

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS



June 12, 2009

Texas' Premier Outdoor Newspaper

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Return of PK

Possum Kingdom Lake's worst days from golden algae are behind it, anglers say. **Page 8**

INSIDE HUNTING



Hot rod pop-ups

Pop-up blinds become ground-level hunting headquarters for two Texans.

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Outdoors artwork

A South Dakota museum pays tribute to one of waterfowlers' most loved artists.

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FISHING



Coastal trout limits

Speckled trout fishing on the Lower Laguna Madre is better than it has been in years.

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CONSERVATION

Deserved honors

One of Texas' biggest proponents of wise land use is being honored for his work.

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NATIONAL

New reef in Keys

Natural reefs grow over decades. Ones made by man are born in minutes.

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Make camp on the coast



ON THE WATER: An overnighter puts fly anglers where they want to be to catch fish first thing in the morning. But camping on the Texas coast means a night spent with all kinds of special guests, from unannounced tanker waves to mosquitoes. Photo by Jennifer Phillips, for LSON.

Overnight on the spoils calls for more than a tent

By Thomas Phillips

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

It started with two fish jumping the surf at the two coastal campers' feet. Two splashes or rises. Two distinctively excited movements on the water.

Then they heard it: Something like the sound of rushing wind 250 yards down the beach, coming closer.

When it was about 100 yards away, they knew it was a giant wave.

This one probably reached 3 or 4 feet high, and it crashed within about a foot of the tent.

One camper ripped the tent from the sand, and both began repacking the kayaks in case another wave hit

See **CAMPING**, Page 14

FLY-FISHING

■ **Hill Country rivers:** Low flows don't stop the fun in the Hill Country. **Page 8**

■ **Carp count:** They tail. On the flats. In North Texas. **Page 8**

Boaters can't refuse in BWI crackdown

Judges, blood techs join cops at lakes

By Craig Nyhus

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

People fishing or boating on Texas lakes this summer should keep a closer eye on their alcohol consumption while on the water. Montgomery County officials, along with state troopers and Texas game wardens, enforced the state's first-ever "no-refusal" weekend at Lake Conroe over the Memorial Day weekend.

Under the program, people suspected of boating while intoxicated who refused a field sobriety or breath test were taken to a Houston Police Department mobile unit — one of two stationed at the lake —

See **BOATING**, Page 14

Blue Water Highway reopens

Road to Surfside Beach a favorite among anglers

By Scott Sommerlatte

FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Anglers were both pleased and surprised to find that the Blue Water Highway, after taking a brutal pounding in September by Hurricane Ike, had reopened a few weeks back, again allowing easy access to isolated boat ramps and favorite fishing holes.

The Blue Water Highway, also known as Brazoria County Road 257, stretches from San Luis Pass to the village of Surfside Beach. The highway, traveled by many anglers daily, sustained substantial damage when Ike made landfall. The closure of the road had a profound effect on several bait camps



ON THE ROAD: The Blue Water Highway in Brazoria County, used by many surf casters, recently reopened after sustaining damage from Hurricane Ike. Photo by David J. Sams, Lone Star Outdoor News.

and convenience stores that relied on anglers for business. In addition, the road was the path many Brazoria County anglers used to travel to and from the boat ramps on Galveston Island.

"Until just recently, if you wanted to fish the surf near the pass or launch a boat at the pass to fish in West Galveston Bay, you had to

See **HIGHWAY**, Page 14

Bowhunters making room

Crossbows OK'd for archery season

By Thomas Phillips

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Texas hunters may use crossbows during bow season under a new state law, but seasoned bowhunters are not happy about it.

Jack Jetton, president of the

Lone Star Bowhunters Association, said June 2 the group still opposes allowing hunters to use crossbows during bow season. The new law cuts into the extra time bowhunters have for hunting.

See **CROSSBOWS**, Page 16

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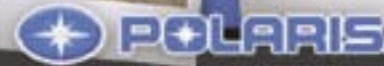
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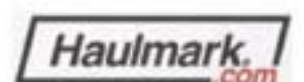
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CONSERVATION

Once-ragged ranch honored

Owner turned wasteland into natural wonder

Selah-Bamberger Ranch Preserve in Blanco County received the 2009 Leopold Conservation Award for Texas from the Sand County Foundation and Texas Parks and Wildlife, part of the department's Lone Star Land Steward Awards program.

Ranch founder J. David Bamberger was among those who had the idea to create the Lone Star Land Steward Awards program 14 years ago when he served on the TPW Private Lands Advisory Board.

Bamberger, now 81, came to Texas in the 1950s in modest circumstances, selling vacuum cleaners door to door with Bill Church, whose father owned four chicken restaurants in San Antonio. Bamberger read a book on franchising, and suggested the idea to Church. When Church's Fried Chicken went public in 1969, money poured in.

Soon after, Bamberger went looking to buy the worst ranch in the Hill Country, explaining that he deliberately wanted to show how overgrazed and damaged land could be restored and made healthy again by removing invasive cedar trees, replanting native grasses, light and rotational cattle grazing, prescribed fire and other tools.

Forty years later, Bamberger's innovation, passion and success have made him a legend in land conservation circles. The 5,500-acre ranch is known as a place where rocky and eroded pastures became lush and green, and dry creeks and springs began to flow again.

"Texas has become an urban state in that most of us now live in cities," said Carter Smith, TPW executive direc-



LEGACY: J. David Bamberger set out to buy a burned up ranch in the Hill Country so he could show how well land conservation practices work. Photo by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

tor. "Yet the wonderful story of Selah-Bamberger Ranch Preserve reminds us that our lives and our future are tied to healthy ecosystems — to clean water, diverse wildlife, green hills and all those resources that lie mostly outside the urban footprint. Urban Texas owes these rural land stewards a tip of the hat, and none personifies the conservation ethic better than David Bamberger."

The Leopold Conservation Award honors the legacy of Aldo Leopold (1887-1948), who is considered the father of wildlife ecology.

"In the 1930s, Aldo Leopold and his family bought a worn out Wisconsin farmstead and lovingly nursed it back to health," said Brent Haglund, Sand County Foundation president. "Likewise, Mr. Bamberger and his family applied the same kind of insight, pa-

tience and skill to restore productivity and beauty to the degraded lands they purchased. I couldn't think of a more fitting recipient of the award that bears Leopold's name."

Of the 3,500 visitors to the ranch each year, about half are school students from Austin, San Antonio and the surrounding region. Hundreds of landowners and others come from around the state and nation to attend workshops on restoring native grasses, trees and water resources.

The ranch, in a cooperative effort with the American Zoological and Aquarium Association, aids an endangered antelope, the African scimitar horned oryx. After 25 years of work, the ranch now provides animals to help restock Senegal and Gambia.

— Texas Parks and Wildlife report

Conservation News in Brief

Texan named SCI Foundation's top educator of 2009

Terry Erwin of Texas is the recipient of the Safari Club International Foundation's 2009 Educator of the Year award.

Erwin spent 24 years in the medical profession before joining Texas Parks and Wildlife's hunter education staff. With TPW, he serves as the hunter education program manager.

He previously served as a volunteer when the state mandated the program.

Erwin has served on numerous committees of the Interna-

tional Hunter Education Association. He also helped develop the first hunter home study program, which included a video and workbook, the first online hunter education program in Texas and the current IHEA online course.

Additionally, Erwin has traveled to South Africa to assist with the South African Hunters and Game Conservation Association's hunter education program and has visited Lima, Peru, where he held the first student and instructor course — making Peru the first South American country to have a hunter education program. He also has worked in Mexico to assist with developing its hunter education program.

— SCI report

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NATIONAL

Ship becomes new reef

Old boat sunk on purpose to aid wildlife, economy

Anglers and divers have a new reef to explore near Key West, Fla. But unlike one nearby, this one isn't natural.

Navy personnel intentionally sank the U.S.S. Vandenberg, a 523-foot vessel commissioned in 1943 as a World War II troop transport ship, to provide an artificial reef for the area.

Thousands of onlookers watched as 44 carefully placed explosive charges were detonated to blast holes in the hull of the vessel. It took 1 minute, 54 seconds for the Vandenberg to slip below the water's surface and settle on the sea bottom. Now it rests about 7 miles south-southeast of Key West in 140 feet of water in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

The shipwreck will provide recreational diving, ecotourism and fishing enhancements to the Florida Keys and provide a needed lift to the economy of Key West

and its neighboring communities, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The artificial reef will bring an additional \$7.5 million in expenditures to the Monroe County economy and create about 195 full- and part-time jobs, according to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration projections.

The ship was placed in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to help divert fishing and diving pressure away from natural reefs near the ship. The FWC estimates the vessel's minimum 100-year lifespan will contribute stable, long-term habitat for scores of marine fish species and provide exceptional diving and fishing opportunities for Florida residents and visitors from around the world.

After serving in WWII, the Vandenberg became a missile range instrument ship in the 1960s.
—Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission report



NEW TERRITORY: Anglers and divers can explore the Florida Keys' newest reef, the former U.S.S. Vandenberg. Photo by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

National News in Brief

Boat maker files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

The company that manufactures many popular boats, including the Ranger and Stratos brands, filed June 1 for bankruptcy protection.

In Genmar Holdings' announcement about the Chapter 11 filing, Chairman and CEO Irwin L. Jacobs said, "If someone would have said to me as recently as even one month ago that Genmar would someday be filing for Chapter 11, I would have said it was not even a remote possibility."

Jacobs said Genmar plans to exit Chapter 11 protection as a stronger and better company with a bright and stable future ahead in the recreational boating industry, and that anglers shouldn't have any concerns about the boats in Genmar's lines, especially Ranger.

The company has enough money to continue

building boats, filling orders and paying suppliers at it goes through bankruptcy, Jacobs said. Warranty and rebate programs will still be honored.

Jacobs told The Outdoor Wire the company's revenue will drop to less than half of what it was last year, when the company made a profit of \$9.7 million.

The bankruptcy filing covers the 13 brands in Genmar's boat-building business: Ranger, Champion, Triumph, Seaswirl, Hydra-Sports, Stratos, FinCraft, Larson, Wellcraft, Marquis, Windsor Craft, Carver Yachts, Glastron and Four Winns.

"Going forward, Ranger has no plans to relinquish its leadership position," said Ranger President Randy Hopper in a statement. "While the fishing segment has not been immune to adverse economic conditions, it has not been affected to the same degree as other boating categories. I believe that our segment has hit bottom and we are seeing recent evidence of improvement."
— Staff report

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HUNTING

Pop-up blind secrets



TERRA FIRMA: Accessibility of gear without making noise is essential to bowhunters in ground blinds. Carpet on the blind's floor helps the hunter keep quiet and storage containers keep gear safe and nearby. Photos by Devin Shawn, for Lone Star Outdoor News.

