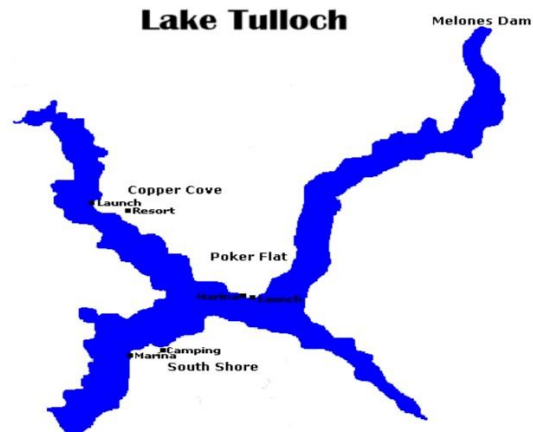
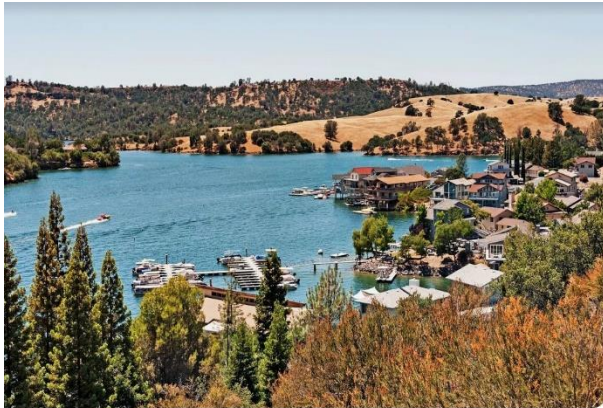


HERE IT IS-ALL THE LATEST

April 2023

BK Custom Baits – Bill Kunz
Creekside Tackle - Ken Eddie
Dobyns Rods-Gary Dobyns
G-Money Baits-Tray Williams
Pro Worms-Sandy Uecker
Valley Rod and Gun

Lake Tulloch April 2024



FRESNO BASS CLUB MEMBERS,

The fourth stop for the 2024 Fresno Bass Club was lake Tulloch, well known for its large population of bass. Lake Tulloch is not excessively big, but it holds a lot of fish. The lake is located approximately 40 miles east of Stockton directly below New Melones. The lake has approximately 55 miles of shoreline for anglers to explore.

Lake Tulloch is a power generating lake which impacts the bass fishing on a daily basis. Every 24 hours the water level on lake Tulloch will rise and fall approximately two to three feet almost like the tides on the Delta which have a direct impact on the fish and their feeding mood.

For the last several years there has been a huge amount of green healthy grass throughout the lake, but in the winter of 2023 the lake was drained lower than normal in order to work on the dam and as a result all of the weed growth that was present is now gone.

In the past, the bass would live in the weed beds. When forage would swim by the weed clumps, the bass would shoot out of the grass, eat their prey then go back to the same spot and wait for another opportunity to feed. This made it easy to catch numerous fish from one specific area. Now that the weeds are gone it seems the bass are more nomadic and roam about looking for forage which in turn leads anglers having to cover more water to locate and catch more fish.

CONDITIONS LEADING UP TO TOURNAMENT DAY:

Two weeks prior to our club tournament the weather was starting to improve, and we started seeing temperatures in the low 70s with bright sunshine. Anglers who pre-fished about ten days before the tournament found great fishing, not only for numbers but also for quality.

Club members Ron Red Sr. and Walt Austin pre-fished on April 10th and said the fishing was outstanding. They reportedly caught over 50 fish that day and caught them everywhere they stopped. Ron said they also located several bed fish in the two-pound class, but they also found one 7 lb. fish on a bed which was caught by Ron.



Three days after Ron and Walt pre-fished (April 13th) a major cold front moved into the area resulting in over two inches of rain which led to some increased inflow and dirtier / more stained water. In addition to this, the lake staff said they had released water from New Melones into Tulloch as well to bring it up toward full pool. The combination of these two things led to the lake coming up in elevation and cooling off a few degrees.

Bill Kunz and Jimmy Arnold pre-fished on Tuesday (April 16th). Bill said he had never seen the lake level so high as he was able to get to places, he never could get to in the past. That said, Bill said the water was very dirty compared to its usual state which made it difficult to see any bed fish. Jimmy and Bill fished Green Springs, Black Creek, and the main lake. They said they could see cruising fish in some of the smaller pockets but could not see more than 2 feet in most places. Bill and Jimmy said they did not locate any fish on beds and only caught 15-20 fish between the two of them with their best combined five fish weighing about 14 pounds. For the most part Bill and Jimmy saw a lot of shallow

cruisers, but only caught an average of (2) fish per hour between the two of them so it was a much slower day than Ron and Walt had.



