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www.kicknbass.net**

Nov. 9th, 2012

Lake Conditions

Lake Levels ... As of this morning both lakes are sitting at or very near winter pool which is 5 feet lower than summer lake levels. Over the next few days we will be experiencing a slight rise but nothing significant. **At these levels it is imperative that boaters stay in the channels when running. Pay special attention to the channel markers they are there for a reason.** 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. Surface water temps on both lakes are in the low to mid 50's.

Weather Outlook – **Unseasonably warm temps this weekend!**

Friday...Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday Night...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s. South winds 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph.

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

Veterans Day...Partly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s.

Sunday Night...Showers likely. Lows in the mid 50s. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Monday...Showers. Highs in the upper 50s. Chance of precipitation 80 percent.

Monday Night...Mostly clear. A 30 percent chance of rain in the evening. Lows in the lower 30s.

Prime Feeding Times for Gilbertsville, KY 42044

Date	Temps	Sun Data	Moon Data	Moon Phase	Major Times	Minor Times	Prediction
Friday 11/9/12	H: 66° L: 39°	Rise: 6:25 AM Set: 4:47 PM	Rise: 1:31 AM Set: 1:54 PM Overhead: 7:47 AM Underfoot: 8:12 PM	23% Waning Crescent	7:47 AM - 9:47 AM 8:12 PM - 10:12 PM	1:31 AM - 2:31 AM 1:54 PM - 2:54 PM	Average
Saturday 11/10/12	H: 70° L: 46°	Rise: 6:26 AM Set: 4:46 PM	Rise: 2:35 AM Set: 2:28 PM Overhead: 8:37 AM Underfoot: 9:03 PM	14% Waning Crescent	8:37 AM - 10:37 AM 9:03 PM - 11:03 PM	2:35 AM - 3:35 AM 2:28 PM - 3:28 PM	Average
Sunday 11/11/12	H: 70° L: 52°	Rise: 6:27 AM Set: 4:45 PM	Rise: 3:44 AM Set: 3:06 PM Overhead: 9:29 AM Underfoot: 9:57 PM	7% Waning Crescent	9:29 AM - 11:29 AM 9:57 PM - 11:57 PM	3:44 AM - 4:44 AM 3:06 PM - 4:06 PM	Good
Monday 11/12/12	H: 59° L: 56°	Rise: 6:28 AM Set: 4:44 PM	Rise: 4:55 AM Set: 3:49 PM Overhead: 10:26 AM Underfoot: 10:55 PM	2% Waning Crescent	10:26 AM - 12:26 PM 10:55 PM - 12:55 AM	4:55 AM - 5:55 AM 3:49 PM - 4:49 PM	Better

Fishing Report



Crappie Fishing ... It's either feast or famine for us. One day we'll catch a decent amount and then with seemingly perfect fishing conditions not do so well. That's why they call it fishing, right? Finding submerged cover in deeper water, 15 - 17 feet or so, has been good to us. The deeper cover has yielded us our best success as these fish were less affected by the frontal passages and the least pressured. The most productive means was either to back off and cast 3/32 oz KY Green or Blue Pearl curly tails, count them down and swim them

slowly thru the brush. (Photo) Randy Hagan, Greg Greenwell and Ashley Wedding from Kentucky with some nice white crappie caught casting curly tails to deep cover. Plan "B" was to cast ESB slip bobbers with minnows and let them soak around the submerged cover. Alternating between these two methods saved my rear end a couple of times this week. The key of course was using High Definition electronics to find the places that were holding good numbers of fish (See *Sonar Tip of the Week*). Overall I'd say that Crappie fishing was pretty good but very unpredictable when it was supposed to be good.

Bass Fishing

"Modified Spook Can Help You Net More Bass" ...



Listening to many of the tournament anglers around the bait shops this week a lot of them were complaining about the short strikers or good fish that they just didn't get a good solid hookset on. Think of fall top water bass'in and "Spook Type" baits immediately come to mind. No doubt one of the best ways to catch fall bass is throwing this type of bait since it's just the right size to match a lot of shad that are migrating to the shallows. However, the key to catching fish on this bait is knowing the proper way to fish it ... and ... knowing when and how to set the hook. At times you can be driven crazy

fishing these type baits. Since they have it in their DNA to strike at wounded prey, sometimes bass will slash at the bait even if they're not hungry. More times than not, it's just plain hard to get a hook into them. Knowing how to work the bait is critical. Some modifications can be made to the retrieve or even the lure itself to increase your odds of success. Here are some suggestions ...

How to work the lure: The most important thing to remember when fishing with this bait is you must keep a tight line. Once the cast has been made with the lure resting on the top of the surface give the lure a pull with the rod, not the reel, of about 10-12 inches and the lure will dart to one side or the other. After it has darted to one side, reel in the slack and then give it another pull with the rod tip and the lure will dart off to the other side. Repeat the process and the lure

will zig-zag on the surface. Make sure to work the bait all the way back to the boat. I've caught some of my best fish close to the boat. You'll have to experiment with the speed of the retrieve to entice a strike. Sometimes a pause between pulls or a very methodical steady retrieve will work. Often a burning or fast retrieve will create vicious strikes. Try these variations one of them usually matches the mood of the fish. One thing I have noticed is on very calm days a very slow presentation seems to work best. **How to get the hook in 'em ...** Often times a fish will strike this lure so hard that they actually miss it and will come back for a second try. When this happens the angler's natural reaction is to go for the hook set which often results in a missed opportunity. The best way to assure a good hook up is to give it a second before setting the hook. In other words, once you see the strike reel until you feel the fish or see the lure disappear and then set the hook. More times than not this is a sure set. If you jerk the lure out of the strike zone then the chances of catching that fish diminishes greatly.