Bowhunters offer tips for hunting enclosures learned the hard way

Many bowhunters prefer to deer hunt out of ground blinds in Texas, but they struggle with heat, critters, noise and being spotted. Two avid Hill Country hunters, after losing several blinds over more than 10 years of hunting — and after finding snakes, fire ants and even a bobcat in a pop-up blind — offered their suggestions on hunting out of and maintaining the popular blinds.

Keeping critters out — or not

"In the past, we have lost several tents to rats," said Richard McCarter of Garland. "Now we dig one to two entryways on each side of the pop-up blind for rats and field mice. They're going to enter the blind regardless — the holes provide mice with an entryway so they don't chew holes in the bottoms of tents to make their way in."

The pair also uses plastic storage containers in the tents to keep gear safe and dry. The containers also make for easy access to binoculars, cameras, etc., without movement.

Silence is golden for ground hunters, and some work that into their blinds.

"We cut a carpet square to fit the bottom of the pop-up blind," said Devin Shawn of Austin. "It allows for silent movement."

As an added bonus, Shawn said, snakes and other small animals don't crawl under the carpet square — and fire ant killer placed underneath the square helps prevent them from taking over.

The hunters used to use folding chairs but didn't like constantly sitting in the same position.

"We use a quiet swivel chair," McCarter said. "When it comes time to shoot, you can silently swivel the chair into position."

Ground bow holders keep the bow in an upright position and keeps the hunter's hands free.

"It comes in handy on cold days," Shawn said.

Setting up early

"We have found it is better to set up the blinds in the middle of August and leave them up for the season," McCarter said.



RODENT RUNWAYS: One of the hunters' innovations is to dig tunnels into the blinds for rodents and other small animals to use. With the tunnels dug for them, animals do not chew tent fabric and carpet.

"This allows the deer to become familiar with its appearance."

Hunting in the Hill Country with a good deer population, the hunters don't add brush to the blinds.

"They get accustomed to it," Shawn said. "But in areas with a lower deer population, the deer seem more spooky of a naked blind, so we add brush."

Shooting windows — open or closed?

Ground blind hunters struggle with whether to leave shooting windows open or closed, especially when they aren't hunting.

"When we hunt, we only open a couple of shooting windows," McCarter said. "The windows behind us are kept closed so the deer can't see our silhouette through the

tent. And we cover the front windows with one-way see-through mesh."

One lesson came from leaving the windows open all season so the deer wouldn't be thrown off when the windows were opened.

"Leaving them open all season invites spiders, fence lizards, dirt doblers, birds, bobcats, and other things into the blind," Shawn said. "We have run into all of these. Now we secure a piece of black vinyl to the flap that closes on the shooting windows to give a closed shooting window the appearance of being open when we're not hunting."

Keeping cool, dry and odor-free

Early season bowhunting in Texas is hot — especially when hunters are in enclosed ground blinds.

"We use silent battery-operated fans we found at the camping department at Academy," Shawn said. "Even at the highest speed, it doesn't spook the deer at all."

Beating the heat is one battle, and when the weather turns sour, another fight breaks out.

Leaks are a problem for ground blinds left out for the season.

"We Scotchgard the blind," McCarter said. "It has been effective in keeping the water out and helps to preserve the color of the blinds from exposure to the sun."

Keeping water out is one thing. Keeping scents in is another.

To keep from alerting deer through smell from their blinds, the hunters prefer a cover scent.

"We use a deodorant-style scent on our feet when entering and exiting the pop-ups," Shawn said. "And we apply it to an inside wall of the blind. The wind and the fans spread and keep the deer scent in and around the blind."

For visual defense, the bowhunters prefer black to camo — inside the blinds.

"We wear a black shirt and a black face-mask," McCarter said. "It matches the dark shadows inside the carbon-lined blinds."

—Staff report



WILDLIFE ART MECCA: Set on 30 acres holding ducks and geese, the Redlin Art Center in Watertown, S.D., showcases the works of legendary wildlife artist Terry Redlin. Photo by Craig Nyhus, LSON.

Redlin center brings back memories

Artwork lines halls at the huge museum in South Dakota

By Craig Nyhus

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Hunters across Texas know the work of Terry Redlin. At fundraising banquets, discussions often turn to "How many Redlin prints do you have?" and "Are you going to bid on this one?"

Many Texas hunters head north to pursue waterfowl, pheasants or deer. If they are anywhere near Watertown in eastern South Dakota, a detour to the Redlin Art Center should be put on the to-do list.

The center, opened in 1997, contains much of Redlin's original artwork, with the exception of earlier paintings that were sold. The landmark of the 20,000-person town, it hovers from a hill-top overlooking Interstate 29. Wetlands created on the grounds hold ducks and Canada geese.

Summer Celebration concerts bring in more than 10,000 people each August and the center welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

Redlin's paintings bring back memories for any outdoorsman or woman who visits, as the wildlife, whether deer, pheasants, ducks or Canada geese, often takes a back stage to a famil-

See REDLIN, Page 16

Scholastic Steel Challenge holds 1st event

Student shooting competition similar to adults' speedy contest

A new program of the Steel Challenge Shooting Association that introduces new shooters to the sport held its inaugural event recently during the Tennessee State Scholastic Clay Target program in Montgomery County, Tenn.

Some 11,000 rounds went downrange as more than 400 young shooters tried their hand at the new Scholastic Steel Challenge.

The Scholastic Steel Challenge format is based on the Steel Challenge, an action pistol competition that attracts some of the world's best shooters. The scholastic version is designed for new and experienced shooters. Competitors will shoot at targets from a low-ready position, not from holsters as in the Steel Challenge.

The response to SSC, a team-oriented youth pistol-shooting program developed by the Steel Challenge Shooting

See SHOOTING, Page 16

Hunting News in Brief

Governor appoints new member to commission

Gov. Rick Perry recently appointed Dan Allen Hughes Jr. of Beeville to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission for a six-year term to fill the seat formerly held by the late John Parker of Lufkin.

Hughes is president of Dan A. Hughes Company LP and a member of the Texas A&M University College of Geosciences Advisory Council, Sul Ross State University Borderlands Research Institute Advisory Board and All-American Wildcatters. He is also a member of the Order of the Alamo and Texas Cavaliers and received a bach-

elor's degree from Texas A&M University.
— *Texas Parks and Wildlife report*

Knight Rifles to close; parts still available

Modern Muzzleloading Inc. will close its Knight Rifles division June 30. The decision to close the Knight operation resulted from an overall industry downturn, according to the company.

Modern Muzzleloading will provide customer service for wholesale and retail customers and will handle the sale of Knight's parts, accessories and warranty services.
— *Modern Muzzleloading Inc. report*

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FISHING

PK rebounds from fish kills

Largemouths, stripers leading the way of return

By Bob Hood

FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Possum Kingdom Lake was down but not out after fish kills in 2001 and 2003 — and evidence of the lake's rebound today is as close as the nearest boat ramp.

Anglers returning to shore this spring have been reporting excellent catches of largemouth bass, sand bass, catfish and striped bass on the 17,624-acre reservoir known for its

beauty and clear water.

"The bass fishing has been incredible," said local angler Ken Williams. "They have been catching a lot of really fat, healthy fish."

"The Tongate family holds a bass tournament at PK annually, and the winning five-bass stringer at last April's event weighed more than 30 pounds," said Robert Mauk, a fisheries biologist at the Texas Parks and Wildlife fisheries office in Wichita Falls.

And in a Hell's Gate Bass Club tournament held May 13, a five-bass bag totaling 20.48 pounds caught by Don Welsh took first place.

Going into June, Possum Kingdom's lake level was only about 4 1/2 feet below its conservation pool elevation — considered about average

for that time of the year.

The 2001 fish kill at the lake in Palo Pinto and Young counties was caused by toxic blooms of golden algae, a single-cell microscopic organism that scientists say occasionally can out-compete non-toxic blue and green algae for nutrients. The toxin released by golden algae attacks the fish's open cells, such as their gills, and eventually causes the fish to suffocate. The algae is not harmful to humans or other wildlife, and uncertainties remain about what triggers major golden algae blooms.

In Texas, fish die-offs caused by golden algae blooms have been recorded on at least 26 major water

See PK LAKE, Page 12



ALGAE AWAY: Fish populations are rebounding in Possum Kingdom Lake after die-offs caused by golden algae. Photo by David J. Sams, Lone Star Outdoor News.



Popularity of carp is rising among Texas fly anglers

On the flats of North Texas

By Shannon Drawe

FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Most anglers have accidentally caught a carp. While the fight is good, for many it is followed by disappointment when the fisherman realizes it is "just a carp." But for an increasing number of fly anglers, carp have become their favorite fish to match wits with on a regular basis.

When anglers think of fly-fishing, it's probably safe to say they don't normally see themselves casting to tailing carp on their local lake. But if North Texas guide Joel Hays has anything to do with it, fly-fishing for carp will be on everyone's to-do list.

Chasing carp began for Hays on a weekend camping trip with his wife to Ray Roberts Lake in the summer of 1997.

"I was wading, chunking at some bass under the willows with a size 4 white woolly bugger and noticed something back toward the shore," Hays said. "It was a fish, a big fish pushing a big wake. All of a sudden it stopped and started tailing just like a redfish."

Hays was beside himself.

"I was so pumped, because I had just been in Mexico bone fishing," he said. "I chunked the woolly bug-

ger at him. Nothing. I cast at him a couple more times. I finally put the woolly bugger right on his head and spooked him and he came right at me and realized it was a carp as he went right by me."

That's when it dawned on him.

"Here's a big fish that's 4 or 5 pounds, tailing, 15 minutes from my house," Hays said.

Hays had read an article on fly-fishing for carp on the flats of Lake Michigan with mulberry flies.

"My head just started spinning," he said.

Two trips to the lake spent casting flies at tailing carp produced no takes.

"I took a selection of bonefish flies from Mexico and proceeded to get skunked," Hays said. "On the third trip, about two weeks after I had first seen them, I was fishing a little tan and white clouser, put it right in front of him, gave it little 1-inch strips, he took the fly and took off."

Hays said a lot of people underestimate the challenge of catching a carp, especially stalking them on lake flats.

"These are big spooky fish in shallow water that tail and fight like

See CARP, Page 12



FRESHWATER FLATS FISHING: Tailing carp can be seen along shorelines of Texas lakes as temperatures rise. The common carp, shown by guide Joel Hays, has a unique mouth to consume an unusual variety of foods. Photos by Shannon Drawe, for LSON.



NATIVE TEXAN:

Hill Country rivers host many species of fish, including the small though feisty Guadalupe bass.

A 14-inch Guadalupe is considered big, but catching the fish in its native habitat is a treat. Photo by Jennifer Phillips, for Lone Star Outdoor News

Low water in Hill Country rivers

Fish still plentiful, biting despite lack of flow for floats

By Thomas Phillips

LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Hill Country fly anglers have low flows to contend with on rivers, but they are reporting plentiful catches.

