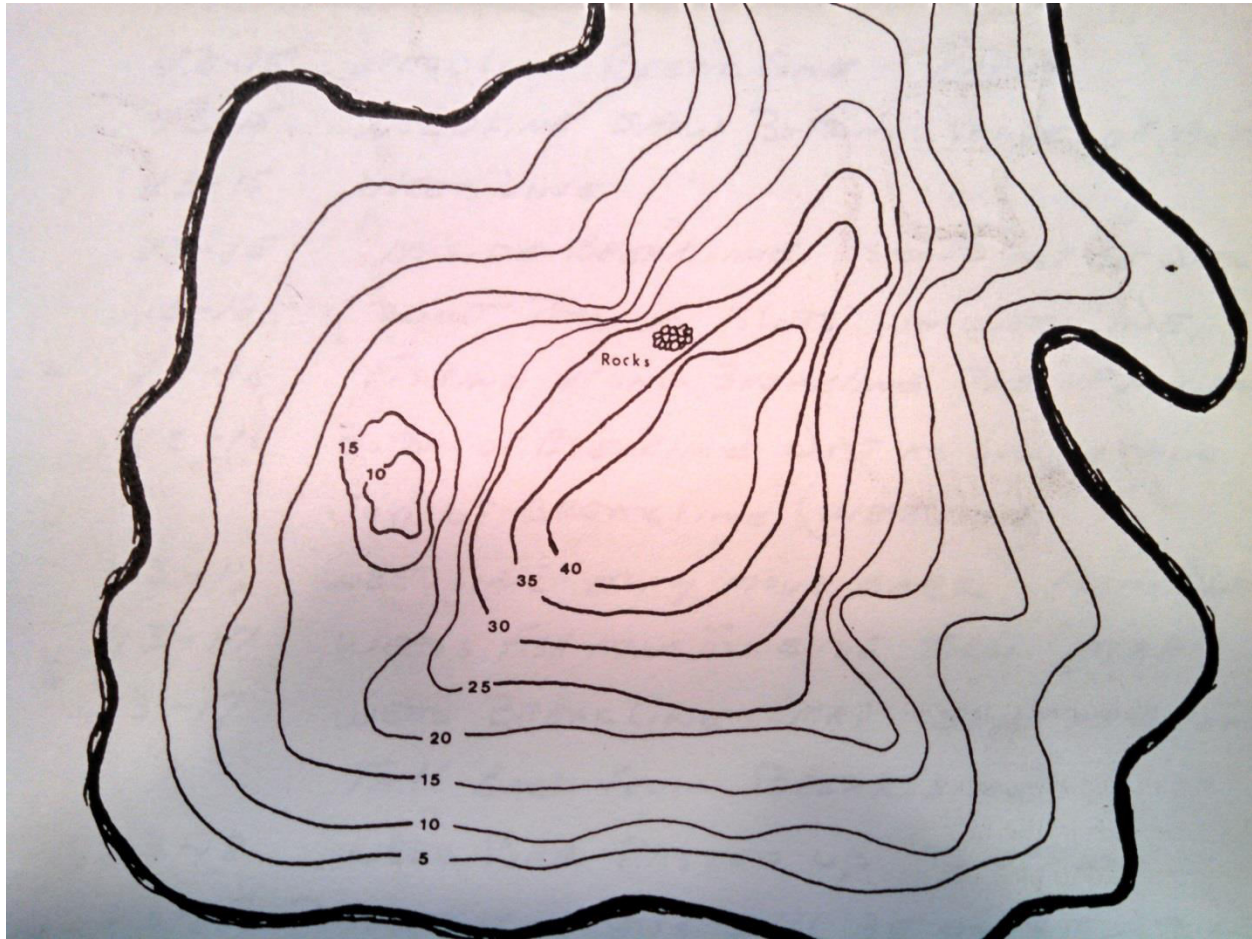


SPOONPLUGGING STUDY GROUP NOVEMBER 17, 2005

“READING CONTOUR MAPS”



Humps, Rock Piles, and Sharper Breaks can Tell us Where to Fish

The program subject was “**Reading Contour Maps**”. In his study material, Buck Perry mentions **the 3 main ingredients in a contour map** as being: 1) **Deep Holes or channels**, 2) **Structures** (bars, humps, etc.), and 3) **Breaklines**. Finding these ingredients in a contour map and **studying them** will help you arrive at the **fishable spots**. This does not put you precisely on fish, but it **eliminates much water** and tells you **where to concentrate your fishing efforts**. Detailed mapping and interpretation then will help you pinpoint the fish. Buck also has in his **Home Study Guide a sequential approach to studying contour maps** (Vol. 7, Part 1, page 49). 1) **Find deep holes and channels**, 2) **Note any underwater islands**, 3) **search for bars and narrow ridges that extend out towards deep holes**, 4) **note any large flats between bars and deep holes**, 5) **Carefully study contour lines on all structure to see where a break occurs (sharper break)**. If the above is done, **all the important details** that the contour map has to offer **will be found**. In the above map, how many structures should be checked? Where are the sharper breaks? Which structure would be best for the biggest fish and why?

Chase Klinesteker