

HERE IT IS-ALL THE LATEST

April 2023

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

Lake Camanche 2023



FRESNO BASS CLUB MEMBERS,

The fourth stop for 2023 was Lake Camanche. Camanche is located in the motherlode region of the Sierra foothills, east of Stockton. It is a large shallow water impoundment of 7,700 surface acres with a maximum depth of 120 feet at full pool.

Camanche is known for good fishing, but it is also known for being a very expensive place to fish. In addition to paying your normal day use fee for launching a boat of \$21 dollars, each angler must purchase a special Lake Camanche daily fishing license for another \$7.25. So, before you even wet a line, you're into it for \$28.25 per day.

But that's not all.....surprise, surprise as some of our anglers found out, if you reserved a campsite with power so you could charge your boat you got kicked out of the campsite unless you had a RV with a "working toilet." Yes, this really happened. Almost four hours from home and the Camanche camping Nazis were all over you.

But the adventure didn't stop there, other campers had been communicating with the Camanche front office for over a month confirming it was okay to have two truck campers sharing a spot with one of them dry camping and the emails said it was fine C'mon up!

Well, upon arrival and AFTER taking the campers off the trucks, the phone rang and it's the front office calling saying there has been a complaint that two truck campers are considered two RV's therefore someone must load up and move to another campsite.

Then there were the launching issues. The water was extremely low, and the marina launch ramp was out of the water which forced people who stayed on the South Shore to

launch off the low water ramp which really wasn't too bad, but the approach to the ramp and the turn around areas were made up of very uneven and rough, bumpy dirt and medium sized rocks that lead to the concrete ramp.

Add to the fact the weekend brought 100's of people to the lake and everyone trying to launch off the low water ramp made things interesting. The weekend visitors thought it was okay to tie up their boats and leave them tied up to the two launching docks all night long! No joke, two idiots literally left their ski boats tied up to the launching docks all night long and halfway through the day.

All I can say is I will never support a vote to fish at this lake again. The fishing was good, but the amenities and rules were ridiculous! The crazy thing is members apparently voted for this specific schedule because of Lake Camanche yet this was the smallest or one of the smallest turnouts of the year.

Enough said, but since there was not a big turnout, I wanted members to know what it was like to stay there for those of us who went and stayed for multiple days so hopefully we will never vote for this lake again! (But that's just my opinion)

Now onto the important stuff, the fishing!

The water level was extremely low, and anglers needed a good mapping chip to avoid the many unmarked and submerged island tops throughout the main lake. Many of these island tops provided good fishing for some. The island tops had sand, rocks, and several of them had a combination of rock, hard wood and brush.

The river end of the lake had more rocky structures such as mine tailings, large boulders, steeper walls, and scattered brush and wood.

Pre-fishing was good for most in terms of numbers, but the bigger fish seemed to be missing in action. From talking with other anglers on Friday and Saturday it seemed like 10-13 pounds was the average five fish limit. The Riverbank Bass Club had a two-day event and 13.5 lbs. was leading after Saturday.

During Pre-fishing, both the main lake and river were fishing very similar with topwater baits then worms and senkos. Although it appeared that there were more biting largemouth out on the main lake compared to the river.

Bill Kunz caught a five fish limit weighing 16.39 anchored with the big fish of the tournament a 6.77 largemouth and big enough to take the progressive pot. This is two clean sweeps wins in a row for Bill.

Bill started by fishing upriver at the bridge. Due to the water level, there was current right at the bridge and a small circular log jam swirling on the left side of the bridge for three days straight. This created a visible current seam on the right side of the bridge and the fish were holding in the current seam or just outside of it. The current seam would move back and forth from the center of the channel back to the bank and the fish would follow.

Bill began by throwing a Zara spook in the current seam and caught several fish within the first hour. By 7:00 Bill had caught his first limit including his 6.77 lb. largemouth and had about 15 lbs.

Bill's non-boater, Chris Tamez caught his limit of fish throwing a small swimbait on an 1/8 oz head in the same areas.

