

# Cotton County Community News



OKLAHOMA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WILDLIFE  
CONSERVATION

## FISHING REPORT

### NORTHEAST

**Birch:** August 17. Elevation is 1 ft. below normal and stable, water temperature 87°F and stained. (USACE Lake Level) Blue and channel catfish fair on cut bait around main lake and points. Crappie fair on jigs and minnows around brush structure. Report submitted by Jeremy Bersche, game warden stationed in Osage County.

**Fort Gibson:** August 18. Elevation is 2 ft. above normal and stable, water temperature 78°F and clear. (USACE Lake Level) Blue and channel catfish good on chicken liver, shad, shrimp, stinkbait, and worms below the dam, channels, creek channels, dam, inlet, rocks, shorelines, and tailwater. Crappie good. Largemouth bass good on buzz baits, jerk baits, plastic baits, rogues, spinnerbaits, and topwater lures. Report submitted by Marvin Stanley, game warden stationed in Wagoner County.

**Grand:** August 19. Elevation is normal and stable, water temperature 88°F and stained. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth bass fair on crankbaits, plastic baits, and spinnerbaits around docks, points, rocks, and shorelines. Blue catfish fair on cut bait and shad below the dam, docks, main lake, and river channel. White bass fair on Alabama rigs, in-line spinnerbaits, and spoons below the dam, flats, main lake, and points. Report submitted by Riley Willman, game warden stationed in Delaware County.

**Hudson:** August 17. Elevation is 1 ft. above normal and stable, water temperature 88°F and clear. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth bass fair on crankbaits, jigs, spinnerbaits, spoons, topwater lures, and worms around coves, docks, and shorelines. Striped bass hybrids and white bass good on Alabama rigs, crankbaits, in-line spinnerbaits, plastic baits, spoons, and topwater lures below the dam and channels. Blue catfish good on chicken liver, shad, and shrimp below the dam, flats, and points. Report submitted by Cody Morris, game warden stationed in Mayes County.

**Kaw:** August 18. Elevation is 7 ft. above normal and falling, water temperature 89°F and stained. (USACE Lake Level) Striped bass, striped bass hybrids, and white bass fair on crankbaits, flukes, hair jigs, jerk baits, jigs, live shad, sassy shad, shad, and topwater lures below the dam, main lake, and points. Blue, channel, and flathead catfish fair on cut bait, live bait, live shad, shad, sunfish, and worms below the dam, main lake, and river channel. Crappie slow on jigs, live bait, minnows, and tube jigs around brush structure, main lake, and standing timber. Report submitted by Spencer Grace, game warden stationed in Kay County.

**Keystone:** August 18. Elevation is 3 ft. above normal and falling, water temperature 82°F and clear. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth bass good on Alabama rigs, buzz baits, crankbaits, in-line spinnerbaits, jerk baits, plastic baits, small lures, spinnerbaits, and topwater lures around brush structure, points, riprap, shorelines, standing timber, and weed beds. Blue and channel catfish fair on cut bait and live shad around main lake and river channel. Crappie fair on jigs and minnows around docks. Report submitted by Tracer Wagner, game warden stationed in Creek County.

**Lower Illinois River:** August 15. Elevation is 1 ft. above normal and stable, water temperature 73°F and clear. Fishing is slow. Trout stocking has been suspended until cooler weather/water temperatures occur. Current river flow at dam 570 CFS. Report submitted by Jerry Henry, game warden stationed in Sequoyah County.

**Oologah:** August 17. Elevation is 5 ft. above normal and falling, water temperature 80°F and stained. Largemouth bass fair on bill baits, buzz baits, and lipless baits around brush structure, creek channels, and weed beds. Blue, channel, and flathead catfish good on cut bait, live bait, live shad, shad, shrimp, and sunfish below the dam, channels, creek channels, river channel, and tailwater. Report submitted by Dartanion Tilley, game warden stationed in Nowata County.

**Skiatook:** August 17. Elevation is 1 ft. below normal and stable, water temperature 85°F and clear. (USACE Lake Level) Crappie fair on jigs and minnows around brush structure. Striped bass hybrids good on shad around main lake and points. Report submitted by Jeremy Bersche, game warden stationed in Osage County.

