

## El Salto Mexico Re-Cap, Summer Tips; Fishing in the Weeds, Fishing Reports

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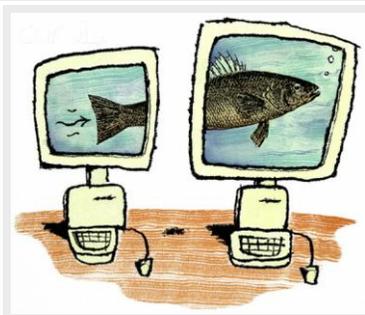
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### Why Post a Fishing Report?



**Click the pic to view  
our Fishing Reports**

Every day we receive a phone call from a member that starts something like this...

*"I haven't seen a report for lake xxxxx in awhile."  
Or, "What do you hear about lake so and so."*

In some cases the lake

### El Salto Mexico - Summer Trip Recap

We had a small but mighty group for our first summer El Salto trip. This was the 4th trip PWF has hosted at the famed Lake El Salto, but the first summer trip. All 7 of us departed from DFW airport on Friday June 5th and headed to Mazatlan Mexico where the [Ron Speed Adventures](#) van picked us up. After a day of travel and preparation (preparation consists of getting reels mounted to rods, telling fishing stories while sucking down your favorite beverage with nachos or bacon wrapped Jalapeno's) we were anxious to start fishing.



has not been fished in a month, but more than likely we have had 3 or 4 people fish the lake over the past few weeks and no report!

Posting only takes a few minutes (literally) and allows you to express yourself and more importantly allows you to share with our members how the lake is fishing and the current conditions; including vegetation issues and water levels.

Posting is a way to give back. PWF does not have the staff to monitor how each lake is fishing, lake levels, and vegetation issues on every lake in the club on a weekly or even monthly basis. We rely on our members to help with some of this. We hope you view posting as a way to help all involved to keep PWF the crown jewel in private lake fishing.

PWF monitors fishing pressure at each of our properties and we block off dates on the reservation calendars to insure a lake is never over-fished. So, placing a successful report will not result in damaging or over-fishing a lake. We take pride in creating the best opportunity possible

### **The Whole Group! El Salto - Summer 2013**

On Day 1 Kevin Dewey was the clubhouse leader with more than 20 fish including a 6, 6.8, 6.12, 7.12 and an 8.3. Day 2 produced good bags for several members including Jackson Bean who had 6 fish over 5 lbs in just one morning. Nick Fowles and Jackson caught 20+ fish that afternoon and more than a dozen over 4 lbs; including Jackson's 8.8 lb big fish of the trip. Day 3 saw Richard Albert (who has made all 4 trips) and Jim Gober (who is made 3 out of 4 trips) catch 47 fish in a single morning with 5 fish over 5 lbs including a 7 and 8 lb fish caught by Jim.



**Kevin Dewey:  
Day 1 - 8.3 lbs**



**Jackson Bean Big Fish  
of the Trip; 8.8 lbs**

for each of our members to have a good experience on our lakes.

### Current PWF Properties



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If you noticed I was left off the report as you can see the sizes of fish I caught in the picture below. Yes I really caught a 2 inch fish! The fish could not swallow the hook but actually held on to the tail of my watermelon red lizard with his mouth through a violent hook set; much the same way a crawfish or crab holds onto a piece of meat. It was not hooked but rather held on to the tail for the ride of his life. True story!



Richard Albert 7+ lb



Steve with a "fish of a lifetime!"

If you're interested in fishing Lake El Salto we have spots available for January 24th through January 29th, 2014. Cost is \$1495 plus airfare, ground transportation and tips. All in cost is about \$2200.

This note came from Richard Albert who has made all 4 trips with us:

"THE FINAL MORNING JIM AND I BOATED 47. WE WENT TO ONE AREA WHERE WE FOUND THEM STACKED UP. ON THREE STRAIGHT CASTS, CAUGHT FISH 2-3 LBS EACH. ALMOST ALL WERE CAUGHT ON 6' TO 10' DIVING CRANK BAITS. THESE 2-4 LB FISH FIGHT HARDER THAN ANY 5-6 LB FISH HERE LOCAL. THIS SAME DAY, HAD A LARGE FISH BREAK OFF BUT DID MANAGE TO CATCH A FEW OVER 5 LBS, INCLUDING JIM'S 7.1 AND HIS 8.2. GREAT TIME AND GREAT FELLOWSHIP! CAN'T WAIT TO GO AGAIN. THANKS AGAIN FOR ALL YOU DO."

## Summer Tips: Fishing in Weeds and Vegetation

As the temperature rises the volume of vegetation in some of our lakes increases. One of the most common questions we receive this time of year is "What can I fish with in thick grass?"

Most of our vegetation is in the form of filamentous Algae (FA), this is the green slimy stuff that mats all over your lures. The two other most common vegetation items are coontail moss (many people call it hydrilla) or bushy pond weed also known as southern naiad.



After 13 years of fishing club lakes, I have found a zoom fluke with a weighted hook, nail head or split shot clipped to the nose to be my go to bait in this stuff. Using a twitch, twitch, pause retrieve is my favorite method. I have found when I make shorter casts, especially in wind and I am patient, often waiting 10 seconds before I make the next series of twitches, I catch more fish. I generally choose a watermelon seed or watermelon red colored fluke. If I have seen shad in the lake, I may switch to a pearl or white colored fluke. The pearl and white fluke can look like a threadfin shad. While not perfect, the fluke can imitate an injured bluegill or shad and gets through coontail and bushy pond weed with ease. Lately, I have been using



**Filamentous Algae - Yuck!**

heaver weighted hooks (1/8 oz) or larger, to get the fluke a bit deeper. You give up some action with the heavier fluke, but you are able to fish it in the wind and it gets a bit deeper, where the fish are.

As the light gets brighter, try moving to a jig. Again, I usually stay with something in

the green colored family, like pumpkin or motor oil in a 1/2 or even a 5/8 ounce size. I prefer Reaction baits sweet beaver, KVD's rodent, or the Larew Hog Craw as a trailer. FYI, over the years the "creature" type trailers have exploded with choices. These trailers are large, giving you a larger profile for larger fish. I often make only the initial pitch, placed in a strategic hole, let it fall once and reel it back in. I pull off the vegetation if necessary, adjust the trailer, and make another pitch. I have found that it is too difficult to raise the bait and lower the bait all the way back to the boat without your lure all covered in "junk". Pitch it once and move on.



**Coontail Moss.**

Another technique I use with some success is suspended or floating jerk bait.

These baits are best used early and late or on cloudy days. The retrieve is similar to a fluke with a twitch pause action. Most jerk baits have a small bill causing them to dive 6 inches to 2 feet. When you twitch (jerk the rod tip downward) the bait dives down and the pause causes the bait to float to the top. This technique can be deadly, if the grass is about 2 feet from reaching the top. The bass are lying in the grass just waiting for a tasty meal to swim by above them. These baits are loaded with treble hooks, usually three or even four hooks, you must be careful not to jerk too hard, causing the bait to go too deep and get covered up in vegetation. I use all colors and have found color to be less important than presentation.



**Top: Super Fluke w/ 1/4 oz weighted hook.  
Bottom: Zoom Smokin Shad Fluke w/ 1/32 oz split shot above eye of hook.**

Vegetation is common in the summer and fall, so learning multiple techniques can be huge to your success. If you have other techniques I hope you post them on our [fishing reports section](#).

Steve Alexander  
Private Water Fishing

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