



ERC 2019 Summer Bass Trail

Details and Rules

Date 2/1/2019

Trail Director: Ryan Noe – rnoe@erc-incorporated.com

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Intent – Why a Trail?

- **ERC will continue to host the ERC Annual Tournament.**
- Adding to the Annual Tournament, a trail will provide an additional competitive and fun avenue for our community to gather.
- The Bass Trail has four mission components:
 1. Increase community participation
 2. Maximize the fun factor!
 3. Socialize with our co-workers and community
 4. Provide bragging rights

Trail Style – Overview (1 of 3)

- The Trail will consist of 6 stops/tournaments spread across North Alabama.
- This will be a Hybrid **BUDDY/DRAW** trail in order to fulfill the mission components previously discussed:
 - We want participation across contracts and companies
 - Three pools – BUDDY / Boaters / Non-boaters
- There will be two WILDCARD locations that will be drawn at random based on member suggestions.
- There will be a Classic Tournament to conclude the Trail. The location will be voted on by the previous 5 Trail Stop Winners.

Trail Style – Hybrid Teaming (2 of 3)

- Hybrid Tournament Style Explained:
 - All Trail Stop participants will be fishing in the same tournament.
 - Some fishermen want to fish with a friend/relative throughout the trail – through the BUDDY system.
 - Some want to provide an opportunity for non-boaters to participate in the trail – through the DRAW system.
 - Those who participate in the DRAW system will launch first to balance the perceived advantage of those who participate with a BUDDY throughout the Trail.

Trail Style – Hybrid Teaming (3 of 3)

- Hybrid Tournament Style Explained (continued):
 - If you would like to participate as a team with one partner (of your choice), you can sign up outside of the draw and designate your partner.
 - If you would like to participate as a Boater or Non-boater and be placed in a draw for each stop, you can sign up as a DRAW Boater or DRAW Non-Boater.
 - Non-Boater slots will be limited to the number of Boaters who participate.

Trail Locations & Dates Overview

Trail/Stop	Lake / Ramp	Date
ERC Annual Tournament	Guntersville Lake Honeycomb	March 23 rd
Trail Stop #1	Wheeler Lake Ingall's Harbor	April 6 th
Trail Stop #2	Pickwick Lake McFarland Park	May 25 th
Trail Stop #3	WILDCARD Unknown	June 22 nd
Trail Stop #4	Wilson Lake Turtle Point – Lock 6	July 20 th
Trail Stop #5	WILDCARD Unknown	August 17 th
Trail Classic	WINNER VOTE Unknown	September 21 st

