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**September 23rd, 2011**

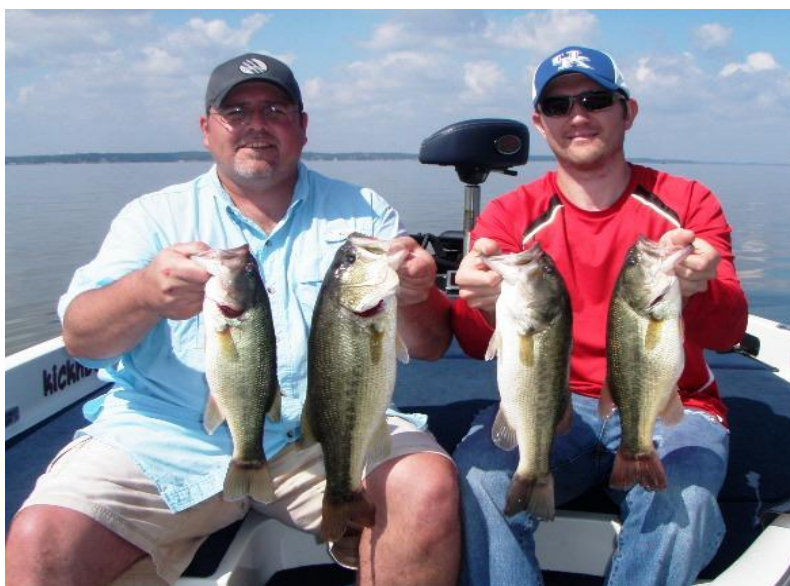
### Lake Conditions

**Lake Levels ...** As of this morning both lakes are approximately two feet below summer pool ,give or take a few inches and in the midst of a steady drawdown to winter pool levels.

**Water Conditions ...** The water on both Lakes is in great shape for fishing.

**Water Temps ...** Surface temps on both lakes are in the low 70's.'

### Fishing Report



**Chad Webster & Jesse Davis –Madisonville, KY**



**Don Beckley & Dave Phillips – Paducah, KY.**



**Brad Perry - Franklin, Kentucky**



**Alan Petefish - Festus, Mo.**

**Bass Fishing** is providing some mixed results ... numbers of fish being caught per day about the same as last week but a fair number of better than average fish are beginning to showing up. With the fall transition in full swing Bass are following schools of baitfish and are being caught along chunk rock banks, next to secondary points (6-10 feet deep), on mid-bay shell beds 10 to 13 feet deep and in the shallows in the back of the bays. Also some fish are still on the ledges. Crankbaits fished slowly are catching a few bass but the best catches have come on Shakey Heads and Steel Shad blade baits. Once we located a school of bass with our *Lowrance HDS System* we slow rolled a Steel Shad blade bait to catch the aggressive biters and then extended the bite using a Shakey Head with a ZMan Finesse worm fished on a 3/16 oz PJ's Bass Extractor jig. Pumpkin Green Flake, New Money and Watermelon Red Flake have been the best colors. A very slow presentation has worked best. **Ledge Fishing** has been either feast or famine but best during a Southerly wind and current generation. Most fish caught were 8-12 feet deep where the ledge transitioned into deeper water. Best baits were a mixture of a Steel Shad blade bait, a deep diving crank bait, a Shakey Head and a ½ oz. jig. For us the ledge bite has been the most inconsistent of all the patterns.

The **Top Water Bite** has been unreliable but fabulous at times. Kinda like I'd rather be lucky than good and being at the right place at the right time rolled into one. Best action occurs in the very early morning or late evening hours along chunk rock banks and in the very back of the bays. The most productive baits have been the Pop R in chrome & black and a Lucky Craft Sammy 65 in Aurora Shad. I'm not ready to commit to the top water bite just yet, as it is feast or famine, but it can be a blast. It's apparent that topwater will become more of a factor very soon as more fish move up.

To sum it up, bass fishing is a little unpredictable but improving. No doubt bass fishing is getting a little more productive each day and as more fish transition to shallower water it will get a lot better real quick. Some really good fishing is right upon us.

**\*\*\*\*\* White and Yellow Bass \*\*\*\*\*** Now is the perfect time to be after these fighters. If you're throwing a blade bait or a *Ken's Hybrid Spinner* you can't help but catch some Whites & Yellows. Both species are in the bays and on the points chasing baitfish and we caught some really nice fish this week. If stripes are your thing then now is the time to be on the water. The good news is it can only get better.





**Crappie ...** We fished one afternoon this week for crappie and caught a pretty good mess fishing over submerged brush about 10 feet deep using minnows and a minnow and a jig. Also in the last few days we've noticed on our Lowrance HDS a good movement of crappie towards the shallows. I suspect that these fish are black crappie. An occasional fish, caught on a blade bait near traditional spawning flats when fishing for bass, were in fact blacks. Crappie are definitely on the move towards the shallows and expect the Black Crappie to be the first ones to move up. Look for black crappie on sunny days to be located on gravel banks about 4-6 feet deep. Casting a 3/32 oz lead head with a Kentucky Green curly tail would be a good idea and work it slow.

**Catfish and Bluegill ... No Report.**

## Sonar Tip of the Week



**The Mother Lode!** The screen shows a large school of bass on a ledge next to the Tennessee River Channel and feeding on baitfish. Notice that some bass appear as streaks as they chase the bait. We ripped a Steel Shad blade bait thru the school to catch several of the more aggressive fish and then switched to a shakey head to extend the bite. In the middle of the screen you will notice an old stump which is now the proud owner of a Steel Shad blade bait. Without the aid of our electronics, locating and catching these fish would not have been possible.

**Kick'n Bass can help you get more out of your electronics and become a better fisherman. Here's just some of what Kick'n Bass can do to make your units more user friendly and in turn help you become a more productive angler ...**

- **Make sure your HDS unit(s) has the correct settings for the type of fishing you do. In a lot of cases the units are set for "general use" not specific.**
- **Install the overlay data on the screen that you want. Example: Depth, Water Temp, Time, etc.**
- **Arrange the screens so they display what you want them to show and make going from page to page orderly and non-confusing.**
- **Eliminate unwanted, non-practical on screen data that clutters your screen and gets in the way of using your unit to its maximum potential.**
- **Demo the unit for you to help you be familiar with the screens and commands, so you'll have a good understanding of how to use the unit and take advantage of its fish finding capabilities.**
- **If needed, install the most recent updates.**

**As a bonus Kick'n Bass will help you learn to read an electronic topo map and find "places of interest" that could be potential fishing hot spots.**

**To schedule an on the water fishing trip with instruction send an email to [rk@kicknbass.net](mailto:rk@kicknbass.net)**

## **Kentucky Lake Pontoon Tours**



A Pontoon Tour is a great way to enjoy Kentucky Lake! Leave the boat driving to us and sit back, relax and enjoy the beauty of Kentucky Lake. Our tours offer local knowledge, interesting tidbits and history about Kentucky Lake and the surrounding area. Sit back and enjoy the large, comfortable pontoon boat with adequate shade while your tour guide navigates the waters! Bald eagles, great blue heron and other wildlife abound. Don't forget your camera!

- FAMILY FUN OUTINGS
- FALL COLOR TRIPS
- CHURCH & CLUB GROUPS WELCOME
- CORPORATE & BUSINESS TRIPS AVAILABLE
- MAIN LAKE OR TAILWATER AREA

We can customize our tour if you have something special in mind, just be sure to contact us well in advance for your reservations. For more information call 270.703.6133 or email [rk@kicknbass.net](mailto:rk@kicknbass.net).



