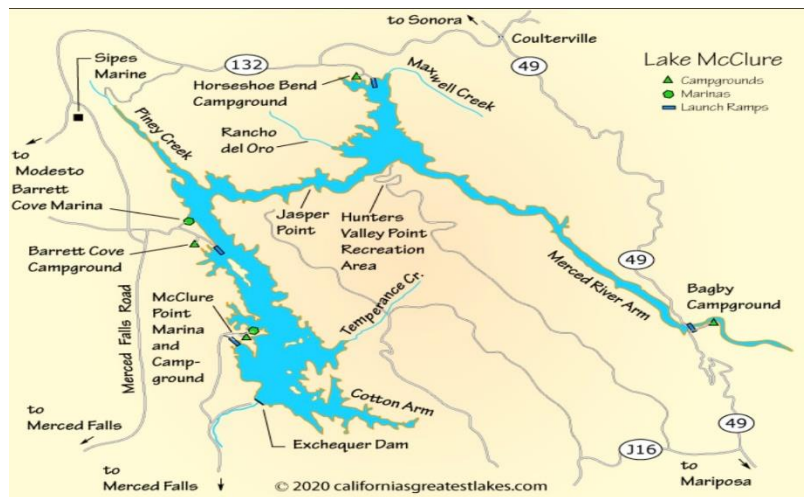


HERE IT IS-ALL THE LATEST

December 2023

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

Lake McClure TOC!!



FRESNO BASS CLUB MEMBERS,

The December tournament is always reserved for our local Tournament of Champions (TOC). In order to qualify for the TOC a member must finish in the top 10 in overall Angler of the Year (AOY) points (After two throw-outs) or fish a total of 9 out of 11 qualifying events. This year our club qualified a total of 21 anglers to fish the TOC. Of the 21 qualifiers only 19 participated this year.

This year's TOC was set for December 17, 2023, at Lake McClure. Lake McClure was fishing pretty stingy for quality fish last month and the weather still hasn't cooled off. Also, with the lake being off limits Monday-Friday it didn't give anglers much pre-fishing time.

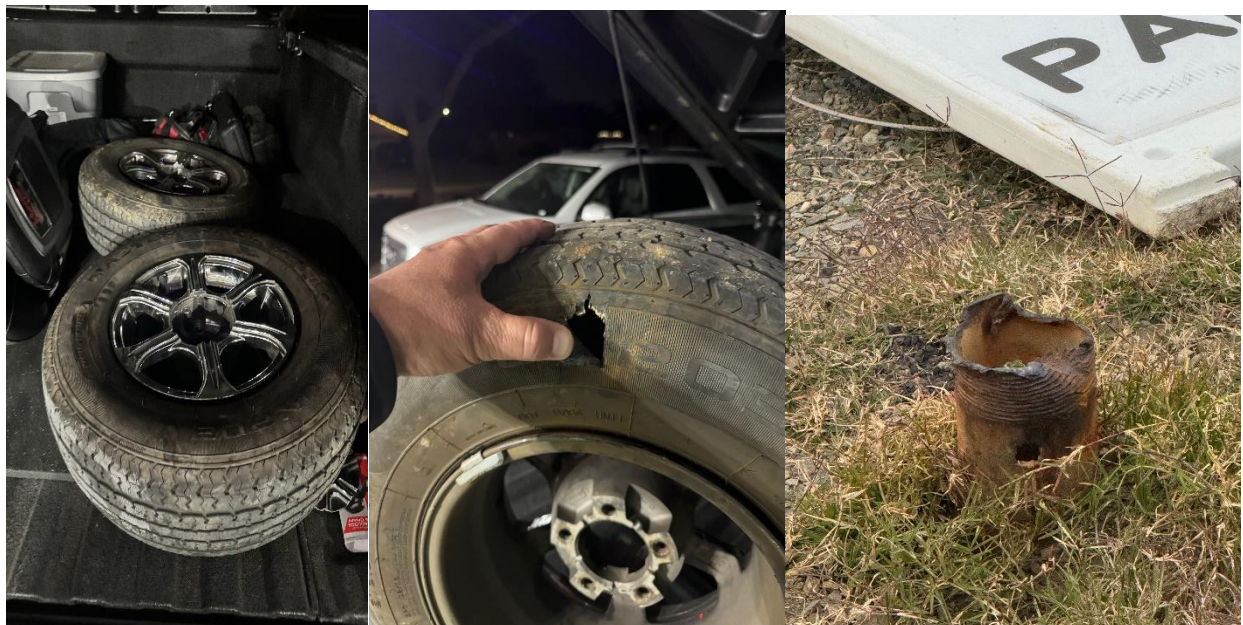
Bill Kunz pre-fished with Jimmy Arnold the Sunday before the lake went off limits. The weather was cold in the morning and warming up throughout the day without a cloud in the sky. They found a good bite on main lake points and secondary points leading into larger bays with bait present. During pre-fishing they found fish both shallow and as deep as 55 feet. They caught most of their fish on both brown jigs and a drop shot with a shad-colored worm. During pre-fish Bill had about 10 pounds and Jimmy had about 9 pounds.