Oh, and besides all the other stuff effecting the bite, I forgot to mention that we would be fishing after the Sierra club beat up the bass on Saturday along with our club campers who also participated in that pre-tournament beat down. The Saturday winning tournament weight for a team tournament was right at 14 lbs.

TOURNAMENT DAY:

Tournament day was one day before the April full moon and the weather had taken another upswing after the cold storm. Morning temperatures were in the mid-50's and calling for high temperatures in the low 80's. Everyone was gearing up for an outstanding bite with big fish on beds or catching some spring reactions fish, but the fish did not get the memo....

Note: The road repair crew also did not get the memo about the torn up, bumpy ass, pothole filled road because it was still torn up and even worse than previous years in my humble opinion.

First place went to Bill Kunz with a five fish limit weighing 19.5 lbs. anchored by a 7.05 big fish. Bill had a bad blast off number, so he decided to start his day down by the dam, which failed to produce any fish.

Bill's next stop was the back of Green Springs, but when he arrived, he found approximately six boats just inside the five mph buoys fishing for schooling fish. Bill turned around and headed about an 1/8 down the bank, put his trolling motor down and just went fishing.

Bill was throwing a 3/16 drop shot in 0-5 feet of water as he could see fish cruising the bank and chasing bluegill. After about an hour, Bill caught four fish that weighed right around 11 lbs. He left Green Springs and headed to Black Creek but was unable to catch his fifth fish. At about 11:15, Bill headed back to Green Springs and started where he had left off. He immediately caught his fifth fish, a 2 lb. largemouth giving him about 13 lbs.

Bill continued down the bank and at about 11:45 he threw his drop shot into a small clump of weeds in about 2 foot of water and caught the 7.05 which gave him 19.15 lbs. Bill still had one fish under two pounds, but he was never able to cull again.

Bill caught all his fish on a 3/16 drop shot in 0-5 feet of water using a Pro Worm in the “Peoples Worm” color and an Oxblood Light color on a Spearpoint 1/0 offset worm hook.



Second Place went to Creekside Tackle’s very own Ken Eddie. Ken stated he had found some bed fish in practice and was feeling rather good. Ken said he was going to use his singing and musical skills to hypnotize the bed fish into biting his bait.



Well, we all know what happened when Ken started to try and hypnotize those bed fish into biting? They heard his singing, and this happened.....



Ok enough tomfoolery, let's get serious. Ken did bring in a limit of fish that weighed 13.45, but one of his fish didn't quite make it. Although weighing in a dead fish usually hurts your final standings, in this case it had no bearing on Ken's finish, and he was able to secure a second-place finish with 13.11 lbs.

Ken said he fished for bedding fish in the clearer water on the main lake. Ken used a 6th Sense 4" Juggy Minnow on a lead to catch his fish. Great job Ken!



ARE MEETING POINTS IMPORTANT?

Many people ask if meetings are important. This is a perfect example of how meeting attendance can affect your overall standings. Ken and Bill were tied for angler of year going into this tournament, but since Bill was unable to attend the last three Wednesday night meetings, Ken will pull ahead by one point this month. If Bill had been able to attend the last three Wednesday night meetings, he would actually be five points ahead of Ken.

So, as you can see, meeting points can have a devastating effect on your overall standings at the end of the year for both AOY and TOC qualification. The moral of the story is...you should attend every meeting you can to earn as many “free” points as possible. As you can probably guess I’m not a fan of “free” points at this point. LOL!

Third Place went to Cory Kerber. Cory did not get a chance to Pre-fish but has a good history on Tulloch. Cory brought in 13.01 and was just shy of what he needed to overtake Ken. (I guess Cory just can’t sing as well as Ken).

Cory started his day in Green Springs at the buoy line catching schooling fish that were chasing balls of bait over the creek channel. Cory utilized a rip bait and lipless crankbait to catch 12 lbs. early. Cory then moved on to Black Creek where he caught a couple bed fish and was able to upgrade to his final weight of 13.01. Way to go buckaroo!!



Fourth place went to Ron Red Sr. who brought in a limit weighing 12.71 lbs. Ron said the bite got tougher for him overall. While pre-fishing, Ron was catching his fish on a darter head, but come tournament day they wanted nothing to do with it. Ron said he decided to change over to a wacky worm and immediately started to catch fish.

Ron said he stayed in Black Creek the majority of the day. Two of his fish were caught on worms around docks and three of his fish were caught sight fishing. Good Job Ron!



