

FISHING GUIDE

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ADVENTURE



Your guide to fishing
in Okanogan Country.
Where will you go first?



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wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/fishing.html

BEST TIME FOR
FISHING OVERALL



BEST TIME FOR
ICE FISHING



CATCH & RELEASE



CATCH & KEEP

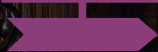


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WELCOME!

OKANOGAN COUNTRY OFFERS SOME OF THE BEST FISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOUND ANYWHERE

Not only are there many Trout, Bass and Walleye waters, but rivers that provide some of the best Steelhead, Sockeye and King Salmon fishing in the state. No matter what your family and friends are looking for, you can find it all right here in Okanogan Country. There are also many motels, resorts, lodges, RV parks ready to serve you. You can learn more about the facilities by visiting **www.okanogancountry.com**.

Some of the most popular “opening day” lakes in the state are located across the county, and there are many year-round lakes that satisfy anglers through all four seasons. When you visit here be sure to have a current copy of the Washington State Fishing Rules pamphlet to make sure you know if there are any special regulations on the water you want to fish. Also, many of our rivers have special seasons that are announced through Emergency Regulations, or e-regs. You can learn about these by visiting the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s web site at **www.dfw.wa.gov**. Another way of keeping on top of the fishing in Okanogan County is to visit **www.fishingmagician.com** where current fishing reports and other information, such as e-regs, are announced.

The following is a description of some of the best fishing opportunities in Okanogan Country, provided by Dave Graybill, aka the FishingMagician. He does mention some of the special rules or limits, but reminds anglers to always check the rules pamphlet for current regulations on the lake or river you plan to fish.



ABOUT DAVE GRAYBILL

aka the Fishin' Magician

Dave Graybill is a native of North Central Washington and has fished in this region for over 50 years. He is familiar with the variety of species available to anglers in this region and provides them with current information on what's happening on the fishing scene through a variety of media.

Dave writes and produces the "Outdoor Insider" reports to 9 radio stations in Eastern Washington and on KVI-AM in Seattle. He also has a column in the NCW Nickel Ads in Central Washington, Moses Lake and the Tri-Cities. Dave's writing is also featured in the Friday edition of the Columbia Basin Herald, and in their quarterly tabloid supplements on fishing in the region the Hook and Bullet. The reports are now being used regularly in the online sports section of the Seattle Times. He also started a Fishing TV Show over five years ago, which is available "on demand" through his web site. Currently the shows average over 15,000 Views per month.

Dave Graybill's website, **FishingMagician.com**, received over 7.3 million hits and 500,000 visits in 2014. The website carries the Outdoor Insider Reports, updated three times a week; a Photo Gallery, Product Review Page, Anglers Directory, and other popular elements for anglers interested in fishing the North Central Washington region.

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THE METHOW REGION

ALTA LAKE » PATEROS

219 ACRES

MAY–SEPT

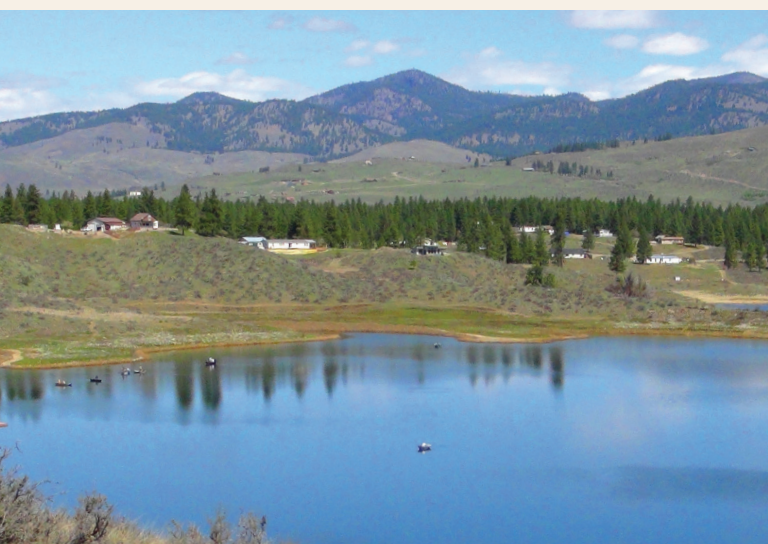
I have early childhood memories of fishing Alta Lake on the opening day of fishing season, and it has been a family favorite for decades. This scenic, deep lake is just a couple of miles from Pateros and is the first Trout lake encountered as you enter the Methow Valley. Be prepared to catch some fat Rainbow Trout of exceptional size and maybe some Kokanee, too. Trolling lures or spinners baited with worms are popular here and there is very good shore access. There is a State Park, and there is a boat launch on the north shore, and another at the opposite end at Whistlin' Pine Ranch.

