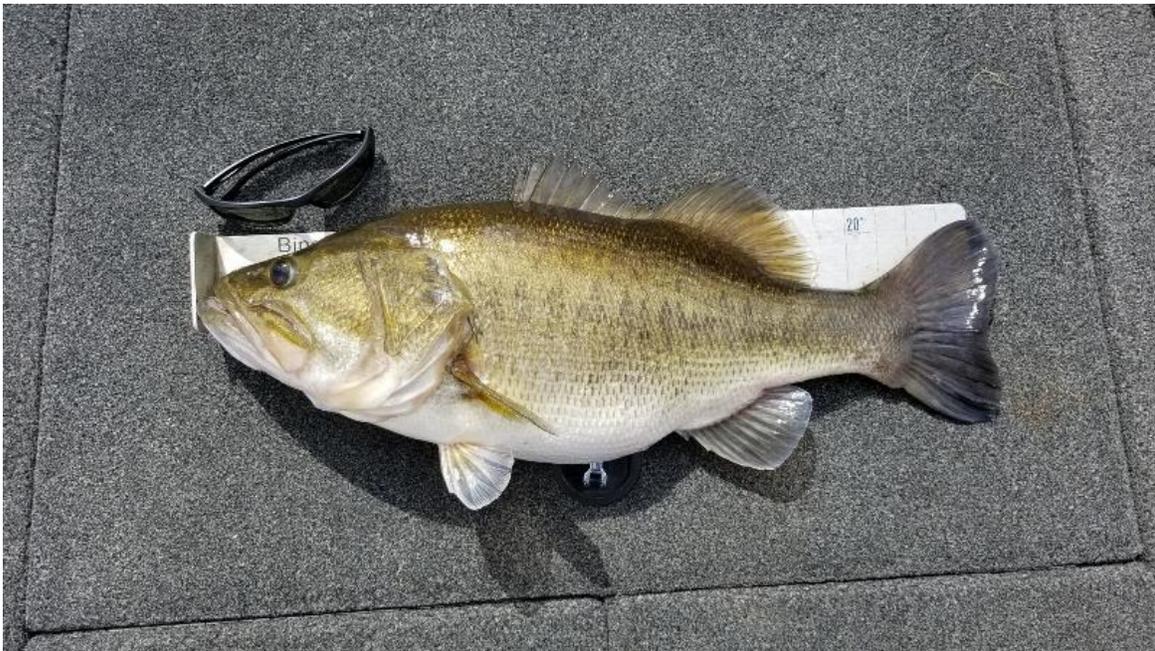




Big Bass Contest UPDATE



The 2018 PWF Big Bass Tournament has a new entry, and new leader on the board!

- Murrie Holland, was at Grapeland - Bennett Lake when he caught this giant DD 10.3 lbs. bass measuring 24 3/4"! (pictured above)
- Danny Renfro is taking second place with a 23 3/4" large-mouth bass he caught at Lower Hart Lake at the Coalgate - Cody Ranch Property.
- In third place John Shepard, is still holding on with his 23 1/4" bass that he managed to catch at Grapeland - Bennett Lake.

We currently have 39 contestants, and the contest runs through the end of May; so you still have plenty of time to register and compete for your chance to win \$500, and a year's worth of bragging rights! Entry is only \$25; contact the club office by phone (214) 871 - 0044 or email info@privatewaterfishing.com to register now!

Handle Your Trophy with Care

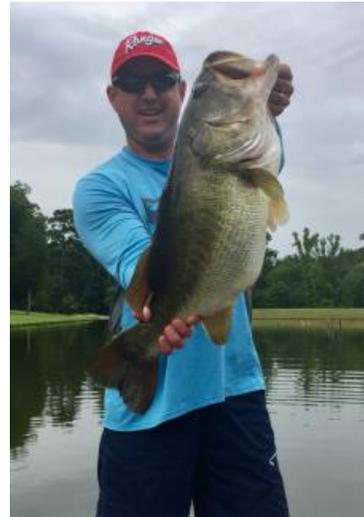
Don't Break the Jaw of Your Big Bass

Author: Ray Sasser, Outdoor Writer

Watch a bass tournament weigh-in, and you'll see just about every significant-size fish shown off by a lip grip. Luckily, most bass that come through a tournament weigh-in don't weigh enough to damage the jaw. Eight pounds is too much weight for a fish's jaw to support. Does a bass look bigger suspended vertically by its lower jaw with the lip rolled back? Absolutely, and that's why anglers like the pose. Unwittingly, they will kill a fair number of these big fish.

It's OK to hold a big fish by the lower lip. That's the best way to control a bass. Just be sure to support the fish's weight with your off hand. This creates a pose that's more horizontal than vertical and the fish doesn't look quite as big. It does stand a much better chance of surviving being caught and "released."

A photo is necessary for documentation, but don't wait until you catch a big fish to learn how the camera works. Make sure your fishing partner knows the plan and how the camera works. Now, as quickly as possible, take two or three photos and get the fish back in the water while you check the photos to make sure they're good. Remember that a fish cannot breathe out of water. Also, all big fish are senior citizens.



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