**SOUTHEAST**

**Blue River:** August 19. Elevation is normal and stable, water temperature 80°F and clear. (USGS Lake Level) Largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass good on crankbaits, jerk baits, lipless baits, plastic baits, topwater lures, and tube jigs around brush structure, channels, river channel, rocks, shorelines, and weed beds. Channel catfish fair on chicken liver, punch bait, stinkbait, and worms around brush structure, channels, and rocks. Report submitted by Ethan Lovelace, biologist at the Blue River Fishing and Hunting Area.

**Broken Bow:** August 15. Elevation is below normal and falling, water temperature 89°F and clear. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass fair on Alabama rigs, bill baits, buzz baits, crankbaits, in-line spinnerbaits, jerk baits, plastic baits, spinnerbaits, and spoons around brush structure, creek channels, main lake, points, river channel, and standing timber. Crappie fair on hair jigs, jigs, minnows, and spoons around brush structure, points, and standing timber. Report submitted by Dru Polk, game warden stationed in McCurtain County.

**Eufaula:** August 15. Elevation is .5 ft. below normal and stable, water temperature 85°F and stained. (USACE Lake Level) Striped bass, striped bass hybrids, and white bass fair on Alabama rigs, flukes, hair jigs, and sassy shad below the dam, discharge, and tailwater. Blue, channel, and flathead catfish good on cut bait, live bait, live shad, and spoons below the dam, channels, river channel, river mouth, and tailwater. Report submitted by Jake Rowland, game warden stationed in McIntosh County.

**Hugo:** August 15. Elevation is normal and stable, water temperature 80°F and murky. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth, spotted, and white bass fair on bill baits, crankbaits, jigs, lipless baits, and plastic baits around brush structure, channels, points, river channel, and standing timber. Crappie fair on hair jigs, minnows, small lures, and tube jigs around brush structure and standing timber. Blue, channel, and flathead catfish fair on chicken liver, cut bait, live bait, live shad, and shad around brush structure and standing timber. Report submitted by Chance Phillips, game warden stationed in Choctaw County.

**Konawa:** August 17. Elevation is normal and stable, water temperature 90°F and clear. Largemouth bass good on crankbaits, jerk baits, and plastic baits around main lake, points, river channel, and weed beds. Striped bass hybrids and white bass good on Alabama rigs, crankbaits, live shad around inlet, main lake, and river channel. Channel catfish good on chicken liver, cut bait, and shrimp around coves, inlet, riprap, rocks, and weed beds. Report submitted by Garret Harley, game warden stationed in Seminole County.

**Lower Mountain Fork River:** August 15. Elevation is normal and stable, water temperature 69°F and clear. Rainbow trout good on caddis flies, crickets, grasshoppers, PowerBait, and small lures around creek channels and spillway. Report submitted by Mark Hannah, game warden stationed in McCurtain County.

**McGee Creek:** August 15. Elevation is normal and stable, water temperature 87°F and stained. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth and spotted bass good on Alabama rigs, bill baits, buzz baits, in-line spinnerbaits, jerk baits, jigs, minnows, and topwater lures around brush structure, docks, points, riprap, rocks, shallows, and shorelines. Crappie fair on minnows, small lures, and tube jigs around brush structure, main lake, and standing timber. Report submitted by Shay Loudermilk, game warden stationed in Atoka County.

**Pine Creek:** August 15. Elevation is 4 ft. above normal and falling, water temperature 85°F and clear. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth bass fair on flukes, plastic baits, rogues, and topwater lures around coves, creek channels, and points. Crappie good on jigs and minnows around brush structure and standing timber. Channel catfish good on cut bait and punch bait below the dam and creek channels. Report submitted by Mark Hannah, game warden stationed in McCurtain County.

**Sardis:** August 15. Elevation is normal and stable, water temperature 88°F and stained. (USACE Lake Level) Largemouth bass good on buzz baits, crankbaits, lipless baits, plastic baits, spinnerbaits, and topwater lures around brush structure, points, shorelines, and standing timber. Blue, channel, and flathead catfish good on cut bait, shad, sunfish, and worms around brush structure, channels, main lake, points, and standing timber. Crappie good on jigs and minnows around brush structure, points, and standing timber. Report submitted by Thomas Gillham, game warden stationed in Pushmataha County.

