

Striper Fishing at Lake Texoma

December 5–7, 2008

Coordinators: Rozlynn Orr & Frances Estes (mzfishin@yahoo.com) and Mary K. Janco (jackjanco@sbcglobal.com)

Like the idea of fishing for big fish on your fly rod? Here is an opportunity to try your skills at Striper bass fishing behind the dam on Lake Texoma. We will be jointly sponsoring this trip with the Red River Fly Fishers, www.rfff.org. Our member, Jack Janco, is the current President of the Red River Fly Fishers. Jack is helping coordinate his Red River club with ours to make this a special event for all!

Our outing headquarters will be at Eisenhower State Park. We are reserving the Recreation Center for our Mullet Mixer and for our headquarters on Saturday. The Mullet Mixer will be at 7:00 p.m. Be sure to bring a snack to share with the group and a beverage of your choice. Our Friday night speaker will be Orvis endorsed guide and FFF, Certified Casting Instructor, Steve Hollensed.

Steve, who is also a past president of Red River Fly Fishers, will familiarize us with proper rigging for our fly rods, flies to use and how to catch Stripers at the dam. On another note, Steve will also be giving us valuable information for fishing the shoreline of the lake or fishing from a boat. This may turn into another outing for TWFF with the information we receive from Steve. Steve has a guide service that is regularly booked by some of the best in fly fishing. Steve may be reached at www.flywaterangling.com or 903.546.6237 if you would like to contact him regarding his guide service.

Also speaking will be, Paul Kissell, Superintendent of Eisenhower State Park. He will be giving us an overview of Lake Texoma and Eisenhower State Park.

We will fish Saturday from behind the dam at Lake Texoma. Steve will be available for consultation and will also be having casting seminars in a large grassy field beside the dam. We will have several afternoon classes for those wanting to take a break from casting and work at improving and developing their casting technique.

Also on hand will be, Jeff Tomlinson, past president of Red River Fly Fishers. Jeff is an accomplished fly tier that will be giving tying lessons at the Recreation Center on Saturday. Bring your tying supplies to learn new patterns from Jeff.

Lake Texoma is a Red River impoundment on the Texas-Oklahoma border northwest of Sherman-Denison, west of US 75. Two-thirds of the lake is in Oklahoma. A Texas fishing license is required when fishing the dam area from the land. If you step into the water to fish you will also be required to have an Oklahoma license. The OK license may be purchased at nearby convenient stores for \$12.00. Free flowing current in the Red River makes Texoma one of the few lakes in Texas with a self-sustaining population of striped bass, and one of only eight inland freshwater reservoirs worldwide where this species has spawned.

WHAT WE'RE AFTER

Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*)

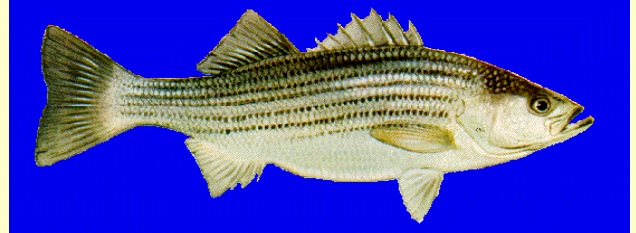


Illustration © TPWD

OTHER NAMES

Striper, Rockfish, Lineside

DESCRIPTION

The striped bass is the largest member of the sea bass family, often called "temperate" or "true" bass to distinguish it from species such as largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass, which are actually members of the sunfish family Centrarchidae. Although *Morone* is of unknown derivation, *saxatilis* is Latin meaning "dwelling among rocks." As with other true basses, the dorsal fin is clearly separated into spiny and soft-rayed portions. Striped bass are silvery, shading to olive-green on the back and white on the belly, with seven or eight uninterrupted horizontal stripes on each side of the body.

Younger fish may resemble white bass (*Morone chrysops*). However, striped bass have two distinct tooth patches on the back of the tongue, whereas white bass have one tooth patch.

Striped bass have two sharp points on each gill cover, and white bass have one. Additionally, the second spine on the anal fin is about half the length of the third spine in striped bass, and about two-thirds the length of the third spine in white bass.

HABITAT

The striped bass is anadromous, native to a variety of habitats including shores, bays, and estuaries.

DISTRIBUTION

The striped bass is a coastal species that moves far upstream during spawning migrations in coastal rivers. The native range is along the Atlantic coast east of the Appalachian Mountains from New Brunswick south to Florida and west into Louisiana. The species has been introduced at scattered locations throughout the central US. There have also been introductions as far west as the Colorado River in Arizona, and at various sites in California. Although not native to Texas, the species has been stocked in a number of reservoirs. Because stream flow is required for a successful hatch, most reservoir populations are not self-sustaining and must be maintained through stocking. One notable exception is Lake Texoma along the Red River in northeastern Texas.

Eisenhower State Park at Lake Texoma

50 Park Road 20
Denison, TX 75020
903.465.1956

Campsite fees range from \$12.00 to \$25.00 depending on amenities desired. If camping, visit the TPWD website for reservations and details: [TPWD: Eisenhower State Park](#)

Main Lodging

Tanglewood Resort Hotel and Conference Center
290 Tanglewood Circle
Pottsboro, TX 75076
Toll Free: 1.800.833.6569
Local: 903.786.2968
www.tanglewoodresort.com

Use Group Code: 408465, Texas Women Fly Fishers, when making your reservations.

We have blocked off 10 rooms for this outing. Tanglewood is offering the rate of \$70.00 plus \$10.14 tax, per day, with two occupants per room. ***Rooms and rates will be held for TWFF until November 5, 2008.***

Anyone needing to share a room should contact the coordinators for finding members that would also like to share accommodations or post on the TWFF message board. Tanglewood has a 48-hour cancellation policy. **Book early if you would like to stay at Tanglewood!**

There is a restaurant at Tanglewood, which serves breakfast from 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

OTHER

Striped bass are the fourth most preferred species among licensed Texas anglers. It is estimated that the economic impact of striper fishing in the Lake Texoma area alone totals well in excess of \$20 million. Stripers are often captured using artificial lures that imitate small fish, such as silver spoons. Deep running lures can also be effective, as may live bait, or cut bait. In Texas, stripers in excess of 50 pounds have been landed. Although specimens exceeding 100 pounds have been caught in saltwater, to date a 67.5-pounder was the largest individual reported from inland waters.

Information courtesy Texas Parks and Wildlife Department © 2007. See www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/str/



Additional lodging may be found off exit 69 on Hwy I75 N:

Motel 6—Denison, TX - \$65.99 plus tax

Holiday Inn Express—Denison, TX - \$99.00 plus tax

Comfort Inn—Denison, TX - \$99.99 plus tax
