



*Fish Kentucky Lake
with Guide Captain Rich Bay*

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Your fishing report for August 26, 2016

From the deck of the Kick'n Bass pontoon

Weather forecast is for highs in the low to the upper 80's for the next week with scattered thunderstorms on some days. The humidity has been real high and the light breeze has felt nice. Water levels are on a slow downfall as the TVA is lowering the lake towards winter pool. With the inflow being so close to the outflow means that on most days current is basically nonexistent. That means that the baitfish are scattered and all the game fish are scattered also. Doing a lot of moving from place to place until we find feeding fish has helped. We have changed to pulling crankbaits pretty much because the whitebass are so scattered that trolling with cranks covers much more water for active fish. Plenty of jumps where fish are chasing shad but all over the place...shallow and even out in the main river. Not staying up long enough to really chase the jumps.

Lake conditions

Water temps are 83 degrees in the morning and warming up to about 85 degrees in the afternoons. Water color on the main lake is clear to about 3 feet. Levels are at 357.6, a bit under summer pool (359.0 elevation) and they are pulling water hard (59,000 cfm) to bring the lake back to normal for this time of year which is elevation 356.7.

You can view the lake levels here: tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels/Kentucky

Weather forecast

Friday...Partly sunny with a 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Northeast winds 5 mph in the morning shifting to the northwest around 5 mph in the afternoon. Highest heat index readings, around 100.

Friday Night...Partly cloudy. A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after midnight. Lows in the lower 70s.

Saturday...Partly sunny with a 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s.

Saturday Night...Partly cloudy with a 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 70s.

Sunday...Mostly sunny with a 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs around 90.

Sunday Night...Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 70s.

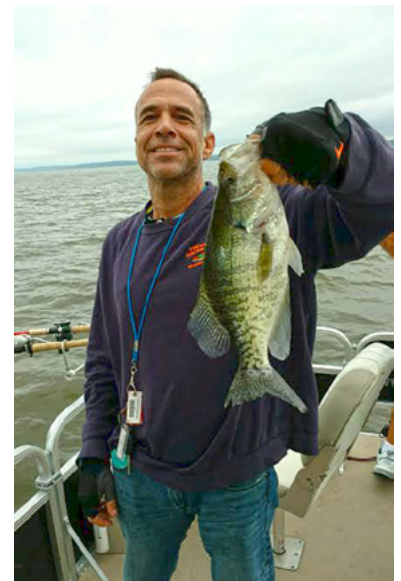
Monday... Mostly sunny with a 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs around 90.

Monday Night... Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 70s.

Tuesday... Partly sunny with a 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s.

Crappies

Crappies are still in summer mode and have been caught on some of the ledges and deeper bays pulling Arkie crankbaits. Not hot and heavy but they are there along with many other fish. We have caught numerous other species while cranking including white and yellow bass, catfish, largemouth, sauger and of course big drum. Got my new Todd Huckabee Rods, the 12 foot slab swingers, and tried them out! One word: AWESOME! Tough backbone for swinging fish into the boat and a soft tip for great control when fish make a run. I highly recommend the toddhuckabeerods.com brand of rods.



Michael Poggi of Davie, FL



Trevor Markly, Devon Metcalf, Ryan and David Matheny of southern IL



Gary Knepp group, Montgomery, IN



John Rollins group from Champaign IL

Whitebass

The Whitebass are still into their summer patterns as well. They are scattered on river channels and deep flats mid lake. When the TVA is generating electricity, Whitebass and yellowbass have really picked up the bite! We have caught a bunch on Steel Shad blade baits and Ken's Hybrid spinners. Best tip for catching stripes is to always stay in contact with the bottom. We have been catching fish from on the bottom to ripping our lures up 6 to 8 feet off the bottom. This past week jiggging spoons kept near the bottom have caught a lot of fish when there isn't much current one has to put the bait right in front of them. This week we caught a mix of whites, yellows and cats!



Phil Morse of Paducah KY,
with a nice largemouth

Largemouth

The summer ledge pattern is still working but the bass are suspending also on the ledges. The bite has slowed quite a bit. Those that the toon has caught were while pulling crankbaits or tossing a Steel Shad bladebait and Ken's hybrid inline spinners for whitebass. Swim baits, Steelshad bladebaits, shaky head worms and Texas rigged creature baits have been catching fish. Fishing your lure real slow has helped the bite.

Redear/Bluegill

I did not get the chance to fish for gills and redears this week so I do not have a report.

Catfish

Didn't get a chance to fish for cats this week but caught a few while whitebass fishing and pulling crankbaits. Most catfishers have been fishing the deep drops and holes up to sixty feet deep. Had reports of some nice blues in 50 feet on shrimp.

Attaboy:

Rich, Thanks again for a great day of fishing! Hopefully we'll see you again next summer.

—Terry D., Mackinaw, IL

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