

MAPPING SESSION ON THE WATER, 5/22/03

"MAPPING OUTING GUIDELINES"

---These outings are **for the purpose of getting experience in mapping** structures on the water.

---All participants are requested to **bring pencil, paper**, and these instructions.

---**Bring Spoonplugging tools** if you have them (**trolling rods, reels, line, different sizes of Spoonplugs, markers, etc.**). If you do not have them, try to **find a partner that does** so you can gain experience using them. **Proper tools are important for doing any job correctly.**

---It is up to each individual to **arrange for a partner**. If you don't have a partner or will be going alone, let Chase know so people can be matched up.

---We will **meet** at the designated ramp at **8:00 AM to assign a structure to map for each boat**. **Bring your lake map** if you have one. We will try to have extras available for those without.

---To learn a structure, **first look it over thoroughly with the depth sounder**. Does this structure **lead all the way** from the shallows to the deepest water in the area? **How deep does it break? Follow the first major breakline to determine its form.** Are there any **features or fingers** that lead to the deepest water in the area? **Drop a marker on the most prominent feature at 8-10 feet. Do a preliminary drawing of what you find. Then fish it to find out more.** Make **contour trolling passes** with the **first 3 sizes of Spoonplugs** and **straight line trolling passes with larger lures** to cover the structure deeper. Make enough passes so you can better visualize the form of the structure. Are you sure your lures are run at the depth they were designed for and ticking bottom? At first this **will take a number of trolling passes** but experience will shorten the time considerably. Once the structure is better visualized, **information** can be **added** to the drawing. Include **depths, breaklines, breaks, and the deepest water in the area**. **Weeds and harder bottom areas** should be shown **also**. From this map **try to pick out the contact point** for the fish on this structure (the sharpest break to the deepest water in the area). Rivers, large structures, different structure types, etc. may require modification to the above procedures. These procedures may seem like a lot, but remember that we are fishing at the same time, and in the future all we need do on this structure to check if the fish are there is to anchor and cast the contact point. We have talked about the **importance of mapping and interpretation** for a long time. It is the most important **key to fishing success**.

---At 12:00 noon we will meet back at the ramp and **compare notes**.

Chase Klinesteker