



Fishing

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Weekly Fishing Report

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

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October 29, 2008 Edition

This is the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's fishing report for **October 29**. If there is a body of water you would like included in this report, please call or e-mail us with information on possible sources for that lake or river.

Fishing Tip: When "walking the dog" with a top-water lure, it always helps to have the line floating at the surface. To make it easier, rub candle wax, bowstring wax or fly floatant along the last few feet of your line. The waxy surface will float higher, making the top-water walk better.

Arkansas River Levels are available at :

http://www.swl-wc.usace.army.mil/WCDS/Reports/Daily/Pao_rvrs.txt

White River Levels are available at :

http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lmrfc/forecast/tributaries/status_white.shtml

Statewide Family and Community Fishing Report: The last catfish stockings for the year are complete and all program ponds are producing eating-size catfish well. The best baits to use are worms, liver, hot dogs and store-bought paste baits. Early and late in the day are the best times to fish. Bream are slowing a bit, but are still biting fairly well on crickets and worms. Trout will be stocked in program ponds when the water is cool enough to support them, which is usually in December. For more information on stockings, call toll free **1-866-540-FISH (3474)**.

[Central Arkansas](#)

[North Arkansas](#)

[Northwest Arkansas](#)

[Northeast Arkansas](#)

[Southeast Arkansas](#)

[South Central Arkansas](#)

[Southwest Arkansas](#)

[West-Central Arkansas](#)

[East Arkansas](#)

CENTRAL ARKANSAS

Lake Conway: Bates Field and Stream (501-470-1846) said the water is at normal level and the clarity is fair.

Bream are fair in 31/2 feet of water on worms, wax worms and crickets. Crappie are fair on chartreuse jigs and minnows in lily pads around 31/2 to 5 feet deep. Bass are biting well on spinnerbaits and Zoom soft plastics.

Dan at Gold Creek Landing (501-607-0590) said bream are fairly slow. Crappie are biting well in the pads and 5 feet deep on shiners and rosy red minnows. Bass are biting fairly well on chartreuse spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Catfishing is fair on yo-yos and limb lines baited with shiners.

Little Red River: [Lindsey's Resort](#) (501-302-3139) said the water is low with constant, slow releases. Trout fishing is good around the shoals on crankbaits and other artificials.

Jed Hollan at the [Little Red Fly Shop](#) said the Greers Ferry Powerhouse continues to release water despite the fact that the preferred maximum of 461.4 feet above mean sea level was achieved last week. Control of the releases was transferred from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to Southwestern Power Administration in Tulsa when top power pool was attained. SWPA has decided to use the Greers Ferry and Table Rock facilities to regulate hydroelectric power supply by conducting small yet constant water releases around the clock. The water in the river is getting clearer by the week. At times, above Jon's Pocket, it's positively crystal. The water coursing through the turbines is a chilly 56 degrees with dissolved oxygen content at an improved 5.1 mg/l (parts per million). Trout are doing their aerial leaps, which is part of the spawning ritual and not to be confused with aggressive feeding. The spawn is near. Mayfly hatches continue to occur mostly around dusk. Midge hatches are occurring after lunch in most areas of the stream continuing until dusk. The sulphur and pale morning dun mayfly hatches are dwindling. Trout are feeding selectively, and if you don't change flies after 2-3 fish, your catch rate will decline. The best sub-surface flies to use include the sow bug (#14-#16; olive, tan or gray), zebra midge (#16-#22; red, copper or black), red butt soft hackle (#14-#18), pheasant tail (#16), gold ribbed hare's ear (#14-#16), prince (#16), San Juan worm (#12-#14; red or fl. cerise), copper john (#14-#16) or woolly bugger (#8-#12; olive, brown or black). Egg patterns are becoming increasingly productive in sizes 12-14 in salmon, peach, bubble gum or watermelon. Be sure to weight your egg so that it bounces along the streambed.

Greers Ferry: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 460.35 feet MSL.

