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Your fishing report for March 23, 2017

From the deck of the Kick'n Bass pontoon

Well, since my last report we had a big cold front that moved through our area that lasted about 5 days. Water temperature dropped nearly ten degrees. We pulled out the spider rigging rods again to slow our presentation down because crappies will get sluggish during these cold fronts. Good days and fair days but fish were caught each day. The weather is back to warmer and that means the water temp will get back to 60 or so. We love pulling cranks and that's what we'll most likely be doing by the weekend but we are playing that game one day at a time.

Lake conditions

Water temps are about 51.5 degrees in the morning and warming up to about 55 degrees in the afternoons. These temps are perfect for crappie fishing as long as they are steady. A cold front moving in will lower these temps some but as long as it is steady the crappies need to eat getting ready for the spawn. Water levels are at 355.9 and they are predicted to stay at that level for the near future. TVA is pulling 41,000 cfs right now so not too bad for this time of year.

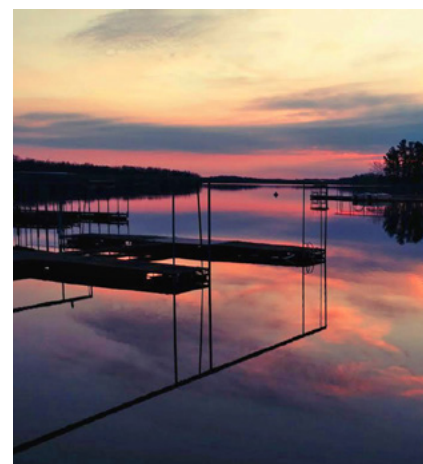
You can view the lake levels here: tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels/Kentucky

Weather forecast

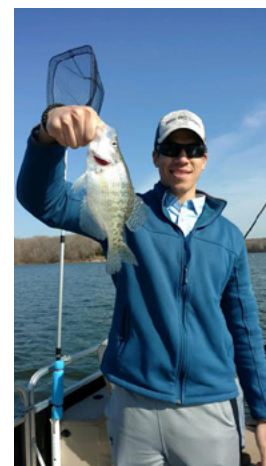
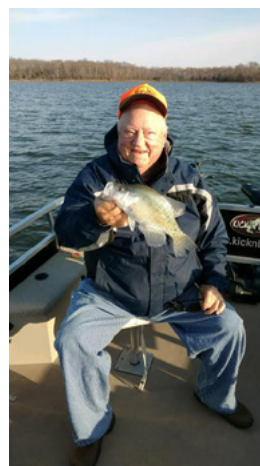
<https://weather.com/weather/tenday/1/42025:4:US>

Crappies

The crappies have been fair this week with the cold front that came in, dropped an inch of snow, hung around a few days and thank God moved on!! We have tried many colors and depths, and tipped with minnows or nibbles. Best depths have been



First spring sunrise over Malcolm Creek Resort



Mr. Ferol and Graham Wong of Missouri



Rob Page of Basehor KS

10 to 15 feet. Rigging the last few days at .3 to .5 mph was best for the most part. A blue pearl paddle tail tipped with a pink nibble was our best color choice. Other colors worked but this combo took at least 75% of our fish. The nibbles outdid the minnows 9 to 1. I'm down a few days with my back this week but full bore starting Friday...sleep is overrated! The crappie females are NOT full of eggs and not too close to spawning yet. Eggs were bright yellow.

Other Species

Same report as my last report on other species. Haven't fished for any other types of fish but we have had incidental catches of largemouth, yellow bass (some good sized fish) and a bunch of perfect eating sized whitebass. Casting shallow with jigs we picked up many short male largemouths. The whites and yellows had eggs that looked reddish and gritty...a sure sign of being close to their spawn. They spawn from about 54 to 65 degrees so keep that in mind!

ATTABOY

Today, me and my dad went out with Captain Rich, and he is one of the most knowledgeable men I've ever met when it comes to fishing. He had me catching more fish than I have in the last year. He is so nice and helped me out so much. I will definitely come back.

—Sam Murphy

Book now with Captain Rich!

Gift certificates available

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Bobby Knight of Benton KY

