

Coastal Conservation Association

CURRENTS

December 2022 /
January 2023

Walter W. Fondren III Conservation Headquarters



CCA Texas and Anheuser-Busch have partnered for a statewide branding and advertising campaign for 2023.

CURRENTS IS INTERACTIVE!

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Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission Takes Bold Steps to Conserve Oyster Reefs in Carlos, Mesquite and Ayres Bays

By Shane Bonnot

In early November the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission (Commission) adopted the proposed changes to the statewide oyster fishery proclamation, which included the closure of oyster reef areas in Ayres, Mesquite and Carlos Bays (three bays), and the temporary closure of restoration areas in Galveston Bay and San Antonio Bay.

“We applaud the Commission for their unanimous decision to protect and conserve the three bays from oyster harvest,” said Shane Bonnot, CCA Texas Advocacy Director. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) executive leadership and coastal fisheries staff are to be commended for recognizing the need to conserve these ecologically valuable oyster reefs, and it is refreshing to witness science and policy work in tandem to ensure a vibrant fishery for present and future generations.”

The three bays are characterized by a diverse network of intertidal and deep oyster reefs, expansive seagrass beds and fringing salt marsh, all of which provide critical nursery habitat for numerous aquatic species. In addition to the ecosystem services provided by these reefs, the positive role oyster reefs play in this habitat mosaic cannot be overstated and the proximity of Cedar Bayou to this area, serving as migration and recruitment corridor, further justified the reason for this closure.

“Establishing networks of protected oyster reefs isn’t a new concept,” said Pat Murray, President of CCA. “We see this as a common management tool in other states to help recruit oyster spat in adjacent areas while optimizing the habitat value within the closed area. Furthermore, what we find is that protecting areas from destructive harvest practices is a more cost-effective option when compared to the cost of restoring a degraded reef.”

The public and non-governmental organization response to this proposal during the rule-making process was historic. A total of 8,732 comments were submitted to TPWD, with 80% being in favor, 17% against and 3% neutral. Twenty-three non-governmental organizations also submitted letters of support, running the gamut from the Sierra Club to the Safari Club. “Make no mistake, closing those three bays and the restoration areas is a huge deal,” stated Rocky Chase, Chairman of CCA Texas Government Affairs. “CCA Texas and numerous conservation-minded organizations staunchly supported this proposal, and we are pleased that the commission decided to do what is best for the long-term sustainability of the oyster fishery.”

In related news, the 2022-2023 public oyster season began on November 1 with many shellfish harvest areas closed to oyster fishing. As mentioned in their October 27 press release, TPWD [code](#) allows for the emergency closure of an area to oyster harvest when it can be shown there is evidence of being overworked. These closings are based on samples collected by TPWD showing low catch rates of legal-sized, harvestable oysters. Of the 29 shellfish harvest areas along the Texas coast, 20 were closed at the start of the oyster season.

Beginning the oyster season with limited number of areas opening is an attempt by TPWD to strike a balance between the economic demands of the fishery and the ecological needs of the bay systems, and while conservationists recently celebrated news that three threatened bay systems would be closed to oyster harvest, concerns remained that other areas would inevitably bear the brunt of intense commercial harvest. Unfortunately, those concerns have become reality as the oyster fleet has descended on the relatively few areas that remain open to harvest.



It is refreshing to witness science and policy work in tandem to ensure a vibrant fishery for present and future generations.

“The department is potentially sacrificing oyster density and future availability of oysters, particularly in East Matagorda Bay (TX12),” stated Robby Byers, CCA Texas Executive Director.

“What we feared is coming to pass in East Matagorda Bay and the Department will have to act fast to rescue those reefs. In its current state, the oyster fishery is the epitome of the ‘tragedy of the commons,’” said Bonnot. “With nearly 500 vessels reporting landings last year and the season essentially closing after two months of harvest, it is clear to see that the industry is over-capitalized, and more work is needed to encourage license buyback, lease expansion and oyster mariculture participation. No reef can withstand this kind of intense, localized pressure the way things are being managed now.”

In his comments to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission on November 3, 2022, CCA Chairman Mark Ray predicted the Department’s compromise to open areas that are less than robust was fraught with peril and he outlined what additional steps would be necessary to create a sustainable oyster fishery.

“In my view of this contentious situation, you have made a compromise by allowing oyster fishermen to harvest in those areas and that poses a biological risk to oyster populations and will potentially result in culling and discard mortality, jeopardizing next year’s oyster season and, more importantly, oyster reefs recovering from previous years’ harvest,” stated Ray. I understand this is a means to an end – a necessary attempt to keep the fishery viable while maintaining some semblance of the current management strategy. But make no mistake, that was the compromise. A public reef fishery, oyster leases and oyster mariculture. These are three legs of the stool that will support the future of this fishery. Currently, one leg is broken. Another is too short. And the final leg has yet to be glued to the seat.”

CCA Texas has encouraged TPWD to continue coordination of restoration and regulations workgroups that were created after the March 2022 Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting. Along with our conservation partners, we are committed to collectively investigating management alternatives that will improve sustainability of the fishery and provide future opportunities for oyster fishing. In the meantime, TPWD must find ways to prevent the consolidation of vessels into shellfish harvest areas, particularly small shallow-water bodies like East Matagorda Bay, where there aren’t adjacent protected areas to serve as a future seed source and the consequences of overharvesting will be realized well beyond the degradation of the oyster reef.



Building Offshore Fish Habitat Nearshore

By Gary Glick

President, Friends of RGV Reef

RGV reef is a 1,650-acre artificial reef located within Texas State waters off South Padre Island. RGV Reef's claim to fame is that it's an artificial reef that includes a large nursery component. With 72,000,000 pounds of material, it's the first industrial scale nursery reef in the world. It grows a lot of fish. The reason is, it provides a lot of habitat and groceries; a safe harbor and food. If you want to grow a lot of fish, you must have a place for them to live and survive, and you've got to feed them. You do this by varying the shape, size, height and density of the material placed on the bottom.

The Gulf's bottom productivity has been diminished, according to Texas Parks Wildlife, by industrial trawl fishing. If you trawl a bottom once, it loses some of its productivity for six months to five years. If you trawl that same bottom multiple times, it reduces its productivity from five years to perpetuity.

Restoring productivity is critical. Reefs provide food and cover for the base of the Gulf's food chain. Just one example is the value of those little swimming crabs that Kemp's Ridley turtles and red snapper think are the most wonderful things in the world to eat. In turn, those little crabs are detritus eaters, passing along the nourishment of seaweed and dead fish matter to our harvest of red snapper. So



Three and four year-old snapper on one of the many pyramid structures designed by Tom Hilton of Marine Habitats in the RGV reef. Photo, Keegan Angerer, Klinelab.

cracks and crevices in the substrate are critical for organics to accumulate in the body of the reef itself and in the surrounding bottom. Referred to as interstitial spaces, the crevices between reef blocks also allow small fish and other organisms to escape predation. We focus a lot on red snapper for good reason. They are the most important fish species in the Gulf, recreationally and commercially. That's where the research is, and it indicates that if you provide habitat for red snapper through all their life stages, you've also made life better for all the other species of fish on the continental shelf of the Gulf of Mexico.

Basically, fish are like land animals. They need complex habitat to do well. It is well known in scientific literature that as you increase complexity you increase species richness and total biomass. At Friends of RGV Reef, we gather advice from marine biologists. They are happy to talk to us because we do the kind of things they think succeed. In general, they agree that a monoculture of the same size material on the bottom is not the most effective, and we concur.

If you look at some of the video on rgvreef.org you can see small snapper dive into cracks and crevices as predators come through.

Friends of RGV Reef was the brainchild of Bob Glick and myself. We had been diving and fishing for decades. Originally, all we wanted to do was make a better place for people to fish not far from shore. The idea was to throw out big chunks of concrete and stack stuff up high to attract fish from elsewhere. We realized that pretty much everything we wanted to do was going to



Tomatoes (an important forage fish) schooling on an RGV Reef concrete tie reef. Photo, Erich Schlegel

be a felony without a reefing permit. Bob knew and had worked with CCA's John Blaha, and that CCA has always understood the connection between habitat and fish. So, CCA was our first supporter. I had experience getting subdivision permits and started pestering Dale Shively of Texas Parks and Wildlife. Daniel Bryant, a captain friend from our charter boat days, knew the industrial dockside world and joined the project.

We hoped to gather stakeholders as part of the permitting process, so we contacted Marine Biologist Dr. Richard Kline from the University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV). But what could he have seen that we hadn't? We hadn't noticed there were no baby fish on the high relief reef where we'd been diving and fishing for decades. Pushed out on the flats by bigger fish, small fish had lost most of the low diffuse reef that originally was nursery habitat due to industrial bottom trawl fishing. Dr. Kline wound up volunteering many hours of expertise to the design and construction of RGV Reef. The reef design is much of Dr. Kline's doing, leavened by the experience of old salts and industrial dock contractors.

We realized the reef had to be productive, efficient and cheap, as well as a demonstration and research reef. So, we focused on recycled concrete for most of our material. Every rock in it, every one of the different reef patches has been deployed with enough replicates to allow scientific statistical significance. RGV Reef will be an outstanding location to study nursery reefing for decades.

Habitat and food are fundamental to a healthy reef. We have provided graduated steppingstones of habitat using recycled concrete and sharp-angled, flat-sided material which provides varied cracks and crevices. On a large scale, the area looks like bumps on the bottom. But those bumps provide crevices to hide in. Small and juvenile fish hide from predators in them. The crevices are absolutely critical to the survival of juvenile red snapper. If you look at some of the video on RGVreef.org you can see small fish dive into cracks and crevices as predators come through. Those cracks and holes generate complex habitat, as well as resting cover from the passing current. So, crevices in the bottom habitat are critical for fish safety. And happily when you provide safety, you're also providing groceries, food for little fish.

There are a lot of passing organics in the water column. If the bottom is just smooth, those organics just sweep on by and never get concentrated enough to form the base of the food chain. Sharp-edged and flat-sided material create vortices in the passing currents, lifting sand off the bottom, forming scour hollows and pulling organics and detritus out of the water column, which can then concentrate in the crevices. This directly feeds small swimming crabs, which are an excellent food source. The nearby enriched bottom also generates an algal mat that feeds nematodes like green worms. These tiny marine worms eat the algal mats. Small fish and shrimp feed on green worms. Concentrate and nurture enough of those passing organics and you can restore the productivity of the bottom.



Amberjack trying to suck fish out of crevices on Big's Reef. Photo, Curtis Hayung

Almost all Gulf gamefish have evolved to either utilize occasionally or live continuously on or around hard substrate reef. But substrate reef is extremely limited. Less than two percent of the Gulf bottom is hard substrate reef. If you want to increase the number of fish, you must increase the hard substrate. Of course, the trick becomes how to do that. We consider the answer to be complex material in graduated steppingstones of height. But the most efficient mix is still being determined by hard won experience and research.

We have found that it's important to think in terms of individual reef 'patches.' That seems to be more effective than one big pile in the middle. Trawling has not only disrupted the soil structure of the friable little bumps that are natural on the Gulf floor, but it has also abraded the nursery habitat distributed across the floor, including toeholds for species like whip coral. Whip coral is a one- to two-foot-tall soft coral, yellow in color that looks kind of like a pencil cactus. Whip coral is important as food and cover for juvenile red snapper. On our website rgvreef.org you can see video of juvenile red snapper that are using whip coral to get up a little higher in the water column and hanging out just upcurrent. Little red snapper are sight feeders, eating plankton as it passes in the water column. When they're threatened by larger fish, they dive into the tree-like structure of the whip coral.

Examples of coming projects: We're doing a carbon capture study partnering with UTRGV and Enbridge Corporation to determine how much carbon an artificial reef sequesters, and side scan the entire reef and ground-proof it to see what the speciation shows.



Red and Mangrove snapper on Max's Wreck. Photo, Curtis Hayung



The sinking of Max's Wreck and the TIFT Tug, first large material in RGV Reef, October 2016. Note the large black floats tied to the roofs of the boats. They are old ship fenders which help the boats land upright on the bottom. Photo, Curtis Hayung

This important study will also give us critical management information about which materials and reefs work best at growing fish. See *Carbon Capture: A Result of Fish Habitat Reefing?* at end of this feature.