[Tommy Cauley of Fish Finder Guide Service](#) said the water level is dropping and the water temperature is in the 60s. Some bass are out in front of the bushes and are still biting on many different crankbaits, jigs and spinnerbaits. Football head jigs and Carolina-rigged Senkos and lizards are working well in some creek mouths, as are drop-shot rigs. Some hybrids are coming up, but most are still not breaking the surface. They are schooled up with white bass, black bass and walleye but are scattered anywhere from 25 to 52 feet of water. Catfish are biting across the lake on jugs baited with live bait and liver. Walleye are scattered but are still biting on jigs and crawlers fished on the bottom in 28 feet of water and deeper.

Shiloh Marina (501-825-6237) said there have been very few anglers visiting the marina lately. No report.

Harris Brake Lake: [Coffee Creek Landing](#) (501-889-2745) said the water is clear and falling as the lake is being drawn down. Bream are fair on live bait. Crappie are biting very well on live minnows. Bass are fair. Catfishing is fair on trotlines baited with live bait.

Lake Overcup: [Overcup Landing](#) (501-354-9007) said water conditions are normal with water temperature around 65 degrees. Bream are slow. Crappie are biting well on chartreuse and light blue glitter jigs. Bass are fair on spinnerbaits and buzzbaits. Catfishing is good on trotlines and noodles baited with live bait at night.

Brewer Lake: [Overcup Landing](#) (501-354-9007) said the water is high and clear. All fishing has been slow lately.

Lake Maumelle: [Jolly Roger's Marina](#) said white bass are fair at the west end of the lake on road beds and humps. CC spoons, Sassy Shads and grubs are working the best on the whites. Black bass are off the points about 10 to 12 feet deep. Jigs and soft plastics are working the best on the black bass right now. Crappie are biting well on small minnows and 1/32-oz. jigs fished 20 feet deep. Catfishing is fair to good on prepared bait and chicken liver in 30 feet of water. Bream are slow.

Arkansas River in Little Rock: Vince Miller from [Fish 'N Stuff](#) said the water is murky and the current is slow. Bass are fair on crankbaits and tubes fished over the jetties in the main channel. All other fishing is slow.

Sunset Lake: Turbyfill's Outdoor Sports (501-315-3061) said water conditions are normal. Crappie are fair on 2-inch Tennessee shad grubs. Bass are biting well on top-water lures.

Saline River Access in Benton: Turbyfill's Outdoor Sports (501-315-3061) said water conditions are normal. Bream are fair on black or yellow Rooster Tails and crickets. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. Bass are biting well on crawdad-colored crankbaits.

Arkansas River at Morrilton: Charley's Hidden Harbor in Oppelo said catfishing below dams 9 and 10 is very

good on shad. Largemouth bass are biting well on the inside of jetties and rocky areas on jig-and-pig combos in the afternoons. Kentucky bass are biting well around current breaks and jetties. Position the boat upstream of the jetty and fish spinnerbaits over the edges. Bream are slow, but a few have been caught in the grass on crickets. Stripers are fair below the dams on bucktail-dressed spoons.

Big Maumelle River: Hatchet Jack's Sport Shop said water conditions are normal. Crappie biting well on pink minnows fished under a slip-cork rig. Bass are fair early in the morning on large minnows and Gilmore Jumper topwaters.

Little Maumelle River: Hatchet Jack's Sport Shop said crappie are fair on white/chartreuse jigs tipped with a pink minnow. Bass are fair on topwaters in the early morning and large minnows during the day.

Murray Lock and Dam: Hatchet Jack's Sport Shop said crappie are biting fairly well on pink minnows. Catfishing is excellent snagging below the dam. Stripers are biting fairly well on a ½-ounce jig with a chartreuse twister tail grub. A few white bass have been caught on Little Georges and twister tail grubs.

Terry Lock and Dam: McSwain Sports Center (501-945-2471) said the water is muddy and the fishing is very slow. Some catfish are biting cut shad fished on the bottom below the dam.

