

# LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

August 28, 2009

Texas' Premier Outdoor Newspaper

Volume 6, Issue 1



### Bones onboard

Texas is generally too cold for bonefish, but sometimes they turn up. **Page 8**

## Playing the dove fields

It's the friendliest time of year

By Craig Nyhus  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Waiting for — and weighing — invitations to hunt the Texas dove opener has become an art form for many hunters.

"I had a nice, casual invite to a good spot," said Les Webernick of San Antonio. "I have to call the guy and see if he really meant it or not."

Those with a lease or who own good dove-hunting land become like rock stars.

"We get real popular this time of year," a member of a group of West Texas hunters said at a hunting show. "We only have room for so many, but there are plenty of requests."

He wasn't complaining, though.

"People like to hunt with someone they know and trust," one group member said. "Some people don't like the real large groups — they like to hunt with their friends even if it might not be quite as good."

Others, when invited, are still weighing their options.

The West Texas group had stories, but they weren't naming names.

"I know a guy," one of the hunters said. "He gets two or three options, just in case one falls through"

See **PLAYING**, Page 22



**HAPPY HUNTERS:** Two hunters appear content with their dove hunt invitation. Dove hunt invitations are coveted this time of year. Photo by David J. Sams, LSON.

## In Iraq, a mammoth mangar

Sergeant from Waco pulls 95-pound fish out of Saddam's lake

By Craig Nyhus  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Sgt. 1st Class Mario Valenzuela of Waco, who is stationed with a medical task force in Iraq, took a late afternoon off to fish — and caught a giant.

"I went with a couple of 1st Med soldiers to Lost Lake," Valenzuela said. "We got rigged up to fish with some bait, leftover DFAC (Dining Facilities Administration Center) food."

Lost Lake is one of many man-made lakes at Camp Victory in Baghdad. The lake predates the 2003 U.S. invasion, and Saddam Hussein's Al Faw Palace is about a mile away.

Valenzuela, who was joined by Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Ramsey and Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Seitz, decided to try some lures his wife had sent him.

"I rigged up a gold 1/4-ounce Rooster Tail and tried about 10 casts with no luck," he said. "Sgt. 1st Class Seitz tried the baited rod — she kept casting and reeling it like it was a lure — but she was having



**A GOOD DAY:** Sgt. 1st Class Mario Valenzuela of Waco is stationed in Iraq, where he landed this 95-pound mangar. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Seitz.

See **IRAQ**, Page 26

## Kayaker becomes catch of the day

Lure hooks man while paddling

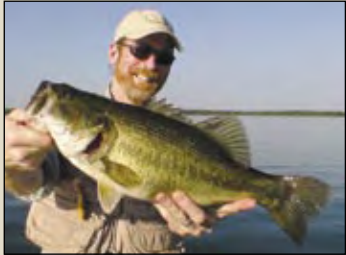
By Scott Sommerlatte  
FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Will Myers of Austin is both a kayak angler and competition kayak racer. Recently, when he left his weekend home in Port Aransas to train in the Corpus Christi Ship Channel, he found himself in a life-threatening situation involving anglers in a small sport fishing boat.

"I like to train in the channel because it is similar to the types of water where I race," Myers said. "I do it all of the time, but I am always conscientious of other

See **HOOKED**, Page 25

### Inside



#### FISHING

### 50 states, 50 days

A father and son caught hundreds of fish — and plenty at Lake Fork — on a countrywide adventure this summer.

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#### Bass biting early

Black bass are coming to daybreak anglers, in most cases.

Page 8



#### HUNTING

### Crane stamp change

No longer can hunters request a crane permit from retailers.

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#### Antler restrictions

Some hunters in East Texas are unhappy about the state's antler restrictions.

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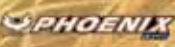
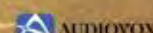
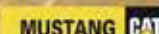
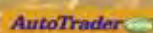
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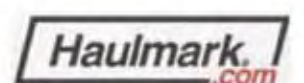
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# CONSERVATION

## Conservation News in Brief

### Wardens, others receive TPW law enforcement awards

Texas Parks and Wildlife held its fifth annual law enforcement recognition awards ceremony Aug. 19, honoring game wardens and others for meritorious service. The following Director's Awards were given:

**Eduardo Hinojosa:** For recognition as the first Hispanic to be commissioned a game warden in Texas. Hinojosa began his service Oct. 17, 1955.

**Special Prosecutor Kelly Siegler and Wharton County District Attorney Josh McGown:** For efforts that lead to a conviction in the capital murder trial in the 2007 death of Game Warden Justin Hurst in Wharton County.

**Chris Lasiter and State Trooper Louis Verdeja:** For actions in a flood resulting in eight saved lives and six successful water rescues Sept. 10, 2008.

**Officer Jeff Richardson:** For actions in coming to the aid of a fellow officer Dec. 4, 2008.

**Cpl. Paul Noble:** For resuscitating a near-drowning victim May 26.

**Sgt. Johnny Longoria — Director's Humanitarian Award:**

After Longoria lost friend and co-worker Michael Pauling, who was killed in the line of duty, Longoria helped develop programs for the families of fallen wardens, including dealing with their grief, funeral planning and helping them navigate the paperwork involved in receiving the appropriate state and federal

benefits. His work led to the adoption of a family assistance program and a stress management program.

— Texas Parks and Wildlife report

### Toyota is new title sponsor for state's ShareLunker program

Big bass in Texas have a new name: Toyota.

The Japanese auto maker recently became the title sponsor of the ShareLunker program. The program uses angler-donated largemouth bass weighing 13 pounds or more in a breeding program that produces fish for stocking into Texas public waters. Anglers who donate fish receive a fiberglass replica of their catch, ShareLunker clothing and recognition at an annual banquet. The Texas resident catching the largest bass of the year also receives a lifetime fishing license.

For the sponsorship, Toyota agreed to give cash, in-kind work and a new 2010 Toyota Tundra truck.

"The ShareLunker program is one of the most successful in the nation in fisheries conservation," said Toby Hynes, president of Gulf States Toyota. "Toyota has long been a supporter of the (Texas Parks and Wildlife) Foundation and Department in their innovative programs. We believe it is important to encourage such sound efforts to further the enjoyment of the Texas outdoors."

— Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation report



**HONORS DELIVERED:** Forrest, left, and Nina Wood, center, accept plaques recognizing their enshrinement into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame last month. Photo by FLW.

## Ranger Boats' Woods enshrined in Hall

### Couple founded boat company

Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame reserves the honor of enshrinement for individuals whose lasting efforts have benefited freshwater sportfishing.

"Forrest and Nina are recognized as pioneers in the world of freshwater fishing," said Emmett Brown, executive director of the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame. "The impact they've made continues to raise the awareness of the sport of fishing while also reinforcing the importance of conservation and the positive experience fishing affords to families and individuals alike."

Forrest and Nina Wood join the founders of the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, Bob and Fannie Kutz, as the only couples enshrined together.

— FLW report

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## NATIONAL

# Wolf tags for sale in Idaho

### State hopes to reduce population by 220



**PROTECTIONS REDUCED:** Though once endangered, wolves are now legal game in Idaho. Photo by John and Karen Hollingsworth, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Idaho began selling tags Aug. 24 for its first public wolf hunt. Any hunter may purchase a license, but hunting will end when 220 of Idaho's wolves — a quarter of the population — have been harvested.

Idaho's Fish and Game Commission voted 4-3 for the wolf-hunt plan. The three dissenters wanted a more aggressive hunt to target 49 percent of Idaho's estimated 1,020 wolves.

Commissioners told The Associated Press they expect about 70,000 hunters to buy the wolf tag, but they do not expect to meet the quota of harvesting 220 wolves.

A tag to shoot a wolf will cost \$11.75 for an Idaho resident, or \$186 for a non-resident, plus the cost of a hunting license, which is \$12.75 for residents and \$154.75 for non-residents.

Wolves were reintroduced to the state in 1995, when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service moved 35 gray wolves from Canada to central Idaho over two years.

They were removed from the endangered species list in May.

With the population stable, the Idaho's new goal is to eventually return the state to its 2005 level of 520 wolves.

A group of anti-wolf-hunting organizations has filed suit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in an attempt to reverse the agency's decision removing the gray wolf from the endangered species list in Montana and Idaho.

— Idaho Fish and Game report

## National News in Brief

### Georgia helping Russian sturgeon through farming

Caviar is one of the world's most prized delicacies, but over-fishing has pushed wild sturgeon to the brink of extinction. A new, cost-effective and environmentally sustainable method for farming sturgeon pioneered by a University of Georgia professor has the potential to protect wild sturgeon populations while creating a lucrative agricultural commodity.

"Historically, farmed caviar has comprised 2 percent of the world's market while 98 percent has come from wild sturgeon," said Doug Peterson, associate professor of fisheries and aqua-

culture. "We're trying to flip the market so that in 10 years it will be 98 percent farmed and two percent wild. That'll be good for wild sturgeon populations and for farmers."

Domestic white sturgeon have been successfully farmed in Northern California, but attempts to farm Russian species in North America have been stifled by high start-up costs and the tendency of farmed caviar to have a muddy taste. Peterson has created a new method of raising Siberian sturgeon that combines aquaculture technology with a highly efficient filtration system and spring water from northwestern Georgia. The result is environmentally sustainable caviar whose taste rivals that of wild-caught.

— University of Georgia report

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# HUNTING



**DECISION TIME:** Most Texas hunters are in favor of antler restrictions, but some hunters, especially in East Texas, feel they make hunting too tough on their small leases. Photo by David J. Sams, Lone Star Outdoor News.

## Antler restrictions a concern for some

Small tracts, narrow racks hurt chances, hunters say

**By Craig Nyhus**  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Most Texas hunters like antler restrictions in their counties. What started as an experiment in six Texas counties has spread like wildfire, and now 113 counties, including 52 new additions, will be under the restrictions this season.

The restrictions, designed to offer greater protection of younger bucks, received strong support from hunters during the public comment period. While a spike is legal (at least one unbranched antler), other bucks must have an inside spread of 13 inches or greater.

But not all Texans are excited about the changes.

Steve Sprinkle of Plano is on a hunting lease with family members in Wood County, one of the early antler restriction counties.

"The leases are small in East Texas," he said. "And there aren't the

See **ANTLERS**, Page 19

**LEGAL**  
at least one unbranched antler

**LEGAL**  
at least one unbranched antler

**LEGAL**  
inside spread of 13 inches or greater

**DEFINITION OF A POINT**

**LEGAL POINT**    **NOT A POINT**

A point is a projection that extends at least one inch from the edge of a main beam or another tine. The tip of the main beam is also a point.

**ILLEGAL**  
this buck does not meet the criteria

## Bowhunter class more than hunter ed

Extra emphasis placed on safety with treestands, broadheads

**By Thomas Phillips**  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Bowhunter education, like hunter education, is intended to teach safety and conservation and improve hunters' skills. And no, the bowhunter version is not the same as the regular class: It's more than an interchange of the harvest tool.

"I myself have been bowhunting a long time, and I didn't take the class until I had been bowhunting awhile," said Marty Chambers, president of the Irving Bowhunters Association, who is certified to teach the course. "And I learned a lot from it."

Treestand safety receives more attention in bowhunter education, Chambers said. Treestands often are the site of bowhunting-related injuries. Hunters fall from them, or arrows with sharp broadheads are involved in mishaps.

Broadheads, too, are another source of injuries. The course teaches that bowhunters should

See **BOWHUNTING**, Page 14

### Upcoming classes

Date	City	Time	Phone
Aug. 28	Conroe	6 p.m.	(713) 822-4520
Aug. 28	Willis	6 p.m.	(936) 425-1102
Aug. 29	Corpus Christi	8 a.m.	(362) 825-3249
Sept. 4	Amarillo	5 p.m.	(806) 354-9095
Sept. 5	San Antonio	8 a.m.	(210) 648-7850
Sept. 19	Austwell	7:30 a.m.	(832) 888-4798
Sept. 19	Pearland	11:30 a.m.	(281) 682-7188
Sept. 19	Pearland	11:30 a.m.	(281) 992-7366



**MAKE THE TRIP:** Hunters must visit a Texas Parks and Wildlife office or go online for a sandhill crane permit this year. Photo by David J. Sams, LSON.

## Crane permits require extra effort this season

Permit not available at retailers

**By Craig Nyhus**  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Sandhill crane hunters will need to take a few extra steps to be legal this season, but officials say the change was necessary.

Special permits to hunt sandhill cranes have always been required, but all that meant for hunters was to ask for it when

buying their license.

This year, retailers cannot issue the permits, even though they are free.

Crane permits will only be available at Texas Parks and Wildlife field offices, the agency's Austin headquarters or through TPW's online license

See **CRANES**, Page 24

**HOT HUNTS:**  
Outfitters and chambers of commerce can show the way to dove hunting action across the state. Photo by David J. Sams, Lone Star Outdoor News.



