

Lake Amistad Mid January Fishing Report **By Captain James J. Burkeen**

We have been blessed with some beautiful temperatures the past two weeks here on Lake Amistad. We have even had quite a few days of 5 - 10 mile an hour winds which, has made fishing easier. Of course we have had the usual 20 to 30 mile an hour winds in the mix as well. The unusual warm weather has made for some great fishing. My go to baits have been the Lucky Craft Pointer 100 in ghost brown, ghost minnow, and blue ghost ayu. I am fishing the bait with a steady cadence of short pauses between jerks in 10ft to 20 ft of water. I am fishing near the mouths of creeks and where there is deep water access. Having hydrilla is a very important factor for this pattern to work. You must also keep in mind that the deep water access gives the fish a place to go in case of a cold front, the fish will more than likely go deep this time of year. Mid diving crank baits in Sexy Shad, or any shad color patterns are working great when used in the same type areas. My guests and I are catching fish in the 3lb to 6lb pound range regularly with this pattern. There may be times in the day when a lull arrives if you go 30 minutes to an hour without a bite try backing out to the deep part of the creek in 30 to 60ft of water. The drops will vary depending on what part of the lake you are fishing. Then you will want to try a ¾ oz Football jig in green pumpkin color. I like using Odem's football head jigs with a Vixen Sweet Beaver as a trailer (same color) be ready a lot of the times your hit will come on the fall and it will be fast. Once the bait does land on bottom work it slowly off the bottom you will feel the bait dropping off the rocks and ledges and pulling through patches of grass. I have caught a 7 and a 8 in the last week with this pattern. Don't forget to keep going back to the shallow water every so often during the day as the fish will move in and out of the shallows this time of year under these warmer conditions. The drop shot and slab bite is also working in deeper water. I like using green pumpkin small finesse worms either Zoom, or Robo worms work great for the drop shot and I like chrome or chartreuse when using a 1oz slab. When you are using the dropshot try to have the sinker maintain contact with the bottom the less movement the better let the sinker glide along the bottom. I have found this to be very productive at times. The fish are usually smaller although in the past I have caught some big fish using this method. When using the slab it is best to bounce the slab off the bottom most of the hits will come on the fall after you have bounced in once or twice the flutter of the slab can produce some very exciting bites and some very big fish. Beware I had a 14lb striper almost jerk the rod out of my hand when I wasn't paying close attention.

All the baits I have mentioned can be purchased at Oasis Outback in Uvalde or at our local tackle stores and boat dealerships here on Lake Amistad.

If you are interested in booking a trip give me a call a 830-734-9652 or check out my website at www.amistadbassin.com e-mail jjburkeen@amistadbassin.com

Tight Lines
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