



*The rod their brush, the lure their paint,
the water their canvas,
and the catch their masterpiece.*

The Art



in Artificial

Faux Flashiness Alluring to Fish, Anglers Alike

By Skylar St. Yves, Information and Education Specialist

For tens of thousands of years, people have sought ways to pull fish from the watery depths.

As early as 4,000 years ago, cultures in eastern Asia and the Middle East were the first to use primitive fishing rods and bronze or bone hooks. The Chinese were the first to make “modern” fishing line, spun from silk. American Indians used baskets and makeshift nets to catch migrating fish as they moved through narrow areas such as waterfalls.

Since the dawn of civilization, people have been continuously inventing new tactics and equipment for catching fish.

However, it was not until relatively recently that fishing was viewed as an activity or sport. People fished for food, not for fun. But commercial operations and aquaculture changed all of that around the turn of the 20th century. By then, most cultures no longer relied on hunting and gathering. The convenience of markets for food and machines for work gave way to an era of recreation and a boom in fishing’s popularity.

For centuries, the principles of fishing were simple: Put bait on hook, set hook, bring in fish, and repeat. Why would anyone want to limit the opportunity to catch a fish by using anything other than said fish’s natural food source?

Maybe it was out of curiosity or for the challenge, or maybe someone thought it would work better. But long ago,

someone, somewhere decided to do something different. And the artificial lure was born.

Prior to the founding of Michigan-based Heddon Co. in 1902, artificial lures were produced individually, by singular craftsman. But the rising interest and participation in fishing in the early 1900s led to the creation of commercially produced fishing equipment and tackle. The industry has certainly come a long way since the first wooden lure was produced.

Rapala, Zoom, Yum!, Mepps, Strike King — the list of lures and their manufacturers goes on and on. Walking through the fishing aisles at one of today’s major outdoor retailers can feel more like a maze than a simple stop-n-shop. Each angler has their go-to, can’t-miss lure, and every tackle shop in America provides a forum for those anglers to “discuss” their preferences.

For many anglers, fishing goes beyond a worm and a bobber; it’s artisanal. The rod their brush, the lure their paint, the water their canvas, and the catch their masterpiece.

In this year’s Anglers’ Guide, we explore the eight primary types of artificial lures that angler-artists keep in their tackle boxes. And We’ll discuss each lure’s effectiveness for certain species, particularly in Oklahoma waters at different times of the year.



Jigs

Jigs in Oklahoma are normally referenced in two categories: bass jigs and crappie jigs. However, jigs can be fished a multitude of ways. For the sake of convenience, we'll stick with the technique of "jigging," which involves moving the lure through the water column in an erratic vertical fashion.

A jig is a hook molded into a weighted "head" and often fished with a soft plastic skirt or bait attached to the hook. The weighted head allows the lure to sink to the bottom. The time it takes the lure to reach the bottom is determined by the weight of the head. The heavier the weighted head, the quicker the lure sinks.

Most crappie fishing is associated with vertical jigging, where the angler drops the line and jig into the water from a fixed point, such as a boat or dock. The angler allows the line to reach a desired depth where fish are stacked up, usually around a piece of structure, such as a sunken tree or brush pile. The angler then slowly lifts the rod from a position horizontal with the water to a position where the rod tip is pointed straight in the air and then allows the rod to slowly come back down to the starting position. The angler repeats that movement until a fish is hooked.

Preferred lure set-ups include a 1/16- or 1/8-ounce jig-head and a small curly tail grub or tube. Other popular lures

include marabou and bucktail jigs. Bank anglers, targeting crappie during times when the fish are in shallow areas will often bobber jig, which involves positioning a jig a certain distance below a bobber. The angler then casts to a specific area and retrieves the lure using the same method as the vertical jigger. The only difference being that instead of allowing the lure to fall back down, the bobber jigger retrieves the slack line, caused by the jigging motion, until the lure reaches the shore.

Bass jigging is similar to bobber jigging, except the lure generally remains in contact with the bottom and a bobber is not used, but the motion is similar. An angler casts to a specific spot and allows the jig to sink to the bottom, then retrieves the lure in the same fashion described for bobber jigging. Bass jigging is easiest from a boat or dock because the angler doesn't run as much of a risk for a snag or hang-up as when the jig is working on a flat or declining surface. Bank anglers are forced to essentially fish the jig "uphill."

TECH TIP

Most Oklahoma bass waters range from dingy to downright murky. Stick with jigs that have natural dark colors such as green with hints of purple, red or black. Pair a 1/2-ounce Z-Man The Original Chatterbait in green pumpkin with a 5-inch Zoom Baby Brush Hog in "disco candy" the next time you hit your favorite bass-jigging hole.

Spoons



Spoons are by far the simplest lure in the artificial arsenal. The design is basic: an oblong, concave piece of metal that is coated with a colored or bare metal shine with a treble or singular hook attached. Don't let its simplistic design fool you though, because spoons can catch a wide variety of species.

The three fishing techniques used by spoon anglers are either a simple cast and retrieve method, vertically jigged, or trolled off the back of a watercraft. The reflective shine off a spoon and random movement in the water due to its oblong and concave shape simulates fleeing prey.

Trolling is the preferred method of serious spoon anglers because it allows the lure to cover the most amount of water. Dipsy-divers, split-shot and sinkers are placed several feet above the lure to get the lure to a desired depth while trolling.