Clear Lake: McSwain Sports Center (501-945-2471) said the water is clear and all fishing has been slow. Crappie are slow, but a few have been caught on pink minnows in 5 to 6 feet of water.

NORTH ARKANSAS

White River: Sportsman's White River Resort said the water has very low oxygen content and the fishing has been poor.

John Berry from Berry Brothers Guide Service said the pattern on the White is for heavy generation around the clock. The catch-and-release section below Bull Shoals Dam will close to all fishing Nov. 1 and will remain closed until Feb. 1. The section from the bottom of this catch-and-release section downstream to the wing wall at the state park is catch-and-release fishing only for the same time period. The upper river below Bull Shoals Dam to Cane Island has not been fishing as well. The Cotter area from the new bridge down to the bottom of Roundhouse Shoals has been fishing a bit better than the upper river. This section has a higher dissolved oxygen level than you may encounter upstream below Bull Shoals Dam. In addition to fishing San Juan worms and midge patterns, be sure and try sow bugs. Rim Shoals has not been fishing as well as it did last week. The hot fly has been the San Juan worm in hot pink and cerise. Remember that there is some limited safe wading in the vicinity of the second island during high water. Stop by Rim Shoals Trout Dock and have them ferry you down for a nominal fee. Crooked Creek has fished well during the last week. Hot flies have been Clouser minnows and crayfish patterns. The creek is low and clear. The section above the Snow access, as well as the lower creek near the confluence with the White River, have been hot spots.

[Mountain River Fly Shop](#) said fishing the White this week has been very good, considering the low dissolved oxygen. The fishing will be up and down during the course of the day, but very good at times. There are some very fat fish in the river that are beautifully colored and hungry. Davy pointed out dynamite worms are working very well, and you can fish standard San Juan's in hot pink, red, brown. Try an attractor egg in front of the worm; flame, orange or yellow seems to be the preference. Streamer anglers also are picking up fish with tungsten slumbusters, sculpin patterns, and larger buggers.

Bull Shoals Lake: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 673.08 feet MSL.

Lake Norfolk: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 562.53 feet MSL.

[101 Grocery and Bait](#) said the water temperature is in the low 70s. Fishing has been good for largemouth, smallmouth and Kentucky bass. Spinnerbaits, crankbaits and jigs fished in the coves and along bluffs have been the top producers. Crappie fishing has been good for some and spotty for others. Fishing around the shore out to about 20 feet from the bank using minnows has worked the best. Bluegill fishing is great using worms and a small split-shot. White bass fishing has been slow. Striper fishing has been slow. Walleye fishing has been slow.

Cranfield Junction Bait and Tackle (870-492-5141) said the water temperature is around 69 degrees and the water is still 12 feet over normal pool. The lake is beginning to turn over. Bream, crappie, catfish, stripers and walleye are all slow. Bass are biting well. Most of the largemouths and Kentuckies are in the shallow areas in the backs of coves. Spinnerbaits, topwaters and soft-plastics are all working well on smaller bass. Very few keepers

are being caught, however.

Norfolk Tailwater: John Berry from Berry Brothers Guide Service said the pattern has been to run one generator around the clock. There have been some limited wading opportunities on the Norfolk. Fishing has been spotty. The flows during the day have been light. The hot flies have been San Juan worms in hot pink and brightly colored eggs. There has been a bit of wading at Quarry Park below the dam along the parking lot for the ramp but with the lower dissolved oxygen the upper river has not fished as well as the lower river. Dry Run Creek is fishing well as always. With the brown trout spawn approaching, some of the browns are beginning to move up in the creek. There are plenty of large trout in the creek already. The hot flies are sow bugs, San Juan worms and egg patterns (peach would be the best color). With school back in session there is hardly anyone there. It is a great time to take your children or grandchildren.

