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March 14, 2014

Lake Conditions

Several of the gates are open at Kentucky Dam creating significant current in the lake.

Water Clarity and Temperature ...

Kentucky Lake ranges from quite dingy in some of the creeks with the main lake clearing slightly. The water at Barkley has quite a bit of color in it. Surface water temps on both lakes are around 48 degrees and warming to the low 50's in the afternoons on sunny days.

Remember it's the base water temps that move the fish not always the surface temps. Dropping a thermometer down 5 feet I'm still finding 42 degree water. Use this little bit of info to your advantage when working your baits.

Weather Outlook

Friday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Friday Night...Mostly cloudy. Lows in the mid 40s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Saturday...Partly sunny20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the lower 60s. Southeast winds 5 mph. **Saturday Night**...Mostly cloudy with showers likely. Lows in the mid 40s. East winds 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Sunday...Rain likely. Highs in the upper 40s. Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Sunday Night...Mostly cloudy. A 30 percent chance of rain in the evening. Lows in the upper 20s. **Monday**...Partly sunny. Highs in the upper 40s.

Monday Night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. Highs around 60.

Tuesday...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30s. Highs around 60.

Tuesday Night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. Lows in the lower 40s.

Wednesday...Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers. Highs around 60.

Wednesday Night...Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. Lows in the upper 30s. **Thursday**...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s.

Catch Fish and Have Fun on the Kick'n Bass Pontoon!

Don't be disappointed Book <u>NOW</u> and get the dates you want!

Check out our TV Show "Crank'in For Crappie" http://feel-n-reel.com/past-shows.htm



(Photo Left) Jimmy Greer & Capt. Rich Bay with some slab crappie caught from the Kick'n Bass Pontoon. (Photo Right) Marshall Countians Gene Colbrn, Rich Bay, Judge Jack Telle and Larry Telle from Louisville show off some monster crappie caught while fishing from the Kick'n Bass Pontoon.

Fishing Report

Good weather = Good Fishing and Bad weather = not so good fishing. That's how it goes this time of year.

Crappie ... Our efforts have been hampered somewhat by the inclement weather but you can just tell that Crappie fishing is just ready to bust wide open. None the less some anglers are having real good catches. Capt. Rich has been making a real good account of himself this week in the *Kick'n Bass Pontoon* with several limits of big fish being caught. Most crappie are being caught drifting minnows or



jigs over brush 10-15 feet deep and at the mouth of the bays in deeper water 18 -20 feet around the old creek stumps. Spider rigging and drifting during windy days with drift socks has been pretty effective. The water is cold so a slow presentation is in order.

Bass Fishing ... No one pattern or technique seems to be dominant but for us the Steel Shad blade bait fished on secondary ledges close to long tapering points has caught the most fish and better size too. (*Photo*) *Kick'n Bass with a 7 lb. 2oz. brute caught on a Steel Shad blade bait.* Use your High definition Lowrance electronics to scan these ledges and look for schools of fish working bait balls. Fish the Steel Shad slowly like you would a plastic worm with a very slow up and down retrieve and keep the lure as close to

the bottom as possible. Bass are feeding but not exerting much effort to do so. Also we've caught some fish on SPRO medium diving crank baits fished along deeper chunk rock banks. The best retrieve has been to cast the bait shallow crank it several turns until you feel bottom and then work the bait back to the boat using a stop and go retrieve. Actually I would consider the retrieve to be more like working a deep diving jerk bait with a jerk, jerk, pause and then jerk retrieve. This scenario has been most productive in the late afternoons after the sun has warmed the Northwest banks.

SONAR TIP OF THE WEEK ...



I get asked quite often "How much time do you spend using Sidescan"? The answer is "A Lot"! I find this screen to be a very useful especially when I'm in "search mode" and one that I program in touch screen units during our "On the Water" sonar class. Note that without sidescan the operator would have completely missed the fact that a rather large foundation existed. As you can see by the image in the bottom pane, Downscan or Sonar would have shown just a "Foundation Wall".

This page offers the user both side scan and down scan capability to view a large area. The electronic topo map shows boat position and its heading and distance to that destination. With the ability to pinpoint the user's Boat Position (arrow) and the ability to use the Heading Extension (blue line) as a guide to steer the boat, the angler can systematically scan an area or go directly to the destination. Another option would be to turn on the Trails Function to mark the areas that have previously been scanned. Finding submerged structures like the old building foundation is one of the highlights of the class and more times than not they make dandy fishing spots too!

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 personalized "On the water Sonar Class" contact Lowrance Pro Staffer Randy Kuhens at <u>rk@kicknbass.net</u>

Here's what one of our clients had to say about his "On the Water" class today ...

Randy, I want to thank you for the sonar class today. I never knew I could be so "precise" with locating a spot and being able to go right back to it flawlessly. My units are a lot more detailed than I have ever seen before, and I understand what I am looking at. I actually found a submerged boat today. If anyone is having trouble with these complex systems, don't hesitate. Go spend a couple hours with Randy at *Kicknbass !!!* By the way I really love my Kick'n Bass Smart Bracket sonar mounting system iis the best on the market and worth every penny.

James Martin - Clarksville TN

The "On the Water Sonar Class" is a one on one, hands on, in your boat using your electronics instruction that will take your understanding and know-how to another level. We get it and you will too!

Kick'n Bass' 7 Essential Steps to Simplify Using Your HDS System.

Kick'n Bass will perform the following ...

- 1. Complete a detailed inspection on your system to certify the installation has been done to factory specs. (If adjustments are required technicians are available to fine tune your system prior to beginning your class. Doing so assures you that your system will perform at an optimum level and you'll get the most out of your time on the water).
- 2. Check all network settings for compatibility and make adjustments if needed.
- 3. Program the individual screens and install the overlay data that is best suits the type fishing you do. Example: Depth, Water Temp, Time, etc. Eliminate unwanted, non-practical on screen clutter that hampers using your unit to its maximum potential.
- 4. Arrange the screens so that going from page to page is orderly and nonconfusing. You'll become familiar with the screens and commands and what they'll do for you.
- 5. Dial in Sonar and Structure Scan Graphics and choose appropriate Pallette for the lakes you fish.
- 6. Demonstrate the art of waypoint management. No more cluttered maps with useless or unproductive waypoints. You'll learn to identify which locations are waypoint worthy and how to go back to those locations without ever assigning a waypoint. You'll assign a waypoint once you are satisfied the location is worth saving.
- 7. Demo the unit so you'll be able to take advantage of its fish finding capabilities. You'll learn to identify shell beds, submerged stumps, brush piles, ledges, game fish species and more.

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.

Installation Photos of the Smart Bracket Console Mounting System on a Ranger 518C



The Smart Bracket Mounting System is available on other makes & models of boats. Be sure and Check out our webpage for more photos and other Sonar Accessories. http://kicknbass.net/sonar-accessories.php