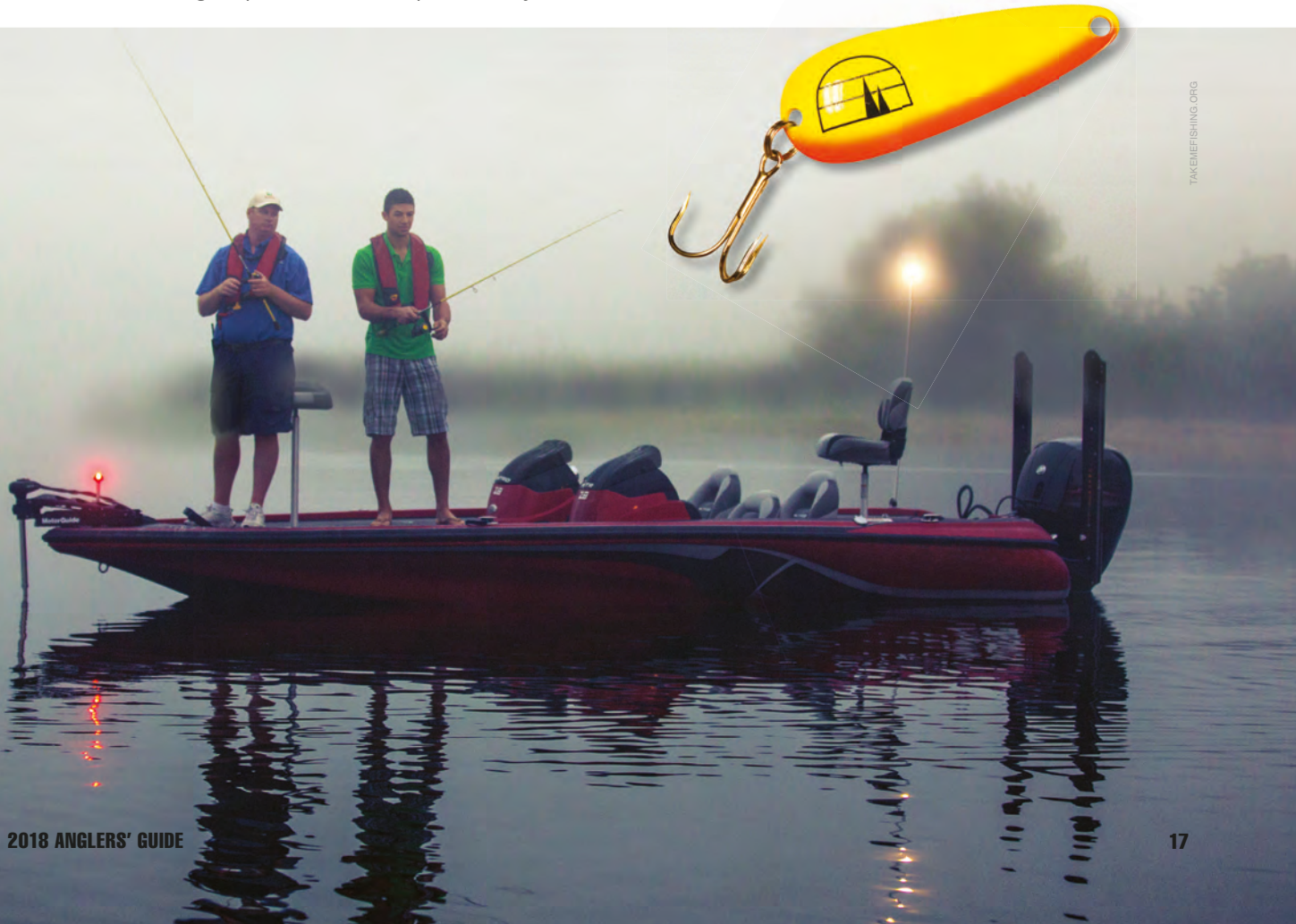
Large white, gold or silver spoons can be incredibly effective for schooling striped bass and striped bass hybrids

when they are feeding on shad. Most anglers think to hit the topwater bite when stripers are boiling, which works great, but there's nothing like the impact bite while rapidly jigging a spoon vertically off the side of a boat. Be prepared for the slam, it's an easy way to go overboard!

Smaller, thinner flutterspoons in pinks, purples and greens are great when trolling for walleye. Walleye are arguably more fun to catch when burning a crankbait off the rocks, but for those slow days when fish are offshore, don't discredit the trolling flutterspoon.

TECH TIP

Chase the birds on Texoma. When you see gulls dive-bombing the water, it's a good indication that big schools of shad are near the surface. Stripers are ambush predators that attack from below, so use your fish finder to determine how deep the shad school goes, then drop an 8-inch Castaic Heavy Metal Spoon in "gizzard shad" to a depth just above where the shad school ends and begin erratically and rapidly jigging in a vertical manner over the side of the boat.





Spinnerbaits

Spinnerbaits mimic baitfish by the use of one or more blades attached to the lure, which creates varying degrees of flash and vibration. The two most commonly recognized and fished versions of the spinnerbait are in-line spinners and overhead arm spinners. Spinnerbaits stimulate a predatory fish's lateral line system, a sensory organ that allows the fish to detect movement and pressure changes in nearby water. This sensory organ is what helps fish sense danger or locate prey.

In-line spinners are well known in Oklahoma for catching trout. The most common in-line spinning lure is the rooster tail. The blade is attached below the eyehole and above the

TECH TIP

Take a youngster to the local neighborhood pond and try tossing a Johnson Original Beetle Spin in black or red. A beetle spin will catch most species of fish in a pond, and it is a good transition lure for those learning to fish. It is more involved than a worm and bobber, but not as complex as flipping a jig. It is a great lure for teaching someone new to fishing the primary principles of casting and retrieving.

lure's body and hook. When fished, the blade revolves around a central axis, allowing the body of the lure and blade to spin simultaneously, creating maximum vibration and flash. In-line spinners also work great for sunfish, crappie and black bass. The majority of in-line spinning lures are small, thus expanding an angler's catch rate on a multitude of species.

Overhead arm spinners are one of the most recognized lures in America. Popularized by tournament bass anglers, there is no shortage of shapes, sizes and colors for these types of spinning lures. Unlike in-line spinners, the body of an overhead arm spinner does not rotate with the blade(s). The hook body of an overhead spinner is molded to the bent overhead arm and blade(s), with a bent angle generally around 90 degrees. The body of the lure usually has a colored jig-like skirt that surrounds the hook. In Oklahoma, overhead arm spinners are generally used to target largemouth and smallmouth bass in reservoirs, but they will catch an array of predatory fish.

Overhead arm spinners are hard to tell apart by color, size or body shape. What makes each lure unique is the style of blade it uses. There are four common blades on the market today: the Colorado blade, willowleaf blade, Indiana blade, and Oklahoma blade. The Colorado blade is a round, spoon-shaped blade that's designed for maximum vibration. The willowleaf blade is long and narrow without a concave side and favors flash over vibration. The Indiana blade is a hybrid of the Colorado and willowleaf blades, favoring a narrow width with a rounded shape. The Oklahoma blade is a shortened, rounded variant of the willowleaf blade. For heavily pressured waters, this blade creates a sonic signature that is unlike the three more-common blade types, and therefore it is more likely to attract attention from predatory fish.

