



## **Bass Fishing the Brazos River below Lake Whitney**

This isn't the same muddy Brazos River that we cross in the Houston area.

For about two years, the fishing on this stretch of the Brazos has suffered from too much generation by the Army Corps of Engineers, which made it just about unfishable. According to local guide Chris Shafer, the fishing in the past year has really picked up.

You will have the opportunity to catch largemouth bass, Kentucky spotted bass and smallies – no Guadalupes in this river. Drift down the river, casting close in to the banks, to the brush piles and submerged stumps and branches and to the submerged grass lines. Structure, structure, structure is what it's all about. While I'm sure the bream fishing is good in here, the greatest attraction is large bass. The record smallie in the river is 7lbs; largemouth over 4 lbs are not uncommon.

You should plan on casting large deer hair poppers and Boone Spoon Fat Frogs, which means you'll have to leave those 3 and 4 weights at home.



This is a pretty typical largemouth bass.

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### **Dates**

July 25, 2009

Meet at Dick's Canoe and start shuttle at 7:30 am

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### **Location**

We will be fishing the Brazos River below the Whitney Dam, near the town of Laguna Park and very close to the Lake Whitney State Park

<http://maps.google.com/maps?sourceid=navclient&q=lake+whitney,+texas&ie=UTF8&spilit=0&gl=us&ei=irLoSaPOJuHInOfS6vyYBg&ll=31.865968,-97.369423&spn=0.050297,0.076218&z=14>

There are two Corp of Engineer parks by the dam, one on the south side and the other on the north side.

The section of river we will be floating starts at the Corp of Engineers, Riverbend Park at the north side of the base of the Whitney Dam and we will take out at Dick's Canoes at the Ranch Road 2114 bridge crossing. There's a picture on this page showing the landing.

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## Cost

You pay your own way for transportation, lodging, meals, guide if you so desire, and flies.

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## Where to Stay

### Motels

Little Rocky Lodge – Laguna Park, TX - <http://www.littlerockylodge.com/>

Phone: 888-205-1511

Dick's Canoe has a cottage rental available, which needs to be booked pretty far in advance. Cost is \$125 per night for two people, \$15 per person over 2. It can hold 6 people, which is \$185 per night. There's a two night minimum. If we can get 6 people to commit, that's \$60 per person for the two nights.

Phone: 254-622-8364

<http://www.dickscanoe.com/cabin.html>

Lake Whitney State Park -

[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/lake\\_whitney/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/lake_whitney/)

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## Meeting Point

We will get together at 07.30 am Saturday morning at Dick's Canoes.

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## Safety

Your **safety** is paramount, so make sure that you ask questions before the outing if you are undertaking an activity for the first time. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the right gear and are physically prepared to safely participate in the outing.

You should always check the flow on the river to ensure that you are comfortable wading. The water level in the main river can change rapidly due to power generation demands. Be aware of water levels by keeping a rock or tree level in sight as a reference. If the water looks like it is rising get out. If you hear the siren from the dam, get out of the river immediately. The rocks in the river are slick and chances of a wader falling in are good. Wear felt-soles at a minimum or cleated soles if you have them, use a wading staff, take your time, fish with a buddy, and be careful.

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### **What to Bring**

- Rods 3 to 8 weights with floating lines
  - Leaders – 6-7.5' – Bass leaders, or OX-1X
  - Tippet - 8-10 lbs; nothing dainty.
  - Polarized Sunglasses
  - Hat with a brim
  - Rain gear
- Gallons of sunscreen  
Water  
Lunch
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### **TFF Waiver**

Print, fill out, and bring the [Brazos](#) Waiver with you to save time.

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### **Flies**

Fat Frogs, Deer Hair poppers.

Harry can use a Miss Prissy if he wants to – someone's got to catch the little bass.

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### **Access**

Army Corps of Engineers Park below Lake Whitney Dam

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## Guides, Canoes and Shops

Chris Shafer    **254-836-8864**

[www.brazosriverfishing.com](http://www.brazosriverfishing.com)

Dick's Canoes at Ranch Road 2114    **254-622-8364**

Ask for Richard

<http://www.dickscanoe.com/>

Reservations are required for kayaks and canoes.

Shuttles are \$20 per person; we should coordinate a group shuttle to save some money on this rate.

There is a \$6 take out fee here, whether you shuttle or not.

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