Rob Burlingame has fished the Nueces River this spring and found success with streamer patterns. But the key is not so much the fly as the water, said Burlingame, president of the Alamo Fly Fishers club.

"You've definitely got to find areas where the water's deeper," he said.

With the low flows, fish tend to concentrate in pocket

water between the very shallow riffles.

Although water flows are down in the Hill Country, the fishing has not suffered, Burlingame said.

"Most of the folks I've talked to, the fishing's still pretty good on any of the rivers out there," he said.

The low flows make float trips difficult, said Rick Wilson, a fishing guide based in Fredericksburg.

"It makes it tough," Wilson said. "You do a lot of dragging and wading."

He has given up on floating his raft down the Guadalupe

See HILL COUNTRY, Page 12

Tournament guide rule raises hackles

By **Cody Ryan Greaney**
FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS

Battle pits 'pros' against weekend competitors

Since anglers began fishing for a "purse," the question of professional guides participating in such events has always been a topic of debate. Arguments on both sides are heard among the crowds of anglers watching weigh-ins, and they are embedded in blogs and fishing forums. Most agree a perfect solution might never be found.

The highest paying team tournament trail in Texas, Bass Champs, began in 1997. The circuit spreads across four divisions in Texas and each year, Bass Champs surveys anglers on every aspect of the tournament trail, including lake choices, likes and dislikes.

"In the 2008 survey, the most discussed topic in the open section was a request to limit or eliminate guides from fishing Bass Champs," said President Chad Potts.

Bass Champs did not bar guides from fishing the tournaments but instead initiated a rule meant to help ease the tensions. It prohibits anglers who have guided for bass for compensation on tournament waters within 30 days of a tournament.

"Sometimes requests are items we agree with. Sometimes they're not; however, we always try our best to make changes based on the majority opinion," Potts said.

Fishers of Men Tournament Director Jeff Cook said the national tour doesn't have the rule, but it remains a topic that is revisited each year.

"Guides are against it; weekend warriors are for it," Cook said. "Good fishermen have learned that you cannot replace time on the water; if a tournament trail has a guide rule, then you obey it or do not fish the tournament; it's just part of the game."

Guides have a different perspective. "Tournament organizations that cater to the weekend angler have always struggled with how to define a professional angler," said Austin-based guide Mike Hastings. "Anyone who

has ever won a single penny in a tournament of any size is technically a professional."

Most larger tournament trails have an "off-limits" period in which anglers may not be on the water during the specified time before competition. The purpose is to level the field for competitors on factors such as patterns, weather and fishing pressure.

"I don't see the need for any restrictions beyond the off-limits rule," Hastings said.

Another competitor, Charles Whited, a Choke Canyon guide, has had to sacrifice fishing some tournaments this year because of the guide rule.

"If anything, by guiding, I put clients on fish that I could use in tournaments," Whited said. "I don't fish waters that aren't my very best because if I did, my clients wouldn't fish with me."

Lower Laguna Madre changes show results

Factors add up to more trout

By **Brandon Shuler**
FOR LONE STAR OUTDOOR NEWS



HEAD SOUTH FOR TROUT: Speckled trout fishing in the Lower Laguna Madre has made a comeback, with fish numbers and sizes reaching levels not seen in years. Reduced pressure resulting from hurricanes, higher gas prices and lower limits are believed to be reasons for the boon. Photo by David J. Sams, LSON.

For Lower Laguna Madre anglers, the lower bag limits for speckled trout that caused a schism along the coast when enacted in 2008 are proving successful.

"We're seeing quality fish deeper into the season, and our average lengths are increasing," said Port Mansfield guide Capt. Teddy Springer.

Several factors are believed to have contributed to the rebound, including \$4 per gallon gas last summer, two major hurricanes (Dolly and Ike), a decent rain season and a down economy — all resulting in lower fishing pressure.

These factors plus the regulation changes — lowering the daily bag limit from 10 fish to five in the Lower Laguna Madre — appear to be the perfect storm responsible for the turnaround.

"The trout fishing has returned to levels we were seeing five or six years ago," said Capt. Mitch Richmond. "We're getting limits

early, and fish are seemingly everywhere; it hasn't been like this since the 2000 or 2001 season."

Texas Parks and Wildlife's ecosystem leader for the Lower Laguna Madre said the results TPW biologists are witnessing in annual gill net surveys are a good sign.

See **TROUT**, Page 12

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GAME WARDEN BLOTTER

CAMPER FOUND, TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

Campers floating the Brazos River in Palo Pinto County called for help after a man with them needed emergency medical help. The campers did not know where they were; they only knew how long they had been on the river, but were able to identify landmarks they had seen while floating. Palo Pinto County Game Warden Cliff Swofford found them about 2 a.m. and helped the victim to his patrol truck. Swofford drove the man out to where an ambulance was waiting to transport him to the hospital.

WARDENS, UNDERCOVER CADETS SNAG SNAGGERS

Hundreds of pounds of catfish was seized and several investigations are underway against poachers accused of snagging catfish at Cooper Lake. Hopkins County Game Warden Jarrod Bryant, Lamar County Game Warden Brian Callihan and Red River County Game Warden Benny Richards worked the spillway at Cooper Lake during water safety cadet training. They filed eight snagging cases with the help of cadets working undercover. One of the cases involved six seized flathead catfish weighing more than 300 pounds total. Fourteen snagging cases have been opened at the spillway with wardens and cadets working undercover.

COW SHOT ON NEIGHBOR'S PROPERTY

A man who shot and butchered a Longhorn steer near Lometa avoided trespassing charges but might be charged with littering. The man shot and butchered the steer on a neighbor's property. The neighbor heard the shot and saw the man enter his property about daybreak. About an hour later, the neighbor found the remains of a large longhorn steer with rear legs and head missing. He called Lampasas County Game Warden Jim Lindeman. Around the carcass were several empty

Kayaking wardens bust poachers

Game wardens issued several tickets for fishing without a license and a warning for possession of undersized black bass while floating in kayaks down the San Saba River

in Menard County. When Menard County Game Warden Clint Graham and McCulloch County Game Warden Bryan Baronet asked the poachers why they did not have

fishing licenses, they responded, "We fish this portion of the river every year and did not expect the game wardens to be on the river in kayaks."

beer cans and a discarded vehicle tire. Lindeman asked neighboring landowners if they had seen anything unusual. One rancher said he saw an old beat-up green truck with dents covering the body early that morning. Lindeman knew a man who drove a truck fitting that description and found four people grinding fresh longhorn hindquarters and in possession of a longhorn head with a 6-foot horn spread. It turned out the truck owner was the owner of the steer. The original complainant decided not want to file trespass charges but wanted the mess cleaned up. Charges of littering pending and criminal trespass warning issued.

BUCKETS OF SMALL FISH, GREAT BLUE HERON

Several people at Lake Houston face public intoxication charges and wildlife violations after being caught in Harris County. The group had two buckets of undersized fish that included black bass, channel catfish, crappie and white bass. They also possessed a nongame protected great blue heron, Game Warden Kevin Malonson said. Cases pending.

DRINKING MINORS TELL ALL ABOUT DEAD DEER

An investigation of underage consumption of alcohol revealed game violations in Motley County. Game Warden Matthew Cruse discovered turkey feathers in the bed of a pickup while assisting sheriff's officers with the underage consumption call. Through questioning of the vehicle's owner about the turkey feathers, investiga-

tors learned about deer being shot at night. The deer had been shot a year and a half earlier in Dickens and Kent counties from a roadway. Citations were issued to two individuals for the illegal killing of these deer.

BOATERS RESCUED FROM SWOLLEN NAVASOTA RIVER

Three men were rescued from the Navasota River after their flat-bottom boat took on water and capsized. The river was past flood stage because of recent heavy rains and open gates on the spillway of Lake Limestone. Madison County Game Warden Dornell Crist and Brazos County Game Warden Leanne Winkenwerder found the men yelling for help and hanging onto some trees. The men were wearing their life jackets.

GATOR TAILS IN PICKUP'S BED

A man faces charges of illegal possession of an alligator after he was found with his vehicle stuck in Coleto Creek riverbed. Victoria County Game Warden Jon Kocian said the man had the tails of two alligators in the bed that he intended to consume. The alligators had been taken illegally. Charges and restitution pending.

AFTER SHOTS FROM HUMMER, TICKETS ISSUED

Polk County Game Warden Ryan Hall, accompanied by his soon-to-be partner, Cadet David Johnson, arrested four local men shortly after midnight when they started shooting a 9mm pistol from their Hummer H2 near a residence along a rural county

road. The men denied shooting at any wildlife and were charged with public intoxication and disorderly conduct for discharging a firearm from a public roadway. Cases pending.

FAKE ID DOESN'T PASS INSPECTION

Sabine County Game Warden Randy Button arrested one person for failure to show identification while fishing on Toledo Bend Reservoir. The person produced different names on a fake identification card, fake Social Security card and a replacement license.

MISSING ANGLERS FACE TRESPASSING CHARGES

Law officers searched through the night for a father and son who went missing while fishing. La Salle County Game Warden Ryan Johnson received a call from a rancher along the Nueces River about a vehicle that had been parked at the public access point all day and no one was around. Knowing the vehicle's owner had probably trespassed down the river onto the nearby ranch, Johnson began looking for sign. Soon after dark, with still no sign of the anglers, two worried parents arrived at the river. They said their son and grandson left to go fishing early that morning and were overdue. A search team of Border Patrol agents, sheriff's deputies, and horse and dog teams from the local prison was assembled. A night of searching yielded no results and very little sign. After the sun came up the next morning, father and son were found wandering the ranch road. Both were in good condition and ad-

NEIGHBOR MISTAKES BOX FOR DEER

Peering through the dark of night, a neighbor looked across her property and saw two boys shoot several times and load something bulky into a pickup bed. She called Gillespie County Game Warden Scott Krueger, who approached the boys. They had been shooting clay pigeons with the aid of the pickup headlights, and the deer the complainant saw being loaded was their box of clay pigeons. The boys were told shooting clay pigeons in a residential area at 11:30 p.m. was not a good idea.

JUGLINE DRIFTED INTO ILLEGAL ZONE

Three men using game fish for bait on Eagle Mountain Lake had filleted fish in the boat. The men told Tarrant County Game Wardens Chelle Mount and Clint Borchardt their fish had died and they wanted to put them on ice. The poachers were also using illegal juglines, which were placed nearby and had drifted into a restricted area. Citations are pending.

