

March 5, 2024

## **Table Rock Lake Cape Fair Fishing Report**

**Lake Level:** 911.94

**Water Clarity:** Mostly Clear, Upper James to Point 9

**Water Temp:** 44 to 50 degrees

### **Bass**

The bass fishing has still been a little spotty, but there has been some really good fishing the last couple of weeks. There are some really effective patterns working when the fish are cooperating and want to bite. The Drop Shot Rig is still producing some fish on main lake and secondary flat points. These fish are schooled up and are being caught in 10 to 15 feet of water. The best action has been to drag the sinker along the bottom with the hook about 12 to 15 inches above the sinker. The best baits have been live night crawlers and small plastic baits like Berkley's drop shot minnow or similar natural colored baits.

The A-Rig is catching a lot of bass numbers, most keepers have been in the 2 pound range with some really nice 4 and 5 pound fish (Small Mouth, Large Mouth and Kentucky Bass). These fish are moving shallow with the warming weather and are showing up in creeks and flat main lake coves. They have been anywhere between the mouth of the creeks to about ½ way back. The best baits have been 3 to 4 inch swimmers in shad colors, worked slowly between 5 and 15 feet of water. Jerk Baits and Storm Wiggle Warts crank baits have also been taking fish in those same areas. Natural shad colors on the jerk bait and crank baits, and also brown crawfish colors on the crank bait.

Another developing pattern is the Shakey Head Worm fished slowly on gravel flats and creek channel banks. The Z- Mann Zinker, Big TRD and Finese TRD and similar baits are catching a lot of fish. The fish have been caught anywhere between 2 to 15 feet of water. The best color of worm to throw has been Green Pumpkin, Pumpkin, Goby and Black and Blue. I received some reports of fish being caught on Wacky Rigged Worms (also in natural colors) using the Berkley 4" or 6" General in the same type of areas.

### **Blue Gill**

This bite has really picked up on these warm days. They can be found anywhere around boat docks in the coves and creeks. The fish are about 3 to 4 feet down around and under those

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Docks. In the creeks and cove banks around any visible cover, wood lay-downs or larger rocks. Some larger fish have been found around standing timber on creek channel banks. The preferred bait is live night crawlers and Bluegill bites.

### **Crappie**

There has been a really nice crappie bite going on. The fish are being caught around deeper brush piles and standing timber on main lake flats in approximately 10 to 20 feet. The best baits have been crappie jigs (Marabou in natural colors). Sometimes the anglers are tipping the jigs with a crappie nibble. Also Swimming Minnows (Bobby Garland 2" size) moved around on those same locations. Live bait (minnows) have also produced some good stringers. These fish are also being taken on shallow points in larger coves or creeks and the crappie rigs are being dragged around on those point that have some structure present.

### **Walleye**

The Walleye bite has been really spotty, an occasional fish can be caught around shad schools while bass fishing with Rapala Jigging Raps or Ice Jigs under the Shad Schools once the Angler locates those schools. This last week one of our Local Guides (Dan Boyer) caught a really nice keeper Walleye in the back of Flat Creek in shallow water. He had never seen a Walleye in Flat Creek previously. It sounds like our Walleye population is doing really well.

The Cape Fair Marina will be open with our normal services effective March 13, 2024. Please stop by and take a look at our sale on crank baits and many other tackle items. If you don't see the tackle you want, please let us know and we will try to order to fit your needs.

**Note to Friends:** Please wear a life jacket, at all times. Please have a Blessed and Safe Day on the water.