

LAKE FORK "The Big Bass Capital Of Texas"



1 Section

"The Fisherman's Guide, News You Can Use"

"Lines To Get Hooked On"
www.fishguidenews.com Free

Vol. 28

September 2026

No. 324



Go Fish Lures and Tackle Shop has every bait an angler could need to catch that giant Lake Fork Lunker and the cafe has some of the best food with daily lunch specials so you don't fish or go home hungry.

Go Fish Lures and Cafe

By Don Hampton

What began as a hobby making and designing plastic baits for the anglers soon became a dream and then materialized into reality.

Such was the case for Roger and Misty Belk owners of Go Fish Lures and Cafe.

The store has everything an angler could possibly want or need to catch that trophy of

a lifetime. If you are looking for a hard to find lure or color, you need look no further than Go Fish Lures. I'm totally amazed each time I walk in. I usually tease my wife that I only stop in a tackle shop to see if they have something I don't have in my arsenal. This is definitely not the case at Go Fish. I can't go in without finding something I

don't have and feel the need to put it in my boat for my next fishing trip.

The store was expanded in December 2025 and encompasses 4,800 square feet of anglers dreams. The fishing inventory and supplies makes other tackle stores seem wanting. I've found what I want or need

(See Go Fish....

Continued on Page 2)

BIG-BASS SPLASH

On Lake Fork
Sept. 18, 19, 20, 2026



Lake Fork Big Bass Splash Returns September 18-19-20 with \$550,000 Guaranteed in Cash & Prizes.

The Lake Fork Big Bass Splash, presented by Sealy Outdoors and benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, returns to Lake Fork Marina in Alba, Texas, September 18-19-20 for a weekend of fishing, family and fun—with \$550,000 guaranteed in cash and prizes up for grabs.

Known as the world's largest grassroots ama-

teur big bass fishing tournament, the Big Bass Splash attracts thousands of amateur anglers from across the country. The Lake Fork event continues that tradition by allowing everyday anglers to compete for major cash payouts, boats, vehicles, and prizes.

A Grand Prize Package Worth Chasing!

The angler who catches the 1st Place Overall fish will take home an incredible prize package featuring: 2026 Phoenix 721 ZXL powered

by Mercury Marine, equipped with Minn Kota, Humminbird, Power-Pole, 2026 RAM truck, \$5,000 cash, \$2,500 Every Hour for the Heaviest Bass.

Fifteen places will be paid every hour of each tournament day, beginning with the 7:00-8:00 a.m. hour and continuing through the 1:00-2:00 p.m. hour. Each hour, the 15 single heaviest bass weighed in will be paid, with the Heaviest Bass of the

(See Big Bass Splash... ..

Continued on Page 7)

Go Fish Lures and Cafe (Continued from Page 1)

here more than at a Bass Pro Shop or Cabelas. In plastic lures they have pretty much every color in the spectrum and a large assortment of different brands. If a new bait is on the market they

have it waiting for you. Looking for a particular hard bait such as a crankbait, chatterbait, spinnerbait, etc., this is where you will find it.

Not many anglers have as many rods or reels as they want or

need. Go Fish has a large selection of both for that angling choice. They have a large selection either for bass, crappie, bream, or catfish. If you are looking for fishing apparel, you will find the right fit

just for you.

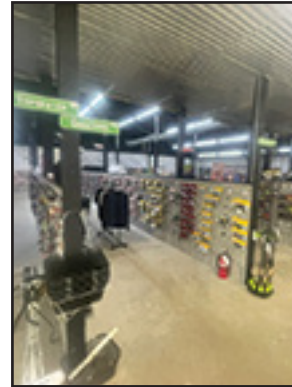
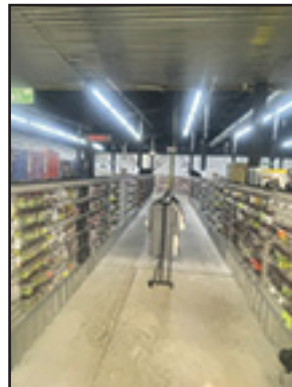
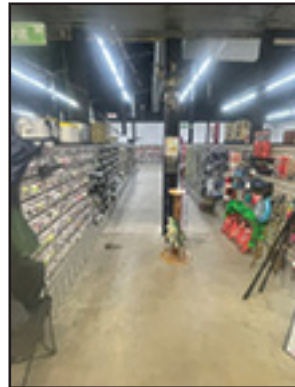
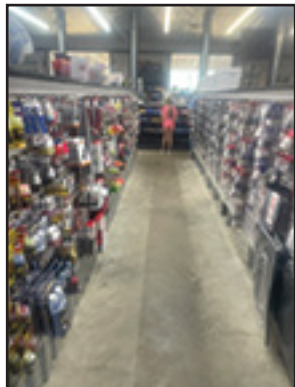
If you need items for your boat they also carry the oil you need. If you are needing a new battery you can find Interstate and Onic batteries to keep your motor starting or trolling motor and electronics running to

max.

Additionally on sight if you are having difficulties with your

prop you can pull in and have your problem solved. (See Go Fish Lures...

Continued on Page 9)



At Go Fish Restaurant you can enjoy a great meal either coming from or going to the lake with terrific lunch specials.

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"Bubba Has Diagnosed Some Anglers With Having The "Bent Pole Virus"

By Don Hampton

Now, Bubba has been pretty hard on some anglers lately that think they own the fishing spots on the lake and asking about their mailboxes and such. If you are one of these anglers, don't expect an apology. He is more likely to just tell you to pull your panties up and quit being so sensitive. One thing he doesn't believe in is beating around the bush. He only beats around the bush when he is in the woods to scare the varmints and snakes away when he needs to squirt the dirt.

When it comes to speaking his mind or voicing his opinion, there just isn't any gray area. This is because Bubba is what you might refer to as "Old School"! Heck most of

the schools he went to have been torn down and new ones have been built.

Bubba believes fishing is to have fun and that everyone is on the lake to have fun and relax. Whether you are a guide, in a tournament, or fishing for the freezer, being on the lake trying to outwit the scaly critters is supposed to just be fun. Otherwise you are in the wrong place and with the wrong people. Just always keep in mind "Work is just something you have to do so you can go fishing!"

Some anglers have taken the "Mailbox" theory out of context though. Bubba claims these people are infected with the "Bent Pole Virus".

I really didn't know what this meant at first so I had to get Bubba to

explain this one to me! When he explained it to me I thought "Shucks, I know some of these infected 'Hookers'!"

Bubba simply stated, "Anglers infected with the Bent Pole Virus can be identified easily on the lake. When you catch a fish and your pole bends, just watch how fast you are surrounded and cut off. Sometimes I'm afraid to set the hook because I'm afraid I'll be surrounded like Davy Crockett at the Alamo! It is as if some anglers are playing 'Peek-a-boo, I see you.' Anglers with the 'Bent Pole Virus' are watching other anglers so they can jump in on them rather than watching their own electronics so they can improve their own fishing skills!"

Once I received a full

understanding from Bubba on this wide spreading disease I just had to know if there was a cure for these hapless anglers. Bubba informed me the cure was in just two words, "Respect and Courtesy."

One thing I can say about Bubba is that in this case he is being very "Politically Correct." One of his best buds on the lake has another name for anglers with the 'Bent Pole Virus', he calls them 'Bottom Feeders' because they feed off others. So, Bubba is really being nice in comparison!

