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Your fishing report for September 11, 2017

From the deck of the Kick'n Bass pontoon

The KnB pontoon has been enjoying the cooler temps of the last ten days. The solar Eclipse of 2017 has passed and it was fantastic to see. We saw it from the middle of Kentucky Lake and we had a boat full of satisfied customers! It was an awesome sight to see the moon blocking out the sun. Now it is time to start chasing those fall crappies. BTW, September 11, 2001, was a sad day for everyone, especially for the firefighting and police community. Many men and women firefighters and police, along with many loved civilians, were lost in those towers.

Lake conditions

The water level has stabilized to average normal pool at 355.9. Temps in low 50's at night and upper 70's during the day have made for a great morning bite. TVA is raising the water level slightly for the next few days at least.

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

Weather forecast

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

Crappies

Crappies have settled into their normal pattern on the main lake. Pulling Arkie crankbaits has produced some nice fish. I have been varying my trolling speed between 1.6 and 1.8 mph. Seems the best colors this week have been the Arkie black and gold chrome and any pink combination crankbaits but that can change day to day. Fishing the deeper bays over brush and stake-beds has produced some fish but the



our eclipse passengers watch as the moon obscures the sun. We saw a 360° sunset on the water!



Mike Buckingham of St. Louis with a nice slab!

main concentrations of fish are in the main lake. Put in the time to scan for fish and come up with a pattern will get you on the fish. Limited catches on main lake flats but that bite is getting better. I think the crappies are looking for some current and steadier water temps.

Whitebass

The whitebass report is the same as last reported. I had the chance to fish with Amy Gable of SteelShad bladebaits, a very nice young lady and a heck of a fisher-person. We have been using a yo-yo style of fishing. Let them sink to the bottom and steadily pull up about 6 feet. Pause there and then tightline the lure back to the bottom. Repeat back to the boat. On sunny days we use the silver colored baits and on cloudy days we have used the gold blades. The Tigerfire pattern has been great lately also. If the fish are holding tight to bottom on your screen try using a sweeping sideways retrieve. Some days we have been using 3/8 ounce inline spinners in white with a silver blade. Hit bottom then reel at a medium retrieve about 8 times around. Then open the bail and let the lure sink back to bottom. Repeat back to the boat. Jigging spoons have worked some also.



Ryan Gonzalez from Illinois with one of the huge yellows we've been seeing!



The Bullock group from Louisville enjoyed their day of catching on the KnB pontoon!



The Thomas group with a boatload of stripes!



Brad, Doug and Clay Harville came in from Louisville to for a day on the water with the captain. Clay had his hands full fighting this nice channel cat!

one of the big Gills we've caught on Steelshads.

Catfish

We have not fished for cats exclusively but we have caught a ton fishing for other species. We have caught cats casting Steelshads and also trolling crankbaits. Nearly every time we catch a cat while trolling I hear "I didn't know catfish would hit on lures"! Yes, they do!

Largemouth

We have caught largemouths the last few weeks fishing for other species. Have had several keeper sized Smallmouth also, either on SteelShads or crankbaits. I try to keep a sexy shad colored Arkie crankbait on at all times because that is a favorite color for bass. Reeling in a 5 pounder on a 14 foot rod is a treat!

Bluegills and Redears

I did not get the chance to fish for gills and redears this week but have caught some nice gills while trolling and casting SteelShads. We have caught a few in deep water on crankbaits.

ATTABOY: Thank you. We really enjoyed it. —Alan Petefish, Festus, Mo

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