

Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

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Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Randy Zellers (501)223-6406, e-mail: rdzellers@agfc.state.ar.us**June 17, 2009 Edition**

This is the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's fishing report for **June 17, 2009**. 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: Don't put up those jerkbaits because it's summer. A good way to catch big bass is to fish a slender jerkbait such as a Rogue slowly across the surface with a steady retrieve. The "V" wake from the bait will draw big fish to the surface when they just won't commit to standard top-water lures.

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: Catfish are in Community fishing ponds statewide. Nightcrawlers fished just off the bottom on a slip cork or on bottom with a bell sinker are working well. Many of the ponds are full of bream as well. Crickets fished under a bobber will catch plenty of bream. For more stocking information, call the Hotline at 1-866-540-FISH (3474) toll-free.

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Central Arkansas**Lake Conway:**

Bates Field and Stream (501-470-1846) said the water is clear and back to normal. Bream are being caught on redworms and crickets. Crappie are biting fairly well on shiners near trees. Bass are biting fairly well on spinnerbaits. Catfishing is slow.

Dan at Gold Creek Landing said bass are biting fairly well early in the morning on buzzbaits. Crappie have been hitting fairly well around live cypress trees in 5 to 6 feet of water. Bream are biting well on redworms and crickets. Catfishing is good on trotlines baited with bream.

Little Red River:

Lindsey's Resort (501-302-3139) said the fishing is excellent. The water level varies and no generators were used on Saturday until noon. Trout are biting well on Power Bait and wax worms.

Jed Hollan at the **Little Red Fly Shop** said the Southwestern Power Administration (SWPA) has been controlling the water releases at Greers Ferry the last few weeks. Mid to late morning releases have been occurring. The dissolved oxygen (DO) in our river water is averaging 8.4 parts per million with an average temperature of 51 degrees Fahrenheit at the dam. These are excellent numbers – healthy enough to support a trout spawn. Aquatic insect hatches continue with midge, BWO, March brown, sulphur and caddis in the mix. I also have had reports of hexagenia limbata mayflies (hexes) coming off sporadically in small numbers. Hexes are our largest mayfly, measuring around 2 inches in length. Good dry flies to try include midge (sizes 22-32; cream), para sulphur (size 18), parachute Adams (size 18), blue-winged olive (sizes 18-20), March brown (size 14), elk hair caddis (sizes 16-20; tan or black) or crackleback (size 12). Sub-surface flies that are working well include sowbug (sizes 14-16; smoky olive, tan, UV tan, UV light gray, peacock), chronic (size 14), zebra midge (sizes 16-22; red, copper or black), copper john (a good sulphur nymph imitation, sizes 14-16; green or copper), red or green butt soft hackle (sizes 14-18), pheasant tail (size 16), San Juan worm (size 14; red, fl. cerise or worm brown) or woolly bugger (sizes 8-12; olive, black or brown).

Greers Ferry:

As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 468.11 feet MSL.

Tommy Cauley of Fish Finder Guide Service said the water level at Greers Ferry is falling and it looks like it should be back to 4 feet above pool by July 4. Many black bass are still shallow and can be caught on top-water lures, buzzbaits, spinnerbaits and soft-plastics. The deeper fish can be caught on Carolina-rigged worms and lizards, Texas-rigged worms and football head jigs dragged along ledges. Catfish are biting everything everywhere, especially trotlines and jugs baited with soap and bream. The walleye fishing is hit-or-miss, but when it's good, it's good. Most angler catching fish are using nightcrawlers or bass tackle around flooded bushes. Bream fishing is good all over the lake. Whites and hybrids have slowed in places and picked up in places and can be caught with spoons and in-line spinners. Word has gotten out about the night fishing under lights and boats are stacked on top of one another, but not all are catching fish.

Shiloh Marina (501-825-6237) said the water is clear and a little high. Walleye were being caught on nightcrawlers last weekend. No report on any other species.

Harris Brake Lake:

Coffee Creek Landing (501-889-2745) said the water is back to normal and murky. Fishing is slow, and there's not much to report.

Lake Overcup:

Local angler Steve Warren said bass are biting well on buzzbaits in the morning and bloodline-colored soft-plastics during the day.

Lakeview Landing (501-354-1470) said the water is high and murky. Bream are biting fairly well on crickets. Crappie are slow. Bass are biting well on black/blue jigs. Catfish were biting well on crayfish and goldfish.

