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texas parks & wildlife news

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

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TIMBER INVENTORY SET FOR RICHLAND CREEK WMA

AUSTIN -- The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has contracted with the Texas Forest Service to conduct a timber inventory on the Richland Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Freestone and Navarro Counties.

The 13,790-acre tract was obtained by the TPWD in 1987 from the Tarrant County Water Control and Improvement District #1 as partial compensation for wildlife losses associated with the impoundment of Richland-Chambers Reservoir.

"Effective management of these lands during the operational life of this reservoir will be required to adequately compensate for wildlife habitat losses," said Roy Frye, wildlife mitigation coordinator.

Frye said the TPWD, in cooperation with the Ducks Unlimited organization, has completed significant development and construction work on the area to enhance habitat for waterfowl and other wetland-dependent wildlife. The timber inventory will be an important part of long-term management of the area's wildlife habitat, he added.

The inventory will collect data on the abundance and distribution of existing tree species on 8,000 acres of standing timber. Other information such as the occurrence of snags and cavities also will be included.

"Preliminary observations of timber on the tract indicate mast-producing trees such as oaks may be in short supply because of past timber exploitation," Frye said. Trees of lesser value to wildlife are abundant, however.

"The inventory will determine the extent of remaining hardwoods and provide baseline data for development of a bottomland hardwood restoration program," Frye said.

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NEW LICENSE REQUIRED FOR
HUNTING BANDED BIRDS

AUSTIN -- Law enforcement officials of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department have announced several changes in licenses and permits required for hunting pen-reared birds.

The new regulations, which went into effect Sept. 1, include a new license called the Private Bird Hunting Area License. This license in effect replaces three separate licenses: the Shooting Resort, Private Bird Shooting Area and the Field Trial Area license.

Officials said the change was needed because seasons, banding requirements, expiration dates and other common activities varied with each

license, causing confusion

All three licenses authorized the hunting of banded, pen-reared birds during times other than the open hunting seasons. However, the privileges and restrictions offered under each license varied considerably. Also, the Field Trial License was valid only for the use of retriever dogs, a privilege denied the many dog owners or clubs wishing to hold field trials using pointers or setters and bobwhite quail.

The new Private Bird Hunting Area License will authorize the hunting of banded, pen-reared bobwhite quail, chukars, pheasants and mallards any time during the year. Anyone may conduct a field trial on these licensed areas if they obtain a Field Trial Permit.

Another change is that a person hunting under the authority of a Field Trial Permit held on the private bird hunting area is exempt from the need of a hunting license if that person is registered in the Field Trial Record Book required for the event. Otherwise, a valid hunting license is required of anyone hunting on the private bird hunting area, officials said.

The Non-resident Banded Bird Hunting License (\$10) is available for non-residents hunting banded, pen-reared birds on these areas. A Non-resident Five-day Special Hunting License (\$25) is also available for non-residents who hunt squirrels and other small game or any game bird other than turkey.

BOWHUNTERS REMINDED OF
ARCHERY REGULATIONS

AUSTIN -- Archers planning to hunt during Texas' archery-only hunting season for deer and turkey Oct 7-Nov 5 should be aware of state archery regulations, including some new regulations on the use of crossbows by handicapped persons

Law enforcement officials of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said the longbow, which includes recurved and compound bows, must be hand-held and hand-drawn with no mechanical devices built into or attached to the bow that would allow the archer to lock the bow at full or partial draw

Also, no device to propel the arrow is permitted other than the energy stored by the hand-drawn bow, and the bow also must have a minimum peak draw weight of 40 pounds

Arrows used in taking game animals and game birds may not be poisoned, drugged, or explosive. Each arrow must bear the name and address of the user in a non-water soluble medium.