# Dove season days away

Dove season begins Sept. 1 in Texas' North and South Zones, and hunters statewide will have a 15-bird bag limit this season. The South Zone opens Sept. 18, and the Special South Texas White-winged Dove Area sees its first day of action Sept. 5. Season dates and bag limits for 2009 are given below.

**North and Central Dove Zones:** Sept. 1 through Oct. 25, reopening Dec. 26 through Jan. 9, with a 15-bird bag and not more than two white-tipped doves.

**South Zone:** Sept. 18-Nov. 3, reopening Dec. 26-Jan. 17 with a 15-bird bag and not more than two white-tipped doves.

Possession limit is twice the daily bag.

**Special South Texas White-winged Dove Area:** Opens to white-winged dove afternoon-only (noon to sunset) hunting the first two full weekends in September running from Sept. 5-6 and 12-13, reopening when the regular South

## Still looking for a place to hunt?

Many chambers of commerce throughout Texas provide links to outfitters, and several supporters of *Lone Star Outdoor News* also provide services for hunters throughout the state.

### Lone Star Outdoor News outfitters

All Around Outfitters	Central, South Zones	(210) 663-4675
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Circle H Outfitters	South Texas	(281) 535-1930
Covert Ranch	South Texas	(713) 975-1975
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Jim Shepherd	South Zone	(210) 849-0212
Nooner Ranch	Hondo	(830) 741-8614
Wilson Whitetail Ranch	South Texas	(210) 844-7036

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Brady	<a href="http://www.bradytx.com/7659096_75200.htm">www.bradytx.com/7659096_75200.htm</a>
Breckenridge	<a href="http://www.breckenridgetexas.com/hunting.asp">www.breckenridgetexas.com/hunting.asp</a>
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Port Mansfield	<a href="http://www.port-mansfield.com/hunting.htm">www.port-mansfield.com/hunting.htm</a>
Young County	<a href="http://www.grahamtxchamber.com/links.html">www.grahamtxchamber.com/links.html</a>

Zone season begins on Friday, Sept. 18 through Tuesday, Nov. 3 and again from Saturday, Dec. 26 through Wednesday, Jan. 13. The daily bag limit is 15 birds, not more than four

mourning doves during the first two weekend splits and two white-tipped doves.

Once the general season opens, the aggregate bag limit will be 15.

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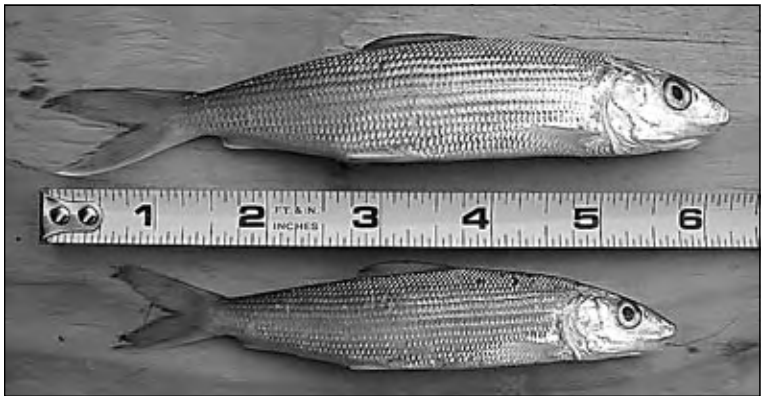
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## FISHING

# Rare Texas bones turn up in shrimp trawl



**DRIFTING NORTH:** Bonefish were caught in a shrimp trawl near Traylor Island in Aransas Bay. Unfortunately, the tropical fish aren't expected to hang out during the Texas winter. Photo by John Reed.

## Warm-water fish usually depart during winter

By Aaron Reed  
FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Bonefish, the elusive and speedy graill of saltwater fly anglers everywhere, typically conjure images of gin-clear waters surrounding exotic tropical isles. Think: Andros, Belize, the Seychelles.

When a shrimper captured two in a trawl in Aransas Bay on the middle Texas coast earlier this month, it caused a

bit of a stir.

"Bonefish really get anglers salivating," said Mark Fisher, science director for Texas Parks and Wildlife's Coastal Fisheries Division. "This area is actually pretty good habitat; it just gets too chilly in the winter."

Fisher said the juveniles, which at about 6 inches long likely were spawned early in the spring, were carried north from Mexico or the Caribbean.

"We've had strong currents flowing up from the south all summer," he said. "It's interesting; it's another summer, tropical resident."

Bonefish, members of the genus *Albula*, once were thought to be a single species in tropical and subtropical wa-

ters worldwide. Recent genetic studies suggest at least nine distinct species — three in the Atlantic Ocean and another six in the Pacific.

The two youngsters that spilled-out onto the deck of a shrimp boat this month aren't the first recorded for the area. TPW fisheries biologists turned up one in sampling from Corpus Christi Bay in August 2002, and in June 1994 a juvenile was captured in the Aransas Shrimp Boat Channel.

Texas anglers sometimes become lucky, too. In November 2006, a fisherman landed a bonefish from already-chilly Gulf waters at Bob Hall Pier in

See **BONEFISH**, Page 25

## Work on locks restricts access at Matagorda

### Anglers given odd hours to pass through to West Bay

By Mike Price  
FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Matagorda anglers are frustrated. Work on the locks at the intersection of the Colorado River and the Intracoastal Waterway has severely restricted their access to West Matagorda Bay from the city of Matagorda.

The locks are being refurbished, and getting through them to go fishing in West Matagorda Bay is a gamble.

#### Open moments

Small craft may pass through the locks between 1 and 1:30 p.m. some days. To check the lock status:

- Call: Colorado River lockmaster (979) 863-2318
  - Visit: Army Corps of Engineers Web site [www.swg.usace.army.mil/Locks/ColoradoLockStatus.asp](http://www.swg.usace.army.mil/Locks/ColoradoLockStatus.asp)
- The site is updated twice daily

Some days the east lock is blocked by a working barge, and other days it is open.

Lockmaster Simon DeSoto said the work being done is necessary and time consuming.

"Not only is the contractor taking the gates out of the water, putting them on the bank and refurbishing them," he said, "but

he is also doing concrete work on our monolith structures, the structures that the gates are set in.

See **LOCKS**, Page 14



**TOUGH TRIP:** Workers on a barge use scaffolding to access and repair the lock gates in Matagorda. Access to West Matagorda Bay is restricted, and anglers are asked to call the lockmaster before planning their trip. Photo by Mike Price for Lone Star Outdoor News.



**MORNING BITE:** The summer largemouth bite is good at lakes such as Falcon. They are found early in very shallow water, while fish in other reservoirs are staying deep. Photo by David J. Sams, Lone Star Outdoor News.

# Shallow early, then deeper — but not everywhere

## Fish retreating to deeper water after early-morning bite

By Thomas Phillips  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Bass anglers are reporting good catches around the state, with success coming early in the midsummer morning as a general rule.

"Choke Canyon is fishing very well right now," said Chris Short of Universal City.

Anglers are catching many fish in the range of 5 to 7 pounds, Short said. At a recent tournament, bass of 10.8 pounds and 10.6 pounds were weighed in.

At Choke Canyon, anglers won't find a great quantity of fish, but they will find quality, Short said.

Bigger fish are coming off of ledges and points, and smaller ones are being pulled from grass, Short said.

"The fish are basically moving out to their summer haunts since it's been so hot," he said. "I think the majority of the bigger fish are deeper."

The day typically begins early and shallow these days at Choke Canyon, Short

said. Anglers begin with chatterbaits and buzzbaits and switch to Carolina rigs.

Some anglers, however, have been bucking the shallow-to-deep trend. They eschew the grass and skip straight to deeper waters.

At Falcon Lake, the fishing is hot for quality and quantity, Short said.

Bass can be found in 8 inches of water for the early-morning bite, but when they go deeper, they go to 4 or 5 feet, Short said.

"They'll back off, but they don't back off very far," he said.

During a recent trip to the lake, Short found fish at 2 feet deep one day, and the next day they moved to 4 or 5 feet.

At Falcon, he has been catching them on a spinnerbait, which he often dead-sticks for about a minute. Then, he will hop it off of the bottom, and that's when fish hit.

"That's Falcon," he said. "Sometimes you have to do different things."

Scott Caro of Castroville offered a similar description of the South Texas impoundment.

"Falcon is Falcon," he said. "You can fish 10 points and find the fish on one point."

He suggested fishing ledges, and he said an acquaintance caught a 29-pound sack in a recent tournament by fishing crankbaits near the lake's dam.

Anglers can also find fish shallow as long as the shallow water is near deep water. He said he has had little luck in the backs of coves.

In East Texas, Gerald Holder has been fishing grassy flats to find fish at Lake O' the Pines, and the fishing has been good.

"It's fair up on the north end," said Holder, who lives at the lake. "There's nothing happening on the south end."

Holder casts an 1/8-ounce spinnerbait and soft plastics. When the water is off-color, his soft plastic is red and black. When it clears, he turns to a green watermelon color.

The bite starts early and shallow there, too. Holder is off the water by 9:30 a.m., and he catches fish in 2 to 5 feet of water.

"The fish are basically moving out to their summer haunts since it's been so hot. I think the majority of the bigger fish are deeper."

— Chris Short,  
Choke Canyon angler

See **BASS**, Page 16

# Rookie's career stays alive with BASS win

## Cresson lure maker puts broken-down boat to the test in N.Y.

By Kyle Carter  
FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

When Chad Griffin, a professional bass angler from Cresson, pattered into Syracuse, N.Y., in early August, he figured he had reached the end of his tournament-fishing career.

His money had dried up and his 3-year-old boat was an on-again, off-again working product.

"Most these guys get a new boat every year, and now I know why," Griffin said.

It was the end of the most grueling tournament year of his relatively short career. Unlike most anglers who call themselves professionals, many of whom have been chasing bass their entire lives, Griffin didn't pick up bass fishing until his early 20s.

Until Griffin was 18, he lived in Anchorage, Alaska, and spent most of his time with his grandfather fishing for salmon. When his family moved near Fort Worth, he started to dabble in other types of fishing. Bass caught him as much as he caught them, and he started entering tournaments.

Some early success led him and his family to a sobering reality.

"Fishing's really the only thing I've ever been good at," Griffin said.

Making the next step — to stop working a regular job and use fishing as his only source of income — was not an easy one, especially with a young daughter and a longtime girlfriend to help support.

He worked his way up the bass fishing chain on lower levels of the FLW series, and on the Texas Tournament Trail, which is where he scored his biggest paycheck at a lit-



**DOWN, NOT OUT:** Chad Griffin of Cresson had a long rookie year, but his efforts paid off with a win in the final regular season event of the Elite Series. Photo by BASS.

tle over \$12,000 for a second-place finish.

In 2002, he tired of tweaking and piecing together different jigs from different companies, so he and his father began building Ezee Jigs Co., based in Granbury. The product hit the market in 2006, but soon after that, for the first time in his life, Griffin stopped fishing.

He was locked in a custody battle over his daughter and needed to take a break from the road-weary lifestyle of a professional bass fisherman.

And for the first time in nearly a decade,

See CHAMP, Page 21

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# GAME WARDEN BLOTTER

### ROCK-THROWING ROAD RAGE

Game Warden Shawn Hervey was behind Bringle Lake in Bowie County when a pickup approached quickly down the road and stopped in front of him. A car then blocked the exit road, and a man exited the car and started walking toward the truck with something in his hand. The truck started to move and a loud bang was heard. Hervey stopped the truck and positioned himself between the two vehicles. The man had picked up a rock and in the midst of road rage and thrown it through the back passenger window of the truck. The irate man was placed in handcuffs. Hervey spoke with the driver of the truck, a scared 16-year-old girl. She said she had passed the man some time ago, and he had been chasing the pickup ever since. The man said that when the truck passed him, someone inside it threw a can out in front of him, and it splashed on his car. The owner of the pickup arrived, and the car's driver agreed to pay for the damage so the owner would not press charges. After sitting in handcuffs for a while, the man said his actions were uncalled for and it was a stupid thing to do.

### PARK SITE OF POACHING SPREE

A caller reported several violations in progress at Adolph Thomae Jr. County Park in Arroyo City. Cameron County Game Warden Billy Lucio spent several hours at the park and walked away with 29 fishing violations. He also seized more than 60 undersized trout.

### WARDEN COORDINATES FIREFIGHT AT WMA

Duval County Game Warden Cullen Stakes responded to a wild-fire that was burning on the James E. Daughtrey Wildlife Management Area. He coordinated additional aid

## Dove poachers can't hide in shed

Three males were cited for shooting dove before the season begins in Travis County. Game Warden

Cody Jones checked the area and found the trio sitting in a shed behind a house in the area. After a

short conversation, the men admitted shooting dove after seeing numerous birds flying over.

from Chris Mostyn, the TPW biologist for the WMA and other local officials to help the McMullen County Reserve Fire Department extinguish the fire. After four hours, the fire was put out before it had a chance to spread to additional ranchers' pastures that bordered the WMA.

