

CURRENTS

October / November 2023



Kristen Faleski, CCA National Vice-President & CFO, flexing her fishing prowess with an Aransas Bay redfish.

*“Redfish Revival”
H-E-B presents this powerful new film
which retells the remarkable origin
story of CCA*

CURRENTS IS INTERACTIVE!

This issue is equipped with clickable links. Try clicking one to open it in your browser.

The Texas Redfish:

A Story of Coastal Fisheries Management and Successful Species Recovery

By Joel Anderson and Shane Bonnot

The Texas Red Drum, commonly known as Redfish or simply “Red”, has a storied history unique within the annals of fisheries management and coastal advocacy. Today’s anglers “wade the path others have trodden,” enjoying a vibrant and sustainable fishery made possible by conservation pioneers who set into motion a series of events to save the bison of the bays. The forecast for sustainability of the Texas Red Drum population has not always been a positive one.

The story of Red Drum conservation in Texas begins in the late 1970s, when the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and members of the newly formed Gulf Coast Conservation Association (now CCA) took notice of declining Red Drum abundance and began pursuing aggressive legislative and management actions aimed at recovery of Texas Red Drum stocks. The first daily bag limits were set for sport and commercial fishermen in Texas in 1977. Then, in 1981, Texas House Bill 1000 (a.k.a. the “Redfish Bill”) was passed, which permanently prohibited the sale of Red Drum caught in state waters. This measure alone effectively ended the commercial harvest of Red Drum

Since the inception of the enhancement program, over 820 million Red Drum fingerlings have been released along the Texas Coast.

in Texas, making it the first of the five Gulf states to take this bold step. Three other Gulf states (Florida, Alabama, and Louisiana) have since passed similar measures. The fishery was closed permanently in the federal exclusive economic zone in the Gulf in 1987 (the “EEZ” are the federal waters just outside state jurisdiction and extending 200 nautical miles from shore). Notably, former Texas Governor George W. Bush consolidated federal protection of the species across its natural range (including the Atlantic coast) with a 2007 Presidential executive order (EO 13449) that permanently prohibited the sale of any Red Drum caught in the EEZ.

Along with these forward-thinking fisheries management measures, TPWD and conservation leaders began working on a vision for stock enhancement of Red Drum that could pair with fisheries management to accelerate recovery. The first marine stock enhancement



CCA Texas Advocacy Director Shane Bonnot releases a redfish for further duty.

facility was opened in 1982 through a public-private partnership between TPWD, CCA, and the Central Power and Light Company, which provided land for a hatchery in Corpus Christi. Stocking began in 1983 when 7 million Red Drum fingerlings were released coastwide in Texas. Presently the TPWD operates 3 stock enhancement facilities in Corpus Christi, Palacios

and Lake Jackson, which are heavily supported by the CCA. The agency releases anywhere between 10-20+ million Red Drum annually depending upon management needs and natural recruitment estimates based on TPWD field samples from the previous year. Since the inception of the enhancement program, over 820 million Red Drum fingerlings have been released along the Texas Coast.

Perhaps as a result of this monumental investment of time, energy and capital into Red Drum management and recovery, catch rates for Red Drum increased throughout the 1980s and into the 1990s based on data from TPWD’s long-running gill net surveys. Over the most recent 10 years, anglers that reported that they targeted Red Drum specifically have also reported an average trip satisfaction grade of 8 on a scale of 1:10, based on data from TPWD’s long-running angler intercept program (also known as the Texas “creel” surveys).

It would be tempting to look at the current state of Red Drum angling in Texas and declare victory. But scientific rigor requires a systematic assessment of what recovery looks like from a biological standpoint. To that end, TPWD



TPWD fish and wildlife technicians deploy a bag seine in prime juvenile Red Drum habitat near Sargent, Texas. The bag seine fishing gear allows TPWD to monitor the juvenile populations of different fishes, including Red Drum.

biologists started investigating whether there was a way to retrospectively examine changes in size and age of the Red Drum population during the recovery. In the late 1990s, researchers at the Perry R. Bass Marine Fisheries Research Station within TPWD initiated collection of tissue structures called “otoliths” from Red Drum caught coastwide. Otoliths are hard sensory structures near the brain of a fish that perform functions that are similar to the inner ear bones in mammals. Notably, in some species (including Red Drum) otoliths lay down perennial rings, or “annuli”, similar to tree rings. If properly treated and examined microscopically, these annuli give an accounting of the exact age of a fish. Perhaps more importantly, these structures allow scientists to link the average size of a fish (for instance, in inches or mm) to a given age range.

The TPWD otolith collections occurred over a nearly 20-year span and allowed biologists to derive the mathematical functions that would allow the linkage of individual size with predicted age for Red Drum. This seemingly simple relationship between age and size unlocked a treasure trove of information, because biologists were then able to assign estimated ages to every single Red Drum observed in the TPWD gill net monitoring program going back to the 1970s. What they found was striking. Shortly after passage of the Redfish Bill and implementation of the additional aforementioned conservation measures, the average age of Red Drum in Texas waters began to climb, growing steadily from a population with an average age of 0.84 years old in 1980, to an average of 1.5 years old in 1994. The difference was notable for anglers as well, as the mean size of Red Drum observed in the gill net survey increased from 16.5 inches in 1980, to approximately 19.6 inches in 1994. Generally speaking, the improvements in size and age observed during the recovery have been maintained over time to the present day.

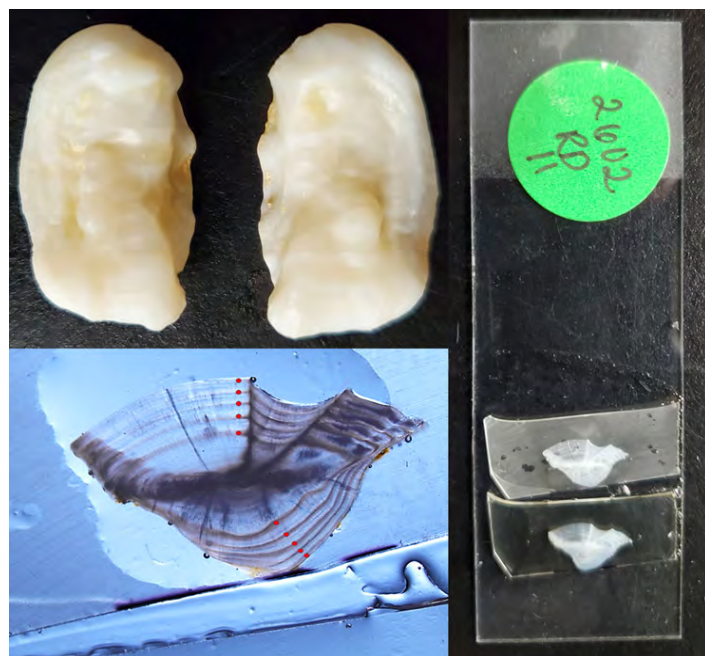
Age data through time were also used to estimate important fisheries characteristics like mortality rate, which is simply the rate at which individuals are removed from the population through fishing, predation, disease, or other factors. Based on the otolith data, mortality in today’s estuarine Red Drum population occurs at a rate that is about 50% of what it was in 1981, and as a result the number of fish that grow to reproductive maturity and that escape to the offshore spawning population is approximately double what it once was. This is an important point, because Red Drum in Texas’ estuaries support the bulk of the recreational fishery, but they also represent the next generation of spawners that are tasked with sustaining viable population numbers as they mature and move offshore.

The results of the otolith study by TPWD were peer-reviewed and are set to be published in the American Fisheries Society journal *Marine and Coastal Fisheries* later this year. The findings of the study reflect an astounding recovery that is relatively unmatched in



A TPWD stock enhancement rig is backed up to the bay and ready to stock Red Drum fingerlings at sunrise. Red Drum are harvested from hatchery ponds at night, and stocking into the bay occurs during the cooler parts of the day to minimize stress on the juvenile fish.

other highly targeted fish species around the world and are a testament to the successful management approach by TPWD. The people and events intertwined in this recovery forever changed recreational angler’s role in fisheries management, creating a conservation ethic that is now woven into coastal fishing culture. Through cooperation between government agencies like TPWD, non-government advocacy groups like CCA, and an army of conservation-minded anglers, the Texas Red Drum represents a conservation success story that continues to be written, and a standard for how research, management, and citizen advocacy can change the future of an iconic coastal species. 🐟



Otoliths are bony tissues found near the brain of most fishes. Whole otoliths (upper left) are dissected, encased in resin, and sectioned using a metallurgical saw, then mounted on a microscope slide (right). When viewed through a microscope, annual rings are visible on the sectioned otolith (below left, with rings marked). The Red Drum pictured is estimated to be 5 years old.

Redfish Revival:

A Powerful New Film of CCA's Beginnings



H-E-B recently teamed up with Austin-based [Fin and Fur Films](#), an award-winning team led by director and founder Ben Masters, to create a series of documentary films that highlight stories of dedicated Texans and organizations conserving wildlife habitat, landscapes, and parks across the state. In this five-film docuseries, [H-E-B](#), through its *Our Texas, Our Future* commitment, brings attention to important work being done across the state to protect delicate wildlife habitats, threatened animal species, as well as showcase the wonder and splendor of the Texas outdoors.



Scan the QR code to watch Redfish Revival



One of the films, titled "Redfish Revival," retells the remarkable origin story of CCA and the role it played in the recovery of the Red Drum and the paradigm shift in Texas coastal fisheries management.

Narrated by Pat Murray, Troy Williamson and Shane Bonnot, the video provides an in-depth look at the earliest events and the people who began the trek from Walter Fondren III's Houston office in 1977.



Spotted Seatrout SCOPE Meetings: Oct. 17- 19

Your voice can be heard if you speak up.

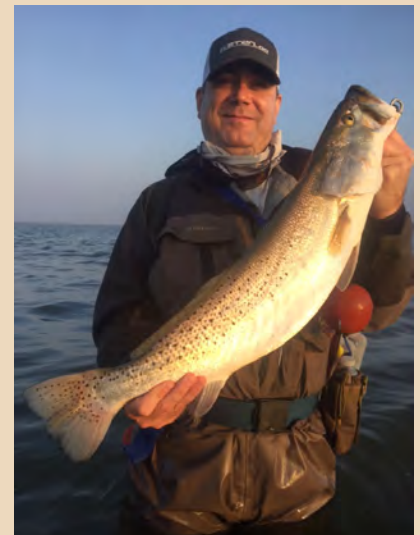
In the last edition of CURRENTS, we updated members on the status of Spotted Seatrout and previous management actions in the article titled "The Spotted Seatrout Situation." In that article, we teased the notion that Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) would reach out to anglers for an opportunity to learn more about the latest trends in the fishery and provide feedback to TPWD on to help shape the future of the Spotted Seatrout fishery ([Click here](#) if you missed that article in previous edition).

