

NORTHWEST FLORIDA

JACKSON COUNTY

Lake Seminole is a 37,500-acre artificial lake located within both Florida and Georgia. This water body was formed by construction of the Jim Woodruff Dam near Chattahoochee. Featuring a wide variety of sport fish species, the lake's reputed as one of the best fishing sites in the country with largemouth bass fishing year-round. Black crappie, catfish and bream can also be found in the lake. Plastic worms, spinnerbaits and top water lures are bass angler favorites. Bream will hit crickets, earthworms and artificial flies. *Three Rivers State Park* near Chattahoochee is a good place to access the lake.

Ocheese Pond is a good spot for large bluegill. Try using grass shrimp or crickets as bait around submerged stumps or snags. Largemouth bass fishing is good using conventional lures and live shiners.

HOLMES COUNTY

Drop a line in *Lake Victor* for largemouth bass, black crappie, channel catfish, bluegill and redear sunfish. Night fishing the lake offers an even better opportunity to catch bass, bream and catfish during the summer months.

BAY COUNTY

Located near Panama City Beach, 5,000-acre *Deer Point Lake* offers good largemouth bass fishing from fall through springtime. Anglers should fish in the early

morning, late evening or at night during the hot summer months.

CALHOUN, FRANKLIN, GULF, JACKSON, & LIBERTY COUNTIES

The *Apalachicola River* runs south from *Lake Seminole*, winding more than 100 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. The upper portion of the river has a variety of fish including striped bass and sunshine bass, which are caught on jigs, spoons and live shad. Flathead catfish in the river bite large shiners and bream fished on the bottom.

Dead Lake, located in Calhoun and Gulf counties near Wewahitchka, is known for its bream fishing. The best fishing occurs in the early morning or late evening, using crickets and earthworms.

ESCAMBIA & SANTA ROSA COUNTIES

The *Escambia River* is home to 85 recorded freshwater fish—more than any other river in Florida. These include bluegill, redear sunfish, largemouth bass, black crappie and more. Good fishing occurs throughout the river, including the lower delta and associated marshes, known for producing catches of largemouth bass on crankbaits and live shrimp.

Record-sized blue catfish and flathead catfish also can be found in the river. They are taken on heavy tackle and live sunfish. Sunshine bass also populate the river in large numbers, especially in

the lower region. Live shrimp, spoons and jigs are favorite baits.

WALTON, WASHINGTON, HOLMES & BAY COUNTIES

The *Choctawhatchee River* passes through these counties stretching from the Alabama border into Florida. The river yields its best fishing when the water level is low. Largemouth bass, spotted bass, crappie, bream and catfish can be caught in this river, along with sunshine bass that are stocked annually.

OKALOOSA COUNTY

Hurricane Lake contains a variety of fish, including largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish (shellcracker) and channel catfish. Located in the Blackwater State Forest, this man-made lake can be more productive for anglers who use live bait and fish on cloudy days.

Karick Lake, another man-made lake, also has good fishing for largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish and channel catfish. The timber throughout the lake provides a good fishing habitat.

LIBERTY COUNTY

Located west of Tallahassee, the *Ochlockonee River* runs through Lake Talquin, exiting from the Jim Woodruff Dam. Several species of catfish are available. Redbreast sunfish and crappie can be fished among the snags and brush piles.

PENSACOLA

The waters around *Pensacola* offer recreational fishermen a wealth of opportunities. Blue marlin, sailfish, wahoo and tuna are plentiful in the offshore waters around *Pensacola*. Red snapper, grouper and other reef fish are found around the numerous artificial reefs in this region. Other great fishing sites such as *Perdido Key*, *Navarre Beach* and *Gulf Breeze* are located within an easy drive of *Pensacola*.

FORT WALTON/DESTIN

Fort Walton Beach and *Destin* have seasonal runs of up to 20 species of saltwater fish, including cobia. The *Choctawhatchee Bay* has sheepshead, white and spotted seatrout, Spanish mackerel, and red drum.

Access to deeper water is within 10 miles of *Destin's* east pass, giving anglers an opportunity to catch open water and deep-sea bottom fish. Blue and white marlin, dolphin, wahoo, red snapper, grouper, amberjack, and triggerfish are some of the species targeted in this deeper water.