### STORM SWAMPS NEW BOAT, BOATERS

Hunt County Game Wardens Dale Waters and Gary Miller received a 911 call about a boat sinking with several people in it around the Two Mile Bridge on Lake Tawakoni. The caller said the boat was full of water and would not start. Waters and Miller went to the location and found two adult males and a 7-year-old child. All had on a life jackets and were unharmed. A fast storm came in with strong winds and heavy rain. Waves came into the 16-foot bass boat and filled it with water. It was the operator's first trip out in the boat.

### FISH TRAPS FOUND, CITATIONS ISSUED

Terrell County Game Warden Kenneth Stannard joined Pecos County Game Warden Chris Amthor to respond to a call received from Deputy Game Warden Jason Wrinkle about some people driving in a riverbed. Once they arrived, the wardens watched what the people were doing in the river. They noticed four men and a woman with two fish traps made out of chicken wire. They were using the traps to catch catfish and other fish and handing them off to the woman to put into an ice chest. After quickly filling their ice chest,

they went back to the rest of their party under the bridge. Once contact was made, only three of the five individuals were around, and no traps were to be found. One man said two men went upstream with the traps. Stannard crossed the creek and spoke to the two men, but they said they didn't have the traps. Once all the individuals were gathered, Chris asked the younger man for his ID. The man failed to ID himself. All five individuals were cited for illegal means and methods and no fishing licenses, and they were ordered to pay civil restitution. Both traps were found on the edge of the creek in the brush, and 35 fish were seized. One individual was booked into Terrell County Jail for resisting arrest.

### RABBITS TOSSED DURING SHORT PURSUIT

At 1:45 a.m., Moore County Game Warden Jake Simmering was headed home from Lake Meredith when he was asked to assist local state troopers on a vehicle stop after a weapon had been found. The vehicle contained four people who had been driving around the county shooting rabbits off the road. When the highway patrol attempted to stop them, it took several seconds and the back-seat passenger was throwing rabbits out the window and over the top of the jeep into the ditch. None of the people had a hunting license.

### WRONG RAMP FOR I-30

A woman drove a 2009 Lincoln Navigator off a boat ramp and into Lake Ray Hubbard one night dur-

ing a heavy rain storm. The woman thought she was on the on-ramp entering I-30, but instead sped down the boat ramp into the lake. She made it out of the vehicle and swam back to shore safely. Rockwall County Game Warden Clint Brown helped Dallas police and firefighters recover the vehicle, which was found about 100 yards off shore.

### STINGRAYS NOT FOR SALE ANYMORE

An El Paso resident found freshwater stingrays for sale at a local pet store. Game Wardens Ray Spears and Dustin Barrett went to the pet store. There they found that the species was illegal for sale in Texas, and the out-of-state supplier had shipped the species to the owner's home address in New Mexico.

### GOLF COURSE DEER SHOT NEAR HOMES

Hardin County Game Warden Mike Boone received information that a white-tailed deer had been found shot in a residential area on a golf course. He traveled to the location and began asking questions at the pro shop. He obtained a lead from someone who recognized the sound of an individual's truck that had left the area the night before about 11 p.m. Boone located the truck and two suspects inside. A brief interrogation began, and by the end of the interview, four people gave written confessions to their illegal hunting over several nights, in which they had also shot one other deer but were unable to recover it. Cases pending.

### SHORT TRIP TO JAILHOUSE

The Mason County Sheriff's Office asked Game Warden Cody Hatfield for help arresting an intoxicated individual who passed out in front of the jail. Hatfield and two Mason County sheriff's officers responded. Hatfield woke the man and persuaded him to go inside the jail to get out of the heat. Once inside, the man was booked for public intoxication.

### SNAGGING NO WAY TO CATCH CATFISH LEGALLY

Two people were caught snagging fish at the Wright Patman Lake tail-race. They were seen snagging two large flathead catfish and a couple of buffalo. Morris County Game Warden Michael Serbanic and Marion County Game Warden Rick Lane filed charges on them.

### TRAIL OF RAMPAGE FLOWS DOWN NUECES

A caller reported seeing numerous dead deer floating in the Nueces River. Live Oak County Game Wardens Clay Pipkin and Carlos Riojas found nine deer carcasses that appeared to have bullet holes in them. Two of the carcasses had the backstraps removed. After a long, hot day of walking the river bank, the wardens discovered a spot that appeared to be the point at which the carcasses were dumped. A campfire on top of the bank with charred backstraps and other cooked critters confirmed their suspicion. Interviews with the landowner lead to numerous Class A charges on three adults who spent the night on the ranch. San Patricio County Game Warden Kevin Mitchell joined the investigation and helped locate a warehouse where the suspects were changing tires and cleaning blood and hair from the vehicle and trailer used to load and dump the deer.

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# New junior fly record for speckled trout caught

## Boy, 13, fights fish on 3-weight rod in Baffin

By Craig Nyhus  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Justin Golla of Aransas Pass was fly-fishing under the lights at his family's house boat near Compuerta Pass in Baffin Bay on Aug. 7. The 13-year-old was using a three-weight fly rod with a 3.5-pound tippet since the trout under the lights were typically small.

What he landed wasn't — but it was the junior state fly-fishing record spotted seatrout.

Fishing off the deck of the boat with his older brother, Chris, Justin was catching small schooling trout when the bigger trout hit.

"They both got a good look at the trout when it came up and hit the fly," his father, Charlie, said. "Justin started giving orders to clear the deck and get the net ready."

"We weren't expecting him to catch one that big," Charlie Golla said.

The fish weighed 4.625 pounds and beat the previous record of 3.38 pounds. He caught it on a pink foam gurgler fly.

Justin has been fly-fishing for five years, his



**TOP TROUT:** Justin Golla, 13, of Aransas Pass landed the top junior fly-fishing record spotted seatrout (4.635 pounds) on a three-weight fly rod from the deck of his family's houseboat in Baffin Bay. Photo by Charlie Golla.

father said. "His older brother, Chris, got into it first," Charlie said. "We fished the surf for years with conventional tackle, but we knew Billy Sandifer who fly-fishes the surf a lot. He helped Chris get started."

Fly-fishing soon became a family affair. "Now the whole family is into it," Charlie said. "Chris holds the state record for Spanish mackerel on a fly rod — it goes without saying that these two brothers are always in close competition."

# News in Brief

## Flesh-eating bacteria claims Texas bay angler

An angler died Aug. 18 after a short battle with flesh-eating bacteria — which he picked up while fishing — according to the *Houston Chronicle*.

The angler, Thomas Shurley, 52, of Baytown, picked up the bacteria when he scraped his knee in Galveston Bay, family members told the newspaper. Shurley scraped his knee while righting the boat after it capsized.

The next day, he complained of feeling ill, and a day later his knee was swollen. After friends took him to a hospital, doctors amputated his leg, and his condition deteriorated.

The bacteria is especially dangerous for people with an underlying condition, such as hepatitis or diabetes. Shurley had hepatitis C.

Capt. Mike McBride, 53, a Port Mansfield fishing guide, became infected with flesh-eating bacteria over the Memorial Day weekend. The bacteria was introduced when he was stung on the top of his ankle joint by a stingray while fishing.

The next afternoon, his foot suddenly began to swell and turned red and then blue. McBride suffered tissue destruction and exposed tendons.

"It's a life-changing event," he said. "With a long road ahead."

— Staff report

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# HEROES



**LAIGHTON JERNIGAN**, 12, took her first deer, a nine-point buck, last season at her grandparents' ranch in Brown County.



**WYTHE LIESMANN**, 11, left, shot an eight-point buck at the Liesmann Ranch in Round Mountain with help from **Wren Liesmann**, right. Wythe shot the deer at 75 yards using a .243.



**JESSIE WICKER** shot these three deer in January at the Fort Bullard Ranch outside Fort McKavett using a .243 rifle.



**ELISA FARIS** shot this axis during the second week of a hunt near Rocksprings.



**JOSHUA CUELLAR** of Rio Hondo caught 28-inch and 26-inch redfish in the Lower Laguna Madre out of Arroyo City.

### Share an adventure

Want to share hunting and fishing photos with the **Lone Star Outdoor News** family? Send them to us with a phone number and caption information.

[editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com](mailto:editor@lonestaroutdoornews.com)

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**BROOKE BEARD**, 11, of Bryan had a successful white-winged dove hunt with her father, Phil Beard, in October in South Texas. She used a 20-gauge shotgun to shoot the dove and the family's springer spaniel, Gus, brought them to hand.



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### Bowhunting

Continued from Page 6

focus more on using sharp broadheads, rather than a particular brand. Extra-sharp broadheads lead to cuts and stab wounds.

Though they are sharp, broadheads do not pack the punch that a firearm does. Another point the course emphasizes is accurate shot placement.

Broadheads kill by hemorrhaging their target, so hitting the vitals is paramount.

"You can miss a little bit with a rifle, and all the shock energy will make up for it," Chambers said.

Texas does not require bowhunters to take bowhunter education. It is required, however, at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, on the southern arm of Lake Texoma in Grayson County.

"It's just a good, informative class," Chambers said. "If people haven't taken it, I think it'd be good for them to take it, even if they don't plan on going to Hagerman."

### Locks

Continued from Page 8

The locks have not had any work done on the concrete monolith structures since they were built in 1940."

DeSoto said the maintenance of the locks is a vital part of keeping the Intracoastal Waterway open.

"Under normal conditions we are here to regulate the high and low tide tidal flow," he said. "The commercial tug boats and barges that operate on the Intracoastal Waterway would not be able to push through the tidal flow without the locks being here. During times of flood, the locks prevent flood waters and silt, which comes down river with the flood, from going into the Intracoastal Waterway channel."

On each lock are two sets of gates, one for the river side and one for the canal side. DeSoto said every eight to 10 years the gates are removed so the steel can be refurbished.

"They get cleaned, new steel, new paint and then put back in," DeSoto said. "They are doing concrete work on all eight sections of both locks — the workers are on scaffolding platforms set on a wide barge in the lock using jackhammers, taking old concrete out and pouring new concrete — it does not allow for passage of small craft while they are working."

The work begins at 7 a.m. and ends at 7 p.m. seven days a week, and barges and small craft can pass through after hours. On days when critical work is not being done, the locks open for passage of small craft between 1 and 1:30 p.m.

There's only one way to know if the small midday window for passage exists.

"I just give the locks a call the night be-

fore I'm planning to go to West Bay," one Matagorda angler said.

One set of gates on the east lock was completed by July 29. Over the next one to two months the second set of gates at the east lock will be put back in. Then work will move to the west lock.

A flood on the Colorado River could stop traffic in the Intracoastal Waterway because the locks are not fully functional, DeSoto said.

"Two months ago when we had a flood on the Colorado River we had to shut down the entire waterway for three days," DeSoto said. "We didn't have a lock, and the tide differential was so great that we couldn't open the gate or we would have flooded everything down the Intracoastal Waterway."

The project should be finished by March. But by September, when the east lock is finished, anglers will be able to navigate through the shallow water and sunken logs of the diversion channel to access West Matagorda Bay via the Intracoastal Waterway.

But Larry Bond, a Bay City angler who likes to fish West Matagorda Bay, said he is careful of logs and debris that float down the river, especially after a flood.

"The Diversion Channel is scary," Bond said. "You never know if a new log has settled in the boat cut. I thought about launching in Palacios, but it takes an hour to get there from Matagorda."

Fortunately, an appreciated angler or two usually erects PVC pipes to mark the new "safe" trail after flooding.

Bond, a supervisor at the South Texas Project nuclear plant, recognizes the need for maintenance work.

"But closing the locks sure makes fishing West Bay inconvenient," he said.

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# FISHING REPORT

## HOT BITES

### LARGEMOUTH BASS



**CADDO:** Excellent on watermelon flukes, chartreuse-white chatterboxes, shad colored shallow running crankbaits, topwater plugs and soft plastic frogs.

**LAKE O' THE PINES:** Excellent on topwaters early, later switching to shallow running crankbaits, Texas rigs and spinnerbaits.

**CHOKO CANYON:** Very good on crankbaits and large soft plastic lizards and worms.

**ALAN HENRY:** Good on white spinnerbaits along brush and grass lines and black-blue soft plastic ring-worms and jigs worked in brush.

### 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. Redfish are excellent on perch, shad and silver spoons and down rigging spoons near the jetty and dam.

**CEDAR CREEK:** White bass are excellent on topwaters, jigs and slabs.

**ARROWHEAD:** White bass are good trolling and casting towards rocky points in Sailboat Cove area.

**COOPER:** White bass are good on topwaters and jigs.

### CATFISH



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

**SOMERVILLE:** Channel and blue catfish are excellent on trotlines and juglines baited with cut shad.

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

**LBI:** Yellow and blue catfish are very good on trotlines baited with goldfish and perch.

**BUCHANAN:** Yellow and blue catfish are very good on goldfish and perch upriver.

### CRAPPIE



**RAY ROBERTS:** Good to excellent on minnows and jigs over brush piles.

**ALAN HENRY:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 1.62' low. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are good on live bait.