Now the time has come to have your voice heard, as TPWD is seeking public input on potential harvest regulations. TPWD Coastal Fisheries staff will host several public scoping meetings on the coast to gather input from stakeholders and constituents concerning spotted seatrout management options.

The public is encouraged to attend and provide comment at the following public meetings:

- *Tuesday, Oct. 17 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Bauer Community Center, 2300 Texas Highway 35, Port Lavaca, TX, 77979*
- *Wednesday, Oct. 18 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Saltwater Pavilion at Rockport Beach Park, 210 Seabreeze Dr., Rockport, TX, 78382*
- *Wednesday, Oct. 18 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Natural Resources Building, 6300 Ocean Dr., Corpus Christi, TX, 78412*
- *Wednesday, Oct. 18 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Port Isabel Event and Cultural Center, 309 Railroad St., Port Isabel, TX, 78578*
- *Thursday, Oct. 19 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Bob Bowers Civic Center, 3401 Cultural Center, Port Arthur, TX, 77642*
- *Thursday, Oct. 19 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the L-131 room at College of the Mainland, 1200 N. Amburn Rd, Texas City, TX, 77591*

Additionally, TPWD has partnered with Texas A&M University to conduct a random survey of saltwater anglers across the state. Roughly 10,000 surveys will be mailed out so please complete and return the survey if you are selected. In addition to this notice, CCA Texas will inform members of these opportunities via email and social media. Stay tuned for more information.



Central Houston Chapter board member, Ian Beliveaux, with nice CPR trout.



CCA Texas Executive Board Pledges \$5 Million for Oyster Reef Restoration

The CCA Texas Executive Board recently pledged \$5 million for oyster reef restoration across the Texas coast. With unanimous approval by all board members present at their August meeting, the CCA Texas board proudly dedicated the funding for future projects in areas that are protected from commercial harvest.

"We are excited to make this announcement and would like to thank our members, volunteers, sponsors and industry partners for their continued support," said John Carlson, Chairman of the CCA Texas Board. "This level of funding would not be possible without the fundraising efforts at the grassroots level within our community chapters and we hope the membership takes satisfaction in knowing their efforts are returning to the water."

"CCA Texas and the Building Conservation Trust, the CCA National Habitat Program, have already spent nearly \$2 million for oyster reef restoration and oyster reef research in Texas," stated Robby Byers, Executive Director of CCA Texas. "Understanding the natural and man-made threats to our bay systems, this additional \$5 million is justified and necessary for the recovery of our oyster reefs."

CCA Texas will work with non-profit, institutional and governmental partners to identify specific areas of need to ensure that project funding is complimentary to efforts with shared goals.



\$80,000 Approved for Vessel to be Used in Bringing Back Baffin Initiative

The Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies (HRI) submitted a proposal to CCA Texas requesting \$80,000 for a Haynie 23' Big Foot bay boat. Since 2013, HRI has led a monitoring program in Baffin Bay to understand causes of a long-term decline in water quality that is negatively affecting the health of the bay. Data collected as part of this monitoring program is serving as the backbone of the "Bringing Baffin Back" initiative, which aims to:

- Find solutions to the water quality problems that are contributing to the decline in the health of Baffin Bay,
- Restore key watershed and bay habitat that has been lost due to water quality degradation,
- Foster a stewardship ethos, especially among younger

generations of residents, and

- Advance efforts to educate the public on the relationship between watershed and bay health.

With *Bringing Baffin Back* underway and millions of dollars targeted for Baffin Bay watershed restoration, having access to exceptional water quality data is crucial for its success. To ensure the continued longevity of the water quality program, HRI needs reliable sampling equipment and boats. Currently, HRI only has one boat (2019 Boat Right aluminum hull work boat) that is acceptable for use in Baffin Bay, which creates challenges when the boat is out of commission for repairs. More problematic is that the Boat Right's use is limited to relatively calm conditions. Thus, HRI has a need for a vessel that is well suited to working in more frequent windy conditions that define Baffin Bay.

CCA Texas's commitment will enable HRI to purchase a new bay boat that is optimized for use under everyday weather conditions in Baffin Bay. The new boat will be used for water quality sampling in Baffin Bay, other conservation research endeavors in Baffin Bay, and secondarily for conservation projects located in other bay systems.

The bay boat that meets the required technical specifications and stability requirements for working in Baffin Bay is the Haynie 23' Big Foot, and CCA Texas is proud to fund this valuable piece of equipment. This funding further cements CCA Texas's support of the Bringing Back Baffin initiative and comes on the heels of CCA Texas's Executive Board 2022 commitment of three years for \$75,000 annually (\$225,000 total) for underwriting costs associated with sample collection, sample processing via wet chemistry and or microscopy, data analysis and data management.

Additionally, CCA Texas funded \$135,000 in February 2022 to fund a Baffin Bay Serpulid Reef Habitat Conservation/Restoration Study, to determine the status of the serpulid reefs in Baffin Bay, and restoration opportunities.

\$82,850 Funded for Game Warden Floating Cabin Rebuild in Baffin Bay

CCA Texas Executive Board approved an additional funding necessary to construct a new Game Warden's cabin to be located in Baffin Bay. The total cost of the project is \$82,850.00 and will be completed and fully furnished when transferred from the contractor. Hurricane Hanna destroyed the existing cabin in 2020, and since that time TPWD Law Enforcement coverage simply has not been as good for the area due to operating cost limitations associated with day-to-day trips to the area. The cabin provides easy access to the area for patrol purposes and allows the wardens to stay on site for extended periods of time to execute their enforcement duties.

An original request for construction was funded at the February 2023 State Board Meeting, and the supplemental cost was approved at the August 2023 meeting. The additional costs were due to legal liabilities which restricted the TPWD Wardens from constructing the cabin themselves, and therefore required a turnkey 3rd party construction.

CCA Texas believes strongly in supporting the TPWD Game Wardens in the daily task to protect Texas's coastal resources. The organization looks forward to seeing the completion of the cabin and having an enforcement presence in the area on a regular basis. — **John D. Blaha**

HABITAT TODAY FOR FISH TOMORROW

CCA Texas Projects

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Cedar Bayou/Vinson Slough Restoration | \$1,600,000 |
| 2. ** Nearshore Reefing - Rio Grande Valley Reef | \$1,061,000 |
| 3. Nearshore Reefing - Sabine Pass | \$ 906,000 |
| 4. ** Oyster Reef Creation - St. Charles Bay (Rockport) | \$ 711,250 |
| 5. Nearshore Reefing—Port O'Connor | \$ 700,000 |
| 6. Oyster Restoration - East Galveston Bay | \$ 500,000 |
| 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. ** Mesquite Bay Oyster Reef Monitoring (HRI) | \$ 225,000 |
| 12. Oyster Restoration—Deep Reef Sabine Lake | \$ 215,000 |
| 13. Nearshore Reefing - Matagorda | \$ 200,000 |
| 14. Shoreline Stabilization - San Bernard NWR | \$ 200,000 |
| 15. Sink Your Shucks Oyster Recycle Program | \$ 152,000 |
| 16. Marsh Restoration - Bird Island Cove (West Galveston Bay) | \$ 150,000 |
| 17. Shoreline Protection/Marsh Creation - Moses Lake (Galveston Bay) | \$ 138,000 |
| 18. Baffin Bay Serpulid Reef Habitat Conservation/Restoration Study | \$ 135,000 |
| 19. Oyster Restoration—Pepper Grove / Galveston (BCT) | \$ 130,000 |
| 20. Aransas National Wildlife Refuge Shoreline Protection (San Antonio Bay) | \$ 125,000 |
| 21. HRI Oyster Restoration Site Locator Mapping Study | \$ 120,000 |
| 22. Marsh Restoration - Dickinson Bayou | \$ 100,000 |
| 23. Nearshore Reefing - Corpus Christi | \$ 100,000 |
| 24. Bahia Grande Restoration (Port Isabel / Brownsville) | \$ 95,000 |
| 25. ** Marsh Restoration - Brazoria & San Bernard Wildlife Refuge | \$ 91,000 |
| 26. Oyster Reef Restoration - Aransas Bay (Rockport) | \$ 75,000 |
| 27. Oyster Reef Restoration - Copano Bay (Rockport) | \$ 75,000 |
| 28. Marsh Restoration - Egery Island (Copano Bay/Bayside) | \$ 70,000 |
| 29. Marsh Restoration - Matagorda Island | \$ 70,000 |
| 30. Nueces Bay Delta Water Management Gates | \$ 70,000 |
| 31. Nearshore Reefing - Freeport / Vancouver | \$ 60,000 |
| 32. Nueces Bay Demonstration Oyster Reef | \$ 60,000 |
| 33. ** Newcomb Bend Marsh Restoration (TPWD) | \$ 50,000 |
| 34. Marsh Restoration - Goose Island (Rockport) | \$ 50,000 |
| 35. Nearshore Reefing - Port Mansfield | \$ 50,000 |
| 36. Shoreline Stabilization - J. D. Murphree WMA | \$ 50,000 |
| 37. Shoreline Stabilization - Cow Trap Lake (Brazoria County) | \$ 50,000 |
| 38. Dollar Bay Shoreline Protection and Marsh Restoration | \$ 50,000 |
| 39. Galveston Bay Foundation Headquarters Living Shoreline Restoration | \$ 50,000 |
| 40. Marsh Restoration - Oxen & Gang's Bayou (Galveston) | \$ 42,000 |
| 41. Trinity Bay Discovery Center Living Shoreline | \$ 40,000 |
| 42. Sweetwater Preserve Shoreline Protections and Oyster Reef Enhancement | \$ 30,000 |
| 43. Marsh Restoration - Nueces Bay (Corpus Christi) | \$ 24,000 |
| 44. Marsh Restoration - Snake Island Cover (West Galveston Bay) | \$ 20,000 |
| 45. Weed Eradication for Water Flow Restoration (Guadalupe River Delta) | \$ 15,000 |
| 46. Sink Your Shucks Oyster Recycle Programs Trailer | \$ 10,000 |
| 47. Bay Debris Removal - Aransas Pass | \$ 5,600 |
| 48. Building Conservation Trust's Texas Habitat Fund (BCT & CCA Texas Secured Funds) | \$ 399,066 |

