

# Red River Fishing Tips From the Riverbank

- Pick a safe spot on the riverbank where you won't fall in and where you can land a fish without getting tangled up in tree branches.
- A spot about 100' upstream of a large snag might be productive.
- Don't cast your line across the river, it will just get snagged up as the current moves it downstream. Instead put your line out from the bank 5 or 10 feet and downstream from where you are sitting.
- To catch a lot of fish (such as small catfish, goldeye, suckers, sauger, carp, bullhead, and many more), use a small hook baited with worms fished right on the bottom. If you use a bobber, the hook should be about 3 or 4' below the bobber held in place with a 1 ounce, or smaller, weight.
- To catch a big catfish, use a barbless circle hook baited with a fresh chunk of goldeye or sucker about the size of a chunk of pickled herring. Weight it down with a 3-ounce sinker about 20" above the hook to hold your bait right on the bottom.
- Catfish find food by following the smell in the current, so you should refresh the bait every 20 minutes or so.
- Cast the line downstream and out from the bank 10 or 15 feet. You don't need to cast very far. The further you cast the greater your chances of getting snagged up.
- Hold the rod or put it in a rod holder with the clicker on. Let the circle hook do its job when the fish bites—there's no need to set the hook. Reel your whopper in, take a photo, and release it.

# Red River Fishing Tips From a Boat

- Fishing from a boat is much the same as from the bank, but with many more hotspots available.
- Anchor the boat about 100' upstream of a large snag, or a deep hole.
- To catch big catfish, use a fairly heavy rod and reel with 30# test line. Bait a barbless circle hook with goldeye or sucker. Whole frogs works well in the fall. Use 3 ounces of weight about 2' above the hook and fish right on the bottom.
- Don't try cast across the river, just cast downstream a few yards behind the boat. Or, just let your line out behind the boat and let the current carry it downstream a little.
- Put the rod in a rod holder and wait for the pole to bend. Small fish will peck away at your bait, but be patient and wait for the big one to bend the rod over.



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