Fast forward to tournament day and the conditions had changed slightly with a forecast of mostly cloudy skies with light and variable winds leading up to the chance of rain that night. Because of the cloud cover, night time temperatures stayed moderate and did not seem to cool down the surface temperature during the week. The water temperature was still 57 in the morning to 61 in the afternoon.

Everyone arrived early, checked-in and began launching their boats. Bill Kunz headed down the ramp and at the turn around his sidewalls of both his starboard trailer tires were suddenly blown out by a small piece of pipe a few inches off the ramp. Bill could not move his boat or trailer in fear that the tires would come off and the rims would be drug across the ramp.

Bill put on his emergency flashers on and began cussing extremely loudly. (It didn't help!) Not only did Bill need two spare tires, but his wrist injury wasn't going to allow him to take tires off and put them back on.

Well, the calvary arrived! Jimmy Arnold began to remove the tires with the help of Tim Turner, Bill Rowles Sr., and Paul Shafer. Jesse Perez gave Bill his spare tire and after about 30 minutes Bill and Jimmy were back in business with ten minutes to spare before blasting off (Thanks to the cloud cover).



The anglers then blasted off in order in which they finished. The non-boaters who qualified for the TOC either had to find their own boat or find a TOC participant willing to take on a non-boater. This year Tim Turner, Bill Kunz, Kyle Reynolds, AJ Dunkin, and Jesse Perez all agreed to take a non-boater out with them.

This year's FBC TOC Champion went to Mr. "bad luck turning into gold", Bill Kunz. After all the troubles in the morning his luck turned around for the better.

Bill Kunz and Jimmy Arnold blasted off second and headed toward the McClure Point area. They started off throwing jigs shallow with Bill catching his limit by 9:00. Bill's best three fish, including the tournament big fish of 2.92 lbs., all came off one secondary point in 0-5 feet within a ten-minute timeframe. After 9:00 quality fish were hard to come by for them. The remainder of their fish came from main lake and secondary points in Temperance and the main lake area between Barrett South and Temperance. Bill's limit weighed 10.82 lbs.



Second place went to Justin "I need my camper back soon" Barton. Justin said he caught his big fish, a 2.57 lbs. spot, on a spinnerbait on a secondary point in Cottonwood. His second fish came on a deep diving shad colored crankbait. About 11:00 he figured out the jig bite out on the main lake where he culled several times on another secondary point. Justin then threw an underspin across the same point and landed his second-best fish of the day. Justin was throwing a green jig in 25-35 feet of water. Justin's limit weighed 10.52 lbs.



Third Place went to Bob Jones with a total weight of 10.37 lbs. Bob said he caught his fish throwing a senko whacky rigged on a drop shot in 40-60 feet on the main lake. I think he even smiled for this picture!



Fourth place went to Rusty Baron with a limit weighing in at 10.15 lbs. Rusty said he caught his fish on a jig and a drop shot on main lake points and cuts in 25-45' of water.



Rounding out the top five was Ron Red Sr. who brought in a limit weighing 10.04 lbs. Ron said he caught his first fish on an A-Rig in Arnold Bay. The remainder of his fish all came on a worm on a darter head in 15-20' of water in the same general area.



TOURNAMENT RESULTS:

PLACE	NAME	# FISH	BIG FISH	TOTAL
1	Bill Kunz	5	2.92	10.82
2	Justin Barton	5	2.57	10.52
3	Bob Jones	5	1.72	10.37
4	Rusty Baron	5		10.15
5	Ron Red Sr.	5	2.20	10.04
6	Tim Turner	5	2.65	9.62
7	Ted Taylor	5	2.49	9.25
8	Kelly Duncan	5	2.40	9.14
9	AJ Duncan	5		9.00
10	Jesse Perez Jr.	5	2.15	8.75
11	Jesse Perez Sr.	5	2.05	8.74
12	Kyle Reynolds	5 (1) Dead	-.5	8.73
13	Amy Avedikian	5	2.60	8.36
14	Bill Rowles Sr.	5	2.04	8.35
15	Paul Shafer	4	2.33	7.45
16	Jimmy Arnold	4		6.77
17	Christian Lopez	4	1.66	5.49
18	Jerry Ruacho	2		3.47
19	Ken Eddy	Dumped	His	Fish

NEXT BOARD MEETING AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

WHEN: Wednesday January 3, 2024
WHERE: Yosemite Falls Café, 4020 N. Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726
TIME: **Board Meeting** starts @ 5:00 PM (Any member can attend)
General Membership Meeting starts at 7:00 PM
DUES: **FBC Annual Dues of \$50 are due on this date**

FRESNO BASS CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET

WHEN: Saturday January 6, 2024
TIME: Doors Open at 5:00 PM
DINNER: Served between 6:00-6:30
MENU: Tri-Tip, Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Salad, Iced Tea and Water
COST: Members are Free, **Guests \$30 paid in full by January 3, 2024, meeting**
RAFFLE: Raffle Tickets are \$20 per Sheet of 25 tickets. If you buy \$60 worth you get an extra sheet of 25 tickets.

JANUARY 2024 TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

When: Sunday January 21, 2024
Where: Millerton Lake, Fresno Launch Ramp
Sunrise: 7:07 AM
Moon Phase: Waxing Gibbous (84%)
Check-in: TBD @ next meeting
Blast off: Approx. 06:50
Weigh-in: 3:00 PM @ the Fresno Ramp