BIG TWIN LAKE » WINTHROP

65 ACRES

APR–OCT

As you get near Winthrop as you travel up the Methow Valley you will find Big Twin Lake. The lake receives plants of Rainbow each year to assure anglers that fishing will be good for Rainbow of 10 to 18 inches. It is particularly popular with fly anglers, as it has selective fishing rules, no bait and barbless hooks only. It is also popular with standard gear anglers who follow these rules. It is best fished in the early spring and in the fall. Expect lots of company on the opening weekend, but very few fish it in the fall. There is a private resort with a boat launch on the lake.



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THE METHOW REGION

PATTERSON LAKE » WINTHROP

160 ACRES

APR–JUNE

NOV–FEB

If you like to fish where you have a variety of fish available to you, Patterson Lake is perfect. The lake offers fishing for Rainbow, Kokanee, Yellow Perch, Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass, Crappie, Bluegill and even Tiger Trout. It is close to the town of Winthrop, and Sun Mountain Lodge overlooks the lake. Although popular in the spring and fall, it is one of the best ice fishing lakes in the region. I have pulled some of the biggest Perch I have caught anywhere in the state on Patterson— through the ice, along with Rainbow as long as 16 inches. There is a gravel launch with a toilet on the north shore of the lake.

PEARRYGIN LAKE » WINTHROP

183 ACRES

APR–SEPT

Just outside of the town of Winthrop, Pearrygin Lake has treated anglers to good Trout fishing for many years. Families make their opening day fishing adventure to Pearrygin an annual event, with several generations represented in their parties. Expect Rainbow of mostly 10 to 13 inches, with a few over 15. There are even some Brown Trout caught at Pearrygin. There is very good bank access for anglers here, and a boat launch at the WDFW access on the lake. Boaters will also find launches at the State Park and at Jeffery's Silverline Resort.



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THE METHOW REGION

METHOW RIVER

80.2 MI

I have often written that if there is a river in heaven it must be the Methow. Wandering over 80 miles through the scenic valley it has the classic bends and riffles that make anglers' mouths water, and for good reason. The water not only looks good, it is full of a variety of game fish. When the spring run off settles down, the fishing for big Rainbow and Cutthroat is outstanding, and it lasts clear through the summer. Spring Salmon are now appearing in the river in good enough numbers to allow fishing for them in the May or June time frame. In the fall it is known for some of the best Steelhead fishing in the state. It attracts anglers, particularly fly fishers, from all over the country. It also offers excellent water for those who like to catch Steelhead on a bobber and jig. Another game fish is showing up on the scene in the fall: Coho Salmon. Coho are caught during the Steelhead season, when they appear in good numbers, by anglers twitching jigs. The Methow River joins the Columbia River at Pateros. Fishing for steelhead in the estuary can be very good during the late fall and winter months. The fishing seasons for spring Salmon, Steelhead and Coho are announced through emergency regulations by the WDFW and anglers need to look for these announcements through the WDFW web site. The Trout seasons are detailed in the WDFW Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet.



There are several WDFW boat launches and take outs on the Methow River. There are many resorts, motels and campgrounds along the length of the Methow from the mouth to Mazama.

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HEART OF THE OKANOGAN REGION

LEADER LAKE » OKANOGAN

155 ACRES

APR–JULY

Located between Okanogan and Twisp on Highway 20, Leader Lake is one of those lakes that makes everyone happy. There are rainbow of 11 to 14 inches, but it is also known for excellent fishing for Crappie, Bluegill, Large-mouth Bass and Perch. It is a scenic lake and has DNR campgrounds on both sides of the lake that include boat launches. On opening weekend I see lots of boats trolling all over Leader Lake, usually pulling spinners and worms. There is good bank access on both shores, and dough baits, or marshmallows, and worms are popular with shore anglers. Those looking for Spiny Rays will work the shorelines with a variety of gear, but it is hard to beat a worm under a bobber for the Bluegill, Perch and Crappie.