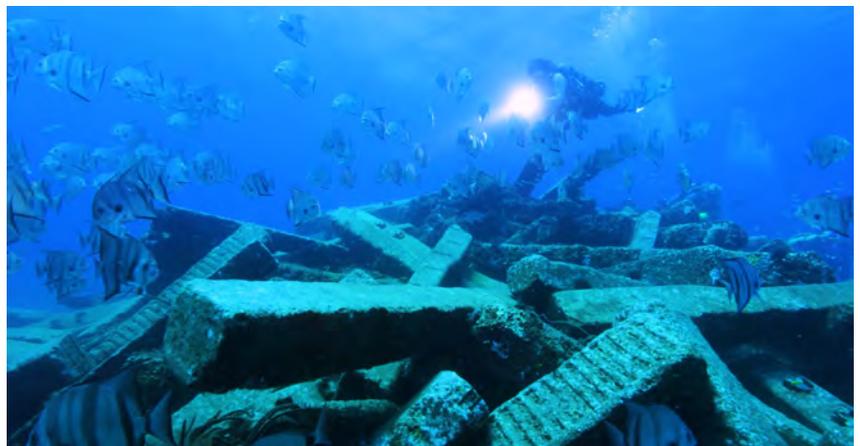
Patch reefs apparently work well, and we have learned what materials function well, but we don't yet know which work best. We have patch reefs that are made from 8 foot-tall concrete pyramids designed by Atlantis Marine habitats, patches of cinder blocks, patch reefs made of broken concrete, and lots of patch reefs that are made of different tonnages of concrete railroad ties. There is also a high relief patch, Big's Reef, at the RGV Nearshore Reef that can shunt nutrient-rich bottom water up into the photic zone. Dr. Klein thinks that it generates a fairly constant plankton bloom down current which feeds poagies and menhaden, that in turn feed kingfish, amberjack and large red snapper, the fish that we all love to catch and eat.

The bulk of RGV Reef is primarily built out of concrete railroad ties. The Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) has donated and shipped us over 600 rail cars of worn-out concrete railroad ties. As they fall through the water column the ties spread and make up a pile that is approximately 120 feet in diameter. They tangle on the bottom like pickup sticks and generate lots of cracks and crevices. We can vary the height of the piles of concrete railroad ties by how many we put down in one patch. And we sometimes put an "icing" of cheap off-spec cinder blocks (which are also good by themselves, but can sink in the sand), broken ties or concrete rubble to increase complexity. Three railroad ties weigh one ton. We have 25, 50, and 100-ton patches focused on nursery habitat. On the perimeter of the reef we put down pieces of concrete highway dividers and have sixteen 250-ton tie patches that were dropped very tightly so that they would be barrier protection from shrimp net trawling. We have multiple sizes of these patches and we have some full 400-ton patches. One patch, Big's Reef, has 7,000 tons in it and stands 32 feet off the bottom. That's the one that has plankton bloom and is used by passing pelagics.

We have also sunk six vessels in the RGV Reef. We're lucky that our industry partner EMR International Shipbreaking knows how to efficiently clean these vessels which is slow, dirty and dangerous (read: expensive) work. I



Photo, Curtis Hayung.



Spadefish above railroad ties. Photo, Erich Schlegel.



The Dry Tortugas loading at our site donated by the Port of Brownsville. Notice the pallets of cinder blocks and 14,970 tons of concrete ties in the background. Photo, Curtis Hayung



The 160' dynamic positioning vessel the Dry Tortugas deploying concrete railroad ties in RGV Reef.

think we're more efficient than most groups in sinking boats. For example, in 2021 there were six Shrimp boats reefed off the US Coast. Four of them went in RGV Reef. Right now, we're working on three vessels. Two really big 110-foot, 300-ton tugboats and a 76-foot shrimper. The tugs were built in the 70's when steel was cheaper, so they are sturdy maybe lasting 50 years to a couple hundred years as reef components.

We're excited about this coming summer because we have accumulated at our donated site in Brownsville some 13,000 tons of material, probably to reach 20,000 tons—some 40 million pounds of available materials for our next usable weather window. For a sense of scale, this is equal to all the concrete in all the other Texas reefs combined.

Obviously, the question is how to fund this scale of reefing. Reef building is difficult and expensive, so we can't afford to do something non-productive. First, almost all our material is donated. The Port of Brownsville donates our site with deep water frontage and a rail siding where we accumulate material for a year or so, allowing economies of scale. Our admin budget is miniscule and the folks who are getting it done are mostly volunteers who grew up ranching, farming, in retail trade, as commercial fishermen and charter boat captains. These are professions where if you're not efficient you don't eat.

Our largest cost factor by far is the big boats needed to transport materials offshore. We cannot get that donated. We use 160-to-

210-foot offshore work vessels that can carry up to a million pounds per trip, if we load a big one well. That's our big money challenge, plus paying to unload the rail cars as they come in and stack up. We also buy a few materials and off-spec cinder blocks as icing on top of the tie reefs. Hardly any money on whiskey and cigars, but we have a good time doing all this as we think we're doing something that is effective for the environment and is a good value for our donors.

We have the advantage of hard-working volunteers and advisors like John Blaha, CCA's Director of Habitat Today For Fish Tomorrow, and Jay Gardner, CCA Texas Habitat Chairman. We benefit from the expertise of many knowledgeable biologists and scientists including Dr. Richard Kline, Dr. Jay Rooker from A&M Galveston, and Dr. Greg Stunz, Dr. Matthew Streich and Dr. Kesley Banks from The Harte Institute and many others.

If you follow what the biologists think are the best management practices in reef building and you look at the most productive natural reefs out there—large, complex habitats of varying height—they look the same, so we feel pretty good about what we're doing.

That's the goal: figure out the best ways to provide habitat from the Gulf floor up. More groceries, more habitat, more happy fishermen.



CCA Habitat Today, Fish Tomorrow Texas (HTFT Chairman and mentor to RGV Reef) Jay Gardner and RGV Reef's Gary Glick inspect a specially designed concrete structure, now a lawn decoration at the CCA building in Houston.



Carbon Capture:

A Result of Fish Habitat Reefing?

If you grow trees you capture carbon; what about if you grow fish? Could we increase artificial reef construction by showing that additional benefit? Funded by Enbridge Co., we're doing a carbon capture study partnering with UTRGV in order to determine how much carbon an artificial reef sequesters, and will side scan the entire reef and ground-proof it to see what the speciation shows. This important study will give us critical management information about which materials and reefs work best at growing fish.

That fieldwork started this summer; sidescanning the entire reef to count and provide weights of the fish (it's a very good sidescan) and measuring the surfaces of all reef materials. ROVs will pick up sediment samples and determine fish speciation. The carbon capture study will provide that data, which can be used to better understand the many relationships of the reef's denizens. We hope RGV Reef will become known as both a biodiversity and carbon capture address.



Juvenile snapper on five of the 96,000 cinderblocks in RGV Reef.

CCA Texas Funds \$152,000 to Sink Your Shucks™ Oyster Recycle Program

By John Blaha

The CCA Texas Executive Board recently approved \$152,000 in funding for the Sink Your Shucks™ initiative to support their oyster shell recycling efforts in the Corpus Christi area. This funding will help to support the program's operations for two years.

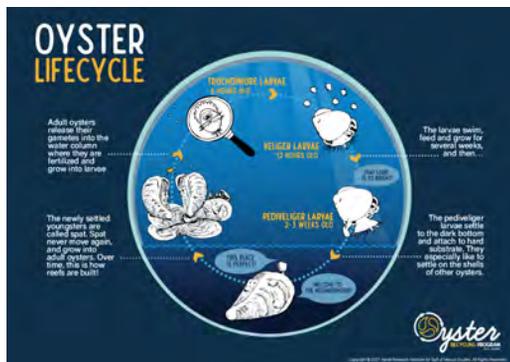
The Sink Your Shucks™ initiative was founded by the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies (HRI) in 2009 and is now co-coordinated by [Dr. Jennifer Pollack](#), Endowed Chair for Coastal Conservation and Restoration and the [Texas Surf Conservancy](#) (formerly the Texas Surf Museum). The program was the first in Texas that reclaims oyster shells from local restaurants and returns them to our local waters providing both substrate to form new reefs and habitat for fish, crabs and other organisms.

"We are eager to take control of Sink Your Shucks, which will advance TSC's mission to protect and preserve the beaches, bays, and waterways of the Texas Gulf Coast," said Brad Lomax, Founder of the Texas Surf Museum, now the Texas Surf Conservancy. Lomax continued, "Sink Your Shucks is a legacy project that creates lasting, quantitative benefits for our local waters, and bridges distinct industries through shared values of environmental stewardship. This funding builds on thirteen years of hard work, community building, and successful shell reclamation. To date, over three million pounds of shell have been reclaimed, and 25 acres of reef habitat restored throughout Copano Bay, Aransas Bay, and St. Charles Bay."



For a video of an oyster bagging event (CCA National and Yamaha) [click here](#). Video courtesy of Harte Research Institute.

The program was the first in Texas that reclaims oyster shells from local restaurants and returns them to our local waters providing both substrate to form new reefs and habitat for fish, crabs and other organisms.



OYSTER RECYCLING PROGRAM EST. 2009

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INTERESTING FACTS...

OYSTERS

- ...in Texas can grow to market size (3 INCHES) 18 MONTHS ... can eat your plate tonight
- ...can live up to 1.....5.....10.....15.....20
- Shell by filtering algae and other food particles from the water reproduces by retaining meat or spines into the water when temperatures warm
- ...can change gender alive at more during their lifetime

ONE OYSTER 50 GALLONS PER DAY

Oyster Recycling Program

Graphics are courtesy of Harte Research Institute.

The \$152,000 in funding approved by the CCA Texas Executive Board to help fund operations of the Sink Your Shucks™ program will last for a period of two years. In the future, CCA Texas will consider additional funding to help the program's sustainability as it continues to secure funding from other sources. To date, other funding partners include Mike Shaw Toyota and the Port of Corpus Christi. Additionally, Representative Todd Hunter's Office has established the oyster mariculture program, which will serve as the perpetual pipeline for shells to be recycled. CCA Texas is committed to creating a sustainable oyster fishery in Texas, and programs like Sink Your Shucks™ are a vital component of this effort.

CCA Texas believes it's imperative that the management of our Texas oyster fishery continues to evolve by prioritizing the ecological and structural value of oysters in the water by safeguarding existing reefs and creating new ones. The recent actions taken by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to prohibit oyster harvest in Carlos Bay, Mesquite Bay and Ayres Bay (Mesquite Bay complex) is a milestone step in this effort to conserve our state's oyster fishery. Additionally, efforts such as the Sink Your Shucks™ program, the Galveston Bay Foundation's Oyster Shell Recycling Program, and the evolution and growth of the Texas oyster mariculture program provide much-needed support.

CCA Texas will be an active voice and work with other NGOs, academia, and industry stakeholders to ensure a sustainable Texas oyster fishery for current and future generations. 🍷

CCA Texas Partners with Anheuser-Busch for 2023 Statewide Branding and Advertising Campaign

We're proud to announce this exciting new partnership with Anheuser-Busch co-branding CCA Texas with Busch Light! This 2023 campaign will provide important and unique opportunities starting with valuable exposure for CCA Texas and our work to ensure the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them. Getting in front of a wider audience across the state will help us grow the organization and increase funding for our habitat and advocacy programs.

This co-branding partnership will be seen in thousands of retail outlets statewide with CCA Texas receiving a percentage of sales in some of these in-store promotions. On the road, you'll

see highway and interstate billboard advertisements as well as wrapped delivery trucks courtesy of local Anheuser-Busch distributors.

Local chapters will receive additional benefits from this partnership in the form of banquet tables being purchased by local Anheuser-Busch distributors and product donated for auctions.