Mountain River Fly Shop said the tailwater has been fishing well, with a surprising number of good catches around the mouth of Dry Run Creek, even during high water. Midges, worms and eggs seem to be the preference. Try bigger midge patterns, such as 14, in black and red, like Clint's Black Tungsten Midge, and Davy's Whitetail Midges in 12 and 14, fished deep.

Spring River: Mark Crawford at **Spring River Fly Shop** said the small rains have helped the flow a bit on the Spring River. The water clarity is extremely clear and caution should be used when sneaking upstream to fish. Quite a few white midges have been hatching lately. A size 20 midge imitator should work well. Drop by the Spring River Fly Shop and pick up a map and a little instruction while you're there.

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS

Beaver Lake: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 1,127.37 feet MSL.

JT's Crappie Guide Service (479-640-3980) said bass fishing has been decent lately. Many small bass have been caught with a few keepers mixed in. Spinnerbaits fished around stumps, trees and rocky points seem to be working best. Many small crappie are being caught, but only a few keepers are being taken lately. The crappie are near standing timber, laydowns and boat docks in 4 to 15 feet of water. Black/chartreuse and yellow/white tubes are the best lures for the crappie. Catfish have been biting well on liver and worms under docks at night and during the day. White bass are schooled up just off main-lake flats. They are suspended over the main channel 20 to 30 feet deep. Find the shad and you'll find the white bass. The Monte-Ne area has been a good place to start.

Southtown Sporting Goods (479-443-7148) said bream are biting well on the upper end of the lake. Crappie are biting well on small tubes and minnows in brush piles from 12 to 15 feet deep. Bass are biting well on shad-colored spinnerbaits. Catfishing is fair on live and prepared baits. Stripers are biting well on spoons and live bait.

Lake Fayetteville: Lake Fayetteville Boat Dock (479-444-3476) said the fishing is as slow as "molasses in cold weather."

Lake Sequoyah: Lake Sequoyah Boat Dock (479-444-3475) said water conditions are normal. All fishing is slow.

Sugarloaf Lake: Midland Minimart (479-639-9467) said the water is clear and at normal level. Bream are fair on crickets. Crappie are biting well on minnows. Bass and catfish are slow.

NORTHEAST ARKANSAS

Henry Gray Hurricane Lake WMA: Judy Potts of Judy's Bait Shoppe at the North entrance to Henry Gray Hurricane Lake WMA reports that fishing reports have been slow to come in because of hunting season. Please wear hunter orange even when fishing to be safe on the area.

Lake Charles: **Lake Charles State Park** (870-878-6595) said the water level is down about 3 feet and the surface temperature ranges from 58 to 60 degrees. The water clarity is around 6 inches. Bream are slow on crickets and worms. Crappie is slow on minnows and crickets. Bass are slow on spinners and crankbaits. Catfish have picked up on trotlines baited with nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

Crown Lake: **Boxhound Marina** (870-670-4496) said the water is at normal level and is very clear. The lake has

seen a lot of wind lately. Crappie fishing is excellent on minnows and jigs. Almost all the anglers on the lake are chasing the good crappie bite right now.

Lake Frierson: [Lake Frierson State Park](#) said very few anglers have visited the state park. Catfish are fair to good on minnows.

SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS

Lake Monticello: Fishing guide Greg Gullledge (870-723-3928) with Basshunters Custom Crankbaits said fishing has really slowed in the last week. There are a few fish schooling around the lake. Some bass have been caught on Basshunter shallow-running crankbaits. The worm bite has fallen off, but there are still a few to be caught. Fishing has really been tough overall.

Lake Chicot: Bass Tracker Marine (870-265-5374) said water conditions are normal. Bream are good on crickets. Crappie are biting well on worms. Bass are biting well on small crankbaits and spinnerbaits.

Grand Lake: Koenig Bass Tracker Marine (870-265-5374) said water conditions are normal. Bream are good on crickets. Crappie are biting well on worms. Bass are biting well on spinnerbaits.