PANAMA CITY

Panama City Beach yields plenty of whiting, pompano, Spanish mackerel, black drum, crevalle jack and bluefish. Fishing bay waters will provide redfish, spotted seatrout, sheepshead, flounder and juvenile grouper. Offshore anglers will have their chance at red snapper, gag and red grouper, king mackerel, cobia, black sea bass and sailfish.

ST. JOSEPH BAY

Pompano, whiting, bluefish and Spanish mackerel are all commonly caught from the beach using spoons, jigs and live bait. Calmer bay waters full of seagrass harbor spotted seatrout, redfish, sheepshead and Spanish mackerel. This area is also a great place to grab a mask and snorkel to look for some scallops.

From: Steve Caster
 Subject: Out of the Office
 Date: March 9, 2006 7:55:45 AM EST
 To: Bob Shiuers

Dear Bob,
 Please cover my accounts 'til Monday.
 I'm trying to land a big one in Florida.
 Steve


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Boating & Fishing in National Parks & Refuges


Park	Phone	Camping	Fishing	Boating/ Canoeing	Boat Ramp
Apalachicola National Forest	850-643-2282	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gulf Islands National Seashore	850-934-2600	✓	✓	✓	✓
St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge	850-653-8808		✓	✓	

Boating & Fishing in State Parks

Park	Phone	Camping	Freshwater Fishing	Saltwater Fishing	Boating/ Canoeing	Boat Ramp
Big Lagoon State Park	850-492-1595	✓		✓	✓	
Blackwater River State Park	850-983-5363	✓	✓		✓	✓
Florida Caverns State Park	850-482-9598	✓	✓		✓	✓
Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park	850-833-9144	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grayton Beach State Park	850-231-4210	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Henderson Beach State Park	850-837-7550	✓		✓		
Perdido Key State Park	850-492-1595			✓		
St. Andrews State Park	850-233-5140	✓		✓	✓	✓
St. George Island State Park	850-927-2111	✓		✓	✓	✓
T.H. Stone Memorial/St. Joseph Peninsula State Park	850-227-1327	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Three Rivers State Park	850-482-9006	✓	✓		✓	✓

Freshwater Fishing Piers

County	Water Body	Location	Barrier Free	Rest Rooms	Fish Attractor
Escambia	Lake Stone	Southwest of Century	✓	✓	✓
Gulf	Intracoastal Waterway	White City			
Okaloosa	Hurricane Lake	Six miles west of Blackman	✓	✓	✓
Santa Rosa	Bear Lake	Northeast of Munson	✓	✓	✓



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APALACHICOLA BAY

In the Apalachicola Bay area, anglers who fish near docks, bridges and sea grass flats can find sheepshead, redfish, seatrout and flounder. These fish will eat a variety of live baits, including shrimp and minnows. Redfish and seatrout are prevalent until mid-October during incoming or outgoing tides. Seatrout prefer cooler water, so anglers should try for these fish using top water plugs in the early