** 2023 Projects Contributed to as 08/9/23

TOTAL FUNDED THROUGH 2023: 10,128,916

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 |
| • Coprrpus Christi | \$ 100,000 |
| • Freeport / Vancouver | \$ 60,000 |
| • Port Mansfield | \$ 50,000 |
| Total contributions to Nearshore Reefing: | \$3,456,000 |



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

A Natural Partnership

**BUILDING
CONSERVATION
TRUST**
CCA's Habitat

**COASTAL
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION
TEXAS**
Habitat Today for Fish Tomorrow



Gulf Identification Guide



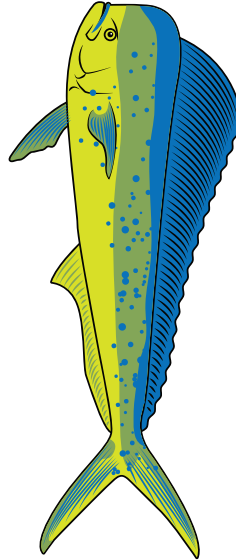
Tito's Bloody Mary



Grouper



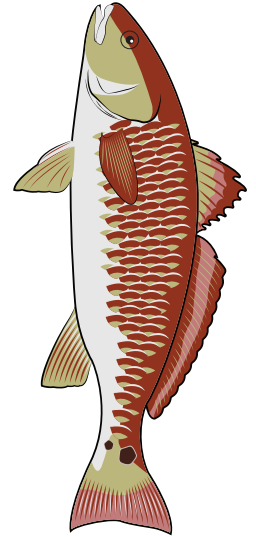
Tito's Martini



Mahi-Mahi



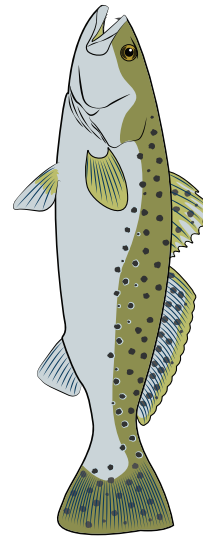
Mo-Tito



Redfish



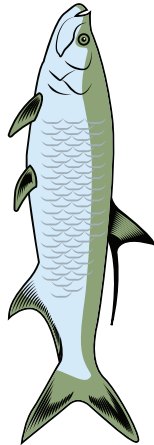
Tito's Salty Dog



Speckled Trout



America's Original Craft Vodka



Tarpon



Tito's Screwdriver



Tito's All-American Lemonade



Tito's All-Time Favorite



Flounder



Tito's American Mule



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

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From: Bill Kinney



BEST IN TEXAS

The 2023 CCA Texas STAR continues the longstanding tradition of celebrating our state's magnificent resources with a fun, wholesome event for the entire family. Ain't it great to be Texan and have a shot at well over \$1 million in prizes while CCA steadfastly serves as a watchman to ensure our coastline continues bounty-full for generations to come? It wasn't always so. Each of you plays an integral part in helping us stay present and prominent to the needs of our growing communities coming down south for some action. We all know the addictive behavior created when a hungry redfish slams our spoon. Even better, an angry speckled trout explodes on a topwater while our minds were daydreaming in the serene moment our cares were melting away. I pray we may always be blessed with such members who care enough to support the worthy mission of CCA Texas.

With your help, we will all be able to ensure the future vitality of our precious marine environment because we know fishing pressure will continue to increase. Only external forces can slow it down, and we got a good dose of that this year when the heat dome arrived on Father's Day. Days and days of temps in the 100s made it pretty "sporty" to endure a full day on the water for all but the hardcore, and CCA has many willing to wait till "just one more cast"! It paid off. This year, over 30% more tagged redfish were caught up and down the coast from Sabine to South Padre, and the payoff was big. Winners claimed seven of the 10 red tag prizes offered (five Ford/Haynie/Mercury truck boat combos and three of the Haynie/Mercury boat packages). All the blue tags boats were claimed by winners for Tran Sport/Mercury combos.... even into the Academy gift cards. Of the 120 tagged fish released, almost 25% were caught! Even more random, of those caught, red tags outnumbered blue tag captures by a three-to-one margin—yet a red and a blue-tagged fish were released at the same time at every location by our CCA Release Team volunteers. Go figure!

As most know, the emergency trout regulations adopted after the freeze had to expire by law on August 31, and certainly, trout are recovering. Because we all chipped in to lay off keeping, not catching, this has helped the natural spawns immensely. That, and CCA-built hatcheries releasing

another 14 million more of these baby trout back in the water, doesn't hurt either. Nonetheless, both East Matagorda and San Antone Bay populations are not headed north yet. We're not there yet. Just because the limits have lifted, please continue to practice conservation with this favorite species. A good rule of thumb is to release any trout over 20" for the time being. If we do, it won't be too long until anglers complain that their trout are too big to keep. Like to look forward to that, right?

It's always delightful to report that hardier species like sheephead, gafftop, and black drum once again provided reliable STAR action from both pier and bank, especially appealing to the Moms and Dads introducing kids to the sport we love. The CCA STAR Tournament Committee really cranked up the prizes for youth in two of these divisions by adding five times as many scholarships for the first five-- \$30,000/\$20,000/\$15,000/\$7,500/\$2,500. Every single STARKid or STARteen won big if they made the final leaderboard. 2023 keeps adding to the record, now that \$7,475,000 has been awarded to change the life paths of these kids. Be aware—no longer are these scholarships for accredited colleges and universities only. Instead, all graduating HS seniors can choose accredited technical or trade schools and vocational training programs if they wish with their winnings.

Take'em fishing. Still, only \$10 bucks for kids or grandkids under 17, and they are entered to win in a drawing for a \$25,000 scholarship no matter what.

Finally, CCA's recent commitment of \$5 million to oyster reef restoration is the single most impactful statement for Texas inshore fishermen since we committed to boring out Cedar Bayou. This initiative towards rebuilding the lowly oyster's habitat will directly enhance over 300 species and ultimately turn Texas bays into "living water" like we have not seen in two generations. On behalf of CCA, please accept our gratitude to all of you, whether you fish STAR, attend banquets, plant cordgrass, or whatever to further our work.

The future has never looked brighter for the Texas coastline and the many "denizens of the deep" that live there. Thank you for helping to make it happen!



BEST IN TEXAS





FINAL 2023 WINNERS



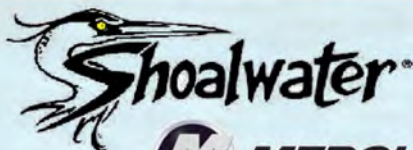
BEST IN TEXAS

TILSON Academy®

CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

SPORTS+OUTDOORS

2023 CCA Texas STAR Awards- INSHORE Division



MERCURY



McClain

TRAILERS



**JOHN CORNELIUS OF DEER PARK, TX
11 LBS. 11 OZS. SHEEPSHEAD**



**DERRICK JONES OF RICHWOOD, TX
17 LBS. 15 OZS. BLACK DRUM**



**JAN PETTEY OF RICHWOOD, TX
8 LBS. 10 OZS. GAFFTOP**



SHOALWATER – INSHORE PRIZE BOAT



FINAL 2023 WINNERS



TILSON Academy
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS SPORTS+OUTDOORS

2023 CCA Texas STAR Awards- OFFSHORE Division



HOFFPAUIR – OFFSHORE Prize



**JOHN DUSEK – OF MISSOURI CITY, TX
48 LBS. 4 OZS. KINGFISH**



**DAN GODWIN OF BRIDGEPORT, TX
45 LBS. 13 OZS. DORADO**



**SAVANNA STEWART of VAN VLECK, TX
80 LBS. 10 OZS. LING**



**MATTHEW OGRODOWICZ
OF TOMBALL, TX
29 LBS. 11 OZS. RED SNAPPER**





FINAL 2023 WINNERS



BEST IN TEXAS

TILSON Academy
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS SPORTS+OUTDOORS

2023 CCA Texas STAR Awards- BLUE TAG Division



RICHARD DAFFT
1ST BLUE TAG # BL1575



COASTLINE



JOSEPH SERTUCHE
2ND BLUE TAG #BL1492



THOMAS AMBERSON
3RD BLUE TAG # BL1481



TRAN SPORT BOATS – BLUE TAG PRIZE BOAT



FINAL 2023 WINNERS



BEST IN TEXAS

TILSON Academy
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

Academy
SPORTS+OUTDOORS

2023 CCA Texas STAR Awards GUIDES DIVISION CLINT BARGHI

OF FRIENDSWOOD, TX





FINAL 2023 WINNERS



BEST IN TEXAS

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2023 CCA Texas STAR Awards- BONUS DRAWINGS

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MERCURY



MEMBER BONUS DRAWING
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of CLEAR LAKE, TX





FINAL 2023 WINNERS



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2023 CCA Texas STAR Awards- RED TAG DIVISION

Prize package includes Ford Truck, Haynie Boat, Mercury Motor and Coastline Trailer





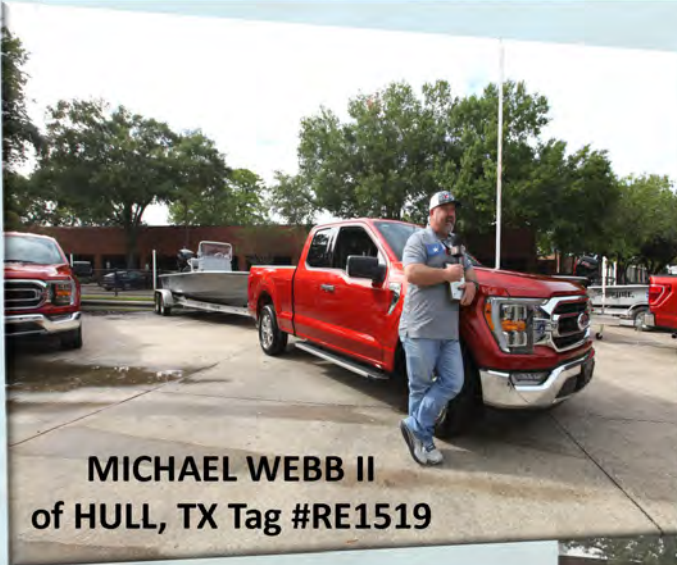
FINAL 2023 WINNERS



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MICHAEL WEBB II
of HULL, TX Tag #RE1519

RUSSELL SNYDER
of SUGAR LAND, TX TAG #RE1541



ALONSO GUERRERO
of SAN BENITO, TX TAG # RE1452



FINAL 2023 WINNERS



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2023 CCA Texas STAR Awards- RED TAG DIVISION