In most tournaments there is a rule that states, "No fishing within 25

yards of another boat without permission." Truly this rule should read, "No fishing within 25 yards of another angler's cast." With new longer rods for swimbaits and jigs, most anglers can cast well over 25 yards. You wouldn't hunt that close to another hunter and a jig or swimbaits velocity in a cast is almost that of a bullet. Taking that into consideration, you anglers infected with the 'Bent Pole Virus' might wish to keep that in mind.

It is true that no one owns the public water. This applies to guides, homeowners with their docks and piers, tourna-

ment anglers, and freezer fishermen. If someone is sitting on your favorite spot or beat you to where you had plans to fish, find another until they move. Don't try to crowd them out or get on their fish! All of these lakes are large enough for everyone and the fish are not just in one place. Practice what Bubba said, "Respect and Courtesy."

If you do this, you will not have Bubba diagnose you with the 'Bent Pole Virus' or his buddy call you a 'Bottom Feeder' or be dodging a 1-oz. jig coming at you like a speeding bullet!

Great Ways To Go "Out of Business"

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Think Everyone Knows the Merchandise You Carry;
Don't Advertise!

Think Everyone Knows the Specials You Have Listed;
Don't Advertise!

Think Everyone Knows When You Have A Sale; *Don't Advertise!*

Think Time at The Same Location Is Your Best Advertisement;
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By Don Hampton

Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork will be hosting their 50th Semi Annual Bass Tournament on September 12th out of Oak Ridge Marina.

This is an individual amateur tournament. More than one angler can fish in the same boat but each must be a paid entry and have a means of keeping their fish separated (*Culling rings*). This is a five fish limit tournament and each bass must be at least 12" in length and can touch 16" without breaking the line. Only one bass 24" or more in length may be brought to the scales by each angler. A dead bass brought in to be weighed will receive a .50-pound penalty. No ice or frozen fish will be weighed and be grounds for immediate disqualification.

Bass Tournament September 12th at Oak Ridge Marina

All bass brought to the weigh-in become property of Texas Trails Bassmasters and will be released back into Lake Fork (with the exception of a trophy fish or dead fish).

Fishing hours will be from 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Each angler must be in line and checked in by 3:30.

We will be on location taking entries on Friday September 11th from 4 p.m. till 9 p.m. in the white trailer and September 12th from 5 a.m. to 6 a.m.

Pay-outs are based on 100 entries with guaranteed pay back of 80% of entry fees and 100% of Big Bass Pot; 1st Place ~ \$1,040; 2nd Place ~ \$780; 3rd Place ~ \$520; 4th Place ~ \$260; and 5th through 10th ~ \$100. Big Bass Pot; 1st Big Bass ~ \$500; 2nd Big Bass ~ \$300; 3rd Big Bass ~ \$200.

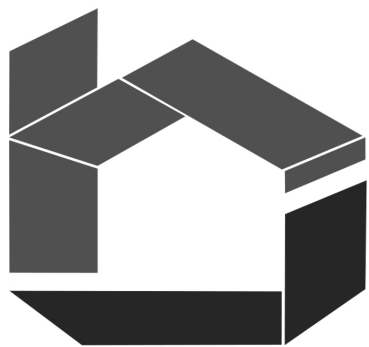
If you do not win a check at the tournament you could still walk away a winner. The club will be selling raffle tickets for some really great prizes. Raffle tickets are \$1 each, 12 for \$10, or 24 for \$20.

If you are considering joining a local bass club, you need look no further than Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork. Yearly membership dues are \$30 per year, but if you join now this will include the remainder of 2026 plus 2027. The club has one scheduled tournament per month with an entry fee of \$25 plus \$5 optional for Big Bass. In November we have the two day championship with the second day of the tournament also being counted as the first for the following year. Three places are paid at each club tournament with the top three explaining how they caught their winning catch.

Also, Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork are the official weight masters of the Annual Kid Fish, put on by Wood County Sheriff's Department, TPWD Game Wardens, and Sabine River Authority. Some members are active and participants in the Wish to Fish Foundation.

Come fish with us September 12th, meet the members and have a great time and think about joining.

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Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses on Sale for 2026-2027 Season

Summer is winding down and fall is on the horizon which means it's time for hunters and anglers to renew hunting and fishing licenses. Before taking the boat out or hitting the field, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) reminds hunters and anglers to purchase their new licenses for the 2026-27 season.

Current-year Texas hunting and fishing licenses (except the Year-from-Purchase All-Water Fishing Package) expired the end of August. Licenses for the 2026-27 season are on sale now.

Texans purchase more than 3 million hunting and fishing licenses annually, directly funding a magnitude of conservation efforts and recreational opportunities. Fish stocking, wildlife management, habitat restoration, public hunting

leases, river access sites and conservation law enforcement by Texas Game Wardens are just some of the many projects made possible by license sales.

A variety of licenses are available and can be purchased through the official TPWD website, or in-person at retail locations throughout Texas or TPWD offices. A \$5 administrative fee applies to online purchases.

Updated identity verification rules are now in effect for Texas hunting and fishing license purchases to combat residency fraud and support TPWD law enforcement. Additional information can be found at the License ID Validation FAQ page or the Purchase Requirements for Licenses, Endorsements and Tags page on the TPWD web-

site.

All recreational licenses and endorsement stamps also have a digital option. The digital license option is available through online purchase only. Digital license holders must keep their digital license available via mobile device while in the field or on the water as they will not receive a printed license or tags. License holders must access and use their digital tags through the Texas Hunt & Fish mobile app. Digital licenses can be viewed through the Texas Hunt & Fish and TPWD Outdoor Annual mobile apps.

For repeat license buyers, TPWD offers an expedited checkout process, allowing customers to

(See Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses

Continued on Page 12)



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"September" The Official Close of Summer

By Whitt Smith

September brings the close of Official Summer, though not always in the temperature here in NE Texas. With that, the transition begins in Bass and baitfish patterns.

Around Labor Day or shortly thereafter, schools

of small, young of the year Shad move into the mouths of coves and pockets and secondary points inside these locales.

I find most success in September by greatly downsizing presentations. It not only helps in number of bites, but will get big bites, as well. I know it's Lake Fork and the thought of small lures can sound crazy, but this month it can lay dividends. Who doesn't like dividends?

With the downsizing of lures, downsizing the gear is paramount in your ability to efficiently and effectively cast.

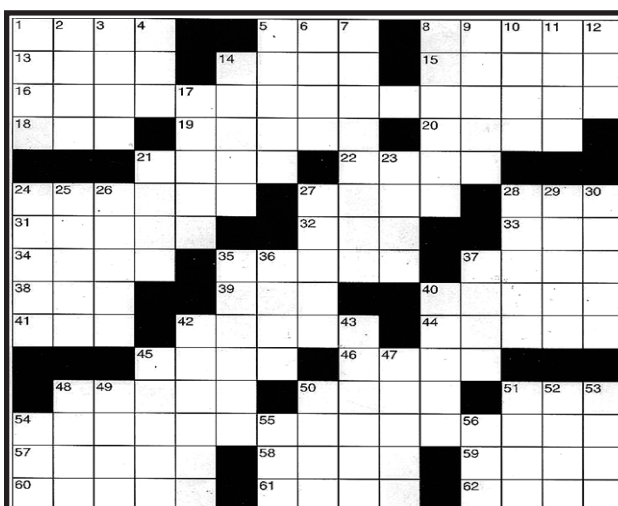
Small Crankbaits, finesse jigs, Texas Rig worms, Drop Shot and Shakey Head Trick style worms are some of the best producers for me this month. I rig these lures on Seaguar InvizX 12 to 15 lb test Fluorocarbon Line on a variety of Dobyns Bait Cast and Spinning Rods this month. Locally, Lake Fork Resort is a stocking Dobyns Rods Dealer and Warranty Service.