**AMISTAD:** Water clear; 86 degrees; 1.02' low. Black bass are good on topwaters, soft plastics, jigs and drop shots. Striped bass are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Catfish are good on cheesebait, shrimp and nightcrawlers. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines, juglines and droplines with live perch.

**ARROWHEAD:** Water lightly stained; 83 degrees; 6.14' low. Black bass are good on chatterbaits off rocky points and topwater baits early in day. Crappie are fair on jigs suspended 12-15 feet. Blue catfish are good drift fishing with cut shad or cheese bait on flats at 12-15 feet deep and on juglines baited with shad.

**BASTROP:** Water clear. Black bass are fair on watermelon spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows and white tube jigs.

**BOB SANDLIN:** Water fairly clear; 84-88 degrees; 0.08' high. Black bass are good on topwater plugs early, later switching to weightless soft plastics, Rat-L-Traps and drop-shot rigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs under the 21 and railroad bridges and over brush piles. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Catfish are good on and prepared bait.

**BRAUNIG:** Water stained; 88 degrees. Black bass are fair on crankbaits and dark soft plastic worms in reeds and along the jetty and near the dam. Channel catfish are excellent on liver, shrimp, cut bait and cheesebait near the dam. Blue catfish are fair on cut bait.

**BROWNWOOD:** Water stained; 89 degrees; 6.46' low. Black bass are good on Bass Hogg spinnerbaits near the docks. Hybrid striped are fair trolling and drifting shad. White bass are good on Li'l Fishies and crankbaits off lighted docks at night. Crappie are good on Li'l Fishies and minnows over brush piles in 10-18 feet. Channel catfish are fair on trotlines baited with cut bait and chicken livers in 12-20 feet. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with cut bait and livers.

**BUCHANAN:** Water clear; 88 degrees; 26.72' low. Black bass are fair to good on topwaters, watermelon flukes, Rat-L-Traps and watermelon-red soft plastics. Striped bass are good on plastic swim baits and drifting live bait. White bass are fair but small on Tiny Traps and 2" plastic swim baits. Crappie are fair on pink-white and chartreuse crappie jigs and live minnows. Channel catfish are good on liver, minnows and dip bait.

**CADDO:** Water off-color; 80-85 degrees; 1.34' high. Crappie are slow on shiners fished in the river channel. White bass are good on Road Runners and Rooster Tails. Bream are very good on red wigglers and crickets.

**CALAVERAS:** Water stained; 88 degrees. Black bass are good on dark soft plastic worms, spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Striped bass are good on spoons and stripers jigs. Redfish are excellent down rigging silver and gold spoons and live bait. Crappie are slow.

**CANYON LAKE:** Water clear; 88 degrees; 15.40' low. Black bass are fair to good on topwaters, watermelon soft plastics and Texas-rigged blue flake worms. Striped bass are fair trolling crankbaits over and around humps and jigging 1 oz. artificial minnows. White bass are slow. Smallmouth bass are fair on smoke grubs and pumpkin jigs with matching craw trailers. Crappie are slow. Channel catfish are slow. Yellow and blue catfish are good on live bait.

**CEDAR CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 83-88 degrees; 1.28' low. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to jigs, Carolina rigs and DD 22s. Hybrid striped are fair to good on live shad. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair to good on prepared bait and fresh shad.

**CHOKO CANYON:** Water clear; 89 degrees; 9.07' low. Crappie are slow. Drum are slow. Channel and blue catfish are very good on stinkbait. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with live perch.

**COLEMAN:** Water clear; 88 degrees; 8.80' low. Black bass are fair on chartreuse

and watermelon Rat-L-Traps and Carolina-rigged soft plastics. Hybrid striped are slow. Crappie are good on minnows and green tube jigs. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait.

**CONROE:** Water murky; 1.34' low. Black bass are good on watermelon-white Carolina-rigged soft plastics and Rat-L-Traps. Striped bass are fair on silver stripers jigs and minnows. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are good on stinkbait, liver and shrimp.

**COOPER:** Water lightly stained; 83-87 degrees; 1.47' low. Black bass are good on buzzbaits early, later switching to drop-shot rigs, shaky head jigs and weightless 5" soft plastics. Crappie are good on minnows. Hybrid striped are fair to good on live shad and Sassy Shad. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers.

**FALCON:** Water stained; 84 degrees. Black bass are good on large Carolina-rigged soft plastic worms. Striped bass are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on cut bait and stinkbait.

**FAYETTE:** Water clear; 92 degrees. Black

nightcrawlers.

**HOUSTON COUNTY:** Water clear; 89 degrees; 1.13' low. Black bass to 6 pounds are good on motor oil-green flake and plum soft plastic worms. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Bream are good on live worms. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with perch.

**HUBBARD CREEK:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 6.95' low. Black bass are good on white spinnerbaits and pumpkin soft plastic lures worked along timber with topwater action early in day. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass and hybrid stripers are good on live bait. Catfish are fair on live bait.

**JOE POOL:** Water off-color; 85-89 degrees; 0.74' low. Black bass are fair to good on Texas rigs, Rat-L-Traps and shad pattern spinnerbaits. Crappie are fair to good on live minnows and jigs over brush piles and under bridges. White bass are good on chrome topwaters, slabs and Rooster Tails. Channel catfish are good on prepared bait.

on live bait. Smallmouth bass are good on live bait and crankbaits. Channel catfish are good on live bait.

**POSSUM KINGDOM:** Water stained; 80 degrees; 3.88' low. Black bass are good on chartreuse soft plastics and silver-blue back Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are fair on minnows and yellow jigs. White bass are good on silver jigging spoons. Stripers are good on silver spoons suspended in Broadway area. Catfish are fair on live shad in the north area along the river.

**PROCTOR:** Water stained; 89 degrees; 6.77' low. Black bass are good on white spinnerbaits and minnows. Striped bass are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on shrimp and shad. Yellow catfish are fair on shrimp and shad.

**RAY HUBBARD:** Water fairly clear; 84-86 degrees; 1.06' low. Black bass are good on topwater plugs and frogs early, later switching to Carolina rigs, shad pattern spinnerbaits and Texas-rigged rattlesnakes. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on topwaters early. Hybrid striped are poor on slabs. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

**RAY ROBERTS:** Water clear; 82-86 degrees; 0.93' low. Black bass are fair to good on Zell Pops early, later switching to weightless 4" soft plastics. White bass are excellent on topwaters early, later switching to jigging spoons — fish from the marina to Isle du Bois State Park. Catfish are excellent on prepared bait.

**RICHLAND CHAMBERS:** Water off-color; 84-88 degrees; 4.09' low. Black bass are good early on buzzbaits, weightless flukes, Carolina rigs and shaky head jigs. White bass are good on slabs and topwaters. Hybrid striped are fair on large slabs and live shad. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Catfish are good on prepared bait and fresh shad.

**SAM RAYBURN:** Water murky; 90 degrees; 3.60' low. Black bass are good on black-blue flake soft plastic worms. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows over baited holes. Bream are fair on nightcrawlers. Catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait and cut bait.

**SOMERVILLE:** Water murky; 91 degrees; 3.59' low. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striped are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Perch are excellent.

**STILLHOUSE:** Water clear; 90 degrees; 3.27' low. Black bass are good on minnows, perch and crawfish. White bass are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on liver and shrimp.

**SWEETWATER:** Water lightly stained; 79 degrees; 6.81' low. Black bass are fair on live bait. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on live bait. Catfish are fair on live and cut bait.

**TAWAKONI:** Water fairly clear; 84-89 degrees; 2' low. Black bass are fair to good on topwaters early. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on jigs and topwaters (while surface schooling). Striped bass and hybrid striped are fair on live shad and Sassy Shad. Catfish are good on prepared and cut bait.

**TEXOMA:** Water off-color; 83-88 degrees; 0.28' high. Black bass are fair to good early on buzzbaits and spoons, later switching to Carolina rigs. Smallmouth bass are fair to good on slabs and live shad. Striped bass are good on Pencil Poppers early, later switching to live shad. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers, prepared bait and live shad.

**TOLEDO BEND:** Water murky; 88 degrees; 3.10' low. Black bass are good on black-blue flake and black-red flake craw worms early and late. Striped bass are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows over baited holes. Bream are good on crickets and nightcrawlers off docks in 4-5 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait, livers and hearts.

**TRAVIS:** Water stained; 90 degrees; 47.08' low. Black bass to 5 pounds are fair on chrome chuggers and red shad worms in 18-35 feet. Striped bass are slow. White bass are good on chrome chuggers and silver spoons in 5-25 feet. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish to 6 pounds are good on nightcrawlers and cut shad in 28-35 feet.

## SALTWATER SCENE

**NORTH SABINE:** Trout are fair to good under birds and pods of shad on soft plastics. Redfish are good in the marsh with the swollen tides. Drifters have worked slicks.

**SOUTH SABINE:** Trout are fair to good under birds and pods of shad. Trout are good at the jetty on live bait and topwaters. Kingfish, ling, dolphin and tuna are good offshore.

**BOLIVAR:** Trout are good on the south shoreline on Bass Assassins, Trout Killers and Sand Eels. Drifters have taken trout on the shell. Trout, black drum, sand trout and redfish are good at Rollover Pass.

**TRINITY BAY:** Trout are good for drifters working pods of shad and mullet on Bass Assassins, Trout Killers and Sand Eels. Trout are good under birds in the upper end of the bay. Redfish are good on live bait.

**EAST GALVESTON BAY:** Trout are good for drifters working deep shell on limetreuse and plum plastics. Live bait has worked on the edges of the channel for trout and redfish.

**WEST GALVESTON BAY:** Trout are fair to good in the surf and around San Luis Pass on live shrimp and topwaters. Sheepshead, redfish and black drum are good at the jetty on shrimp and crabs.

**TEXAS CITY:** Trout are fair to good around Dollar Reef on live shrimp and croakers. Redfish are fair to good in Moses Lake on mullet and shrimp.

**FREEPORT:** Trout are good at San Luis Pass on shrimp, Super Spooks and She Dogs. Trout are fair to good on live bait on the Surfside beach. Black drum, redfish, sand trout and sheepshead are good.

**EAST MATAGORDA BAY:** Trout are fair for drifters on live shrimp over humps and scattered shell. Waders have taken better catches on the shorelines on small topwaters. Redfish are fair to good on the edge of the drop-off along the south shoreline on mullet.

**WEST MATAGORDA BAY:** Trout are fair on sand and grass humps on soft plastics and topwaters. Redfish are fair on live shrimp in Oyster Lake.

**ROCKPORT:** Trout are poor to fair in the guts and channels on free-lined shrimp. Trout are fair over grass while drifting with live shrimp. Redfish are good on mullet on the Estes Flats and around Mud Island.

**PORT ARANSAS:** Trout, redfish and sheepshead are fair to good at the jetty on shrimp and croakers. Trout are good in the surf. Offshore is good for amberjack, kingfish, tuna and dolphin.

**CORPUS CHRISTI:** Trout are fair on the edge of the spoils on Gulps, piggy perch and live shrimp. Redfish are good in the potholes on shrimp. Trout are good in the surf.

**BAFFIN BAY:** Trout are good on topwaters around rocks and grass. Redfish are fair to good in knee-deep water on files and small Super Spooks and SkitterWalks.

**PORT MANSFIELD:** Trout are good on topwaters around sand and grass. Redfish are fair to good drifting potholes on topwaters and soft plastics under a popping cork. Off-shore is good for kingfish, ling and dolphin.

**SOUTH PADRE:** Trout, redfish and snook are fair to good in South Bay and Mexiquita Flats. Tarpon and snook are good at the jetty.

**PORT ISABEL:** Trout and redfish are fair to good while drifting sand and grass flats on shrimp under popping corks. Trout are good on the deeper edges and flats in Laguna Vista on topwaters and live shrimp. Redfish are beginning to show in larger schools.

## HOT SPOT



### Greenbelt

Water stained; 77 degrees; 30.51' low. Black bass are good on topwater lures, white spinnerbaits, pumpkin plastics and live bait. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass are good on live bait. Smallmouth bass are good on live bait and white crankbaits. Walleye are good on live bait and shad-colored crankbaits. Catfish are good on live bait and cut liver.

bass are fair on watermelon and watermelon-gold Carolina-rigged soft plastics. Channel and blue catfish are good on shrimp and cut shad in 8-12 feet.

**FORK:** Water lightly stained; 84-89 degrees; 0.15' high. Black bass are good on topwaters early, later switching to Carolina rigs, jigs, drop-shot rigs and medium-diving crankbaits. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are good on prepared bait and nightcrawlers over baited holes.

