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“Southern Style” at it’s Best

“Easy” Step System

Fishing
Bassin’ With Bubba

By Don Bubba Hampton

One thing you can count on during the dog days of summer is it is going to be hot in the morning, afternoon and night. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, polarized glasses and be ready for some big bass action. Another thing you can count on is feeding time. When you start catching bass at certain times on a certain spot you can count on them being there the next day, same time and location.

Midday and late afternoon is when the bite is at its best. The hotter it is the better the bite. Big schools of shad start grouping during midday heat and start moving around to find a better comfort zone. When they stay too close to humps, ridges, ledges and main lake points, bass will start eating shad and gorging themselves.

Look for surface activity on top, shad or bass bursting on top. If there is no activity on top, but you are marking schools of shad on or near humps or ridges, stay in the area. Bass will not be far behind. When you notice surface activity on top, soft weightless jerk baits in white or shad patterns are hard to beat. When the shad are deep over structure, Carolina-rigged plastics and big spoons, and swim baits are top lure choices.

The reason early morning bite is slow during the dog days of summer is that by the time it starts breaking day most bass are already full having gorged themselves on baitfish during the early hours of morning. 2:00 AM until daybreak is the best bite. If you really want to beat the heat and catch those hawgs of a lifetime and can stand the bugs, try night fishing. A helpful hint for night fishing is carry a Styrofoam cup and cover your back light with it. When it heats up it also helps repel mosquitoes and the light doesn’t heat up enough to melt it. Also carry a lot of bug spray and a good spot light.

If you are going to night fish, to be as safe as possible, mark your spots and trails previously on your GPS. This will help you avoid any of the stumps Lake Fork is known for. I use the Lowrance HDS 12, Gen 3 with the Point 1 antenna to keep me on track and collision free. Full moon cycles are the best and it offers more illumination on the water.

Hope this helps you catch the big one! Be safe on the water and fish friendly!

Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department law enforcement reports.

--Missing Boaters Found Safe-- A Lee County game warden got a call about a missing boat that was last seen operating on Lake Somerville. The boat's occupants were already two hours late getting home. The wind was blowing over 30 miles an hour that day, and the waves were over four feet. Working with the Lee County Sheriff’s Office and the Burton Police Department, the warden found the missing boaters. The high waves had caused the boat to take on water and sink, forcing the occupants to swim to shore.

One of the occupants was taken to the hospital for hypothermia, but they were otherwise okay.

--Clean Up, Clean Up, Everybody Clean Up-- A San Patricio County game warden, with help from Judge Duncan Nebblett Jr. of Port Aransas and a TPWD coastal fisheries biologist, picked up 74 crab traps from the Light House Lakes and Kayak Trails near Port Aransas in Redfish Bay. Cases on the illegal traps are currently being investigated.

--Catch and Release-- Four Aransas County game wardens apprehended two commercial oyster boats in Aransas Bay with 30 percent and 21 percent undersized loads of oysters, respectively. They found another commercial oyster boat in Copano Bay with a 26 percent undersized haul of oysters. The wardens issued the captains of each boat a citation and returned 43 sacks of oysters to the water.

--Darting through Traffic-- After nearly a year of investigation, Texas game wardens filed charges against a Comal County man for hunting an exotic animal from a public roadway without the landowner’s consent. The man allegedly shot a blackbuck antelope with a tranquilizer dart containing a controlled substance -- Telazol -- while purportedly attempting to steal the antelope from the Las Lomas gated community in Hays County. Several charges were filed against the individual, including three Class A misdemeanors (hunting an exotic animal from a public roadway, hunting an exotic animal without the expressed consent of the landowner, and possession of controlled substance penalty group 3) and one Class B misdemeanor (attempted theft of the blackbuck antelope). Charges are pending in Hays County District Attorney.

--Blocking the Roadway-- While patrolling a state highway a Crockett County game warden saw a large well-pulling truck blocking the roadway. One of its axles broke in two as the truck tried to merge onto the highway. The warden provided traffic control for public safety and contacted the Texas Department of Transportation for additional traffic control assistance, since it would be a while before the truck could be moved. The warden and other law enforcement officials eventually cleared the roadway.