Most of the Bass we catch will be anywhere from cover near the bank to 10-12', this month.

The Magic 8-Ball is if the "Fall Turnover" occurs late this month or in October. The way the temps are going at the moment I'm typing this, you'd think it'll occur on October sometime.

Good luck to all of the folks fishing the Sealy Tournament and be safe out there!



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Dry wine from southwestern Europe | 37. Invests in little enterprises (abbr.) |
| 5. Cheat | 38. Openings |
| 8. Suburb of Bombay | 39. Type of tooth |
| 13. Repeat | 40. Pine Tree State |
| 14. Swiss river | 41. Fuel |
| 15. Like cereal | 42. Broad-winged, soaring hawk |
| 16. Movie industry | 44. Behaved |
| 18. Create with cloth | 45. Ocean sunfish |
| 19. Way to make tight | 46. Launch and mattress |
| 20. Transport commercially | 48. Seaport in Cameroon |
| 21. Bellies (slang) | 50. Linear unit used in printing |
| 22. Protects the chest | 51. Artificial language |
| 24. Cow | 54. Gallantry award |
| 27. Mounted soldier | 57. Away from the outer edge |
| 28. Come to pass | 58. This (Spanish) |
| 31. Fencing swords | 59. Bitter quarrel between two parties |
| 32. Calendar month (abbr.) | 60. Lotto |
| 33. In the manner of | 61. Day |
| 34. Government agents | 62. Chits |
| 35. Approves | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Arranges | 29. Adjust, in a way (var.) |
| 2. Have a yen for | 30. Influenced, in a way |
| 3. Masticate | 35. About visual sense |
| 4. Indian unit of length | 36. South Dravidian |
| 5. Skin disease | 37. Pouches |
| 6. Russian city | 40. Woman of refinement |
| 7. Busby, film director | 42. Ravel favorite |
| 8. Sound of an alarm | 43. Narcotic drug |
| 9. Jackrabbits | 45. Someone who is highly skilled |
| 10. Egyptian sun god | 47. Extensive landed property |
| 11. Poverty | 48. Eat |
| 12. Massachusetts cape | 49. Arm bone |
| 14. Winged | 50. Posttraumatic stress disorder (abbr.) |
| 17. Images | 51. Content of cognition |
| 21. Pastries | 52. Coat with plaster |
| 23. Gorges | 53. GM auto |
| 24. Obscure | 54. Person's brother or sister |
| 25. Classical music for the stage | 55. Whale |
| 26. Sacred writings | 56. Immature newt |
| 27. Accepted practice | |
| 28. Excessive use of drugs | |

Answers on Page 21

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Big Bass Splash on Lake Fork *(Continued from Page 1)*

Hour winning \$2,500.

Hourly tournament updates and results will be broadcast live on KMOO 99.9 FM, allowing anglers, families, and fans to follow the action throughout the tournament.

Exact Weight Bonuses: The Lake Fork Big Bass Splash will once again feature its popular Exact Weight bonuses. The first contestant to weigh in a 2.25-pound bass each day will win \$5,000, and the first contestant to weigh in a 2.50-pound bass each day will also win \$5,000. Additionally, the Heaviest Bass Under the Slot each day will win another \$5,000.

Elimination Drawing: All registered anglers are eligible for the Elimination Drawing, where one lucky contestant will have the opportunity to win a: 2026 Phoenix 819 PRO powered by Mercury, equipped with Minn Kota and Humminbird.

"You Can't WIN if you Don't Play" Optional bo-

nus games, including Bonus Card and Bonus Shirt Hours, give anglers additional opportunities to win Lake Fork Lure Co. rods and cash.

Ladies Big Bass Bonus: The Ladies Big Bass Bonus gives female anglers another opportunity to win. The Top 3 Ladies Overall will be awarded cash and prizes based on the three single heaviest bass weighed in by women during the three-day tournament, in addition to any hourly winnings they may earn.

Little Anglers Division: The Big Bass Splash isn't just for adults. Children ages 5–12 may compete in the Little Anglers Division for just \$10 per day. Young anglers can win medals and cash for their winning catches, including bass, catfish, crappie or perch. It's an opportunity to introduce the next generation to the sport while making memories that will last a lifetime.

Registration Information: Online registration is

now open at www.sealyoutdoors.com. The Early Bird Registration Deadline is Tuesday, September 8. On-site registration will be available at Lake Fork Marina on: Thursday, September 17, 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Registration will continue each morning of the tournament, beginning at 5:00 a.m. and ending at 4:00 p.m. Tournament Entry Fees, 1 Day: \$190, 2 Days: \$240, 3 Days: \$290, Little Anglers: \$10 per day. Fishing, Family and Fun for Everyone

The Big Bass Splash is more than a fishing tournament. It has become what Sealy Outdoors calls "Fishing-Family-Fun," bringing anglers, families, and communities together for a weekend centered around competition, excitement, and fun.

A portion of the proceeds from tournament registration fees will benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, helping support its mission to advance cures and means of prevention for pediatric catastrophic diseases.



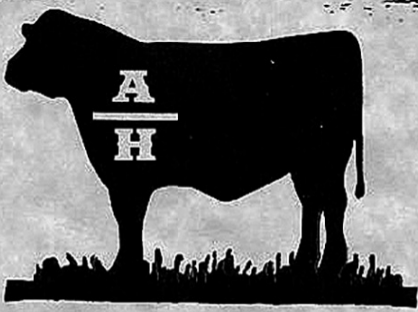
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"The Moon Report"

"Sizzling September Crappie"

By Terri Moon

September on Lake Fork can fool you. The calendar says fall is just around the corner, but here in East Texas, the heat of summer can still be hanging on strong. Water temperatures can remain in the upper 80's, and those crappie know exactly where they want to be when the lake is still hot.

For me, September is all about finding the fish and paying close attention to what the electronics are telling me. Lake Fork is well known for producing good crappie around standing timber, brush piles and bridges, and late summer is no exception.

When the water is still hot, I concentrate much of my September crappie fishing in the 18 to 28 ft. range, especially around creek channels, submerged timber and good brush piles. Recent Lake Fork patterns have shown quality white crappie holding on timber along creek channels in this depth range.



That means spending time with my electronics, scanning timber and brush piles until I find a tree or pile loaded with crappie. One tree might hold only a couple of fish while the next one can be loaded. Once I find that magic combination of depth, cover, and baitfish, I'm going to slow down and work it thoroughly. Around bridges I'll also pay close attention to the 20 to 25 ft. range, particularly where the structure drops into deeper water. Lake Fork is known for good late-spring and early fall crappie fishing around its bridges.

One of the biggest things I watch during these hot September days is the thermocline. When that summer layer is still established, crappie tend to position themselves where the water has the oxygen and conditions they need. I want my bait presented at or just above the fish, rather than wasting time fishing below them.

September is also a month of transition. As cooler nights begin to arrive, the thermocline can start changing and the fish begin moving. That means what worked yesterday may not be the answer tomorrow. That's why I never assume the fish are going to be in the same place just because I caught them there the day before. When the bite is tough, it's time to downsize your bait, and SLOW DOWN!

(See Sizzling September Crappie..Continued on Page 22

Go Fish Lures and Cafe (Continued from Page 2)

lem resolved. Also at the same location you can find a trolling motor shop specializing in Motor Guide and Lowrance Electronics.

If you wish to store your boat and tackle instead of towing it to Lake Fork each time Go Fish Boat Storage is the best on Lake Fork. It has a security gate to protect all of your belongings stored here.

