



# Angler Education Program Annual Tackle Loaner Report FY 2021



The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Tackle Loaner Program under the direction of the Angler Education Program aims to recruit or reactivate anglers to the sport by providing access to fishing equipment to park visitors free of charge. The primary audience is families who have never fished or who already enjoy fishing yet might not have access to equipment.

The COVID pandemic continued to have a significant impact on the Tackle Loaner Program in 2021. All sites reduced or suspended the loaning of equipment during 2021. **The decision to loan out equipment has and will continue to rest upon each site and their management and not the Tackle Loaner Program Coordinator.**

The overall statewide **FY 2021** (Sep 1<sup>st</sup> – Aug 31<sup>st</sup>) reported **1,506** users, **down from FY 2020**. The Tackle Loaner Program provided fishing equipment free of charge to **45 active Tackle Loaner sites** throughout the state. Partners include **38 State Parks** and **7 non-TPWD sites, including 2 libraries** that have access to fishable public waters, with some nearby TPWD stocked Neighborhood Fishing Ponds.



FY 2021 provided positive developments as well. **5 sites were activated or reactivated in FY 2021.** The program continued to provide resources to support fishing line recycling at Tackle Loaner sites. As an active Tackle Loaner site, you can request a fishing line recycling collection tube or cardboard stand. Sites can also request a prepaid, preaddressed box to send their collected fishing line for recycling.

**15 fishing line collection tubes and preaddressed, prepaid fishing line recycling collection boxes were sent to 10 sites in 2021.** The fishing collection tubes were assembled by Texas Parks and Wildlife Angler Ed volunteers pictured to the left.

FY 2021 breakdown by gender & age \*23% reported as 1<sup>st</sup> time anglers

Adult Males	Adult Females	Youth Males	Youth Females	Total Borrowers	*1 <sup>st</sup> Time Anglers	Fish Caught
516	330	407	253	1,506	350	235

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