BAD REGISTRATION, UNDERSIZED TROUT ON LAVACA BAY

Calhoun County Game Warden Robert Dominguez and Wharton County Game Warden Chris Bird were patrolling Lavaca Bay when they contacted three men operating a pontoon boat displaying out-of-date registration. After their vessel was inspected, the men proudly displayed their stringer of 20 speckled trout to both wardens. After measuring each trout, only 9 of the 20 were of legal size, and only one person on the vessel had purchased a fishing license. Cases pending.



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Hill Country

Continued from Page 8

and Pedernales. His hot water has been on the South Llano.

"That's been a great float," he said.

He caught a largemouth weighing 9 1/2 pounds on the river near Castell, he said. A client caught 40 to 50 fish on the river one day recently.

Wilson, too, is fishing streamers. His pattern of choice is a muddler minnow, and he has caught fish on poppers, too.

Although it is "some of the pret-

tiest water in the state," Wilson has skipped the Nueces River this year. Same for the Medina.

"There's just not enough water around here," Wilson said.

Anglers on the Pedernales caught plenty of small bass (the river contains largemouth, smallmouth and Guadalupe bass) on clousers. *Lone Star Outdoor News* used a canoe to float through deeper pools while wading riffles and longer, shallower runs.

Clouser color mattered less than depth. Bass were holding in deeper water and in shadows.

PK Lake

Continued from Page 8

bodies, including Red Bluff Reservoir, where it was first discovered in 1986, and lakes Granbury, Whitney, Texoma, Baylor, Kemp, Diversion, Childress, Sweetwater, Buffalo Springs, Colorado City, Spence and Balmorhea.

River systems have encountered the algae, too.

A golden algae fish kill also occurred in May 2001 at the Dundee State Fish Hatchery near Electra, at a time when the half-century-old Possum Kingdom hatchery, the state's other striper factory, was closed and undergoing an \$8 million renovation. The Dundee fish kill wiped out the state's production for that year of striped bass (27 million fry) and hybrid striped bass (38 million fry).

Possum Kingdom's rebound can be credited largely to the heavy restocking of Florida largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass and blue catfish since 2001, an overall lack of heavy fishing pressure since 2001 and an abundant supply of food sources such as threadfin and gizzard shad.

Striped bass are surging at the lake, thanks largely to annual stockings since 2001, including about 250,000 striper fingerlings stocked

in the last week in May.

"Possum Kingdom's striped bass appear to be doing very well," said Mark Howell, TPW district fisheries supervisor at Wichita Falls. "While we are seeing a lot of young stripers in our net surveys, there have been some 13-pounders caught, so we know they are in there."

Howell said the fast growth rate among stripers stocked as fingerlings also is helping generate a good population of keeper-sized fish.

"Fingerling stripers take about 2 1/2 years to grow to 18 inches, the statewide minimum size," he said.

Special regulations at the lake allow anglers to keep only two striped bass 18 inches or longer and the minimum size limit for largemouth bass is 16 inches with a five-fish daily bag limit.

Mauk said he believes a lack of heavy fishing pressure (a 2006 survey showed only 10 percent angler effort was directed toward stripers) combined with the stockings and no major golden algae-related fish kills over the past few years have given Possum Kingdom the one-two-three punch it needed.

"Of those three, I think not having another major golden algae kill has helped the most," Mauk said. "The lake really is doing well. The fish are growing fast, and they have plenty to eat."

Carp

Continued from Page 8

redfish and are almost as nervous as a bonefish," he said.

Catching carp on the flats requires unique strategy. Anglers slowly stalk feeding fish to get in range without scaring the fish, and present small flies within a teacup-saucer range of the fish's nose. All this is done using a light saltwater weight rod in the six-to-eight-weight range.

David Montgomery of Lewisville, an avid fly-fisherman who has fished many different waters for different species, believes carp provide more of a challenge than fly-fishing for largemouths.

"It requires so much more of an angler, and you are not going to be successful just blind casting at structure," he said. "And don't forget these fish can easily get to 20 or 25 pounds in the currents of the Brazos River — creating a whole new set of challenges."

Montgomery also likes the peacefulness of carp fishing.

"There are so few people out there, it's just never crowded," he said.

Hays thinks fly-fishing for carp has come into its own in this decade.



STRONG PULLERS: Landing carp on a fly rod is a welcome challenge for anglers, reminding some of landing coastal redfish. Photo by Shannon Drawe, for LSON.

"Once my clients try it, they just love it and think it's the coolest thing in the world," he said.

Some fly anglers apply the experience they gain fishing for carp to be more successful stalking redfish in the shallows of the Texas Gulf Coast.

"And more than one angler has commented that if the carp had spots on their tails, the freshwater

flats would be packed with anglers," Hays said.

Fly-fishing manufacturers are coming on board. In 2009 fly line manufacturer Rio introduced its Carp Fly Line, and carp flies are easier than ever to find in varieties that appeal to carp in different areas, including a Glo-bug, a bread fly and even a corn fly.

Trout

Continued from Page 9

"We've only collected a month of gill net surveys this season," Mark Lingo said. "And although we haven't seen an increase in catch per unit effort, we're seeing an increase in the average mean size of the fish."

An increase in the average length was the impetus of the 2007 discussion to change limits. Fish in the 17- to 22-inch range were lacking in the area, as was population growth.

"Before the regulation changes, we caught a ton of little fish, but everything we caught was just at 14 3/4 inches," said Paul Johnson of Bay City.

The lack of fish reaching legal size indicates overfishing. As the trout population grows, average length frequencies will increase, too.

"Barring a freeze," said longtime LLM angler Dwaine Winters, "next year should be like it was in the mid- and early '90s. I'm excited; I caught and released three personal bests this year, and it's only going to get better."




Although the changes created a stir when first implemented, a growing number of Texas anglers hope the regulations extend coastwide. The change will most likely face stiff resistance, but a statewide regulation change will alleviate some of the confusion of where and when anglers can keep only five fish — especially in areas where anglers or guides travel above and below the northern edge of the LLM.

"Most anglers we stop are complying with the regulation changes, and most are happy with our efforts," Game Warden Robbie Robinson said. "We've only had to write maybe a half dozen people — most of the ticketing has been over possession issues."

The LLM regulations for speckled trout extend from Marker 21 in the Land Cut to South Bay and to the jetty points at Port Mansfield's East Cut and the South Padre Island's Boca Chica Pass. Anglers are permitted five fish only within the LLM, and, as with the rest of the coast, guide limits are prohibited. Anglers may keep one trophy trout per day 25-inches or greater.


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Highway

Continued from Page 1

drive out on the beach," said Shane Batchelor of Clute. "It was horrible if you were towing a boat."

Many drove the beach daily, bypassing construction crews, but the passage was not without peril. The beach still has deep washouts that, if driven through without caution, could damage vehicle suspensions and trailers. The washouts, which are slowly filling in with sand, are responsible for the highway damage.

"We lost 2.3 miles outright, and another 5.8 miles was breached, leaving only maybe one lane in some places," said Brazoria County Precinct 1 Commissioner Donald "Dude" Payne. "It was imperative to get the road reopened quickly, so within days of the storm, we were on the phone with FEMA trying to get some help."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Highway Administration provided the necessary funding to begin the project. At a cost of about \$3.5 million so

far, the project reached a point where the roadway could be reopened early last month. A ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Key Largo subdivision celebrated the event May 4, just in time to welcome back anglers and tourists.

Another \$10 million will be spent to finish the project and help prevent further damage to the roadway. Payne is trying to obtain funding for a rock embankment to protect critical areas of the road from future storms. With an average loss of 5 feet of beach sand, Payne is concerned and wants work to begin before the peak of hurricane season arrives.

"I'm truly amazed at how quick and how far we have gotten with this," Payne said. "But there is still a lot that needs to be done."

Anglers couldn't be happier. Before the road reopened, Brazoria County Justice of the Peace Justin Thompson, an avid surf fisherman, was making early morning drives to the pass in search of a limit of trout.

"It was a long, slow, bumpy ride in the dark," he said. "It's nice to be able to drive down to the pass again."

Boating

Continued from Page 1

for blood and breath analysis tests, Montgomery County Assistant District Attorney Warren Diepraam said.

The DA's office joined the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Precinct 1 Constable's Office Lake Patrol, Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Houston Police Department for the initiative. A judge was stationed at each mobile unit to issue a search warrant for blood tests. Nurses were at the units to draw blood.

The weekend worked, officials said, with several arrests and no wrecks or fatalities on the lake.

"I feel like it was a success," said Montgomery County Game Warden Alan Biggerstaff. "We had gotten to the point where everyone was refusing the tests — now we have another way to determine the alcohol content."

Biggerstaff said game wardens made eight arrests over the holiday weekend, and the boating while intoxicated cases they bring involve anglers and recreational boaters.

"We have more recreational boaters on the holiday weekends, but it goes both ways," he said.

Roughly half of drivers and boaters arrested in the past have refused to provide a breath sample. With the on-the-spot search warrants, officials say the driver or boater can be forced to provide a blood sample.

No-refusal weekends for drivers have been used in the Houston and other areas with success, but the Lake Conroe weekend was the first of its kind designed for boaters.

Since 2004, the lake has seen 33 wrecks, with 26 injuries and six fatalities, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife. Two fatalities on the lake occurred last summer.

Lake Conroe also had 10 BWI arrests last summer. District attorneys say BWI cases are more difficult than driving-while-intoxicated cases to prosecute without breath or blood samples.

Officials believe the blood tests will help with prosecution and deter drinking while operating a boat.

Defense attorneys are unsure how successful the operations will be.

Houston criminal defense lawyers at Johnson, Johnson & Baer said it is still unclear if the forcible taking of blood has reduced the number of Texas DWI offenders.

"I know that I fundamentally disagree with the government forcing a citizen in a misdemeanor case to give blood," attorney Dane Johnson said on the firm's Web site.

The BWI no-refusal initiative Memorial Day weekend was the first of several similar efforts planned for this summer. At Lake Alan Henry, for example, the Garza County attorney and a judge were available to implement blood search warrants. Two arrests were made.

Other initiatives are planned for the July 4 and Labor Day holiday weekends at Lake Conroe and other Texas lakes.

"We have several more scheduled at Conroe," Biggerstaff said. "I think it's going to become more and more popular across the state."

Camping

Continued from Page 1

without warning.

Camping and fly-fishing on one of Texas' many spoils — oversized sandbars between the barrier islands and the mainland — requires little preparation but significant insight.

Campers with only a handful of experience know to take plenty of water and food and something to sleep on (or in). That's easy stuff learned car camping at a state park.

A trek on the mainland requires little else, perhaps extra socks and blister remedies. But a night on the coast calls for extra planning on three topics: wakes from large ships (the campers' tsunami), mosquitoes and waterproofing.

High and dry

The worrisome tsunami, the

pair learned after returning to the mainland, was the wake from a large ship passing through the bay during the night. They never saw it as it slipped by perhaps 10 miles away. It could have passed by 30 minutes before the wave hit. They had no idea.