STEVEN BLEDSOE
of CYPRESS, TX Tag #RE1461



DUSTIN DURBIN
of ANGLETON, TX TAG #RE1524



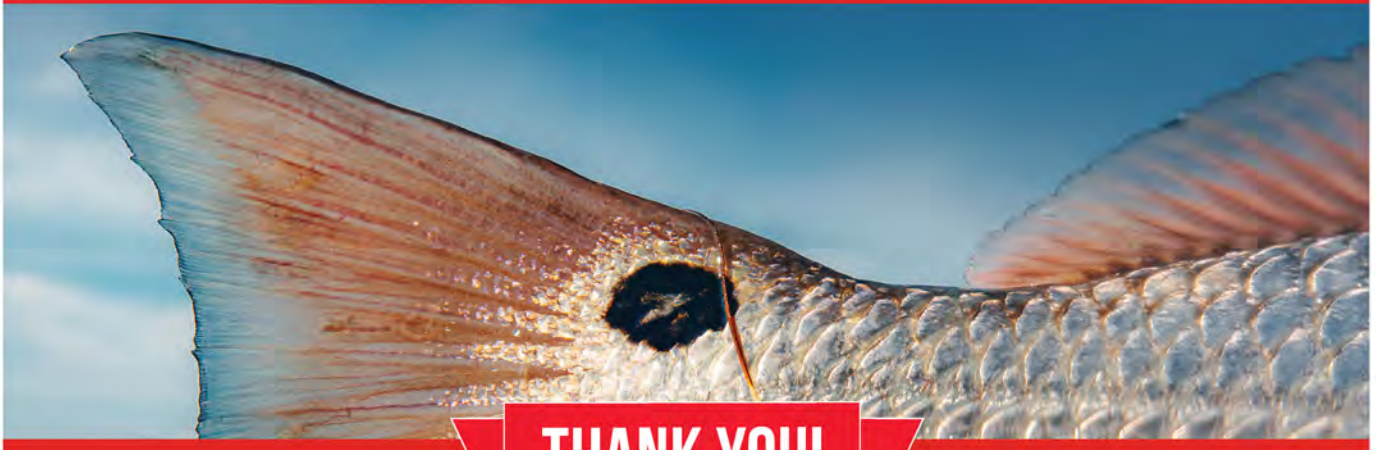
DAVID HILL
TAG #RE1531
6TH HAYNIE Boat PKG
Winner
&
TIM CHAPMAN
TAG #RE1487
7th HAYNIE Boat PKG
Winner

Prizes will be
awarded & pictures
will be in the next
issue of
CURRENTS



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*A Very Special Thanks to our Professional Photographers
Jarett Everett & Mac Elliott!*

We are so grateful to everyone on the various release teams who took pictures and sent them to us!

***For a visual treat, tour memorable images of STAR
release adventures by clicking on the redfish image
above.***

Leaving It Better Than You Found It



San Antonio Bay Partnership's 2023 Shorelines Cleanup

Summary

- 3 events the week of Sept 25: two out of Seadrift, one out of Port O'Connor
- Participation : 26 Boats, 109 people
- Results: individual pieces of trash removed, including:
 - 2050 plastic drink bottles
 - 948 Aluminum cans
 - 781 Plastic bags
 - 446 Drink cups

All easily blown off boats. We must do better!

- Also
 - 302 lures, fishing line, or other fishing gear
 - 461 Shot gun shells
 - 344 Crab trap floats

Participants were treated to lunch and refreshments afterwards. POC event included a great presentation by TPWD Coastal Fisheries San Antonio Bay Ecosystem Leader Chris Steffen on the state of the bay.

What you can do to reduce bay litter:

1. Reduce the amount of blowable trash used on your boat.

2. Securing your trash on the boat so it doesn't blow off. Picking up awful trash when you are near it.

Leave it cleaner!

4. Volunteer for next year's cleanup – we need the help. Contact AllanRBerger@outlook.com to be added to the contact list.

5. Become a supporting member of San Antonio Bay Partnership.

Participating organizations: The Nature Conservancy, International Crane Foundation, San Antonio River Authority, Coastal Bend Bays & Estuary Program, staff and environmental club members from University of Houston, Victoria, and Guadalupe Blanco River Trust, plus individual CCA members, Texas Master Naturalist from Mid-Coast Chapter, and Lynn Greenwood's Lone Star Forever team.

Chamber of Commerce, and Bay Flats Lodge; and event supporters: San Antonio River Authority, Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, Guadalupe Blanco River Trust, Texas Water Development Board, Texas Conservation Alliance and Coastline Trailers. — **Allan Berger Chair, San Antonio Bay Partnership**
713-829-2852 SABAYPARTNERSHIP.ORG



Thanks to event Sponsors: H-E-B, Port O'Connor

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Caught Redhanded!

Reports from Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Wardens

During August, Matagorda Game Wardens filed on multiple boats for recreational fisheries violations that included undersized red snapper and king mackerel, over the daily bag limit of red snapper, ling, and king mackerel.

One boat was found to have red snapper hidden in a compartment. Cases pending.



In September, a Matagorda Game Warden filed on several commercial boats for exceeding the daily bag limit on flounder and possession of fillets. Cases pending.

In September, a Galveston County Game Warden filed on an individual for exceeding the daily bag limit on red drum. Cases Pending.

On 9/18/23, a Matagorda Game Warden was patrolling Sargent for recreational fisheries enforcement. Upon inspection, he found a fisherman in possession of undersized flounder. Cases pending.



Texas Game Wardens, Serving Texans since 1895



Law Enforcement Off the Pavement

marucci

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In partnership with CCA, Marucci's Limited Edition Lifestyle sunglasses feature an engraved CCA logo on the lens and custom design on the temples.

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Lightweight frames provide all-day comfort for everyday activities



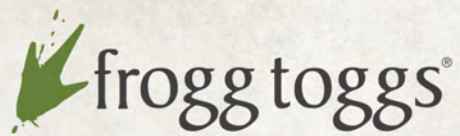
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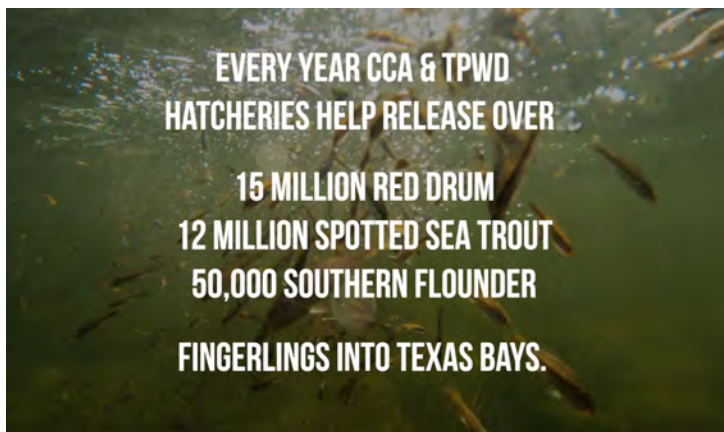


Putting fingerlings back where fish need to be

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 recent video that will provide an idea of the process:

[CLICK HERE](#)





Presenting the NEW CCA Texas license plates!



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
ILLEGAL
FISHING!**

**STEALING YOUR FISH.
SHORTENING YOUR SEASON.**

REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING IN GULF OF MEXICO:

Inside 9 nautical miles – Texas Parks & Wildlife > **800.792.4263**

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



PHOTO: TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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 full-color newsletter to 70,000 members is time consuming and expensive.

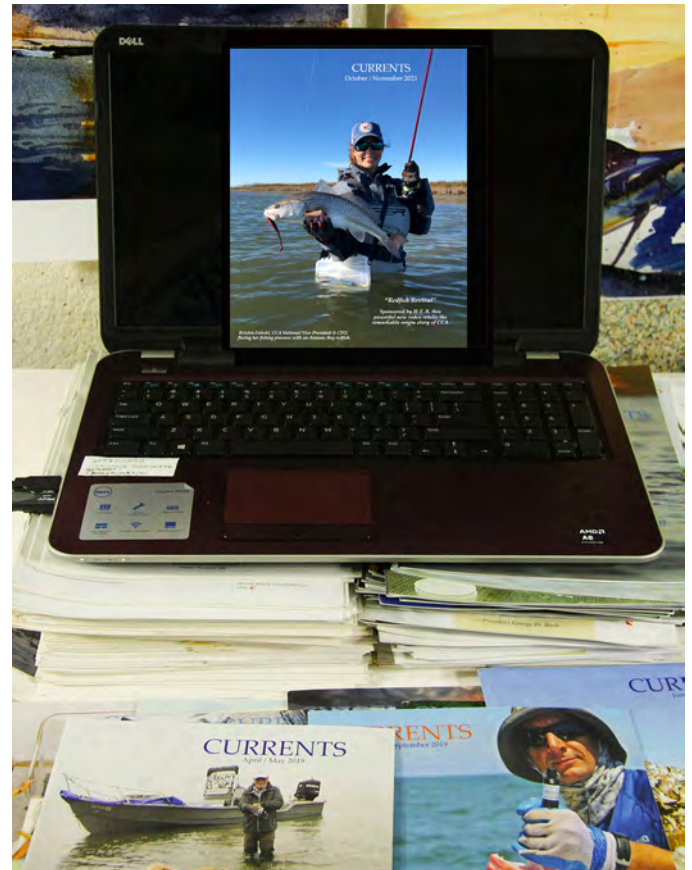
The online CURRENTS newsletter requires no printing nor postage, and delivery is almost instantaneous. An email to members contains a link, with the full newsletter a click away.

Apart from the cost difference, there are many reasons a member can 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, readily accessed later instead of having to search through stacks of magazines, and printed for reference.
- Links can be used to connect to advertisers, as well as cross referencing other articles, writers, photographers and artists.