Crankbaits or Plugs

Crankbaits are the ultimate reactionary strike lure. They are often retrieved erratically and stimulate a predatory fish's instinct to strike even if that fish is not necessarily in "feeding" mode.

Crankbaits are hard-bodied lures that have various sized "lips" that allow the lure to dive to a certain depth depending on the retrieve speed, size and angle of the lip. When not in motion, a crankbait will float to the surface.

There are also lipless crankbaits that have weight within the body of the lure to allow it to sink without the need for a lip. A popular lipless crankbait is the Rat-L-Trap.

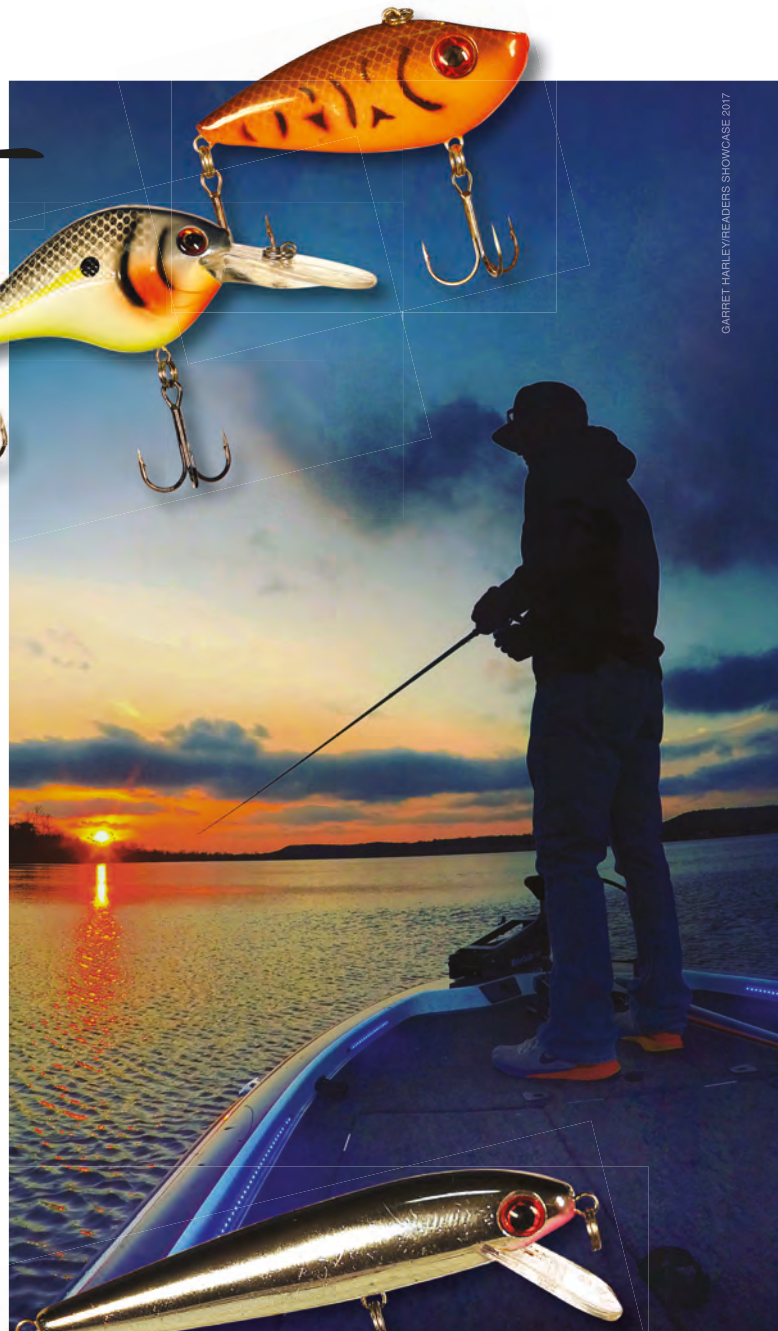
Crankbaits create all types of noise and vibration and are preferred by angler's who like to fish structure. The lure will bounce off logs and rocks, triggering predatory fish to bite.

Lipped crankbaits are also great for anglers looking to troll. Depending on the size of the lip and speed of the watercraft, the crankbait will fish steadily at a certain depth. This method works well during white bass spawning runs.

Crankbaits are an effective way to catch schooling predatory fish in open water. More resilient than soft swimbaits, crankbaits can be trolled for walleye, saugeye, striped bass and large hybrid striped bass. Crankbaits can hold up to the strain of continuous catching while also covering ample amounts of water.

TECH TIP

When the white bass are running on the Neosho River, above Grand Lake, during spring rains, try trolling a medium diving Livingston Lures Deep Impact crankbait in "yellow perch" design up and down both sides of the bank. Make sure you have enough hands on deck for multiple rods because when you find one fish, you're bound to hook up several at the same time.



GARRETT HARLEY/READERS SHOWCASE 2017





Topwaters or Surface Baits

Surface baits, also known as topwater lures, can imitate many natural prey items for predatory fish. Some of the most common types of surface baits are poppers, frogs and buzzbaits. Most surface baits imitate terrestrial prey such as rodents, bugs and frogs, so these types of lures work best in the summer months when these types of prey are most active.

Surface baits can also imitate fleeing or wounded baitfish. Lures such as buzzbaits can be used to get a predator's attention. Buzzbaits look just like spinnerbaits, but are fished on the surface of the water and have curved edges on the spinning blade to help keep the lure on top as well as generate noise.

Members of the sunfish family are the most likely takers of surface baits in Oklahoma waters. Small poppers that imitate grasshoppers and crickets can be excellent when fished near shallow cover for an array of sunfish species during the warm Oklahoma months.

Hollow-bodied frogs skirted across lily pads or surface

vegetation always seem to attract a big largemouth looking for a meal, especially during the dog days of summer. When water-temps get into the 80s, fish become lethargic due to lower oxygen levels. Most predatory fish will seek areas of shade and wait in ambush. It is at this time of year that slowly fished surface baits work best. Predatory fish are unwilling to chase after fast-moving small prey. One large meal that can be obtained easily is a big predatory fish's preference.

