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Celebrating 27 Years

Web site: <http://www.bcfw.org>

April 2010

Prez Says

This last month's fishing tournament was at Nocona and Congratulations to David Mulcahy for taking first place with an 11.64 pound stringer! Second and third place went to Stan Goff and Mark Wendler. Big Bass went to the same three, different order, Stan had a 7-pounder! Congratulation to all that caught fish and Great Job to all!

We are presenting a proposed rule change at the April meeting to change our 'Top Six' to 'Top Ten' at the awards banquet when membership reaches or exceeds 100 members.

Thanks to Hershul Smith for Chairing the St. Jude's Committee. Also serving on the committee are the following: Jim Phillips, Mark Wendler, and Carl Koch. These people need our help in putting on an even better tournament than last year. Just a teaser . . . we are looking very hard at getting Squaw Creek . . . keep your fingers crossed.

Happy April birthdays to everyone with birthdays in April! I'd like to list people by name, but we don't have any on the roster . . . let Mark or Donna know month and day so I can keep adding birthdays.

Next tournament will be on Hubbard Creek and the launch is the public ramp on the west side of the 180 bridge. We've heard that there is another tournament launching from the same place, so plan ahead.

Remember...life jackets and kill switches save lives,

Jeff Granger

President, Bass Club of Fort Worth

- ❖ Next Meeting is April 1st, Coors Hospitality Room, Meacham exit off I-35W. We have a speaker from Tailgate Locks.
- ❖ Thanks to the speakers for the March meeting, Duane and Ronnie, from Texas Machine Works.
- ❖ Congratulations to Mike and Ashlee Pannell on the birth of their daughter.
- ❖ Congratulations also goes to Scott Kelly for winning the Bassmaster Weekend Series on Lake Palestine.
- ❖ Johnny Reyes announced that he will donate a portion of proceeds from flooring sales to the St Jude's fund, and has already donated \$100 in proceeds. Please contact Johnny for details on this program. It sounds like a good deal all around.
- ❖ The North Texas Team Challenge is coming up. It will be on Lake Ray Roberts, on May 8th, 2010. Launch is Johnson Branch, tournament hours are 8:00am to 3:00pm. We need ten good fishermen to represent our club this year. Mike Pannell is coordinating this one, so let him know if you are able to participate.
- ❖ There was discussion about changing our 'Top Six' to 'Top Ten' when membership exceeds 100 members, something to think about.
- ❖ Dan Davenport announced that the Federation is hosting a charity tournament on Squaw Creek, right now the date is May 15th, but since that is also our club tournament date, he will check on extending it to include May 16th also. Team tournament format, \$200 entry fee.
- ❖ Check the link to the Federation web site. We have several members in the top standings after the Stillhouse/Travis tournament, and in the Whitney/Limestone tournament, David Mulcahy took 1st place big bass, 2nd place tournament on Limestone, as well as other members in the top 10 places.
- ❖ Jim Phillips is now coordinating speakers for meetings, so if you know anyone wanting to speak at one of our meetings, point him in Jim's direction.
- ❖ Remember to ask Mark Wendler for your Bass Club of Fort Worth windshield sticker when you renew your membership, membership fees did not change; they are \$25 for single and \$30 for family memberships.
- ❖ Bobby McCullough has the men's six pound pot, Elaine Barnes has the one for the ladies.

BASS Federation News

If you need any information regarding the BASS Federation, contact David Mulcahy (817) 219-3359 or James Bayless (817) 996-0680. You may still join for the 2010 season. You must also have a regular membership to BASS.

Horses Patoot

I guess a little excitement with that 20 pound stringer caused one of our anglers to kick a rod and reel into the lake. I also heard that he found it. Congratulations to Bobby McCullough, our March winner!

DATE March 13, 2010 LAKE NOCONA

71 FISHED TOURNAMENT
 2 ANGLERS HAD 3 FISH LIMIT 11 FISHERMEN CAUGHT
 16 FISH WEIGHING 42.24 LBS. AVERAGE WEIGHT PER FISH 2.64 LBS.

TOURNAMENT
 1st MULCAHY, DAVID 11.64 LBS.
 2nd GOFF, STAN 7.09 LBS.
 3rd WENDLER, MARK 5.38 LBS.
 4th BIRCHFIELD, DALE 5.22 LBS.
 5th BRETT, SAM 2.57 LBS.
 6th JORDAN, BRIAN 2.23 LBS.
 7th BARNES, CLAUDE 1.96 LBS.
 8th SMITH, CHRIS 1.80 LBS.
 9th GERATH, BJ 1.63 LBS.

BIG BASS
 1st GOFF, STAN 7.09 LBS.
 2nd MULCAHY, DAVID 4.74 LBS.
 3rd WENDLER, MARK 4.05 LBS.