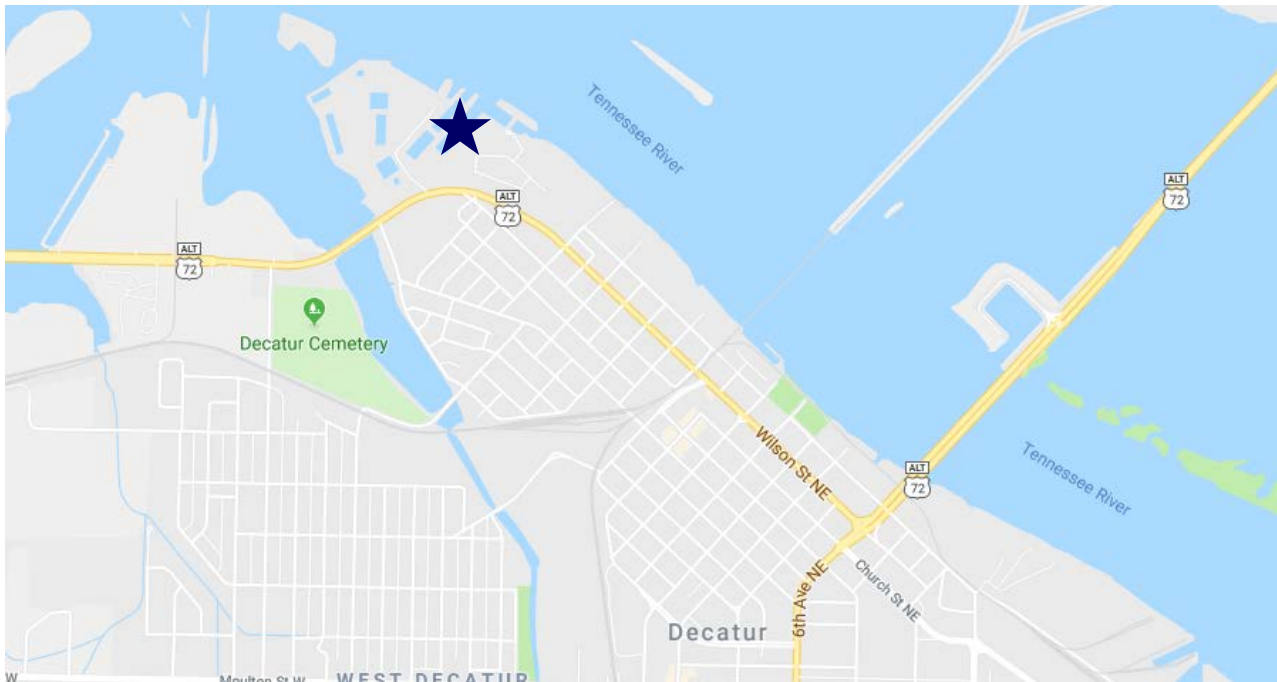
ERC ANNUAL TOURNAMENT (Not Part of Trail)

- **This is a reminder that the Annual Tournament will not be part of the trail.**
- Annual Tournament Details:
 - Location: Gunterville Lake – Honeycomb Ramp
 - Launch: 6:00 am
 - Weigh-in: 1:00 pm
 - Date: March 23, 2019



Trail Stop #1 – Wheeler Lake

- Ramp: Ingalls Harbor, Decatur
- Date: April 6, 2019
- Launch / Weigh-in: 6:00 am – 1:00 pm



Trail Stop #2 – Pickwick Lake

- Ramp: McFarland Park, Florence
- Date: May 25, 2019
- Launch / Weigh-in: 5:30 am – 1:00 pm



Trail Stop #3 – Wildcard – Unknown Location

- Ramp: Randomly Selected
- Date: June 22, 2019
- Launch / Weigh-in: 5:30 am – 1:00 pm

- Trail members will each submit their favorite lake which will then be randomly selected for the Trail Stop lake.

- For example, if 15 members submit Wilson and 15 members submit Smith, there is a 50% chance either lake will be the Trail Stop location.

Trail Stop #4 – Wilson Lake

- Ramp: Lock 6, Killen
- Date: July 20, 2019
- Launch / Weigh-in: 5:30 am – 1:00 pm



Trail Stop #5 – Wildcard – Unknown Location

- Ramp: Randomly Selected
- Date: August 17, 2019
- Launch / Weigh-in: 6:00 am – 1:00 pm

- Trail members will each submit their favorite lake which will then be randomly selected for the Trail Stop lake.

- For example, if 29 members submit Guntersville and 1 member submits Wheeler, there is a 3.33% chance Wheeler will be the Trail Stop location.

Trail Stop #6 – Classic – Unknown Location

- Ramp: Unknown
- Date: September 21, 2019
- Launch / Weigh-in: 6:00 am – 1:00 pm

- The five previous Trail Stop winners will have a conference to select the Classic location.

- The Classic will have double payout for the tournament and standard payout for big fish.

Trail Rules and Lake Regulations Overview (1 of 2)

- No fish will be measured under 12” regardless of lake.

