

MAY 2002 FISHING REPORT ARCHIVES

05/01/02...From Alex Maxwell of Steve's Bait Shack..."We went fishing today and threw whole tackle box at the lake. The weather was sunny with high clouds and a persistent wind. From 11-5 we caught only 2 fish both maybe 2 lbs. We had more friends join us from one of Steve's bait shack sponsored teams. They caught 14 fish in 1 1/2 hours of fishing on jig and trailer. Thanks KBR for a fun day on the lake."

05/03/02...From Don Dirks..."Went fishing on May 1st. Tough fishing day due to the wind. Water temp has dropped 4--5 degrees. My fishing friend and myself caught 8--9 bass. Lost a couple. Had a few more hard bites. Caught 2 fish on crank bait. One on spinnerbait. The rest on senkos. Two fish we caught are on their way to fish heaven. One had bad infections on its gillplate. The other had a swivel showing in its gullet. Something was attached to the other end so did not try to remove it. These fish were very thin. Also found a floater with a hook in its gullet. I wonder how many fish survive when hooked that deep. They say that the hooks will rust out, but the larger hooks used with senkos and flukes take a long time to rust out. I think it's imperative to use barbless hooks when fishing plastics. Hope the weather settles down soon and the fishing picks up."

05/04/02...From Dave Kochis..."Took two friends fishing on May 2. It was tough as the weather changed and the high pressure system moved in. Even with all that against us, we still managed to boat 20 fish."

05/07/02...From Steve of Steve's Bait Shack..."Nevada Bretz and myself had the opportunity to be involved with the "Take a special kid fishing" day on May 4th at KBR. What a great day. The first cast with a Senko and a 3 pound fish slammed it the second it hit the water. What a joy it was to watch this young man bring a big bass to the boat. We ended up with 5 fish. He weighed in 2 fish for 5 and 1/2 pounds. People were bringing in fish all over the lake. Most fish were caught on Senkos, Baby Brush Hogs and Jigs. We didn't see any fish caught on spinnerbaits or crankbaits. One boat ended up with 15 fish. It was a great event and we were proud to be a part of it. Thank you Jon Kelsey and Glenn Todd."

05/09/02...From Scott George..."Took my pop with me weds. the 8th.....if I said it was anything but s-l-o-o-o-w I'd be pulling your leg! We got to the lake by 7am and fished till 230pm.....we scraped up approx. 10-12 fish with the largest about 2-2 1/2 lbs. Everything was caught on "plastic" of one type or another. Dad had a big one blow up on him but he got off before he could stick him. All in all it was another beautiful day on the ranch-at least we didn't get skunked! Tight Lines to ya all!"

05/12/02...From Dave Kochis..."May 9. Had a good rip bait bite until the sun came up. No top water. As the sun came up the fish retreated to the weeds and I had 11 in the boat by 9:30. Then they shutdown big time and only caught 2 more until leaving at 2:00. Caught 13 total losing another half dozen in the weeds."

5/15/02...From Alex Maxwell of Steve's Bait Shack..."The weather was clear with high clouds and very windy. Had the trolling motor on high and could barely hold position on structure. Only fished for a couple of hours in the afternoon, but I wanted to try these new watermelon green rattling tubes from Storm. It was so windy I was having nothing but trouble. Last night Steve went bank fishing near the dock and caught a few on a KEEPER brand salt n' pepper grub with a blue blood line and its twin in the reaper style."

05/15/02...From Ken Yantis..."My wife and I fished Kelsey for the first time on Mother's Day, the 12th. Had a real slow start, only landed 7 fish by lunch. We picked it up a bit in the afternoon and finished with a total of 30. Most on worms, a few ripping. Had a great time and the scenery is gorgeous. Those bass swim fast! We caught about a dozen over 3 lbs., with the biggest at 5 lbs. and they sure make your line sing across the water."