GREEN LAKE » OMAK

45 ACRES

MAR-NOV

DEC-MAR

This is another split season lake, so it is popular in the spring for those who like to catch and release their Trout, and in the winter for those who like to catch and keep them through the ice. The catch and release season is from March 1st through November 30th, and the winter season is from December 1st through the end of February. Many of the bigger Rainbow are caught just after the ice comes off the lake, typically in March, during the catch and release season. Some of the rainbow can weigh a couple of pounds then, but most of the rainbow from Green Lake are in the 11 to 13 inch class. There is a WDFW access area with campsites and a concrete boat ramp. Fly fishers like to troll Wooly Buggers here in the spring and trollers of standard gear will use spinners or Rapalas or Flatfish. Through the ice anglers will offer the trout dough baits, worms, maggots or meal worms.



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HEART OF THE OKANOGAN REGION

CONCONULLY LAKE » CONCONULLY

292 ACRES

APR–OCT

This is one of the most popular lakes in Okanogan County for good reason. Rainbow are fat and abundant, and are usually taken in limit numbers on the opening weekend of the season and for many weeks after. Rainbow average 10 to 13 inches in Conconully Lake, and a good number of carryovers of 15 inches are taken in the spring. Many anglers are after the Kokanee on the lake. The Kokanee are often larger than the average Rainbow. Trolling with Kokabow blades and spinners will get both the Rainbow and the Kokanee. It is also loaded with Largemouth Bass and it can be lots of fun- especially for youngsters- to catch them. Anglers are encouraged to take their limit of Bass as they are so abundant. There is a good launch on the north shore of the lake. It is often referred to as the “upper” lake and is a very short distance from the town of Conconully.



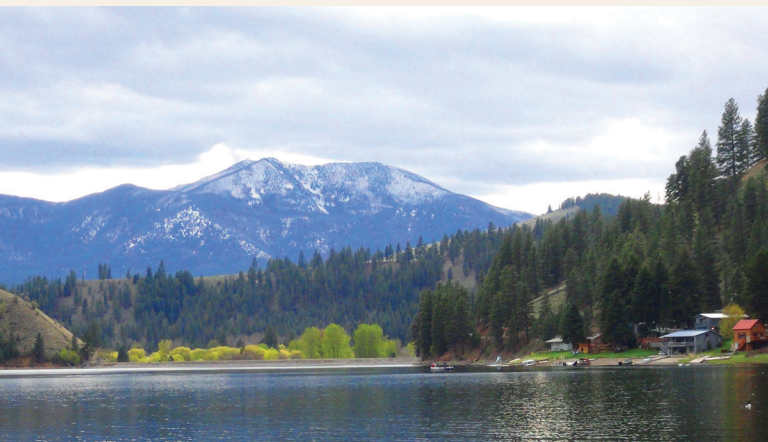
CONCONULLY RESERVOIR » CONCONULLY

382 ACRES

APR–OCT

Conconully Reservoir offers stiff competition to the “upper” lake as the trout fishing is excellent on this larger body of water. There are so many great facilities right on the water that it is one of the top destinations for anglers in the county. On Conconully Reservoir you will find two private resorts on the lake with cabins, campsites, and boat launches. There is also a State Park right on the water here, too. Rainbow are also abundant on the “lower” lake, as the reservoir is often referred to, and the Kokanee fishing is also good. Rainbow average 10 to 12 inches, with some carryovers to 15 inches, and Kokanee average 12 inches. Anglers can also catch Brook Trout, and Large-mouth and Smallmouth Bass on the lake. It is right next to downtown Conconully where there are restaurants, a grocery store, and other attractions. There is an annual trout derby every opening weekend of the Trout season.

Visit the Conconully Chamber web site for more info.





