emergency room physician David Dulu of Charleston, who won three tarpon tournaments earlier this year. Fellow physician Dalu has "taught me a lot," Smith said.

During the permit tournament, the guide pulls an angler around in shallow water, 2 feet deep or less, to spot the permit.

Asked how he caught the winning fish, Smith said, "I don't know. It was everyone's experience that you couldn't get a fly in

the water without them spooking.

"I just had one that happened to eat," he said.

Smith said he probably saw 40 permit during the tournament's three days and "probably got four of them to go for the fly." Told that he must be a patient man, Smith quipped, "or psychotic."

Smith said he has no favorite among the saltwater fish that fly-fishers target. "Redfish, big trout, permit, tarpon, bonefish — they all have a role. It's important for me to do well and practice on all those species."

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