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Sept. 7th, 2012

Lake Conditions

Lake Levels ... As of this morning both lakes approximately 1.5 feet below summer pool and on a very slow, inches per day drawdown over the next several days. For additional info, including generation schedule for 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 high 70's early in and in the low 80's as the day progresses.

Weather Outlook

Friday... Mostly cloudy. A chance of showers and thunderstorms in the morning...Then showers and thunderstorms likely in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 80s. Southwest winds 5 mph. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Friday Night... Showers and thunderstorms in the evening...Then showers after midnight. Lows in the mid 60s. Northwest winds 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 90 percent.

Saturday... Partly sunny. A 40 percent chance of showers in the morning. Highs in the mid 70s. North winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday Night... Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 50s.

Sunday... Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s.

Sunday Night... Clear. Lows in the mid 50s.

Monday... Clear. Highs 80 to 86. Lows in the upper 50s.

Prime Feeding Times for Gilbertsville, KY 42044

Date	Temps	Sun Data	Moon Data	Moon Phase	Major Times	Minor Times	Prediction
Friday 9/7/12	H: 85° L: 68°	Rise: 6:28 AM Set: 7:11 PM	Rise: 11:17 PM Set: 1:10 PM Overhead: 5:51 AM Underfoot: 6:15 PM	58% Waning Gibbous	5:51 AM - 7:51 AM 6:15 PM - 8:15 PM	1:10 PM - 2:10 PM 11:17 PM - 12:17 AM	Average
Saturday 9/8/12	H: 72° L: 67°	Rise: 6:29 AM Set: 7:10 PM	Rise: --:-- Set: 2:00 PM Overhead: 6:39 AM Underfoot: 7:04 PM	50% Last Quarter	6:39 AM - 8:39 AM 7:04 PM - 9:04 PM	--:-- - --:-- 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Average
Sunday 9/9/12	H: 76° L: 58°	Rise: 6:30 AM Set: 7:08 PM	Rise: 12:06 AM Set: 2:47 PM Overhead: 7:28 AM Underfoot: 7:53 PM	39% Waning Crescent	7:28 AM - 9:28 AM 7:53 PM - 9:53 PM	12:06 AM - 1:06 AM 2:47 PM - 3:47 PM	Average++

Monday 9/10/12	H: 77° L: 57°	Rise: 6:31 AM Set: 7:07 PM	Rise: 12:59 AM Set: 3:31 PM Overhead: 8:17 AM Underfoot: 8:42 PM	30% Waning Crescent	8:17 AM - 10:17 AM 8:42 PM - 10:42 PM	12:59 AM - 1:59 AM 3:31 PM - 4:31 PM	Average
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What's all the Chatter About?



With all the chatter about the A-rig and its imitators some pretty effective lures have fallen by the wayside ... temporarily if nothing else. If we bass fishermen are guilty of anything it's sometimes forgoing proven baits to try the "next best thing". The end result is that some pretty effective lures can get buried in the old tackle box.

There isn't a lure out there that has the versatility of the ChatterBait by ZMan. With its Patent-pending design and unique hex-shaped ChatterBlade, the sound, vibration, flash, and action of the original ChatterBait is unmatched. It's designed to swim in an erratic motion that mimics wounded prey. You can fish it where you'd fish a crank bait, swim bait, spinner bait, jig or a buzz bait. Fish it on a slack line and it

will sink rapidly and get down deep where you can slow roll it or burn it and it'll stay on top. With a single hook, it's less likely to pick up weeds or get snagged so you grass-casters gotta really love this bait too. The ChatterBait is available in weights from 1/4 to 5/8 ounce and a variety of colors to match most any fishing condition.

When the shallow shad bite is on in the early fall the ChatterBait is one of my go to baits. I like to fish it in and around cover and bounce it off of anything I see. The ChatterBlade on the front of the bait acts as a deflector and the lure will come thru some serious cover. There are a lot of ways to retrieve this bait and really there's no wrong way to fish it. I most often fish the ChatterBait with a conventional spinner bait retrieve and occasionally twitch the rod to make the lure dart. It's then when some of the most vicious strikes occur. Another retrieve that works well is to cast and as the lure come in contact with the cover kill it ... a lot of time the fish will take it on the fall. Ditto for fish swirls too, if you see a fish strike on top use the same retrieve and kill it where the fish struck and a lot of time the fish will inhale the lure. This makes fishing the ChatterBait an excellent follow-up lure when a fish blows up on a topwater lure and you don't get a hook up.

When the shad bite goes shallow you'll see onre of my rods rigged with a ChatterBait. I won't leave home without one ready to go and maybe you shouldn't either!

Fishing Report

Bass Fishing ... Some of the bigger schools of bass we've been fishing on the ledges have been breaking up over the last couple of week and are scattering from deep to shallow. One area in particular and what I call transitional humps, are holding mini-schools of bass; schools of 10 or so hungry fish that are zeroing in on shad. Transitional humps are those out of the way places that bass seem to like to congregate on this time of year as they follow the shad to the shallows. The most productive ones are located in or very near the main river channel. The humps that hold the most fish feature deep water on both sides with a one side having a gentle taper and the other a sharp drop. These areas are becoming very consistent producers for us. Shakey Heads and Blade Baits are making up the majority of the catches but fluttering a spoon and stroking a jig has caught fish too. Find the humps and you find the fish and they're catchable.



Jim McBee and Don Temple from Louisville, KY with some nice Largemouth caught on Shakey Heads and Steel Shad Blade baits. These fish and others like them were found stacked on Transitional Humps that just weeks earlier, were completely void of bass. Finding these sweet spots with our Lowrance HDS System turned what could have been a slow day of fishing into a really great trip for the three of us. These fishermen would gladly tell you that the HDS System was a big time the difference maker in finding locations that held fish.