In the cooler spring and fall months, when predator fish school up and seek baitfish, a buzzbait can produce some exciting bites. Target areas where shallow cover leads gradually into deeper water. Predators use these transition points to "herd" schools of baitfish back toward the shallows where there is less water for an escape route. Try casts that are parallel with the bank, along these drop-offs, working the deeper water first.

TECH TIP

As water temperatures recede into the low 70s on Lake Lawtonka in the fall, anglers can have a blast chasing surfacing white bass. Using light tackle, throw a 3-inch Heddon Zara Spook Puppy in "black shiner glitter." In shallow bays, cast to the rings on the water created by fish feeding near the surface. This is also a good way to hook a lunker smallmouth or largemouth bass.



Flies

Fly fishing allows anglers to imitate natural prey using artificial flies. Flies can mimic various stages of a certain insect's life, take on the appearance of baitfish or crayfish, or imitate terrestrial prey that have fallen on the water's surface.

Most people associate fly fishing with trout, but the sport has become increasingly popular for warm water species such as bass and panfish.

In Oklahoma's clear-water streams, a wooly bugger, streamer or crayfish fly can be deadly for smallmouth and spotted bass. Popper flies work great for pond largemouth and bluegill.

The three main types of fly fishing are nymphing, drifting on the surface, and stripping below the surface.

Nymph fishing usually uses a float indicator a certain distance above the fly that lets the angler know when a strike

has occurred. This style of fly fishing simulates the nymph stage of a certain insect's life. Nymphs drift with the current between periods when they clasp to underwater structure.

Drift fishing, or dry flying, replicates insects that are laying eggs on the water or terrestrial bugs that have been blown into the water from a limb or grass along the bank. This style of fishing is visually stimulating for anglers as they get to see the fish take the fly.

Stripping a fly imitates fleeing prey. Like crank-baits, stripping streamers is accompanied by short bursts of line retrieval with subtle pauses in between. This is a preferred method for fly anglers targeting big brown trout and river smallmouth.

TECH TIP

On the upper Illinois River in May, cast a size #4 Dirty Water Fly Co. Smoke & Mirrors Jig Fly in super JJ into the far end of a ripple section that runs into a deep pool. Let the fly swing with the current while retrieving quick strips of line. This method is irresistible to a smallmouth in waiting. When the line shoots out or becomes taut, set the hook and hold on!



TODD BENTON/READERS SHOWCASE 2014



Swimbaits

The swimbait is all the rage in today's bass fishing world. When retrieved, this type of lure glides through the water giving the illusion of a naturally swimming fish. It is one of the oldest fishing styles. But the newest models are generally made of soft plastic, with flexible joints and/or rounded tail tips allowing the lure to "swim" and give off a vibration.

Early models were handcrafted of wood. The Creek Chub Fintail Shiner, a wooden swimbait first produced in 1924, is famous for catching George Perry's world-record 22-pound, 4-ounce largemouth bass (caught in 1932 in Georgia), a record that still stands today.

Swimbaits range in price from \$2 for a five-pack of a generic brand all the way up to the \$475 Roman Made Mother Triple Swimbait.

Swimbaits are often fished on the increasingly popular umbrella rigs, such as the Alabama-rig or A-rig. Umbrella set-ups allow anglers to fish multiple swimbaits simultaneously using only one line. Oklahoma's current state-record largemouth bass, weighing 14-pounds, 13.7-ounces, was caught on an Alabama-rig.

Swimbaits are great "search" baits because they can cover a lot of water quickly and predatory fish often can't resist an easy baitfish meal. They are generally a good year-round lure in Oklahoma, but they fish best in spring and fall when predatory fish are gorging before and after the spawn and fattening up for winter. Swimbaits are a must-have for the avid angler's tackle box because they are incredibly versatile and can be fished on any type of water body.

Large soft-plastic swimbaits, 5 inches or larger, are great in Oklahoma for all species of black bass, striped bass and striped bass hybrids.

Small soft-plastic swimbaits, 3 inches or smaller, work well for white bass, sauger, saugeye and walleye. Though most anglers choose hard-plastic or wooden swimbaits for sauger, saugeye and walleye because of those species' sharp teeth.

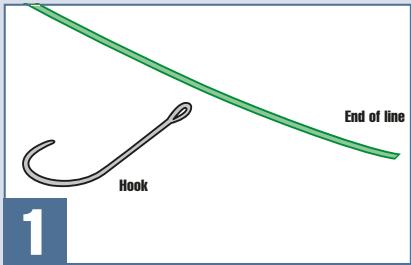
TECH TIP

Try a 4-inch Storm WildEye Rippin' Swim Shad in "bluegill" or "phantom" color in your favorite bass pond during late-March and early April. Cast parallel to the bank, preferably to a place with cover or structure. Keep your rod tip up and continuously twitch the rod tip while slowly retrieving the slack line. This erratic movement will give the impression of a wounded baitfish, a favorite prey of largemouth. Don't be surprised if you find one of the biggest bass in the pond.

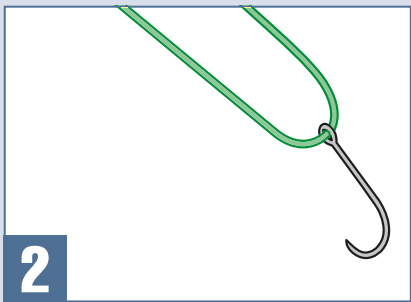
Fishing Knots

Nothing is more important than the knot used to tie on your hook. Without a successful knot, your line will either break or the hook will slip off. One sure way to “lose” the big one is to tie an improper knot. Here is a very simple knot that will ensure success on your next fishing trip.

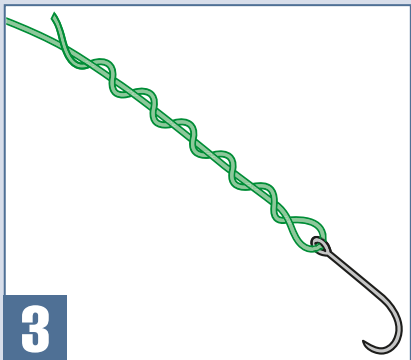
To learn about additional knots, go online to takemefishing.org.