SOUTH CENTRAL ARKANSAS

Moro Bay: [Moro Bay State Park](#) at the conjunction of the Ouachita River, RaymondLake and MoroBay said the river is at 67.5ft above sea level which is only a couple feet above its normal level. It has been dropping about a half a foot to a foot per day. If this continues it will be at the normal 65 feet above sea level in the next few days. A few crappie were caught in the lake last weekend. Crappie should be biting well when the water returns to normal. They bite best here during winter. Some small bass have also been caught by bank fisherman along with some bream. No one has mentioned anything of catfish but that's probably because few people are fishing right now. Most are concentrating on hunting, so don't forget to wear some orange if you get back in the bay or in the lake.

Lower Ouachita River: Water is starting to subside in the Ouachita River lakes. Some people are catching a few crappie along moss lines using shiners. No report on other species.

Tri-County Lake : Small worms on 1/16-oz. weights are working well on bass around channels. People are starting gearing up for catfishing, so the catfish bite should be good in the next few weeks.

SOUTHWEST ARKANSAS

Millwood Lake: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 259.35 feet MSL.

[Millwood Lake Guide Service](#) said water clarity worsened this week from 20-30 mph winds on the main lake. Some high-density broken vegetation and floating mats remain in Little River. Main lake and Little River water surface temperatures are currently ranging from 64 to 70 degrees, depending on location and time of day. The lake level is slowly falling. Current in Little River is 1,169 cubic feet per second. Millwood State Park has one operational boat ramp and one still under repair. Cooler daytime highs in the 60s and nighttime lows in the 40s continue to improve the fishing. Bass continue to feed well and very good schooling activities are being seen in many places around the lake. Chunky bass from 2 to 6 pounds are excellent on Rat-L-Traps in many of the oxbow lakes upriver. Schooling bass seem to take a few hours to get started and best schooling activities are running between noon and 3 p.m. Johnson silver spoons, War Eagle Spinnerbaits, and Bass Assassin Shad jerk baits are the go-to baits when the bass move into the vegetation and remaining lily pads. Swimming white jigs w/ white chunk trailers along the edges and pockets of hydrilla or other open holes in remaining vegetation is still working. Once the sun is up, switch to 10- or 12-inch worms in Peanut Butter and Jelly, Plum or Blue Fleck and fish high density grass, stumps, and cover. Edges of lily pads near deep drops in the clearer water, cypress trees, and stumps in vegetation, remain best locations this week for a better worm bite. White bass remain schooling along with the largemouths in Mud, Horseshoe and McGuire Oxbow lakes this week. Several schools have been biting well on spoons, Rocket Shads, Rat-L-Traps and grubs along Little River between Highway 71

Bridge and the mouth of the Cossatot River. The crappie bite continues improving with the clarity along Little River. The best depth has been 11-12 feet deep over planted brush piles. Blues and channel cats remain consistent on trotlines or yo-yos along the current in Little River.

Cossatot River: Davy Ashcraft at [Cossatot River State Park](#) (870-385-2201) had no report.

Lake Columbia: Steve's Marine (870-234-2222) said bream are moving into the shallows again and starting to bite on worms and crickets. Crappie are biting well during the day and at night on jigs tipped with a minnow. Bass are fair.

Lake Erling: Steve's Marine (870-234-2222) said bream are fair on worms and crickets. Bass are fair. Crappie are biting well on jigs and minnows. Catfishing is fair on nightcrawlers.

White Oak Lake: [White Oak Lake State Park](#) had no report.

Lake Greeson: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 542.78 feet MSL.

Darryl Morris of [Family Fishing Trips Guide Service](#) said surface temperature is 66 to 68 degrees and the lake level is falling. Crappie, bream, black bass and white bass can be caught on live bait 12 to 16 feet deep on hardwood brush piles and bamboo condos in 15 to 24 feet of water. Kentucky bass are feeding aggressively on live bait fished on the bottom around rocky points in 15 to 25 feet of water.