When you find your camp area, note the high-tide mark, and find a spot at least 1 1/2 feet higher. A campsite at this elevation will probably spare you from a ship's wake if one hits at low tide.

If one hits at high tide, be ready to become soaked.

High and dry, part two

Many Texas anglers, especially fly anglers, took their first on-the-water camping trips out of canoes. They learn that kayaks aren't canoes for one important reason.

Unlike big, wide, deep canoes,

kayaks are narrow and shallow. They don't hold as much stuff.

With space in short supply, gear is strapped on top of the kayak. Everything gets wet. The stuff inside the hull, whatever is strapped on top, the paddler, the paddler's clothes, the paddler's camera.

And, on the coast, whatever gets wet stays wet.

Texas' heat and humidity are nuisances inland and demon-possessed oppressions on the coast. Six inches above the water surface, on a day with only a light breeze, clothing seems to dampen just sitting there.

Here a few tips for avoiding a watered-down trip:

■ Pack gear in dry bags or watertight plastic containers. The problem here becomes accessibility.

■ Use less gear. Instead of a sleeping bag, opt for a compact sleep-

ing pad, twin sheet and small fleece blanket. The coast sees warm temperatures much of the year, so a sub-zero bag isn't necessary, and the individual pieces are easier to stow.

■ Take a towel or some other drying utensil. A towel is for drying hands or for wiping off the camera or other delicate items.

Buzz words

The island was pleasant and surreal for the campers at first. Covered in shells and birds, it is a pristine piece of coastal land. Low, creeping plants and mangroves hold tight, and sand wraps around pockets of water.

About dark, after the birds have quieted, the mosquitoes come out.

This set of campers deployed the latest in mosquito nets. Made by Mombasa, the model required hooks or wire to hang from for

proper use. But the campers were on the beach. Improvising, they draped the net over two fishing rods placed into drainage holes on the kayaks, tucking the remainder of the fabric behind their backs as they sat in the boats, side by side.

Kayak seats are surprisingly comfortable so campers need not pack extra chairs — just sit in the boats with the mosquito net draped over you.

Setting sail

"Be prepared" is trite and condescending. What it really means is "predict the future." Backpackers and boat-packers know that. It beats saying "know what you don't know."

For a camping and fishing trip on the Texas coast, here are three things you now know: Mind the waves, water and mosquitoes.

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Redlin

Continued from Page 6

iar country cabin, fishing or hunting camp or a fall harvest scene.

Surprisingly, Redlin's work was never popular with art critics.

Julie Ranum, executive director of the center, said she didn't understand why.

"They may have been jealous of his commercial success," she said. "Mr. Redlin looked at art as a business — he was trained as a commercial illustrator.

"He was never of the mind-set that he would work when he was inspired," said Redlin's son, Charles, who designed the center. "Most of the time, he would end up painting before sunup and would paint until dark."

But the critics didn't stop the art lovers. Redlin is America's most widely collected painter of nature and Americana.

"He painted for people," Ranum said.

Revenue from Redlin's prints continues to benefit many conservation organizations, but no group has benefited as much as Ducks Unlimited.

"His prints have generated more than 30 million dollars for DU," Ranum said.

Redlin received the National Artist of the Year award from DU in 1983.

The center is a gift from Redlin to the state of South Dakota. After losing a leg in a motorcycle accident at age 15, the state awarded him a \$1,500 scholarship to attend the School of Associated Arts in St. Paul, Minn.

On his first day at the school, Cecil George Johnson, the instructor, asked the students to draw anything they wished so he could evaluate his students. Redlin drew a small dog.

Johnson kept the drawing for years, and his estate donated it to the museum, where it hangs with other of his early art.

After Johnson saw the drawing, he said, "There is nothing I can teach this kid about drawing."

Redlin's near-perfect drawing of Bugs Bunny when he was 6 years old is a fan favorite.

"People accused me of tracing it," Redlin wrote in a description. "So I would sit down and draw it larger or smaller for them."

After graduating and spending 15 years as a commercial artist, Redlin made the break to continue his career as a wildlife artist in 1978.

Redlin's favorite? "That would be the American Portrait Series," Ranum said.

The series of seven paintings, dedicated to Charles Langenfeld, Redlin's brother-in-law and hunting and fishing companion, took Redlin nine years to complete, and was released in 1994. It outlines a 14-year span of the life of a young man and his dog, all from the perspective of the across-the-street neighbors. The titles, "His First Friend" (showing a golden retriever puppy), "His First Day" (of school), "His First Date," "His First Graduation," "His First Homecoming," "His First Good-bye" and "His Last Good-bye," tell part of the story.

Langenfeld was killed in Vietnam in 1968, and the last painting of the series shows the young man's parents receiving the dreaded "visit" from



A WELCOME DETOUR: A family from Minnesota views some of Terry Redlin's original artwork on display at the Redlin Art Center. The center receives thousands of visitors each year, from every state and more than 20 countries. Photo by Craig Nyhus, LSON.

Navy officials. His very old dog, knowing something is wrong, has dropped his toy.

Men clear their throat as they get to the final painting. Women weep.

Redlin said it was the toughest painting to complete.

"I almost couldn't get it done," he said in a video describing the series.

Redlin retired in 2007, and at 71, dementia has taken much of his memory. But his work, showing his favorite places and his love for hunting and fishing, remains.

Shooting

Continued from Page 6

Association, far exceeded organizers' expectations.

"The response to the SSC was tremendous, and this first event was a huge success confirming that America's young adults are eager for the opportunity to compete in the sport of speed shooting," said Scott Moore, director of SSC.

Dave Thomas, executive director of the U.S. Practical Shooting Association, said the group aims to establish teams across the country.

"It's not just schools," he said. "Church-

es, Boy Scout troops, individuals or any group can set up a team — they just need a qualified coach."

Grant funding has been secured from the National Shooting Sports Foundation with major commitments from Action Target, Glock, The Outdoor Wire Digital Network and Smith & Wesson totaling more than \$150,000.

SSC is open to all eligible youth and offers a junior division for 14- to 16-year-olds and a Senior Division for 17- to 20-year-olds.

Information for setting up a team is at www.scholasticsteelchallenge.com.

— Staff report

Crossbows

Continued from Page 1

"We are not and have never been against the legal use of crossbows for hunting," Jetton said. "We were defending the season that was negotiated 35 years ago between the Texas Legislature and the bowhunters of Texas. And we feel like it has been invaded."

The president of the National Crossbowmen of the USA had no sympathy for that position.

"Oh, poor babies," William Pimm said. "That's what we hear a lot. It's just an age-old bias against crossbows."

Hunters have been able to legally use crossbows in Texas during regular season. The change in law now opens bow season

to crossbows.

The devices are considered easier to use than bows, and the original intention of the legislation was to aid hunters who lack the physical ability to use a bow.

But they are not the same as using a rifle, Pimm said.

A crossbow's range and accuracy are different, and arrows and bow strings require more care, he said.

"You're just going to have to pay a lot more attention," he said.

They are often noisier, harder to reload and have similar or slower muzzle velocities than a bow, Pimm said.

"Archers tend to ignore those arguments," Pimm said. "Generally, the people who complain about crossbows are ignorant about their use."

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HEROES



DAVID JONES of Bedford bagged this 23-pound Rio Grande Turkey with an 11-inch beard and 2-inch spurs in Archer County in April.



ROY GARRISON and **NOLAN GARRISON**, 6, caught this 40-inch redfish at Port Mansfield on May 22. It was supposed to be Nolan's fish, but he was at the tent so his father reeled it in.



HARRISON LANKFORD, 8, caught this bass on a Zebco rod and reel using a small plastic swimbait at Brushy Creek Lake Park between Round Rock and Cedar Park.



NICHOLAS PAGE, hunting with his father, **KELLY PAGE**, shot this feral hog on his first shot with a rifle at 65 yards.



DON DRAEGER of Carrizo Springs caught these red snapper while fishing offshore out of Port O'connor.

Share an adventure

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

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Daniel Martinez, 15, of San Antonio shot this 11-point whitetail buck at his father's 200-acre ranch near Cotulla one day before the season ended this year. He used a .270 rifle and shot the deer at about 150 yards. The deer scored 146 Boone and Crockett.

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FISHING REPORT

HOT BITES LARGEMOUTH BASS



AMISTAD: Excellent on Senkos, minnows and watermelon and watermelon red soft plastics and on topwaters early.

BROWNWOOD: Excellent on white spinnerbaits, craw jigs, crankbaits, GrandeBass Baby Rattle Snakes and soft plastics along the shoreline, among rocks and near dead grass in 1-5 feet.

FALCON: Excellent on shallow running crankbaits in 10 feet or less.

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

WHITE, HYBRID, STRIPER



BRAUNIG: Striped bass are excellent on liver and perch off points.

LIVINGSTON: White bass are excellent on trolling tubes, pet spoons and slabs.

RAY ROBERTS: White bass are excellent on spoons in 24-40 feet.

HUBBARD CREEK: White bass and hybrid striper are good on live bait.

CATFISH



CALAVERAS: Channel catfish are excellent on liver, bait shrimp, cheesebait and shad.

BRAUNIG: Channel and blue catfish are excellent on liver, shrimp, cut bait and cheesebait near the dam.

BUCHANAN: Yellow and blue catfish are very good on jugs and minnows.

CANYON LAKE: Yellow and blue catfish are very good on jugs and trotlines baited with live bait.

GIBBONS CREEK: Catfish are very good on stinkbait and frozen shrimp.

CRAPPIE



GRANGER: Good on minnows and jigs in 5-15 feet.

GRAPEVINE: Good on minnows and jigs.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Good on live minnows around structure at the pump station in 15-20 feet.

ALAN HENRY: Water lightly stained; 74 degrees; 0.25' low. Black bass are good on white spinnerbaits along creek channels and brush lines and on black/blue soft plastics and jigs worked in brush and along tree lines. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are good on live bait.

AMISTAD: Water clear; 77 degrees; 0.86' low. Striped bass are good on swimbaits, Sassy Shad and Rat-L-Traps. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Catfish are fair on cheesebait and punch bait. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with live perch.

ARROWHEAD: Water stained; 72 degrees; 4.64' low. Black bass are good on crankbaits, chatterbaits or black/blue jigs off rocky points and riprap. Crappie are good on minnows fished at the east side bridges, slate park piers and off riprap in 6-10 feet (fish are spawning). White bass are good trolling and casting towards rocky points in the Sailboat Cove area. Blue catfish are good drifting cut shad and cheesebait on flats in 12-15 feet.

BELTON: Water clear; 78 degrees; 0.51' low. Black bass are good trolling Rat-L-Traps. Hybrid striper are good on minnows under lights at night in 20 feet. White bass are slow. Crappie are good on minnows under lights at night. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines and jugs/lures baited with live perch and live shad.