**GIBBONS CREEK:** Water clear. Black bass are fair on chartreuse-white Carolina-rigged soft plastics and white Rat-L-Traps and spinnerbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are good on stinkbait, frozen shrimp and perch.

**GRANBURY:** Water clear; 3.17' low. Black bass are fair on blue-green Rat-L-Traps and watermelon soft plastics. Striped bass are fair on chartreuse-white stripers jigs. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are good on stinkbait, liver and live bait.

**GRANBURY:** Water clear; 3.17' low. Black bass are fair on blue-green Rat-L-Traps and watermelon soft plastics. Striped bass are fair on chartreuse-white stripers jigs. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are good on stinkbait, liver and live bait.

**GRANGER:** Water murky; 88 degrees; 4.00' low. Black bass are fair on red shad Power Worms in 3-4 feet. White bass are fair on slab spoons. Crappie are good on minnows and chartreuse jigs. Blue catfish are good on cut bait.

**GRAPEVINE:** Water off-color; 84-89 degrees; 3.05' low. Black bass are fair early on topwaters, later switching to shaky head-rigged finesse worms, Carolina rigs and medium-running orange-brown crankbaits. Crappie are fair to good. White bass are good on jigs and slabs. Catfish are good on prepared bait and

**LAKE O' THE PINES:** Water stained; 85-89 degrees; 2.11' high. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and cheesebait.

**LAVON:** Water stained; 84-88 degrees; 2.52' low. Black bass are fair to good on topwaters early, later switching to Texas-rigged pumpkinseed worms, shallow running shad pattern crankbaits and weightless soft plastics. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs around bridge columns and over brush piles. White bass are good on topwaters and jigs. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

**LBI:** Water stained; 88 degrees; 0.28' low. Black bass are fair on watermelon jigs and perch-colored crankbaits in 6-15 feet and flipping green pumpkin tubes and Texas-rigged flukes at docks and lay downs. Striped bass are fair on Li'l Fishies. White bass are fair on Li'l Fishies. Crappie are good on jigs and live minnows. Channel catfish are good on liver and dip bait.

**LEWISVILLE:** Water off-color; 83-88 degrees; 1.93' low. Black bass are fair on watermelon seed tubes, drop-shot-rigged worms and chrome Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on topwaters, jigs and slabs. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

**LIVINGSTON:** Water fairly clear; 88 degrees; 0.11' low. Black bass are good on spinnerbaits. Striped bass are good but small on Rat-L-Traps and Zara spoons. White bass are good on tubes, spoons and green slabs. Crappie are good on minnows. Blue catfish are good on shad.

**O.H. IVIE:** Water lightly stained; 80 degrees; 19.55' low. Black bass are good on live bait, white buzzbaits and spinnerbaits and black-blue jigs or soft plastic jerkbaits. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good

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**COMING UP:** Shallow water bass have been caught at several Texas lakes this summer, usually close to the protection of deep water.

### Bass

Continued from Page 8

"All of the north end is real shallow, those flats," he said. "All of the fish have been up shallow all year."

At Lake Alan Henry in West Texas, the opposite story is true.

"Fishing is pretty tough this summer," said guide Norman Clayton. "The fish have gone real deep. They are hard to locate."

Instead of starting shallow early in the day, anglers begin in deep water, 20 to 30 feet. Plas-

tic worms are working, when fished slowly, Clayton said.

More people are fishing at night under moonlight, he said, and someone recently caught an 8-pound, 9-ounce bass at night.

Clayton said he is looking forward to autumn — "my favorite time" — when the bite picks up on worms and crankbaits, and fish quality improves.

Finding favorite spots might be easier too, he said.

"Best thing about that time of year is everybody is out hunting," he said.

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Longview, TX  
903-663-3139

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940-627-2312

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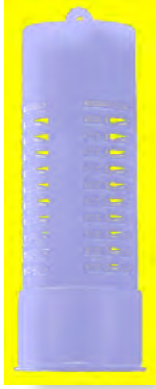
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(800) 463-1817  
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### STYLUS TOUGH 8000

This ruggedly constructed 12 megapixel digital camera by **Olympus** is tailor-made for the outdoorsman. Designed to withstand up to a 6.6-foot drop and up to 220 pounds of pressure, this camera will take pictures when submerged as deep as 33 feet underwater or in temperatures as cold as 14 degrees F. But it's the anti-blur feature that hunters and anglers will appreciate. The camera's "Sensor-Shift" image stabilization compensates for camera shake to capture crisp, clear images. It sells for just under \$400.  
(888) 553-4448  
www.olympusamerica.com



### DUO WHISTLE

**Cutt Down Game Calls Inc.'s** newest whistle is a multi-purpose whistling duck and quail call. The design blends the built-in roller and six styles in one call. Hunters will be able to attract pintail, widgeon, teal, mallard drake, wood ducks, quail and more. The whistles are offered in a Rosewood (\$24.95) or in a Buffalo horn design (\$39.95).  
(903) 365-7359  
www.cutdowncalls.com

### ARROW SHAFT CLEANER KIT

**Goat Tuff's** new kit will help archers properly clean arrow shafts and ensure that fletching stays put. Each kit contains a 2-ounce bottle of concentrated solution for cleaning and degreasing arrow shafts, a 16-ounce bottle for mixing the concentrate with water plus two microfiber towels for removing particles from the shaft. The biodegradable cleaner is pH balanced for maximum performance and environmentally friendly. The kit sells for about \$17.  
(520) 742-1701  
goattuff@msn.com

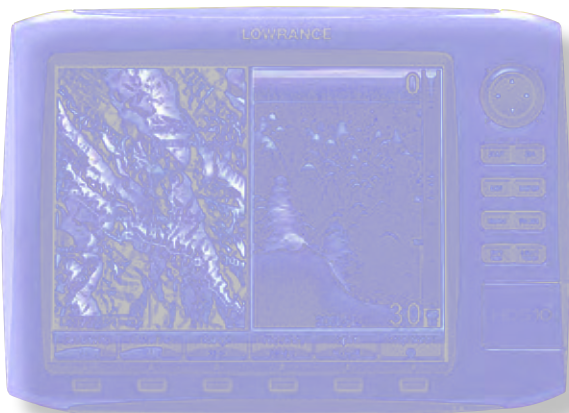


### HDS-10 CHARTPLOTTER & FISHFINDER

**Lowrance's** new 10-inch GPS unit combines high-definition navigational capabilities and the company's Broadband Sounder functionality into a single, easy-to-use system.

The networkable unit offers digital radar, SIRIUS weather and radio options, and a sonar technology that the company says has been proven to find more targets with greater sensitivity and higher definition. The Broadband Sounder technology promises superior target separation in all cover, in thermoclines and in surface clutter.

The HDS-10 with Insight USA cartography, which was named best in the electronics category at the July ICAST show, boasts an internal 16-channel GPS+WAAS antenna and an enhanced U.S. base map that provides coverage for more than 100,000 bodies of water and nearly 5,000 lake maps. Its Insight cartography features life-like perspectives of bottom structures and topography. The suggested retail price is \$2,719.  
(800) 324-1356  
www.navico.com

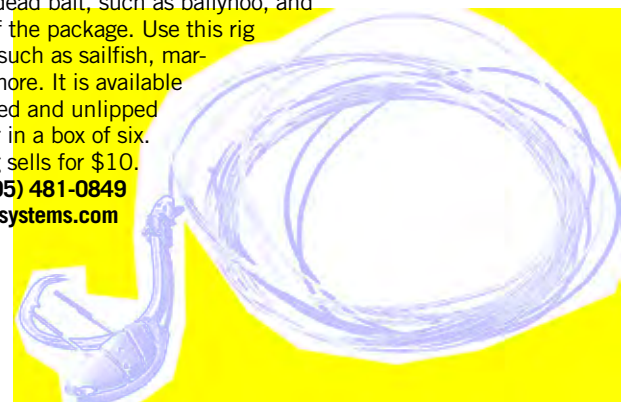


### FPM-050 FUEL POLISHING MODULE

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### CIRCLE HOOK RIG

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(305) 481-0849  
www.betterbaitsystems.com



## Antlers

Continued from Page 6

numbers of deer — you don't see deer all the time."

Gary Caulkins, a Texas Parks and Wildlife district biologist, said the restrictions are beneficial where hunters are on smaller tracts.

"Hunters used to say they shot a buck because if they didn't, the neighbor would shoot it when it crossed the fence," he said. "Now everyone is on the same page."

Sprinkle acknowledges he was raised — and remains — a meat hunter.

"Antlers were a bonus," he said. "I like big bucks, but I like a full freezer, too. I like tasty deer. If all I wanted was trophies, I would go high fence or to South Texas."

Sprinkle shot the biggest deer of his hunting life last season, but said there are a lot of narrow racks in his part of East Texas.

"It was a main-frame 10-pointer that scored 140," he said. "It only had a 14-inch spread. And he was older, he had a lot of gray in his face."

Caulkins said East Texas has some narrow-racked bucks.

"There are some pockets where there are narrow racks," Caulkins said. "But based on the data we've collected for years, by the time a buck gets to be 4 1/2 years old, less than 5 percent of them measure below the 13-inch inside spread."

Caulkins believes that over time, with spikes being removed, the number is likely to decrease.

Sprinkle said he worries most about younger hunters.

"My son's first deer — it was cool because he shot it out of my dad's blind — was a 10-point buck with a 10-inch spread," he said. "The taxidermist said it was 3 1/2 years old. My son couldn't have been happier — he was the talk of deer camp all season. Now, a youngster would either shoot that deer out of excitement and get in trouble or pass it up and be heartbroken."

Sprinkle has taken a buck with a narrow rack.

"One of my bucks from before the restrictions was a big, nice nine-pointer," he said. "It was real thick at the base, but it had an 11-inch spread."

"I showed it to the game warden, he said it was a real nice deer, but you couldn't shoot it now."

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## Restriction debate

Internet message boards bring out the opinions, possibly due in part to the anonymity of the posters. While most hunters appear to favor the restrictions, some offer their reasons for objecting to them. Here are a few from texashuntingforum.com.

### For the restrictions

"I hunt with my uncle and my dad on a lease and my uncle will shoot his two bucks no matter what size or age. It drives me up the wall. I wish we had an antler restriction in our county. At least then some of the deer he shoots can at least make it to maturity."

"I think it will help improve Newton Co. deer hunting. Nearly all of the young deer I have seen brought in would not be legal with the ARs. It's not perfect but it is stupid to shoot 2-year-old bucks when there is an abundance of does."

"Absolutely love the AR's. Every since they implemented the restrictions in my county I see more and more mature bucks every year."

### Against the restrictions

"My first buck was a 4 point and I couldn't take my eyes off that deer."

"My daughter took a 5 point 3 years ago and she was so happy and I was proud of her."

"What's next, can't shoot a rabbit with less than 4-inch ear length or a squirrel with a less than 6-inch tail length?"

"As an adult hunter, I do not need anybody to tell me what is a trophy deer. Every time I make a harvest it is a trophy."

### New counties under the antler restrictions this fall:

Anderson, Angelina, Archer, Atascosa, Brazos, Brown, Chambers, Clay, Cooke, Denton, Ellis, Falls, Freestone, Grayson, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Henderson, Hill, Hood, Hunt, Jack, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Kaufman, Liberty, Limestone, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Montague, Montgomery, Navarro, Newton, Orange, Palo Pinto, Parker, Polk, Robertson, San Jacinto, Smith, Stephens, Tarrant, Trinity, Tyler, Van Zandt, Walker, Wichita, Wise and Young.