After building up your appetite after all the fishing and shopping you can enjoy a great meal at Go Fish Restaurant and Cafe. It is located conveniently in the rear of the tackle displays so you will not

have far to go. It serves up great food with very friendly serving staff. Misty does a great job with this and has some fantastic lunch specials. They are open serving your hunger needs from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The tackle store is open 7 days a week from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. which gives you plenty of time to shop.

Go Fish Lures and

Cafe is conveniently located at 3736 TX Hwy. 154. This is just across the street from the entrance to Caney Creek Recreation Facility and Boat Ramps so you will not have far to go to be on the Great Lake Fork.

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Strong Dove Population Numbers Anticipated as Hunters Fly Toward Opening Day

Dove Season Opened Statewide September 1 for the First Time in History!

For a third year in a row, Texas received significant rain in the spring across most of the state, bolstering the previous year's healthy dove populations. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) biologist's estimate both mourning and white-winged doves are near record highs

again.

These new population reports are good news for hunters hitting the field on Sept. 1, a historic early opening date approved earlier this year. Surveys Say 'More Dove'

Spring population surveys conducted by TPWD staff found mourning and white-winged dove numbers continue to trend near historic highs.

Combined with strong habitat conditions across much of the state, hunters should expect solid opportunities when the 2026 dove season opens statewide on Sept. 1.

Estimates place the

statewide mourning dove population at 36.7 million birds, a two percent increase from 2025 and just shy of the record high of 37.5 million in 2016. White-winged dove numbers increased ten percent from 2025, with an estimated 12.9 million birds, the highest estimate on record.

Birds may still be scattered across the landscape while food and water remain widely available. As August heat dries things out, hunters are likely to find larger groups gathering at available watering holes. Doves typically feed and water twice a day, so scouting their movement throughout the day is key to a successful hunt. Hunters should focus on agriculture fields or areas with native food sources like sunflower, croton and other annual forbs and grasses.

Historic Change to South Zone Season Opener

(Continued on Next Page)

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The South Zone has historically been restricted by federal regulations from opening in early Sept. due to longstanding concerns about the impacts of hunting on late-nesting mourning doves. After an extensive review of recent biological data, TPWD biologists determined that there was no longer a need to delay the opener and worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to change federal regulations to allow the South Zone to mirror opening day and daily bag limits in the North and Central Zones.

"For over 100 years, the South Zone has opened later than the rest of the state, frustrating a lot of hunters," said Owen Fitzsimmons, TPWD Webless Migratory Game Bird Program Leader. "I'm very excited about the earlier opener, especially in a year when we are seeing record num-

bers of doves down south, but it will be a big adjustment for both hunters and the birds. We plan to do our due diligence and conduct extra monitoring to assess any impacts to dove populations, as well as get plenty of feedback from the hunting public over the next few years."

With the earlier start to the regular season, the Special White-winged Dove Days typically held before the regular season opener were eliminated. These changes are allowed under federal regulations on a three-year experimental basis—a common procedure for any major changes to federal migratory game bird regulations. This gives TPWD time to properly evaluate any impacts to doves before the change is made permanent.

Doves in Texas

Texas is home to seven species of native doves and pigeons, including the three legal game species—mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves.

Texas continues to lead the nation in dove hunting, accounting for 32 percent of the mourning dove and 87 percent of the white-winged dove harvest in the U.S. annually. More than 300,000 hunters take part each year, generating more than \$500 million in economic activity.

Preparing for the Season

TPWD reminds hunters to prepare for the early season heat. Bring plenty of water, seek shade during peak hours and be mindful in dense vegetation when retrieving downed birds. Hunters should also be mindful when parking in tall

(See Strong Dove Population.....

Continued on Page 16)

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Texas Hunting, Fishing Licenses on Sale for 2026-2027 Season (Continued from Page 5)

re-purchase licenses bought in recent years.

Paper license holders may show an electronic copy of their license but must possess and apply physical tags for animals that require tagging. Several options exist for customers to provide proof of licensure other than their physical license, including: (1) an electronic photo of their licenses, (2) an emailed receipt of their purchases; (3) their account in the online license sales system; (4) by connecting their license to the Outdoor Annual or Texas Hunt & Fish mobile apps.

Hunting and fishing regulations for the 2026-

27 season are available online at outdoorannual.com, or via the free Outdoor Annual mobile app. Once downloaded, the app works without internet connectivity, making it easy for hunters and anglers to view regulations in even the most remote locations. Other features include license lookup, location-based functionality such as "Hunting Seasons and Regulations by Location," "Where to Fish," and more. A limited supply of printed booklets will be available at select TPWD offices. Hunters and anglers are encouraged to call their local offices to check availability.

The Texas Hunt & Fish mobile app enables electronic submission of mandatory harvest reports, including alligator gar harvest reporting, and supports digital tagging of harvested deer, turkey, oversized red drum

and spotted seatrout for digital license holders. The app also allows hunters to complete their on-site registration for many TPWD public hunting lands. Hunters can hunt on more than one million acres of public land with the purchase of an annual public hunting permit.

When buying their license, resident hunters and anglers may wish to purchase an entry in the Lifetime License Drawing. Three lucky winners will win a Lifetime Super Combo License and never need to buy a Texas hunting or fishing license again. Entries are \$5 each and can be purchased online, or at any license retailer. The first entry deadline is Sept. 30.

When making their purchase, license buyers can also add a donation of \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$20 to help support the Hunters for the Hungry program, the Fund for Veterans Assistance or Operation Game Thief. Donations to the Hunters for the Hungry program provide hunters with a way

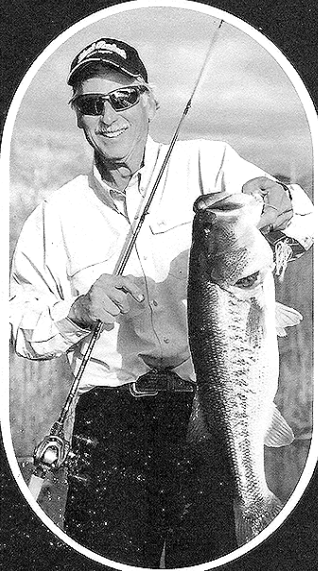
(Continued on Next Page)

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to donate legally harvested deer to participating processors. The processed meat goes to local food banks to feed Texas families in need. Donations to the Fund for Veterans Assistance program provide grants to veteran service organizations and nonprofit charitable institutions, assisting veterans and their families at the community level throughout Texas.

Operation Game Thief is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on protecting Texas' wildlife and natural habitats through community engagement, outreach and education. It serves as Texas' wildlife crime stoppers program.

For frequently asked questions about Texas hunting and fishing licenses, visit the TPWD website.

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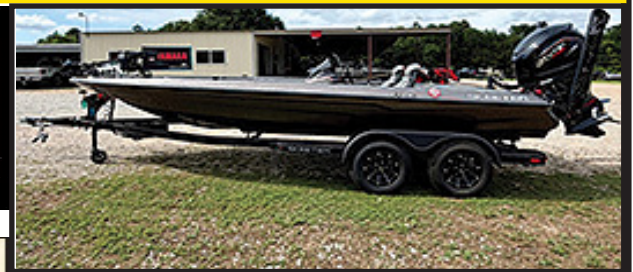
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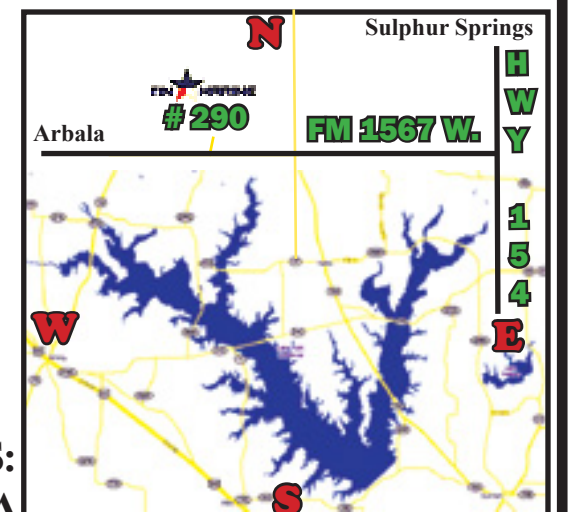
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Strong Dove Population (Continued from Page 11)

grass to reduce the risk of starting a fire.