Lake	Smallmouth Bass	Largemouth Bass	Spotted Bass
Guntersville	15” min.	15” min.	12” min.
Wheeler	15” min.	12” min.	12” min.
Wilson	15” min.	12” min.	12” min.
Pickwick	15” min.	15” min.	15” min.
Smith*	15” min.	15” min.	15” min.
Weiss*	12” min.	12” min.	12” min.
Logan Martin*	12” min.	12” min.	12” min.

*Options for Wildcards. As an example only.

Trail Rules and Lake Regulations Overview (2 of 2)

- Dead fish will be weighed with a one pound penalty per fish.
- Late boats will not be weighed with exception to conversation with Trail Director and at the Trail Director's discretion.
- If there are less non-boaters than boaters available to fish, some boaters will be asked to find a partner or fish in the non-boater pool.
- Each boat comprised of one boater and one non-boaters will compete as a team in the tournament with up to 5 total weighable fish.
- Partners will be drawn the week after the previous tournament and contact information will be shared. The intent is:
 - For you to get to know your coworkers.
 - To pre-fish with your next partner.
 - Learn from one another and connect.

Payout Chart – Per Boat for Trail Stops

#	1st	2nd	3rd	Big Bass
5	\$100	-	-	\$50
6	\$80	\$40	-	\$60
7	\$90	\$50	-	\$70
8	\$100	\$60	-	\$80
9	\$110	\$70	-	\$90
10	\$120	\$80	-	\$100
11	\$110	\$70	\$40	\$110
12	\$120	\$75	\$45	\$120
13	\$130	\$80	\$50	\$130
14	\$140	\$85	\$55	\$140
15	\$150	\$90	\$60	\$150
16	\$160	\$95	\$65	\$160
17	\$170	\$100	\$70	\$170
18	\$180	\$105	\$75	\$180
19	\$190	\$115	\$75	\$190
20	\$200	\$120	\$80	\$200
25	\$250	\$150	\$100	\$250
30	\$300	\$180	\$120	\$300
35	\$350	\$210	\$140	\$350

This payout chart is per stop and is based on the number of Trail Members.

Both Tournament and Big Bass Payouts will be paid per boat to be split between the Boater & Non-boater.

Non-boaters, please be courteous and remember fuel and operational costs incurred by the boater.



Payout Chart – Per Boat for Classic Tournament

#	1st	2nd	3rd	Big Bass
5	\$200	-	-	\$50
6	\$160	\$80	-	\$60
7	\$180	\$100	-	\$70
8	\$200	\$120	-	\$80
9	\$220	\$140	-	\$90
10	\$240	\$160	-	\$100
11	\$220	\$140	\$80	\$110
12	\$240	\$150	\$90	\$120
13	\$260	\$160	\$100	\$130
14	\$280	\$170	\$110	\$140
15	\$300	\$180	\$120	\$150
16	\$320	\$190	\$130	\$160
17	\$340	\$200	\$140	\$170
18	\$360	\$210	\$150	\$180
19	\$380	\$230	\$150	\$190
20	\$400	\$240	\$160	\$200
25	\$250	\$150	\$100	\$250
30	\$300	\$180	\$120	\$300
35	\$350	\$210	\$140	\$350

This payout chart is per stop and is based on the number of Trail Members.

Both Tournament and Big Bass Payouts will be paid per boat to be split between the Boater & Non-boater.

Non-boaters, please be courteous and remember fuel and operational costs incurred by the boater.



Sign Up Information

- Trail Memberships are \$100 for the 2019 ERC Bass Trail.
 - This includes entry fees for all Trail Stops & Classic.
 - 100% of the membership is paid out to participants through Tournament or Big Bass winnings.
- To become an ERC Bass Trail Member for 2019 please:
 - **Sign up at www.erc-incorporated.com/bass-trail**
 - **Sign up early!!**
 - **The Non-Boater Slots will be LIMITED!!**
- Pay Trail Membership dues: \$100 in cash, check, or credit card.
 - Make checks payable to ERC, Inc. and include “Bass Trail” on the purpose line.
 - Drop off cash and checks at ERC HQ.
 - Call Ryan – (256) 327-9156 for secure credit card payment.