Bill and Chris left the bridge after the sun came up and fished very shallow isolated weed patches around mine tailings with weightless senkos and wacky rigged worms. They finished out the day on the main lake fishing island tops with a 6" worm on a dropshot where Bill was able to cull up to his final weight of 16.39.



Bill and Jeff Short both blasted to the bridge. Jeff fished one side of the channel and Bill fished the other. Both boats were catching fish for the first hour, but then it slowed. Apparently two boats on the bridge wasn't enough, and a third boat (Bob Jones), pulled in, but he was late to the party! Sorry Bob!



Second place went to Seth Rowe with a total weight of 13.49. Seth had never been to Lake Camanche before and was asking for directions toward the dam in the morning hoping he wouldn't hit any unmarked island tops.

Seth said he caught all his fish on a Zara spook. Seth said he was down toward the dam and literally idled from submerged island top to submerged island top all day long. Once he found an island that held fish, he said he would get a blow-up on every cast. Seth said he could literally see the fish tracking his spook near the surface as he worked it back toward the boat. Seth estimates he caught 20 keepers throughout the day. Great Job Seth!



Third place went to Jesse Perez Jr., who put a whooping on his dad from the back of the boat. Well, it really wasn't a whooping it was more like he just edged his father out of third place (I think he had to walk home). Jesse Jr. used a wacky rigged senko to catch his fish. Jesse weighed a total of 13.07 lbs. and had a big fish of 4.92. Way to go Junior!



Fourth place went to Jessie (I almost got third) Perez Sr. with 12.93 lbs. Jesse Sr. said he caught all of his fish with a Texas rigged purple death worm and a wacky rigged senko. Jesse said he and his son concentrated on the main lake down toward the dam. He said

they fished both Little and Big Hat Islands as well as a shallow point behind Big Hat Island. All of their fish were caught right on the bank.



Rounding out the top 5 was new member Nick Privet who caught 12.01 lbs. of bass out of the back of Jeff Short's boat. Nick also had a big fish of 4.19 that he caught on a crankbait. Nick was throwing a KVD 1.5 in a bluegill color but lost it. Jeff Short let Nick borrow a 2.5 and Nick proceeded to put a whooping on Jeff with his own crankbait! Good job Nick! Nick said Jeff was a great sport and didn't ask for the crankbait back...well at least not right away Lol!



LAKE CAMANCHE RESULTS AND MAY YTD POINTS

LAKE	Camanche						
PLACE	NAME	NO.	FISH	BIG	WEIGHT	DEDUCTION	TOTAL
		FISH	ALIVE	FISH		0.5 (dead) 1.0 (short)	
1	Kunz, Bill	5	5	6.77	16.39	0.00	16.39
2	Rowe, Seth	5	5	3.36	13.49	0.00	13.49
3	Perez, Jesse Jr.	5	5	4.92	13.07	0.00	13.07
4	Perez, Jesse	5	5	2.60	12.93	0.00	12.93
5	Privet, Nick (NM May'23)	5	5	4.19	12.01	0.00	12.01
6	Red, Ron Sr	5	5	2.57	11.33	0.00	11.33
7	Reynolds, Kyle	5	5	2.32	11.30	0.00	11.30
8	Baron, Rusty	5	5	2.77	11.18	0.00	11.18
9	Taylor, Ted	5	5	3.03	10.92	0.00	10.92
10	Duncan, A.J.	5	5		10.91	0.00	10.91
11	Avedikian, Amy (NM Jan'23)	5	5		10.73	0.00	10.73
12	Tamez, Chris	5	5		10.68	0.00	10.68
13	Heirendt, David	5	4		10.56	0.50	10.06
14	Short, Jeff	5	5		9.99	0.00	9.99
15	Barton, Justin (NM Jan'23)	5	5		9.32	0.00	9.32
16	Paris, Chris	5	5		9.26	0.00	9.26
17	Albidrez, John	5	4		9.49	0.50	8.99
18	Arnold, Jimmy	5	4	2.58	8.87	0.50	8.37
19	Rowles, Bill Sr	5	4		8.83	0.50	8.33
20	Jue, Gary	2	2	6.76	7.77	0.00	7.77
21	Lopez, Christian	4	4	2.41	7.64	0.00	7.64
22	Jones, Bob	4	4		7.55	0.00	7.55
23	Rowles, Anne	4	4	2.59	6.98	0.00	6.98
24	Shafer, Paul	3	3	2.15	6.73	0.00	6.73
25	Ruacho, Jerry	3	3		5.28	0.00	5.28
26	Barton, Baily (NM Jan'23)	2	2		2.47	0.00	2.47
	Heirendt, Jonathan (guest DH)	5	3	2.15	9.78	1.00	8.78
	Mathew (guest JA)	5	4		7.93	0.50	7.43