We are extremely excited about this partnership with Anheuser-Busch and know it will bring a tremendous amount of exposure for both of our organizations. —**Robby Byers**, Executive Director, CCA Texas



Leave It Better Than You Found It

Abandoned Crab Trap Cleanup 2023

The crabbing closure period is Friday, Feb. 17 to Sunday Feb. 26, 2023. Help is needed throughout the closure, but Saturday, Feb. 18 will be the main mobilization day, with Saturday, Feb. 25 its bad weather backup. Please save the dates on your calendars. Allan Berger will call for volunteers in January.

Volunteers are needed out of Palacios, Port Lavaca, Indianola, Port O'Connor, Seadrift, Austwell, and Rockport. Again, a celebratory party in Port O'Connor on Sat. Feb.18 is planned.

Funding for this year's effort is again provided by a NOAA Marine Debris Program Community-based Marine Debris Removal grant. These funds allow engagement of commercial crabbers to address root causes of trap dereliction. As in 2022, each boat is requested to use a free cell-phone based app to mark the location of each trap removed. The Collector app has been upgraded to Field Maps; all will have to download the new app, but the transition should be straight-forward. This data is essential to reducing trap dereliction and is required by the grant. Signing up is required to obtain requisite ID's and training will be available.

Contact Allan allanberger@outlook.com or 713-829-2852 for assisting out of Port O'Connor, Charlie's, Seadrift, or Austwell.

Contact Janet: info@lavacabay.org or 361-920-0818 for assisting out of Port Lavaca.

Contact Bill: bballboa@matbay.org or 361-781-2171 for assisting out of Palacios or Matagorda

Contact Katie: katie.swanson@utexas.edu or 361-749-3106 for assisting out of Rockport. Information to be finalized after the Holidays. Thank you for your help! SABayPartnership.org — Allan Berger / AllanRBerger@outlook.com



Hannah Rudellat is with the Aransas Bay chapter. Last year their crew pulled 129 traps.



COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION



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HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

CCA Texas Projects

1. Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration	\$1,600,000
2. Nearshore Reefing - Sabine Pass	\$ 906,000
3. Nearshore Reefing - Rio Grande Valley Reef	\$ 861,000
4. Nearshore Reefing—Port O'Connor	\$ 700,000
5. Oyster Restoration - East Galveston Bay	\$ 500,000
6. ** Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport)	\$ 485,000
7. Nearshore Reefing - Galveston / Big Man & Kate's Reef	\$ 329,000
8. HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	\$ 250,000
9. Dagger Island Shoreline Protection & Marsh Restoration (Redfish Bay)	\$ 250,000
10. Shoreline Stabilization - Oyster Lake (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 230,000
11. Oyster Restoration—Deep Reef Sabine Lake	\$ 215,000
12. Nearshore Reefing - Matagorda	\$ 200,000
13. Shoreline Stabilization - San Bernard NWR	\$ 200,000
14. ** Sink Your Shucks Oyster Recycle Program	\$ 152,000
15. Marsh Restoration - Bird Island Cove (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 150,000
16. Shoreline Protection/Marsh Creation - Moses Lake (Galveston Bay)	\$ 138,000
17. Baffin Bay Serpulid Reef Habitat Conservation/Restoration Study	\$ 135,000
18. Oyster Restoration—Pepper Grove / Galveston (BCT)	\$ 130,000
19. Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Protection (San Antonio Bay)	\$ 125,000
20. HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator Mapping Study	\$ 120,000
21. Marsh Restoration - Dickinson Bayou	\$ 100,000
22. Nearshore Reefing - Corpus Christi	\$ 100,000
23. Bahia Grande Restoration (Port Isabel / Brownsville)	\$ 95,000
24. Oyster Reef Restoration - Aransas Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
25. Oyster Reef Restoration - Copano Bay (Rockport)	\$ 75,000
26. Marsh Restoration - Egery Island (Copano Bay/Bayside)	\$ 70,000
27. Marsh Restoration - Matagorda Island	\$ 70,000
28. Nueces Bay Delta Water Management Gates	\$ 70,000
29. Nearshore Reefing - Freeport / Vancouver	\$ 60,000
30. Nueces Bay Demonstration Oyster Reef	\$ 60,000
31. Marsh Restoration - Goose Island (Rockport)	\$ 50,000
32. Nearshore Reefing - Port Mansfield	\$ 50,000
33. Shoreline Stabilization - J. D. Murphree WMA	\$ 50,000
34. Shoreline Stabilization - Cow Trap Lake (Brazoria County)	\$ 50,000
35. Dollar Bay Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration	\$ 50,000
36. Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters Living Shoreline Restoration	\$ 50,000
37. Marsh Restoration - Oxen & Gang's Bayou (Galveston)	\$ 42,000
38. *** Marsh Restoration - San Bernard Wildlife Refuge	\$ 41,000
39. Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline	\$ 40,000
40. Sweetwater Preserve Shoreline Protections and Oyster Reef Enhancement	\$ 30,000
41. Marsh Restoration - Nueces Bay (Corpus Christi)	\$ 24,000
42. Marsh Restoration - Snake Island Cover (West Galveston Bay)	\$ 20,000
43. Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration (Guadalupe River Delta)	\$ 15,000
44. ** Sink Your Shucks Oyster Recycle Programs Trailer	\$ 10,000
45. Bay Debris Removal - Aransas Pass	\$ 5,600
46. Building Conservation Trust's Texas Habitat Fund (BCT & CCA Texas Secured Funds)	\$ 399,066

** 2022 Projects Contributed to as 08/24/22

TOTAL FUNDED THROUGH 2022: \$9,377,666

If you are interested in contributing to our Habitat program,
Contact John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org

HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW



CCA Texas and Building Conservation Trust Nearshore Reefing Support

• Sabine Pass HI20 (2021 deployments: Culverts & pyramids)	\$ 906,000
• Rio Grande Valley (2021 deployments: Railroad ties & boats)	\$ 861,000
• Port O'Connor	\$ 700,000
• Galveston Big Man & Kate's (2021 deployments: Pyramids)	\$ 329,000
• HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study	\$ 250,000
• Matagorda	\$ 200,000
• Coprus Christi	\$ 100,000
• Freeport / Vancouver	\$ 60,000
• Port Mansfield	\$ 50,000
Total contributions to Nearshore Reefing:	\$3,456,000

HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

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Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow



1. Sabine Lake Deep Reef Oyster Restoration
2. Sabine HI20 Nearshore Reef
3. Sabine Lake Oyster Reef Expansion
4. J.D. Murphree Breakwater
5. East Galveston Bay Oyster Reef Restoration
6. Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline
7. Dickinson Bayou Marsh Restoration
8. Moses Lake Shoreline Restoration
9. Sportsmans Road Wetlands Restoration
10. Big Man's Reef
11. Bird Island Cove Marsh Restoration
12. Snake Island Cove Marsh Restoration
13. Oyster Lake Shoreline Stabilization
14. Vancouver Nearshore Reef
15. Cow Trap Lake Shoreline Stabilization
16. San Bernard NWR Shoreline Stabilization
17. Matagorda Nearshore Reef
18. Port O'Connor Nearshore Reef
19. HRI Nearshore Reef Enhancement Study
20. Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration
21. HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator/Mapping Study
22. Matagorda Island Marsh Restoration
23. Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration
24. St. Charles Bay Oyster Restoration
25. Aransas Bay Oyster Restoration
26. Goose Island Marsh Restoration
27. Copano Bay Oyster Restoration
28. Aransas Bay Debris Removal
29. Nueces Bay Marsh Restoration
30. Nueces Bay Delta Water Management Gates
31. Nueces Bay Demonstration/Restoration Oyster Reef Project
32. Corpus Christi Nearshore Reef
33. Baffin Bay's Unique Serpulid Study
34. Port Mansfield Nearshore Reef
35. Rio Grande Valley Reef
36. Bahia Grande Restoration

● Completed

● Upcoming

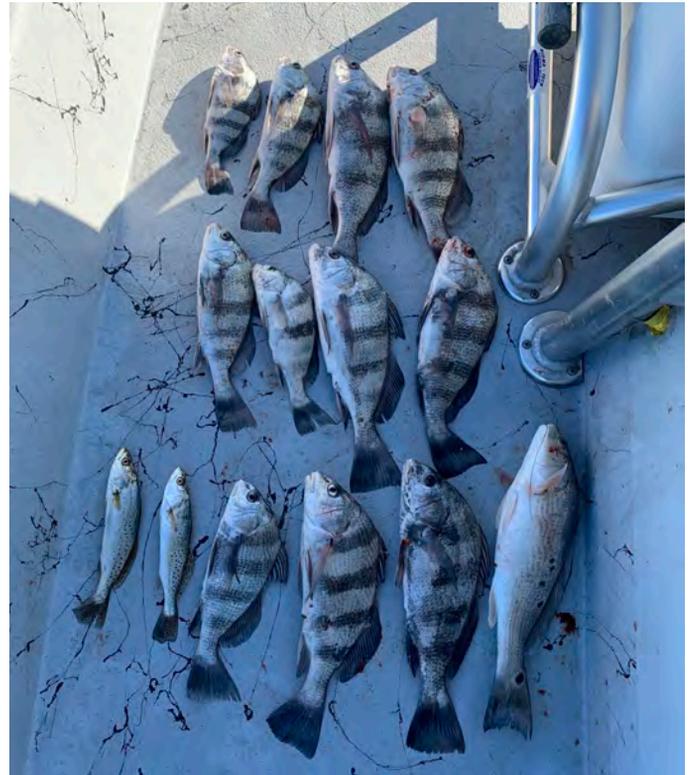
● Ongoing

Caught Redhanded!

Reports from TP&W Game Wardens

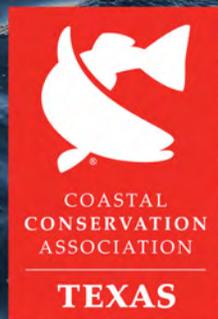
On 11/13/2022, Region 4 District 3 Wardens patrolled Clear Lake in Harris County. While on patrol, Wardens made contact with 4 bank fishermen. One fisherman was found to be in possession of a 12" black drum. The group of three fisherman were found to have no valid fishing licenses and in possession of 11 undersized black drum, a red drum measuring 14" and two speckled trout measuring 6" and 7". Citations were issued and civil restitution pending. The fish were donated to a family in need.

On 11/16/22, a Jefferson County Game Warden made contact with a fisherman on Pleasure Island. During the inspection, the fisherman was found to be in possession of (6) redfish measuring over 28 inches and no valid fishing license. Several citations and civil restitution were issued. The fish were seized and donated. 





WADING TOWARDS A BRIGHTER FUTURE



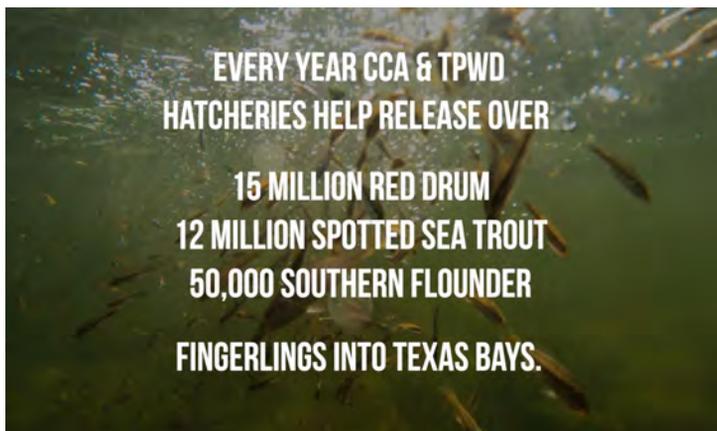
frogg toggs supports
CCA's Efforts Toward the
Conservation of our Sacred Waters

Putting fingerlings back where fish need to be

Hatcheries were an early priority of CCA. Enhancing populations was crucial, but replacing a large percentage of cold-stricken gamefish proved to be a primary benefit of the hatcheries.

Once again, CCA and TPWD are filling the need to mitigate trout, redfish and flounder mortalities. Take a brief voyage with a CCA /TPWD hatchery as technicians replace trout fingerlings. Here's a link to a just-released video that will provide an idea of the process:

[CLICK HERE](#)





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We are incredibly excited about this new, updated design which proudly displays our CCA logo to show everyone you're a conservation-minded Texas angler.