Overcup Landing (501-354-9007) said the water is a little high and murky. Fishing is slow for all species.

Brewer Lake:

Overcup Landing (501-354-9007) said the water is a little high and clear. Bream are biting well on redworms and crickets near the banks. Crappie are biting well on small minnows near brush tops. Bass are biting fairly well on top-water plugs and soft-plastic crayfish. Catfish are fair on trotlines baited with live bait.

Lake Maumelle:

Jolly Roger's Marina said the average surface water temperature is 75 degrees and the water level is 1.2 inches above the spillway. Largemouth bass are excellent in 6 to 12 feet of water. Deep-running crankbaits, heavy spinnerbaits and jigs are working well. Kentucky bass are biting well in 6 to 14 feet of water on jigs, tubes and deep-diving crankbaits. White bass are biting well and are schooling in the middle of the lake from North Shore to just north of Jims Island. CC spoons and clear Near Nuttings or Rogues are working well. Crappie are biting well

in 15 to 20 feet of water on minnows and 1/32-oz. jigs. Bream are moving to shallow cover and are biting excellently on worms and crickets. Saugeye are fair in 10 to 15 feet of water on Road Runners and jigs. Catfishing is good on minnows, worms and prepared baits in 8 to 15 feet of water.

Hatchet Jack's Sport Shop (501-758-4958) said the water is back to normal level and clear. The bream are biting well on crickets in deep water. There is no report on crappie. Bass are biting well on motor oil-colored plastic worms. Catfish are good on live bream.

Lake Valencia:

Hatchet Jack's Sport Shop (501-758-4958) said the water is back to normal level and stained. Bream are biting well on crickets. Bass are biting well on white or chartreuse spinnerbaits. Catfishing is good on nightcrawlers and package bait.

Sunset Lake:

Turbyfill's Outdoor Sports (501-315-3061) said the water is normal and clear. Bream are biting well on crickets. Crappie are slow. Bass are biting crankbaits fairly well. Catfishing is excellent on stinkbait and chicken liver.

Saline River Access in Benton:

Turbyfill's Outdoor Sports (501-315-3061) said the water is normal and clear. The bream are biting well on crickets. Crappie are slow. Bass are biting well on small crankbaits. Catfishing is good on stinkbait and chicken liver.

Arkansas River at Morrilton:

Charley's Hidden Harbor in Oppelo said the flow is 57,000 and boaters are beginning to get on the river again. Bas are biting well on green pumpkin Zoom U-tail worms fished along the front side of jetties. Catfishing is good on and around jetties on shad fillets. Bream are moving to the sandbars and are bedding up. Crappie are in 3 to 6 feet of water and are fair on minnows.

Arkansas River at Little Rock:

Vince Miller from **Fish N' Stuff** (501-834-5733) said the water is down and muddy. There is no report on crappie, but bass are biting fairly well on spinnerbaits or jigs. Bream are biting well on worms. Catfishing is good on cut bait and bream.

Hatchet Jack's Sport Shop (501-758-4958) said at Fourche La Fave the bream are biting well on crickets, bass are biting well on buzzbaits and chartreuse spinnerbaits, and catfishing is good on large minnows and cut shad. At Fourche Creek bream are biting well on redworms, crappie are slow, bass are biting well on pearl colored crankbaits and chartreuse spinnerbaits, and catfish are biting well on cut shad and large minnows. At the Maumelle River the bream are biting well on redworms, bass are biting well on white crankbaits and spinnerbaits, and catfishing is good on cut shad and large minnows. In the Little Maumelle River, the bream are biting well on redworms, bass are biting well on plastic worms, and catfishing is good on cut shad and large minnows. At Burns Park the bream are biting well on crickets, the bass are biting well on chartreuse spinnerbaits and catfishing is good on skipjack and nightcrawlers.

McSwain Sports Center (501-945-2471) said at Terry Lock and Dam, the water is normal and clear. Bream are biting well on redworms and crickets. Bass and catfish are fair on jigs.

Clear Lake:

McSwain Sports Center (501-945-2471) said the water is normal and clear. Bream are biting well on redworms. Crappie are slow. The bass are biting fairly well on buzzbaits, frogs and other top-water lures. Catfishing is fair on skipjack and nightcrawlers.

Peckerwood Lake:

Herman's Landing (870-241-3731) said the water is a little high and dingy but clearing. The bream are biting well on crickets. The crappie are biting well on jigs. Bass are slow. Catfishing is good.