BOB SANDLIN: Water stained; 75-82 degrees; 0.19' high. Black bass are good on drop-shot-rigged finesse worms, Texas rigs, 5" Senkos and topwaters. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs around bridge columns and brush piles. Catfish are fair on trotlines with nightcrawlers and shiners.

BRAUNIG: Water stained; 76 degrees. Black bass are fair on crankbaits and dark soft plastic worms in reeds and near the dam. Redfish are fair on perch, shad, tilapia, crawfish and silver spoons.

BROWNWOOD: Water stained; 77 degrees; 6.16' low. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are excellent on L'il Fishies and crankbaits off lighted docks. Crappie are excellent on L'il Fishies and jigs along the shoreline in 1-5 feet and over brush piles in 12-15 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on cut bait over baited holes in 8-10 feet. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with perch in 6-18 feet.

BUCHANAN: Water clear; 78 degrees; 17.40' low. Black bass are good on watermelon topwaters, soft plastics and spinnerbaits. Striped bass are fair on topwaters and Rat-L-Traps, jigs and drifting live bait on the surface. White bass are fair trolling over rock piles in 20-30 feet. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. Channel catfish are good on live bait and cut bait.

CADDO: Water off-color; 76-85 degrees; 1.66' high. Black bass are good on Texas-rigged 10" worms, Senkos and wacky rigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are good on trotlines with live bait. Bream are good on red wigglers and crickets.

CALAVERAS: Water stained; 76 degrees. Black bass are slow. Striped bass are good on spoons and striper jigs between the dam and the crappie wall. Redfish are excellent down rigging silver and gold spoons in 10-20 feet, on live perch, tilapia and crawfish near the power lines and on live bait along the crappie wall. Crappie are slow. Blue catfish are good on liver and cut bait near 181 Cove. Yellow catfish are slow.

CANYON LAKE: Water clear; 76 degrees; 12.47' low. Black bass are good on soft plastics. Striped bass are fair vertically jigging. White bass are slow. Smallmouth bass are good on root beer/green grubs and craws and smoke/red tubes. Crappie are fair to good on jigs and live minnows. Channel catfish are slow.

CEGAR CREEK: Water lightly stained; 75-83 degrees; 0.2' low. Black bass are fair on topwaters early, midday switching to Carolina rigs, jigs and chatterbaits. White bass are good on slabs over humps and on topwater when surface schooling is occurring. Hybrid striper are good on Sassy Shad. Crappie are good on jigs

around boathouses and over brush piles. Catfish are good on cut shad and chicken liver drifted over points.

CHOKE CANYON: Water clear; 79 degrees; 7.05' low. Crappie are slow. Drum are slow. Channel and blue catfish are very good on stinkbait in 4-10 feet. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with live perch.

COLEMAN: Water clear; 77 degrees; 7.36' low. Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps, spinnerbaits and soft plastic worms and lizards. Hybrid striper are good on live shad near the park and the store. Crappie are good on minnows at night. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live perch.

CONROE: Water murky; 0.25' low. Black bass are good on watermelon red and watermelon gold Carolina-rigged soft plastics, crankbaits and spinnerbaits. Striped bass are fair on silver striper jigs and Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are fair on minnows and blue tube jigs. Catfish are good on stinkbait, cut bait frozen shrimp.

are very good on trotlines baited with perch in 12-20 feet.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water lightly stained; 74 degrees; 5.71' low. Black bass are good on white spinnerbaits and black neon soft plastics worked along edges of trees and reeds. Crappie are good on jigs and minnows. White bass and hybrid striper are good on live bait.

LAKE O' THE PINES: Water stained; 76-85 degrees; 5.15' high. Black bass are fair on Pop Rs, spinnerbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs in coves and around structure. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and cheesebait.

LBI: Water stained; 80 degrees; 0.14' low. Black bass are fair on watermelon jigs, watermelon topwaters, Bleeding Shad Rat-L-Traps and soft plastics. White bass are slow. Crappie are good on minnows and white jig. Channel catfish are good on minnows and dip bait. Yellow and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live perch and carp.

LEWISVILLE: Water off-color; 75-84 degrees; 0.22' high. Black bass are fair

good on silver spoons and live shad in the Long Hollow area. Catfish are good on live shad and cut liver along the river.

RAY HUBBARD: Water stained; 75-85 degrees; 0.16' high. Black bass are fair to good on Booyah spinnerbaits, chatterbaits and Carolina-rigged 10" worms. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on Humdingers and chrome topwaters. Hybrid striper are fair on slabs. Catfish are fair to good on cut bait.

RAY ROBERTS: Water clear to lightly stained; 76-85 degrees; 0.84' high. Black bass are good on Booyah buzzbaits and Bomber Square A lures. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs over brush piles and around isolated trees (lots of small fish). Catfish are excellent on shad and prepared bait.

SAM RAYBURN: Water murky; 77 degrees; 1.68' low. Black bass are slow. White bass are good on silver spoons. Crappie are good on minnows over brush piles and baited holes in 20-30 feet. Bream are good on crickets and nightcrawlers. Catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait.

SOMERVILLE: Water murky; 79 degrees; 1.04' low. Black bass are good but small on watermelon and pumpkinseed soft plastic worms. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are fair trolling Rat-L-Traps and spoons near the dam. Crappie are good but small on minnows and jigs. Channel and blue catfish are good on punchbait off the banks. Yellow catfish are slow.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear; 86 degrees; 1.56' low. Black bass are very good on minnows. White bass are good on minnows. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on minnows and shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

SWEETWATER: Water lightly stained; 74 degrees; 5.55' low. Black bass are fair on shad-colored crankbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on live bait and chrome/blue jerkbaits. Catfish are good on live bait.

TAWAKONI: Water stained; 75-85 degrees; 0.25' high. Black bass are fair on Carolina rigs, chatterbaits and medium diving chartreuse/brown crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on Humdingers and topwaters. Striped bass and hybrid striper are fair on live shad. Catfish are good on cut bait.

TEXOMA: Water off-color; 75-84 degrees; 3.86' high. Black bass are fair on drop-shot-rigged finesse worms, crankbaits, Carolina rigs and jigs. Striped bass are good on live shad in 35-40 near deep water drop-offs. Catfish are good on prepared bait and cut shad.

TOLEDO BEND: Water murky; 76 degrees; 0.33' low. Black bass are fair but small on redbug and watermelon red soft plastic worms in 12-20 feet. Striped bass are fair on silver striper jigs. White bass are fair on silver spoons and slabs. Crappie are good on minnows and chartreuse and blue jigs over brush in 20-25 feet. Bream are good on crickets and nightcrawlers in 2-4 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on trotlines baited with live bait. Yellow catfish are slow.

TRAVIS: Water stained; 78 degrees; 30.30' low. Black bass are good on chrome topwaters, watermelon worms and smoke grubs in 8-24 feet. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on white grubs and minnows in 20-32 feet. Crappie are fair on minnows and pink tube jigs in 10-25 feet. Channel and blue catfish to 6 pounds are fair on fresh cut bait and nightcrawlers in 22-38 feet. Yellow catfish are slow.

WALTER E. LONG: Water murky; 80 degrees. Black bass are very good on shad. Hybrid striper are fair on shad and crankbaits. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows. Channel and blue catfish are good on nightcrawlers, frozen shad and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

WEATHERFORD: Water lightly stained; 75-84 degrees; 5.67' low. Black bass are good on Texas-rigged Baby Brush Hogs, spinnerbaits and split shot rigs. Crappie are good on minnows in the crappie house and off rocks in the marina cove.

HOT SPOT



South Padre

Good numbers of redfish and trout have come from the shallows in South Bay. Tarpon are showing at the pass. Limits of trout are good on shrimp and DOA Shrimp over the grass beds.

FALCON: Water stained north of Marker 14; 80 degrees. Striped bass are slow. Channel and blue catfish are excellent on cut bait and frozen shrimp.

FORK: Water lightly stained; 76-85 degrees; 0.54' high. Black bass are fair on topwaters early and late and midday on drop-shot-rigged 7" worms and Carolina-rigged Brush Hogs. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs under the bridges and over brush piles. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and prepared baits.

GIBBONS CREEK: Water clear. Black bass are fair on watermelon red and chartreuse soft plastics and small crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows.

GRANBURY: Water clear; 2.03' low. Black bass are fair on watermelon red and watermelon gold soft plastics, crankbaits and spinnerbaits. Striped bass are fair on chartreuse striper jigs. White bass are fair on minnows and chartreuse spinnerbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are good on stinkbait, nightcrawlers and frozen shrimp.

GRANGER: Water clear; 77 degrees; 1.93' low. Black bass to 9 pounds are good on white spinnerbaits around stumps in the river channel. White bass are slow. Blue catfish are fair on shad and prepared bait. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with live perch and goldfish.

GRAPEVINE: Water off-color; 75-85 degrees; 3.39' low. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits off points, Texas rigs and medium running crankbaits. White bass are good on Humdingers and slabs. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers.

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear; 82 degrees; 0.25' high. Black bass to 3 pounds are very good on watermelon soft plastic and medium diving crankbaits near the dam. White bass are good along the northeast shore. Bream are good on live worms off piers and grass beds. Channel and blue catfish to 5 pounds

to good on Carolina rigs, Rat-L-Traps and spinnerbaits. White bass are good on Humdingers and topwaters when surface schooling. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and cut bait.

LIVINGSTON: Water fairly clear; 84 degrees; 0.11' high. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Striped bass are good but small on Rat-L-Traps, pet spoons and hellbenders. Crappie are excellent on minnows in 6-12 feet. Blue catfish are very good on shad. Yellow catfish are fair on live bait.

NAVARRO MILLS: Water stained; 75 degrees; 0.03' high. Black bass are very good on motor oil, watermelon and June bug soft plastic worms. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows in 6-10 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on shrimp and minnows. Yellow catfish are good on trotlines baited with perch and goldfish.

O.H. IVIE: Water lightly stained; 75 degrees; 12.49' low. Black bass are good on white spinnerbaits and black/blue soft plastics worked over and in brush and around trees. Crappie are good on minnows and jigs. White bass are good on live bait and white inline spinnerbaits. Smallmouth bass are good on crankbaits and live bait. Channel catfish are good on live bait.

OAK CREEK: Water lightly stained; 69 degrees; 5.12' low. Black bass are fair on white spinnerbaits and live bait. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Catfish are good on live bait.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water stained; 77 degrees; 4.16' low. Black bass to 5.5 pounds are good on white spinnerbaits, red and black soft plastic baits and silver Rat-L-Traps on main lake points. Crappie are fair on minnows and yellow jigs in Rock Creek. White bass are good on silver Rat-L-Traps and jigging spoons in the Peanut Patch area. Striped bass are

SALTWATER SCENE

NORTH SABINE: Trout are fair to good under birds and pods of shad on soft plastics. Redfish are good under rafts of shad on topwaters.