When hunting turkeys and any game animal other than squirrels, the arrow must be equipped with a broadhead hunting point that measures at least 7/8 of an inch in width and have a minimum of two cutting edges

Crossbows are not authorized for use in hunting game birds or game

animals except that persons having an upper limb handicap may use a crossbow to hunt deer and turkey during the archery-only season, Oct 7-Nov 5, provided (1) no telescopic sight is attached to the crossbow, (2) the crossbow has a minimum of 125 pounds of pull, (3) the crossbow has a mechanical safety, and (4) the bow conforms with the requirements applicable to arrows as described above that are authorized for legal use with the longbow

"Upper limbed handicapped person" means a person who has a permanent loss of the use of fingers, hand or arm in a manner that renders the person incapable of using a longbow, compound bow or recurved bow While hunting deer or turkey with a crossbow, persons handicapped in this manner must have in their immediate possession a physician's statement certifying the extent of the disability

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SEBASTOPOL HOUSE OPENING
SET FOR SEPT 29

SEGUIN -- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials have announced that Sebastopol State Historical Park in Seguin will officially open at 2 p m. Sept 29 State and local dignitaries will preside at a ceremony opening the 135-year-old landmark

"Sebastopol is an outstanding example of the local use of limecrete (a form of concrete) in the mid-19th Century," said Jim Bigger, manager of the restoration project "The house was built between 1854 and 1856 when

experimentation with concrete was flourishing "

An abundance of limestone and gravel deposits attracted the interest of the late Dr John E Park, a local chemist credited with the development of Seguin concrete

"Its low cost, ease of construction and durability led many people to use the material with different mix formulas," Bigger said "Sometimes a mix would be extremely stable while a different one would crumble in a short time. Once there were more than 100 limecrete buildings in the city, although only a fraction remain today "

Sebastopol was built by casting course upon course of the limecrete. Wooden forms held each course in place until the limecrete hardened. Then the forms were released, raised and placed atop the previous pour in preparation for casting the next course.

When completed, the Sebastopol house had split-level design and Greek Revival detailing.

The concentration of early concrete buildings in Seguin was unique to Texas. "Sebastopol is one of the larger houses still standing in Seguin that were built of this material," said Bigger.

The house has been restored to duplicate its appearance during the mid-to-late 1870s. Exterior gas lines, meters, electrical wiring, modern doors and shutters were removed or replaced with appropriate or historically accurate materials. Cement plaster was removed, the limecrete walls stabilized and a new lime-based plaster was applied.

An exhibit detailing the history of concrete construction has been installed on the lower floor, and in two rooms the limecrete wall was purposefully left unplastered to expose the original material. In the upper rooms furniture from the families who lived in the house is displayed.

Sebastopol house will be open Wednesday through Sunday (closed Monday and Tuesday) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tours are available from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tours are \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children six to 12.

The house is in Seguin, 34 miles east of San Antonio on Interstate Highway 10. Call (512) 379-4833 for information.

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LAKE SOMERVILLE TRAIL
DESIGNED FOR HORSEMEN

LEDBETTER -- Equestrians have an excellent place to ride in pleasant surroundings at Lake Somerville State Park, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

A 13-mile riding trail winds through 5,000 acres of rolling hills, bottomlands and open fields between the Nails Creek and Birch Creek Units of the park adjacent to Lake Somerville in Washington and Lee Counties.

The park units were designed to accommodate equestrians and their mounts. Trailhead camping areas have water tanks and hitching rails as

well as picnic tables, fire rings and parking spaces large enough for horse trailers

The trailway has two water sources, mileage markers, direction signs and rest shelters with maps

A network of loop trails takes riders to primitive camping areas, providing extended trips beyond the 13-mile trail. Riders can enter the trail from either park unit. The park is located south of Bryan and College Station. For information or reservations call the Nails Creek Unit at (409) 289-2392 or the Birch Creek Unit at (409) 535-7763

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EDUCATION STRESSED FOR
HUNTING, FISHING DAY

AUSTIN -- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials said National Hunting and Fishing Day on Sept. 23 will be a good time for Texans to become more aware of the importance of hunter education.

Hunting and Fishing Day was established by Congressional resolution in 1971 to recognize the sportsman's vital role in conservation. NHF organizers say hunters and fishermen have contributed more than \$7 billion for conservation programs.