--Game Wardens Are Hawk Rescuers, Too-- A Val Verde County game warden responded to a call from the local sheriff’s office about an injured hawk a traveler on a nearby state highway had seen on the side of the road. Working with the sheriff’s office, regional TPWD biologists, a Kinney County game warden and the caller, the warden and other law enforcement officials successfully transported the hawk to a raptor rehabilitator in Uvalde County. The hawk is on its way to a full recovery.

--Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign-- A Nolan County game warden was patrolling the Lake Trammel area after dark when he noticed vehicle headlights shining around an upcoming turn in the road. The vehicle appeared to be stationary. As the warden rounded the turn, he saw a truck backed up to a speed limit sign and a man standing in the truck bed attempting to remove the sign. While the warden interviewed the man and the driver, both individuals said the speed limit sign was the (See Game Warden ... Continued on Page 6-B)
Cook Smart – and Safe – This Summer

By Sue Hampton

Are you excited about lunches by the lake, picnics and summer barbecues? Picnics and barbecues are a great way to enjoy the summer with family and friends. Whether you’re grilling at your favorite lake or in your backyard, it’s important to cook smart by knowing how to handle food properly. Remember when firing up the grill to use the “3 Cs for Cooking Smart” as a guideline to help you enjoy your favorite summer foods.

The 3 Cs are:

*Chill chicken to 40 F.
*Clean hands and utensils.
*Cook chicken to recommended temperatures – 170F for white meat, and 180F for dark meat and whole chickens.

Because chicken is a favorite during grilling season, it’s a perfect time to remind people about how to cook smart. The 3 Cs are easy to remember when preparing your favorite summer recipes.

In addition to the 3 Cs, keep summer picnics safe and fun by using the following tips:

*Marinating poultry is a great way to lock in the natural juices. However, it’s important to remember to discard excess marinade and not reuse marinade that was used with uncooked poultry.

*When serving at your next picnic, keep food cold by putting pans filled with ice under cold items like chicken salads, and keep foods hot by using hot plates for foods like chicken burgers.

*During picnics and parties, foods served on pans filled with ice or on hot plates should be kept out for no more than two hours.

Try this delicious chicken kabob recipe for a change of taste!

**TUTTI-FRUITY CHICKEN KABOBS**

Prep time: 20 minutes plus 3 hours marina-
tion time; Cook time: 10 minutes; Servings: 6

(12 kabobs)

4 fresh boneless, skinless chicken breasts
½ cup vegetable oil
½ cup honey
1 tablespoon chopped fresh ginger or 1 tea-
spoon dried ground ginger
1 tablespoon soy sauce
24 – 12-inch bamboo skewers
1 fresh pineapple, cut into 1-inch cubes
3 oranges, peeled, quartered and cut into 1-inch pieces
3 peaches, peeled, quartered and cut into 1-inch pieces
3 cups steamed white rice

Fire up for summer cookouts with tasty Tutti-Fruity Chicken Kabobs!

July
July 9 ~ Media NE Division
Minnow Bucket
July 16 ~ Media Fork Division
Minnow Bucket
July 23 ~ Media NE Division
Minnow Bucket
If you or your Bass Club have a tournament on Lake Fork, contact us at: fishnews@lakefork.net or call 903-383-7748

August
Aug. 13 ~ JC Outdoors Teams Championship
Minnow Bucket
Aug. 21 ~ JC Outdoors Solo Championship
Minnow Bucket
If you or your Bass Club have a tournament on Lake Fork, contact us at: fishnews@lakefork.net or call 903-383-7748

September
Sept. 10 ~ Mad Dog Moore
Oak Ridge Marina
Sept. 16, 17, 18 ~ Sealy Outdoors
Lake Fork Marina
Sept. 24 ~ JC Outdoors Teams
Minnow Bucket
If you or your Bass Club have a tournament on Lake Fork, contact us at: fishnews@lakefork.net or call 903-383-7748
only one they had tried to take that night. However, the warden found several more road signs covered by a mat in the bed of the truck. The men admitted to taking the signs. The warden issued citations to both individuals and had them spend the next hour returning the signs to their original locations. Cases against the men are pending.