05/16/02...From Dave Kochis..."5/15. It was a slow day coupled with windy conditions. The fish were active first thing in the morning but would not take any offerings. Only able to "rip" one fish. There was no top water. Through the day I managed to catch 8 on Senkos: five flipping trees and three in the weeds. I broke off 3 others in the trees. I guess 15 pound test is not enough for heavy wood. I caught a "monster" cat fish. Being by myself, I was not able to get him in the net so I had to break him off. He gave me a nice battle."

05/20/02...From Kin Marsh..."Jim Curtis (Western Wildlife Adventures guide), Ron Cooper, Dave Clute and myself fished KBR Friday 05/17/02 and Saturday 05/18/02. We fished from 7p.m. Friday night til midnight, and then from 5a.m. Saturday until 11a.m. Fishing Friday night was the most productive with 10+ fish each--mostly 3# -- BIG fish 4.5# Saturday was slower with about 20 fish for all of us. Friday's water temp = 70 degrees Saturday's = 65 degrees. No rip/spinner/top/jig. Senkos were the bait of choice. Color of money for the day--dark color after dark. A few weed wacker fish, but most others were tree huggers. Caught two nice 3# while fishing off the dock. The wind never "laid down" til almost midnight--constant challenge to hold position or tie off. Dave K., we feel your pain. Three of us had "BIG" fish break off (not untie) -- 10-15# Berkely Big Game was not enough. There are some MONSTER fish in this lake and not just catfish."

05/21/02...From Scott George..."Got to the lake around 9 am Tuesday....wind was blowing pretty hard off and on.....clouds blew in and out but it was fairly warm and water temp was still 67-69 degrees even after all the rain. Today was definitely the "old Kelsey" I caught 40+ fish from topwater to the weedy bottom. My smallest fish was better than 2.5 lbs and I had 2 over 5lbs.-close to 6lbs. These fish will damn near jerk the rod from your hands and you think you've got a 10lb and it comes up and it's like 3lbs! Fish were also very acrobatic today....every fish jumped-some 3-4 times...it's unbelievable how strong these fish are right now. I like the new lights on the dock....it'll make it a lot easier this summer after dark. Tight Lines to ya!"

05/23/02...From Scott George..."What a difference 2 days can make....an unbelievable day tuesday in 5 hr 40+ fish-today in 9 hrs. 7 with the biggest being less than 3 lbs. Guess thats why they call it fishing instead of catching! It was still a beautiful relaxing day and to top it off I even had a chance to chat with the lake legend Dave Kochis! Tight Lines to Ya folks-dont give up, Kelsey is an unbelievable fishery with a well deserved reputation."

05/26/02...Don Payne fished here today and caught 25 fish with one being in the 5 lb. class. He fished right on the weed line using "little itty bitty worms" and no weight, just enough to cast.

Dave Bates fished last night, 05-25-02, under the full moon, caught 40 fish, 2 over 5 lbs. and 15 four pounders. He was using Senkos. He's coming back tonight too.

05/29/02...From Bruce of Modesto, CA..."Fished with a friend from Lodi and began the day right before daybreak. A few hits on topwater but nothing to speak of, green pumkin w/black flake senkos and watermelon w/red flake 8" Zoom dead ringers did the trick for most of our fish. Found a few fish in tight but most came from the deep water weed mats. A total of 25 for the day , off the lake at 2pm...the full moon is killing us! Still a great day!"

05/29/02...From Carmin Rosato..."A friend and I fished the lake on May 29th from about 7:30AM to 1:30PM. Had a good bite with plastics in the weed beds. Boated approximately 25, with most of the fish 2-3lb in size. Lost another 10 or so. Lots of bass fry all over the lake with some groups 2 to 3 inch long. Also lots of small blue gil in the weed beds plus many very large carp."

05/30/02...From Scott George..."Fished the lake thurs. 7am-2pm.....fairly slow day.We managed to boat approx. 20 fish,losing another 5-6. Crankbaits and Senkos (finally!) Color didnt really seem to matter as long as you put it in their face....I had one 4 lber rip 3 different senkos from my hook before he said forget it....weeds are coming in strong and fast.LOTS of BIG cats and carp in the shallows....we also saw big schools of bluegill amongst the weeds.Also caught another trout on a crankbait.Tight Lines To You!"