Hunters using dogs should watch for signs of overheating in dogs and inspect for wounds before leaving the field. New World screwworm has been detected in Texas, and all hunters are encouraged to report suspicious wounds, or larvae in a wound, to their veterinarian. For more information about movement guidelines and inspec-

tions, visit New World Screwworm (NWS) Guidance — AgriLife Alert System.

The regular dove seasons are as follows:

* North Zone: Sept. 1 – Nov. 8, resuming Dec. 18, 2026 – Jan. 7, 2027

* Central Zone: Sept. 1 – Oct. 25, resuming Dec. 11, 2026 – Jan. 14, 2027

* South Zone: Sept. 1 – Oct. 25, resuming Dec. 18, 2026 – Jan. 21, 2027

Full hunting regulations are available on the Texas Outdoor Annual mobile app or online at outdoorannual.com.

All dove hunters must carry:

* A valid hunting license

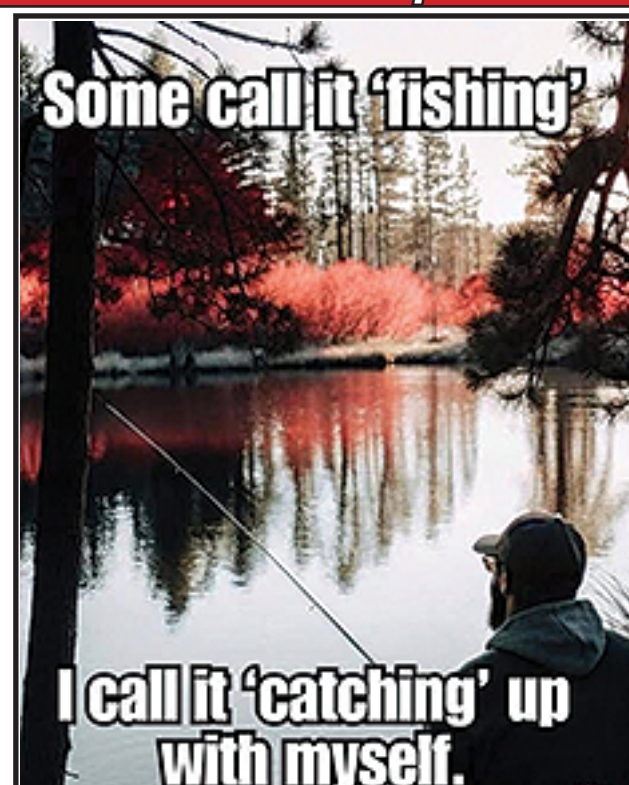
* A Migratory Game Bird Endorsement

* HIP certification (survey completed during license purchase)

Additionally, anyone born after Sept. 1,

1971, must complete a hunter education course before hunting in Texas. Certification is valid for life and recognized in all states and provinces. Lack of hunter education certification and the Migratory Game Bird Endorsement rank as the two most common hunting violations during dove season.

Please make sure you have the appropriate licenses before heading afield this next dove hunting season.



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Great Texas Birding Classic Breaks Records in its 30th Year

The biggest, longest and wildest birdwatching tournament in the country, the Great Texas Birding Classic (GTBC), had a record number of teams and overall participants in the 30th iteration of the event, as well as a record amount of Conservation Grants awarded. The GTBC, organized by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), took place from April 15-May 15, with teams participating on the day of their choice.

A record 252 teams registered for the classic with an event-high 1,450 participants statewide including 41 first-time teams, and 33 teams registered for the newest category, the 'Lone Star Duo Tournament.' The Big Sit tournament continued to be the most popular category with 80 teams registered, including 20 as part of Heart of Texas East. The GTBC held its first art contest this year, with the grand prize winner, Townsend Keller's artwork

being used for the 2027 event t-shirt and promotions. Complete and final results for the teams and art contest winners are posted online for all tournament categories at www.birdingclassic.org.

"I had a great time!" said Melinda Write on her first GTBC, serving as team captain for Twitchers Gone Wild, a Central Texas Coast Big Sit team. "I first saw [the Great Texas Birding Classic] right after it ended in 2025 and have been waiting to do this for a year!"

As for the birds, the teams recorded an amazing Spring migration, identifying a record 435 species throughout the tournament. This included several Review Species for the Texas Bird Records Committee (TBRC), meaning these birds have been recorded four or fewer times per year in Texas over a ten-year average. These species include but aren't limited to, the Short-Tailed Hawk, Mottled Owl,

Gray Flycatcher, Black-whiskered Vireo, Brown Jay and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

"I love that TPWD does this," said Annelise Turner, team captain of Hawkward Silence Flies Again, a Heart of Texas East Sunrise to Noon team, competing for their second time as a mother-daughter trio. "We plan on coming back next year, but our competitiveness is kicking in now that we don't feel like newbies."

The Birding Classic awarded \$85,000 in Conservation Grants in 2026, a 42 percent increase in amount awarded from the previous year and a record amount awarded for a single year thanks to team registrations and sponsorships. With that, the 30-year tournament total rose to \$1.36 million for on-the-ground acquisition, restoration and enhancement projects for native Texas wildlife habitats.

(See Great Texas Birding.....Continued on Page 20)



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Lake Fork Sportsman's Association "Preserving the Legend That is Lake Fork"

By Don Hampton

LFSA President

August with all of its smoldering heat still was an active month for the Association.

It began with Rick Carter being our guest speaker at the August meeting. He gave a very informative update on Camp Bass and their future goals for the youth and Lake Fork.

I want to send a big thank you to all of the volunteers that dedicate their time and efforts to make our High School Tackle Program

such a success. Also our sincere gratitude to everyone who donated rods n' reels and fishing equipment for the program. With these donations through this program, we are able to give the youth of today the means to fish on the high school program that otherwise might not be able to afford to. This not only promotes the future of fishing but also hopefully be a turning point in our youth of today.

We will be presenting this equipment to six local high school fishing

teams in our area. The high school teams will be Athens, Lone Oak, Grand Saline, 903 Anglers, Winnsboro, and Rains County.

The presentations will be at our monthly meeting on September 8th at

6:30 p.m.

If you are interested in becoming a member or just come as a guest, our meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Jamie's Restaurant beginning at 6:30 pm.



For the past 26 years Lake Fork Sportsman's Association has been Preserving the Legend that is Lake Fork with their Live Release Boat at tournaments releasing catches back healthy in the lake, planting new grasses, and establishing fish habitat.

Lake Fork Sportsman's ASSOCIATION
Preserving The Legend

Rods, reels, tackle, and fishing-related equipment are needed to support the High School Fishing Tackle Program sponsored by Lake Fork Sportsman's Association. LFSA requests donations of new and used fishing articles that will be cleaned, assembled, and refurbished. Items will be further donated to area high school fishing teams. Call Don Hampton, 903-360-6994 or Ken West, 903-752-2016 for more information or to arrange a donation.

