



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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"BIG BASS" FOUND DEAD IN DIXON LAKE

At 11:45 a.m. this morning, the world record large mouth bass, which had been caught and released multiple times over the last several years, was found dead in Dixon Lake.

City of Escondido park staff recorded her final stats at 19 pounds, 29 ½ inches long. It appeared that she was not carrying any eggs. Identification as the record "big bass" was confirmed by both park staff and an angler who had caught and released her several years ago. The fish had been nicknamed "Dottie" because of her distinct markings.

According to Ranger Supervisor Jim Dayberry, "It is common for large mouth bass to go into shock and die after spawning," he added that they can lose up to 25% of their body weight after spawning occurs. The record bass was most recently caught and released in March 2006, at which time she weighed in at 25 lbs. 1 oz.

On Monday, biologists with the California Department of Fish and Game will collect scale samples and DNA samples to calculate the age of the fish.

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