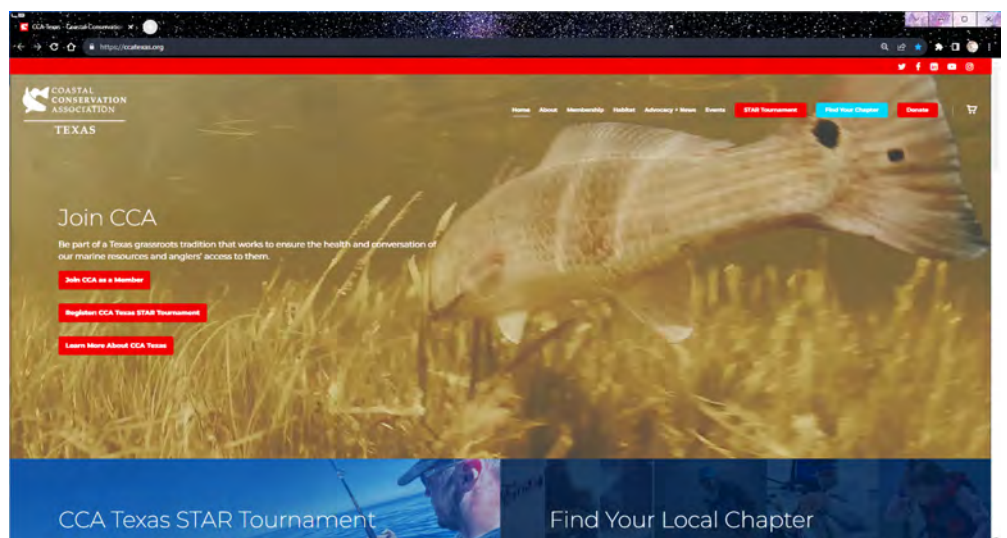
- A link to the CCA Texas website provides comprehensive news and resources. On the website, an array of CCA information is available. View many project-specific videos. Consult the list of CCA-approved guides. Listen to an informative Podcast.

[Click here for CURRENTS Newsletters.](#)



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.



Follow 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 60 local chapters, conservation projects, member photos, and advocacy efforts to keep you informed and engaged. Our following is **GROWING FAST**, so join thousands of CCA Texas members around the state by following us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) now! Each time our members FOLLOW CCA Texas and LIKE our posts, it helps raise awareness for CCA and our conservation efforts. And don't be shy, 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 31,000 Texas anglers by **LIKING** our [CCA Texas Facebook page](#) to be the first to know about important updates, see awesome photos, and watch cool videos! **LIKE us on Facebook TODAY and help us out by sharing our posts!**

CLICK HERE TO THANK OUR GREAT FRIENDS AT SEA CENTER TEXAS FOR RECENTLY RELEASING SEATROUT OUT IN SABINE AND PALACIOS!

CLICK HERE TO SEE HOW CCA TEXAS KEEPS OUR MEMBERS ON FACEBOOK INFORMED ON ISSUES THAT MATTER!

CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT THIS INCREDIBLE PHOTO TAKEN ON A WADE TRIP IN GALVESTON BAY!

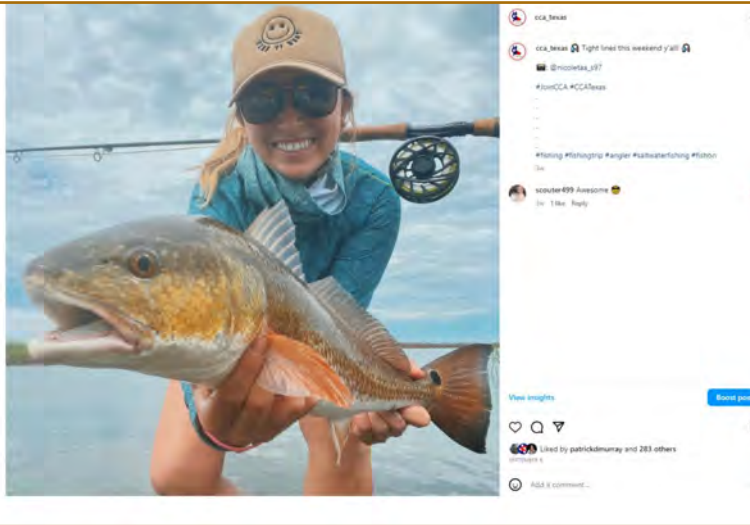


CCA Texas on Instagram

We're nearly at 18.5K Instagram followers and are getting SO CLOSE to our goal of 20,000 followers! Help get us there! 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!](#)

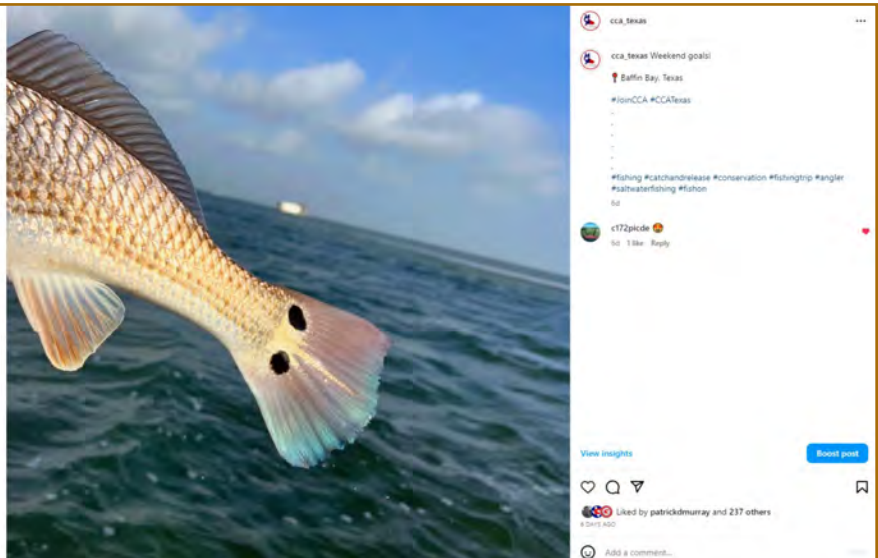
INSTAGRAM

DON'T MISS AWESOME MEMBER-SUBMITTED PHOTOS LIKE THIS! CLICK HERE AND FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM TODAY!



HAVE YOU WATCHED THE REDFISH REVIVAL FILM PRESENTED BY H-E-B? IT'S A MUST WATCH! CLICK HERE TO SEE IT!

CLICK HERE AND "LIKE" THIS GREAT DAY ON BAFFIN BAY!





CCA Texas on TWITTER/X

Get important recreational angling-related news and updates filtered into your feed by following us on Twitter / X! In addition to posting our own updates, we make sure to repost content that we know you want to see! FOLLOW us TODAY!"


TWITTER

CCA Texas @CCA_Texas

The birds, they just know where to go...

Carson Vecera

#JoinCCA #CCATexas



CLICK HERE TO SEE WHY FOLLOWING THE BIRDS IS ALWAYS GREAT ADVICE!


4:15 PM · Sep 13, 2023 · 824 Views

CCA Texas @CCA_Texas

"Gone to grow another day"

Greg Weller

#JoinCCA #CCATexas




CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT THIS GREAT CATCH AND RELEASE!

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Editor / Sam Caldwell

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alvinpearlandcca@yahoo.com

As this is being written, we are just starting to see the first signs of Fall. Hopefully things will cool down soon and we will have to answer the all-important question, "Should I Fish or Hunt Today?". What a great time of year to be an outdoorsman!

We will be hosting our last Anglers' Night Out for the year on Tuesday, October 24. Our speaker is going to be Paul Cason from Sea Center Texas. He will be giving an update on all the exciting things happening at the Sea Center down in Lake Jackson. The meeting will be held at Big Horn BBQ in Pearland and the speaker will start at 7 p.m.

Thanks go out to Capt. Harry Arthur from Harry's Guide Service for coming out to speak at our September Anglers' Night Out! He made an excellent presentation about what has been happening in the Galveston Bay System.

As we wrap up our chapter activities for 2023, we want to say, thank you, again, to all who came out to support CCA and the Alvin Pearland Chapter this year. It's all about the resources we enjoy and want to share with our kids for generations to come!

The best way to stay up to date with our latest chapter E=events is to follow us on [Facebook](#) at or go to our [chapter website](#).

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

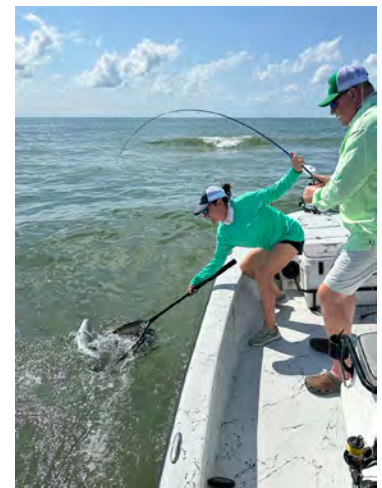
Fall is finally here, and the holidays are quickly approaching! In Rockport-Fulton, our volunteers are excited about our next Anglers' Nights Out on Thursday, October 26, 2023. The Aransas Bay Chapter will host a discussion panel with your local oyster farmers. CCA Texas Advocacy Director Shane Bonnot will moderate the meeting with representatives from local Aransas County Farms including Texas Oyster Ranch, Blackjack Point Oyster Company, and

Big Tree Oyster Company. Galveston County farm Lone Star Oyster Company, and possibly others will also join us. This is a great opportunity to learn about the process of becoming a farmer, the challenges and what the future holds. Come out and hear what they have to say and support your local oyster farmers. **Doors open at 6 p.m. at Fulton Convention Center.** Water and soft drinks will be available. We encourage you to RSVP to John Blaha at jdblaha@ccatexas.org if you plan to attend.

Save the date for our upcoming **Aransas Bay CCA Banquet April 6, 2024 at Fulton Convention Center.** Our banquet is an exciting evening of fundraising for Texas coastal conservation and will sell out QUICK! 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, Secretary at (210) 240-7722. Follow our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for the latest details!

Save the date for **Babes on the Bay on May 17-18, 2024.** Registration opens early January, and we are back for our 25TH ANNIVERSARY year, with another fantastic weekend of fishing, live music, vacation giveaways, vendors, and more! We have Guided, Non-Guided, Artificial, Any Bait, Fly Fishing and Babette Divisions! Ladies, book your guides and reserve your hotels ahead of time! Keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for updates and details. Registration will open after New Years, link is on babesonthebay.com through the Fishing Chaos App! This tournament is a catch and release tournament. We can't wait to host you all once again for a fantastic weekend of fishing and camaraderie. If you are interested in being a 2024 Sponsor, or have any tournament questions, please contact Tournament Director, Jen Thomasson at (361) 205-0182 or Asst. Tournament Director, Janelle Weller at (830) 998-5989. For vendor info, please call Tina Frick at (210) 508-6281.

Thank you to a huge group of amazing sponsors for your continued support of CCA Texas Aransas Bay! Salemi's Ace



Left to right: Babes on the Bay Anglers Lindsay Taylor & Elizabeth Andel with a beautiful Redfish. Local Aransas Bay Angler, Candice Kern on a Ladies Fly Fishing trip in Mexico. Aransas Bay CCA, Texas chapter would like to give a warm welcome to Janelle Weller, she will be joining an incredible team of volunteers as the Assistant Tournament Director for Babes On The Bay.