Steve Hall, hunter education coordinator for the Parks and Wildlife Department, said the state has approximately 2,400 hunter education instructors across the state to teach the 10-hour course. Persons born

after Sept 2, 1971 are required by state law to complete the course before hunting in Texas

Hall said interested persons should contact a local game warden, TPWD field office, or call toll-free 1-800-792-1112 to locate a volunteer instructor in their area

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AUSTIN: Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department ~~CENTRAL~~ September 14

BASTROP Water clear, 88 degrees, 6 inches low; black bass fair to 3 pounds on topwaters, Tiny Torpedoes and cranks early and late; crappie slow; catfish good to 2 1/2 pounds on stink bait and live perch

BUCHANAN: Water clear, 82 degrees, 10 feet low; black bass have been fair in shallow water to 6 pounds on buzz baits and worms; striper have been fair to 9 pounds on live bait, limits possible by fishing all day; crappie fair to 2 pounds, some limits on minnows white bass good around Garrett Island on slabs and topwaters yellow catfish are good up the river to 50 pounds on live bait channel catfish are good to 5 pounds on stink bait and worms.

CANYON: Water clear, 85 degrees, 4 feet low black bass slow striper very slow crappie slow white bass slow; catfish are fairly good in the 1 1/2 to 2 pound range in 15-20 feet of water on shrimp and stink bait.

FAYETTE: Water clear, 95 degrees, normal level black bass have been fair in number to 6 3/4 pounds, small number of fishermen out, many small fish; crappie slow; catfish slow all week.

GIBBONS CREEK Water clear, 86 degrees, 4 inches low; black bass fairly good within the slot, a single keeper weighing 7 pounds, 14 ounces caught last Saturday on a black worm. crappie have been fairly good on minnows in 8-10 feet of water. catfish have been fairly good on stink bait and shrimp.

INKS LAKE: Water clear, 85 degrees in lake, 78 degrees below the dam, normal level black bass fair in number to 3 pounds, most are caught on worms and spinners and are just above the legal 14 inch minimum. striper good from 4 to 20 pounds on live shad fished near the bottom between the bridge and the dam; crappie slow white bass are fairly slow, some schooling early and late. channel catfish good to 3 1/2 pounds on trotlines baited with minnows and shrimp.

LBJ Water clear, 83 degrees, lake full black bass are good to 7 pounds on DB#3s in fairly shallow water early and deeper water later in the day. striper are fair in the Colorado Arm to 18 pounds on live bait; crappie good with limits on minnows in 20 feet of water in brush white bass are good with limits on slabs and topwaters while fish are schooling catfish are good to 6 1/2 pounds in baited holes on stinkbait, worms and shrimp.

LIMESTONE: Water clear, 85 degrees plus, 14 inches low; black bass fair to 5 1/4 pounds on dark worms, buzz baits and Poe's Ace in the Hole; crappie good to 25 fish per string on minnows in 12-20 feet of water around isolated trees; white bass good to 25 fish per string on slabs and deep diving cranks with some surfacing early and late; catfish slow.

SOMERVILLE: Water clear, normal level black bass fair to 3 pounds on dark worms. striper fair near the dam in the 3-4 pound range on slabs and pet spoons with a Hellbender trailer. crappie fairly slow, some on minnows in 12 feet of water. white bass fair with some surface schooling on minnows and slabs. catfish fair to 2 pounds on minnows and shrimp.

STILLHOUSE: Water clear, 83 degrees, normal level black bass fair in number but most are too small to keep, no keeper sized fish, fishing best between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. on shad swirl tails, Bomber medium diving baits, buzz baits and dark plastic worms in 4-5 feet of water hybrid striper slow crappie are fairly good to 17 fish per string on minnows, white jigs and grey shad swirl tails; white bass good to 10 fish per string to 1 pound each on minnows and jigs as well as swirl tails. channel catfish good on trotline in the 1 1/2 to 5 pound range on with liver, cut bait and shrimp.

TRAVIS: Water clear, 84 degrees, 20 1/2 feet low; largemouth bass good to 3 pounds on chrome topwaters early, firecracker worms with chartreuse tails are good in the middle of the day in 10-15 feet of water. Guadalupe bass are good to 2 1/2 pounds on fire and ice worms in the middle of the day or topwaters early. striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish slow.

WACO: Water off color in lake and river, 87 degrees, normal level; black bass slow to 5 pounds on black, blue and June Bug Craw Worms; striper very slow; crappie fair to 10 fish per string on minnows in

10 feet of water; white bass slow; catfish fair to 5 pounds on trotline with live bait and rod and reel with dough bait.
WHITNEY Water clear, 79 degrees, 21 inches low; largemouth bass good to 5.6 pounds on dark worms and topwaters. smallmouth bass slow; striper good to 12 pounds on shad and topwaters in 18-24 feet of water and moving into the mid lake area; crappie are excellent to 1 3/4 pounds on minnows in 14-20 feet of water around sunken trees and brush; white bass fairly good with some limits, fish are fairly small on slabs; channel catfish good to 2 1/2 pounds drifting shrimp and shad.