Get yours TODAY by going to ccatexas.org and clicking the link on the homepage.

For each plate sold, CCA Texas will receive \$22 which will be crucial support for our work of ensuring the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them here in Texas. Additionally, by purchasing your CCA Texas license plates for your SUV, truck, car, or trailer, you'll also be raising awareness for CCA and our conservation efforts each time you're out on the road!

Supporters of CCA Texas

I have my NEW CCA Texas license plates. Do you have yours?

If not, you can order our NEW CCA Texas license plates with an updated design that proudly displays our CCA logo for everyone to see.

[CLICK HERE](#) to get yours today. Why?

1. Show everyone you're a conservation-minded Texas angler.
2. Raise awareness for CCA and our conservation efforts each time you're out on the road.
3. Support our work of ensuring the health and conservation of our marine resources and anglers' access to them here in Texas. For each plate sold, CCA Texas will receive \$22.

Order yours TODAY by [CLICKING HERE](#).

If you already have CCA Texas plates with the previous design, you can definitely keep them, but you also have the opportunity to get the new one by going to your local county tax assessor-collector's office and ordering a replacement for \$6.50.

Help out CCA Texas and upgrade your car, truck, or trailer by [CLICKING HERE](#) to get your custom CCA Texas plates TODAY at MyPlates.com.

Your friend in conservation, —**Robby Byers**
Executive Director CCA Texas



In 2015, the U.S. Coast Guard estimated over **760,000 red snapper** were illegally fished in Texas and U.S. waters by the lancha fleet from Mexico.

**REPORT
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FISHING!**

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Beyond 9 nautical miles – US Coast Guard > **361.939.0450**



PHOTO: TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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Enjoying Your Digital CURRENTS Newsletter

CCA Texas' financial responsibilities and goals are ongoing. For the time being, publishing the CURRENTS newsletter requires the internet. There are excellent reasons, with cost being primary.

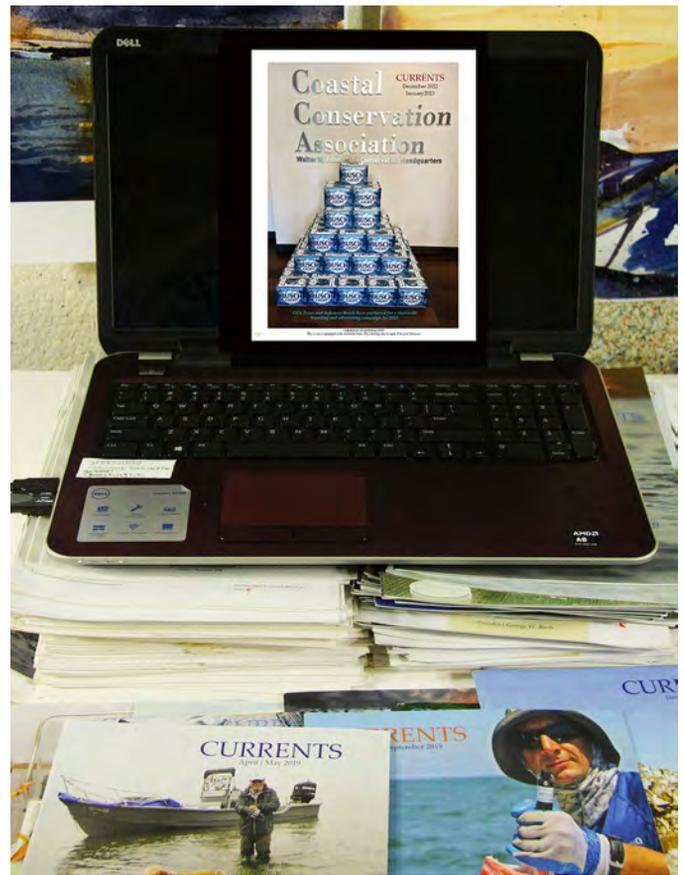
For 36 years, the printed CURRENTS newsletter has provided valuable two-way communication, as well as being an important tool for affecting environmental change. But printing and mailing a 46-page, full-color newsletter to 67,000 members is time consuming and expensive.

The online CURRENTS newsletter requires no printing nor postage, and delivery is almost instantaneous. An email to members contains a link, with the full newsletter a click away.

Apart from the cost difference, there are reasons a member could appreciate an internet version of the publication.

- An e-newsletter can be opened in seconds. Articles can be accessed rapidly. Images can be viewed large. Text can be enlarged for easier reading, blocked, copied and shared. Past issues are a click away on the CCA Texas website.
- A favored article can be forwarded to others, or readily accessed later instead of having to search through stacks of magazines.
- Links can be used to connect to advertisers, as well as cross referencing other articles, writers, photographers and artists.
- A link to the CCA Texas website provides comprehensive news and resources. On the website, an array of CCA information is available. View many project-specific videos. Consult the list of CCA-approved guides. Listen to an informative Podcast.

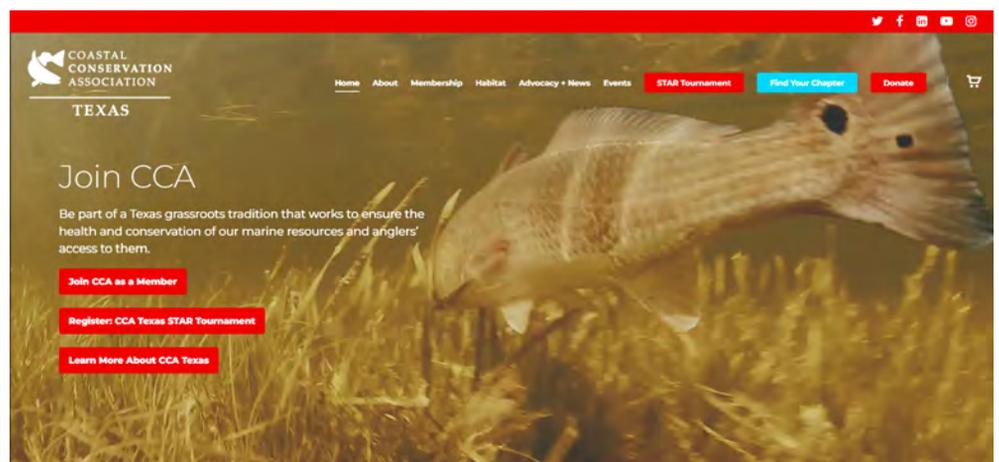
- Photos can be larger and more numerous, allowing for more of the membership's Great Photos to be shared.
- In the Social Media Happenings section, links directly open up to posts on our social media platforms.
- *Another big plus—your CURRENTS Newsletter is now as close as your laptop or your cell phone.*



A great way to enjoy indoor time and stay in touch with the outdoors—the CCA Texas website is at your service.

You'll find news and information about chapter events, advocacy and breaking news, plus videos of the progress we're making along the Texas coast. Need a guide? Want to enjoy a *CURRENTS* feature from years back? Check in with the STAR program?

Go to ccatexas.org and bookmark it now.



Are You Following CCA Texas on Social Media?

The BEST way to stay informed on the latest with CCA Texas is by FOLLOWING us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We regularly post photo and video updates on our 50+ local chapters, conservation projects, member photos, and advocacy efforts to keep you informed and engaged.

Our online community is GROWING FAST, so join thousands of CCA Texas members around the state by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter now! Anytime our members FOLLOW CCA Texas and LIKE our posts, it helps to raise awareness for our conservation efforts. Share our posts with your friends and family and encourage them to FOLLOW us as well!

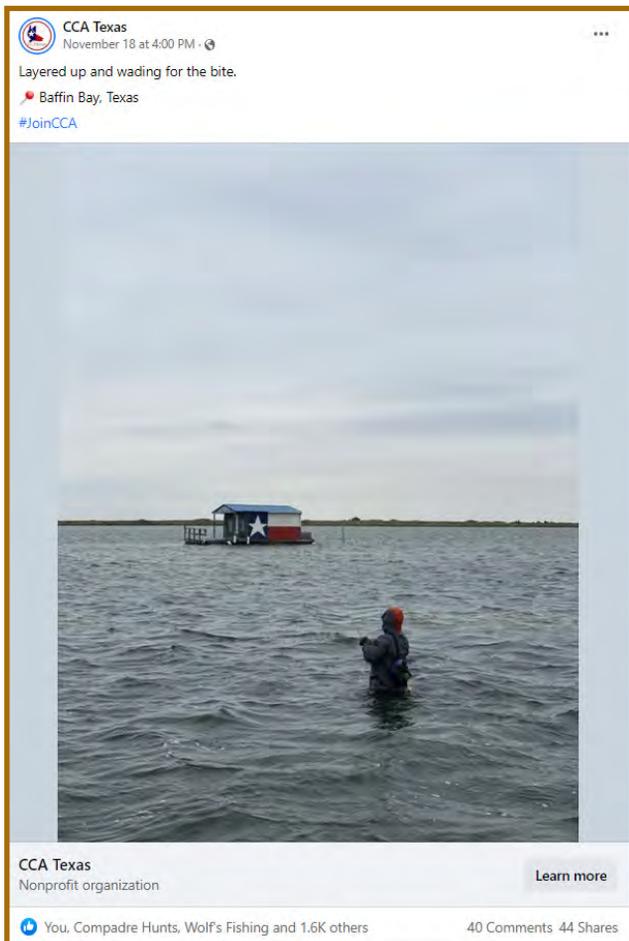


Featured Social Media Highlights

FACEBOOK

CCA Texas on Facebook

Join over 27,000 Texas anglers by LIKING our CCA Texas Facebook page to get direct updates, awesome photos, and cool videos! LIKE us on Facebook TODAY and help us out by sharing our posts! [@CCATexas](https://www.facebook.com/CCATexas)

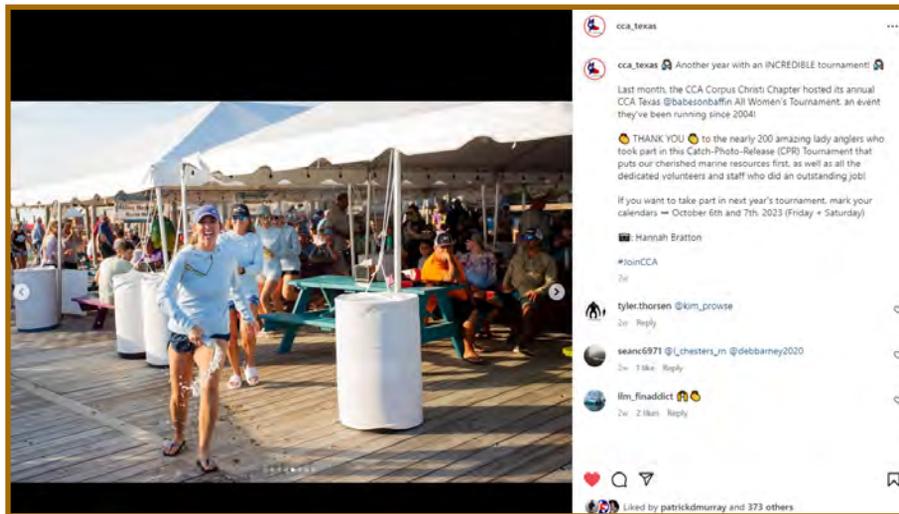
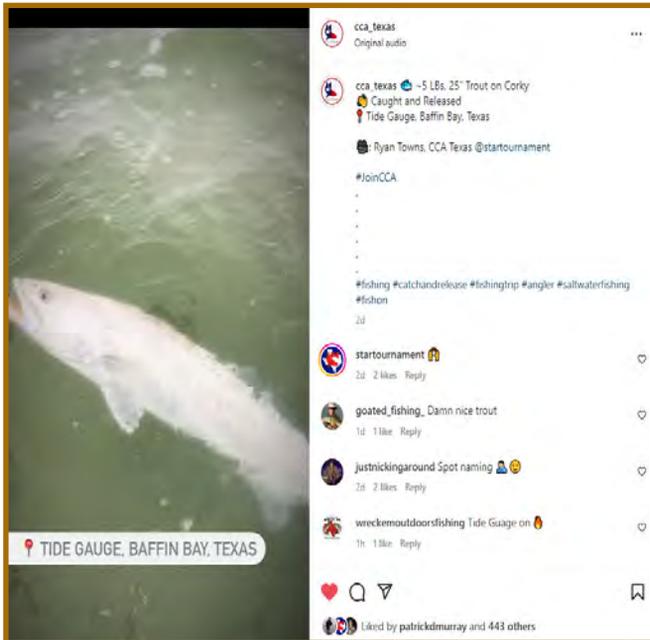




INSTAGRAM

CCA Texas on Instagram

Can you help us get to 20,000 followers on Instagram? If you aren't following us already, add our @cca_texas page to your feed and encourage your friends and family to follow us along with you! FOLLOW us on Instagram TODAY.