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\* Patent Pending

# Sun | Moon | Tides

## Texas Coast Tides

### Moon Phases



### Solar | Sun times | Moon times

#### Sabine Pass, jetty

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	3:02 a.m.	2.9H	5:45 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 30	3:42 a.m.	2.9H	6:35 p.m.	0.2L		
Aug 31	4:00 a.m.	2.9H	7:17 p.m.	0.2L		
Sep 1	3:57 a.m.	2.7H	8:38 a.m.	2.3L	11:38 a.m.	2.5H
Sep 2	3:53 a.m.	2.7H	8:30 a.m.	2.3L	12:47 p.m.	2.5H
Sep 3	3:56 a.m.	2.5H	8:47 a.m.	2.1L	1:50 p.m.	2.5H
Sep 4	4:03 a.m.	2.5H	9:15 a.m.	1.8L	2:53 p.m.	2.5H
Sep 5	4:12 a.m.	2.5H	9:46 a.m.	1.4L	3:58 p.m.	2.5H
Sep 6	4:20 a.m.	2.5H	10:19 a.m.	1.3L	5:06 p.m.	2.5H
Sep 7	4:23 a.m.	2.5H	10:54 a.m.	0.9L	6:20 p.m.	2.5H
Sep 8	4:18 a.m.	2.5H	11:33 a.m.	0.5L	7:42 p.m.	2.7H
Sep 9	4:03 a.m.	2.7H	12:19 p.m.	0.4L	9:17 p.m.	2.9H
Sep 10	3:49 a.m.	2.9H	1:13 p.m.	0.2L		
Sep 11	3:49 a.m.	3.0H	2:18 p.m.	0.0L		
Sep 12	4:00 a.m.	3.2H	3:31 p.m.	0.0L		

#### Galveston Bay entrance, south jetty

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	3:49 a.m.	2.3H	6:11 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 30	4:29 a.m.	2.3H	7:01 p.m.	0.1L		
Aug 31	4:47 a.m.	2.3H	7:43 p.m.	0.1L		
Sep 1	4:44 a.m.	2.1H	9:04 a.m.	1.9L	12:25 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 2	4:40 a.m.	2.1H	8:56 a.m.	1.9L	1:34 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 3	4:43 a.m.	2.0H	9:13 a.m.	1.7L	2:37 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 4	4:50 a.m.	2.0H	9:41 a.m.	1.4L	3:40 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 5	4:59 a.m.	2.0H	10:12 a.m.	1.1L	4:45 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 6	5:07 a.m.	2.0H	10:45 a.m.	1.0L	5:53 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 7	5:10 a.m.	2.0H	11:20 a.m.	0.7L	7:07 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 8	5:05 a.m.	2.0H	11:59 a.m.	0.4L	8:29 p.m.	2.1H
Sep 9	4:50 a.m.	2.1H	12:45 p.m.	0.3L	10:04 p.m.	2.3H
Sep 10	12:22 a.m.	2.1L	4:36 a.m.	2.3H	1:39 p.m.	0.1L
Sep 11	4:36 a.m.	2.4H	2:44 p.m.	0.0L		
Sep 12	4:47 a.m.	2.6H	3:57 p.m.	0.0L		

#### San Luis Pass

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	4:19 a.m.	1.4H	7:07 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 30	4:59 a.m.	1.4H	7:57 p.m.	0.1L		
Aug 31	5:17 a.m.	1.4H	8:39 p.m.	0.1L		
Sep 1	5:14 a.m.	1.3H	10:00 a.m.	1.1L	12:55 p.m.	1.2H
Sep 2	5:10 a.m.	1.3H	9:52 a.m.	1.1L	2:04 p.m.	1.2H
Sep 3	5:13 a.m.	1.2H	10:09 a.m.	1.0L	3:07 p.m.	1.2H
Sep 4	5:20 a.m.	1.2H	10:37 a.m.	0.9L	4:10 p.m.	1.2H
Sep 5	5:29 a.m.	1.2H	11:08 a.m.	0.7L	5:15 p.m.	1.2H
Sep 6	5:37 a.m.	1.2H	11:41 a.m.	0.6L	6:23 p.m.	1.2H
Sep 7	5:40 a.m.	1.2H	12:16 p.m.	0.4L	7:37 p.m.	1.2H
Sep 8	12:13 a.m.	0.9L	5:35 a.m.	1.2H	12:55 p.m.	0.3L
Sep 9	12:47 a.m.	1.1L	5:20 a.m.	1.3H	1:41 p.m.	0.2L
Sep 10	1:18 a.m.	1.3L	5:06 a.m.	1.4H	2:35 p.m.	0.1L
Sep 11	5:06 a.m.	1.5H	3:40 p.m.	0.0L		
Sep 12	5:17 a.m.	1.5H	4:53 p.m.	0.0L		

#### Freeport Harbor

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	3:11 a.m.	2.0H	6:08 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 30	3:51 a.m.	2.0H	6:58 p.m.	0.1L		
Aug 31	4:09 a.m.	2.0H	7:40 p.m.	0.1L		
Sep 1	4:06 a.m.	1.8H	9:01 a.m.	1.2L	11:47 a.m.	1.7H
Sep 2	4:02 a.m.	1.8H	8:53 a.m.	1.2L	12:56 p.m.	1.7H
Sep 3	4:05 a.m.	1.7H	9:10 a.m.	1.1L	1:59 p.m.	1.7H
Sep 4	4:12 a.m.	1.7H	9:38 a.m.	0.9L	3:02 p.m.	1.7H
Sep 5	4:21 a.m.	1.7H	10:09 a.m.	0.7L	4:07 p.m.	1.7H
Sep 6	4:29 a.m.	1.7H	10:42 a.m.	0.6L	5:15 p.m.	1.7H
Sep 7	4:32 a.m.	1.7H	11:17 a.m.	0.5L	6:29 p.m.	1.7H
Sep 8	4:27 a.m.	1.7H	11:56 a.m.	0.3L	7:51 p.m.	1.8H
Sep 9	4:12 a.m.	1.8H	12:42 p.m.	0.2L	9:26 p.m.	2.0H
Sep 10	12:19 a.m.	1.4L	3:58 a.m.	2.0H	1:36 p.m.	0.1L
Sep 11	3:58 a.m.	2.1H	2:41 p.m.	0.0L		
Sep 12	4:09 a.m.	2.2H	3:54 p.m.	0.0L		

#### Port O'Connor

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	8:03 a.m.	1.0H	9:17 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 30	8:45 a.m.	1.0H	10:23 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 31	9:29 a.m.	0.9H	11:17 p.m.	0.0L		
Sep 1	10:14 a.m.	0.9H				
Sep 2	12:02 a.m.	0.0L	11:03 a.m.	0.9H		
Sep 3	12:42 a.m.	0.1L	3:54 p.m.	0.8H		
Sep 4	1:18 a.m.	0.2L	5:38 p.m.	0.8H		
Sep 5	1:53 a.m.	0.3L	8:58 a.m.	0.6H	12:19 p.m.	0.5L
Sep 6	2:29 a.m.	0.5L	7:28 a.m.	0.6H	12:58 p.m.	0.5L
Sep 7	3:09 a.m.	0.6L	5:42 a.m.	0.7H	1:38 p.m.	0.3L
Sep 8	2:22 p.m.	0.2L				
Sep 9	4:28 a.m.	1.0H	3:14 p.m.	0.2L		
Sep 10	5:17 a.m.	1.1H	4:16 p.m.	0.1L		
Sep 11	6:09 a.m.	1.2H	5:30 p.m.	0.1L		
Sep 12	7:02 a.m.	1.3H	6:54 p.m.	0.1L		

#### Rockport

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	10:55 a.m.	0.43H	9:22 p.m.	0.09L		
Aug 30	12:03 p.m.	0.44H	10:22 p.m.	0.11L		
Aug 31	1:03 p.m.	0.44H	11:12 p.m.	0.13L		
Sep 01	1:54 p.m.	0.44H	11:48 p.m.	0.15L		
Sep 02	2:42 p.m.	0.42H				
Sep 03	12:13 a.m.	0.19L	3:35 p.m.	0.39H		
Sep 04	12:29 a.m.	0.23L	4:57 p.m.	0.37H		
Sep 05	12:37 a.m.	0.27L	7:32 a.m.	0.35H	1:23 p.m.	0.31L
Sep 06	12:29 a.m.	0.32L	6:52 a.m.	0.38H	2:34 p.m.	0.27L
Sep 07	6:22 a.m.	0.41H	3:21 p.m.	0.23L		
Sep 08	6:00 a.m.	0.45H	4:06 p.m.	0.20L		
Sep 09	6:02 a.m.	0.50H	4:55 p.m.	0.18L		
Sep 10	6:37 a.m.	0.53H	5:51 p.m.	0.17L		
Sep 11	7:37 a.m.	0.56H	6:54 p.m.	0.16L		
Sep 12	8:50 a.m.	0.59H	8:00 p.m.	0.17L		

#### Port Aransas, H. Caldwell Pier

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	3:42 a.m.	1.8H	5:50 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 30	4:22 a.m.	1.8H	6:40 p.m.	0.1L		
Aug 31	4:40 a.m.	1.8H	7:22 p.m.	0.1L		
Sep 1	4:37 a.m.	1.7H	8:43 a.m.	1.0L	12:18 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 2	4:33 a.m.	1.7H	8:35 a.m.	1.0L	1:27 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 3	4:36 a.m.	1.6H	8:52 a.m.	0.9L	2:30 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 4	4:43 a.m.	1.6H	9:20 a.m.	0.8L	3:33 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 5	4:52 a.m.	1.6H	9:51 a.m.	0.6L	4:38 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 6	5:00 a.m.	1.6H	10:24 a.m.	0.5L	5:46 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 7	5:03 a.m.	1.6H	10:59 a.m.	0.4L	7:00 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 8	4:58 a.m.	1.6H	11:38 a.m.	0.2L	8:22 p.m.	1.7H
Sep 9	4:43 a.m.	1.7H	12:24 p.m.	0.2L	9:57 p.m.	1.8H
Sep 10	12:01 a.m.	1.2L	4:29 a.m.	1.8H	1:18 p.m.	0.1L
Sep 11	4:29 a.m.	2.0H	2:23 p.m.	0.0L		
Sep 12	4:40 a.m.	2.1H	3:36 p.m.	0.0L		

#### South Padre Island

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Aug 29	3:30 a.m.	1.7H	5:41 p.m.	0.0L		
Aug 30	4:11 a.m.	1.7H	6:41 p.m.	0.1L		
Aug 31	4:40 a.m.	1.8H	7:31 p.m.	0.2L		
Sep 1	4:56 a.m.	1.7H	8:13 p.m.	0.3L		
Sep 2	5:00 a.m.	1.7H	9:31 a.m.	1.5L	12:08 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 3	4:55 a.m.	1.6H	9:27 a.m.	1.4L	1:35 p.m.	1.6H
Sep 4	4:45 a.m.	1.5H	9:39 a.m.	1.2L	2:49 p.m.	1.5H
Sep 5	4:33 a.m.	1.4H	9:57 a.m.	1.0L	4:00 p.m.	1.5H
Sep 6	4:19 a.m.	1.3H	10:21 a.m.	0.8L	5:12 p.m.	1.5H
Sep 7	4:02 a.m.	1.2H	10:51 a.m.	0.5L	6:31 p.m.	1.5H
Sep 8	12:22 a.m.	1.1L	3:34 a.m.	1.2H	11:28 a.m.	0.3L
Sep 9	12:15 p.m.	0.1L	9:57 p.m.	1.7H		
Sep 10	1:11 p.m.	-0.1L				
Sep 11	12:00 a.m.	1.9H	2:17 p.m.	-0.1L		
Sep 12	1:29 a.m.	2.0H	3:31 p.m.	-0.1L		

#### Houston

2009	A.M.	P.M.	SUN	MOON
Aug-Sep	Minor Major	Minor Major	Rises Sets	Rises Sets
29 Sat	1:16 7:28	1:41 7:53	6:56 7:47	4:07p 1:26a
30 Sun	2:01 8:14	2:26 8:38	6:56 7:46	4:50p 2:20a
31 Mon	2:45 8:57	3:09 9:21	6:57 7:45	5:29p 3:15a
01 Tue	3:27 9:38	3:50 10:01	6:58 7:44	6:04p 4:11a
02 Wed >	4:08 10:18	4:29 10:40	6:58 7:42	6:36p 5:07a
03 Thu >	4:48 10:58	5:09 11:19	6:59 7:41	7:06p 6:02a
04 Fri F	5:28 11:39	5:49 11:59	6:59 7:40	7:34p 6:57a
05 Sat >	6:10 12:00	6:31 12:21	7:00 7:39	8:03p 7:51a
06 Sun >	6:55 12:45	7:17 1:06	7:00 7:38	8:33p 8:47a
07 Mon	7:43 1:32	8:06 1:55	7:01 7:36	9:05p 9:45a
08 Tue	8:36 2:23	9:00 2:48	7:01 7:35	9:42p 10:45a
09 Wed	9:31 3:18	9:58 3:44	7:02 7:34	10:24p 11:48a
10 Thu	10:30 4:16	10:58 4:44	7:02 7:33	11:14p 12:52p
11 Fri Q	11:30 5:16	-----	5:45 7:03	NoMoon 1:55p
12 Sat	12:07 6:16	12:31 6:46	7:03 7:30	12:11a 2:55p
13 Sun	12:59 7:14	1:29 7:44	7:04 7:29	1:15a 3:50p
14 Mon	1:55 8:09	2:24 8:39	7:04 7:28	2:23a 4:39p
15 Tue	2:47 9:01	3:15 9:29	7:05 7:27	3:33a 5:22p
16 Wed	3:37 9:50	4:03 10:16	7:05 7:25	4:43a 6:00p
17 Thu >	4:24 10:37	4:49 11:02	7:06 7:24	5:50a 6:36p
18 Fri >	5:12 11:24	5:37 11:49	7:06 7:23	6:56a 7:09p

#### Dallas

2009	A.M.	P.M.	SUN	MOON
Aug-Sep	Minor Major	Minor Major	Rises Sets	Rises Sets
29 Sat	1:21 7:34	1:46 7:59	6:59 7:55	4:21p 1:23a
30 Sun	2:07 8:19	2:31 8:44	6:59 7:54	5:04p 2:17a
31 Mon	2:51 9:02	3:14 9:26	7:00 7:53	5:42p 3:13a
01 Tue	3:32 9:44	3:55 10:06	7:00 7:52	6:15p 4:10a
02 Wed >	4:13 10:24	4:35 10:46	7:01 7:50	6:46p 5:08a
03 Thu >	4:53 11:04	5:14 11:25	7:02 7:49	7:14p 6:05a
04 Fri F	5:34 11:44	5:54 -----	7:02 7:48	7:40p 7:01a
05 Sat >	6:16 12:06	6:37 12:26	7:03 7:46	8:07p 7:57a
06 Sun >	7:01 12:50	7:22 1:11	7:04 7:45	8:35p 8:55a
07 Mon	7:49 1:38	8:12 2:00	7:04 7:44	9:06p 9:54a
08 Tue	8:41 2:29	9:05 2:53		

# Champ

Continued from Page 9

he returned to regular work, this time selling cars.