NORTHEAST

ATHENS: Water clear, 85 degrees, 8 inches below pool level. black bass good to 7 pounds, 10 ounces on black and red worms in 10 feet of water along the moss line, several good limits; crappie good again with limits on minnows in 20-25 feet of water white bass slow; catfish slow; sunfish good in number on crickets and redworms
BOB SANDLIN: Water clear, 87 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass fair to 8 pounds on rattle traps, Craw Worms, worms and buzz baits in shallow water early and in the weed beds later in the day; crappie fair to 12 fish per string on minnows in the stump area in 14 feet of water white bass fair on jigs in the same area; catfish good in the creek channels to 8 pounds on shrimp, chicken livers, blood baits.
BRIDGEPORT: Water clear, 81 degrees, lake full black bass fair to 7 pounds on worms and rattle traps with good numbers of small bass being caught; hybrid striper fair to 6 pounds on rattle traps; crappie fairly good, but most are on the small side, on minnows and jigs; white bass good early and late on rattle traps, slabs and topwaters; catfish good on shrimp and worms, several good strings.
CEDAR CREEK: Water clear, 84 degrees, 15 inches low; black bass fair to 7 3/4 pounds on 4 inch purple and white tailed worms and buzz baits around the weed beds; hybrid striper fair in 20 feet of water around dropoffs in open water on large silver bucktail slabs crappie good to 15 fish per string to 1 1/2 pounds each on minnows in 16-20 feet of water; white bass good early on chartreuse Rooster Tails and white slabs; catfish fair to 4 1/4 pounds on nightcrawlers yellow catfish fair to 35 pounds on trotline with live baits
CYPRESS SPRINGS: Water clear, 84 degrees, normal level black bass good to 6 1/2 pounds on worms and deep diving cranks. crappie good with limits in 17 feet of water on minnows; catfish good to 27 1/2 pounds on a rod and reel baited with a big minnow in 27 feet of water; channel catfish good to 10 1/4 pounds on a rod and reel and deep diving cranks in 30 feet of water
FAIRFIELD Water clear, 92 degrees, normal level black bass and all fish are slow due to lack of fishermen.
FORK: Water clear, 85 degrees, lake full. black bass good to 9 pounds, 15 ounces on a dark jig in 20 feet of water. crappie fair to 15 fish per string on minnows in 18-22 feet of water. catfish have been good to 15 pounds on trotline and live bait.
GRAPEVINE: Water clear, 81 degrees, normal level; black bass good in number, most are too small to keep, some fish to 18 inches or 4 1/2 pounds, on topwaters, rattle traps, off white, white with blue back and white with green back Suicide Tail Spins in 4-8 feet of water; crappie slow white bass spotty; catfish good drifting shrimp in 15-25 feet of water.
JOE POOL: Water fairly clear, 80 degrees, normal level black bass are fairly good in the 17 pound range with few keepers in 20-26 feet of water on june bug and strawberry colored plastic worms as well as black and chrome Rat-L-Traps; crappie good to 25 fish per string in 25 feet of water on live minnows; white bass slow; catfish are fairly good to 5 pounds in 5 feet of water on nightcrawlers, some from 26 feet of water on worms and minnows
LAKE O THE PINES: Water clear, 82 degrees, normal level black bass good to 5 pounds on PopRs, Chuggers, spinners and june bug worms from 18 inches to 7 feet of water. crappie slow; white bass schooling, but most fish are small and are caught on small cranks; catfish have been fair on trotlines to 12 pounds each on live bait mostly
LAVON Water clear, 80 degrees, 2 feet above normal level; black bass fair to 4 pounds on chartreuse spinners late in the afternoon in 6 feet of water; striper are fair in the 6-8 pound range in 20 feet of water on live shad; crappie are good to 25 fish per string on minnows in 17 feet of water around tree trunks and submerged trees; white bass are very good with many limits late in the afternoon on

L'il Georges and slabs on the surface catfish are fair to 6 pounds on earthworms, no limits

LEWISVILLE: Water clear, 81 degrees, 6 inches low. black bass are good to 6 pounds on cranks and worms in 4-8 feet of water with many limits; striper very slow; crappie slow; white bass spotty to 1 pound on jigging spoons; catfish are good to 7 pounds on trotline baited with shrimp and stink bait.