TWITTER



Follow us on TWITTER

Get important recreational angling-related news filtered into your feed by following us on Twitter. In addition to posting our own updates, we make sure to Retweet and Favorite Tweets that we know will help to inform you! **FOLLOW us on Twitter TODAY!**



Fall wadin' in the rain.

: Mitchell Mays

[#JoinCCA](#)



6:35 PM · Oct 30, 2022 · Twitter Web App

3 Retweets 10 Likes



Sun shinin' on Redfish Bay, sending that fish back home to play.

: April Alvarado

[#JoinCCA](#)



3:00 PM · Oct 28, 2022 · Twitter Web App

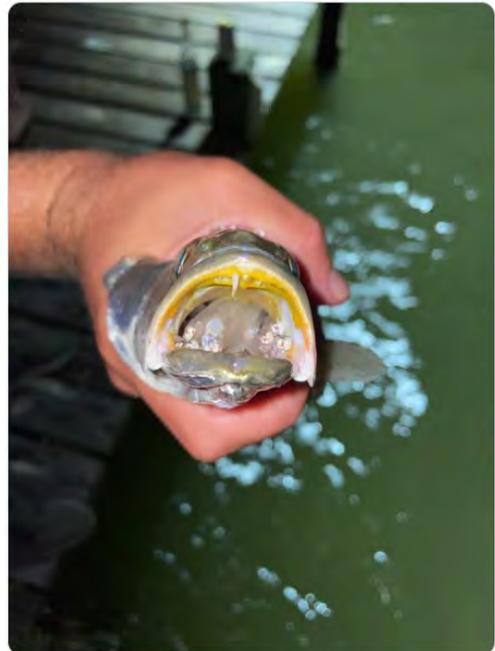
3 Retweets 13 Likes



Everyone's gonna get their fill of delicious food today!

Y'all have a very Happy Thanksgiving!

[#JoinCCA](#)



8:00 AM · Nov 24, 2022 · Twitter Web App

8 Likes



*Kevin Hickson
Communications
Director
Coastal
Conservation
Association
Email:*

khickson@joincca.org



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Kevin Hickson, Liz Bosmans

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Chapter Updates

Alvin-Pearland
Rex Richards
alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com

Aransas Bay
Michael Ferri 361-790-4404
txsprig@yahoo.com

Happy Holidays from Aransas Bay CCA! It's been a busy year for our volunteers, and we are so lucky to have a wonderful group of conservation-minded people who work together to put our resource first!

Our Polaris raffle tickets are in and ready to sell for our upcoming Aransas Bay CCA Banquet April 1, 2023 at Fulton Convention Center. This event sells out quickly, so make sure you buy your tickets early for this exciting evening of fundraising for Texas Coastal Conservation. For questions regarding the banquet and raffle ticket sales, email jdblaha@ccatexas.org or contact President Mike Ferri at (361) 790-4404 or Jane Jackson at (210) 240-7722.

Save the date for Babes on the Bay on May 19-20, 2023. Registration opens early January, and we are back with another fantastic weekend of fishing, live music, vacation giveaways, vendors, and more! Ladies, book your guides and reserve tour hotels ahead of time! If you are interested in being a sponsor, or have any tournament questions, please contact Jen Thomasson by December 31, 2022 at (361) 205-0182. For vendor info, please call Tina Frick at (210) 508-6281. We look forward to another incredible year of the largest women's tournament in the USA with anglers joining us from all over the country! Happy Holidays to you all!



Elane Dailey



Janelle Weller



Jen, Tami, Lizzy enjoying a cold day Wade fishing Aransas Bay.



Lizzy McBurney with a nice flounder caught and released



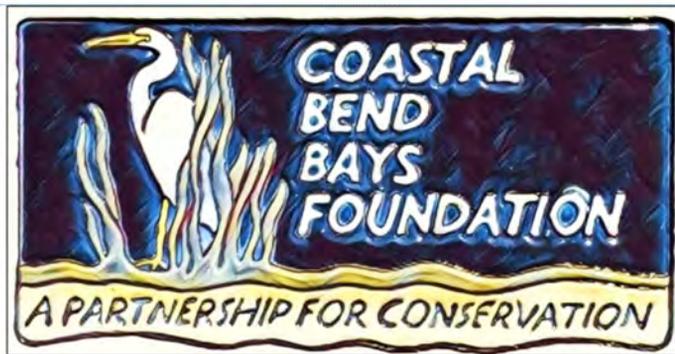
Mary Hart on a cold Wade with a beautiful Redfish on artificial.



Sarah Grace Bosenbury caught and released this gorgeous Speckled Trout.

Aransas Bay CCA honored with the 20th Conservation & Environmental Stewardship Award by Coastal Bend Bays Foundation. See page 24.

Aransas Bay CCA Awarded Non-profit Organization 2022 by Coastal Bend Bays Foundation



November 3, Corpus Christi Texas—The Conservation & Environmental Stewardship Awards recognizes and honors outstanding Coastal Bend citizens, educators, businesses, governing bodies and other entities that have made significant contributions to education and or protection of Coastal Bend natural resources, habitats and native species. [Click here](#) to take a look at the 2022 winners and awards.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION: CCA Texas Aransas Bay Chapter.

When Game Warden Scott McLeod retired in 2021, he knew something had to happen to conserve the oyster reefs of the Coastal Bend and prevent overharvesting. In his 30-year tenure on the coast, he saw many reefs disappear and was worried about bay system failure with the disappearing reefs.

As a member of CCA, he became a constant voice for the disappearing reefs in our bays. Along with John Blaha, Shane Bonnot, and other CCA members, they became a unified effort for conservation and stewardship of the reefs and oysters in general. They now have public informative billboards, videos and ads. They have also joined forces with HRI, and have attended several TPWD commissioner meetings to get harvest laws changed.

2022 Conservation & Environmental Stewardship Award Winners



20th Conservation & Environmental Stewardship Awards

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[Click here](#) for the website and full information



Bess Bruton of Brazos Valley chapter with a 6 lb. bass caught from a 3-acre farm pond, and released for further duty.

Austin

Jason Magdalena 512-789-6207
Jason.magdalena@gmail.com

We are only 5 months away from our 44th Annual Fundraiser on May 11, 2023. The CCA Austin Chapter would not be able to raise the funds needed to continue the mission of CCA without the sponsors, supporters and volunteers that make it happen. Our board works hard all year to create a fun and unique event to raise the funds needed.

A brand new 2023 Shallow Sport 18' Sport can be yours May 11th! CCA Austin will soon take delivery of our 2023 Raffle Boat (picture to follow soon). This is one tricked out boat that we are offering, and we've loaded it with some serious upgrades! This Sport model boasts Shallow Sport's finest level of finish out, and she comes with a Suzuki DF 140 with all digital rigging, a newly designed console with a live well in front, a bow casting platform with double gab rails, Attwood seats on the raised console, LED light bars, accent lighting and lots of stainless-steel rod and cup holders! As though that's not enough, the whole rig's sitting on a beautiful double axel McClain Custom Trailer with the Deluxe Package that includes mag wheels with "Big Boys Fenders"! This is one fine lookin' rig! You can see it in person at our next Anglers' Night Out! Stay tuned for details!

We would like to thank our generous sponsors, **Denbow Utility Construction and S. Watts Group.** Only 1,250 tickets will be sold at \$100 each and can be purchased from a board member, or by contacting Cheryl at (512) 662-0006.

We are excited to add a 10-gun raffle for 2023. The tickets are \$25 each, 5x \$100, 30x \$500, 75x \$1000 (enters you in a special 11th gun raffle. Only 10 will be sold). Here is a list of the guns: Baretta Gallery Silver Pigeon, Staccato 2011, Christenson Mesa FFT, Charles Daily Triple Crown, Benelli SBE3 BE.S.T., Henry Big Boy, Baretta A400Xcel, Wilson Sig P320, Heartland Precision Rifle, Sig Cross. The drawing will be at the CCA Austin Banquet on May 11, 2023. You can call Cheryl at (512) 662-0006 to purchase raffle tickets or buy them from a board member.

We are offering the Early Bird pre-sale again this year

for our 2023 Banquet Tables. There will be one level of tables this year. They will be \$2350.00 before January 15, 2023, and \$2500.00 after January 15, 2023. If you are interested in more information, please email cherylccaustin@gmail.com or go to our website at ccaustin.org.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering and joining the board of the Austin Chapter of CCA we would enjoy having you join us. Please contact Jeff Beck at natvtexn71@yahoo.com with any questions.

Bastrop County
Cole Williams 512-913-3684
colew65@yahoo.com

Exciting news, Bastrop County CCA will be having our 1st Boat Raffle! Tickets will be available soon for an amazing 23' Haynie Bigfoot with Mercury motor! We received our sponsorships quickly and the boat is being wrapped this week. Leading off with our Haynie Title Sponsorship, big thank you to WWESCO! Then following right behind with 3 Bigfoot Sponsors – thank you to TCS Mechanical, Back 9 Bar, and Texas Associates Insurers. The chapter will be raffling this boat off in our 2nd Annual Banquet in July of 2023. Keep your eyes peeled for notices on our [Facebook page](#).

The boat will be floating around different locations in Bastrop County with contact information to purchase tickets. You can also reach out to Cole Williams, Bastrop County CCA President, at colew65@yahoo.com for more information! Another opportunity to become a new boat owner or add to your fleet! Get your name on some tickets!

Brazoria

Kim Lamont 979-482-1456
kklamont93@yahoo.com

Brazos Valley

John Ben Strother 979-220-1738
jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

Winter can be great fishing, you never know what might be lurking in the waters, so hang on when you get an unexpected bite. Our next **general membership meeting is on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., at Big Shots Golf in Bryan, Texas.** The main agenda item is the upcoming March banquet. We are looking for volunteers. Please join us for good camaraderie, awesome fish stories, and golf after meeting. Hope to see you there.

Save the date for next year's banquet at the Brazos Center on Friday, March 3, 2023. If you would like to get on our Brazos Valley email list, send a request to Scott Sigle at sig@suddenlink.net. Remember to take a kid fishing.

Brenham

Ryan Saunders 979-251-2389
ryansaunders1@att.net

Brush Country

Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037
brendagballard@hotmail.com



CCA Greater Sugar Land 2022 Board Members.

Centex
Wayne Webb 361-296-4037
sheyhunt@aol.com

Central Houston
Todd Buster 713-545-189
tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com

Colorado Valley
Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425
zeke.ulrich@gmail.com

Greetings from the Colorado Valley! We don't have a lot to report other than a few of our board members taking their grandkids hunting. Hope everyone's hunting adventures are memorable. Just a quick reminder that **next year's banquet is scheduled for March 30, 2023**, so please put it down on your calendar and call early for your tables. Wishing bent rods and tight lines to all!

Come and Catch It
Jared Brumme 210-825-9088
jaredbrumme@yahoo.com

Corpus Christi
Cody Roesner 916-531-0078
cbroutfitters@yahoo.com

We have had a busy fall and are looking forward to a great 2023! Winter fishing is already starting to heat up here in the Laguna Madre and we are all looking forward to spending some much needed time on the water chasing big trout!

The 2022 Babes on Baffin all women's fishing tournament was held October 7-8, 2022 at Marker 37 Marina!