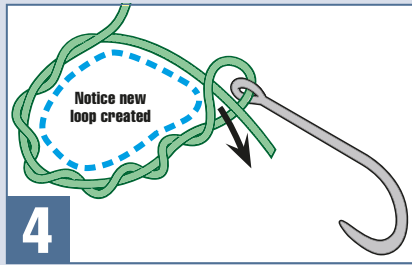
1 Have your hook and the end of your fishing line.



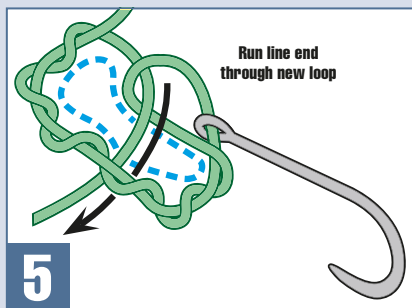
2 Run the end of your line through the eye of the hook.



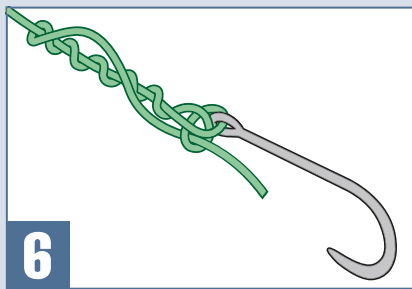
3 Twist the line around five or six times.



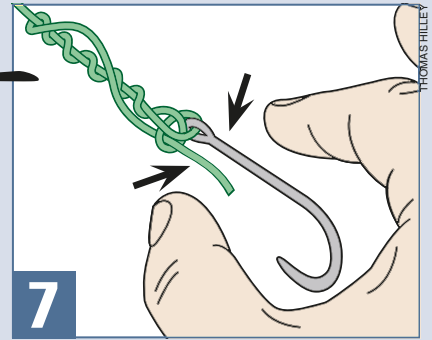
4 Run the end of the line through the loop above the hook's eye, but notice the new loop you are creating as you run the line through the loop.



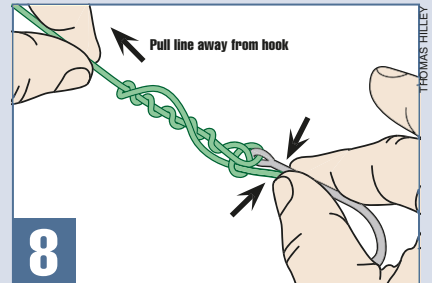
5 Now run the end of the line through the new loop you created in the last step.



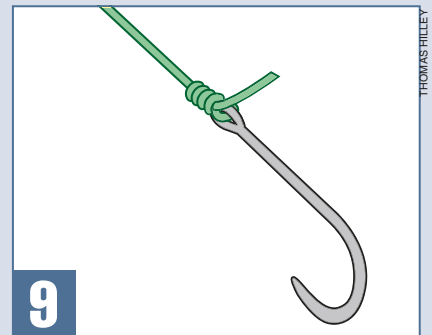
6 Straighten your line for the next step.



7 Hold down the end of the line and the hook together with one hand.



8 With the end of the line and hook in one hand, gently pull the other end of the line away from the hook. Remember you have a hook in your other hand, so be careful not to pull too hard or you could hook yourself.



9 Once your knot is pulled down tight, this is what you should have. If you have excess line hanging from the knot, you can cut it. But don't cut it too close to the knot or it will come undone.

Learn to identify Oklahoma's game fish, how to stay legal while fishing in the Sooner State, and much more by reading the free Oklahoma Fishing regulations guide. It's available online at www.wildlifedepartment.com, in the “OK Fishing and Hunting Guide” mobile app for Apple or Android devices, or in print from license dealers statewide.



Soft Plastic Baits

The most expansive of the artificial lures, with the exception of artificial flies, is the soft plastics group. Ranging from lizards, to grubs, to worms, to pretty much “you name it,” soft plastics can be fished in nearly every size, shape and color. And there is also a multitude of styles used during presentation. They can be fished by themselves or accompany another lure, such as a jig or spinnerbait.

We'll stick with the most common types of soft plastics — worms, creatures, crawfish, soft stickbaits, tubes, grubs and soft jerkbaits — and some favorite ways to fish them.

A tried-and-true method for catching lunker largemouth in Oklahoma is the 10-inch red worm fished in deeper water, either Texas-rigged or Carolina-rigged. Both employ a similar principle: use a weight to get the worm down to the bottom.

The Texas-rigged method calls for a vertical presentation where a bullet weight is put on the line before the hook is tied on. The weight takes the worm straight to the bottom and the soft plastic worm's tail sticks straight up. The angler then jigs the worm, bouncing it along the bottom until a strike ensues.

The Carolina-rigged method is fished the same, but instead of a vertical presentation, the worm is in a horizontal position. Usually an 1/8th to 1/2-ounce egg weight is tied to the end of the line. The hook is then positioned several inches to a foot up the line either with a simple loop through the eyehole or tied to a leader on a three-way swivel. The Carolina-rigged and Texas-rigged red worm both work well for big largemouth holding in deep water.

Creature baits, such as lizards and brush hogs, can also yield monster largemouth when paired with a skirt jig or chatterbait. Pre-spawn bass often hold in transition water, where deep water meets shallow water, near structure and are looking to up their caloric intake from the somber wintering months. A dark-green chatterbait with a watermelon candy baby brush hog as the trailer can be just the ticket to nailing a good one. Cast to the deeper side of the transition zone and jig the lure back toward shallower water. The vibration and flash off the chatterbait paired with the enticingly large profile of the baby brush hog can be a deadly combo toward the end

BRIAN GRATWICK/FLOCKR (CC BY-NC2.0)



of February and early March in Oklahoma bass waters.

Crawfish imitation soft plastics are generally fished in the same manner described for creature baits. However, using a baby craw on a 1/8-ounce jig head in an Oklahoma smallmouth stream can yield big results. Crawfish make up a majority of a river smallmouth's diet. Matching the color of your bait to that of the local fare is the most important factor. Turn over a few rocks in shallow waters near the river's edge and use the craws you see as a basis for your color selection. From there, it's usually just a matter of experimenting with different size and jig head weights until you have the perfect setup.

Soft stickbaits are the ideal soft plastic for hammering your local bass pond for most months of the year. A 5-inch Gary Yamamoto Senko either wacky-rigged or fished weedless and weightless can make you the envy of your fishing compadres.