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



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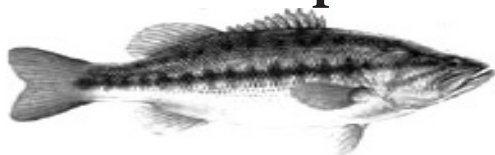
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Lake Fork Tournament Schedule Sept. thru Nov. 2026



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Minnow Bucket

Sept 12 ~ Tex. Trails Open
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Sept 18,19,20 ~ Sealy Outdoors
Lake Fork Marina



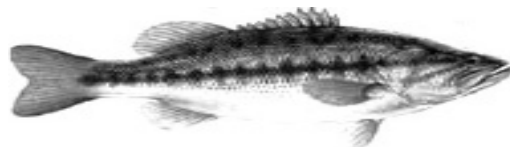
October

Oct 3 ~ JC Outdoors Team
Minnow Bucket

Oct 10~11 ~ BassChamps Championship
Lake Fork Marina

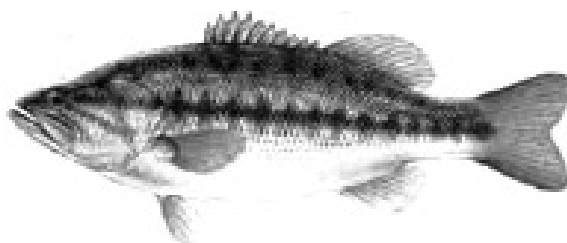
Oct 17~18 ~ Berkley Big Bass
Lake Fork Marina

Oct 31 ~ JC Outdoors Team
Minnow Bucket



November

NO NOTIFICATIONS AS YET
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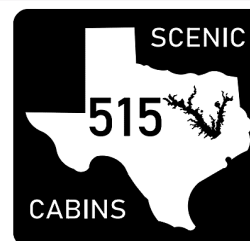
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Great Texas Birding Classic *(Continued from Page 17)*

"This year one of our participants made an anonymous donation of \$20,000 through a specific option for retirees to make charitable donations for the event," said Shelly Plante, Birding Classic tournament coordinator. "Because of this donation, our overall conservation grants went through the roof, and we couldn't be more grateful. As the tournament continues to grow, we look forward to donating more toward habitat conservation projects in Texas through these grants."

This event is made possible by team sponsorship and registration fees, donations from event sponsors Toyota and the Texas Ornithological Society, and awards ceremony sponsor, Audubon Texas.

"We had an amazing day on Saturday, with volunteers staying much longer than they'd signed up for because they were having such a good time, new friendships, so much learning...it was a blast!" remarked Cassie Festa, the team captain for The Peli-

Cans Audubon Texas, a Heart of Texas East Big Sit team.

Each year the winning Birding Classic teams get to select which projects to fund, and as the tournament continues to grow, more funds are raised which are then donated to habitat conservation projects in Texas.

This year, conservation grants were awarded to: \$50,000 Combined Conservation Grants Weeklong Conservation Grant (\$20,000) – Selected by Two Chicks & A Chat, sponsored by Dickinson Bayou Fleeting Upper Texas Coast Big Sit! Conservation Grant (\$10,000) – Selected by CenterPoint Wirebirds, sponsored by CenterPoint Energy Charitable Distribution from Anonymous Donor (\$20,000) – An anonymous donor made it possible to increase this project funding from \$30,000 to \$50,000, helping this new trail project come to

fruition.

Project: Virginia Point Victoria Baker Birding Trail – submitted by Scenic Galveston, Inc.

Project Location: Galveston, Galveston County \$10,000 Heart of Texas East Big Sit! Conservation Grant – Selected by The Peli-Cans Audubon Texas, sponsored by Audubon Texas

Project: Wings Over Wildgrass: Grasslands Restoration for the Birds – submitted by Mitchell Lake Audubon Center

Project Location: San Antonio, Bexar County \$10,000 Heart of Texas East Big Day Conservation Grant – Selected by Just Wingin' It

Project: Rebirth Sanctuary – submitted by Hill Country Master Naturalists, Bird City Kerrville Project

Project Location: Kerrville, Kerr County \$5,000 Lone Star Bird Award Conservation Grant – Selected by Swarovski Ski Patrol, sponsored by Swarovski Optik, N.A.

Project: Habitat Restoration at Singleton Preserve – submitted by Cedar Hill Parks and Recreation

Project Location: Cedar Hill, Dallas County \$5,000 Toyota State Park Conservation Grant – Selected by Saltwater Songbirds

Project: Water Feature and Visitor Seating Updates for Goose Island State Park Wooded Area Bird Viewing Stations – submitted by Goose Island

State Park, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Project Location: Rockport, Aransas County

\$5,000 Heart of Texas East Sunrise to Noon Roadrunner Conservation Grant – Selected by Hornsby HERons

Project: Water Feature for Joan & Scott Holt Paradise Pond – submitted by City of Port Aransas

Project Location: Port Aransas, Nueces County.



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Honey Creek State Natural Area's Trailhead Opened August 8

Honey Creek State Natural Area, previously open by guided access only, is welcoming visitors at the new trailhead in the southwestern portion of the park starting August 8.

This trailhead opening is part of a multi-phase development for the SNA, with the Public Use Plan informing what will take place in future phases.

The trailhead provides access to 3.5 miles of hiking trail for the public to enjoy the southwest portion of the park, with access hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Access to the trailhead is by reservation only through the TPWD website, through the call center, and a QR code on-site. The entrance to the trailhead is off Park Road 31, with gate codes being provided to those with reservations through their confirmation email. Trail maps are available online or in person at the adjacent Guadalupe River State Park's headquarters.

Visitors should bring plenty of water for their time on the trails as there is no public water refill station available. A restroom is available at the trailhead.

The new hiking trails explore the oak savannah that serves as the watershed of Honey Creek. To view the beauty of Honey Creek itself, join a guided hike offered weekly from

Guadalupe River SP. Additionally, guided hikes exploring other aspects of the State Natural Area are available as listed on the SNA's events page.

Honey Creek SNA is a part of the Guadalupe River SP complex, with

the land for the SNA being acquired partially from the Texas Nature Conservancy in 1985 and the rest from a private individual in 1988 before the final parcel was added in 2023. Honey Creek opened for limited access in 1985.

Just The Right Answers

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Wish To Fish Foundation

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1	S	A	C	K		5	F	O	B		8	T	H	A	11	N	A		
13	E	C	H	O		14	A	A	R	E		15	O	A	T	E	N		
16	T	H	E	S		17	I	L	V	E	R	S	C	R	E	E	N		
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				21	P	O	T	S		22	E	G	I	S					
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60	B	E	A	N	O		61	I	D	E	S		62	T	A	B	S		

Music Find

There are 14 musical instruments hidden throughout the scrambled puzzle below. See how many you can find and circle. The words go horizontally and vertically, backward and forward.

BANJO
CLARINET
DRUMS
FLUTE
GUITAR
HARP
OBOE

ORGAN
PIANO
SAXOPHONE
TROMBONE
TRUMPET
TUBA
VIOLIN

T R U E N O H P O X A S
R P A H A N J H N V E M
O J N A B P I O A I T U
M B O R T I R T G O B D
B A R P R A P E O L A R
O N A I M O B N R I U U
N A T U B I P I A N O M
E T U L F L T R O E B T
R A G I U T R A H T O E
N I P N O T U L E R E P
O S M A R A L C R B O E
H A U G G S V L O N I T
P O T R U M P E T A V O
L T R O N U I R L B L N
Y N O R G R A T I U G A
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50th Semi-Annual Open Tournament

Sept. 12, 2026 * Lake Fork, Texas

Oak Ridge Marina * Hwy 154 N.

