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**PERMIAN BASIN OILMAN'S BASS INVITATIONAL PASSES \$2,000,000 MARK IN DONATIONS
TO MAKE-A-WISH®**

BALLINGER, TX – At the 17th Annual Permian Basin Oilman's Bass Invitational held April 8-9 at O.H. Ivie Lake, the generosity of the oil and gas industry was evident yet again. After donating \$150,000 to the Make-A-Wish® Foundation of North Texas and \$50,000 to the New Mexico Make-A-Wish® Chapter, the tournament founders were proud to announce that they had surpassed their goal of \$2,000,000 in total donations.

As the largest single donator to both chapters, PBOBI has spent the last 17 years working with sponsors, volunteers and fishermen who are truly dedicated to Make-A-Wish®. This year's tournament winners, Dale and Susan Dixon from Hawley, Texas, reeled in a total of ten bass weighing 48.01 pounds. Team Dixon was also last year's first place winner in the combined two-day totals. Cole Qualls from Midland, Texas and Jerry Green from Breckenridge, Texas made their mark at second with nine fish that weighed in at 47.08 pounds. The top 25 teams ended up in the money as well as the wranglers who brought in the biggest bass on both Friday and Saturday. Cole Quall was Friday's Big Bass winner with a catch of 11.70 pounds and Robert Shurtleff from Lampasas, Texas took the prize on Saturday, with his 11.35 pound catch. Those catching the Big Bass or the Biggest Stringer were not the only winners. Bobby Griffith from Snyder, Texas reeled in a brand new Triton fishing boat with his lucky raffle ticket.

The two-day tournament featured 288 teams from all facets of the oil and gas industry, with many acting as sponsors and donors as well. Over 2300 pounds of bass were caught in the two days and 703 of the 707 fish were released back into O.H. Ivie. The tournament fills up quickly each year and it's not because of the prize money or the fact that someone wins a new boat or mule that brings these fishermen out in droves; it's the camaraderie of an industry event and the dedication to giving back.

PBOBI's president, Jerry Cox, marvels at what the tournament has become. "This started out as a fun event for our industry, but became an incredibly rewarding experience for every one of our participants and volunteers. By reaching the \$2,000,000 mark in total donations this year, we are able to accommodate more wishes and host more children with special needs in the tournament in June. Fulfilling wishes and giving back would not be possible without our sponsors, fishermen, volunteers and donors."

This year's Make-A-Wish® Ambassador for the tournament was seven year old Hope Santiago from Monahans, Texas. Hope fished in the kids PBOBI tournament in June 2010, was granted a wish to Walt Disney World in June 2009 and happily served as the "Wish Kid" for this event. As the guest of honor, Hope got to hand out prizes and plaques, draw names for door prizes and pose for pictures with the winners. She was also treated like a princess by the PBOBI volunteers who lovingly picked out a wide variety of gifts for her to take home, including a Nintendo Wii with all the trimmings.

President and CEO of the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of North Texas, Scotty Landry stated "the tournament is unique to West Texas. While many events at other chapters are organized by the Make-A-Wish® personnel, the fishing tournament is organized by PBOBI. Our representatives from West Texas and New Mexico were in attendance, but despite offers to help, PBOBI members do most of the work themselves. We are impressed with the amount of work PBOBI puts into the event".

The 2011 Kids Tournament is June 11th and PBOBI will be on hand to make sure that every "wish" kid has a day to remember. For more information about PBOBI, the annual invitational or the kids tournament, visit www.pbobi.org.

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The Permian Basin Oilman's Bass Invitational is a 501-C3 Non-Profit organization whose mission is to promote fellowship among the oil and gas industry while providing the contributions to grant the wishes and fulfill the dreams of critically ill children through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. All of the proceeds from each tournament go to Make-A-Wish so that they can continue to offer counseling and support to the families of children with life threatening diseases as well as granting life-long dreams and wishes.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of North Texas grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Since 1982, the North Texas chapter has granted more than 5,200 wishes. In the past five years, the West Texas region has granted more than 400 wishes and we will grant 51 wishes this year. The goal of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas is to provide children with the hope for better times, the strength for the tough times and the joy to experience the present. While the doctors are providing the medicine, the Make-A-Wish Foundation® is supplying the magic and is a unique part of the treatment process. For more information on the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas, visit www.northtexas.wish.org or call (432) 683-9474.