MARTIN CREEK: Water clear, 80 degrees, normal level black bass good some days in the 14-16 inch range, other days very poor, on black and blue worms, no limits caught; striper and all other fishing have been very slow due to low numbers of fishermen

MONTICELLO: Water clear, 99 degrees, normal level; black bass good to 8 1/4 pounds on Pumpkin Seed worms in 3-25 feet of water crappie poor; catfish good to 9 pounds on nightcrawlers and shrimp.

MOSS LAKE: Water clear, 81 degrees, normal level black bass good in number, but few keepers on topwaters early crappie good to 2 pounds each to 20 fish per string on minnows and jigs. white bass slow; catfish are very good to 18 pounds on rod and reel baited with shrimp, shad, chicken liver and home made baits.

MURVAUL Water clear, 86 degrees, normal level black bass good to 8 1/4 pounds on white spinners, buzz baits and dark worms in 2-3 feet of water around the moss beds crappie slow due to the lack of fishermen. catfish are improving to 4 pounds on trotlines baited with cut shad; bream are very good on crickets and earthworms

PALESTINE: Water clear, 10 inches below spillway level black bass have been good in some places, bad in others on topwaters and buzz baits in 10-12 feet of water. striper have been surfacing around Big Eddy and Henderson Point, fish have been caught on topwaters, L'il Georges, trolling Magnum Hellbenders with trailers, striper generally are in deep water under white bass; crappie have been fairly slow with a few caught near Highway 155 Bridge on minnows; catfish have been good on catalpa worms, nightcrawlers and chicken blood

PURTIS CREEK: Water clear, 2 feet low black bass good in the 2-3 pound range on spinners, plastic worms crappie fair to 6 fish per string on minnows in 2-3 feet of water catfish fairly good in number to 3 pounds on worms and shrimp.

RAY HUBBARD: Water clear, 84 degrees, 6 inches above normal level; black bass fair to 2 1/2 pounds on white spinners, no limits striper have been fair to 7 pounds trolling chartreuse bucktail jigs in 18 feet of water; crappie good to 1 1/4 pounds on minnows in 14 feet of water white bass are excellent with many limits of 25 fish caught on chrome slabs in 10-12 feet of water catfish good to 10 pounds on cut shad baited trotline.

RICHLAND-CHAMBERS Water clear, 83 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass slow to 4 pounds, a few limits, few fishermen out white bass are good with many limits on slabs; crappie improving with several limits on minnows; catfish slow.

TAWAKONI: Water slightly off color, normal level; black bass fair to 6 pounds on blacklizards; striper have been fairly good to 15 pounds on Allison slabs and live baits trolling; crappie slow white bass fairly good, some limits on Allison slabs; catfish are very good to 9 pounds with limits of 25 fish on shrimp and worms

TEXOMA: Water clear, 81 degrees, 2 feet low; largemouth bass are fairly good to 5 pounds on Pig and Jig, topwaters, spinners; smallmouth are fairly good 6 1/2 pounds on Pig and Jig; striper fairly good on topwaters and slabs or spoons, some to 28 pounds last week on topwaters, many limits crappie are fairly good in number in brush piles around boat houses on minnows and jigs; white bass good on topwaters in schools around striper on Bayou Boogies and curly tailed jigs; catfish have been fairly good on Ghost Minnows, shrimp and minnows

WELSH Water clear, 95 degrees, 2 1/2 feet low; black bass are very good to 7 1/4 pounds with good strings of 3-6 pounders landed on worms mostly; crappie fair to 15 fish per string on minnows and tube jigs in 14 feet of water; catfish are good to 6 pounds on rod and reel as well as trotline baited with shad and bream in 8-10 feet of water Bream are very good to 3/4-pound on EuroLarvae and red wigglers in 12 feet of water.