Pickthorne Lake:

Hatchet Jack's Sport Shop (501-758-4958) said the bream are biting well on crickets. Crappie are slow. Catfishing is good on nightcrawlers and large minnows. Bass are biting electric blue or Junebug-colored worms.

North Arkansas

White River:

John Berry from [Berry Brothers Guide Service](#) said the pattern on the White was for around-the-clock generation of moderate flows with a few significant periods of no generation. This created some excellent conditions for drift fishing and some limited but excellent wading. The catch-and-release section below Bull Shoals Dam has been fishing extremely well. Anglers reported success on midge larva patterns. The most effective were zebra midges in black or red with silver wire and silver beads (sizes 14-16). Other hot patterns have been pheasant tails and egg patterns. During the recent periods of no generation, anglers have done very well on partridge and orange soft hackles and green butts. There have been some decent midge hatches. The best fly for the midge hatches have been Dan's turkey tail emerger. Wildcat Shoals has fished extremely well. There have been some prolific sulphur hatches in the late afternoon. Though there has been some limited dry fly fishing, the most productive technique has been to swing soft hackles when the trout are keying in on the emerging sulphurs. The most productive flies for this situation have been partridge and orange and pheasant tail soft hackles. Rim Shoals has fished well. The sulphur hatch is still coming off on most days, but is diminished. The trout have not keyed in on the adults, but have been very active on the emergers. The best fly for this situation has been the partridge and orange soft hackle. The most productive way to fish the hatch however has been to fish copper John nymphs before during and after the hatches.

[Mountain River Fly Shop](#) said moderate flows on the White were broken up Wednesday with low water. Those lucky enough to be on the water caught them. Relatively low flows in the mornings have opened up some wading throughout the system. Black and silver zebras, Clint's black tungsten midge, and Davy Wotton's super midges and white tails have been doing very well. In bright conditions, add the rainbow warrior and blue poison tung. In overcast conditions, add black and copper, or copper brown midges. Sowbugs have been very good. Davy's Sows in size 16 and 18, Clint's Sowbug, Tailwater Sowbugs and McLellan's Woven V-Rib Sowbug all have been popular. Dry flies have been hot on low water. The fish are surface-oriented in these flows and while there are plenty of sulphurs coming off, patterns seem less important than getting the fly in front of a feeding fish. Elk hair caddis, hi-vis ants and parachute Adams have been doing as well.

[Sportsman's White River Resort](#) (870-453-2424) said the water fluctuates because they are turning the generators off in the morning and on in the evening and are using 2-3 generators at a time. Fishing is good on Power Bait and small spoons when water levels are low, and jigs and Rapalas when the water is higher.

White River (From Buffalo Shoals to Norfolk):

Jim Brentlinger at [Linger's Guide Service and Fishing Lodge](#) (870-499-5185) said conditions are pretty much the same as last week. The moss coming down the river from Bull Shoals has made fishing difficult. Artificials are almost impossible to throw because of the moss.

Crooked Creek:

John Berry of [Berry Brothers Guide Service](#) said Crooked Creek and the Buffalo River are starting to clear. With lower flows the bass fishing should start picking up. Try Clouser minnows and crawfish patterns and concentrate on structure like rock shelves and fallen trees.

Bull Shoals Lake:

As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 670.35 feet MSL.

Bob Pauletti (870-656-3350) with [Bull Shoals Lake Boat Dock](#) said bass fishing has been good. Spoons, cast up to the bank and worked back to the 25-foot range has been the best technique. The top-water bite is also good early and late in the day. A jig-and-pig, hula jig or a grub on a ¼-oz. jighead will work well on smallmouth. Night fishing has really picked up, with crankbaits, spinnerbaits and jigs the most effective.

Lake Norfolk:

As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 562.58 feet MSL.

[101 Grocery and Bait](#) said the water temperature is in the upper 70s. Bream fishing is good on worms, crickets and minnows. Crappie fishing is good on minnows fished at various depths from 5 to 30 feet deep. Striper fishing is fair, live bait and top-water lures have produced a few in the morning and evening. Catfishing has been productive on trotlines and jug fishing using a variety of bait from cut bait to goldfish, chicken livers and shiners. Bass fishing is good. Walleye fishing is fair on live bait, spinnerbaits and crankbaits in less than 20 feet of water. White bass fishing has been fair; they have been surfacing in the mornings for a very short time and most are being caught on inline spinners and Road Runners fished from 5 to 20 feet deep.