HEAVY STRINGER OF THE YEAR MEN'S
 MCCULLOUGH, BOBBY 20.59 LBS.
HEAVY STRINGER OF THE YEAR WOMEN'S
 COGGINS, CAROLE 3.11 LBS.

BIG BASS OF THE YEAR MEN'S
 MCCULLOUGH, BOBBY 10.42 LBS.
BIG BASS OF THE YEAR WOMEN'S
 COGGINS, CAROLE 3.11 LBS.

	TOP TWENTY	POINTS	WEIGHT
1 st	BARNES, CLAUDE	321.00	19.43
2 nd	MURRAY, RICHARD	295.00	14.29
3 rd	JOHNSON, TIM	293.00	13.74
4 th	MULCAHY, DAVID	282.00	11.64
5 th	MURRAY, MIKE	281.00	4.21
6 th	ALDERT, BOB	280.00	3.87
	WENDLER, MARK	280.00	5.38
8 th	MCCULLOUGH, BOBBY	279.00	20.59
9 th	COGGINS, CAROLE	276.00	3.11
10 th	GOSSETT, DONNIE	275.00	6.25
11 th	GERATH, BJ	274.00	1.63
	LEATHERMAN, DANNY	274.00	4.14
13 th	MCLAIN, CHRIS	273.00	1.43
	POUNDS, DANNY	273.00	3.54
15 th	JOHNSON, MATT	272.00	3.26
	TALKINGTON, CURTIS	272.00	6.48
17 th	PERRY, DANIEL	267.00	3.19
18 th	BROWNING, MIKE	265.00	2.83
19 th	REYES, JOHNNY	259.00	3.53
20 th	BARNES, ELAINE	257.00	0.00

	NEXT TWENTY	POINTS	WEIGHT
20 th	COGGINS, GERALD	257.00	0.00
	FULKERSON, MIKE	257.00	0.00
	GRANGER, JEFF	257.00	0.00
	GWIN, DONNA	257.00	0.00
	HANCOCK, MARK	257.00	0.00
	JUSTUS, JIM	257.00	0.00
	KERBAUGH, BRIAN	257.00	0.00
	KOCH, CARL	257.00	0.00
	KOCH, LINDA	257.00	0.00
	MALONE, ROGER	257.00	0.00
	PANNELL, MICHAEL	257.00	0.00
	REEDER, RANDY	257.00	0.00
	SMITH, HERSHUL	257.00	0.00
	SMITH, RODNEY	257.00	0.00
	WENDLER, TRACY	257.00	0.00
	WOOD, MIKE	257.00	0.00
37 th	BAYLESS, JAMES	247.00	0.00
	MCCULLOUGH, WAYNE	247.00	0.00
	NELSON, KEVIN	247.00	0.00
40 th	WILLIAMS, RANDY	203.00	3.48

	LADY ANGLER	POINTS	WEIGHT
1 st	COGGINS, CAROLE	276.00	3.11
2 nd	BARNES, ELAINE	257.00	0.00
	GWIN, DONNA	257.00	0.00
	KOCH, LINDA	257.00	0.00
	WENDLER, TRACY	257.00	0.00
6 th	HUCHOWSKI, TANYA	95.00	0.00
7 th	REYES, AIMEE	85.00	0.00
8 th	JOHNSON, JENNIFER	30.00	0.00
9 th	JUSTUS, KIM	30.00	0.00

	BASS FEDERATION	POINTS	WEIGHT
1 st	MULCAHY, DAVID	282.00	11.64
2 nd	WENDLER, MARK	280.00	5.38
3 rd	MCCULLOUGH, BOBBY	279.00	20.59
4 th	KOCH, CARL	257.00	0.00
5 th	PANNELL, MICHAEL	257.00	0.00
6 th	SMITH, HERSHUL	257.00	0.00
7 th	BAYLESS, JAMES	247.00	0.00
8 th	GOFF, STAN	193.00	7.09
9 th	HURTADO, JOE	162.00	0.00
10 th	DAVENPORT, DAN	30.00	0.00