Tournament Director Kimberly Prowse and her team put on an amazingly successful event. They hosted 57 teams and 186 anglers from all over Texas! In conjunction with the tournament, Tiffany Currie organized an extremely successful two-day community pop-up market! The team is already talking about next year so mark your calendars for **October 6 and 7, 2023!**

We have finalized the date for our 2023 CCA Corpus Christi Chapter Banquet! The banquet will again be at the American Bank Center and will be held Thursday, March 9, 2023.

As always, let us know if you're interested in volunteering! For questions, contact Heather at ccacorporuschristi@gmail.com or call (361) 882-5199.

Dallas
Jason Gray 214-384-4164
Jason.Gray@hilltopsecurities.com

Most of us here in the North Texas area have found ourselves immersed in hunting season since it began and have not been doing a lot of fishing. We did have a few members enjoy a cast and blast trip on the coast over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Our next event is co-sponsored with Fellowship of the Outdoors. It is a family style clay shoot on **Wednesday, December 21 at Elm Fork Shooting Sports and will begin at noon**. You can register as an individual or as a team of four at [this link](#).

It will be a great time to get your son/daughter to join you for a day of shooting since they will be on school break. There will be individual and team prizes for the top 3 in each category. Please contact Jason Gray at (214) 384-4164 or Richard Fryer at (972)809-6800 if you have questions.

Happy Holidays to everyone and please stay safe on the water and in the field!

Fort Bend
Blake Tumlinson 979-332-2236
Btumlinson86@gmail.com

Hello everyone, well fall is almost over, hurricane season is officially over, and after some much needed rain the fishing has been on fire! We hope you and your families are doing well, staying safe, and are taking advantage of the fantastic coastal resources that you help to cultivate!

In other news, we have officially scheduled our 2023 banquet, which will be held at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds in Rosenberg, TX on Thursday, April 13, 2023, so mark your calendars. We have some great things in the works for our 2023 banquet. Stay tuned for more updates, and exciting information. We can't wait to see you there! For news and information about the banquet and other events please see our [chapter webpage](#). If you would like to become a sponsor or would like to donate, please contact Thomas Welch (Banquet Chairman) (832) 628-0130 or Blake Tumlinson, your support is greatly appreciated.

Furthermore, we are now selling tickets for the 2023 banquet raffle and as in years past Sport Marine has outfitted us with another beautiful JH Performance Outlaw 185X with a 140 Suzuki sitting on a Coastline aluminum trailer. There will also be chances to win other prizes so be sure and get your tickets today! For tickets, please contact Jim Black, (979) 240-5010.

Finally, we want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! Good wishes to you and your family this holiday season. God bless you all, see you in 2023. Happy Holidays from Fort Bend CCA!

Fort Worth
Andrew Rico 817-313-7112
andrew@rosshealypools.com

Greetings from your Fort Worth Chapter Board. Recently we held our annual fall fish fry and we are so grateful for those that ventured out in the cold weather to join us. Frog legs, catfish, shrimp, french fries and hush puppies were enjoyed by all. Congratulations to our lucky raffle winners who won a fishing trip down on the coast!

A friendly reminder that the **annual 2023 banquet is scheduled for May 4th at Joe Ts in the Fort Worth Stockyards**. Make plans to join us again for what should be a killer event supporting the fisheries in Texas. Also keep a look out on our [Facebook page](#) as well as your email for updates on our locally famous crawfish boil in the spring. If you are interested in getting involved at the local level, please reach out to anyone on the board. Lastly, we wanted to thank our tumbler sponsor for last year's banquet – **The Perry Group – Spencer Perry**. And our koozie sponsor – **RMP Industrial Supply**. As always, we appreciate your support.

Galveston
Corey Carpenter 832-671-8980
corcarp1@gmail.com

Golden Triangle
TS Bell 409-291-0448
tsbell70@yahoo.com
John Martin Busceme 409-767-0353
jmbusceme@easthamforge.com

Winter is certainly upon us but that has not slowed us down one bit! Fishing has been great on the upper coast and has allowed anglers to get out and enjoy our resources. To kick the new year off we will be hosting our **annual Anglers' Night Out on the night of February 2, 2023**. Courville's Catering will be hosting our event and will be serving their world-famous Gumbo. Come out and join us as we will have great food, great company and plenty of prizes to give away at the end of the night. We hope that everyone gets a chance to spend their holidays with their family and friends and maybe catch a fish or two. Cheers to the New Year!

Greater Sugar Land
John Breland 281-808-2969
geauxingfishing@yahoo.com

On behalf of everyone in the Greater Sugar Land CCA Chapter we wish you a very happy, healthy and safe holiday season. Spend time with family and cheer on your favorite sports team and hopefully get out on the water.

We are looking forward to 2023 and have our sights set on growth within our chapter. With that growth comes an internal challenge to grow our annual banquet revenue over what was our best year yet in 2022. **Save the date for Thursday, March 9, 2023, and reserve your table now as the banquet will take place at the Stafford Centre.** Keeping with our tradition of serving up some of the best boiled crawfish and fried catfish you will find anywhere.

Speaking of growth, we are looking to recruit additional board members who would like to be a part of a growing and fun chapter. Our chapter events include monthly board meetings, Annual Banquet, Annual Presidents Cup Fishing Tournament (moved to Spring 2023), several kid fish events in the spring and fall, and annual Anglers' Nights Out.

If you would like to get involved in our chapter events email us at greatersugarlandcca@gmail.com. Enjoy the holidays. La Les La Bon Temps Rouler and Geaux Fish.

Greater Woodlands
Charlotte O'Dell 832-368-8263
choctawcharlie69@gmail.com

Guadalupe Valley
Adam Arroyo 361-350-0026
Ctown75@aol.com

Hays County
Tim Young 512-573-7939
tim.haysco@gmail.com

Heart of the Hills
Kelly Parks 210-669-3732
bucksdelucks@yahoo.com

Ford of Boerne - proud supporter of CCA Heart of the Hills!

Happy Holidays! Thanks to all who participated in chapter events and supported our conservation cause this year. We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year enjoying time with family and friends. We'll see you again in 2023!

Helotes
Johnny Rayburg 210-535-6810
jrayburg@sbcglobal.net

Howdy CCA Helotes members, cold weather is here and Fall is in the rearview mirror, making way for the Holidays and a great CCA Helotes event.

Shark Night returns to Helotes. Our special guest speaker will once again be Kesley Banks, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Research Associate with the Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation at the Harte Research Institute for the Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Her presentation is entitled, "Shark Ecology Studies in the 21st Century: Satellite Tracking Provides Insights to the Movement of Marine Apex Predators". This is a great opportunity for students of all ages and those interested in sharks and shark ecology to hear one of the leading experts in the field. **Save the date: January 24, 2023, at 6 p.m.** The event will be held in the O'Connor High School auditorium which is located at 12221 Leslie Rd. in Helotes, TX. The event is free. We will have some CCA swag to give to all the student aged attendees.

Chapter meetings will begin with our newly elected president, Bob Mitchell in early January. Check the chapter's [Facebook page](#) and your email for details.

The Helotes Chapter banquet is set for March 23, 2023, at Pedrotti's. Tickets will go on sale very soon. In the meantime, take a kid fishing, it will put a smile on their face and yours.



Hill Country
Miles Engelke 210-260-8968
engelke@pe-svcs.com

Houston Homebuilders
Jimmy Reid 281-932-3395
jreid@newmarkhomes.com

Houston Real Estate
Kirk Laguarda 713-515-3830
KLaguarda@landadvisors.com

Katy
Lyn Goldman 713-591-8550
lgoldman@contrexenergy.com

Lower Colorado Winners: First place winner Team Arrison, Second place winner Team Aoael, and third place winner Team Hauff.



1st Place and Lower Colorado Chapter CCA Guides Cup Champions: Capt. Peyton Arrison, Wesley Blackstock, Jerry Washington and Tyler Rathkamp



2nd Place: Capt. Cody Aoael, Slade Stary, Brian Walters and Brent Cerny



*3rd Place: Capt. Kenny Hauff III, Chuck Cowan, Thomas Matura, and Bubba Miller / Biggest Trout: Team Arrison
 Big Redfish: Team Hauff / Big Flounder: Team Briggs*

Laredo
Javier C. Villarreal 956-206-7953
Jcvillarreal13@gmail.com

Lee County
Jake Horne 979-540-6117
jake@aubainesupply.com

Live Oak
Denise Krc 979-733-3358
liveoakchaptercca@gmail.com

Lower Colorado
Anthony Kimmey 979-241-2239
anthonykimmey@ymail.com

The 2022 Lower Colorado Guides Cup Tournament was a huge success. The lucky winners at the live auction gathered to fish and compete with their favorite captains. This year brought some superb fishing. This is one of our favorite tournaments. It brings out the competitive spirit for who is TOP GUIDE on the water in the Matagorda Bay system. A big thank you to **Gulf Coast Ace Hardware** for sponsoring this tournament.

With the beautiful weather and Matagorda finest guides we knew it would be a great day of competitive fishing. On page 28 are the Captains and teams that came out on top, good job men! As always, keep watching this spot for the upcoming news and events from the Lower Colorado Chapter of Texas CCA. The only chapter that represents and supports all of Matagorda's bays, lakes, rivers and creeks.

Lower Laguna Madre
Oscar Garcia 956-491-8148
oscar@shallowSPORTBOATS.com

Mainland
Trey Mitchiner 281-636-2165
treym642004@aol.com



Mainland Chapter CCA hosted Gulf Coast Lady Anglers at the November Anglers' Night Out.

We don't have anything scheduled for December or January currently. Follow our [Facebook page](#) to stay on top of our events.

Matagorda Bays
Chris Bird 979-257-6508
cbird1493@gmail.com

Mid Coast
Wade Harrell 361-935-1125
wcharrell@hotmail.com

Northeast Houston
Jason Law 713-898-8594
jlaw1899@yahoo.com

Northwest Houston
Jerry Goss 832-457-7535
jerry.goss@lexitaslegal.com

Orange County

Port Lavaca
Eric Ellison 361-983-4690
fishingsalt@yahoo.com

Port O'Connor
Hank Lippold 832-499-1067
hanklippold@gmail.com

Prairie
Patricia Walters 979-885-7464
manager@wpprint.com

Redfish Bay
Norman Oates 361-758-0266
noates01@gmail.com

The Redfish Bay Chapter and CCA Texas have completed another year with great results. Thanks to John Blaha, the Houston staff, and Redfish Bay Chapter Board Members for their hard work on our projects and meetings. Because of the efforts of our Banquet and Beeville Fish Fry committees, we had fun events that raised significant funds for CCA Texas. We could not be successful without our supporters and attendees for our events; a special thank you to both groups.

We had two General Membership Meetings in 2022 with Capt. Eric Gonsoulin (fishing guide) and Zachary Olsen (Texas Parks and Wildlife) as speakers. Both did a great job, and we appreciate your time and effort.

Our banquet for 2023 is scheduled for April 29. As usual, it will be a family event, and we will do everything in our power to make it an enjoyable evening! We look forward to seeing you there.

Again, thank you to everyone who helped make 2022 a successful year, and we are already planning for 2023 events.

Rio Grande Valley
Ruben Arcaute (956) 453-6966
rjarcaute@gmail.com

Sabine-Neches
Darin Johnson 409-790-9855
darin@jorgensenmarine.com

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Sabine Neches Chapter! We are in prep mode for our upcoming **banquet on Thursday March 2, 2023 at the Bob Bowers Civic Center in Port Arthur, TX.**

Updates about the banquet and meeting dates will be made on our [Facebook page](#), if you are interested in joining our board email or text me, we would like to have you!

Late season fishing has been good, and we even got in a quick cast n blast. Thank you to Captain Dustin Seeton (Right Tide Fishing Co), awesome trout photo and congratulations to Sabine Neches member Steve Manrose on a nice mallard on the bay in Seadrift, TX.

We have a few more of our President hunts to do this year and we'll recap those in the next issue and on our [Facebook page](#) too. Thank you for your continued support of our chapter and we look forward to seeing you soon! Tight lines to all!



Sabine Neches outdoorsmen: Left: Capt. Dustin Seeton's trout catch, Right: Steve Manrose mallard.