**Texoma:** August 16. Elevation is 1 ft. above normal and stable, water temperature 90°F and clear. (USACE Lake Level) Striped bass slow on live shad and sassy shad below the dam, flats, and points. Blue, channel, and flathead catfish good on caddis flies, cut bait, dough bait, live shad, punch bait, and stinkbait below the dam, channels, and docks. Crappie fair on caddis flies, grubs, hair jigs, jigs, minnows, and nymphs around brush structure, coves, docks, and standing timber. Comments: Fishing this week has been about the same. Striper fishing in the lake is still slow. The fishing below the dam is still very good for striper and catfish. Catfish are good on cut and live bait below the dam and near baited holes. Crappie are good on jigs and power bait around brush and in open water. Report submitted by Garrett Beam, game warden stationed in Marshall County.

**Wister:** August 15. Elevation is 1 ft. above normal and stable, water temperature 95°F and stained. (USACE Current Lake Level) Largemouth bass good on crankbaits and plastic baits around brush structure, main lake, and river channel. Channel catfish good on grasshoppers and hot dogs around flats and main lake. Largemouth, spotted, and white bass good on jigs and minnows around brush structure and main lake. Report submitted by James Williams, game warden stationed in Le Flore County.

## September 2025

## Thing To Do, Places To Go!

Attend the **annual state fair in Oklahoma City or Tulsa**, ride in a helicopter at El Reno’s OK Air Fest or watch a traditional stickball game at the Chickasaw National Annual Meeting & Festival in Tishomingo. Check out our top picks below or browse through all September events to fill your calendar with food festivals, concerts and block parties.

**Cherokee Homecoming Art Show, Aug 9, 2025 - Sep 6, 2025**, Cherokee Springs Plaza Tahlequah, OK 74464  
Visit The Gallery at Cherokee Springs Plaza in Tahlequah for the Cherokee Homecoming Art Show.

**Food & Brew Festival, Aug 22, 2025 - Sep 14, 2025**, Six Flags Frontier City Oklahoma City, OK 73131  
Make the last stretch of summer count at the Brews & Bites Festival at Six Flags Frontier City. During select weekends

**Comanche County Free Fair, Sep 2, 2025 - Sep 5, 2025**, Comanche County Fairgrounds Lawton, OK 73501  
The Comanche County Free Fair in Lawton, held at the Comanche County Fairgrounds in southwest Oklahoma, invites visitors to...The **Comanche County Free Fair in Lawton**, held at the Comanche County Fairgrounds in southwest Oklahoma, invites visitors to an array of family-friendly activities and entertainment in September. This annual county fair features a variety of commercial and local agricultural exhibits, including livestock, arts and crafts, award-winning farm produce and 4-H and FFA displays. Don’t miss the fair’s popular horse show or the petting barnyard featuring donkeys, llamas and pygmy goats. Children’s activities will also be available, as well as antique tractor and farm equipment displays.

**Jefferson County Free Fair, Sep 2, 2025 - Sep 6, 2025**, Jefferson County Fairgrounds Waurika, OK 73573  
Bring the crew out for family-friendly fun at the Jefferson County Free Fair in Waurika. Something is planned for each day.

**Sunset Paddles in Downtown Boathouse District**, Riversport OKC, Oklahoma City, OK 73129  
Wrap up a day in Oklahoma City with a Sunset Kayak Excursion in the Boathouse District in downtown Oklahoma City.

**Pixies in Concert, Sep 4, 2025**, Zoo Amphitheatre, Oklahoma City, OK 73111  
See the Pixies at the Zoo Amphitheatre in Oklahoma City this September. Combining jagged, roaring guitars with...

**Tillman County Free Fair, Sep 4, 2025 - Sep 6, 2025**, Tillman County Fairgrounds Frederick, OK 73542  
The Tillman County Free Fair is an annual event held in Frederick that attracts hundreds of people from all over the county...

**Cotton County Free Fair, Sep 2, 2025 - Sep 6, 2025**, Cotton Fair & Expo Center, 924 W Missouri Ave, Walters, Ok 73572  
The Cotton County Free Fair can and should be the most useful, educational institution of the county in helping to disseminate information from farm to farm as to the most useful variety of crops, livestock, farm practices, etc.