NEXT TOURNAMENT
HUBBARD CREEK 6:00 TO 3:30 PM April 10, 2010

NAME	NOCONA			
	# FISH	BIG BASS	WEIGHT	
MULCAHY, DAVID	3	4.74	11.64	100
GOFF, STAN	1	7.09	7.09	99
WENDLER, MARK	2	4.05	5.38	98
BIRCHFIELD, DALE	3	1.87	5.22	97
BRETT, SAM	1	2.57	2.57	96
JORDAN, BRIAN	1	2.23	2.23	95
BARNES, CLAUDE	1	1.96	1.96	94
SMITH, CHRIS	1	1.80	1.80	93
GERATH, BJ	1	1.63	1.63	92
MCLAIN, CHRIS	1	1.43	1.43	91
HUGHES, GLEN	1	1.29	1.29	90
ABELS, GARY				75
ALDERT, BOB				75
ALDERT, JEREMY				75
BARNES, ELAINE				75
BAYLESS, JAMES				75
BROWNING, MIKE				75
COGGINS, CAROLE				75
COGGINS, GERALD				75
DONATO, JOE				75
EDWARDS, CARL				75
FOLEY, WAYNE				75
FULKERSON, MIKE				75
GAMBLIN, CHRIS				75
GAVIT, BART				75
GAVIT, NATHAN				75
GOSSETT, DONNIE				75
GRANGER, JEFF				75
GWIN, DONNA				75
HANCOCK, MARK				75
HOTELLING, MICHAEL				75
HUCHOWSKI, JOE				75
HUCHOWSKI, TANYA				75
JAEGER, TOM				75
JOHNSON, MATT				75
JOHNSON, TIM				75
JONES, EDDIE				75
JUSTUS, JIM				75
KELLY, SCOTT				75
KERBAUGH, BRIAN				75
KOCH, CARL				75
KOCH, LINDA				75
KRALIK, STEPHEN				75
LEATHERMAN, DANNY				75
LEE, ROBERT				75
MALONE, ROGER				75
MCCULLOUGH, BOBBY				75
MCCULLOUGH, WAYNE				75
MURRAY, MIKE				75
MURRAY, RICHARD				75
NELSON, KEVIN				75
PANNELL, MICHAEL				75
PARHAM, TIM				75
PEREZ, ROLANDOJK				75
PERRY, DANIEL				75
PHILLIPS, JIM				75
POUNDS, DANNY				75
POWELL, MARK				75
PRAZAK, KEITH				75
REEDER, RANDY				75
REYES, AIMEE				75
REYES, JOHNNY				75
SMITH, BILL				75
SMITH, HERSHUL				75
SMITH, ROBERT				75
SMITH, RODNEY				75
TALKINGTON, CURTIS				75
WENDLER, TRACY				75
WOOD, MIKE				75
WORLEY, ERIC				75
WORLEY, MIKE				75

April Events:

- April 1th – Membership Meeting – Coors Hospitality Room.
- Speaker from Tailgate Locks
- April 10th – Club Tournament – Hubbard Creek Lake – Launch is 180 Bridge West.

Hubbard Creek Lake has abundant standing timber, brush, boat docks, black willow trees, buttonbush, and aquatic vegetation. Rocky structure and cover are also abundant. Hydrilla was found in the reservoir in 1998 and is primarily located around the Tanglewood Island area, the dam, and in Enco slough.

Look for **white crappie** and **white bass** fishing in Hubbard and Sandy Creeks in late fall and throughout the winter. A very effective technique during this time is to locate brush in 10-15 feet of water in the creek channel and vertically fish a minnow or small jig. Flipping bulrush, standing timber and brush is very effective for **largemouth bass**. Hubbard Creek Lake is also effectively fished using crankbaits and topwater lures. During late summer and early fall, schools of largemouth and white bass will often feed on the surface around the Tanglewood Island area. Drift fishing shad during the summer is a good technique for **blue catfish**.

- April 15th – Executive Board Meeting – Sammie's BBQ Restaurant.

April 2010

Tournament Trail

April 10th on Hubbard Creek

Backup Lake is Cedar Creek

Launch is 180 Bridge West Public Ramp

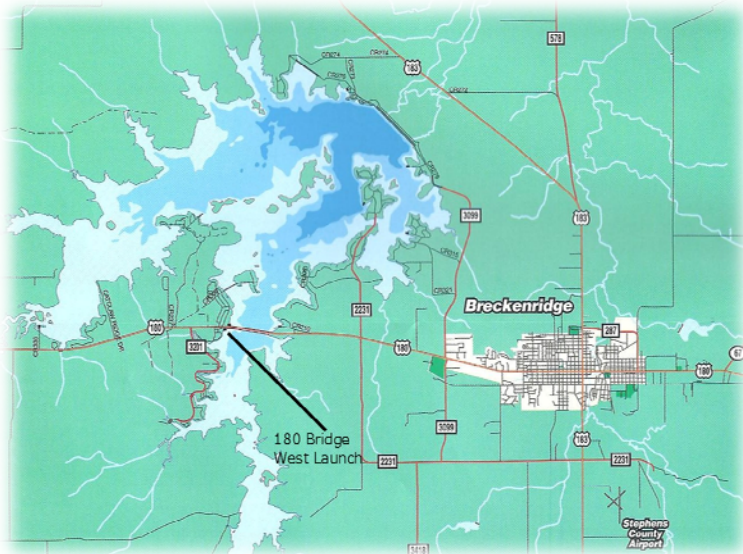
State Regulations is 14" Minimum for Largemouth Black Bass