Saltgrass
Buck Stobart 409-782-7934
stobartbuck@yahoo.com

Sam Houston
Brandon Kolaja 281-797-6908
bkolaja@huntsvilletx.gov

I hope everyone has had a great year! Thank you to each one of you for all of your continued support. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from CCA Sam Houston!

San Antonio
Liz Hewitt 210-859-6924
pescaliz@aol.com

Hello and Happy Holidays! Reminiscing about the 2022 CCA presidential year brought pride and satisfaction. Our crowning glory, the 43rd annual CCA San Antonio Banquet in April was our most successful event in our 43-year history. The banquet chairpersons, committee members and volunteers stepped up to put on the event. Our supporters, sponsors and attendees enjoyed the wonderful night that they helped put on. We had a successful and fun Hooked on Clays event this past spring. Our general membership meetings brought fascinating and educational topics and speakers relevant to our mission and recreation. We were shown the fruits of CCA's labors and conservation efforts in our waters and wetlands by TPWD as well as other fascinating speakers. My thanks to our speakers and the support from CCA Texas.

Banquet number 44 is already taking shape thanks to the efforts of our committee chairs and participants. We have secured major raffle items for the 2023 event, including a Kawasaki Mule Pro and BOTE Aero Rover Micro Skiff w/ 6HP motor. Additionally, our 24-foot boat will be delivered for Christmas. We can always use more help from volunteers, and we are also soliciting donations of trips and merchandise. You can contact us through our [Facebook page](#) or contact me directly.

Remember to save the date for the 44th Annual San Antonio Banquet on Thursday, May 4, 2023.

To the loyal CCA volunteers, patrons and state office, I cannot thank you enough for the last 3 years of support. It's been a memorable ride as chapter president. As past president beginning in January, I will be here to support our next wave of CCA officers and members. I look forward to the new role and invite you to participate to preserve our natural resources and maintain our coastal environment so that future generations may also enjoy them. Follow us at CCA San Antonio on [Facebook](#) for future events, meetings and information. Join our mailing list by sending email if you have not done so yet.

As always, stay safe! Keep those lines taut, take the family fishing. Happy Holidays and wishing you the best from our CCA family to yours! Hook'em.

San Bernard
Jeremy Compton 281-961-0262
jcompton@detconsultinginc.com

San Gabriel
David Singleton 512-848-6555
southwestland@gmail.com

As we close out 2022 and turn the page to 2023, the San Gabriel Chapter of CCA Texas is readying ourselves for our next banquet which will be held on August 3, 2023.

We again thank our banquet sponsors who have continued to make our banquet one of the best chapter events in Texas. Don Hewlett Chevrolet – Title Sponsor, Morris Glass, Champion Site Prep, Aday & Associates, Plains Capital Bank, Watkins Insurance, Grand Land Company, Utz Environmental Services, Liberty Civil Construction, Brown Distributing, Currey Builders, Embree Construction, SouthStar Bank S.S.B., Bigfoot Concrete Pumping, RDO Equipment Co. and the many donors who purchase tables and participate in the raffles and games.

Early next year, we will be reaching out to our sponsors so be on the lookout for us to connect with you.

If you would like to participate in our banquet as a

sponsor, please reach out to our Banquet Chair, Jeff Bible, at aggieangler93@gmail.com.

We hope that you and yours have a safe and happy holiday season and that your catch will be plenty, and problems be few.



CCA San Gabriel Title Sponsor Table, Don Hewlett Chevrolet.

Southwestern

Veronica Oliver 830-765-6228
ronnimoliver@gmail.com

TAMU

James Payne 210-275-0707
aggieangler93@gmail.com

Texas State University
Andrew Elder 832-525-6117
Andrewelder@icloud.com

Tomball/Magnolia
Matt Maddox 832-963-5215
mrmaddox04@gmail.com

Tri-County
Justin Putz 210-585-0401
putz.stx@gmail.com

Trinity Bay
Jayo Washington 281-960-7064
jayowash@comcast.net

Captains Ken Terry and David Salinas have been active board members with the Trinity Bay Chapter for more than 25 years and have recently decided to initiate a board membership drive.

Currently, the chapter has about 20 active board members that regularly attend monthly meetings and can be



Trinity Bay Fishing Tournament Winners Daniel Navarez, left and Alberto Aranda.

called into action without a lot of prep time. Although the board has spirit, Terry and Salinas felt the need to recruit some additional youth to the board in hopes of training for the future, in addition to the chapter acquiring potential sponsors and fresh ideas.

Terry and Salinas crafted a simple Fishing Tournament where entry was only by invitation by a board member. The tournament took place on October 22, 2022, which resulted in 7 current Board Members entertaining 20 guests.

During the weigh-in there were onlookers who approached, making various inquiries about our organization. Terry and Salinas both agree that activities like this are needed to recruit and prepare the next generation for CCA.

A special thanks to "Mike" at **Thompson's Bait Camp & Marina in Baytown**, who is now wanting to become a Texas STAR weigh station for the upcoming 2023 tournament.

The weather that day wasn't the best, but everyone did catch a few fish. The tournament winning boat were guests Daniel Nevarez and Alberto Aranda.

Our next projects include a crawfish boil in April and of course the banquet in August. Check our [chapter webpage](#) or [Facebook page](#) for more details. Till next time, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from us to you.

Trinity Valley

John Hebert Jr 936-334-2528
jjhebert@imsday.com

West Houston

Ruben Delgado 281-808-1434
ruben@liftpull.com

West Texas

Craig McDonnold 432-682-3499
Craig@McDonnold.net





Reality, not virtual, is a gift for the soul.

Pass it on. Of course this simple slogan is the mentality that founded CCA Texas's mission in marine conservation. We are more than just a bunch of anglers who love to fish—together, we stand for Texas's precious coastal resources and the memories we create there with family and friends.

Now with over 60 chapters around the state, CCA salutes all the men and women who have actively worked to educate our kids, the next generation of caretakers who are learning to appreciate and cherish the wonders of our "salty" lifestyle.

For 2023, we give thanks for the up-and-coming kids who will be the next line of leadership. Even more, we appreciate all of you diligent parents getting these youngsters out of the Xboxes and into tackle boxes. Real reality, not virtual, is a gift for the soul and restores our hopes for the future. We need this right now, right?!

Please take a moment to view the attached link to a video program made by our friends at ABC-13. This is what we do, and your support, indeed your active participation in promoting such a healthy pastime, is why we do it. Here's to your kids! Enjoy.

—**Bill Kinney** *STAR Tournament Director*

[Click here for Video from our friends at ABC-13](#)





FINAL 2022 LEADERBOARD



2022 CCA Texas STAR Awards Ceremony



ABC13 News/Sports Video



Jacob Perez Winner
\$25,000
STAR Youth Drawing Scholarship



FINAL 2022 LEADERBOARD



KIDS SCHOLARSHIP SHEEPSHEAD DIVISION WINNERS

Corin Basci Winner
\$30,000 STAR Kid Scholarship
Sheepshead 8 lbs.3 ozs.

Caleb McClintock 1st runner up
\$20,000 STAR Kid Scholarship
Sheepshead 5 lbs. 13 ozs.



Noah Boone 2nd Runner up
\$15,000 STAR Kid Scholarship
Sheepshead 5 lbs 11ozs.

Beckett Andrews 3rd runner up
\$7,500 STAR Kid Scholarship
Sheepshead 5 lbs.3ozs.

Eli Boone 4th runner up
\$2,500 STAR Kid Scholarship
Sheepshead 4 lbs 11 ozs.





FINAL 2022 LEADERBOARD



BEST IN TEXAS



KIDS SCHOLARSHIP GAFFTOP DIVISION WINNERS

Eli Ybarra Winner
\$30,000 STAR Kid Scholarship
Gafftop 6 lbs. 12 ozs.

Colt Prye 1st runner up
\$20,000 STAR Kid Scholarship
Gafftop 6 lbs. 7 ozs.



Brooks Sumrall 2nd Runner up
\$15,000 STAR Kid Scholarship
Gafftop 6 lbs. 1 oz.

Jaxon Prye 3rd runner up
\$7,500 STAR Kid Scholarship
Gafftop 5 lbs.15 ozs.



Miles Sumrall 4th runner up
\$2,500 STAR Kid Scholarship
Gafftop 5 lbs 13 ozs.



FINAL 2022 LEADERBOARD



TEENS SCHOLARSHIP SHEEPSHEAD DIVISION WINNERS

Julian Taboada Winner
\$30,000 STAR Teen Scholarship
Sheepshead 10 lbs.4 ozs.

Hadley Basci 1st runner up
\$20,000 STAR Teen Scholarship
Sheepshead 7 lbs. 8 ozs.



Kale Walker 2nd Runner up
\$15,000 STAR Teen Scholarship
Sheepshead 7 lbs 4 ozs.

Maddox Kulcak 3rd runner up
\$7,500 STAR Teen Scholarship
Sheepshead 6 lbs. 13ozs.

Mason Dunlap 4th runner up
\$2,500 STAR Teen Scholarship
Sheepshead 6 lbs 0 ozs.





FINAL 2022 LEADERBOARD



TEENS SCHOLARSHIP GAFFTOP DIVISION WINNERS

Ryleigh Hendrix Winner
\$30,000 STAR Kid Scholarship
Gafftop 8 lbs.1 oz.

Summer Prye 1st runner up
\$20,000 STAR Teen Scholarship
Gafftop 6 lbs. 2 ozs.



Drake Jordan 2nd Runner up
\$15,000 STAR Teen Scholarship
Gafftop 5 lbs 15ozs.

Nori Kile 3rd runner up
\$7,500 STAR Teen Scholarship
Gafftop 5 lbs. 12 ozs.

Ace Parmenter 4th runner up
\$2,500 STAR Teen Scholarship
Gafftop 5 lbs 5 ozs.





CCA TEXAS STAR TOURNAMENT

*Please support those
who support our
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THANK YOU!



BEST IN TEXAS



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\$7.5 million in college scholarships to youth from all over Texas



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Great Photos 2022

Categories: Best In Show / Action / Scenic / Humor / Kids / Wildlife / CPR

Important: Send jpegs and include name of subject, title, your name as well as any other names if you have them. Email jpegs to: sam@samcaldwell.com Give us your best shot, and keep CURRENTS an award-winning newsletter.



Chris Castro is our Great Photographer of this issue. Chris is often up close and personal, a few feet from sea level where action can get intense. From left, Chris simultaneously tries to land a fish and navigate his kayak while dealing with a rod issue. Middle image, Chris says, "This is my son CJ who caught his very first fish over Labor Day weekend!" On right, A Castro Great Humor entry. Lower right, a nice red cruises for a Wildlife entry. Photos provided by Chris Castro of Next Level Fishing.com www.nextlevelfishingtv.com



Below left, a Great Scenic/Action combo by John Blaha. The fisherlady is Jen Thomasson, Babes on the Bay Tournament Director and Aransas Bay Chapter Board Member.

Group CPR Photo: Jen, Tami and Lizzy enjoying a cold day Wade fishing in Aransas Bay.

CPR of a personal best: Peter Lange releases a Port O'Connor jetty redfish. Photo, Dai Yu Lange.



Upper Coast

Capt. Glenn Hammond

It's Old Man Winter Challenge Time

After living and fishing for a lifetime in the Tri-Bay area—Bastrop, Christmas and Drum Bay—I know that winter fishing can be challenging. Now is when the tough get going. With planning, you will win that challenge if you gear up and change your tactics.

Tactics for December: there are still a few shrimp concentrations making their way to the Gulf, so be aware that sea gulls will be pointing the way to fast action. It could be a variety of fish under the birds; speckled trout, reds, sand trout and even gafftop are possible catches. Have a pair of binoculars and a sharp eye and always be scanning the horizon.

A variety of soft plastics with a 1/4 oz jig head would be good lures to sample for the winning combination. If we've had a solid cold front, your retrieve will have to be deliberate—that is, slow.

Heading into January: most of our baitfish have evacuated the shallow bays. Try fishing deeper waters, passes or jetties. After a cold night, do not expect the bite to be fast and furious in early mornings. Try afternoons when the sunshine has a chance to heat the water. Two or three degrees could make all the difference. Slow retrieve is key. The lightest of bumps are what you are waiting for.