Lakeside Grocery (870-398-5304) said the water is murky and about 68 degrees. The water is still high, but is dropping almost a foot a day. Bream and crappie are slow. Bass are biting well 4 to 9 feet of water on crankbaits. Catfishing is fair on trotlines and jugs baited with minnows and set in 8 to 10 feet of water. White bass are hitting shad-colored crankbaits in 3 to 6 feet of water.

DeGray Lake: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 407.97 feet MSL.

[DeGray Lake Resort](#) said the water is 69 degrees. The water is clearing up. Black bass fishing is tough. Some are being caught, but many anglers are striking out. Bream have moved off their beds. The catfish are starting bite well. Hybrids are breaking more now than they have in the last 3 years on the south end of the lake; they are coming up and staying longer. There are no moss or grass beds to speak of, so it's been little tougher than usual out there.

Charles at [Iron Mountain Lodge and Marina](#) said the water temperature is 70 degrees and falling. Largemouth bass are biting well on 11-inch redbug, cherryseed, tequila green and bloodline worms. Some bass are schooling early and late and are being caught on Zara Spooks, Tiny Torpedoes, Rooster Tails and watermelonseed jigs. Kentucky bass are biting well on live crayfish fished around drop offs and points around DeRoche and Caddo Bend in 20 to 26 feet of water. Hybrids are biting well on live shad. They are schooling early and late and are biting well on top-water lures and large CC spoons. The Dam and Caddo Bend are good places to try, as are the drop offs directly across from Iron Mountain. The Hybrids seem to be holding to 24-28 feet deep. Crappie are biting well on Tennessee shad grubs and live minnows fished around moss flats and points in 18 to 20 feet of water. Brush piles from 20 to 25 feet deep are also holding some crappie. Catfishing is good on jugs and trotlines baited with minnows or cut shad. Bream are excellent on worms and crickets fished 6 to 12 feet deep.

WEST-CENTRAL ARKANSAS

Lake Dardanelle: Eric Pratt at [Lake Dardanelle State Park](#) said the water is still very murky. The surface water temperature is around 62 degrees. A forecasted release on Lake Dardanelle is expected to be around 25,000 cubic feet per second. Bass fishing on Dardanelle is beginning to improve. Some good keepers are being caught by anglers fishing very slowly. Texas-rigged 10-inch worms and ½-ounce jigs are working when crawled around rocky areas and brush piles. Black spinnerbaits have been effective as well, but a slow retrieve is the key. A few anglers have reported catching crappie around brush piles fishing with minnows. Catfish have slowed down from the cooler water temperatures. Catfish can be caught using cut shad, nightcrawlers, liver and some artificial baits. Bluegill, redear and green sunfish are still biting well on crickets.

Murphy's Sporting Goods (479-229-3200) said the water is muddy and high. Bass are the best thing going on crankbaits near rocky points.

[Spadra Marina](#) on Lake Dardanelle in Clarksville reports daily limits coming in on crappie. Crappie are biting on the bottom on light-colored Panfish Assassins with black specks. Cream and white jigs are doing best. Channel

cats have been biting on livers, while blue and flatheads are sticking to cut shad and stink bait. The bass are fair at best.

Ozark Pool: Lakeside Food Mart (479-667-5155) said the water is muddy and at normal level. Bream are slow, but a few have been caught deep on worms and crickets. Crappie are fair on minnows. Bass are fair. White bass are slow. Catfishing is fair on live and prepared baits.

Lake Ouachita: As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 577.79 feet MSL.

[Mountain Harbor Resort](#) said the water temperature is 66 to 72 degrees. Largemouth bass are biting well on spinnerbaits and lipless crankbaits fished around grass. Kentucky bass and largemouths are still breaking the surface on cloudy days as well. Walleye are fair on spoons fished over main-lake points with brush. Stripers are biting well on live shad and trotline minnows. Heavy jigs and spoons are working as well. Bream are biting well in 18 to 25 feet of water on crickets and worms. Crappie are excellent over brush in 20 to 30 feet of water on minnows and Tennessee shad crappie grubs. Catfish are fair and being caught on cut bait and live bait fished from jugs and trotlines.

