

Mission of the Lake Fork Sportsman's Association

- Promote sportsmanship and the protection of natural resources
- Promote the quality of Lake Fork fishery and other outdoor recreational activities
- Promote the future of angling through youth programs
- Promote a spirit of cooperation with local, county, state, and federal governmental agencies, and other civic organizations for the purpose of improving Lake Fork and its surrounding communities
- Promote items of interest of the membership at large

7th Annual Lake Fork Catfish Classic



The 2015 Catfish Classic on Lake Fork is in the books. Tournament partners Lake Fork Sportsman's Association and Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce call the event a major success. Participating anglers were up over last year and just exciting more families participated. This was the second year for kids 12 and under to fish free when fishing with a paid adult. It paid off with a number of young anglers winning big money.



Peaches Miller was the winner of the \$250 Early Entry drawing. Peaches and her family entered the tournament on June 12.

Friday June 19 was set-up and registration day. This year we had help from Legend Boats and Don Hampton who provided their stage for our event.



LFSA members get the Oak Ridge pavilion ready for registration.



Anglers filling out entry forms during Friday registration.

The LFSA would like to thank our underwriters and sponsors without your support we could not hold this tournament.



A special thank you goes to Legend Boats and Don Hampton who provided their stage and scales.



Tournament Time On Lake Fork

Tournament time is a busy time for the LFSA and its live release boat.



The LFSA provides the Life Release Boat to any tournament with 50 or more boats. There is no charge for this service. However, we do accept donations that are used in the upkeep and maintenance of the LRB.

On June 5 and 6 the LRB supported the American Petroleum Institute (API) tournament.



LFSA member Harold Williams receiving fish from API runner.



Game Warden Derrick Spitzer checking to be sure a slot fish is not weighed during API.

On June 13 and 14 the LRB supported the Skeeter Owners Tournament where we handled 24 over the slot bass. The tournament drew a record number of anglers from all over the country.



TPWD Reviews Catfish Management Plan

ATHENS--Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's draft catfish management plan is now available for public review and comment.

The document details the department's overall plans for expanding and enhancing the state's second-most popular fishery. It may be viewed at:

http://tpwd.texas.gov/publications/nonpwdpubs/media/catfish_plan_draft.pdf

"We invite the public to give us feedback on the goals outlined in the plan," said John Tibbs, a TPWD fisheries biologist who is one of the plan's authors. "Our vision is to improve catfishing for all anglers in Texas, and we are open to ideas on how to best accomplish that."

Tibbs said the plan was developed in response to changing population demographics, findings of TPWD fisheries studies and the needs of Texas' catfish anglers. "Research shows that there is a need for greater fishing opportunities in urban areas close to where people live," he said. "We are also seeing more anglers interested in trophy catfishing, but at the same time many people want to catch fish to eat or just for recreation. The new plan is designed to meet all those needs."

Interested persons may complete an on-line survey accessed from a link embedded within the plan to express their opinions on what they feel are the most important fisheries management strategies in the plan. The draft plan will be available for public comment until midnight July 26, 2015. The final plan is due to be published in the fall of 2015.

LFSA Announces 2015 Scholarship Winners

For the first time the LFSA will award two full scholarships in 2015. One of this year's winners is Caralyn Dawson, Alba Golden High School.

Caralyn will be attending the University of North Texas where she plans to major in Biology. Her goal is to complete all requirements for a PhD in Biology choosing a career as a Wildlife Biologist with a focus on zoo breeding programs and conservation.



Ron Bowden, Scholarship Chairman presents Caralyn and her Mom with her Check.

New Greenhouse For Yantis ISD

For the past several years we have been updating you on a project between TPWD, LFSA and the Yantis ISD. This project focuses on habitat restoration in Lake Fork.

For the past several years the LFSA has purchased 500 button bushes and the Yantis High School FFA has planted and grown these bushes for transplanting into Lake Fork.

The program has proven successful in replacing vegetation lost during the time the lake was low due to the drought.

Recognizing the value of the program, TPWD is donating a new 20'X48' greenhouse to Yantis ISD. This new greenhouse will insure the continued success of the program. Dan Bennett and Kevin Storey delivered the good news to Interim Superintendent Dr. Peter Running and FFA adviser Tonya Rabinaldt.



Pictured L/R Dick Walker LFSA, Dan Bennett, TPWD, Sue Parrish LFSA, Carol Boykin LFSA, Tonya Rabinaldt FAA Adviser, LaDale York LFSA, Dr. Peter Running Yantis ISD and Kevin Storey TPWD.



Yantis ISD Greenhouse coming in the Fall.

Our membership is open and available to any and all who share our deep commitment to do whatever is necessary to preserve the legend that is uniquely Lake Fork. For more information about the LFSA you can go to our website www.lakeforksa.com

Remember to Fish Friendly