Hardware, Rockport Tackle Town, Waterloo Rod Company, Yeti, Bay Flats Lodge, Reel Skipper, Guild Mortgage, Orvis Swan Point Landing, L&F Distributing, Rockport Marine, Goin' Coastal Outfitters, Titos Vodka, Poor Man's Country Club, The Reserve at St. Charles Bay, Chris's Marine, Reel Sportswear, Big Tree Realty, Guild Mortgage - Shelley Sammons and Sandy Oaks Kennel & more. We also welcomed some new very generous sponsors in 2023 including Smith Optics, Grundens, Sage Fly Rods, and By the Bay Vacation Rentals...we can't wait to have you back next year!

If you are interested in joining the CCA Texas Aransas Bay Chapter, please contact President, Mike Ferri at (361) 790-4404, Vice President, Bill Burge at (713) 828-3823 or Secretary, Jane Jackson at (210) 240-7722. We have a wonderful crew here in Rockport-Fulton and would love for you to join us!

Austin

Jason Magdalena 512-789-6207

Jason.magdalena@gmail.com

CCA Austin Board Members are working hard to bring the best CCA Banquet for everyone to enjoy with games and auctions for everyone! **Next year's CCA Austin Chapter Banquet will be on May 9, 2024.** Thank you to our sponsors, supporters and volunteers!

Our 2024 Banquet boat is here! Chris's Marine helped Austin build this slick 25' Haynie Magnum in white and ice blue. Loaded out with a KTop, light bar, LED accent lighting, stereo, Power Pole, pushed by a Suzuki 300, and sitting on a tandem axle aluminum trailer. Tickets will be on sale soon!

We would like to thank all the teams that participated in our first Hook on Clays event on September 28! Because of you it was a huge success!

The CCA Austin Chapter pulled off a victory in the CCA Texas Inter Chapter Challenge where 300 plus Board Members from all over the state competed in a Catch and Release Tournament. A lot of fun was had by everybody plus the ability to network with other Chapters with the same mission. Way to go CCA Austin!

If you are interested in learning more about the CCA Austin Chapter please contact our President, Jason Magdalena at jason_magdalena@gmail.com or Cheryl Smith at cherylsccaustin@gmail.com.



CCA Austin Chapter at the 2023 CCA Texas Inter Chapter Challenge

Bastrop County

Cole Williams 512-913-3684

colew65@yahoo.com

Brazoria

Dan Johnson 979-481-3907

djohnson@sparklingclear.com

Brazos Valley

John Ben Strother 979-220-1738

jbsunlimited@yahoo.com

What a hot summer with record breaking heat! Tough fishing but cool weather is just around the corner. As is our first fall meeting on October 10, at the Brazos Center Pavilion, at 6 p.m. Come share your fishing stories and some delicious grilled burgers.

Remember to mark your calendar for next year's banquet: March 1, 2024, at the Brazos Center in Bryan. We will have exciting new auction items, a great dinner, drinks, and lots of fun. We look forward to seeing you. Take a kid or friend fishing.

Brenham

Ryan Saunders 979-251-2389

ryansaunders1@att.net

Brush Country

Brenda Ballard 361-296-4037

brendagballard@hotmail.com

We are excited to host our annual fish fry and silent auction on **Thursday, November 2, 2023. Doors open at 6 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall #2623 at 1600 N. 14th Street in Kingsville, Texas.** Please join us for great food and amazing prizes. For more information, visit the CCA Texas website or contact Brenda Ballard at brushcountrycca@gmail.com. We hope to see you there!

Centex

Wayne Webb 254-405-1300

sheyhunt@aol.com

Central Houston

Todd Buster 713-545-1897

tbuster@busterandcogdellbuilders.com

Colorado Valley

Eugene Ulrich 979-249-7425

zeke.ulrich@gmail.com

Come and Catch It

Jared Brumme 210-825-9088

Jared.brumme@yahoo.com

Corpus Christi

Cody Roesner 916-531-0078

cbroutfitters@yahoo.com

We have a busy October 2023 planned! **The 2023 Babes on Baffin all women's fishing tournament is October 6-7, 2023 at Marker 37 Marina!** We are excited for our third year of a Catch-Photo-Release tournament format utilizing the Fishing Chaos App! We are expecting another record event, and you will not want to miss it! Keep an eye on babesonbaffin.org for updated information.

Our fall **Anglers' Night Out is planned for October 17, 2023.** We will be screening the Redfish Revival Film and have a list of featured speakers discussing CCA, local projects and research relevant to the coastal bend. More information to come

soon via email blast!

The POCO ROJO Kid Fish will take place on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at the CCA/TPWD Marine Development Center. We would once again like to thank **Flint Hills Resources** for stepping up as title sponsor for this event. More information to come soon!

Mark your Calendars the 2024 Corpus Christi Chapter Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2024, at the American Bank Center! 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
jgray_cis@hotmail.com

We hope everyone has had a fun, safe, and successful 2023 fishing season! Many of us landlocked anglers in North Texas are looking forward to the holiday season filled with family fellowship, hunting, fishing and some cooler weather.

The CCA Inter Chapter Challenge (ICC) Fishing Tournament was in June and our chapter placed 11th out of 50 teams. In addition to the fishing, we received an annual CCA update, where CCA Texas leadership briefed the chapters on habitat projects completed to date, CCA's progress with the Texas Legislature, and gave some guidance on what we should expect from CCA Texas going forward.

Thank you to our 2023 Dallas CCA banquet sponsors: Miles & Miles Argentina, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Progressive Powersports, Sawgrass, Angels Envy, Beretta Gallery, Irving

Tool & Mfg. Co, Mariner Sails, Hobie, Lone Star AG Credit, Clay Shooter Supply, Cannon Republic Feed and Fiber, Xtreme Trophy Fishing, Mac Lawson & North Texas Beef, Walker Hairston and Oak Highlands Brewery.

Fort Bend
Thomas Welch 832-628-0130
twelch@aegislifesafety.com

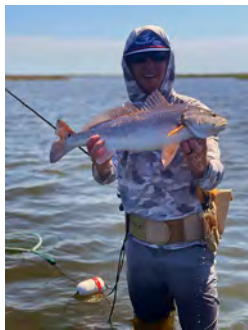
Fort Worth
Beau Redwine 817-291-1890
beauredwine9@gmail.com

Hello from your Fort Worth Chapter Board. Hopefully you had a successful summer hitting the coast and inland rivers and lakes. The weather was hot but hopefully so was the fishing. Exciting updates coming to your local Chapter. **Mark your calendars for November 9 for our annual fall Fish Fry at Vintage Rail.** The event will run from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. and we cover everything from fish to fixings and beverages. Great event to network and mingle. Please come and join us for another fun evening. Be on the lookout for updates regarding our spring big event and crawfish boil. As always, reach out to any of us with pictures that we can add to our Facebook page or with interest in serving on the committee or donations to help support the cause. Let's save the fishes!

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

Golden Triangle
Heath Thompson 409-937-4139
Heath.b.thompson@gmail.com

As Texans, we are no strangers to a scorching summer sun, but this year was different. However, the end is near, and we have been blessed with cool winds brought in



*Top Left: CCA Dallas Board at ICC
Top Right: William Hutchinson with a redfish catch at ICC*

Middle Left: CCA Dallas members Kyle and Jason Marmillion in Costa Rica

MiddleRight: 2023 CCA Dallas Banquet table full of happy attendees

Lower Right: CCA Dallas Raffle Mule



Golden Triangle photo from the 2023 McFaddin Beach Clean Up



Golden Triangle photos from the 2023 McFaddin Beach Clean Up



Golden Triangle photos from the 2023 McFaddin Beach Clean Up

from the north. This has made fishing on the upper coast an absolute blast during the temperature change, and we hope that you and your family has had a chance to get out and enjoy it. Our chapter just wrapped up our second annual beach cleanup that took place on McFaddin Beach in Sabine Pass. Between our local chapters and other industrial leaders, we had over 100 volunteers, picked up over 200 bags of trash and cleaned 1.3 miles of beach! We want to thank everyone who came out and helped for a common cause to help clean our public beach. And the fishing was beyond great after we finished!

Fall is here and winter is not far behind. Right now is a perfect time to get out and enjoy the weather and our resources. There's not a better time of year to be on the water or blind. We wish that everyone stays safe and has fun this winter! Cheers!

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Greater Woodlands
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Guadalupe Valley
Adam Arroyo 361-350-0026
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Hays County
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tim.ccahaysco@gmail.com

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

Howdy from the Heart of the Hills! FORD OF BOERNE was the Title Sponsor for our 2023 fundraiser on September 14, 2023 at Don Strange Ranch. A BIG thank you to all who came out and made this the chapter's most successful banquet to date.

Bull Red Sponsors included: Ford of Boerne, DeWinne Equipment Co., Benson Paint & Body, SLABCO Inc., Mr. Pool Guy, Apex Implants, Walz Legacy LLC, Swinging D Construction, M & K Electric Inc., Gawlik Enterprises LLC, Quality Innovations Inc., T & D Moravits Concrete Contractors, DD Exotics, MAP Water Well Services, Sierra Outdoor Living LLC, Williamson Roofing, Turner Roofing, Kendall County Roofing, Westward, Steubing Insurance Agency, Ron Hoover RV & Marine, Toni Mobley Realty Group, BK Paving LLC, Rogers-O'Brien Construction, The Beckel Group, and Dreiss Insurance



Above: Scott Crofts Band performing at the 2023 Heart of the Hills Banquet. Below: 2023 Heart of the Hills Banquet



Agency.

Trophy Trout Sponsors included: JAJ Construction Services, KCM Cabinets, CSPS Investments Inc., Stehling and Walker, Aire Serve Boerne, Citiscapes, Rock Engineering, B7 Exotics, and Phil Saur.

Jeff Asher & Family enjoyed a special Texas Slam Table with premium gifts that they purchased at our 2022 banquet.

How about the awesome country music from the Scott Crofts Band from Johnson City?! It was fun watching guests singing along while the band played. A special thank you to band members Scott Crofts, John Banfield, Dobie Benson, Gordon Dowdy, and Dondi Presley for donating their time and talents to help our conservation cause.

Steve and the crew from Hungry Horse Restaurant did a GREAT JOB serving up the unique coastal cuisine James created to please our crowd, and our friends from Ben E. Keith made sure we had plenty of cold adult beverages to cool us down. H-E-B's gourmet cookies were a sweet way to finish off an outstanding meal.

