

SUMMER: 75 TO 90+ F Water

Summer is main lake time. Bass migrate back onto the main body of water, where they hang around channel oriented structure: humps, points, drop-offs, ledges. Your best bet in the first part of this phase is a slow tapering point at the mouth of a spawning cove. Top water baits early and worm rigs later are good choices.

In summer, light penetration is a major factor in determining bass depth. Bass will hold at the lower end of the light penetration spectrum, where they can still see adequately but remain concealed from their prey. In extremely hot water, bass avoid overstressing themselves by holding or suspending near a drop-off for long periods, then feeding in short, aggressive bursts. On Keowee a topwater lure can draw strikes until the sun gets above the tree line.