



## Book a trip on our fishing pontoon:

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## Your fishing report for June 18, 2018

### From the deck of the Kick'n Bass pontoon

The dog days of summer came in fast and furious here at the Lakes. Not sure where spring went to that's for sure. We are still pulling cranks to start our trips and then switch to throwing SteelShad bladebaits for targeting whitebass. If you haven't tried a SteelShad you should. Anything that swims in the lake will eat one. Some days trolling has been great and some days slow. Having multiple ways to catch fish has been an effective way to load the livewell! With the current ten-day forecast, we can expect the whitebass to school up and start chasing the new shad hatches.

### Lake conditions

Since my last report the water level has stabilized at just over 359.4. They are still pulling some water at an average of about 36,000 cfs. Most days 4 generators are running.

You can get the latest TVA info here:

[tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels/Kentucky](http://tva.gov/Environment/Lake-Levels/Kentucky)

### Weather forecast

[weather.com/weather/tenday/1/42025:4:US](http://weather.com/weather/tenday/1/42025:4:US)

### Crappies

We have been chasing crappies pulling crankbaits the last few weeks. Some days hot and some days not, but all we have caught have been quality fish from 11 to 15 inches. They are just now pulling out to the main lake and are scattered. That's why we pull crankbaits to cover a lot of water. Best colors have been blues, pinks and chartreuse in



Sandra Moore and her grandkids had a great day with Captain Rich



Frank Swope, Jr. and his 14" crappie

all different color combinations. I use Jenko and Arkie brand crankbaits for the color combos that they make. We are trolling a little faster now because of warmer water temps and these crappies are feeding in open water chasing schools of young-of-the-year shad. Still catching fish in 20 to 25 feet deep water pulling cranks down to the 12 to 15-foot range. They aren't relating to much of any type of cover just swimming and chasing bait.

## Redear/ bluegill

Haven't fished for these in a couple weeks but the full moon end of March was great. The gnats tied by Crappie Hut Jigs are great for these bluegills. Tipped with a cricket we caught a bunch of redear and bluegills. Using an ESB slip bobber has allowed us to change depths easily to adapt to rising and falling water level conditions.

## Whitebass

The schools of white bass and yellow bass are moving into their deep-water spots. The SteelShad bladebaits have been on fire this last week! No reason to believe that will slow down. Finding the schools has been tough but fan casting areas has worked well for numbers of fish. We will probably start concentrating on whitebass more and more as the summer heat sticks around.



Bernson Woodard of Louisville with a good slab



Captain Rich loves seeing other people's catch! Steve Stratman with some huge KY Lake stripers



Dane Womack of Festus, MO, got into some nice gills



A nice bass caught by Chip George of Chicago

## Catfish

We have been catching catfish all year so far. From 2 feet of water to 30 feet of water. We have caught a ton this year and have never gone on a trip targeting them! This last week we have caught a lot of bluecats (Would that be Kentucky's colors?) and a bunch of channel cats. All averaging about 4 pounds and a couple up to 10 pounds. Every one has come on a SteelShad. Work these baits with a steady retrieve ALWAYS starting on bottom. What a great fight all the way to the net!

ATTABOY:

Just wanted to thank you for being great with my family. Great job helping with the kids and running the boat at the same time! — Bill G. from St. Louis

## **Book now with Captain Rich!**

**Gift certificates available**

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