Guaranteed Pay-Out Based on 100 Entries

903-360-6994

Drawings Held After Weigh-in for prizes

1st Place	\$1,040.00
2nd Place	\$780.00
3rd Place	\$520.00
4th Place	\$260.00
5th ~ 10th	\$100.00



There will be a big bass pot ~ \$10 per person entry
Big Bass will pay Three (3) places. (Based on 100 entries)



1st Place	\$500
2nd Place	\$300
3rd Place	\$200

1. Entry fee is \$40.00 - late entry is \$45.00

2. Early entries must be postmarked by Sept. 5, 2026.

3. All entry fees must be paid before 6 a.m. Sat., Sept. 12, 2026.

4. Check in time: Fri., Sept. 11, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., Sept. 12, 5 a.m. to 6 a.m. at Oak Ridge Marina.

5. To qualify, contestants must check in at tournament headquarters before fishing.

6. Fishing hours will be 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (official clock at sign-in station). NO FISHING from midnight till start time.

7. Fishing will be done on Lake Fork only (trailer allowed).

8. Contestants must fish from a boat. NO-bank fishing or leaving the boat to land a fish.

9. Life jackets must be worn any time their outboard motor is running.

10. All state, federal, and local laws must be obeyed or contestant and fish may be disqualified. No slot fish may be brought to weigh-in.

11. No one may have more than five (5) fish in their possession at any time. Only one (1) may be 24" or greater.

12. Largemouth bass 12" to 16" or 24" or greater in length may be weighed. No fish under 12" or between 16" and 24" will be weighed (or state law limits at the time of the tournament).

13. All fish must be caught on artificial bait by casting. (No trolling with gas engine). Fork trailer may be used.

14. Weigh-in starts at 3:00 p.m. (official clock at sign-in). You must be in the weigh-in line by 3:30 p.m.

15. All fish must be brought to the scales in weigh-in bags.

16. No iced or frozen fish will be weighed. Ice may be added ONLY to aid in survival of fish.

17. Each contestant will be responsible for weighing his or her own fish. (No pooling of fish).

18. Dead fish at weigh-in will be penalized 1/2 (5) pound. All fish weighed in become the property of TTB and will be released (with the exception of trophy

or dead fish).

19. In the event of a tie for any position, prize money for that position and the following positions will be combined and evenly divided between the tying contestants.

20. Contestants may not have served as a compensated guide on Lake Fork 90 days prior to the tournament.

21. Contestants may fish with a guide on Lake Fork prior to the day before fishing this TTB tournament.

22. Use of alcoholic beverages or controlled drugs are prohibited during tournament hours. Prescription drug use should be declared at sign-in.

23. Anyone who has ever been disqualified for cheating or misconduct from any tournament is ineligible to fish.

24. Any contestant who violates any rule may be disqualified. Any act of a competitor, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon TTB's effort to promote fishing, conservation, clean waters, courtesy or safety shall be reason for disqualification from this and all future TTB tournaments.

25. Parent or guardian must accompany contestants under 18 years of age.

26. All protests must be registered in writing with the tournament judges within 15 minutes after designated weigh-in time. All decisions of the tournament judges will be final in all matters. Anyone protesting the outcome of an open tournament will have to pay for any additional polygraph test given.

27. All boats are welcome to participate. An aerated livewell is recommended to aid in fish survival for live release. Anglers cannot leave boat to land a fish.

28. All contestants are responsible to have read these rules and must agree to abide by them (by signing the entry form) while competing in this TTB event.

29. Contestants will be subject to polygraph test. Failure to take and/or pass such a test will result in disqualification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information or for information on joining Texas Trails Bassmasters of Lake Fork visit our website: www.texastrailsbassmasters.com

Entry Application

Early Entry fee of \$40 must accompany mailed entry and must be postmarked on or before Sept. 5, 2026 to Texas Trails Bassmasters, 538 PR 5861, Yantis, TX 75497, or you may pay \$45 at tournament headquarters before starting time of tournament. \$10 extra for Big Bass (Optional). Print clearly.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Having read and understood all the tournament rules, by my signature I agree to accept all decisions of the judges final, by my signature I waive, release and hold harmless all members, officials and sponsors of any and all alleged liabilities to me or my equipment.

Contestants Signature _____

Minor's Release: Signed by _____ Parent/Guardian

TTB USE ONLY

Entry # _____

Entry Fee _____

Big Bass _____

Cash _____ Chk# _____

Game Warden Field Notes

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

--Working the River--
Five game wardens patrolled a 26-mile stretch of the Rio Grande River by kayak on a two-day trip. Their goal was to gauge resource law compliance on a stretch of river that is usually very difficult to access and navigate by conventional methods. The wardens also gathered intelligence on possible river-crossing areas, trails and commer-

cial and recreational fishing gear used along the river. The wardens seized several illegal drop lines and jug lines along the way.

--Game Wardens Respond to Possible Overdose--
An Atascosa County game warden responded to a call about a possible overdose at a local hotel. The warden and a local police officer assessed the situation while EMS took

a female heroin-overdose patient to the hospital. While inspecting the room, the warden found hidden heroin and drug paraphernalia that the male suspect admitted to using. The warden booked the male into the Atascosa County Jail for public intoxication - heroin and possession of drug paraphernalia.

--Searching for Sunk-en "Treasure"--
A Taylor County game warden discovered a submerged vehicle in a local lake using side-scan sonar. Divers attempted to recover the

(Continued on Page 24)

Sizzling September Crappie (Continued from Page 8)

Sometimes the biggest mistake can be making your bait move too quickly through a school of fish. So, this time of year - try to hold that bait as still as you can, and don't forget to watch your line because you can actually see a bite before you feel it.

As the water eventually cools, crappie will begin following baitfish and transition toward fall locations. Until then don't miss out on those doable Septem-

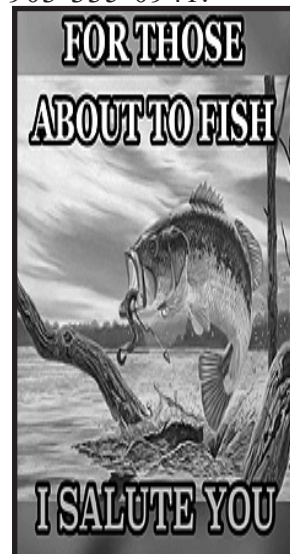
ber mornings. It may still be hot, but the crappie are biting and fall is coming.

So don't wait - get your fall trip booked and don't miss out on some of the best fishing of the year. Also don't forget - its time to renew your Texas fishing licenses. These are available at Lake Fork Marina along with all your fishing needs.

You all be safe out there - our water levels are still dropping, leaving stumps about prop high where it

usually is safe to run. So when in doubt - just idle!

Blessings to you all and to book a fall trip you can reach me at 903-335-0941.



'Wrap' Up the Summer With a Fabulous Labor Day Celebration

By Sue Hampton

The end of summer brings an end to vacation and a fresh start to school and work. It also brings one more opportunity to have an outdoor cel-

bration – Labor Day (Sept. 7)!

Observed annually on the first Monday in September, this legal public holiday is a popular time for enjoying picnics or backyard barbe-

cues with family and friends.

With so many warm-weather activities still to accomplish, everyone seems to be rushed, especially when it comes to preparing a tasty Labor Day dish to serve to guests. This month, make it "rice to the rescue," as September also marks National Rice Month.