SOUTHEAST

HOUSTON COUNTY: Water clear, 79 degrees, normal level black bass good to 8 pounds on 9 inch black worms, Rat-L-Traps, black Bombers,

spinners, plum worms, Fire and Ice worms and L'il Georges in 10-13 feet of water: crappie fair to 15 fish per string on minnows, white bass good to 25 fish per string at the pump station on slabs and live bait; catfish slow

LIVINGSTON: Water clear, 85 degrees, normal level black bass good with several in the 2-4 pound range, largest fish weighed nearly 7 pounds on white, gray, strawberry and grape worms as well as cranks; striper slow; crappie picking up near boat docks; white bass are hard to find catfish are good but hard to find.

RAYBURN Water clear, 89 degrees, 6 inches low; black bass have been fair to good to 6 1/2 pounds on cranks in 18 feet of water around moss beds; striper slow; crappie are poor white bass spotty to fair on slabs and small cranks. catfish have been fair at 20 feet in deep water on trotlines baited with Catfish Charlie

TOLEDO BEND Water clear, 87 degrees, 2 1/2 feet low; black bass fairly good to 4 1/2 pounds on chartreuse spinners with chartreuse trailers over the moss, no limits caught; striper are schooling near the dam, few caught in the 8-10 pound range on Redfins; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish good to 9 pounds on live bait and blood bait.

SOUTH

AMISTAD Water clear, 81 degrees, 6 feet low. black bass have been good, a 14.25 bass caught by Ricky Thompson of Lubbock on in 12 feet of water in Castil Canyon, locals say Thompson's fish is the third largest bass ever caught in Amistad striper are good around the dam to 12 pounds on Ponyhead jigs with white trailers, limits of 5 fish are fairly common; crappie slow; white bass fair around the dam on slabs and spoons; catfish are excellent with many limits in the flats on the Mexican side in 6-10 feet of water on Roger's Cheese Bait.

BRAUNIG Water clear, 89 degrees, normal level black bass good to 7 pounds on plastic worms and Rat-L-Traps striper slow; channel catfish are very good to 5 pounds on chicken liver, shrimp and shad; redfish are good to 20 pounds on live perch, spoons and tilapia.

CALAVERAS Water murky, 92 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass poor; striper fair to 4 pounds on gold spoons catfish fair to 5 pounds on trotlines and juglines with cutbait; redfish good to 17 pounds, 10 ounces on dead tilapia, a new lake record; orange mouth corvina are excellent downrigging green grubs.

COLETO CREEK Water clear, 82 degrees, 18 inches low black bass are fair to 7 pounds, most are undersized, on worms and spinners in deep water striper slow; crappie fair in number but small in size on worms and minnows at night; yellow catfish fair to 28 pounds on trotline with liver and shrimp near Coletoville bridge.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Water clear, 86 degrees, 5 feet low; black bass slow; striper slow crappie good at Sunrise Beach and at state park piers early on minnows; white bass good with limits under lights at Sunrise Beach or under the birds near the dam on white Roadrunners or slab spoons; blue catfish good to 18 pounds on cut shad on deep lines in the river channel channel catfish good from the shore around KOA and below Wesley Seal Dam on rod and reel baited with shrimp or chicken livers. yellow catfish slow.

FALCON: Lake fairly clear, river fairly muddy, 83 degrees, 17 feet low black bass have fairly good but hard to find to 8 pounds, 6 ounces on worms in 4 to 15 feet of water striper have been fairly slow, some around the dam to 13 pounds crappie slow white bass are picking up in the dam area on slabs; catfish have been fairly slow.

MEDINA: Water clear, 35 feet low; black bass good to 23 pounds early on topwaters; striper slow crappie slow; white bass good to 2 pounds on Shysters and Rooster Tails in fairly shallow water catfish good to 5 pounds on live bait with a rod and reel

TEXANA: Water clear up the river and in creeks, lake murky, 87 degrees, 1 foot low; black bass good to 4 1/2 on Tequila Sunrise worms around mossbeds striper slow white bass fair with some schooling in the Navidad River crappie slow; blue catfish fair on trotlines to 15 pounds on live perch

WEST

ARROWHEAD Water murky, 82 degrees, normal level. black bass slow; striper slow crappie slow; white bass fair to 15 fish per string on silver slabs; catfish good to 20 fish per day to 5 pounds on punch bait.