Several other companies that contributed significantly to the success of our event - Academy Sports + Outdoors, Apache Rifleworks, TINCUP Whiskey, Rhineland Cutlery, Frogg Toggs, Tito's Handmade Vodka, TOSS IT Dumpsters, Marucci Lifestyle Sunglasses, DeWinne Equipment Co., Shoppa's John Deere, Sierra Outdoor Living, Rambler Sparkling Water, Aqua-Man Water Conditioning, and Busch Light.

A big thank you to CCA staff from Houston and our volunteers who planned this event. Local volunteers: Claude Aaron, Dobie Benson, Josh Criddle, Katie Criddle, Blake McCarter, Randy Plummer, Lisa Parks, Darrell Steubing, Tom Wayland, and Sara Lopez-Taylor.

Thanks to all who participated in the auctions and raffles... WOW...what a great night for CCA in the Heart of the Hills!

Helotes

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Hill Country

Miles Engelke 210-260-8968
mrengelke1957@gmail.com

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

WOW. Thank you to all of those who attended our banquet at Saint Arnold's in September. It was our chapter's best event to date. Great energy from a sold-out crowd.

Special thanks to some of our long-term supporters: WeyerHaeuser, AllPoints Surveying, Builders Post-Tension, Long Lake Ltd., Suncoast Post Tension, and Newmark Homes.

What a great event. Can't wait for next year.

Houston Real Estate
Kirk Laguarda 713-515-3830
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Katy
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Laredo
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Lee County
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Live Oak
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liveoakchaptercca@gmail.com

Lower Colorado
Anthony Kimmey
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anthonykimmey@ymail.com

There was a blowout attendance at the 14th Annual Lower Colorado Chapter Banquet and 15th Auction on Friday, August 4, 2023. The Bay City Civic Center was filled to the brim. The chapter wishes to thank all those who came out to enjoy the evening of fun, food and fantastic support.

Thank you to our sponsors who stepped up with tremendous support for the banquet and the Lower Colorado Chapter's mission. Special thanks to the tireless volunteers who worked both before, during and after the banquet to make it such a huge success. A shout out to platinum sponsors **Gulf Coast Ace Hardware, Bill VonGoten, HEB, Keating Nissan, TOPWATER Real Estate, Airtech Electric and Rusty Hook Ranch.** A BIG thank you to all of our silver and bronze sponsors who helped support this event.

We had a great number of new attendees and that brought extra enthusiasm to the auctions. There was a lot of excitement between bidders. The food by K2 was excellent and the dessert of that special chocolate cake was divine.

Please add August 2, 2024 to your calendar and plan to attend the next Lower Colorado Banquet and auction.

Coming up is the Lower Colorado Chapter's Guides Cup Tournament, for all those lucky winners at the live auction who will be fishing with their favorite captains, sharpen your hooks. This year looks to bring some superb fishing. This is one of Texas CCA favorite tournaments in this part of the gulf coast. It really brings out the competition for who is TOP GUIDE on the water

in the Matagorda Bay system.

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

October 10, 2023 is our last Anglers' Night Out of the year. We will have Joe Moughon with Chickenboy Lures. He will talk about his lures and how to catch fish with his lures for the upcoming flounder run.

Matagorda Bays
Jason Beery 979-578-1106
jwbeery@yahoo.com

Another hot and dry summers greeting from the Matagorda Bays Chapter. In June our chapter held our 39th Annual Chapter Banquet in a SOLD OUT El Campo Civic Center! Our chapter members have set fundraising records for three years in a row now by displaying their generosity and passion for conservation. Because of our devoted boat sponsors, table sponsors, hat and tumbler sponsors, chapter members, and the small-town communities that our chapter serves...we remain one of the most



Sold out 2023 CCA Matagorda Bays Chapter Banquet

2023 Matagorda Bays Chapter Board Members w/ TranSport 2480 XLR8

TranSport founder and owner, TV Tran, speaking about the 2023 TranSport CCA Raffle Boat



successful chapters in the State of Texas. Thank you to this year's boat sponsors: **ILS Capital, Capital Farm Credit, and Topwater Real Estate**. Our 2023 Boat Raffle Prize winners were: TranSport 24XLR8 Boat: Philip Jones, Texas Hunting and Fishing Lifetime License: Jeremy Bubela, CCA Lifetime membership and CZ O/U Shotgun: Ralph Savino, Waterloo Rod and Reel: Rita and Kenneth Poncik, and CCA Art Print: Steven Slocum.

Our final event for 2023 will be the Jim Ehman Memorial Guides Cup being held at Matagorda Harbor. All our teams are ready to compete this year and are looking forward to the great comradery and memories that will be made!

Please visit our [Facebook page](#) and chapter webpage on the CCA Texas website for all chapter updates. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at any time.

Mid Coast

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Port O'Connor
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Prairie
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On August 19 we held our 20th Annual Kid Fishing Tournament at Walters Pond in Cat Spring, and it was stocked with some large catfish. We had a great turnout despite the weather. There were over 60 entries along with friends and family. The event was open to the public and everything was free. Hot dogs, chips and drinks were served by the board members. The tournament had three age categories with four place winners. Winners are listed below.

Ages 1-5: 1st place Cole Collier - 4lb 5oz., 2nd place Hattie Peck - 10oz, 3rd place Catherine Laphen - 8oz., and 4th place Emma Lewis - 6oz. Ages 6-9: 1st place River Kautz - 8lb 14oz., 2nd place Scott Pear - 5lb 8oz., 3rd place Luck Pear - 5lb 7oz., and 4th place Kegan Duncon - 3lb 10oz.



Largest catfish winner River Kautz

Ages 10-14: 1st place Max Cummins - 8lb 12oz., 2nd place Easton Witt - 6lb 3oz., 3rd place Logan Schalla - 6lb 1oz., and 4th place Madison Mitchell - 414oz.

Congratulations to all the winners and everyone that won in their category. Winners received a rod and reel with a CCA backpack. The largest catfish received a CCA rod and reel, backpack, and a tackle box. I would like to thank all the board members for their help. Thanks to Taylor Rieck from CCA for donating the prizes and a special thanks to Don and Patricia for the use of the pond. I hope everyone had a great time and see you next year. Thank you!

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

Rio Grande Valley
Ruben Arcaute 956-453-6966
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Save the date for our next **Anglers' Night out on November 16, 2023**. It starts at 5:30 PM and will be at University Draft House (100 Hwy 83, McAllen, TX 78501). Join us for a night of food, drinks and great speakers talking about all things fishing! Our first speaker is the great Texas guide, Capt. Wayne Davis, who will be talking about all things fishing in the RGV and having a Q&A with guests. We also have CCA Advocacy Director Shane Bonnot discussing things happening with CCA and answers all your questions about the Texas Fisheries and what CCA is doing to help out costal resources.

CCA RGV will also be drawing all the winners for our Annual Gun Bash! Check out the great prizes below and get your Gun Bash tickets before they sell out! This is a FREE EVENT. However, we ask that you please RSVP at ccatexas.org/events/2023-rgv-ano.



Rio Grande Valley Boat raffle tickets will be on sale soon, stay tuned for more details!



For Gun Bash Raffle Ticket Information: CCA RGV President Ruben Arcaute at (956) 453-6966, CCA RGV Vice President Javi Suarez at (956) 330-9788 or CCA Assistant Director Erich Schneider at eschneider@ccatexas.org.

Save the date for our **2024 CCA RGC Banquet on March 1st**. Boat raffle tickets will be on sale soon, stay tuned for more details!

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

Greetings from the Sabine Neches Chapter! It has been a long hot summer and fall fishing has never been so rewarding. In September we teamed up with the Golden Triangle Chapter for the 2nd annual McFaddin Beach Cleanup. Everyone did a fantastic job! Thank you to all the sponsors and volunteers who made it possible.

Save the date for our 26th Annual Banquet on March 7, 2024, at The Bob Bowers Civic Center in Port Arthur, Texas! Don't forget to like our [Facebook Page](#) for updates and announcements! Happy Halloween! Happy Thanksgiving! Tight lines to all!

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San Antonio
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San Bernard
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San Gabriel
David Singleton 512-848-6555
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We hope everyone has started to think about cooler weather and is looking forward to fall fishing and hunting. Although this summer and September have had brutal temperatures,



Happy people at the San Gabriel banquet



Photos from the 2023 CCA San Gabriel Chapter Banquet

there were still record numbers of fishermen and women on the Texas coast. There is a lot of pressure on the coastal habitats, and keeping a conservation mindset has never been more important than it is today.

In August, our chapter organized our annual banquet, and it turned out to be a monumental success, all thanks to the incredible support we received. It was, without a doubt, the best year we've ever had, and we cannot express our gratitude enough to everyone who contributed to making that evening truly exceptional. On behalf of our entire chapter, we extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every individual involved!

As we look ahead to the remainder of the year, we will begin preparing for next year's banquet, connecting with sponsors to see what can be improved upon, meeting with CCA to find out what are the current trends, renewing friendships and making new ones in our chapter, and of course, fishing.

If you would like to know more about the San Gabriel

Chapter of CCA Texas or how to become a sponsor for next year's banquet, reach out to our Chapter President, David Singleton, or our Banquet Chair, Jeff Bible, aggieangler93@gmail.com.

We sincerely hope you, your family, and your friends will enjoy Texas's remarkable natural resources and have a safe and prosperous Fall.

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Texas State University
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Trinity Bay
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Greetings folks, our 2023 banquet was a big success and I just can't say thanks enough to our generous sponsors, attendees and the Trinity Bay Chapter Board. But I will try.

Thanks so much to our longtime supporter and Platinum Sponsor, Sunbelt Valve Serves Inc. John Ritche, we really appreciate not only your sponsorship but also the great group you bring with you to the banquet every year. Also, big shout out to multi-year Title Sponsors, Ohmstede Industrial Services Inc. and Topwater Energy Solutions for making a difference.

Each year the Crab Craps table always draws a crowd and thanks to Dr. Thomas Friedt Family Dentistry for sponsoring those crazy guys again. I hope everyone got one of this year's



2023 Trinity Bay Chapter Banquet

very stylish koozies sponsored again by The Salty Texan. Check them out for some great gear. We brought margaritas back this year thanks to a new sponsor, Freedom Boats USA. Thanks Chet, they were a big hit.

Thanks to all those souls that bought tables and joined us in raising significant dollars for our favorite past time. Thanks to Drew and the rest of CCA staff that make putting this party on seamless and almost stress free.

Lastly, thanks to the twenty men and women that are the Trinity Bay Chapter Board. You guys rock. I look forward to doing this again in 2024. Next up, after we ring in the new year, TBay will be bringing you mudbugs. Stay tuned, we will be in touch.