Norfolk Tailwater:

John Berry from [Berry Brothers Guide Service](#) said generation has been very limited, which has created some excellent wading. The overall quality of fishing on the Norfolk Tailwater remains poor. If you want to avoid the crowds, fish very early. The most productive flies have been small black zebra midges, Norfolk beadheads and red micro San Juan worms. On higher water fish brightly colored San Juan worms and egg patterns. Dry Run Creek is fishing well. School is out and there is more pressure on the creek as families begin to take vacations. The hot fly is the sowbug. Always use heavy tippet (at least 4X) and carry the biggest net you can lay your hands on.

[Mountain River Fly Shop](#) said the Norfolk continues to offer plenty of wading and some great fishing. Norfolk has been fishing well with zebra midges and sowbugs, and swung soft hackles. But don't leave home without some dry flies. Parachute Adams is the obvious, but some parachute midges, Morgan's midge, hi-vis ants and sprouts also are worth carrying.

Jim Brentlinger at [Linger's Guide Service and Fishing Lodge](#) (870-499-5185) said fishing is poor in the Norfolk tailwater. Some small fish can be caught on Power Bait and jigs fished from the confluence of the White and North Fork to the first island upstream.

Northwest Arkansas**Beaver Lake:**

As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 1,128.87 feet MSL.

[JT's Crappie Guide Service](#) (479-640-3980) said bass fishing is fair on Carolina-rigged finesse worms fished across main lake humps, points and flats. A popper fished close to flooded cover will work early in the morning and late in the evening. Crappie fishing has been challenging but productive. Try a black/chartreuse tube on a 1/16-oz. jighead and fish close to standing timber along bluff lines and channel drops just off the bottom in 20 to 30 feet of water. The best fishing for white bass has been at night along bluff lines with sharp drops into the main channel. Use lights to attract minnows and fish small dark-colored jigs and minnows 10 to 25 feet deep around the lights. Some walleye and crappie can also be expected. Catfish are biting well from the bank at night lake-wide on nightcrawlers and liver.

Southtown Sporting Goods (479-443-7148) said the water is a little high and clear and about 70-75 degrees. The bream are slow but biting on crickets. The crappie are biting well on minnows and small jigs near brush piles. Bass are biting well in the morning on topwaters, and late evening on spinnerbaits and plastic worms. Catfishing is fair using trotlines with live bait.

Beaver Tailwaters:

Ken Richards at [Just Fishing Guides](#) said the tailwater has been fishing very well. Generation has been very low, so wading and bank fishing are easily accomplished. Warmer days mean trout will be active from dawn till mid-morning then again later in the afternoon to evening. Afternoon fishing can be productive, but fish will be spooky and fairly deep. Copper Johns, hares ear nymphs and scuds are very productive. Watch for morning and evening midge hatches and switch to zebra or beadhead midges. Rooster Tails and pink jigs are working well in deep pools.

Kings River:

Ken Richards at [Just Fishing Guides](#) said the water is perfect for fishing. Sunfish and smallmouth are on beds and are very aggressive. Fly-fish or spin fish with lures that get to the bottom. Green and brown colored lures are working well.

Lake Fayetteville:

Lake Fayetteville Boat Dock (479-444-3476) said the water is clear and at normal level. Bluegill are biting well on crickets and worms. Catfishing is excellent on chicken liver and Magic Bait. Bass are excellent on top-water lures and soft-plastic worms.

Lake Sequoyah:

Lake Sequoyah Boat Dock (479-444-3475) said the water is about 2 feet high and dingy. Bream are biting fairly well on worms and crickets. Crappie are biting well on minnows and Roadrunners around shallow treetops and brush. Bass are fair on soft-plastic worms and buzzbaits in 2-3 feet of water. Catfishing is good in 8-10 feet of

water on chicken liver and shad.

Northeast Arkansas

Henry Gray Hurricane Lake WMA:

Judy Potts of Judy's Bait Shoppe at the North entrance to Henry Gray Hurricane Lake WMA said water levels were dropping but will rise some before starting to drop again. Fishing has been very good for bream, crappie, and bass. Some Catfish have been caught on yo-yos. Bolie Pond has been reported for producing quite a few crappie and bream. Honey Lake and Big Bell Lake have continued to produce limit catches of bream. Hurricane is good for crappie and bass with minnows, jigs and top-water lures. Mallard pond water levels have dropped but the anglers are still getting crappie and bream. Some of the lower level campgrounds are still a little wet from all the rain, but should dry out quickly. Crayfish are still in abundance. For more information, call Judy's Bait Shoppe, (501) 428-8726. Our last day of business at this location will be July 8.