GRANBURY: Water clear, normal level. black bass slow and small striper slow; crappie slow; white bass slow; catfish slow

GREENBELT Water clear, 79 degrees, normal level black bass good to 5 pounds on minnows and cranks in Kelly Creek crappie slow white bass good to 25 fish per string trolling slabs and minnows. catfish are very good on water dogs and minnows walleye have been good to 7 1/4 pounds on slabs and worms.

HUBBARD CREEK Water fairly clear, some rain in the area mid week, possibly muddy creeks later, 7 feet low black bass slow; striper fair to 8 pounds on small perch; crappie are picking up some limits on minnows; white bass slow; catfish slow.

MEREDITH: Water clear, 76 degrees, normal level; black bass slow; crappie fair in deep water on minnows white bass are fairly good with several good strings with individual fish to 3 pounds on slabs and minnows; catfish are good to 28 pounds on live bait with trotline; channel catfish are plentiful on a wide range of baits. Good rains to 3 inches were falling midweek; some flash flood warnings.

OAK CREEK: Water clear, 85 degrees, 6 feet low; black bass have been fair to 4 pounds on topwaters, some limits; crappie are picking up but still scattered, on minnows white bass have been fairly good trolling slabs, no limits catfish fair in number and small in size on shrimp baited rod and reel

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water clear, 82 degrees, 2 feet low; black bass to 15 inches are beginning to hit topwaters; striper are plentiful trolling, topwaters or Pencil Poppers in the 6 to 12 pound range, fishermen can catch a tub full of 10 inch fish which must be returned to the water crappie slow, some fairly good from the barge; white bass are beginning to school, most are small, good stringers caught on slabs catfish slow due to lack of fishermen. Rains expected again midweek So far 1 1/2 inches of rain have fallen this week

SPENCE: Water clear, 80 degrees, 31 feet low; black bass fair to 6 pounds on spinners. striper good to 14 pounds on slabs, topwaters and live bait crappie slow white bass fair to 10 fish per string on topwaters catfish slow.

STAMFORD: Water clear, 81 degrees, 3 1/2 feet low; black bass fair to 4 pounds on buzz baits striper slow; crappie fair to 1 1/4 pounds on minnows in 10 feet of water, no limits catfish good on rod and reel to 5 pounds on worms and liver. Rains cooled the area considerably earlier this week

TWIN BUTTES Water clear, 1 foot low; black bass are good in the 3 1/2 to 8 pound range on rattle traps and plastic worms in 25 to 40 feet of water. striper slow crappie slow; white bass slow catfish fair to 20 pounds on trotline baited with live bait.

COASTAL

NORTH SABINE LAKE: Good numbers of big redfish and croaker south of Sydnes and Stewart's Islands good numbers of trout but many are too small to keep, largest weighed about 3 pounds on shrimp and some artificials a few drum in the 2-3 pound range. Flounder fishing has been good to 3 pounds on mud minnows, shrimp and some lures Limited amounts of live bait shrimp are available at 6 cents each.

SOUTH SABINE LAKE: Redfish are good all over the area in the ship channel, at the east jetties and marshes Redfish to 40 inches have been caught at the jetties while those in the lake average 3-4 pounds. Best baits are silver spoons and fresh dead shrimp. Specks have been spotty, no large strings caught. Flounder are starting to pick up along the Louisiana coast line around Willow Bayou, Madam Johnson's Bayou, Ford's Bayou and Johnson's Bayou Some flounder are caught at night on the banks of the ship channel Bank fishing along the ship channel is producing large croaker as well as a variety of other fish. Live bait shrimp, mud minnows and fresh dead shrimp are available on the weekend.