Obligatory Fine Print (1 of 2)

- Tournament director (Ryan Noe) will make final determinations in all decisions concerning the tournament trail. The director reserves the right to refuse any questionable entry. The director reserves the right to cancel tournaments due to dangerous weather conditions. If cancelled, the tournament will be rescheduled as soon as possible.
- Each boat team may weigh up to five (5) fish meeting the minimum lake length requirement. Only largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass will be weighed. Do not bring more than five (5) fish to the scales. Please bring all fish to the scales in weigh-in bags and make every effort to keep all fish alive. All weighed fish must be released to Wheeler Lake as soon as possible. Dead fish will be weighed; however, a penalty of one pound will be deducted from the total weight for each dead fish brought to the scales. Dead fish entered for Big Fish prize will not incur a penalty. Prize money for tied positions will be combined and divided equally among the tied teams.
- Prize money will be distributed based on the number of boats entered. Door prizes will be distributed through a random draw of tournament participants. Due to *Integrity in Contracting* rules and regulations, Government or Military employed individuals (and their family members) from Federal Government customer organizations will be ineligible for the contractor-funded door prizes.
- No more than two (2) persons allowed in each boat unless approved by the director prior to tournament. Any boats returning late to the check-in point will be disqualified.
- No tube, wade fishing or trolling. Only artificial lures may be used with the exception of pork rind. All fish must be caught live in a conventional sporting manner using only one rod at a time on the designated lake. No locking through any dam or trailering of boats.
- Safe and courteous boating practices must be observed at all times. All contestants must wear a US Coast Guard approved chest type life preserver any time the outboard motor is in operation. All boats must have and use an engine kill switch attached to the drivers' body while in operation. Each boat must meet or exceed all US Coast Guard regulations. Liability insurance is required for all boaters in the amount of \$100,000 and is the boater's responsibility. No drinking of alcoholic beverages allowed during the tournament.
- For more information contact: Ryan Noe @ 256-327-9156 (office) or 256-303-1026 (cell).
- Liability Release: By completing this application, I hereby release all tournament officials, sponsors and all persons involved with the operation of this tournament, from any and all damages, claims, demands, costs or expenses relating to any injury of any person or any property damage which may sustain or cause by any reason of participation or in connection with this tournament.

Obligatory Fine Print (2 of 2)

Covenant Not to Sue & Waiver Subrogation: I further agree never to sue any tournament officials, sponsors or any persons involved with the operation of this tournament, for damages on account of any injury or damage I suffer or cause, whether now known or which may develop in the future in connection with this tournament. I expressly agree to hold all persons involved with the operation of this tournament harmless from any liability whatsoever, including court costs and attorney's fees arising with respect to such actions.

Verification of Boat Owner/Operator liability Insurance: I further state that I have and will maintain liability insurance on the boat used in this tournament.

Photo Release Permission.

I hereby grant Engineering Research and Consulting, Inc (ERC) the absolute right and unrestricted permission to take, copy, exhibit, publish, distribute, and make use of my name, likeness, image, voice, and/or appearance, as such may be embodied in any photos, video recordings, audiotapes, digital images, and the like, taken or made on behalf of ERC for any legal marketing purposes in ERC's sole discretion, including, but not limited to, newsletters, flyers, brochures, advertisements, annual reports, press releases, company website, blog, and other print and digital communications now existing or created in the future.

I agree that ERC has complete ownership of such material and can use such material for any purpose consistent with ERC's practices. I acknowledge that I will not receive any compensation for the use of such material. I represent that I am over the age of eighteen (18) and that I have read the foregoing and fully understand its contents. This release shall be binding upon me, my heirs, legal representatives, and assigns. Nothing in this release changes my status as an employee at will. This consent is made voluntarily, and I understand that I may revoke this consent, should I wish to do so in the future, by submitting my revocation in writing to ERC's Chief Administrative Officer.