—Muddy Tracks Lead the Way— A Gonzales County game warden responded to a call about a poaching incident on a county road in an area notorious for road hunting. The complainant supplied the warden with a description of the vehicle, a license plate number and a description of the suspects. The complainant, who had confronted the suspects for trespassing and shooting in his backyard, also warned the warden the suspects were drinking and armed. The game warden responded to the landowner’s property but found no evidence of an incident. Due to heavy rain, the warden suspended the search for evidence and instead followed muddy tracks in the road, which led him to the suspects. The suspects admitted to having shot at wild pigs running across the road and searching for the wounded animals on the landowner’s property. The next day, the warden met the men, who were all from North Carolina, at the Justice of the Peace office in Gonzales County. The suspects paid more than $1,700 in fines.

—DPS Detains Drunk Driver-- A Gonzales County game warden was checking fishermen on the Guadalupe River when he got a call for assistance from the local sheriff’s office about a possible intoxicated driver on a nearby road. The warden spotted the vehicle in question and followed it. Noticing the driver weaving from side to side and crossing the highway’s centerline, the warden stopped the vehicle and observed signs of intoxication in the driver. He detained the suspect on a charge of driving while intoxicated. The responding DPS trooper arrested the suspect, who provided a blood alcohol sample of three times the legal limit.
Bassin' With Bubba

By Don Bubba Hampton

Don Bubba Hampton is sponsored by Legend Boats, Mercury Marine, Sartin Marine, Luck E Strike Lures, Lake Fork Trophy Lures, V & M Cyclone Baits, Gene Foundation

Help Us Spread The Word!

"Because every child deserves a chance to fish!"

If you know a family that has a child that meets our criteria, just have them call us. We'll take over from there!

"Every child deserves a chance to fish!" Children diagnosed or who have experienced a life-threatening illness or accident sometimes do not have that opportunity. Now through the "Wish to Fish Foundation" they can have that day in the sun with their family. Any family with a child between the ages 3 to 18 years of age that has been diagnosed or treated for a life-threatening illness or accident is invited to come fish Lake Fork for any species of fish at NO COST! Lodging, meals, and fishing are provided for. This allows the family to spend quality time together fishing without worries or expenses. The outing includes one night lodging, meals, refreshments, snacks, all on a 26' Tritoon Pontoon, (accompanied with a 9-1-1 chase boat for any emergency that may occur. All bait and fishing equipment provided. If you are, or know of a family that meets the above criteria, contact us! Help us spread the word, we are here for the children!

For Scheduling or More Info Contact: Don Hampton, Founder & Program Director
visit our website: www.wishtofishfoundation.com

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ground pool with hot tub & waterfall plus a
bonus room upstairs with an office. Home is
on 2 lots with 1.3 acres plus leaseback, plenty
of room for a pier and a boat house.

Yantis $529,000

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secluded on 50 beautiful wooded unre-
stricted acres, private and remote. Home
is like new condition, has laminate wood
flooring and porcelain tile, no carpeting.
Fenced back yard and garden area. De-
tached 300sqft guest house with above
ground pool and workshop with HVAC.

Emory $376,000

HOME NEAR LAKE HOLBROOK on a wooded
corner lot, property is landscaped with beautiful
ornamental trees & shrubs. This 4 bedroom, 2
bath home features an enclosed screened porch,
covered deck, and attached garage plus a de-
tached garage workshop, storage bldg & a fenced
area for pets & kids. Plenty of room for your boat
and RV! Property also has a water well for irriga-
tion.

Yantis $212,000

LAKE FORK AREA HOME ON .75 unre-
stricted acres, Hwy 154 frontage & short walk
to Lake Fork. Excellent deer hunting at back of
property. 3/2 home with front and rear porch,
RV hook-up, outdoor grill, 2013 HVAC, a gar-
age/workshop, storage buildings, carports & storm shelter. Property is mostly fenced &
cross fenced with a small pond for livestock &
Lake Fork boat ramp is less than 1 mile away!

Emory $79,900

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mostly level, heavily wooded, partially fenced
and lots of the underbrush has already been
cleared. There is a new road all the way to the
back of the property and some partial clear-
ing. This would be a great place to build a se-
cluded home in the woods. No restrictions or
zoning! Call JR for details!

Winnsboro $149,500

3,200 SQFT LAKE FORK RESTAURANT
IN YANTIS $250,000

This established restaurant has Lake Fork leaseback available to make this property waterfront on World Famous Lake Fork.

LAKE FORK WATER FRONT & OFF-WATER LOTS FROM $17,900 TO $219,900
LAKE FORK AREA ACREAGE FROM $29,000 TO $149,500