

TOPOGRAPHY AND UNDER WATER STRUCTURE OF SANTA ANA RIVER LAKES

Here is a complete photographic display of the bottom and structure of Santa Ana River Lakes. As the Lakes were drained, we took a series of photos showing the topography as the water receded. Then too, we created an entirely new fishing area in the South end of the Catfish Lake. We are really excited about this new area because it creates two new fishing areas, one called Trout Channel and the other Catfish Bowl. What is really neat; we have created several peninsulas that provide access to the new fishing areas and allow fishing from both sides of the peninsulas. This opens up a whole new area for overnight camping and fishing.

Below are the photos we have taken along with an explanation of each photo:

THE CATFISH LAKE



This is the channel that comes from the Catfish Lake to the pipes at the Bubble Hole of the Large Trout Lake. Note the new pipe the flows into the Channel from "Trout Channel" of the new fishing area.



Installing the new pipe from “Trout Channel” to the main channel feeding the Bubble Hole in the Trout Lake.



This is "Trout Channel". Note the two peninsulas on each side of the Channel, creating lots of new fishing and camping areas.



Here is one of the peninsulas with fishing on both sides of the wide walkway.



This is the wide Catfish Bowl.



This cut away that feeds the “Catfish Bowl”, along with the main channel, will fill the new fishing area, as the water level reaches full capacity.



Here is the rocky structure below the Catfish Lake Spillway.



Great structure just to the left of the Catfish Lake spillway.



Great rocky structure below the pump station in the South East end of the Catfish Lake, left of the spillway.



Shallow ramp and drop off at Mike's corner. Catfish Lake



Shallow ramp and drop off near the trailers, North West end of the Catfish Lake.



Under water springs bring fresh, clean water into the Catfish Lake.
Fish tend to school near these springs.

CHRIS' POND



This is a photo of the shallow water and rocky structure at the nets in Chris' Pond.



The “Three Pipes” are gone. The rusted out pipes were removed and this giant 8 foot tall pipe was installed at the bottom of Chris’ Pond. This is an important modification; it allows the circulation of water at the bottom of the Lakes, increasing water quality.

TROUT LAKE



As the water started to rise, this is the top of the structure housing the 8 foot pipe between Chris' Pond and the Trout Lake. This structure is located 20 yards to the right (West) of the yellow barrier pipes.



Here are the yellow barrier pipes that mark the location of the new 8 foot pipe between the Trout Lake and Chris's Pond. The big pipe is 20 yards to the right.



Here is the ramp with shallow water and drop offs, just to the right (North) of the Bubble Hole.



There is a second ramp to the right of the main ramp with additional shallows and drop offs.



Structure at the Bubble Hole, Trout Lake. This area has always provided excellent fishing.



Here are several fresh water springs pouring into the Trout Lake at Sandy Beach. Fish love these clean water springs and this is why Sandy Beach has always been one of the most productive fishing areas.



The Trout Lake is completely dry at this point, but notice, the amount of fresh spring water that flows into the underwater areas. One spring is coming from Sandy Beach the other near the Bubble Hole.



Note the Trout Lake is completely drained. But because of the fresh water pouring into the Lake from springs, this water had to be continuously pumped out of the Lake so that the big main pumps, inside the concrete structure to the left, could be removed and repaired. Note the volume of water filling the areas to the right and the channel.



This is the main under water channel from the Catfish Lake to the large Trout Lake. This channel never dries up. There is a constant flow of underwater, clear, fresh water springs, flowing into the Catfish Lake, through a pipe and into the Trout Lake. Fishing on top of these channels, from boats has always delivered great fishing.



Levitz' Corner has always produced great fishing. There is a reason. Note the shelf of shallow water dropping off to a sharp drop in depth of the water.



This same shelf of shallow water goes all the way from Levitz' Corner to the Pump House and El Polo Loco.



Here's another ramp near the Pump House that offers some structure, shallows and drop offs. There is great fishing here too.