Crown Lake:

Boxhound Marina (870-670-4496) said the water is normal and clear. The bream are biting well on crickets. Crappie are biting fairly well on minnows. Catfishing is good on chicken liver. No report on bass.

Lake Frierson:

Lake Frierson State Park said the water is high and muddy. There is no report on bass or crappie. Catfish are biting well on chicken liver. Bream are biting fairly well on crickets.

Spring River:

Mark Crawford at **Spring River Fly Shop** said flows have been around 420 cfs, which is about average. Water clarity has been good with occasional rains keeping it from being crystal clear. Fishing has been excellent with a variety of flies. Early morning hours are very productive with a variety of nymphs. During the heat of the day streamers produce well when you can get them deep.

Southeast Arkansas

Lake Chicot:

Lakeshore Motel and Marina (870-265-9901) said the water is at normal stage and is continuing to fall about 1 to 2 inches a day. The bream are starting to bed up, and many have been caught in the last week. Some crappie are still being caught on jigs in deeper water, but it's slowed. Catfishing is good on crickets around cypress trees in the day and minnows, shad and stinkbait at night. Bass fishing is fair.

Lake Monticello:

Fishing guide Greg Gullidge (870-723-3928) of **MonticelloBigBass.com** said Lake Monticello is settling into summertime patterns. Surface temps are in the 80s. Bass are schooling early if you are lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time. Topwaters and Rat-L-Traps have been the ticket for schoolers. The soft plastic bite is getting better in the 7- to 12-foot depth range. Watermelon/red and tequila sunrise worms and brush hogs have been taking their shares. Bream fishing is consistent with good numbers of fish caught. Big bream have been very spotty, with one here and one there. Crickets and worms have been the most productive baits.

Southwest Arkansas

Millwood Lake:

As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 259.63 feet MSL.

Millwood Lake Guide Service said Millwood Lake will be drawn down beginning July 13 to control unwanted vegetation and make scheduled repairs. The lake will be drawn to 255.2, 4 feet below normal pool, until February 2010. Boaters should exercise extreme caution because submerged stumps and shallow areas will begin to appear. Also, boaters should be cautious when launching because of damage or sediment buildup that may have occurred at the ends of the ramps.

As of Monday, May 15, the lake is 5.9 inches above normal pool and falling. Main lake and Little River's water

surface temperatures range from 73 to 78 degrees. Discharge was 8,057 CFS and main lake visibility is 3-4 inches away from any remaining current in Little River. USACE campgrounds Paraloma Park and Beards Lake are closed for camping. Bass are steadily improving their appetites. The best bite last week was from daylight till about 11 a.m. on weightless trick worms or wacky rigs in Junebug, grasshopper, or kiwi colors, Bass Assassin Shad jerk baits and buzzbaits the clearest water you can find. Rat-L-Traps in Millwood Magic, Firetiger or Bleeding White Shad colors are working for a solid reaction bite up Little River. Deep Little N's and Bomber crankbaits in brown back/orange belly crayfish patterns are still taking some keepers. Siefert's buzzbaits in Firecracker, Lime Sherbet, or Electric Chicken colors and spinnerbaits in Aurora, Sparkling Mouse, or Spot Remover colors are working. White bass are holding deep in Little River drops and washouts around 18-25 feet deep, but were only fair on jigging spoons. Crappie continue to improve. Blakemore Roadrunners and tube jigs in chartreuse/white and live shiners continue to be the best lures. Channel Cats are good to excellent on cut shad and chicken livers on yo-yo's hung from cypress trees over 8-9 feet of water near Little River.

White Oak Lake:

Local angler John Tilley said the water temperature is rising and the water level is dropping. Bass fishing has been spotty with a few caught on plastic worms. Bream fishing still good when you can find the beds. Most bites are coming on crickets and worms. Catfishing has been excellent on noodles baited with live bait, especially at night.

