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April 13th, 2012

Lake Conditions

Lake Levels ... As of this morning both lakes were approximately 2.5 feet below summer pool and in the midst of a slow rise to May 1st pool level. For additional info on Kentucky Lake visit the TVA website: http://www.tva.gov/lakes/kyh_r.htm

Water Clarity and Temperature ... on Kentucky Lake ranges from light stain in some of the creeks with the main lake clear. The lake is very fishable. Barkley is lightly stained and the lake is very fishable. The surface water temps are in the mid 60's

Predicted Lake Level & Generation Release Data

Day	Average Inflow	Midnight Elevation	Average Outflow
4/12/2012	25,050	356.38	12,550
4/13/2012	15,555	356.49	12,000
4/14/2012	15,465	356.52	12,000

Generation Releases

Day	Time Period (Central)	Generators
4/12/2012	3pm - midnight	2
4/13/2012	midnight - midnight	2

Weather Outlook

Friday... Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 70s. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph.

Friday Night... Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the mid 50s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday... Partly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday Night... Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Sunday... Partly sunny. Highs around 80.

Sunday Night... Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.



Black Crappie ... most have spawned but as always there are some late spawners that will bed over the next several weeks. Some big females are being caught shallow but generally speaking the smaller males are in the shallows around spawning sites. The huge females are staging in slightly deeper water, 5 -7 feet, and congregating around submerged cover adjacent to the spawning flats. Best results for us has been backing off the cover or gravel banks and cast curly tails on a 3/32 oz. lead head.

White Crappie ... are most definitely in transition and haven't completely finished spawning. On a couple of trips this week we caught some really nice egg laden whites that were full and ready to spawn. Most of our clients released the bigger females. Our best catches

came by backing off submerged cover in 6-10 feet and casting 3/32 oz. curly tails around the cover. Best colors this week have been **Kentucky Green and Hot Pink Glitter**. Most likely the local tackle shops around the lakes area have these colors in stock as well as the 3/32 oz. lead heads. If not call the **Fisherman's Friend in Lake City at (270)362-4323**, they'll be glad to help you out.

Bass Fishing ...



Smallmouth Bass ... are off the bed and have been pretty aggressive. The issue for us had been finding any appreciable numbers of big smallmouth. Plenty of 15 inchers but the big fish have evaded us so far this week. but when you do, you can catch them. Some productive baits this week have been SPRO McStick Jerk Baits, Lipless crank baits and Steel Shad Blade baits. Also a 3/16 oz. PJ's Bass Extractor with ZMan Coppertruese, New Money and Pumpkin Green Flake 7" Finesse worms. New Money has been especially effective in slightly off

colored water. Smallmouth Bass fishing is going to only get better as the huge females recover from the rigors of spawning and begin to feed aggressively. *(Photo) Brian and Steve Little from Tennessee with some nice Shakey Head Bass.*

Largemouth Bass ... A significant number of largemouth are on the beds and some are already off. However, late this week I did notice on the Lowrance HDS groups of fish suspended along the first drop adjacent to the spawning flats. We caught several on Steel Shad blade baits and these were pre-spawn females so it appears that the colder temps have backed this wave of spawners up a bit. Generally speaking on mild, gentle days the fishing has been real good and when fronts pass thru the bite gets a lot tougher. Chunk rock banks and deeper flats in the bays have been a holding a good number of 2-3lb fish. Best lures this week have been ZMan finesse worms on a 3/16 oz PJ's bass extractor jigs and SPRO crank baits. Best colors on the SPRO baits have been Cell Mate, Citrus Light and Fat Papa Tennessee Gizzard Shad. These are medium divers (10-14 feet) fished on a slow retrieve.



Bluegill & Red Ear ... WOW! is the only way to describe the Redear and bluegill fishing. When you get on them they're BIG and plentiful. We had several really nice trips this week and I had a lot of fun watching our clients catch these fighting fish. We've used several methods to catch them including a slip float presentation with live bait and slow rolling a Ken's or Shelton's bluegill bug tipped with a cricket or a wax or red worm. Being in an out of several of the resorts this week I heard mixed results coming from some of the fishermen there so I'll offer this up ... The last couple of years we've had high water and the

beds were located real shallow. I remember last year seeing beds on my access road on the way to my dock and catching redear and bluegill from folk's back yards. Just the opposite has happened this season. With the lake close to winter pool, some of the Redear and Bluegill moved in and set up their beds around the full moon on the 6th. TVA began to raise the lake to summer pool that week and since then the lake level has increased daily. Consequently the fish set up early and in low water at the time and now are located a little deeper than one would think. So if you're having a difficult time locating them just think a little deeper. *(Photo) Justin and Ova Pitman of Kentucky with some nice Redear and a bonus monster Black crappie.*

Sonar Tip of the Week

Randy,

After taking your on the water sonar class I spent the next week in my boat practicing the techniques you had shown me. Using the search and find method I learned from the class, I was able to fine tune my waypoints so they were right on the structure. Also I found numerous new spots which held fish. I would recommend your class to anyone who wants to maximize the use of their electronics to become a better fisherman.

Thanks again,

Jim Toney



You just never know when or where a fishing hot spot might turn up. This location was discovered during an on the water sonar class with Donnie Travis of Paducah, KY. Neither Donnie or I knew this spot existed. The image on the right side of the screen shows crappie surrounding a stump on the ledge as it drops into the secondary channel. Using the "Go to cursor" function and with the aid of the built in map feature on the left side of the screen, Donnie successfully navigated back to the spot. Your system can do this too. If you want to get more out of your HDS system contact rk@kicknbass.net for your own personal "On the water Sonar Class"

What is Kick'n Bass' "On the Water Sonar Class"?

**Kick'n Bass offers a one on one, hands on, in your boat using your electronics class that will take your understanding and know-how to another level!
IF YOU'RE CONFUSED, FRUSTRATED, AND NEED ANSWERS then Kick'n Bass' "On the Water Sonar Class" is for YOU!**

Read the owner's manual or watched a DVD and still baffled? Let's clear up your Sonar confusion. Have your unit(s) programmed by someone who depends on the HDS technology daily. Together we can make your system more user friendly and help you become a better angler.

Here's just some of what Kick'n Bass can do for YOU!

- Make sure your HDS unit(s) has the correct settings for the type of fishing you do. In most cases the units factory default setting is set for "general use" not specific.
- Program the individual screens and 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.
- Learn how to assign a waypoint to a fishing hot spot and find it again.
- 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.

You've Made a Significant Investment in Electronics. Learn to Use Them to Their Full Potential.

Don't Wait ... NOW is the time to get it done. Spend time now using your system and be ready for Spring Fishing!

Call Now! (270)703-6133 or email rk@kicknbass.net



Kick'n Bass Guide Service Offers Pontoon Trips for the Whole Family

That's right, nobody gets left behind! Mom, Dad, Grandma and Grandpa and the kids can go too!



Catch fish from our newly acquired state of the art fishing machine and have fun doing it! Crappie, Bass, Bluegill, Redear, Stripes or Catfish ... the choice is yours. Don't want to fish, rather relax and chill out? No problem, we can customize your trip. If you have something special in mind just let us know. Contact us well in advance for reservations. Email: rk@kicknbass.net

Thanks for reading Kick'n Bass' fishing report!

Randy Kuhens