

Lopez Lake Fishing Guide

Please refer to California Fish and Wildlife for current fishing regulations

Fishing is an all-year activity at Lopez. Crappie, red-ear sunfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass provide the best angling in warmer months. Catfish have exceeded 25 pounds in Lopez Lake and are easily caught at dusk and dawn year round. Knowing how to catch fish in Lopez Lake is essentially a matter of knowing a game fish, its habitats, and its preferences. Of course, you can always do what everyone else is doing and succeed or fail along with them. But fish and game biologists say that 90% of the fish are caught by 10% of the fisherman who really know what they are doing.

Discarded monofilament fishing line and tackle is detrimental to our local wildlife and routinely entangles and kills birds, fish, turtles, frogs, and small mammals. Do your part in helping keep our shoreline clean and our wildlife safe. Please discard fishing line, tackle and litter in the proper trash receptacle.

Largemouth Bass

Bass are most active at dawn and dusk during their feeding period. Use spinner baits, power worms, night crawlers, crawdads and swimbaits. Try fishing near overgrown banks as bass will ambush their prey.



Smallmouth Bass

Revered for its exceptional fighting characteristics, this bass prefers cooler water. Try a trailing rubber lure combined with a spinner for the best results.



Rainbow Trout

In the winter and spring fish the surface with spinning lures. Fish deeper in summer and fall with power bait or salmon eggs. Try trolling with a lead core line and flasher.



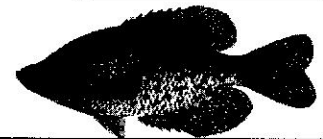
Bluegill and Redear

Bluegill can be caught year-round, but the summer months are the best. Fish along the shore, under docks and around aquatic vegetation with meal worms for the best results.



Crappie

Crappie are active year-round. In the spring and summer they can be caught from the shore in shallow water. Use yellow or white crappie jigs close to the bottom to get bites.

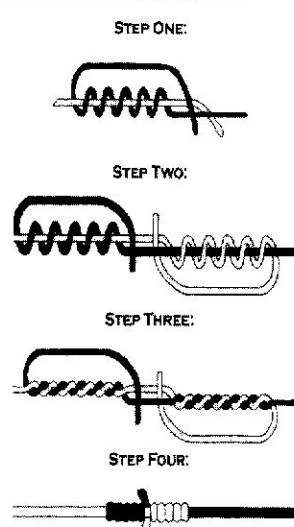
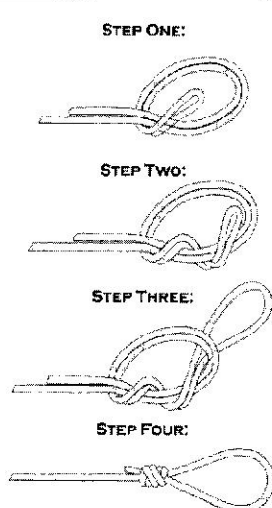
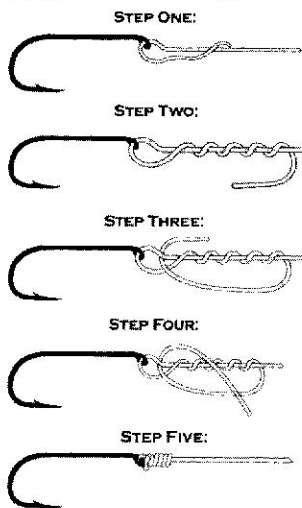


Catfish

Fish early in the morning or late in the evening using mackerel, night crawlers or anchovies. Although caught year-round, the summer months are the most productive. Try a sliding sinker with a 4-6" hook.



FISHERMAN'S KNOT: SURGEON'S LOOP KNOT: BLOOD KNOT:



Pro Tip: Hold the bass in a fully vertical position or hold the bass horizontal with one hand gripping the lower jaw and the other hand supporting the body. Never hold your bass at an angle putting pressure on the lower jaw.