Lake Greeson:

Darryl Morris of [Family Fishing Trips Guide Service](#) said the water temperature has already reached the mid-80s and the water level is 547.15 msl. Water through the dam is scheduled at normal flow. Crappie are biting well around bamboo condos and brush piles 6-12 feet deep in 10-24 feet of water. They are very shallow for this time of year because the dissolved oxygen content in the water below 15-feet is nearly nonexistent. Bass that are being caught are full of crayfish. Top-water baits in the early morning and jigs worked slowly along the bottom later in the day should boat fish. Bass and walleye have also been caught on trolled crankbaits.

DeGray Lake:

As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports the lake's elevation at 405.13 feet MSL.

Local angler George Graves said the water is in the low to mid-80s and clear. Hybrid fishing remains good throughout the lower part of the lake. The fish are in their summer patterns and can be found schooling and feeding on shad almost every morning at sunrise. Quite a few big fish, (8 to 10 pounds) are being reported. The best spots are along the state park from the Route 7 dike to Caddo Bend. There also have been some reports from around the dam. Look for any breaking fish on points outside big coves and use your sonar to pinpoint the school. Some areas to try are the cove adjacent to the DeRoche Ridge boat ramp, the big cove on the west side of the park lodge causeway, the point and cove at the end of DeRoche campground and just inside the cove at the state park marina. Best lures are jigging spoons and in-line spinners. Most fish will be in the thermocline, about 15 to 25 feet down. Bass fishing is fair with a few decent catches reported. Early in the morning the bass are breaking and feeding on shad on most shallow points in the lower lake. Use a swim bait or fluke-type lure and try to hit the spot where the fish are breaking. Later in the morning, use a Texas-rigged worm, a jig or a spinnerbait and fish between 10 and 20 feet deep. Bream fishing is still good, but has slowed since the full moon. Fish secondary points in 5 to 10 feet of water and use either crickets or redworms. Crappie fishing is slow with only a few coming off deep (20 to 25 feet) brush piles. Minnows and Tennessee shad grubs are working best. Try brush piles around Caddo Drive and Arlie Moore. Brushy Creek also will produce some summer crappies.

DeGray One Stop (501-865-3511) had no report.

West-Central Arkansas

Lake Winona:

Local angler Steve Warren said bass are biting well on Devil's Horses worked across the flats early in the morning. Later in the day, switch to a Texas-rigged bloodline worm or slow-roll a spinnerbait for a bigger bite. Crappie are slow, but the south end of the lake is producing a few.

Lake Dardanelle:

Regina Olson at [Spadra Marina](#) said fishing has slowed from last week. The best bet for action is to get a tube of crickets and fish for bream. The water level has been stable and near normal. Catfish are still doing well on cut shad and stinkbait. Crappie are biting for about 2 hours a day some time between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Largemouth bass are starting to become more active; they are chasing black/blue and white spinners. Bass fishermen are also beginning to do well on frogs early in the mornings.

Murphy's Sporting Goods (770-228-0200) said the water is muddy. Bream are biting well on worms and crickets. Catfishing is good on shad and nightcrawlers. Bass are fair on crankbaits and soft-plastic worms.

Blue Mountain Lake:

Teresa at CD's Quick Stop (479-947-2178) said the water is high and murky. There is no report for bream or bass. Crappie are biting well on minnows. Catfishing is good on chicken liver.

Ozark Pool:

Lakeside Food Mart (479-667-5155) said the water is muddy and a little high. The bream are biting fairly well on crickets and nightcrawlers. Crappie are biting well on minnows and jigs. Catfishing is good on cut bait and nightcrawlers. Black bass are fair on crankbaits, spinnerbaits and soft plastics.

Lake Ouachita:

As of Tuesday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had no elevation available.

Larry Hurley from **Poorman's Guide Service** said bass fishing is good. Fish are suspending over points and can be caught on shad-colored spinnerbaits and top-water baits early in the morning. When the morning bite dies, switch to a jig or Texas-rigged worm. Bream are biting well with many on the beds. Stripers are fair around the dam, but anglers are concentrated there.

Mountain Harbor Resort said the water level is at 578.48 msl and the surface temperature is 78-82 degrees. Largemouth bass are biting well on flukes and other shad-imitating baits on main and secondary points. Top-water lures are working well early and late in the day. Walleye are biting well on bottom bouncers and Lindy rigs fished around main lake points with brush. Trolling bream-colored crankbaits has also worked for walleye. Stripers are still excellent on live shad or trotline minnows. Top-water action is still good on C-10 Redfins. Bream are still excellent on worms or crickets in 6 to 12 feet of water. Crappie are good and being caught near brush or over moss. Try brush in water 20 to 30 feet deep and moss flats 10 to 20 feet deep. Minnows or crappie grubs are still working best. Catfish are very good and being caught on cut bait and live bait on jug lines and trotlines.