Rounding out the top five was Jeff Short who brought in a limit for 12.46 lbs. Jeff said he fished the main lake early, then headed to the river and Black Creek in the afternoon. Jeff said all of the fish he caught were sight fish / cruisers or bed fish. Jeff caught his fish utilizing a swimbait, Texas rig, darter head and rattle trap. Jeff did not get a recent picture, so I used his Tulloch picture from last year, Good job Jeff!



2024 TULLOCH RESULTS:

LAKE PLACE	Tulloch NAME	2pts50pts		NO.	FISH	DEAD	BIG	WEIGHT	DEDUCTION	TOTAL
		Mtg	Pts	FISH	ALIVE	FISH	FISH		0.5 (dead) 1.0 (short)	
1	Kunz, Bill		50	5	5	0	7.05	19.15	0.00	19.15
2	Eddy, Ken	2	49	5	4	1		13.61	0.50	13.11
3	Kerber, Cory	2	48	5	5	0	2.89	13.01	0.00	13.01
4	Red, Ron Sr.	2	47	5	5	0	2.69	12.71	0.00	12.71
5	Short, Jeff	2	46	5	5	0	3.05	12.46	0.00	12.46
6	Tillman, Chris		45	5	5	0	3.53	12.17	0.00	12.17
7	Corrente, Mark	2	44	5	5	0	3.25	10.92	0.00	10.92
8	Calderon, Lazaro		43	5	5	0	2.41	10.60	0.00	10.60
9	Smith, Ryan		42	5	2	3		11.95	1.50	10.45
10	Wells, Timmy NM Jan '24	2	41	5	5	0		9.86	0.00	9.86
11	Rowles, Bill Sr.	2	40	5	5	0	3.26	9.69	0.00	9.69
12	Heirendt, David	2	39	4	4	0	3.24	8.90	0.00	8.90
13	Smith, Jennifer		38	5	3	2		9.48	1.00	8.48
14	Duncan, A.J.		37	4	4	0	2.56	8.03	0.00	8.03
15	Jue, Gary		36	5	3	2		7.67	1.00	6.67
16	Champ, Jeremy	2	35	3	3	0	2.58	6.66	0.00	6.66
17	Reynolds, Kyle	2	34	5	5	0		6.41	0.00	6.41
18	Avedikian, Amy	2	33	3	3	0		5.25	0.00	5.25
19	Shafer, Paul	2	32	4	2	2	2.39	5.33	1.00	4.33
20	Taylor, Ted	2	31	2	2	0		3.72	0.00	3.72
21	Ruacho, Jerry	2	30	2	2	0		3.39	0.00	3.39
22	Skyers, Andrew	2	29	2	2	0		2.68	0.00	2.68
23	Arnold, Jim	2	28	2	2	0		2.59	0.00	2.59
24	Calderon, Allen NM Apr '24		27	1	1	0		2.02	0.00	2.02
25	Rowles, Anne	2	26	1	1	0		1.70	0.00	1.70
26	Lopez, Christian	2	25	1	1	0		0.99	0.00	0.99
27	Navarro, Amber		24	1	1	0		0.88	0.00	0.88
28	Guzman, Jose	2	0	0	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
28	Guzman, Joel NM Apr '24		0	0	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
28	Duncan, Kelly (DNF)	2	0	0	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
28	Duncan, Ethan (Guest) (DNF)		0	0	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
28	Albidrez, John (DNF)	2	0	0	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTALS			100	90	10	7.05	212	5	207

FOR AOY STANDINGS SEE NEXT PAGE:

PLACE	NAME	TOTAL	TOURNAMENTS
			FISHED (9 required for WC)
1	Eddy, Ken	195	4
2	Kunz, Bill	194	4
3	Corrente, Mark	188	4
4	Duncan, A.J.	177	4
5	Reynolds, Kyle	152	4
6	Arnold, Jim	145	4
7	Wells, Timmy NM Jan' 24	141	3
8	Red, Ron Sr.	141	3
9	Jones, Bob	140	3
10	Jue, Gary	136	4
11	Shafer, Paul	133	4
12	Lopez, Christian	129	4
13	Rowles, Bill Sr.	123	3
14	Avedikian, Amy	115	3
15	Duncan, Kelly	113	3
16	Heirendt, David	111	3
17	Calderon, Lazaro	111	3
18	Paris, Chris	108	3
19	Kerber, Cory	100	2
20	Ruacho, Jerry	97	3
21	Navarro, Amber	95	3
22	Turner, Tim	91	2
23	Squires, Corey	90	2
24	Albidrez, John	90	2
25	Tillman, Chris NM Mar' 24	77	2
26	Barton, Justin	76	2
27	Champ, Jeremy	74	2
28	Mendes, Mathew	74	2
29	Taylor, Ted	71	2
30	Rowles, Anne	60	2
31	Placentia, Sal	51	2
32	Short, Jeff NM Apr' 24	48	1
33	Baron, Rusty	47	1
34	Smith, Ryan	46	1
35	Guzman, Jose	45	1
36	Rowe, Seth	44	1
37	Smith, Jennifer	42	1
38	Agtang, Timothy	38	1
39	Austin, Walt	35	1
40	Skyers, Andrew NM Mar' 24	31	1
41	Curtis, Walter	29	1
42	Botu, Brian	28	1
43	Calderon, Allen NM Apr' 24	27	1
44	Austin, Shauna	8	0
45	Hass, Harold	6	0
45	Uecker, Rick	6	0
45	Uecker, Sandy	6	0
46	Bigler, McKay NM Mar' 24	4	0
46	Cantu, Michael	4	0
46	Privett, Nick	4	0
46	Williams, Tray NM Mar' 24	4	0
47	Barton, Bailey	2	0
48	Guzman, Joel NM Apr' 24	0	0