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West Texas
Craig McDonnold
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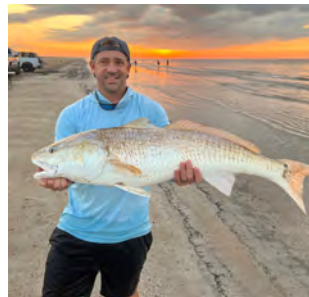


Great Photos 2023

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

Important: Send jpegs and include name of subject, title, your name as well as the names of anyone in the photo. Email jpegs to: sam@samcaldwell.com Give us your best shot, and keep CURRENTS an award-winning newsletter.

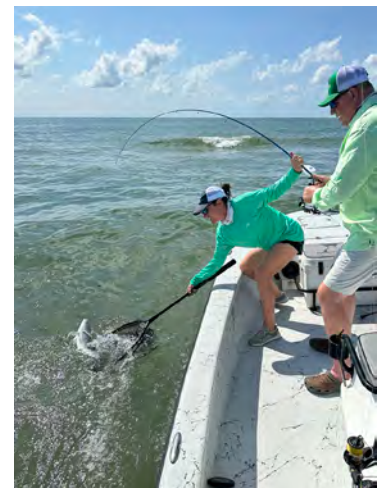
Great Photos this issue are focused on CPR- Catch, Photo, Release.



Golden Triangle photos from the 2023 McFaddin Beach Clean Up



A barracuda near Port Mansfield? The Great Photos Editor liked the pic of Capt. Rene Hinojosa on the ForeCast page so much, he used a different image here.



Left to right: Babes on the Bay Anglers Lindsay Taylor & Elizabeth Anandel with a beautiful Redfish. Local Aransas Bay Angler, Candice Kern on a Ladies Fly Fishing trip in Mexico. Aransas Bay CCA, Texas chapter would like to give a warm welcome to Janelle Weller, she will be joining an incredible team of volunteers as the Assistant Tournament Director for Babes On The Bay.



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Upper Coast

Capt. Ken Terry

Ignite memorable explosions

After 18 years, I still get excited about fall and winter fishing in Trinity Bay. Anglers have a couple of great options. First, look for diving gulls after shrimp are pushed up by gorging speckled trout. Start out upwind and drift within casting distance of the feeding fish. Sand trout and reds often join in the topwater feast. Or, gamefish will be back in the shallow flats where a shoreline wade using topwater lures can ignite some memorable explosions.

Redfish will begin to school in open water. Many will be beyond the maximum length, so remember to CPR the big ones, and send photos to the Currents photo editor. The reds can be spotted feeding on the surface chasing mullet and shad. Seagulls can lead anglers to the area as well. If the fish seem to disappear, work a lower water column as after feeding on the surface fish will go a deeper.

Waders can enjoy redfish action on flats near the marsh. Gold spoons, soft plastics and topwater lures can produce some slot-sized redfish. Depending on availability, live shrimp under a popping cork can be the ticket for some fantastic outings, producing nice stringers for individuals wanting to take advantage of this special time of year.

As always, use good judgment and be courteous to your fellow fishermen because most of the time another feeding frenzy is only a short distance away.

—**Captain Ken Terry** CCA Trinity Bay Board Member since 1996 281-389-7090 / www.fishingtrinitybay.com

Middle Coast

Capt. Brittany Gale

Cast Red October and hang on

It's now cool on the Midcoast and the fish are hungry! Target fish feeding on shrimp from the falling tides. Water temperatures will cool even more with fronts pushing through and the fish are going to be more active. I'll be fishing the back estuaries and flats for schools of redfish and trout.

Wherever, look for slicks and bait and a good color change in the water from dirty to clear. Find flounder feeding close to drains and drop offs. Using topwaters early and late can be effective to catch bigger fish, as well as lures that mimic shrimp.

Down South lures are great. Burner Shad or Blue Moon for clear water or purple colors for dirtier water. For shallow water duty, use a 1/8 jig head. I like Red October on the jetties. Fishing in the schools of bull reds, I suggest you try a big rattle trap, throwing just short of the rocks or with a big spoon. Large speckled trout hang against the rocks in the jetties, so give big topwaters a chance to win a spotted trophy. Remember size and limits, and send the ladies back to reproduce again.

While on the water, practice safety! Anything can happen to anybody at any time, so wear your kill switch and a life jacket. It could save your life as well as others. I hope that everyone has a safe and successful trip on the water. —**Capt. Brittany Gale** 361-212-6581 Gale Force Outdoors

Lower Coast

Capt. Mike McBride

Looking good for Fall/Winter

Prospects in the Lower Laguna Madre are looking fair to perhaps even fabulous. We have recovered comparatively well from the devastating freeze of 2021. Yes, myriads of undersized fish (a great sign!), but we also seem flush with solid 3 to 5 lb. trout. Not so many of the 8's, 9's and 10's of old, but expect a fair sprinkling of 6's and 7's, enough to keep your trip interesting. Never mind those topwater-crushing redfish, who have also returned in force. They have been aggressive, big, plentiful, and just flat out mean in the clear shallows. Expect even more activity as the water cools.

The deep dredging of the East Cut has somewhat altered our environment. Besides some changes in grasses, we are seeing more critters we normally don't, such as gafftop, sand trout, squid, and even the occasional snook and tarpon. Bait hatches have also been prolific. It's probably time to fish with your eyes rather than your traditional "spots." Let's not be afraid to deviate from what we think we know.

When running to your 'spot,' a bird or two sitting on a color change with some bait greyhounding (not happy jumping), STOP! You're there. Nature just showed you way better than any GPS.

I'd rather not get into lure or bait choices. It's usually more about the craftsman than the tool. Of course, getting on them first is key, but with the right profile, depth and presentation, a lot of offerings will work just fine. We catch fish on confidence rather than commercials.

Good luck, always respect the resource and other enthusiasts, and given the right effort, we're looking pretty darn good for a memorable late Fall/Winter. I'm excited...

—**Capt. Mike McBride** 956-746-6041:



Daybreak wade at Pass Cavallo, near Sunday Beach / Caldwell/ TG-5



Capt. McBride says, "We are seeing more critters we normally don't." Here's a recent pic of Lower Coast guide Capt. Rene Hinojosa with an unusual critter: a sphyraena, better known as a barracuda.

Blacktip Grilled & Creamy

If you've had the shock and awe of losing a gold spoon to a blacktip shark at the third bar, you'll enjoy this recipe. Blacktips are excellent fare, firm, white and flaky. Here's a neat way to enjoy a victory meal with friends. — Sam Caldwell

1 to 1 1/2 pounds grilled shark steaks / 1/4 cup diced celery / 1/4 cup diced red onion / 1/4 cup sweet pickle relish / 1/3 cup mayo / 1/3 cup sour cream / salt and pepper to taste.

Enjoy the grilling, then chop fish and combine all ingredients till creamy. Serve with your favorite crackers.

Great Recipe Editor Liz Hewitt





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Two outdoor events you'll enjoy in October

STAMPEDE! October 13, 14, 15
Columbus, TX / Herman Brune's Ranch
 CCA sponsors the Catch A Kid event. Put a youngster in a harness, attached to an offshore reel powered by a strong back and watch the kid scramble for swag from ACADEMY. Fishing contest, Sanctioned BBQ Contest, Bull Riding, long range rifle and Cowboy Shooting, Senior Bull Riding and more. Texas Outdoor Communicators (TOMA) participates in this big outdoor event at the Herman Brune Ranch. TOMA is developing a Youth Communicator's Program with CCA. Sam's website: www.samcaldwell.com



SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES
October 14, Humble Civic Center
 CCA booth will have some Caldwell Scottish art. Watch big guys and gals throwing heavy stuff and kids competing in traditional Celtic competitions. Loud bagpipes, Scotland's legendary musician Ed Miller, Scottish dancing, Highland Cows, sheepherding, Celtic art & gear, great Scot and Celtic food (Fish & Chips, Kemah) Clan Tents, games for kids of all ages, Classic cars. Rain or shine, 9 am to 6pm. Info at <https://www.facebook.com/HoustonCelticFestival/>



Indoor art event / Oct. 21
THREE-ARTIST GALLERY OPENING
October 21, Port O'Connor
Xandra Ann Mapp, Liz Hewitt and Sam Caldwell will offer their unique approaches to coastal art at Xandra's new studio and gallery in Port O'Connor.

Xandra's work has been prized by knowledgeable coastal residents for years. Liz Hewitt says she was raised on and in the waters of Port O'Connor. She loves to create beautiful works of art with many "found" materials

Sam Caldwell's art earned the Texan the honor of Texas State Artist of the Year for 2004. An original work of each artist will be available in a drawing. The proceeds will benefit the Port O'Connor Volunteer Fire Department.

Xandra's Studio and Gallery is located at 612 Adams Ave, 7th Street at FM 185 in Port O'Connor. Sam's website: www.samcaldwell.com

[click here to visit](http://www.samcaldwell.com)

www.samcaldwell.com

Texas State Artist 2004 / DU State Artist 2010-2011

Dallas CCA Conservationist 2015

2016 Perry R. Bass Wall of Fame

Harvey Weil Living Legend 2023

281-455-9390

Hunting Season Story

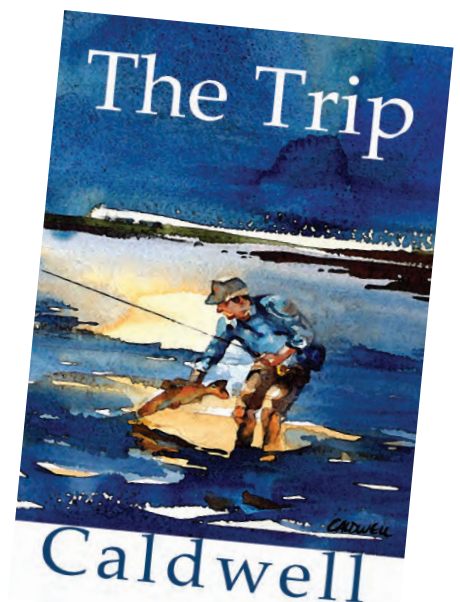
Some hunting trip days are great, others not so great. For a GCCA South Texas hunter, a Jeep on fire leads to a plateful of cheese and jalapenos dripping down from a dining room ceiling. For a visit to that evening, click on the scorched hunter.



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Coastal Conservation Association

6919 Portwest Drive, Suite 100
Houston, TX 77024

October / November 2023



BEST IN TEXAS



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

*Operation
Game Thief*



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: \$40 _____ 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: \$30 _____ 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