HEART OF THE OKANOGAN REGION

OKANOGAN RIVER

115 MILES

Lake Osoyoos, which straddles the U.S. and Canadian border, is the headwaters of the Okanogan River. It flows low and slow more than 100 miles to it's confluence with the Columbia River just north of the town of Brewster. It wanders through the farmlands and orchards with many twists and turns that create excellent fish holding areas along it's full length. It is one of the best-kept secrets in the state for fishing Smallmouth Bass. The biggest Smallmouth I have ever caught was in the early spring on the Okanogan River. The river is often clouded by the spring run-off very early in spring, but Smallmouth find bright plastics or large plugs in spite of the dirty water. Some anglers take a break from fishing for King Salmon, or Sockeye, on the Brewster Pool to fish for Smallmouth just above where it enters the Columbia. This area is known to produce some big Walleye at times, too. The Okanogan has an excellent run of Steelhead. There are miles and miles of good bobber and jig water and also some excellent holes for pulling plugs. Steelhead fishing typically opens in the fall and is often interrupted by ice. The slow flowing Okanogan freezes over early in the winter. When the ice breaks up, usually in late February, the fishing for Steelhead can be amazing. There are many good bank accesses for casting bobbers and jigs, and some anglers float it in drift boats or run up from the mouth to some of the best holes. There are boat launches at Monse, above the confluence with the Columbia River. There is another popular launch at the town of Okanogan, and at the town of Omak. There are very long stretches of river above these on the Okanogan River.

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NORTH OKANOGAN

BLUE LAKE » LOOMIS

205 ACRES

APR–OCT

There are three Blue lakes in Okanogan County. This one is at the top end of the Sinlahekin Valley, with Loomis being the closest town with fuel and a convenience store. This is a selective gear rule lake, so it is very popular with fly fishers. It fishes best from April to June and then again in September and October. It is advised to use sinking lines in summer to reach fish in the deepest parts of the lake. Fly fishers cast a variety of patterns, but Woolly Buggers are a good way to start. There is a lead ban in effect on Blue Lake. Rainbow will range in size from 10 to 12 inches for yearling fish, to 13 to 15 inches for carryovers. Brown trout can be 18 inches in Blue Lake. There are two WDFW access sites on the lake, one on the north end and one on the south end. Both have campsites, toilets, and gravel boat ramps.

LAKE CHOPAKA » LOOMIS

133 ACRES

APR–OCT

This is one of two fly-fishing-only lakes in Okanogan Country, and Chopaka has the reputation of being one of the top fly fishing lakes in the state. Although the road to Chopaka is very steep, you will be surprised at the size of the campers and trailers that people tow here. The reason fly fishers go to such efforts is that the Rainbow here will range in size from 12 to 18 inches, with many fish in the 16-inch class. Spring fishing is very good, but the months of September and October are probably the most popular. It is a very scenic lake at over 2,900 feet in elevation. There are two campgrounds. One owned by the DNR and the other by the BLM. Anglers will find two small gravel boat launches for their float tubes or pontoon boats. Fly fishers will troll Woolly Buggers or other large patterns, or fish a variety of chironomids. In the spring there is a good hatch of Damselfly nymphs.

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NORTH OKANOGAN

PALMER LAKE » LOOMIS

2,032 ACRES

APR–OCT

NOV–FEB

Close to the town of Loomis, this large lake in north Okanogan Country is big on opportunity for anglers year-round. In the spring, the Kokanee attract anglers here for their size and numbers. Some years Palmer produces Kokanee over 18 inches. Anglers troll gear like Kokabow spinners and blades or small hoochies, tipped with a kernel of white shoe peg corn. Also in the spring, Palmer lake is known to produce big Large-mouth Bass and some of the biggest Smallmouth Bass found anywhere in the state. It also supports a very good population of Yellow Perch and Whitefish. There are also Rainbow Trout, Black Crappie, and Bluegill that can be caught at Palmer lake. The previous state record Burbot was caught through the ice on Palmer, too. There is a BLM access site with concrete boat launch, and a DNR site with gravel launch and camping areas. A private resort is also on the lake with cabins and RV spots.

WHITESTONE LAKE » TONASKET

147 ACRES

MAY–JULY

Just five miles northwest of the town of Tonasket, Whitestone Lake has a reputation for great Largemouth Bass fishing. The scenic lake has a shoreline that appeals to these big fish, offering lots of cover and weed beds. The lake is deep enough to keep the Bass that reside in Whitestone Lake in excellent condition all year long. In addition to big Largemouth Bass, anglers can also find big Bluegill in Whitestone Lake. Some of the biggest Crappie I have seen mounted in Washington came from this northern Okanogan Country lake. There is an excellent boat ramp and parking area.