One modification that will increase the odds in your favor is to **add a stinger hook to the rear treble on the Spook** (Photo). A 4 inch 12 lb mono leader with a treble with a feather should help take care of those short strikers. It's best to either size the stinger hook with what's on the bait itself or go slightly smaller. When we experimented with this set up initially we found that any leader longer than 4 inches could get wrapped on the other hooks and hinder the action of the bait so be sure to keep the leader about that length. We caught several good fish this week on the spook and the stinger was responsible for several of the hook ups. Another benefit of using this set up is, when we had fish hooked up initially on the stinger hook, by the time we netted the fish we noticed we had a couple of other hooks in the fish too. So the stinger hook not only got things started but it helped keep the fish on. Try a stinger hook on your spook next time ... it'll help you land more fish!

Fishing Patterns

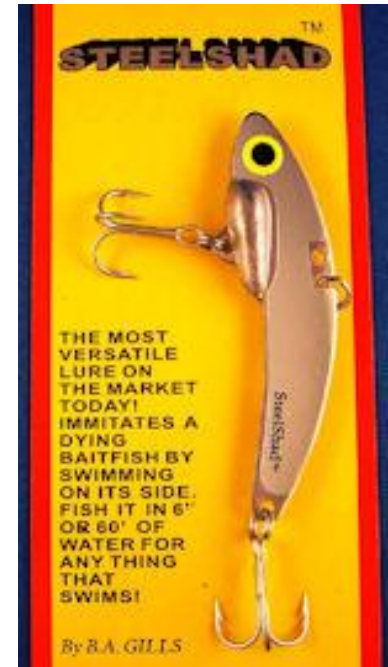
Overall bass fishing this week has been pretty tough for Kick'n Bass this week. While we're still catching a fair number of fish we've really had to work hard for them, especially good ones.

The **Blade Bait Pattern** we've been on, while not as strong as it has been, is still producing fish and it'll probably get better as the water cools even further and the fish make their way to winter locations. The best lure hands down has been the Steel Shad. We're still finding schools of bass suspended among and feeding on baitfish. Mostly we're finding that these bass are unmolested and willing to bite once we can get on them. A technique that has worked for us when throwing the Blade Baits is the yoyo retrieve on a tight line. Bringing the lure off the bottom about a foot or less and let it fall on a-tight line. This allows the lure to drop slowly giving the bass a real good look at it. Sometimes the sheer weight of the lure on a free fall drops too fast and the fish can't catch up to it, especially if the bite is waning. Also, ripping it off the bottom is not necessarily the right thing to do. More strikes come on a gentle lift.

Back Bay Pattern ... Some bass are being caught shallow in the very backs of the bays on the flats on lipless crank baits and on wood cover with spinner baits. On some mornings there is a decent shallow water bite along gravel banks and in the back of the bays. A spinner bait slow-rolled shallow along gravel banks has accounted for several nice fish this week too.

Ledge Fishing has been either feast or famine but when we did catch bass on the ledges they were usually keepers. Best baits were the Steel Shad Blade Bait, a Shakey Head and a 1/2 oz. jig.

I wished I could tell you we've been loading the boat. However, that just isn't the case. With some pretty darn good fishermen in the boat this week we caught some fish and a few good



ones too. However, the best way to describe bass fishing is, it's still unpredictable and no one pattern seems to be a sure thing. Remember don't be stubborn this time of year, be prepared to move around and try different lures and methods and you'll probably catch more fish.

SONAR TIP OF THE WEEK



The screen shows an old roadbed with some very carefully placed fish attractors. This is a very good example of how and where to place stakes beds and brush piles.

Your system can produce images like this too. Participate in Kick'n Bass "On the Water" sonar class and you'll learn to use modern technology to find fishing hotspots like this.

You've made a Significant Investment in Electronics. Be the best angler you can be by learning to use your electronics to their full potential. 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, it's always nice when you get more than you thought you were going to get. The class was well worth the time and effort. I'll definitely recommend your class to others!

Clarence James – Sikeston, MO.

Randy, I wish I had scheduled the class when we talked about it in Jan. at the boat show in Louisville. It was well worth the drive from Louisville. Now my electronics are more than just a depth finder to me. Thanks for going the extra mile.

Russell Harrington – Louisville, KY. (USAF Ret.)

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!**

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.
- 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.
- Learn the art of waypoint management. No more cluttered maps with useless or unproductive waypoints. You'll learn how to identify which locations are waypoint worthy and how to go back to those locations without ever assigning a waypoint. You'll learn to only assign a waypoint once you are satisfied the location is worth saving.
- 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.

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.

WOW! Check out the video on the New Bow Mount Sonar Bracket ... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BoLvui9b91Q&feature=relmfu>