Trader Bill's Outdoor Sports had no report.

Lake Hamilton:

Trader Bill's Outdoor Sports had no report.

Lake Catherine:

Shane Goodner, owner of **Catch'em All Guide Service**, reports that Entergy has greatly reduced the amount of flow coming from the dam, which has made boating and fishing much better and safer. Water clarity is good and temperatures have risen into the high 50s as the outside air warms into the mid 90s. Round-the-clock generation continues to be the norm, but the turbines are running considerably slower. Rainbow trout fishing remains slow, but has improved during the last few days. Boaters have trolled the main channels with small crawfish crankbaits with good success. Shad imitations will work, but with the thousands of threadfin shad spawning in the tailrace, the trout are keying on different prey items. Bank fishermen have taken limits of trout using redworms and nightcrawlers fished just off the bottom. Fly fishermen are now able to wade to areas that hold fish and have done fairly well on olive-colored woolly buggers and red San Juan worms fished under a strike indicator. Egg patterns work best under these conditions where forage is readily available. Striper and hybrid schooling has been observed below the bridge. Top-water action is fast and furious, but only lasts a short time. Casting trout colored C-10 Redfins and Super Spooks have taken striper in the 20-pound class with larger fish being broken off. Live bait rigs of brood and gizzard shad fished under a balloon always work well with the larger fish that feed voraciously on trout and shad.

Lake Hinkle:

Bill's Bait Shop (479-637-4719) said the water is at normal level and clear. Bream are biting well on crickets and worms. Crappie are slow, but a few have come from deep water on a jig-and-minnow combination. Bass are biting well on spinnerbaits and top-water lures. Catfishing is good on trotlines baited with minnows, bream and goldfish.

Lake Atkins:

Lucky Landing (479-641-7615) said the water is high and clearing. Bream are biting well on crickets. Catfish are biting well on live and prepared baits. Crappie and bass are slow.

South Central Arkansas

Moro Bay:

Moro Bay State Park at the junction of the Ouachita River, Raymond Lake and Moro Bay said the water level is falling very slowly. Rod-and-reel fishing of all kinds is difficult and water conditions are unsafe in the river for boating. The state park is closed. To stay updated on when conditions will return to normal you can check out the National Weather Service Web site at: www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/.

Tri-County Lake:

The water is beginning to drop. Some anglers have made it to the water and are doing well on bass. Fishing is slow at first, but picks up at around mid-morning. Shallow crankbaits, finesse worms and top-water frogs are working well around any growing moss.

Ouachita River Oxbows:

Things are starting to come around. The Ouachita is still high and at flood stage in places, but people are starting to catch crappie on minnows around submerged tops. Catfish are good in channels with running water on trotlines. Bass seem to be hit-or-miss. A few have been caught on light-colored crankbaits and soft plastics fished around brush tops.

East Arkansas

Arkansas River at Pine Bluff:

The Tackle Box (870-534-1498) said the water is a little high and muddy. Bream are biting excellently on wax worms, redworms and crickets. Crappie are biting well on shiners. Bass are biting well on soft-plastic worms, lizards and buzzbaits. Catfishing is good on cut bait and skipjack.

White River:

Triangle Sports (870-793-7122) said the water is high and muddy. Bass are fair. No report on bream, crappie or catfish.

Maddox Bay:

Maddox Bay Landing (870-462-8317) said the water is high and clear. Bream are biting well on crickets. Catfishing is good on trotlines baited with minnows or "Doc's Bait."

Bear Creek Lake:

Arkansas Outdoors (870-295-4240) had no report.

Island 40 Chute:

Daily's Boat Dock (870-739-3478) said the water level varies and is clearing. Catfishing is excellent on stinkbait. Bass are fair on spinnerbaits and crankbaits on the levee side. A few crappie have been caught on minnows, but it's still slow.

Horseshoe Lake:

Local angler Clyde Gregory said the water is normal and clear. Bream are biting well in shallow water near cypress trees on worms. Crappie are biting well near piers on minnows and black/chartreuse jigs. Bass are slow on spinnerbaits. Catfishing is good on cut bait and Catfish Charlie.

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