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NORTH OKANOGAN

SPECTACLE LAKE » LOOMIS

313 ACRES

APR-SEPT

My grandparents loved to visit Spectacle Lake and grandparents still take their grandkids here to have fun fishing. It is primarily known for consistently good trout fishing. Expect Rainbow of 10 to 12 inches, with good numbers of carryover trout to 15 inches when you try Spectacle Lake. It is a long narrow lake, and in the shallows you can treat yourself to fast-action fishing for Largemouth Bass that are typically small but really fun to catch. There are good numbers of big Bluegill (6 to 8 inches) and small Yellow Perch in Spectacle as well as Kokanee that were planted in 2015. Kokanee are most often caught on Kokanee Killers, Needlefish, or Rooster Tails tipped with white shoepeg corn. The occasional Brown Trout is also caught on the lake. There are two WDFW launch sites on the lake and two resorts that offer full services. Spectacle Lake is located seven miles northwest of Tonasket on the Loomis-Oroville Road.

WANNACUT LAKE » OROVILLE

428 ACRES

APR-OCT

If you like trolling for Rainbow Trout in the summer months, Wannacut Lake is a great choice. The lake is deep, so the trout keep their firm condition through the warmer months. The Rainbow range in size from 10 to 12 inches and carryovers run to 14 inches and longer. There is limited shore access, so it is an ideal place to take your boat, float tube, or pontoon boat. There is a WDFW access on the lake and a resort that offers camping, cabins and a boat launch. Wannacut Lake is just four miles southwest of Oroville on Wannacut Lake Road.



BONAPARTE LAKE » TONASKET

151 ACRES

MAY-OCT

DEC

You will drive east on Highway 20 out of Tonasket a ways before you see the signs that lead to Bonaparte Lake. It is well worth the trip. I have driven up here just to have the resort's breakfast or their famous steak dinner. Bonaparte is a very scenic lake and has some very special fishing opportunities. There are big triploid eastern Brook and Tiger Trout in the lake, and some very large Lake Trout. Kokanee range in size from 10 to 12 inches and are plentiful. Smallmouth Bass are abundant in Bonaparte and anglers are encouraged to take their limits to reduce their numbers. There is also a lead ban (no lead weights or jigs) in effect on Bonaparte. There is a Forest Service campground on the lake, and a resort that offers camping, cabins and a boat launch.

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NORTH OKANOGAN

MOLSON LAKE » MOLSON

20 ACRES

MAY-JUNE OCT-NOV

Molson Lake is just seven miles northeast of Oroville on the Molson Lake Road and the trout fishing is best done from a float tube, pontoon boat or small boat. There is a small dirt launch at mid lake. Trout are planted in Molson in spring and the fall to keep the fishing primed. There is a wonderful event in the winter that attracts ice fishing enthusiasts from all over the state and beyond. The Northwest Ice Fishing Festival has been going on for years and is one of the best community fishing events. It always happens on the Saturday of Martin Luther King Weekend. There is a great breakfast and lunch, as well as the fishing derby tournament, arts & crafts show, Bingo and other activities that make visiting the town of Molson in the winter memorable. Anglers fish Sidley Lake during the event.



To find public accesses and launch sites on the Similkameen please visit the WDFW web site at www.wdfw.wa.gov/lands/water_access

SIMILKAMEEN RIVER » OROVILLE

122 MILES

This small, scenic river flows from below Enloe Dam, about 4 miles from the town of Oroville, to its confluence with the Okanogan River. Although small and short, the stream has a lot to offer anglers. It has a selective gear rule trout fishing season from the Saturday before Memorial Day to the end of October. There is a special Whitefish season from December 1st through March 31st. There is also a Salmon season on the Similkameen that runs from July 1st through September 15th, on a certain stretch of the river. Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass are also caught on the Similkameen. Please refer to the WDFW Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet for specific seasons and special regulations on the Similkameen. One of the most popular seasons is the Steelhead fishing that opens in the late fall. I had the opportunity to float the Similkameen from Oroville to where it meets the Okanogan. I was surprised to see how much good water there was and particularly impressed with the size and quality of the Steelhead that I caught. The Steelhead seasons are announced by emergency regulations on the WDFW web site.