It wasn't long before the dust settled in the courtroom, and the itch started to creep back under his car-salesman skin. With his daughter by his side, Griffin began fishing the Bassmaster Southern Opens (and several other tournaments and circuits) and went back to spending about 280 days a year on the water.

At the end of 2008, he was faced with the second toughest decision of his fishing career. He had qualified for the Bassmaster Elite Series, an eight-tournament circuit from March to August that costs \$41,600 before you drive a mile, stay in a hotel or wet a line. He had done well on the Open tour and made less than \$3,000.

"That was a very difficult decision," he said. "But it was something I had to do."

In the first seven tournaments, he had made three cuts and earned \$29,012. Considering his presenting sponsor was Ezee Jigs, Griffin decided the tournament dream was over and he was going to need to approach fishing for a living from a different angle. Before the final event tournament on Oneida Lake in Syracuse, he made 3,000 business cards to promote his new guiding service.

"I told all my friends that it was over," Griffin said. "I was just going up there to relax and have fun."

Despite his boat problems, he was entering Oneida with personal momentum. The week before the long drive up, he caught his largest Kentucky Lake bass — an 8-pound, 3-ounce



**BACK IN BUSINESS:** Above, Chad Griffin makes one of many casts toward smallmouth bass at Oneida Lake, where the Elite Series rookie landed his first win and \$100,000. Photo by BASS. Right, at a party held by friends in Fort Worth, Griffin shares his trophy with his daughter, Abigail. Photo by Craig Nyhus, LSON.



largemouth — and while in New York, he stopped by Lake Erie and caught the largest smallmouth of his life at 7 pounds, 4 ounces.

He may have puttered into Syracuse, but Griffin said he had a tingly feeling from the moment he pulled in that never left. Three great days of practice and four life-altering tournament days later, Griffin was holding an Elite Series trophy and pocketing a \$100,000

first-place check.

"It was just a great, great two weeks," he said. "It's still hard for me to believe."

Griffin said his daughter, who turned 7 in June, is old enough to appreciate the magnitude of the win.

"It helps substantiate what I'm doing for us," Griffin said. "Now she can go to school and tell her teachers her dad fishes for a living

and have them believe it."

He has five more tournaments this year and will spend the winter months guiding on Falcon Lake. In March, he'll put his business cards back in the box and start his second season on the Elite Series.

"Hopefully this is a stepping stone toward something great," Griffin said. "This is all I know how to do. I just love to fish."

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# Bowhunting matters at South Hills Ranch

## Family's connection dates back decades

At South Hills Ranch, bowhunting is a tradition for Bill Watson and his family.

"We enjoyed archery and bowhunting a long time before we considered making it our ranching business," Watson said. "My Dad took up the bow and arrow after an inspirational informal meeting with Howard Hill sometime in 1950. My love of the outdoors came easy as I followed Dad, pursuing some sort of critter with our stick and string.

"My first real success came in 1965, a small spike buck. That first harvest on that cool fall day, changed the course of my life.

"A few years later, on different occasions, I met and talked to Ben Pearson and Fred Bear. These three men — Hill, Pearson, and Bear — all produced

films and wrote books about their hunts, bows and arrows."

In addition to meeting the who's who of modern bowhunting's early days, Watson has bowhunted in 10 states and Canada. Along the way he has introduced his wife and three children to archery. The Watson girls have all taken whitetails with their bows. Watson's son, currently a wildlife biology student at Texas A&M-Kingsville, is a very accomplished archer with many big game harvests and two time qualifier for the IBO World Championship.

In 1989 the Watsons founded South Hills Ranch, a bowhunting-only hunting ranch located at the southern edge of the Hill Country and the northern boundary of the South Texas brush. The ranch specializes in hunts for whitetail, axis and blackbuck antelope.

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**Playing**

Continued from Page 1

or in case there are no birds where they hunt opening morning."

They figured out why a few years later.

"One year the hunting wasn't that great opening day, and he said he had to go home," the hunter said. "The next night we found out he went to another spot and shot his limit."

Another landowner in South Texas invited a friend to hunt on a section of land he and a friend had just purchased along the Rio Grande.

"Invitations to hunt down here are pretty coveted," said Charles "Buster" Smith, who

raises and trains Brittany spaniels in South Texas. "Especially along the river — generally the people show up."

This particular landowner was surprised and even a little worried when his friend didn't show on opening day.

After the hunt, the landowner stopped by a nearby field where some doctors had planned a big event.

He noticed generators, a giant air-conditioned tent, a spread of food and a margarita machine for the people finishing their hunt.

His worries disappeared when he saw his friend, obviously preferring the more elaborate invitation, in hunting clothes with the group.

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# Grass roots outdoors marketing working

## Boerne firm wins national sales awards

By Craig Nyhus  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Buyers of outdoor products may wonder how the products get into the stores where they shop. While products usually follow the path from the manufacturer through a manufacturer's representative to the retailer, few know who that representative is, what they do or where they're from.

One group that represents manufacturers is aiming to change that — and has become one of the nation's most successful — and they are right here in Texas hunters' backyard.

Owens Outdoor Sales, based in Boerne, uses a ground-floor approach to market the products of its clients — and multiple industry awards are showing the approach works.

"We show strong and consistent growth with all manufacturers we represent," said principal Waylan Owens.

The firm began representing Nikon Sport Optics in 2006 in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas.

"People had a 30- to 50-year loyalty to another brand," Owens said. "We had to come in with guns blazing."

The firm's philosophy is simple and starts behind the counter, said Jason Phillips, whose territory includes South and West Texas.

"We try to enlighten the retailers on the quality and value that the Nikon products bring to them and the customer," Phillips said. "The retailer's sales staff is educated and knows the product, and passes the features and benefits to the buyers."

The process starts with educating the sales-



**TOP SELLER:** David Deveny, right, of Owens Outdoor Sales in Boerne discusses optics with a customer. Deveny has been Nikon's Sales Rep of the Year two consecutive years. Photo by David J. Sams, Lone Star Outdoor News.

people behind the retail counter on optics in general.

"We train them in Optics 101," Phillips said.

Then they move to the field for organized shooting events where the retailers get hands-on training and use of the optics, ammunition and firearms from manufacturers the firm represents.

"We don't want to just show them how to sell the products," Owens said. "But to help them be comfortable with the products by using them. Then they can educate the consumer."

Many of the retail sales staff come to the field training days from smaller, independent dealers.

"The independent dealer has long-term employees," Phillips said. "They can tell the story of their 400-yard shots using the BDC scopes to the customers."

Marketing the products takes place through three sales channels, Owens said.

"We target farm and ranch outdoor retail stores, hunting and shooting distributors and retailers and law enforcement dealers and agencies," he said.

And how does their philosophy benefit the buyer?

"When you go to a dealer, the salesperson behind the counter will be able to explain what you are thinking about buying," Phillips

said. "We help make the connection between the people that make the products to the person behind the counter and then to the buyers that use the products."

Dealers like the approach.

"They work harder than everyone else," said David Smith, owner of Alpine Shooting Range in Fort Worth. "They help you pull product through the store — it's not just about selling it to you and then leaving it up to you to move it."

Another benefit comes from the firm partnering with the dealers through advertising and promotion to get the word out, Owens said, citing partnerships with the best industry leaders in their markets and respected personalities such as Larry Weishuhn.

The firm takes the same approach in representing other commercial manufacturers, including Focchi ammunition, Heckler & Koch and Caesar Guerini firearms, along with law enforcement manufacturers such as Beretta LE, Bennelli LE, Focchi and Kimber LE, Game-Guard, and others.

"We balance our clients and give every factory line the time that they deserve," Owens said.

The grass roots approach is working. The firm received Nikon's 2007 Creative Marketing Award, Rep Group of the Year and Nikon's Rep of the Year award in 2008. David Deveny, whose territory includes North Texas and Oklahoma, has been Nikon's Sales Rep of the Year two years in a row. In all of its lines, Owens Outdoor Sales has been No. 1 or No. 2 in sales awards with all manufacturers they represent each year.

Nikon has nearly tripled its market share in sport optics (since 2006)," Owens said. "And it's still growing at that same pace."

His staff said it's all about teamwork.

"We preach the gospel of our products to the South," Phillips said.

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### Crane permits by the numbers

**150,000**

Number of permits issued to hunters in Texas for sandhill cranes with point-of-sale distributing.

**12,000**

Number of permits issued when hunters have to pick them up at TPW offices.

**8,000**

Estimated number of hunters who hunt sandhill cranes in Texas.

### Cranes

Continued from Page 6

sales option. Buying any license online tacks on a \$5 service fee.

Why the change? "With the point-of-sale licenses, it was real simple to automatically approve the hunter for sandhill crane," said TPW Small Game Program Director Vernon Bevell. "We used to have the paper permits, and we would issue about 12,000.

"And there would be about 8,000 hunters that actually hunted crane."

With the point-of-sale licenses, the number ballooned.

"We went from 12,000 to 150,000 per-


mits," Bevell said. "And we still only had 8,000 crane hunters."

The problem surfaced when it came time for federal officials to survey for crane harvest numbers.

"They had to sample a much bigger population to get results," Bevell said. "The feds met with us two years ago and said we had to improve our sampling framework."

The only way to fix it, Bevell said, was to require that hunters obtain the permits at TPW offices, though it makes it more difficult.

"The sandhill crane is probably the most strictly managed migratory game bird," he said. "If we couldn't provide adequate sample numbers, we may not be able to hunt them at all."



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## Hooked

Continued from Page 1

boats and anglers fishing from the shore. But I never thought that anyone would be trolling in the ship channel."

Shortly after leaving his dock, a vessel slowly came up from behind and overtook him while throwing a minimal wake. Not too far ahead was a large head boat approaching both Myers and the fishing boat.

The larger head boat was throwing a sizable wake so Myers turned in behind the fishermen so he could meet the larger wake head on.

"That's when I felt fishing line start to drag across my shoulder," Myers said.

By the time he realized what was going on, a large surface bait leapt from the water and caught him in his arm, capsizing the kayak, which he was leashed to, and began towing him down the ship channel.

Myers, who always wears a life jacket while kayaking, began yelling and waiving his free arm trying to catch the attention of his captors.

"Eventually the anglers noticed their bucking rod and looked back to see one of the biggest catches of their lives," Myers said. "They immediately put their engine in neutral, but it took a while for the forward momentum of the vessel to slow."

Myers was then able to free himself of the line.

"I unhooked the snap swivel that opened up under the strain of towing me," he said.

The fishing boat turned around to offer assistance.

"They seemed pretty speechless," Myers said. "They didn't even cringe or laugh when I made a joke about me being the biggest fish they were going to catch around there."

After hanging on to the boat for awhile and catching his breath, the boaters offered him a ride back to the house. Myers had decided his impaled arm did not hinder his ability to paddle, so he made the short transit back to his dock in his kayak.

Removing the multiple treble hooks was a different story.

"I decided the best course of action

was to tape the lure to my arm to prevent it from swinging around causing more pain," Myers said, and he headed to the nearest medical facility.

Once there, the doctors determined that the hooks were too close to some tendons to risk just pulling them out, and they cut the hooks from his arm.

"It was just a bad coming-together of circumstances," Myers said. "I never imagined someone would be trolling there, and they had no idea that I would need to turn behind them to avoid being capsized by the wake of the bigger boat coming towards us."

With more and more kayakers on the water, accidents between kayakers and boaters are a concern to Myers.

"I was lucky I didn't drown," he said. "I guess you never know what you could encounter or get tangled up in. But from now on, I am going to have a survival knife clipped to my life jacket or strapped to my leg, and I would advise other paddlers to do the same."

"All in all, it was a big learning experience for me."

# STAR tournament leaderboard

The CCA STAR Tournament is winding down, with a little more than a week left for anglers to win boats, scholarships and other prizes. One boat package still remains for a lucky fisherman or woman who lands a tagged redfish. Nine tagged redfish have qualified for big prizes, and 10 more were caught that did not qualify. The contest ends Labor Day.