SOUTH SABINE: Trout are fair to good under birds and pods of shad. Trout are good at the jetty on live bait and topwaters. Sheepshead are good on live shrimp tight to the rocks. Trout are good in the surf.

BOLIVAR: Trout are good on the south shoreline on Bass Assassins, Trout Killers and Sand Eels. Waders tossing topwaters have scored better fish around Rollover Pass.

TRINITY BAY: Trout are good for drifters working pods of shad and mullet on Bass Assassins, Trout Killers and Sand Eels. Trout, redfish and flounder are good at the spillway on live bait.

EAST GALVESTON BAY: Trout are good for drifters working deep shell on limetreuse and plum plastics. Trout are good on the south shoreline on Catch 5s, MirrOlures and Catch 2000s.

WEST GALVESTON BAY: Waders have taken good trout on topwaters in the afternoon. Sheepshead, redfish and black drum are good at the jetty on shrimp and crabs. Trout are good in the surf.

TEXAS CITY: Trout are fair to good on the reefs and in the channel on live shrimp and croakers. Redfish and sand trout are fair to good in Moses Lake on shrimp.

FREEPORT: Trout are good at San Luis Pass on shrimp, MirrOlures and soft plastics.

THE SURF: The surf has held trout on live bait and artificial. Trout, redfish, sand trout and sheepshead are good on live shrimp on the reefs in Christmas Bay.

EAST MATAGORDA: Trout are good for drifters on live shrimp over mid-bay reefs. Waders have taken good catches on reefs on topwaters and plastics.

MATAGORDA: Trout are good on sand and grass humps on soft plastics and topwaters. Redfish are good on topwaters and live shrimp in Oyster Lake. Trout are good in the surf on live bait.

PORT O'CONNOR: Trout and redfish are good on topwaters and live bait over sand, grass and shell in San Antonio Bay. Trout and redfish are fair for drifters working the back lakes with live shrimp. Trout are good in the surf and at the jetty.

ROCKPORT: Trout are fair to good in the guts and channels on free-lined shrimp. Trout are fair over grass while drifting with live shrimp. Redfish are good on mullet and shrimp around Dagger Island and 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 on topwaters and croakers.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Trout are fair to good on the edge of the spoils on Gulps 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 near Rocky Slough. Trout are fair at night in the Land Cut on live shrimp. Redfish have been found in knee-deep water.

PORT MANSFIELD: Trout are good on topwaters on the edge of the channel and around sand and grass. Redfish are fair to good while drifting pot holes. Offshore is good for red snapper, kingfish and a few tarpon.

PORT ISABEL: Trout and redfish are fair to good on the flats on live shrimp. Trout are good on the deeper edges and flats in Laguna Vista and Airport Cove on topwaters and live shrimp.

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SEA HUNT

Sun | Moon | Tides

Moon Phases



Solunar | Sun times | Moon times

Texas Coast Tides

Sabine Pass, jetty

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	8:29 a.m.	2.3H						
Jun 13	12:05 a.m.	0.2L	8:57 a.m.	2.3H				
Jun 14	12:41 a.m.	0.5L	9:17 a.m.	2.1H				
Jun 15	1:19 a.m.	0.9L	9:30 a.m.	2.1H	5:00 p.m.	1.1L	10:45 p.m.	1.4H
Jun 16	2:09 a.m.	1.3L	9:34 a.m.	2.0H	5:02 p.m.	0.5L		
Jun 17	12:45 a.m.	1.8H	3:31 a.m.	1.6L	9:26 a.m.	2.0H	5:24 p.m.	0.0L
Jun 18	1:57 a.m.	2.3H	6:08 a.m.	2.0L	8:47 a.m.	2.1H	5:57 p.m.	-0.5L
Jun 19	2:49 a.m.	2.7H	6:38 p.m.	-0.9L				
Jun 20	3:35 a.m.	2.9H	7:23 p.m.	-1.3L				
Jun 21	4:21 a.m.	3.0H	8:12 p.m.	-1.4L				
Jun 22	5:08 a.m.	3.0H	9:03 p.m.	-1.6L				
Jun 23	5:55 a.m.	2.9H	9:58 a.m.	2.5L	12:51 p.m.	2.7H	9:56 p.m.	-1.4L
Jun 24	6:39 a.m.	2.7H	10:39 a.m.	2.3L	2:05 p.m.	2.5H	10:49 p.m.	-1.1L
Jun 25	7:18 a.m.	2.5H	11:44 a.m.	2.1L	3:27 p.m.	2.3H	11:42 p.m.	-0.7L
Jun 26	7:51 a.m.	2.3H	1:09 p.m.	1.8L	5:12 p.m.	2.0H		

Galveston Bay entrance, south jetty

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	9:16 a.m.	1.9H						
Jun 13	12:31 a.m.	0.1L	9:44 a.m.	1.9H				
Jun 14	1:07 a.m.	0.4L	10:04 a.m.	1.7H				
Jun 15	1:45 a.m.	0.7L	10:17 a.m.	1.7H	5:26 p.m.	0.9L	11:32 p.m.	1.1H
Jun 16	2:35 a.m.	1.0L	10:21 a.m.	1.6H	5:28 p.m.	0.4L		
Jun 17	1:42 a.m.	1.4H	3:57 a.m.	1.3L	10:13 a.m.	1.6H	5:50 p.m.	0.0L
Jun 18	2:44 a.m.	1.9H	6:34 a.m.	1.6L	9:34 a.m.	1.7H	6:23 p.m.	-0.4L
Jun 19	3:36 a.m.	2.1H	7:04 p.m.	-0.7L				
Jun 20	4:22 a.m.	2.3H	7:49 p.m.	-1.0L				
Jun 21	5:08 a.m.	2.4H	8:38 p.m.	-1.1L				
Jun 22	5:55 a.m.	2.4H	9:29 p.m.	-1.3L				
Jun 23	6:42 a.m.	2.3H	10:24 a.m.	2.0L	1:38 p.m.	2.1H	10:22 p.m.	-1.1L
Jun 24	7:26 a.m.	2.1H	11:05 a.m.	1.9L	2:52 p.m.	2.0H	11:15 p.m.	-0.9L
Jun 25	8:05 a.m.	2.0H	12:10 p.m.	1.7L	4:14 p.m.	1.9H		
Jun 26	12:08 a.m.	-0.6L	8:38 a.m.	1.9H	1:35 p.m.	1.4L	5:59 p.m.	1.6H

San Luis Pass

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	12:53 a.m.	-0.1L	9:46 a.m.	1.1H				
Jun 13	1:27 a.m.	0.1L	10:14 a.m.	1.1H				
Jun 14	2:03 a.m.	0.3L	10:34 a.m.	1.0H				
Jun 15	2:41 a.m.	0.4L	10:47 a.m.	1.0H	6:22 p.m.	0.5L		
Jun 16	12:02 a.m.	0.7H	3:31 a.m.	0.6L	10:51 a.m.	0.9H	6:24 p.m.	0.3L
Jun 17	2:02 a.m.	0.9H	4:53 a.m.	0.8L	10:43 a.m.	0.9H	6:46 p.m.	0.0L
Jun 18	3:14 a.m.	1.1H	7:30 a.m.	0.9L	10:04 a.m.	1.0H	7:19 p.m.	-0.3L
Jun 19	4:06 a.m.	1.3H	8:00 p.m.	-0.4L				
Jun 20	4:52 a.m.	1.4H	8:45 p.m.	-0.6L				
Jun 21	5:38 a.m.	1.5H	9:34 p.m.	-0.7L				
Jun 22	6:25 a.m.	1.5H	10:25 p.m.	-0.8L				
Jun 23	7:12 a.m.	1.4H	11:20 a.m.	1.2L	2:08 p.m.	1.3H	11:18 p.m.	-0.7L
Jun 24	7:56 a.m.	1.3H	12:01 p.m.	1.1L	3:22 p.m.	1.2H		
Jun 25	12:11 a.m.	-0.5L	8:35 a.m.	1.2H	1:06 p.m.	1.0L	4:44 p.m.	1.1H
Jun 26	1:04 a.m.	-0.3L	9:08 a.m.	1.1H	2:31 p.m.	0.9L	6:29 p.m.	0.9H

Freeport Harbor

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	8:38 a.m.	1.6H						
Jun 13	12:28 a.m.	0.1L	9:06 a.m.	1.6H				
Jun 14	1:04 a.m.	0.3L	9:26 a.m.	1.5H				
Jun 15	1:42 a.m.	0.5L	9:39 a.m.	1.5H	5:23 p.m.	0.5L	10:54 p.m.	1.0H
Jun 16	2:32 a.m.	0.6L	9:43 a.m.	1.4H	5:25 p.m.	0.3L		
Jun 17	12:54 a.m.	1.2H	3:54 a.m.	0.8L	9:35 a.m.	1.4H	5:47 p.m.	0.0L
Jun 18	2:06 a.m.	1.6H	6:31 a.m.	1.0L	8:56 a.m.	1.5H	6:20 p.m.	-0.3L
Jun 19	2:58 a.m.	1.8H	7:01 p.m.	-0.5L				
Jun 20	3:44 a.m.	2.0H	7:46 p.m.	-0.6L				
Jun 21	4:30 a.m.	2.1H	8:35 p.m.	-0.7L				
Jun 22	5:17 a.m.	2.1H	9:26 p.m.	-0.8L				
Jun 23	6:04 a.m.	2.0H	10:21 a.m.	1.3L	1:00 p.m.	1.8H	10:19 p.m.	-0.7L
Jun 24	6:48 a.m.	1.8H	11:02 a.m.	1.2L	2:14 p.m.	1.7H	11:12 p.m.	-0.5L
Jun 25	7:27 a.m.	1.7H	12:07 p.m.	1.1L	3:36 p.m.	1.6H		
Jun 26	12:05 a.m.	-0.4L	8:00 a.m.	1.6H	1:32 p.m.	0.9L	5:21 p.m.	1.4H

Port O'Connor

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	3:32 a.m.	-0.3L	3:53 p.m.	0.6H				
Jun 13	4:00 a.m.	-0.2L	4:17 p.m.	0.5H				
Jun 14	4:21 a.m.	-0.1L	3:59 p.m.	0.4H				
Jun 15	4:18 a.m.	0.0L	1:39 p.m.	0.3H				
Jun 16	1:04 a.m.	0.2L	10:48 a.m.	0.3H	8:42 p.m.	0.0L		
Jun 17	9:07 a.m.	0.4H	8:51 p.m.	-0.2L				
Jun 18	9:02 a.m.	0.6H	9:25 p.m.	-0.4L				
Jun 19	9:34 a.m.	0.7H	10:10 p.m.	-0.5L				
Jun 20	10:23 a.m.	0.8H	10:59 p.m.	-0.7L				
Jun 21	11:23 a.m.	0.9H	11:50 p.m.	-0.8L				
Jun 22	12:31 p.m.	0.9H						
Jun 23	12:41 a.m.	-0.8L	1:43 p.m.	0.9H				
Jun 24	1:31 a.m.	-0.8L	2:55 p.m.	0.8H				
Jun 25	2:18 a.m.	-0.7L	4:07 p.m.	0.7H				
Jun 26	3:00 a.m.	-0.5L	5:21 p.m.	0.5H				