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COLUMBIA RIVER REGION

WASHBURN ISLAND POND » BREWSTER

119 ACRES

APR–SEPT

This shallow lake is just five miles north of Brewster, and is easily accessed from the road to Bridgeport. It is an excellent place to find very good numbers of Largemouth Bass. If you visit Washburn Island Pond in the spring and early summer you will be amazed at the number of Bass that you will see. It also has lots of Bluegill. Be sure to get here by early summer as the shallow lake will get choked with weeds as the water warms up. Everything from top water plugs to plastic worms and creature baits will attract strikes from the Bass. There is a Douglas County PUD gravel launch that gets you on the water. It is advised to fish this from a boat. If you fish from shore you will need a Colville Tribal Fishing License.

RAT LAKE » BREWSTER

61 ACRES

APR–NOV

DEC–MAR

Just up the road from the town of Brewster, Rat Lake is a local favorite. It has a split season. From April to November it is a catch and release lake with barbless hooks and no-bait allowed. From December 1st through March 31st you can keep what you catch without hook and bait restrictions. The Trout fishing here is excellent with some very large Rainbow showing up in catches. It is also one of the better ice fishing lakes in the Okanogan. No internal combustion motors are allowed, so it is a favorite in the catch and release season with fly anglers, who have a float tube or pontoon boat. Large streamers or Woolly Buggers work well here for fly fishers, and trolled spinners or plugs, like Flatfish are good bets for those who row or have an electric motor.



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COLUMBIA RIVER REGION

PATEROS TO THE HIGHWAY 173 BRIDGE AT BREWSTER:

Anglers arrive here beginning on July 1st, the annual opening of the summer run salmon season on the Columbia River. From Pateros most anglers run up river to Brewster Pool to do their Salmon fishing. Also, beginning in mid July through August 31st they can fish above Wells Dam for kings. Fishing off the debris barrier and the rip-rap above the dam can be very productive. Most anglers troll with Super Baits packed with tuna fish behind Pro Troll flashers. The busiest season in this specific area of the Columbia is when the Steelhead season opens. Fishing right at the bridge where the Methow enters the Columbia with a bobber and jig can be excellent. The docks on the shoreline at Pateros are often occupied by Steelhead anglers casting their bobbers and jigs, which can be baited with shrimp in this area. Just downstream on the Columbia and within sight of the town of Pateros is the spot known as The Rocks. You can often see boats drifting in this location and casting bobbers and jigs toward the shore. It is one of the most productive Steelhead fishing areas on the upper Columbia.

Fishing at The Rocks and the point across the river will be busy spots throughout the fall and winter Steelhead season. Some anglers also drive their boats into the estuary above the bridge on the Methow. There are some good spots to cast for Steelhead up here, too. No bait is allowed when fishing on the Methow. Steelhead seasons are announced through Emergency Regulations, so check the department's web site in early October to see if it is open.



HIGHWAY 173 BRIDGE TO THE MOUTH OF THE OKANOGAN RIVER:

When the summer run salmon and Sockeye seasons open on July 1st, this is where you will find hundreds of anglers. The warm water of the Okanogan River discourages the returning Salmon from entering the river, and they remain, in increasing numbers, in the Brewster Pool. This unusual situation creates one of the most productive fishing areas on the entire Columbia River. Thousands of King Salmon and Sockeye mill around here and fishing can be excellent. There is a very popular fishing derby every year on the first weekend of August. It has the best catch rate of any Salmon fishing derby in the state. You can learn about it by logging onto **www.brewstersalmonderby.com**. Most anglers will use Super Bait lures, stuffed with tuna fish and pulled behind a Pro Troll flasher, on downriggers, to get their salmon. Some will venture up the Okanogan River to the bridge to troll for King and Sockeye, too. Fishing can often be good here from the opening day on through mid October. Salmon fishing is expected to get even better due to releases of summer run Salmon from the Colville Tribal Fish Hatchery at Bridgeport.

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COLUMBIA RIVER REGION

“PELICAN” TO CHIEF JOSEPH DAM:

Pelican is the point across the Brewster Pool from the mouth of Okanogan River, where the Columbia turns to run up stream to Chief Joseph Dam. The point is known as ‘Pelican’ due to the number of these white birds that gather here. There is an excellent fishing area along the south shore for trolling up to the shallow point where the river narrows. Above here the “white pump” is another spot that attracts anglers.

The next best known fishing area is the deep pool (100 feet) next to the rock cliffs. Anglers also troll off the “Blow Hole”, which is the outlet of the Colville Tribal Trout hatchery. There are some other good trolling spots on the west bank of the Columbia below the Highway 17 Bridge, just below Chief Joseph Dam. There are two excellent boat launches near the town of Bridgeport. One is at the City Marina, and the other just downstream, which is a WDFW site.