A 3/0 offset bass hook works ideally for wacky-rigging a soft stickbait. Simply slide the middle of the bait onto the center of the hook point so that it hangs evenly off each side of the hook with the hook point exposed. Cast toward structure or cover, and allow the bait to free-fall. Once it hits bottom, if it makes it that far, pop the rod tip skyward a couple of times and allow the bait to sink again. Repeat this cycle until a fish is hooked or you've retrieved the bait all the way back to yourself.

For a weedless approach to the stickbait, use a 5/0 offset bass hook. Slide the hook point through the center of the top of the bait and work it out the side about a half-inch down the body. Work that piece of the bait up the hook until it covers the eyehole then poke the hook point through one side of the bait's body (this should be about the midpoint of the bait's body) and out the other. Proceed to bury the hook point back into the body to make the bait weedless. Employ the same retrieval strategy as described for the wacky rig.

Tubes are a fantastic soft plastic for Oklahoma stream fishing as well as crappie fishing. When fishing for crappie, use a bright-colored tube with a 1/16-ounce jig head hook, and present the bait in a vertical fashion either off a dock or from a boat over a brush pile. Occasionally pop the rod tip skyward and allow the bait to fall back to the desired depth. Switch up colors until a preferred one is found.

For Oklahoma streams, choose a tube with natural coloring (greens, browns and blacks) and pair with a 1/16-ounce jig head hook. Simply cast and retrieve the bait with a slow to steady retrieve.

In the summer months, this is an excellent way to catch lots of black bass and other sunfish.

Fishing with grubs in Oklahoma is essentially identical to the presentations described in the tube section. Howev-

er, grubs allow you the opportunity to use a wider range of sizes for bigger fish.

Curly tail grubs of 3 to 5 inches paired with a 1/8- to 1/2-ounce jig head hook can catch arguably the widest variety of fish species in all of Oklahoma's water bodies. A straight cast-and-retrieve method is the best technique.

Brightly colored curly tailed grubs of 3 inches paired with a 1/16- to 1/8-ounce jig head hook are great for any style of crappie fishing.

Try a 4-inch Zoom Fat Albert in "root beer flake" paired with an 1/8-ounce jig head hook in any of Oklahoma's clear-water streams, creeks and rivers for bass and panfish alike.

A 5-inch chartreuse curly tail grub on a 1/8- to 1/4-ounce jig head hook is exceptional around rip rap on Oklahoma's reservoirs for white bass, hybrid striped bass, walleye and saugeye, especially in spring.

Soft jerkbaits, such as flukes and Magic Shad, imitate wounded or dying baitfish. Most predatory fish can't help themselves when they see a fluttering baitfish. Soft jerkbaits can be fished weightless to give off more of a dying baitfish feel, or with a bullet weight or piece of split shot to give a quicker, more erratic presentation simulating wounded prey.

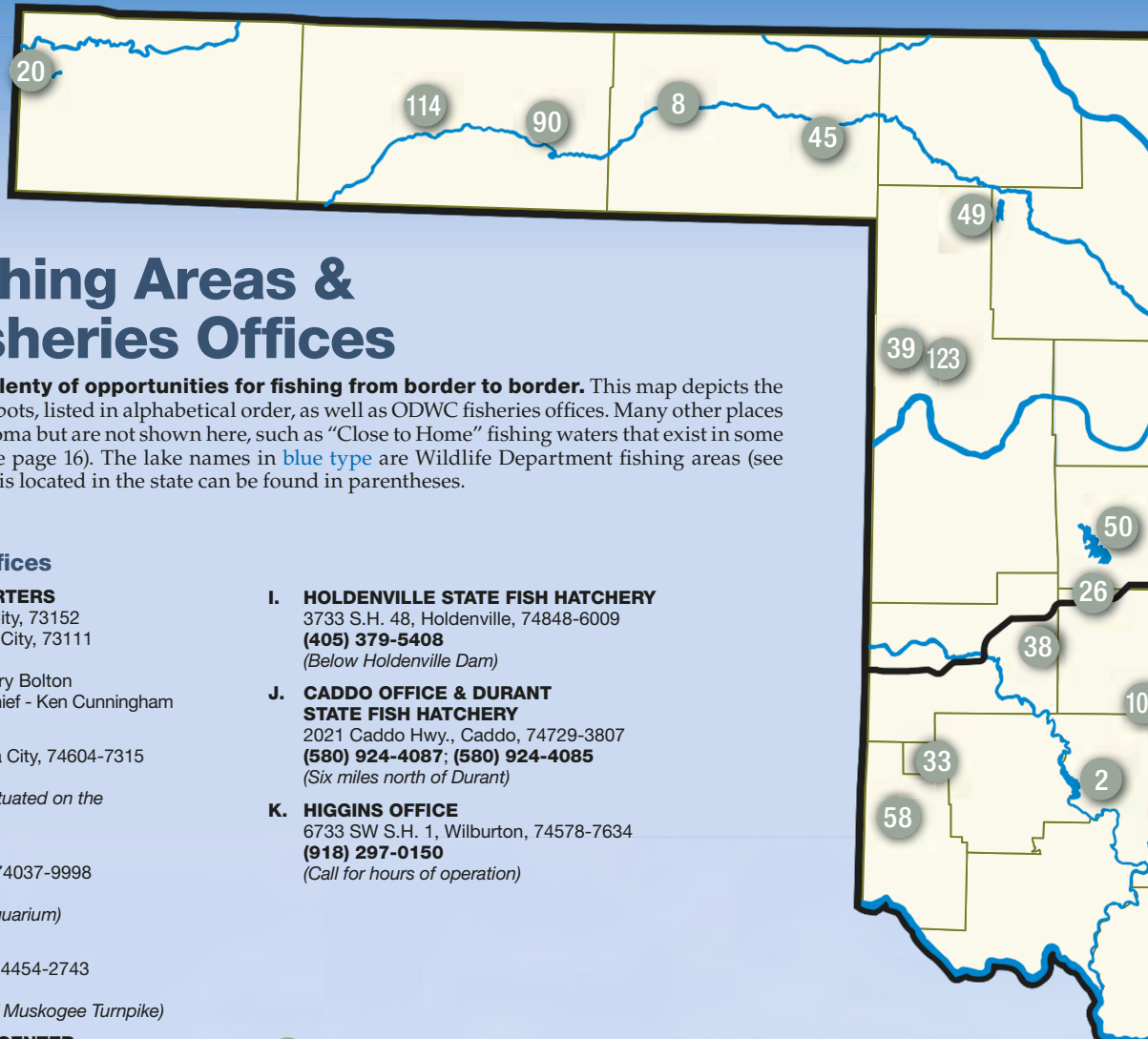
A weightless soft jerkbait fishes best with lighter spinning tackle in shallow water. Cast to a spot and allow the bait to slowly fall to the bottom. Pop the rod tip skyward every so often and allow the bait to flutter back to the bottom. In clearer water, lean toward whites and chartreuses. In murky water, use olives and dark grays. Use the hook and rigging approach described in the weightless and weedless soft stickbait section.

