

June 9, 2017

Greetings from the white Excel Bay Pro.

What Mother Nature can make good, she can also make it slow down. The cool front that passed thru the area a couple of days ago has really slowed the bite down. We are having to work that much harder to put good numbers of fish in the boat.

Crappie:

It has been a mixed bag on crank baits. The larger white crappie have headed to deeper haunts offshore. We are working deeper ledges in the mouths of bays and on the main lake. Reports I'm getting from folks who are spider rigging and vertical jigging is they are finding things tough also. We are picking up most every species in the lake that will eat a minnow. Late last week in a 4 hour trip we had 8 different species that we pulled to the net on cranks. Black crappie are scattered along deep rocky cuts near shore. I'm hearing of folks picking some up when fishing for bluegills/redears.

Bluegills/redears

With the full moon, action is heating back up on bluegills. Redears have been scarce except for the lucky few who manage to find isolated pockets of them. Check out sandy/rocky bottom areas in 4-10 feet of water with dropshot rigs with redworms on a small hook or on a jig or bluegill bug. Once you locate the bedding fish, you can target them with bobber rigs with popeye jigs tipped with wax worms or crickets.

Catfish

Good numbers of channel cats are still being caught in bedding areas in close proximity to bedding bluegills and along rocky/sanding banks with deeper water nearby. Try night crawlers, cut bait and commercial stink baits fished near the bottom under bobbers. We are catching good numbers on crank baits trolled along off-shore ledges. While they aren't our target, they do make a good addition to the fillet bag going home with lucky anglers.

White and yellow bass

We are starting to see good numbers along off-shore bars. Casting in-line spinners and blade baits are working well. Vertical jigging spoons and spinners are doing equally well. There are starting to be some small jumps and while they aren't staying up long, they do bode well for fishing as the hot weather arrives next week.

Bass

You need a parking ticket for many of the popular off-shore haunts as most have several bass boats parked in small areas. Creature baits will catch some but the most are being caught on large crank baits and flutter spoons. Watch for big numbers of big fish in the tournaments.

Watch out for big numbers of boaters this weekend with several large bass tournaments taking place on both lakes. I sat at Moors Marina Thursday morning and watched a 30 minute constant stream of bass boats heading south from KY Dam Marina.

Obey all maritime and Fish and Wildlife laws, wear your PFDs, and give other boaters the courtesy you would like to receive. Having high-speed encounters with inconsiderate boaters is no fun. These lakes are plenty big enough to get away from other boaters.

Welcome to our little slice of heaven.

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