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Northwest Florida Marinas

County	Marina	Phone	Water Body	Restaurant	Lodging	Accepts Transients	Fuel	Mechanical Repairs	Store	Fishing Guides	Boat Charters	Overnight Dockage
Bay	Marquardt's Marina	850-648-8900	Gulf of Mexico			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Bay	Bay Point Marina Company	850-235-6911	Grand Lagoon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Bay	Pirate's Cove Marina	850-234-5609	Gulf of Mexico		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bay	Bayside Marina of Panama City	850-234-7650	Lighthouse Bayou			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Bay	Cook Bayou Marina	850-874-8300	East Bay		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bay	Panama City Marina	850-872-7272	St. Andrews Bay			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Bay	Pier 98 Marina	850-874-8723	East Bay	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bay	Pirate's Cove Marina	850-234-3939	Grand Lagoon	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Bay	St. Andrew Marina	850-872-7240	St. Andrews Bay			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Escambia	The Beach Marina	877-650-3474	Little Sabine Bay	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Escambia	Bell Marine Service, Inc.	850-455-7639	Bayou Chico			✓		✓				✓
Escambia	Brown Marine Service, Inc.	850-453-3471	Bayou Chico			✓		✓				✓
Escambia	Day Break Marina	850-434-9022	Bayou Chico				✓	✓				
Escambia	Harbor View Marina	850-453-3435	Bayou Chico				✓	✓				
Escambia	Holiday Harbor Marina	850-492-0555	Intracoastal, Old River	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Escambia	Island Cove Marina	850-455-4552	Bayou Chico			✓		✓		✓		
Escambia	LaFitte Cove Marina	850-934-7112	LaFitte Cove	✓		✓						✓
Escambia	Mac's Marina	850-453-3775	Bayou Grande				✓		✓			
Escambia	Palm Harbor Marina	850-455-4552	Bayou Chico			✓						✓
Escambia	Pensacola Marine Complex	850-202-0170	Bayou Chico			✓		✓			✓	✓
Franklin	Apalachicola River Inn	850-653-8139	Apalachicola River	✓	✓	✓						✓
Franklin	Battery Park Marina	850-653-7274	Apalachicola Bay			✓						✓
Franklin	Bay City Lodge & Restaurant	850-653-9294	Apalachicola River	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Franklin	Deep Water Marina	850-653-8801	Scipio Creek			✓		✓				✓
Franklin	Miller Marine Service	850-653-9521	Apalachicola River			✓	✓		✓			✓
Franklin	Scipio Creek Marina	850-653-8030	Scipio Creek	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Franklin	Carrabelle Marina	850-697-3351	Carrabelle River				✓	✓				
Franklin	C-Quarter's Marine	850-697-8400	Gulf of Mexico			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Franklin	Dockside Marina & Boatworks	850-697-3337	Carrabelle River				✓	✓	✓			✓
Franklin	The Moorings at Carrabelle	850-697-2800	Carrabelle River		✓	✓	✓		✓			✓
Franklin	Sportsman Lodge	850-670-8423	Apalachicola Bay		✓	✓	✓					
Gulf	Port St. Joe Marina, Inc.	850-227-9393	St. Josephs Bay	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Gulf	Presnell's Bayside Marina & RV Resort	850-229-2710	St. Josephs Bay		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Okaloosa	AJ's High & Dry Marina	850-837-3431	Destin Harbor	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Okaloosa	Destin's Fisherman's Co-op	850-654-4999	Gulf of Mexico				✓		✓			
Okaloosa	Destin Marina	850-837-2470	Choctawhatchee Bay				✓		✓	✓		✓
Okaloosa	Harbor Walk Marina	850-650-2400	Destin Harbor	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Okaloosa	Blanchita, Inc.	850-837-0961	Destin Harbor									✓
Okaloosa	Legendary Marina	850-337-8200	Choctawhatchee Bay			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Okaloosa	Marina Cafe Yacht Club	850-837-5341	Destin Harbor	✓		✓					✓	✓
Okaloosa	The Boat Marina	850-244-2722	Okaloosa Bay			✓						✓
Okaloosa	Brooks Bridge Marina & Boat Storage	850-243-5721	Choctawhatchee Bay				✓		✓	✓		✓
Okaloosa	Deckhands Marina	850-243-1598	Choctawhatchee Bay	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Okaloosa	Fort Walton Beach Yacht Basin	850-244-5725	Okaloosa Sound	✓		✓	✓					✓
Okaloosa	Bluewater Bay Marina	850-897-2821	Rocky Bayou	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓
Okaloosa	Bluewater High & Dry	850-897-0334	Rocky Bayou	✓		✓			✓			✓
Santa Rosa	Santa Rosa Yacht & Boat Club	850-934-1005	Intracoastal Waterway			✓	✓	✓				✓
Santa Rosa	Lindsey Landings	850-623-6164	Yellow River		✓		✓	✓				
Walton	Baytowne Marina at Sandestin	850-267-7777	Choctawhatchee Bay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

morning or late evening. Grouper, cobia and king mackerel inhabit the deeper waters off *Apalachicola Bay*. Cobia will often swim inshore around buoys and artificial reefs where anglers can catch them on crabs and live eels.

ST. GEORGE ISLAND

Part of this island is designated as a state park, providing a prime spot to catch whiting, Spanish mackerel, seatrout and redfish along the shore. The east pass of this island is a great place to catch pompano during their seasonal migration.

Anglers at *Alligator Point* can catch trout, redfish and black drum using spoons or shrimp.

ST. MARKS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Many anglers fish in the inshore and offshore waters of this productive refuge. Inshore anglers may find redfish, spotted seatrout, tarpon, sheepshead, crevalle jacks, flounder and bluefish. Launching from the boat ramp at the refuge, offshore anglers can pursue gag grouper, red grouper, cobia and black sea bass.