For weighted soft jerkbaits, anglers usually go with a bait-caster and heavier line. The weighted approach allows the bait to reach greater depths and faster retrieves while still keeping the bait in the strike zone. Use a 5/0 offset bass hook and rig it weedless, then determine whether a bullet weight or split shot is best for your approach.

TECH TIP

Never hit the water without a bounty of soft plastics. You never know what the situation may call for, and having a multitude of options is best. The versatility of soft plastic baits will get you out of a bind on a day when the hard power baits are ineffective. Fish can be finicky, and soft plastics offer you a more subtle approach to catching fish when your buddies are just pulling water.





Public Fishing Areas & ODWC Fisheries Offices

The Sooner State offers plenty of opportunities for fishing from border to border. This map depicts the locations of popular fishing spots, listed in alphabetical order, as well as ODWC fisheries offices. Many other places to fish can be found in Oklahoma but are not shown here, such as “Close to Home” fishing waters that exist in some of the state’s urban areas (see page 16). The lake names in **blue type** are Wildlife Department fishing areas (see page 27). The region the area is located in the state can be found in parentheses.

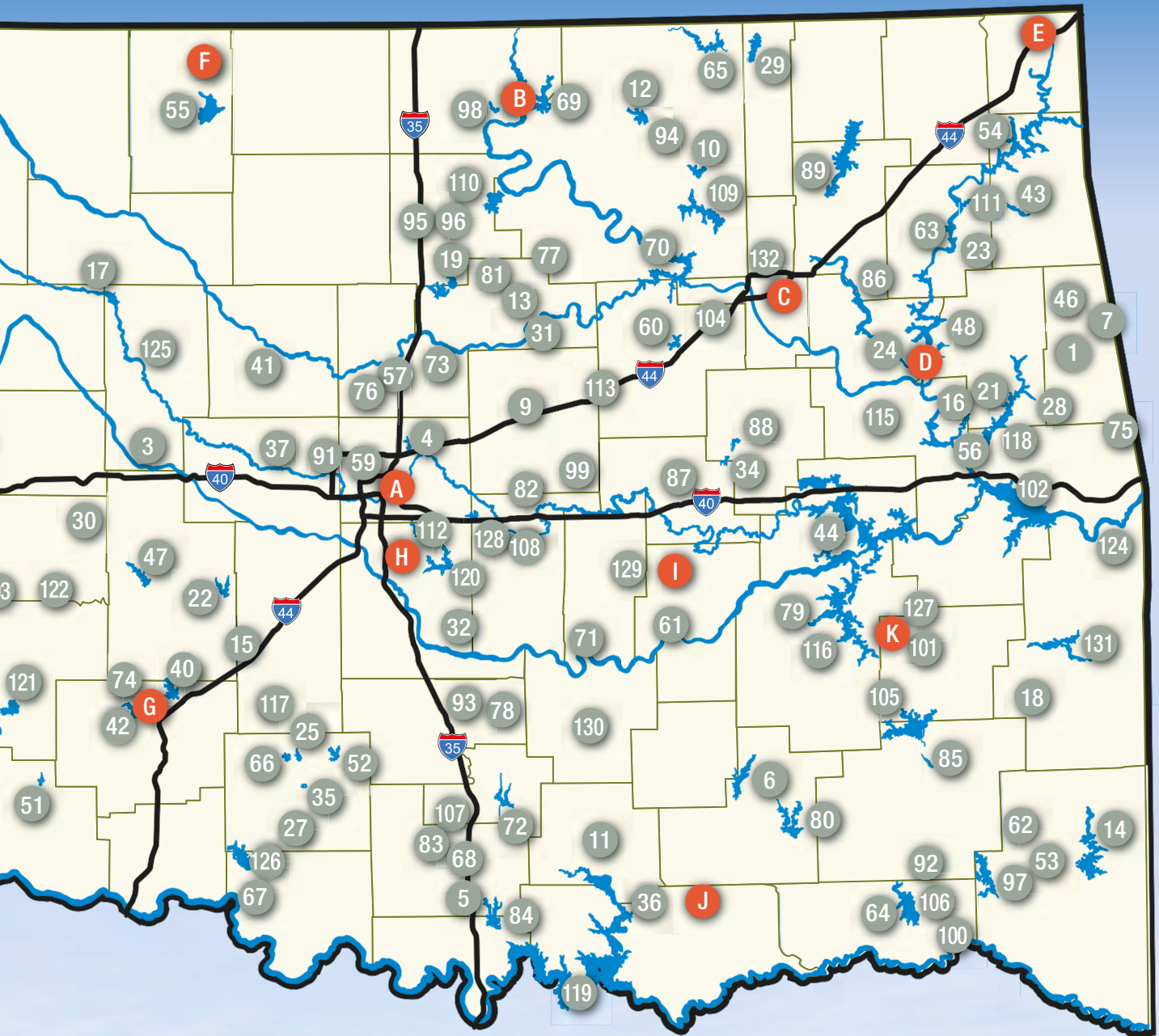
ODWC Fisheries Offices

- A. DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS**
P.O. Box 53465, Oklahoma City, 73152
2145 NE 36th St., Oklahoma City, 73111
(405) 521-3721
Fisheries Division Chief - Barry Bolton
Fisheries Division Assistant Chief - Ken Cunningham
- B. PONCA CITY OFFICE**
417 S. Silverdale Lane, Ponca City, 74604-7315
(580) 762-2248
(Call for hours of operation; situated on the west end of Kaw Dam)
- C. JENKS OFFICE**
300 Aquarium Drive, Jenks, 74037-9998
(918) 299-2334
(Adjacent to the Oklahoma Aquarium)
- D. PORTER OFFICE**
9097 N. 34th St. W., Porter, 74454-2743
(918) 683-1031
(On U.S. 69 1.5 miles north of Muskogee Turnpike)
- E. PADDLEFISH RESEARCH CENTER**
61091 E. 120 Road, Miami, 74354
(918) 542-9422
*(Four miles north of Twin Bridges State Park)
Open March 1 to April 30;
Closed Mondays and Fridays.*
- F. BYRON STATE FISH HATCHERY**
71082 Jefferson Road, Burlington, 73722-4625
(580) 474-2663
(Two miles north, 1 mile west of S.H. 38 & 11)
- G. LAWTON OFFICE & J.A. MANNING STATE FISH HATCHERY**
19333 S.H. 49, Lawton, 73507-6015
(580) 529-2795
(West of I-44 on S.H. 49 in Medicine Park)
- H. OKLAHOMA FISHERY RESEARCH LABORATORY**
500 E. Constellation, Norman, 73072-7900
(405) 325-7288

- I. HOLDENVILLE STATE FISH HATCHERY**
3733 S.H. 48, Holdenville, 74848-6009
(405) 379-5408
(Below Holdenville Dam)
- J. CADDO OFFICE & DURANT STATE FISH HATCHERY**
2021 Caddo Hwy., Caddo, 74729-3807
(580) 924-4087; (580) 924-4085
(Six miles north of Durant)
- K. HIGGINS OFFICE**
6733 SW S.H. 1, Wilburton, 74578-7634
(918) 297-0150
(Call for hours of operation)

Public Fishing Areas