You can weigh:

Largemouth 14" and over

Smallmouth 14" and over

Spots 14" and over



Mile-Long Bridge

- Located west of Breckenridge on US 180 at the west end of the bridge
- Two-lane lighted, concrete ramp with maximum parking capacity of 30
- No fee required
- Open all year
- TPWD ramp operated by West Central Texas

Municipal Water District (325) 673-8254

Tim Johnson, our Tournament Director, would like to remind everyone:

- Running lights must be on until dawn. This violation is grounds for disqualification and a State law.
- Stay out of: NO BOAT AREAS; 1st time Warning; 2nd time disqualification.
- You must be at least 50 from swim areas and cannot tie up to buoys.
- Please observe NO WAKE AREAS.
- Also, it helps to pay for the tournament well before weigh-in. At the meeting is ideal, but before the weigh-in starts cuts down on the mayhem during.
- If you pre-pay for a tournament at the meeting and find you cannot make the tournament, contact any club officer before 8:00 PM the Friday before fishing to carry over fees to the next tournament.
- If you leave the tournament early, either sign out at the mailbox or let someone know you are leaving.
- Weigh-in is at 3:30 PM unless changed. Make sure the tournament director or assistant knows you are on time, especially if there is a line to weigh fish.
- Rule #16: There is a 3 fish limit, unless lake rules demand less. Each contestant must bring no more than 3 fish to weigh-in. Fish shall be in weigh-in bags or containers with sufficient water to keep the fish in good condition until they are released. Failure to do so shall result in a 1 pound penalty.

Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*)



OTHER NAMES

Black Bass, Green Trout, Bigmouth Bass, Lineside Bass

DESCRIPTION

Largemouth bass grow 4 to 6 inches (10 to 15 cm) during their first year, 8 to 12 inches (20 to 30 cm) in two years, 16 inches (40 cm) in three years. They are usually green with dark blotches that form a horizontal stripe along the middle of the fish on either side. The underside ranges in color from light green to almost white. They have a nearly divided dorsal fin with the anterior portion containing nine spines and the posterior portion containing 12 to 13 soft rays. Their upper jaw reaches far beyond the rear margin of the eye.

LIFE HISTORY

Except for humans, adult largemouth bass are the top predators in the aquatic ecosystem. Fry feed primarily on zooplankton and insect larvae. At about two inches in length they become active predators. Adults feed almost exclusively on other fish and large invertebrates such as crayfish. Larger fish prey upon smaller bass.

In Texas spawning begins in the spring when water temperatures reach about 60°F. This could occur as early as February or as late as May, depending on where one is in the state. Males build the nests in two to eight feet of water. Largemouth bass prefer to nest in quieter, more vegetated water than other black bass, but will use any substrate besides soft mud, including submerged logs. As in Guadalupe bass, once the female has laid eggs in the nest (2,000 to 43,000) she is chased away by the male who then guards the precious eggs. The young, called fry, hatch in five to ten days. Fry remain in a group or "school" near the nest and under the male's watch for several days after hatching. Their lifespan is on average 16 years.

Immature largemouth bass may tend to congregate in schools, but adults are usually solitary. Sometimes several bass will gather in a very small area, but they do not interact. Largemouth bass hide among plants, roots or limbs to strike their prey.

HABITAT

Largemouth bass seek protective cover such as logs, rock ledges, vegetation, and man-made structures. They prefer clear quiet water, but will survive quite well in a variety of habitats.

DISTRIBUTION

Largemouth bass were originally distributed throughout most of what is now the United States east of the Rockies, including many rivers and lakes in Texas, with limited populations in southeastern Canada and northeastern Mexico. Because of its importance as a game fish, the species has been introduced into many other areas worldwide, including nearly all of Mexico and south into Central and South America.

OTHER

Two subspecies of largemouth bass exist in Texas: the native *Micropterus salmoides salmoides* and the Florida largemouth bass, *Micropterus salmoides floridanus*, which has been introduced into many Texas lakes. The largemouth bass is by far the most sought-after fish in Texas. When anglers were asked to "name the fish you prefer to catch in freshwater in Texas", they chose largemouth bass three to one over striped bass, four to one over white bass, nearly five to one over channel catfish, and nearly ten to one over flathead catfish and white crappie. Because of the strong interest in largemouth bass fishing, there are hundreds of bass angling clubs in Texas devoted to fishing and conservation. Bass fishing adds greatly to the Texas economy each year and largemouth bass are highly prized for their value as food. Because of the species' popularity, it has been introduced into many waters in which it did not originally occur. As with nearly all aquatic species, pollution and drought are the biggest threats to the largemouth bass population.