

March 2002

03/03/02 Anthony Pimental reports that he went fishing with Al Stansfield and son. They caught 35 fish, the heaviest 7 lbs. and another 6 lbs. They were using Brushhaws and worms, June Bug color, and glass and brass. They caught one using buzz bait. All slow throwing.

03/05/02 Scott George writes in..."W O W ! Fishing is picking up! Caught 13....lost 5-6 and missed several.A beautiful day,good company and hard pulling bass.Six other boats on the lake-all seemed to be doing well.Fish are fattening up,moving shallow and running bait-BUT they are very spooky."

03/05/02 From Dave Kochis..."Went fishing March 5 for the first time in 2002. Looking forward to a repeat of the fabulous fishing in 2001. Caught 11 fish to 4# 12 oz. Cranked one with the rest on Senkos. The water is still a little cold (55 - 62) degrees so the fish are holding back. But 5 more degrees and they'll bust loose. Can't wait."

03/13/02 From Carmin Rosato..."If one of your prospective members asks how the fishing is at Kelsey Bass Ranch try this out on them. A major cold front was moving through and my outside temperature reading enroute hit a low of 34 F. At the lake the wind was out of the North at a pretty good clip. As we launched the boat, a second fisherman was arriving. Within 30 minutes we were being blown around the lake --still fishin-- but not what we wanted, because of the wind. As the white caps hitting the island rose to two feet, the second fisherman hauled out his boat and said it was too choppy and cold for him. Well the wind and cold finally got the best of us after four hours out there and we decided to call it a day. How good is Kelsey Bass Ranch? In the four hours, under terrible fishing conditions, we managed to catch 16 fish including a pair of 5 lbers and none under 2 lbs!! See you next week."

03/17/02 From Ron Wilson..."Spent Sunday, the 17th, at the lake. Fishing was tough, wind, rain etc. We did manage 17 fish up to 5 pounds. It was my fault we didn't do better. I was fishing the water like it was 57 degrees instead of the 52 degree water that it was. The fish are on a junebug brush hawg bite! The fish wanted a slow presentation. A drag pattern. If you moved it very fast and too much they would not hit it! Thank you for the day on the water!"

03/19/02 From Scott George..."Went to the lake on tuesday the 19th,fishing was fair.....caught 13-2 @ 5 lbs.,best 5 were 18 lbs. Caught to on a crankbait-the rest on worm/darter head combo. Fish are so screwed up due to the weather....they just get into the swing of things and another storm blows in and cools them back down.Its gonna happen soon though!"

03/21/02 From Scott George..."Well-I came close to skunking for the first time ever in 3 years at the lake! I got there around 7am and lost 2 on a floating worm.....they wouldnt hit it-just nip at the tail.Anyway that was it till 1230 and I picked up a 2.15 on a spinnerbait.After breaking off several lures and tangling 2 reels I decided the house was looking good,and since i was no longer skunked I pulled the plug! Out of 5-6 other boats I only saw 2 other fish caught.Dont give up-as soon as the weather straightens up it will cut loose and we'll be in Kelsey heaven."

03/21/02 From Dave Kochis..."Went fishing on 3/21. As so aptly put by Scott George, "I came as close to being skunked as I had in over 5 years of fishing at Kelsey." I put in at 7:00 AM and the water temp was only 55 degrees. And the day was overcast. And the day was pretty much calm. Thought maybe I could pick up some pre-spawn stagers in deeper water off points. I tried it all: deep and shallow, channel to flats, rocks to weeds, slow and fast, senkos to lizards to power bait to spinnerbaits to cranks, weightless to carolina to texas rig,all over the lake, to naught. I saw fish busting Shad, but you could cast to them and they were just not interested. About 12:30 the water temp finally climbed over 60 degrees in some parts of the lake. I decided to try cranking at the dam which is usually good for one fish. And 'hurrah!', I finally became "non-skunked". I went back into some of the warmer coves and caught 3 more nice fish on Senkos. They were not biting but merely holding onto the bait. Had to really concentrate on feeling the bite. Bottomline, we need some warm weather with some nice warm rain. When (not if) this happens, look out!"

03/22/02 From Charlie Myer..."Thanks for having us Jon. Fished Friday, March 22 with John McGhee and Zane Wiley. Bite started out tough with only a half dozen fish in the first two hours throwing spinnerbaits, worms and Senkos. Finally figured out the fish were still staging outside the spawning areas and got on a hot bite burning Rat-L-Traps and slow-ripping Lucky Craft rip baits in 5 to 7 feet of water outside those shallow points along the east shore and the north end of the lake. Later that day, the fish moved shallow to feed on the points and we caught close to 20 more fish working Zoom Flukes just under the surface. Ended the day with 48 fish up to 4 pounds. No big fish hooked, but plenty of 2 to 3 pounders to keep the day very exciting. Weather was cloudy with a few showers and a light south wind."

03/24/02 From Joe Robinson..."Got to the lake around 7am fished with a friend of mine and we caught fish all over the lake. together we caught 34 fish all in the 3 to 5 lbr range. Most fish were caught tight to the bank with just a handfull coming from the timber. Tried throwing some blades with no luck so we just kept throwing baby brushhogs. Not bad for fishing the backside of a storm cant wait until it heats up."

03/30/02 From Dave Kochis..."Went fishing 3/28. The water is beginning to warm up and the fish are getting more active. Caught 11 up to 4 pounds. Looked at my fishing log for last year. Water temp for March 2001 was 5 degrees warmer than March 2002. Should be a good April."

03/30/02 Dave Bates reports catching twenty five fish up to 6lbs. on Saturday. "It was tough but they finally settled down on Senkos".

03/30/02 Don Payne reports that Saturday the bite was tough. Fish were in the outer waters at about the six to eight foot depth while another group were in the shallows in a prespawn state. He reports catching about 25 fish.

03/30/02 Richard Brown and his two kids tried out the back ponds on Saturday. They caught 33 fish ranging from pee-wees to a 4 pounder. They had a great time and are heading back there soon.