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Adair Recreation Area (NE) | 19. Carl Blackwell (NE) | 37. El Reno (NW) |
| 2. Altus-Lugert (SW) | 20. Carl Etling (NW) | 38. Elk City (SW) |
| 3. American Horse (NW) | 21. Cherokee GMA (NE) | 39. Ellis County WMA (NW) |
| 4. Arcadia (NE) | 22. Chickasha (SW) | 40. Ellsworth (SW) |
| 5. Ardmore City (SW) | 23. Chimney Rock / W.R. Holway (NE) | 41. Elmer (NW) |
| 6. Atoka (Atoka) (SE) | 24. Chouteau (NE) | 42. Elmer Thomas (SW) |
| 7. Baron Fork Creek (NE) | 25. Clear Creek (SW) | 43. Eucha (NE) |
| 8. Beaver River WMA (NW) | 26. Clinton (SW) | 44. Eufaula (SE) |
| 9. Bell Cow (NE) | 27. Comanche (SW) | 45. Evans Chamber (NW) |
| 10. Birch (NE) | 28. Cookson WMA (NE) | 46. Flint Creek (NE) |
| 11. Blue River PF & HA (SE) | 29. Copan (NE) | 47. Fort Cobb (SW) |
| 12. Bluestem (NE) | 30. Crowder (SW) | 48. Fort Gibson (NE) |
| 13. Boomer (NE) | 31. Cushing (NE) | 49. Fort Supply (NW) |
| 14. Broken Bow (SE) | 32. Dahlgren (SE) | 50. Foss (NW) |
| 15. Burtschi (SW) | 33. Doc Hollis (SW) | 51. Frederick (SW) |
| 16. Camp Gruber (CGTC) (NE) | 34. Dripping Springs (NE) | 52. Fuqua (SW) |
| 17. Canton (NW) | 35. Duncan (SW) | 53. Glover River (SE) |
| 18. Carl Albert (SE) | 36. Durant (SE) | 54. Grand (NE) |
| | | 55. Great Salt Plains (NW) |



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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 56. Greenleaf (NE) | 71. Konawa (SE) | 86. Newt Graham (NE) | 102. Robert S. Kerr (SE) | 118. Tenkiller (NE) |
| 57. Guthrie (NW) | 72. Lake of the Arbuckles (SE) | 87. Okemah (NE) | 103. Rocky (SW) | 119. Texoma (SE) |
| 58. Hall (SW) | 73. Langston (NE) | 88. Okmulgee (NE) | 104. Sahoma (NE) | 120. Thunderbird (SE) |
| 59. Hefner (NW) | 74. Lawtonka (SW) | 89. Oologah (NE) | 105. Sardis (SE) | 121. Tom Steed (SW) |
| 60. Heyburn (NE) | 75. Lee's Creek (NE) | 90. Optima (NW) | 106. Schooler (SE) | 122. Vanderwork (SW) |
| 61. Holdenville (SE) | 76. Liberty (NW) | 91. Overholser (NW) | 107. Scott King (SW) | 123. Vincent (NW) |
| 62. Honobia & Three Rivers WMAs (SE) | 77. Lone Chimney (NE) | 92. Ozzie Cobb (SE) | 108. Shawnee Twin 1 & 2 (SE) | 124. W.D. Mayo (SE) |
| 63. Hudson (NE) | 78. Longmire (SE) | 93. Pauls Valley (SE) | 109. Skiatook (NE) | 125. Watonga (NW) |
| 64. Hugo (SE) | 79. McAlester (SE) | 94. Pawhuska (NE) | 110. Sooner (NE) | 126. Waurika (SW) |
| 65. Hulah (NE) | 80. McGee Creek (SE) | 95. Perry (NW) | 111. Spavinaw (NE) | 127. Wayne Wallace (SE) |
| 66. Humphreys (SW) | 81. McMurtry (NE) | 96. Perry CCC (NE) | 112. Stanley Draper (SE) | 128. Wes Watkins (SE) |
| 67. Jap Beaver (SW) | 82. Meeker (NE) | 97. Pine Creek (SE) | 113. Stroud (NE) | 129. Wewoka (SE) |
| 68. Jean Neustadt (SW) | 83. Mountain Lake (SW) | 98. Ponca (NE) | 114. Sunset (NW) | 130. Wintersmith Park (SE) |
| 69. Kaw (NE) | 84. Murray (SE) | 99. Prague (NE) | 115. Taft (NE) | 131. Wister (SE) |
| 70. Keystone (NE) | 85. Nanih Waiya (SE) | 100. Raymond Gary (SE) | 116. Talawanda 1 & 2 (SE) | 132. Yahola (NE) |
| | | 101. Robbers Cave WMA (SE) | 117. Taylor | |