### Texas Ford Dealers Redfish Division

#### Truck-boat package

- John Sendejas
- Sam Campos
- David Raska
- Ronald Scheck
- Keith McLaren

#### Boat package

- Ty Howard
- Charles Maresh
- Benjamin Bo Patrick II
- Nico Espinosa

### Starkids Scholarship Division

#### Ages 6-10 \$50,000 Scholarship

- **Flounder:** 6 pounds, 6 ounces  
Anthony Skrobarczyk, 9, of Corpus Christi

- **Sheepshead:** 9 pounds  
Rodolpho Ibarra III, age 9, of Dayton

- **Gafftop:** 7 pounds, 8 ounces  
Jeremy Chessher, 10, of Warren

### Academy Sports & Outdoors Starteens Scholarship Trout Division (Ages 11-17) 6-pound min., \$20,000 scholarship

#### ■ Speckled trout Upper Coast:

- 8 pounds, 11 ounces  
Cory Cobler, 16, of Lake Jackson

#### ■ Speckled trout Mid-Coast:

- 7 pounds, 14 ounces  
Jeremy Patrick, 13, of Corpus Christi

#### ■ Speckled trout Lower Coast:

- 8 pounds, 2 ounces  
Jacob Adams, 14, of Willow Park

### Time Warner Cable Starteens Scholarship Inshore Division (11-17) \$20,000 Scholarship

- **Flounder:** 6 pounds, 1 ounce  
Cody Meineke, 15, of Spring

- **Sheepshead:** 9 pounds, 4 ounces  
Nicholas Pantoja, 16, of Highlands

- **Gafftop:** 7 pounds, 10 ounces  
Bryce Darder, 16, of Nederland

### Ford / Tilson Home Corp. Leader Board

#### ■ Speckled trout Upper Coast:

- 9 pounds, 2 ounces  
Harold Riley of Webster

#### ■ Speckled trout Mid-Coast:

- 9 pounds, 2 ounces  
Robert Hibbert of Houston

#### ■ Speckled Trout Lower Coast:

- 10 pounds, 7 ounces  
Robb Sherron of Corpus Christi

#### ■ Kingfish:

- 52 pounds, 12 ounces  
Jeffery Wagen of Seabrook

#### ■ Dorado:

- 46 pounds, 2 ounces  
W. R. Trey Buford III of Harlingen

#### ■ Ling (cobia):

- 79 pounds, 3 ounces  
Steven A. Richards of Porter

#### ■ Flounder:

- 6 pounds, 14 ounces  
Joseph Jackson of Corpus Christi

#### ■ Sheepshead:

- 10 pounds, 3 ounces  
David Martin of Baytown

#### ■ Gafftop:

- 7 pounds, 11 ounces  
Amanda Darder-Hebert of Nederland

Results are as of Aug. 24. For more information, including a list of weigh-in stations and registration locations, visit [www.ccatexas.org](http://www.ccatexas.org). Proceeds from STAR go to CCA Texas and its conservation programs.

## Bonefish

Continued from Page 8

Corpus Christi, and in 1996 three bonefish were caught by the same party boat 35 miles southeast of Port Aransas.

Capt. Brandon Shuler in Port Mansfield found a school of foot-long bonefish slumming with redfish and mullet in the Lower Laguna Madre four years ago. He hooked one on a five-weight fly rod.

"In the timeless fisherman's tale, it got off," Shuler said. "They're definitely here, at least from time to time. They're just really hard to find and target."

The Texas state record for bonefish stands at 3.75 pounds and 23.25 inches, taken Nov. 10, 1977.

Such scattered opportunities aren't likely to challenge Florida's North American bonefish preeminence, where the species generates an economic impact of about \$1 billion, according to the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Studies.


"Once winter comes, they get to the low-end of their temperature range, and it knocks them off," Shuler said. "For a reliable shot at a big bone, you're still going to have to go to the Keys or Belize or the Bahamas."

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## Mangar facts

**Latin name:**  
*Barbus esocinus*

**Heritage:**  
Member of the carp family

**Distribution:**  
Native to the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in Iraq and Iran and inland waters in Asia

**Record:**  
140 pounds, caught in 1915 in the Tigris River in Iraq. Mangar exceeding 400 pounds have been netted



Daniel Miller poses with another large mangar caught in Iraq. Photo by the Baghdad Angler's Club and School of Fly-Fishing.

## Iraq

Continued from Page 1

fun so I let her keep doing it."

Ramsey learned a lesson in the importance of knot tying.

"He tied on a swimbait," Valenzuela said. "I asked him if he knew how to tie a fishing knot, and he said 'Hell yeah.'"

A few minutes later, Ramsey said, "I think I got a hit because it took the lure."

Valenzuela threw some bait and caught a small asp and used it as cut bait. He gave the bait-rigged rod to Ramsey and returned to his rooster tail.

"After about five casts a fish hit," he said. "I yelled, 'There he is.'"

Valenzuela — a member of the Silver Knights, the 1st Medical Brigade, based at Fort Hood — didn't know what he had at first.

"He must have been swimming toward me, but when he came close he took off for

deeper water," he said.

Using 14-pound test line, Valenzuela knew he had to loosen the drag.

"He took almost all of my line — about 120 yards," he said. "I had about 15 turns on the spool left so I thumbed the spool to slow him down and managed to turn him."

The fight lasted 25 minutes.

"Finally we got him close enough to where Ramsey and another local fellow could get a hold of him," he said. "Ramsey didn't want to touch the fish at first thinking it would pull him in the water — then he stripped down to his PT shorts."

The helpers finally pulled the fish, a mangar, out of the water.

"We took a few pictures and the local fellow and his compadres took the fish," Valenzuela said. "It took all four of them to load it on the truck."

The mangar, a member of the carp family, weighed 43 kilograms (about 95 pounds).

"It was a very good day," Valenzuela said.

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# Father, son find fish in 50 states, 50 days

## Duo hits the middle of Lake Fork on swing through Texas

By Thomas Phillips  
LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Fishing Lake Fork was different in several ways for Jeff Turner and his son, Taylor.

For one, Turner is accustomed for pursuing bass at dawn and dusk and around structure. At Fork, he and Taylor were fishing in open water, far from the bank, and the only structure around was submerged humps in the lakebed.

For two, the pair were 13 states into a fishing tour of each of the 50 states.

Father and son completed the adventure of a lifetime this late spring and summer: fishing in 50 top spots, in 50 states, in 50 days.

The trip was a fundraiser for charity, an



**AROUND THE WAY:** Left, a map shows the Turners' route through each of the 50 states on their 50-day quest for fish. Above, Jeff Turner holds a largemouth bass caught at Lake Fork. Photo by Taylor Turner.

awareness campaign for improving fatherhood and personal journey for a father and his soon-to-leave-home son.

"It was fantastic," Turner said. "It was probably the greatest event outside of marriage and childbirth."

One of the greatest days of fishing from the trip happened at Lake Fork.

Turner, 48, and Taylor, 17 — both of Warrenton, Pa. — met guide John Tanner at the East Texas reservoir at 4 p.m. They

See 50-50, Page 29

## Zebra mussels anticipated at Lake Lavon

### Mollusks loathed for problems they cause at lakes

State officials confirmed the presence of problematic zebra mussels upstream from Lake Lavon earlier this month. They believe the mussels, which foul water systems, are on a slow march toward establishing significant populations in the Trinity River watershed.

Zebra mussels multiply rapidly and can block water treatment plant intakes and pipes and attach themselves to boats, ropes and anything left in the water. They can cause declines in fish populations, native mussels and birds. They can also restrict water flow in pipes, foul swimming beaches, damage boat engine cooling systems and cause navigation buoys to sink. The financial cost of controlling and removing zebra mussels from fouled water intake structures can be significant.

Zebra mussels were found Aug. 3 in a fork of Sister Grove Creek in Grayson County about 300 yards downstream of the Lake Texoma water transfer pipe. The creek flows into Lake Lavon.

"The only motile stage of this animal is the veliger (larvae), which, in Lake Texoma, had to be a product of reproduction," said Bruce Hysmith, Texas Parks and Wildlife inland fisheries biologist for Lake Texoma. "The larvae are free-floating in the water column, and some were likely transported via the North Texas Municipal Water District water transfer system into West Prong Sister Grove Creek," Hysmith said. "While we have no proof, we feel certain zebra mussels are in Lake Lavon."

Hysmith said TPWD has deployed sampling equipment throughout Lake Lavon from the U.S. 380 bridge to the south shoreline and will be monitoring to see if zebra mussels show up and confirm department suspicions.

"Lake Lavon is in the headwaters of the vast Trinity River Basin, which extends southward to the Gulf of Mexico, so the potential impacts to water quality, fisheries resources, water distribution systems and recreation are huge," Hysmith said.

"Zebra mussels have the potential to be an even greater threat to Texas freshwater resources than invasive aquatic plants such as giant salvinia and toxic organisms such as golden alga," said Phil Durocher, director of TPW's Inland Fisheries Division.

— Texas Parks and Wildlife report

# ETHANOL 101

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#### PROBLEM 1: DEBRIS IN FUEL

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#### PROBLEM 2: EXCESSIVE WATER IN THE FUEL AND PHASE SEPARATION

Ethanol attracts moisture from the atmosphere, chemically bonding with it to form an ethanol/water molecule. Water in the fuel causes engines to run rough, stall and can lead to internal damage to engine components. Fuel will naturally hold .5% water in suspension, but if water levels exceed this threshold the water drops out of suspension. The water/ethanol molecules are heavier than the fuel and drop to the bottom of the tank. This is phase separation. Ethanol provides a significant amount of the fuel's octane, so when the ethanol separates and drops to the bottom of the tank, the remaining fuel is left without enough octane to properly operate the engine. Plus, the ethanol/water mixture is only partially combustible which can lead to severe engine problems.

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#### PROBLEM 3: ETHANOL FUELS BREAK DOWN QUICKLY

Ethanol and gasoline do not chemically bond, instead they are held together in a weak suspension. Over a short period of time the E10 fuel begins to break down. The fuel begins forming solids which can clog the fuel delivery system and reduce octane ratings.



**STAR TRON® SOLUTION:** Star Tron® is also a powerful fuel stabilizer which prevents the fuel's breakdown for up to 2 years. Star Tron® will also rejuvenate old fuel, restoring it to serviceable condition.

#### PROBLEM 4: ETHANOL CAUSES LOST POWER PERFORMANCE AND DECREASED FUEL ECONOMY.

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**FORK FATTY:** Taylor Turner holds one of the bass he caught on Lake Fork. Photo by Jeff Turner.

**50-50**

Continued from Page 27

checked off Louisiana earlier that day by fishing on the eastern side of Caddo Lake.

At 4 p.m., Turner's bass-fishing world was turned upside down.

It was midday, 101 degrees, and they were in the middle of the lake. Granted, it is Texas' most famous bass lake, and one of the top bass lakes in the country.

And Fork did not disappoint.

"It was the most bass I've caught," Turner said. "It was nonstop. It was unbelievable."

Fork ranked among the top three or four locations they fished on the trip. Other highlights included catching 12-pound rainbow trout in Nevada, blue marlin in Hawaii and dozens of salmon in Alaska.

"We had so many remarkable days on the water," Turner said.

Another destination that stands out came on Chesapeake Bay, during the Maryland stint. The Turners caught 129 striped bass and bluefish.

For that catch, they had wandered into a feeding frenzy.

"As far as you could see in every direction it was just frothing fish," Turner said. "It was surprising if you didn't catch one on every cast."

The trip, which would have cost about \$25,000 had fishing guides, outdoors businesses and others not helped defray expenses, raised about \$6,000 for three charities. Groups receiving funds were Grace Ministries, the National Fatherhood Initiative and Trout Unlimited.

Harder to quantify is the impact the Turners' story has had. The inspiration for the trip was to have an adventure as prescribed in the book "Wild at Heart," by John Eldredge. Eldredge writes that every man longs for an adventure or battle of some sort.

Turner took that as a revelation and combined the drive for adventure with a desire to improve the father-child relationship.

So he took a few weeks off work as a defense contractor in Washington, D.C. He could have spent the money elsewhere, he said, but he chose instead to invest in his son.

"It's a big expense, but with something else we amortize it over five years and tell our wives it's OK."

But instead of suggesting everyone take an extended vacation and spend tens of thousands of dollars state-hopping in an RV, Turner said fathers should spend a weekend with their children — without their Blackberrys and iPhones chaining them to the office.

Their trip ended in Hawaii, where they hooked and fought, but didn't boat, a blue marlin. All told, they caught 956 fish: 472 for father, 484 for son. The trip drained them physically and mentally, and they slept with abandon when they returned home.

The trip did nothing, however, to quench their thirst for fishing.

"When it was all done, I could have gone fishing on the 51st day," Turner said.

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