

"MORRISON LAKE FISHING REPORT July 31, 2004"



2 nice bass from Morrison Lake

Fished **Morrison Lake** this morning on one of the **better weather conditions** yet this year. The last 2 days had been **hot and muggy with clouds**, and this morning was the same. Buck Perry says that more days of stable weather is better, but in Michigan we take what we can get! I **started out trolling a 500 Spoonplug** and **caught a small bass** right away. Using the **400, 250, and 200 did not produce any more fish**. I inquired of a bass fisherman who informed me that earlier he had caught 10 small bass in the shallows around docks on topwater baits. After trolling by a known structure and not getting a fish, I **decided to anchor and cast it**. The **breakline** of the bar was **at 10 feet**, which **broke into 16-18 feet**. Anchoring at 9 1\2 feet, I could **fan cast out to 18 feet and get a good walk with a 100 Spoonplug all the way back** to the boat. I caught **2 nice bass on 3 casts**. At that point, the **bass fisherman** I had talked to earlier who was fishing nearby **asked me to help him**, as he had **just buried a treble hook into his thumb!** I agreed and he came over. **He did not have heavy duty wire cutters with him so I got mine out and cut off the hook** so he could pull it through (You should **always have this tool with you** whenever you fish!). He **had heard of Spoonplugging** but was not familiar with it.

After the thumb was taken care of, I went back to casting. **I had a couple more fish** to the boat before the bass fisherman worked down the shoreline shallows very far so **I asked him if he would like to try casting a Spoonplug**. He came over, but **could not anchor (did not carry one)**, so I **tied him downwind** of my boat and **gave him a 100 Spoonplug to try**. At first he had a little **trouble waiting for the lure to settle** to the bottom before he began his retrieve, but got the hang of it after a few casts. **I picked up 2 more fish, but then the movement ended. 6 fish were caught with the smallest about 15 inches and the 2 largest 18 and 18 1\2 inches** (over 3 pounds). The bass fisherman remembered that Netcraft carries Buck Perrys' book "Spoonplugging", and I recommended that he purchase and study it thoroughly. He commented **how nice it was to come across a fisherman who shares his knowledge**, and I told him **that is what Spoonplugging is all about**.

Roger Bouwkamp was **fishing Morrison Lake also** this morning. Just to confirm what Bucks' book states ("all fish become active at the same time"), Roger **got into a school of bass about the same time** that I did on a **different structure**, and caught a number of them up to 3 pounds.

Chase Klinesteker