

Written by Mike Baxter | Let's Go Fishin'
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The 4-3 vote overrode another proposal to allow private boats into the lake. That proposal had an option that gave private owners the chance to quarantine their boats to be sure they were rid of invasive species.

The main culprit here is the ever-spreading zebra mussel. This is a miniature mussel the size of a grain of sand that reproduces more than a million offspring annually. The zebra mussel filter feeds over 1 liter of water per day and would eliminate any algae in the water and would deplete a basic food source for native species.

Image

gone fishin': Mike Baxter (from right), son Fisher and friend Adam Wormhoudt show off a bass the trio caught and released at Loch Lomond Reservoir.

Loch Lomond is owned by the city and this decision by the council is set in place at this time. The lake does have a fleet of 40 boats that can be rented. Rowboats are only \$35 per day and people are allowed to bring their own electric motor, to use after an inspection. Boats with electric motors are available at an affordable rate of \$65 per day. The lake also has paddle boats for rent. The shoreline and surrounding area has trails, benches, barbeques and beautiful scenery.

"We have seen a few large trout caught, bass fishing is good and the wild lilac is in full bloom," reported Scot Lang, the chief ranger. "The Lake is quiet and very scenic right now."

The trout are "holdover" trout, fish planted last year, and they are 2 to 3 pounds. Bass are being caught and seem to be on a post-spawn bite already. Blue gill will start to show mid-summer with warmer temperatures.

Loch Lomond is a wonderful place to visit for the day, even if you have to rent a boat and trout stocks are not happening this year. There is still fun to be had.

Mike Baxter has fished in the Monterey Bay Area since he was a boy and has been a licensed charter boat captain for more than 15 years. Contact him at captmikebaxter@yahoo.com. This e-mail address is being protected from spam bots, you need JavaScript enabled to view it He also hosts a fishing show on radio station KSCO (1080) from 7:06 to 8 p.m. Thursdays April through September.