Rockport

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	4:27 a.m.	.05L	6:35 p.m.	.31H				
Jun 13	4:51 a.m.	.07L	6:40 p.m.	.26H				
Jun 14	5:06 a.m.	.10L	1:31 p.m.	.24H				
Jun 15	5:03 a.m.	.13L	12:39 p.m.	.24H	8:28 p.m.	.14L		
Jun 16	12 p.m.	.25H	8:51 p.m.	.07L				
Jun 17	11:30 a.m.	.28H	9:21 p.m.	.01L				
Jun 18	11:17 a.m.	.31H	10 p.m.	-0.05L				
Jun 19	11:30 a.m.	.35H	10:46 p.m.	-0.09L				
Jun 20	12:09 p.m.	.37H	11:39 p.m.	-0.12L				
Jun 21	1:05 p.m.	.38H						
Jun 22	12:38 a.m.	-0.14L	2:11 p.m.	.38H				
Jun 23	1:38 a.m.	-0.14L	3:18 p.m.	.37H				
Jun 24	2:36 a.m.	-0.13L	4:22 p.m.	.34H				
Jun 25	3:26 a.m.	-0.11L	5:20 p.m.	.30H				
Jun 26	4:03 a.m.	-0.06L	6:17 p.m.	.23H				

Port Aransas, H. Caldwell Pier

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	9:09 a.m.	1.5H						
Jun 13	12:10 a.m.	0.1L	9:37 a.m.	1.5H				
Jun 14	12:46 a.m.	0.2L	9:57 a.m.	1.4H				
Jun 15	1:24 a.m.	0.4L	10:10 a.m.	1.4H	5:05 p.m.	0.5L	11:25 p.m.	0.9H
Jun 16	2:14 a.m.	0.5L	10:14 a.m.	1.3H	5:07 p.m.	0.2L		
Jun 17	1:25 a.m.	1.1H	3:36 a.m.	0.7L	10:06 a.m.	1.3H	5:29 p.m.	0.0L
Jun 18	2:37 a.m.	1.5H	6:13 a.m.	0.8L	9:27 a.m.	1.4H	6:02 p.m.	-0.2L
Jun 19	3:29 a.m.	1.7H	6:43 p.m.	-0.4L				
Jun 20	4:15 a.m.	1.8H	7:28 p.m.	-0.5L				
Jun 21	5:01 a.m.	2.0H	8:17 p.m.	-0.6L				
Jun 22	5:48 a.m.	2.0H	9:08 p.m.	-0.7L				
Jun 23	6:35 a.m.	1.8H	10:03 a.m.	1.1L	1:31 p.m.	1.7H	10:01 p.m.	-0.6L
Jun 24	7:19 a.m.	1.7H	10:44 a.m.	1.0L	2:45 p.m.	1.6H	10:54 p.m.	-0.5L
Jun 25	7:58 a.m.	1.6H	11:49 a.m.	0.9L	4:07 p.m.	1.5H	11:47 p.m.	-0.3L
Jun 26	8:31 a.m.	1.5H	1:14 p.m.	0.8L	5:52 p.m.	1.3H		

South Padre Island

Date	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Jun 12	9:48 a.m.	1.4H						
Jun 13	12:22 a.m.	0.0L	9:45 a.m.	1.4H				
Jun 14	12:55 a.m.	0.2L	9:36 a.m.	1.3H				
Jun 15	1:33 a.m.	0.4L	9:24 a.m.	1.1H	4:53 p.m.	0.6L	10:13 p.m.	0.7H
Jun 16	2:23 a.m.	0.6L	9:08 a.m.	1.0H	4:59 p.m.	0.2L		
Jun 17	1:17 a.m.	0.9H	4:02 a.m.	0.8L	8:37 a.m.	1.0H	5:25 p.m.	-0.2L
Jun 18	2:46 a.m.	1.1H	6:02 p.m.	-0.5L				
Jun 19	3:45 a.m.	1.3H	6:45 p.m.	-0.9L				
Jun 20	4:41 a.m.	1.5H	7:33 p.m.	-1.1L				
Jun 21	5:37 a.m.	1.7H	8:25 p.m.	-1.3L				
Jun 22	6:33 a.m.	1.7H	9:17 p.m.	-1.3L				
Jun 23	7:25 a.m.	1.7H	10:10 p.m.	-1.2L				
Jun 24	8:07 a.m.	1.7H	11:01 p.m.	-1.0L				
Jun 25	8:34 a.m.	1.5H	11:52 p.m.	-0.7L				
Jun 26	8:44 a.m.	1.3H						

Houston

2009	A.M.	P.M.	SUN	MOON
Jun	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
12 Fri	9:43	3:32	10:05	3:54
13 Sat	10:31	4:20	10:51	4:41
14 Sun	11:16	5:05	11:36	5:26
15 Mon Q	11:59	5:48	-----	6:09
16 Tue	12:17	6:30	12:41	6:52
17 Wed	1:00	7:12	1:24	7:35
18 Thu	1:43	7:55	2:08	8:21
19 Fri	2:28	8:42	2:56	9:10
20 Sat	3:19	9:34	3:49	10:04
21 Sun >	4:15	10:31	4:47	11:03
22 Mon N	5:17	11:33	5:50	12:06
23 Tue >	6:23	12:07	6:55	12:39
24 Wed >	7:30	1:14	8:00	1:45
25 Thu >	8:35	2:21	9:03	2:49
26 Fri	9:36	3:23	10:02	3:49
27 Sat	10:33	4:21	10:57	4:45
28 Sun	11:24	5:13	11:47	5:36
29 Mon Q	-----	6:00	12:11	6:23
30 Tue Q	12:33	6:45	12:56	7:08
01 Wed	1:16	7:28	1:40	7:51
02 Thu	1:59	8:11	2:23	8:35

Dallas

2009	A.M.	P.M.	SUN	MOON</
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DATEBOOK

June 16
Hays County Ducks Unlimited
 Fundraiser
 Buda, Painted Horse Pavilion
 (512) 753-9448



June 19
Rains County Ducks Unlimited
 Fundraiser
 Rains County Fairgrounds Expo Hall
 (903) 473-1590

June 18
Dallas Safari Club
 Monthly meeting
 Wilson Stout on
 Central Africa
 Hotel Intercontinental
 Dallas
 (972) 980-9800



June 20
Dallas Safari Club Summer Blast
 Sporting clays shoot
 Elm Fork Shooting Range
 (469) 484-6777
 jaimey@biggame.org

Kilgore Ducks Unlimited
 Fundraiser
 Bodacious Barbeque
 (903) 245-4548

Alvin-Pearland Coastal Conservation Association
 Fundraiser
 Pearland, Knights of Columbus Hall
 (281) 924-8578

Tarrant County National Wild Turkey Federation
 Fundraiser
 Lockheed Recreation Center
 (817) 731-3402

Centex Coastal Conservation Association
 Fundraiser
 Waco, Heart of Texas Coliseum
 (254) 776-3411

Woodlands Coastal Conservation Association
 Fundraiser
 Spring, The Grand Palace
 (281) 363-4417

Cabela's Kids Day
 Cabela's Buda
 (512) 295-1122
 lloyd.carrell@cabelas.com

Ducks Unlimited Northwest
 Prairie Shoot
 Cypress, Hot Wells Shooting Range
 (713) 594-5359
 mkittle000@aol.com

National Wild Turkey Federation
 Women in the Outdoors event
 Crockett, Houston County 4-H Shooting Sports Facility
 (936) 544-5356



Gilmer Ducks Unlimited
 Fundraiser
 Gilmer Civic Center
 (903) 790-2960

Tyler County-Woodville Ducks Unlimited
 Fundraiser
 Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church Hall
 (409) 429-6268

June 23
Polk/Trinity County Ducks Unlimited
 Fundraiser
 Livingston VFW
 (936) 646-4916

June 25
Dallas National Wild Turkey Federation
 Fundraiser
 Brookhaven Country Club
 (972) 743-8986

Katy Coastal Conservation Association
 Fundraiser
 Adorable Banquet and Reception Hall
 (281) 924-7040



Tomball National Wild Turkey Federation
 Fundraiser
 VFW Post 2427
 (832) 292-1811

San Jacinto Coastal Conservation Association
 Fundraiser
 LaPorte, Sylvan Beach Pavilion
 (281) 794-9791

Houston County National Wild Turkey Federation
 Fundraiser
 Lovelady City Park
 (936) 546-5418

Matagorda Coastal Conservation Association
 Fundraiser
 El Campo Civic Center
 (979) 543-8312

June 26-27
Texas Ducks Unlimited
 State Convention
 League City, South Shore Harbour Hotel
 (325) 236-6726

Texas Wildlife Association
 Annual Convention
 San Antonio Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa
 (210) 826-2904
 www.texas-wildlife.org



June 27
National Wild Turkey Federation
 Women in the Outdoors event
 Davilla, Hilliard Ranch
 (254) 760-2784

Rusk County National Wild Turkey Federation
 Fundraiser
 Rusk County Youth Expo
 (903) 646-2422

June 30
Bass Champs North Region
 Tournament
 Lake Tawakoni
 (817) 439-3274
 www.basschamps.com

July 4
Wyman Meinzer Photo Workshop
 Athens, Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center
 (903) 676-2277

July 9-12
Deep Sea Roundup
 Tournament
 Port Aransas
 (800) 45-COAST
 www.paboatmen.org

July 9
Dallas Woods and Waters Club
 Monthly Meeting
 Speaker: Bob Anderson on sheep hunting around the world
 Sheraton North Dallas Hotel
 (214) 570-8700



July 10-12
Texas Trophy Hunters
 Hunters Extravaganza
 San Antonio, Alamodome
 (877) 261-2541
 courtney@ttha.com

July 10
Dallas Safari Club
 Wine pairing dinner
 Chamberlain's Steak House
 (972) 980-9800

Ducks Unlimited Lone Star Flyway Shoot
 Sporting clays tournament
 Houston, American Shooting Center
 (832) 233-1635

July 11-12
Hunter's Education Class
 Spring, Gander Mountain
 (832) 797-6512

July 11
Texas Redfish Series
 Tournament
 Corpus Christi, Bluff's Landing
 www.redfishseries.com

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 from Page 20



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