Bass Fishing Patterns

Boat Dock Pattern ... Flip or pitch plastics around boat docks that have spud poles, especially the ones on the main lake that have deeper water. The lake drawdown is positioning baitfish and fry around the docks and bass see this as an easy opportunity. ***Topwater*** ... Fishing the deeper banks in the bays with topwaters in the early morning hours is gaining some traction. With shad being the primary focus we'll look for baitfish flicking on the surface or swirls. If so we'll stick around. If not we'll go to the next bay and check it out. Don't be fooled into thinking that just because one bay is active that they all will be or vice versa. This time of year it's not uncommon for one bay to be active and another one not. You just have to keep on the move until you find an active area. We've used several different baits but the SPRO McStick has been doing a pretty good number on the bass. Cast the lure and let it rest and then give it a couple of jerks. *Remember to wait until you feel the fish before you set the hook.* Table Rock Shad, Cell Mate and Chrome Shad have been the best colors for us. ***Ledge Pattern*** ... working the ledges is still a very productive way to fish. Once we've located a school we worked them with Shakey Heads and Steel Shad Blade Baits. *Best baits this week have been a 3/16 oz. PJ's bass*

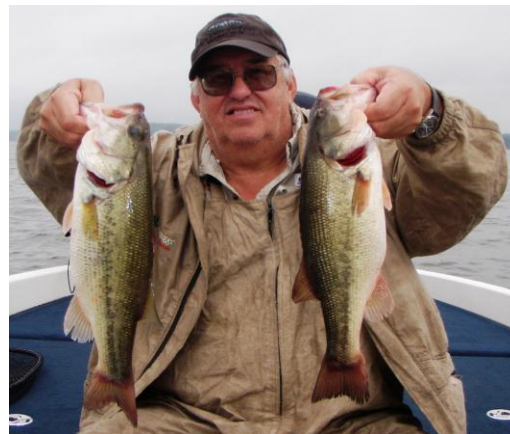
extractor jig head and Zman 7" finesse worm fished Shakey Head style and a Trout or Gold Steel Shad Blade Bait. During low current generation or no wind the Shakey Heads were slowly crawled on the bottom amongst the shell beds and the best bite came with little or no action. The Steel Shad blade baits were gently lifted off the bottom and dropped on a tight line.



Todd Buckingham and Ronnie Bowman from Louisville, KY with some nice early fall transition Largemouth caught on Shakey Heads and Steel Shad Blade baits.

Helpful Tip ... I always backup my top water lures with a rod rigged with a **Steel Shad blade bait** or a **ChatterBait**. To catch those fish that swipe at the surface lure and miss, or those fish that are just out of casting range of my top water lure, these baits are an excellent choice to add a fish or two. By the end of the day our tally shows that we've usually caught as many fish on the back-up baits as we did on the top waters. (Photo) Dale Mulhall from Shepherdsville, KY with some KY Lake footballs caught on Shakey Heads and Steel Shad blade baits.

White Bass fishing has been good this week but not without its challenges. Lowering water levels and falling water temps have scattered the bigger schools. We had to hunt and peck to find them but by the end of the day we managed to come up with a good catch. The best lures have been the Steel Shad Blade baits in Gold and Silver and Ken's Hybrid Spinners. Ripping the baits off the bottom and let the lure fall on a semi-tight line seemed to work well. Most fish are relatively deep, suspended 15-25 feet along the Tennessee River. Smaller schools are holding 10-13 feet deep along the flats next to the secondary channel during current draws or days with southerly winds.



Crappie ... We didn't fish for crappie specifically this week but we caught several along the secondary and main lake ledges. Our fish were caught on Steel Shad blade baits while we were fishing for bass and stripes.

Catfish, Bluegill and Redear ... We didn't fish for these therefore there is No Report.

Sonar Tip of the Week ...



I mentioned in last week's report about the importance of finding transitional locations that hold early migrators. The screen shot illustrates what I would consider to be the ideal transitional location; A hump in the middle of the river channel with a sharp drop on one side and a gentle taper on the other. It's the perfect place for several species of game fish and baitfish to gather and be unaffected by weather, boat traffic and fishing pressure. Included in Kick'n Bass' "On the Water Sonar Class" is a complete programming of your system. This includes developing useful pages with overlay data and dialing in your graphics so you'll be able to recognize spots like this when you scan them. Learn how to use modern technology to enhance your fishing. Having your system professionally programmed by a member of Lowrance's Pro Staff assures you that it's done right the first time. For your "On the water Sonar Class" contact Lowrance Pro Staffer Randy Kuhens at rk@kicknbass.net

Here's what some of our clients are saying about Kick'n Bass' "On the Water" Sonar Class ...

Randy, WOW! What a difference! My system looks nothing like it did before and I mean that in a good way. Now it's real easy to use and my confidence level is at an all-time high. I hope no one else in our bass club does your "On the Water Sonar Class"... just kidding. Ha! LOL!

Buddy Hawkins – Farmington, Mo.

Randy, a fellow bass club member and an occasional fishing partner, Carl Casper, participated in your sonar class about a month ago and was real pleased with the results. Carl & I have been fishing together in my boat for several years and I've kicked his butt on a regular basis. Recently he bought a new Ranger with a Lowrance HDS System and now all he wants to do is fish out of his boat. This past weekend we won a club tournament fishing out of his boat. After watching Carl use his electronics to put us on the winning fish I want to learn to do the same. Please contact me to set up a time to do your class.

Dennis Oertles – Peoria, ILL.

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

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!

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIjrXQe4FfI>