PLACE	NAME	TOTAL
1	Kunz, Bill	197
2	Baron, Rusty	189
3	Reynolds, Kyle	183
4	Perez, Jesse	175
5	Albidrez, John	173
6	Rowe, Seth	173
7	Red, Ron Sr	168
8	Barton, Justin (NM Jan'23)	167
9	Taylor, Ted	160
10	Duncan, A.J.	155
11	Avedikian, Amy (NM Jan'23)	154
12	Kerber, Cory	153
13	Arnold, Jimmy	137
14	Rowles, Bill Sr	133
15	Jones, Bob	131
16	Corrente Mark	123
17	Turner, Tim	121
18	Heirendt, David	119
19	Guzman, Jose	118
20	Jue, Gary	115
21	Perez, Jesse Jr.	113
22	Shafer, Paul	112
23	Smith, Ryan	104
24	Paris, Chris	103
25	Calderon, Lazaro	97
26	Duncan, Kelly	93
27	Short, Jeff	93
28	Ruacho, Jerry	92
29	Lopez, Christian	86
30	Mendes, Mathew	85
31	Botu, Brian	82
32	Eddy, Ken	81
33	Rowles, Anne	78
34	Tamez, Chris	71
35	Smith, Jennifer	61
36	Austin, Walt	53
37	Privet, Nick (NM May'23)	48
38	Gomez, Marco (NM Mar'23)	41
39	Curtis, Walter	38
40	De La Fuente, Javier	35
41	Barton, Baily (NM Jan'23)	31
42	Agtang, Timothy (NM Mar'23)	30
43	Hass, Harold	29
44	Placentia, Sal	26
45	De La Fuente, Javier Jr.	10
46	Champ, Jeremy	7
47	Pena, Irwin	7
48	Barton, Brody (NM Jan'23)	6
49	Uecker, Rick	6
50	Rowles, Bill Jr	5
51	Gutierrez, Alfred	2
51	Lutz, Larry	2
51	McGovern, Rick	2
51	Munoz, Sal	2
51	Pitts, Jeremy	2

Bill Kunz squeaked, and I mean squeaked out the big fish for the tournament. Gary Jue landed a 6.76 lb. largemouth on a drop shot and barely missed the big fish and progressive pot. If I was Gary, I would have asked to weigh his fish a second time because Bill's fish had already been released and if it would have weighed 6.78 or better the second time, he would have stolen big fish and the progressive pot from Bill.



ADDITIONAL TULLOCH PICTURES





FISH CARE

As you all know, the weather is starting to heat up and you have to start paying more attention to your fish, so they don't die. Please make sure your live wells are in good working order, you carry some extra ice packs (Frozen water bottles work great) in the boat and use some sort of Live well treatment such as Rejuvenade. Keep your fish alive!!

JUNE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

When: June 10-11/2023 (Two Day Event)
Where: CA Delta / B&W Resort
Check-in: TBD @ B&W Ramp
Blast off: Approx. 0520
Weigh-in: B&W Resort @ 3:00 pm

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting for the Fresno Bass Club will be Wednesday June 7, 2023, @ 7PM at the Yosemite Falls Café located at 4020 N. Cedar in Fresno

Until next time...Tight Lines!