

"TAKING PICTURES WHEN FISHING ALONE"



34 inch, 17 pound Flathead Catfish, yardstick and feet give perspective

Buck Perry strongly recommends to take pictures of the fish you catch. He considers the **camera an important tool** to be used in Spoonplugging and that showing pictures of fish you catch to those interested is important in **helping others learn of Spoonplugging.** Applying the knowledge of Spoonplugging is effective at catching fish, both in numbers and size. However, this may be **difficult to prove by taking others out,** especially under poor weather and water conditions. **Keeping a few nice pictures on you** or in a small booklet **can be very effective.**

Numerous times **I end up fishing alone** due to **short notice or lake mapping projects.** The **best way** to get pictures **if you have a nice fish** is to **approach other fishermen** on the water **and ask them** if they will **do a favor for you.** Most are very willing to take your camera and do this, since **they are usually interested in what is being caught and how it was done.** **Share information** with them about depth, speed, lures, etc.. This is often a good opportunity to ask if they have **heard of Buck Perry or Spoonplugging.** **If interest is shown,** I may **hand them a pamphlet and card printed with my E-Mail, Bucks website address, and Bucks' Baits phone # on it.** **This way I have attained many pictures** of myself holding fish that I normally would not have gotten.

But **what if there are no other fishermen around** or you are uncomfortable asking others? Then **pictures** can be **taken with the fish lying on the bottom of the boat.** **A side view is best with the stomach of the fish toward you** (upside-down pictures are hard to get a perspective of). Your **feet,** the **sides of the boat,** and a **yardstick** **give the best perspective of size.** The attached picture is of a 34 inch, 17 pound **flathead catfish** caught in the Grand River on **November 15th of 2003.** This species

tends to roll over on its' stomach and had to be **leaned against the livewell to get a side view. It was released** for others to enjoy. A polaroid as well as a small pocket camera can be used for convenience.

Update 2014: Digital cameras nowadays can make things **much easier** taking pictures. They have **timers that will delay the shutter** so you can have time to pick up the fish and position in front of the camera. I **set the camera squarely on the boat seat** and have learned where I need to be so the picture will get everything in. Some fishermen have obtained camera mounts that they attach to the boat for this. **Try taking more pictures for improved fishing enjoyment and satisfaction!**

Chase Klinesteker



10 pound Blue Catfish, Indiana