ADDITIONAL FBC NEWS:

We had two mechanical failure incidents on the way home from Tulloch. This is why it's always good to have travel partners because traveling alone can leave you stranded.

The first incident occurred on Hwy 59 between Hwy 120 and Lake Don Pedro. Bill Kunz and Jimmy Arnold were following behind Paul Shafer and about half way to the Lake Don Pedro turn off, Bill and Jimmy noticed white smoke coming from Paul's boat trailer. Bill called Paul and told him, but there was no place to pull off the road in that area. Paul slowed down and babied it to the Don Pedro Houseboat store where several of other anglers also stopped to help.

Paul found that his rear axle brakes had been rubbing while traveling down the road which was the source of the smoke, not his bearings. Gary Jue checked the temperature of those brakes, and they registered 288 degrees. Paul disconnected the brakes and let them cool down then continued down the road toward Snelling. Paul made it to the Chevron in Snelling when he noticed the brakes were still rubbing. At this point they had to hose down the brake assembly to cool them down. Then they entirely removed the brakes so Paul could make it home.

About an hour later on Southbound 99 just north of Chowchilla, Bill and Jimmy came upon Ryan and Jennifer Smith who had broken down on the side of the road. When they stopped to check on them, they found that their single axle trailer had lost a bearing. They were able to baby the trailer a mile up the road to Robertson Road and park by the Chevron. Once the crew from Paul's group arrived, they looked at the failure and decided to have the boat towed. Lack of parts and tools made it easier to just tow it to a location where it could be worked on.

What should you carry in your emergency roadside kits?

- A good Jack or Tire Changing Ramp
- Wheel Chocks
- A Good Spare Tire (Properly Inflated) and A Tire Plug Kit
- Tire Pressure Gauge
- Portable Compressor (12v, 18v or 110v)
- Extension Cord
- An 18v Cordless Impact Wrench
- A Good Set of Heavy-Duty Sockets
- Extra Lug Nuts
- A Spare set of trailer bearings
- Tube of Marine Waterproof Grease
- A Good Set of Work Gloves, Rags & Hand Cleaner
- Work Light
- Tie Down / Ratchet Straps
- Portable Jump Starter
- A Good **PREMIUM** Roadside Assistance Membership (AAA, Good Sam etc.)

The Premium memberships allow for the towing of boats and or RV's. The standard memberships will get you stranded!

Most of the above items will fit in a small tub that you can put in your tow vehicle when you head down the road. These items are fairly cheap, easy to purchase and will give you a piece of mind driving down the road.

IMPORTANT BASS LAKE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

NOTE: If you plan to fish the Bass Lake Tournament, you will have to obtain a pollution control permit from one of the three marinas on the lake. (Bass Lake Boat Rentals, Millers Landing or Forks Resort).

The permit is only valid if affixed on the starboard side of the watercraft. If it's not affixed to the boat, it is NOT valid. There are no one day permits, you must pay the one-time fee that is good from January 1st – December 31st each calendar year.

Prices vary depending upon horse power.

- **0-50 HP \$32.00**
- **51-250 HP \$50.00**
- **251 and above \$63.00**

YOU CANNOT BUY A STICKER THE MORNING OF THE TOURNAMENT AS THE MARINAS ARE NOT OPEN UNTIL 8:00 AM, SO YOU NEED TO PURCHASE IN ADVANCE. IF YOUR GET A TICKET YOU WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

When: May 19, 2024 (One Day Event)
Where: Bass Lake
Check-in: Wishon Boat Launch TBD
Blast off: Approx. 0530
Weigh-in: Wishon Boat Launch @ 3:00 pm

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting for the Fresno Bass Club will be on Wednesday May 1, 2024, @ 7PM at the Yosemite Falls Café located at 4020 N. Cedar in Fresno

Until next time...Tight Lines!