GALVESTON Bay and gulf waters are still in good shape, water temperature is 87 degrees good numbers of bull reds to 39 pounds at the jetties and along the beach front; scattered keeper sized redfish in East and West Galveston Bays, as well as in Jack's Pocket in Trinity bay; most fish are being caught by wade fishermen; specks are fair in number in the 15-16 inch range in East Bay, West Bay and at the beach front; an occasional 6 pound fish caught on Kelley Wigglers and live bait, if available good numbers of jack fish in the channels and cuts to 25 pounds tarpon are still working around the jetties at San Luis Pass, some hooked by accident; good numbers of sandtrout along the beach front offshore producing small snapper, kingfish in the 10 pound range with an occasional 25

pounder live bait shrimp available but not plentiful at \$8-\$10 per quart

FREEPORT: Offshore fishing has been good this week; dorado good from 3 to 50 pounds about 25 miles offshore along the weed lines on squid mostly. Kingfish are slowing down somewhat but limits to 20 pounds are being caught. Snapper have been excellent in number to 20 pounds while most are in the 3-5 pound range. Best baits are squid and cigar minnows

PORT OCONNOR Good numbers of trout in the 25 to 26 inch range around the wells in the bays; wade fishermen are limiting out around Grass Island; good numbers of redfish around the jetties, many are too large to keep; offshore producing good numbers of snapper, ling and kingfish. Live bait shrimp are available but not plentiful.

MATAGORDA Offshore fishing has been very good with dolphin or dorado to 35 pounds in good number on ice fish; a few kings to 25 pounds on ice fish and ribbon fish ling slow redfish are good at the Matagorda Jetty Pier but most are 40 inches or longer, few keeper sized redfish on mullet a few trout just above keeper size at the pier and along the surf Spanish mackerel are fair in number just above keeper size in the same area; live bait shrimp are available at \$9 per quart.

PALACIOS Redfish have been fairly slow while trout fishing has been fairly good to 19 inches on speck rigs with few limits. Some good sized flounder in the 3-4 pound range caught on rod and reel in South and Turtle Bays Still some gafftop in the 5-6 pound range are caught on fresh dead shrimp. Live bait scarce because of great number of cabbage head jelly fish in the shrimping areas

ROCKPORT: Good numbers of redfish, many in the 35-38 inch range, all over the East Flats and Corpus Christi Bay, along the ship channel near Port Aransas The outside beach at Traylor Island is producing good numbers of redfish but most are too large to keep. The lakes around Allan's Bight and behind the shack in the East Flats are producing good numbers of redfish, some of which are keepers but most are too large to keep; specks are hard to find; live bait shrimp are very scarce.

PORT ARANSAS: Redfish fair in the 23-25 inch range on live piggy perch, a few limits caught in the Estes Flats area specks have been fair in the 15-20 inch range on live shrimp; offshore has been producing kingfish in the 40-50 pound range on ribbon fish shark to 20 pounds also landed live bait shrimp available but not plentiful at \$7.50 per quart. Offshore fishermen have been catching good numbers of kingfish with many limits even some releases; dorado good to 40 1/2 pounds, most are in the 10-20 pound range Chicken dolphin, in the 2-3 pound range, are plentiful Gulf has been very calm. Snapper have been good to 5 pounds amberjack have been fairly good to 15 pounds over the weekend 38 fishermen landed 1500 pounds of snapper, amberjack and kingfish shark to 12 pounds also mixed in with offshore catches. Trout fishing has been good in the surf redfish have been fairly plentiful in the flats.

CORPUS CHRISTI Good numbers of oversized redfish in the 35-38 inch range near Pure Oil Channel and in the flats between the bridge and the navy base; some limits of trouts in the channel between the bridge and the bay good numbers of trout and reds in Shamrock cove; big schools of Spanish mackerel in the ship channel from Port Aransas to Corpus Christi Bay; good numbers of oversized bull redfish off the end of the north jetties live bait shrimp available but not plentiful at 10 cents each. Fishing has been slow in Baffin Bay and at the Land Cut. Oso Pier fishing was slow midweek

PORT MANSFIELD: Good numbers of redfish, most too large to keep, north and south and within East Cut; fish are taking a wide variety of baits from mullet to spoons good numbers of large redfish along the jetties, some are small enough to keep; trout fishing has been fairly slow, some caught north of Port Mansfield along the King Ranch shoreline good numbers of snapper in the 4 pound range caught north of Port Mansfield at 66 Foot Rocks no bait shrimp available

SOUTH PADRE: A few trout to 3 pounds landed in the Intracoastal, from Markers 33 to 75 a few redfish to 10 pounds, 6 ounces in the flats of the Three Islands area live bait shrimp spotty and hard to get. Fishermen have been reporting good sized herds of redfish, most of which are oversized