Practice catch and release, with a photo to be enjoyed. You're invited to tune in to my weekly reports on 610am radio, *The Outdoor Show*. Or, podcast the show anytime at audacy.com/sportsradio610 Friday and Sunday 4-4:15am for live reports.

—**Capt. Glenn** (the Hammer) **Hammond**
713-208-0683

Middle Coast

Capt. Brittany Gale

Slow Down, Catch Fish

Winter began before December got here. Water temperatures were dropping due to fronts and heavy overcast. So, mullet and shrimp have now moved out of the rivers and estuaries.

Expect to see bigger trout hitting lures as colder water temperatures push them onto the flats for food. Redfish are also moving out of the back lakes with big tides, and you will find trout with them. Look for bait and dirty water over good structure in two to four feet of water. Depending on the wind and depth of water, I like to use 1/8 to 1/4 ounce jig heads with a Texas roach or a Corky, working them slow, slow, slow. In clear water, tie on a chartreuse tail. Faced with dirtier water, choose a white tip tail on your lure. Simple, but can make all the difference between a great and poor trip. Of course, topwaters can be exciting when you see more active bait.

Important tip: Fishing will be predictably good just prior to a front and several days after the high pressure moves out and the flats warm up.

Jetties have more constant water temperatures and will be holding black drum, sheepshead, trout and redfish. Use shrimp with a popping cork and a short leader. Cast up against the rocks for drum and sheepshead. Or, drop crabs to the bottom in about 30 feet of water for redfish and drum.

If you would like an opportunity to tangle with a trophy trout and/or redfish, whether wade or boat fishing give me a call!

—**Capt. Brittany Gale** *Gale Force Outdoors*
361-212-6581 Captbrittany@gmail.com

Lower Coast

Chris Castro

Recipe for Skinny Water Anglers

In December, the kayaker and other anglers must gear up for tough duty, plan ahead and be prepared.

Find the bait, and you'll find the fish. Consider even the slightest amount of bait to hold value. Locations with good current are important. Recipe for skinny water boaters—as well as any lower Texas coast boater—check your charts. Find structure and you have a clue to locate bait, healthy grass, and good current with nearby dropoffs.

Go after your target species during winter warm snaps, then slow things down in full-blown winter mode. Twitch baits and Corky-style fishing match winter modes. A grub tail on a light jig-head, accompanied by a garlic-infused AM Fishing lure—that's my go-to lure choice this time of winter.

Of course, you will be geared-up for cold whether in small kayak or large bay boat. Fish slow, be patient and just grind it out. If your skill produces big spotted girls this year, practice conservation.

—**Chris Castro** *Chris is a proponent of kayak adventure. His videos promote CCA's idea of adventure combined with conservation. 361-726-9294 email: nextlevelfishingtv@gmail.com / Web: www.nextlevelfishingtv.com*

Chris Castro is this issue's Featured Photographer. Check GREAT PHOTOS, page 40 for more of Chris's adventures in skinny as well as deep water.

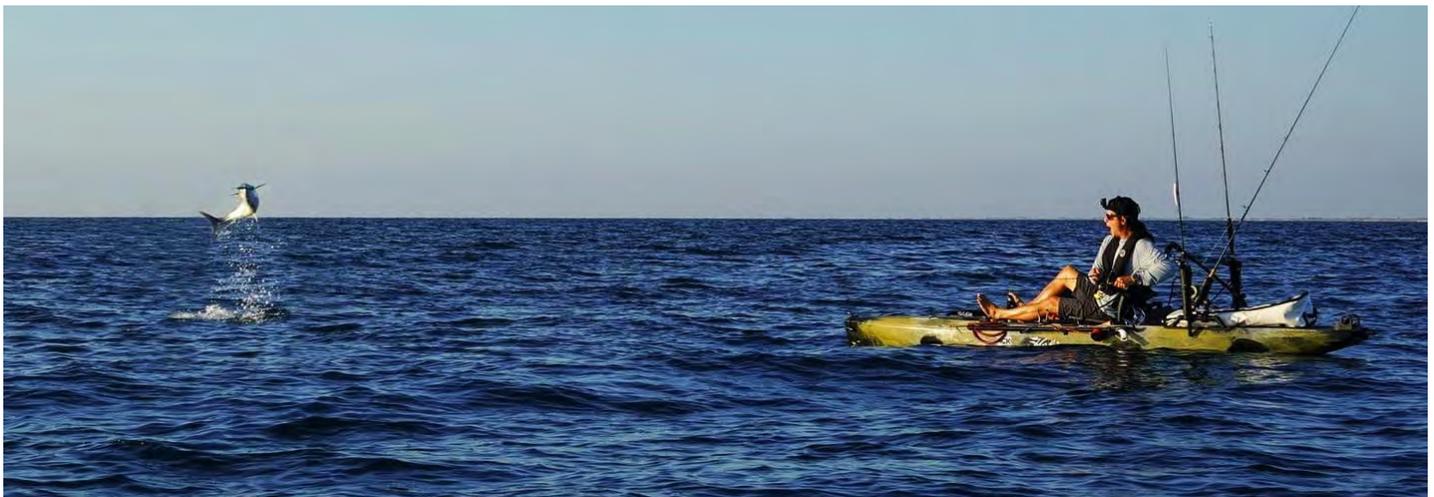


Photo provided by Chris Castro. It's a bit more exciting Chris says, when you hook a really fine fish at eye level.



Coming your way? View from Chris Castro's kayak.

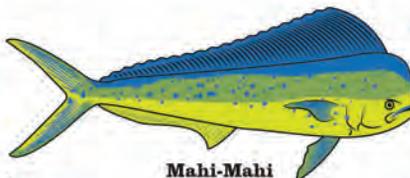
Gulf Identification Guide



Grouper



Tito's All-Time Favorite



Mahi-Mahi



Tito's Martini



Red Drum



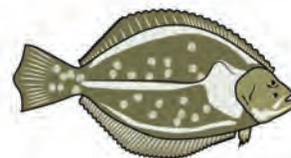
Hair of the Dog



Speckled Trout



Tito's Salty Dog



Flounder



Tito's Screwdriver



Tito's Handmade Vodka is a proud supporter of CCA Texas



Cheesy Shrimp Casserole

1 1/2 C Rice / 1/4 Med. Onion, diced / 2 Ribs Celery, diced
3 Tbsp Olive Oil / 3 C Chicken Broth

Sauté rice, onion and celery till rice is lightly brown. Add chicken broth and turn to low heat and cook for 20 minutes. Remove from heat.

Preheat oven to 350

1 Can Cream of Mushroom soup / 1 Can Rotel / 1 Can Velveeta cubed
1 Cup Frozen Peas / 2 to 3 lbs. Shrimp, deveined, tail removed

In a large sauce pan, slowly heat soup, Rotel and cheese till melted. Add rice, shrimp and peas, stir till well combined. Pour into greased 3 quart baking dish.
Bake for 30 to 35 min till bubbly. Enjoy!



Great Recipe Editor Liz Hewitt



MY ACCOUNT CART CHECKOUT

281-455-9390

THE OUTDOOR ART OF SAM CALDWELL

TEXAS STATE ARTIST, 2004
EDITOR, CCA TEXAS CURRENTS NEWSLETTER

HOME

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The Great Spirit pays off...

Welcome to Caldwell's new BLOG
Featuring CCA's Not That Serious
column of 30 years.

The national award-winning
art of Ben Kocian and stories by
Sam Caldwell. Click on the guitar
for the second issue of this classic
Tide Magazine column.

*Soon to be an Amazon/
Kindle book.*



The Farrier

Caldwell named as a SEWE Primary Artist for 2023

Sam Caldwell has been selected as a
primary artist in the 2023 Southeastern
Wildlife Exposition. Set in Charleston
South Carolina, Feb. 17-20, the Exposition
features three days of everything to love
about wildlife and nature through a
lineup of events including fine art exhibits,
wildlife, conservation education, sporting
demonstrations, live music and after-hours
gatherings. Caldwell's art can be previewed
at <https://www.sewe.com/artists/sam-caldwell/>

Three major national awards

The Trip: First Place, Outdoor
Book TOWA, 2018

First Place art, A Search for
Rainbows and Second Place
for Autumn Wolves

OWAA, 2019. Giclees are
now available.

Great idea for a good friend:
Drop by the website and get
my 4.5 star novel, *The Trip*.
While you're there, for a
friend or yourself, choose
a high quality Giclee from
many Caldwell paintings.

samcaldwell.com

Texas State Artist 2004

DU State Artist 2010-2011

Dallas CCA Conservationist 2015

2016 Perry R. Bass Wall of Fame

281-455-9390



Autumn Wolves



A Search for Rainbows

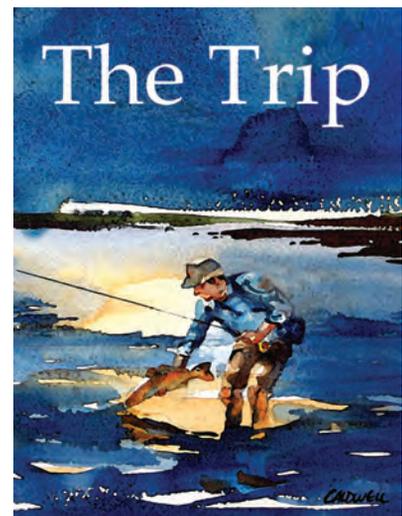
New on the website:

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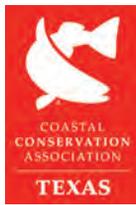
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[Click on the redfish](#)



Caldwell



Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Drive, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77024

December 2022/January 2023

Your friends at Coastal Conservation Association Texas wish you a Fine Holiday Season and a Great New Year



Santex 2022 Sam Caldwell

U.S. Coast Guard Air & Sea Rescue

National Response Center: 800-874-2143
Port Isabel: 956-761-2668
Corpus Christi / Marine Safety Office: boating emergencies, chemical and oil spills: 361-888-3162
Port Aransas: 361-749-5217
Port O'Connor: 361-983-2616
Freeport: 979-233-3801
Houston, Galveston: 409-766-5620
Sabine: 409-971-2195

The Texas Parks & Wildlife website is your starting point for almost anything you need to know about outdoor Texas, including links to many areas.

Visit www.tpwd.texas.gov

To focus on fishing and boating, visit

www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish

www.tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat



Current size, bag and possession limits are now available through the Texas Parks & Wildlife website: TPWD has a number to report game violations. **1-800-792-4263**. A partner with CCA in aiding Texas game and Game Wardens is Operation Game Thief. Drop by and put this website on your favorites list: www.ogttx.com



COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION TEXAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (including STAR Entry)

Name _____ Phone _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL _____ (Member ID for renewing members only) _____ EMAIL _____

- Method of payment
- Check/Money order
- Charge to my:
- MASTERCARD
- VISA
- AMEX
- DISCOVER

- MEMBER: \$35 _____ Membership card, decal, bumper sticker, Texas CURRENTS newsletter & TIDE magazine.
- ASSOCIATE: \$20 _____ Per each family member. All membership privileges except TIDE and CURRENTS.
- LIFE MEMBER: \$1000 _____ CCA Life Membership piece, print, plus member gifts. Payable in four \$250 installments.
- STAR ENTRY FEE: \$25 _____ Tournament entry fee. Must be a current CCA member.
- YOUTH: \$10 _____ TIDE newsletter, decal. Includes STAR Tournament entry, for members 17 and under.
Age: _____ Date of birth: _____
- CONSERVATION MEMBER: \$50 _____ A portion of the proceeds go toward CCA's National Habitat Program, Building Conservation Trust. Includes exclusive Conservation Member decal, one-year subscription to TIDE Magazine and set of CCA and state fish decals.

Credit card number _____ Signature _____

Credit card expiration date _____ By entering this tournament, I agree to be bound by the STAR Tournament Rules, Release and Indemnity Agreement. I understand that there are specific rules governing the conduct of the tournament and that upon request a copy will be mailed to me. 6919 Portwest, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77024 / 713-626-4222 / Website: www.ccatexas.org