Versatile, nutritious and easy to prepare, rice makes a delicious dish for any occasion. So, why not wrap up a great summer with a fabulous and fun rice

dish – the following recipe for Taco Rico Wraps, is sure to be tasty. Enjoy!

TACO RICO WRAPS

(Makes 6 servings (3 tacos each))

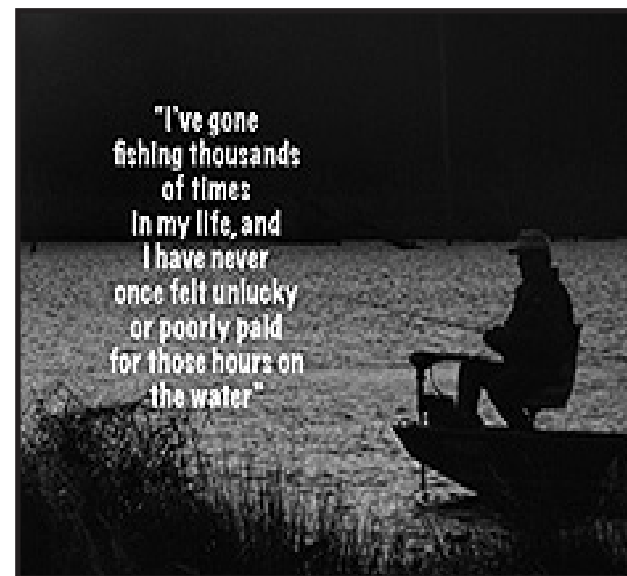
1 pound lean ground turkey or beef
1 – 16-ounce jar prepared chunky salsa
3 cups cooked rice
1 – 11-ounce can corn, drained
1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Monterey Jack cheese
18 flour or corn tortillas, warmed
Brown turkey or beef

in large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat; drain fat and liquid, if necessary. Stir in salsa, rice and corn. Cook over medium heat, covered,

for five to 10 minutes or until no liquid remains. Spoon 1/3 cup mixture into each tortilla, top with about 1 tablespoon cheese. Roll up; serve.



WRAP UP A TERRIFIC SUMMER with a fabulous, tasty dish of Taco Rico Wraps!!



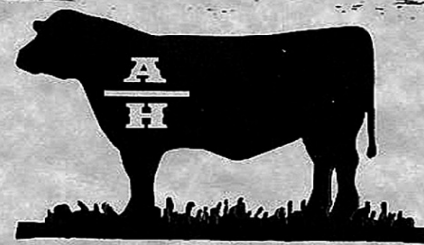

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Game Warden Field Notes (Continued from Page 22)

vehicle but had to stop their recovery efforts because of 35 mph winds. When recovery efforts resumed, a wrecker service fished it out of the water. The vehicle had been reported stolen out of Abilene. The investigation is ongoing.

--Stuck in the Mud-- Val Verde County game wardens patrolling the Rio Grande River encountered a Spanish goat stuck in deep mud along the bank. It had apparently been there for several days and was facing almost certain death had the wardens not taken action. As goats are prone to do, this one began to eat immediately after the wardens freed it. One goat saved.

--Repeat, Repeat Offenders-- A Bowie County game warden observed a truck that he'd received several complaints on and, recognizing the driver from prior contacts, knew that he did not have a valid driver's license and made a traffic stop. The driver admitted to driving while license suspended, but also appeared extremely

nervous. When asked if there was anything illegal in vehicle, the driver replied "It's not my truck" and told the warden he'd have to ask the owner, his dad, who was sitting in the passenger seat with a large pitbull in his lap. The passenger consented to a search of the vehicle and the warden discovered a meth pipe in the ashtray and a pistol hidden in the seat. Both suspects were convicted felons multiple times over and although neither claimed the pistol nor the meth pipe, both were arrested and transported to Bowie County Jail. Once at the jail, staff conducted another search and found meth, marijuana and another meth pipe in the dad's underwear. Both suspects were booked for multiple violations. Information gained during the stop resulted in another agency conducting a traffic stop and making two more drug related arrests.

--Snapping Turtle Photos Snap Back-- Information on a subject who had captured an alli-

gator snapping turtle and posted pictures of the protected reptile on Facebook sparked an investigation that resulted in the recovery of several items of drug paraphernalia and items that had been used to catch the turtle. Game wardens also discovered evidence that one of the subjects at the residence had been fishing illegally. The wardens determined that the turtle had already been released near Lake Wright Patman. Several citations and warnings for the violations that had been committed were issued. Cases pending.

--Unable to Net Culprits, This Time-- While hiking up stream between Lake Worth and Eagle Mountain Lake, a Tarrant County game warden stopped at an old fishing camp known as Vance's Camp, which hasn't been used for years. While inspecting the area the warden noticed a lot of nets laying around with no one in the area. As he investigated further, he found the first of three

(Continued on Next Page)



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**I GO FISHING
BECAUSE
WITHOUT IT,
I'M BASICALLY A
2-YEAR-OLD
WHOSE BLANKIE
IS IN THE WASHER.**

illegal hoop nets. The first net was near the bank brushed up in high weeds. As the warden continued to search the area, he came across an old rope buried in high weeds leading into the creek. When the warden pulled the rope up, he found two more hoop nets. He gathered the illegal equipment and waited for quite some time for signs of anyone who may have been monitoring the nets, but no one ever came. The investigation is ongoing.

--Using Their Noodle-- A pair of East Texas game wardens working a catfish noodling tournament weigh in observed a team with three large catfish; one with multiple scars. After interviewing the three team members, wardens obtained confessions the fish were caught using illegal means and went to Lake Tawakoni to seize evidence, where they located one large snag pole and two turning sticks. Subjects were filed on for catching fish with illegal means and methods.

--Rocks and Rolled-- A Tyler County game

warden was patrolling near Steinhagen Lake when he observed two men operating an ATV on a public roadway. The warden pulled the subjects over and asked them where they were headed. The driver said they were getting rock for a driveway. While interviewing the subjects, the warden observed two black camera cases linked together on the back of the ATV near the passenger. Due to the ATV passenger's nervous reactions, the warden requested to look in the cases and discovered two syringes and what appeared to be a marijuana joint. After placing the subjects in handcuffs for officer safety the warden called a Martin Dies State park police officer for assistance. A field test was done on a sample of the syringe contents and a positive result was received for methamphetamine. The passenger was arrested and booked in the Tyler County Jail for possession of a controlled substance. An additional charge of possession of marijuana was also filed. The ATV operator was cited for oper-

ating an ATV on a public roadway.

--A Big Mouth Bass-- A Freestone County Game Warden observed a group of men at Fairfield Lake scaling tilapia at a fish cleaning table. As the warden was talking to the men, he observed a largemouth bass on a stringer with several tilapia and asked if they caught all of the fish in a cast net, to which one replied "yes" and stated he had caught all of the fish. When informed that bass could not legally be taken with a net, he stated he did not know and it was his first time. The warden looked around and found three more freshly caught bass shoved under a concrete ledge on the cleaning table. The warden questioned the man about those and he admitted the bass were his. After checking the man for priors through the department, it was discovered that he had been filed on multiple times for similar violations. Case pending.

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Guaranteed Regardless of Entries

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2nd Place.....\$500
3rd Place.....\$350
4th Place.....\$300
5th Place.....\$250
6th Place.....\$240
7th Place.....\$230
8th Place.....\$220
9th Place.....\$210
10th Place....\$200
11th-15th Place
Abu Garcia Reel

16th-20th
Abu Garcia Rod



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2
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2.50 lbs - \$1000
3.00 lbs - \$1000
9.00 lbs - \$1000
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\$200 Both days

Registration: Lake Fork Marina

Registration Times:

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