Larry Hurley from [Poorman's Guide Service](#) said bass fishing is the hottest fishing on the lake right now. Anglers are catching large bass by punching the grass with a 1-oz. Revenge jig and a Berkley Chigger Craw trailer. Green colors are working the best. Bass up to 7 lbs. have been caught lately.

Dave Lindhag at [Striped Bass Adventures](#) said the water temperature is looking great for some breaking fish, but the cold fronts have really kept things from starting. You can pick up a fish here and there but limits are tough to come by. When you find a school of stripers, they are moving quite a bit. The breaking action should be any day now, but things are slow at the moment.

Lake Hamilton: Red Tuggle at Gene Lockwood's said the drawdown should begin on November 1 in Hamilton. During the drawdown, fishing will really slack off, but as soon as it stabilizes the fishing will really pick up quickly. Crayfish will be looking for new homes and the bass will be feeding. Look for gently sloping banks near the shallows and fish crayfish-colored Bandit and Deep Wee R crankbaits. Buzzbaits worked around any stickups will also produce fish. The nastier the weather, the better the bite will get. Crappie will move a bit deeper during the drawdown. Some walleye have moved up a little, but it's still a little early for the good fishing.

Lake Catherine: Shane Goodner, owner of [Catch'em All Guide Service](#), reports that the winter drawdown will begin Nov. 17 and finish Nov. 23 for Lake Catherine. A 3-foot drop is scheduled instead of last year's 5-foot level. White bass and hybrid action has been very good below the dam as these fish gorge themselves on the threadfin shad schools. Anglers casting 1/8- and 1/4-ounce jigs in white or gray around rocks and sand bars have caught fish at will during periods of generation. Most of the white bass are 1 to 2 pounds with hybrids as large as 9 pounds reported. Trolling the channels has been effective for boaters targeting larger fish. Minnow and crawfish lures that run 5 to 6 feet deep have produced the best results. Several walleye around 5 pounds have been caught as well. The colder temperatures at night will cause the shad to migrate away from the dam in search of warmer water. This migration will take the game fish with it. Large stripers have already vanished, but can reappear at any time. Rainbow trout stocking will start again in mid-November.

Diamondhead Marina said the water is at normal level and clarity. Bass fishing is good on various artificial lures around the shoreline.

Lake Hinkle: Bill's Bait Shop (479-637-4719) said water conditions are normal. Bream are fair on crickets. Crappie are biting well on minnows. Bass are fair on large bass minnows. Catfishing is fair on trotlines baited with live bait.

Lake Atkins: Lucky Landing (479-641-7615) said bream are biting well on worms and crickets. Crappie are moving to coves and are biting well on minnows and jigs. Bass are slowing down, but are biting well on soft-plastic worms and buzzbaits. Catfishing is good on cut bait and live shad.

EAST ARKANSAS

Arkansas River (Pine Bluff): The Tackle Box (870) 534-1948 said the water is muddy and cold with slow current. Bream are fair on worms and crickets. Crappie are excellent in the bar pits. Bass are biting well on jigs. Catfishing is fair.

White River: Triangle Sports (870-793-7122) said some of the oxbow lakes have some good crappie fishing in

18 to 20 feet of water.

Maddox Bay: Maddox Bay Landing (870-462-8317) said crappie are biting fairly well on minnows and jigs in 18 to 24 feet of water. Bass are biting well on spinnerbaits and crankbaits.

Bear Creek Lake: Arkansas Outdoors (870-295-4240) said the water is clear and low. There have been no anglers on the lake lately.

Horseshoe Lake: Local angler Clyde Gregory said the water is in very good condition right now. Bream are slow. Crappie anglers are doing well trolling minnows and jigs in the middle of the lake. Bass are slow. Catfishing is very good on cut bait and stink bait.

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