This stretch of the Columbia is busy during the summer run Salmon season, and also during the Steelhead season in the fall and winter. There are excellent places to fish from a boat with a bobber and jig and also some of the best plug fishing water on the upper Columbia. Anglers can expect to catch some Triploid Rainbow trout while fishing for Steelhead, and there are Walleye in this stretch of the river, too.



COLUMBIA RIVER REGION

RUFUS WOODS RESERVOIR » GRAND COULEE

51 MILES

NOV–MAY

Boaters can travel 51 miles from above Chief Joseph Dam to Grand Coulee Dam on Rufus Woods Reservoir. It passes through the high desert of Eastern Washington with views of some farms and orchards, but mostly open country. The main attraction on the reservoir is Triploid Rainbow Trout, Rainbow Trout, Kokanee and Walleye. The daily limit for all Rainbow is two fish per day, and includes Kokanee in this bag limit. Trout in Rufus Woods can be taken from boats by trolling small dodgers with lures like the Apex or spinners like Kokabow spinners or large Woolly Bugger style flies. Plugs like the Mag Lip 3.5 Flatfish and Rapala are also effective. Shore anglers cast dough baits or marshmallow and shrimp baits on slip sinker rigs. There is good shore access near the Corps of Engineers boat launch above Chief Joseph Dam. There are also several Designated Fishing Areas on the upper end of the reservoir on the Colville Indian Reservation. Anglers will also find an excellent launch at the State Park on the Okanogan side of the reservoir just above Chief Joseph Dam. There is a federal park about six miles above the dam on the Douglas County side called Brandts Landing. Here there are RV pads, picnic tables and toilets, and fishing from shore can be very good. Either a Washington State Fishing license or a Colville Tribal Fishing Permit is allowed in these specific areas. Some of the most popular shore fishing sites on the upper reservoir are near the upper most net pens. Fishing for Rainbow, both Triploid and “wild” Rainbow is very good on the upper reservoir, and it is known for good fly fishing.



In addition to the Rainbow and Kokanee, the Walleye fishing is very good on the upper reservoir. Most are caught on jigs or with spinners, like those from Dutch Fork Lures, on a bottom bouncer and baited with a nightcrawler. At the top end of the reservoir there is a boat ramp at Seacons Grove. This puts boaters about eight miles from the upper most net pens, and there is excellent trout and wall-eye water in this area of the reservoir. At times anglers can find good schools of Yellow Perch, too.

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COLUMBIA RIVER REGION

LAKE ROOSEVELT (Franklin Roosevelt Lake)

151 MILES

YEAR ROUND

This big reservoir above Grand Coulee Dam has been known for excellent fishing for Kokanee, Rainbow Trout, Walleye and Smallmouth Bass for years. The Kokanee state record is from Lake Roosevelt, at over 6 pounds, and anglers expect to set a new record every year. In the winter months there are boats scattered from just above the dam up to Keller Ferry looking for these big Kokanee. Although the limit is just two, wild fish anglers flock to Roosevelt to get them. Not only are they exceptional fighting fish on light tackle, they are at the top of the list for table fare. In the winter these fish are found in the top of the water column and are caught on side planers or on downriggers set at less than 15 feet. Anglers put their baits 100 feet or more behind the boat when the Kokanee are this shallow. Lures like Rapalas or Flicker Shads are run out on the side planers and Kokabow spinners and blades, or hoochie style Kokanee lures, are run behind dodgers on the downriggers. The spinners and hoochies are always tipped with a kernel of white shoe peg corn. Anglers will fish deeper and deeper as the water warms in the spring and summer. Rainbow Trout are planted at a rate of 750,000 each year. These are triploid and grow fast. It is not unusual to catch Trout weighing 3 pounds, while fishing for Kokanee. The Rainbow Trout limit on Lake Roosevelt is 5 fish. Walleye numbers are also astounding on Lake Roosevelt. Fishing along the shore, particularly on shallower flats, can be amazing.



Spinners like those from Dutch Fork Custom Lures, behind a bottom bouncer and baited with a nightcrawler are very effective. Crank baits, such as diving Rapalas, also work well for the Walleye.

Smallmouth Bass can be found along all the shorelines of Lake Roosevelt, and are very abundant. Anglers cast lures or plastics to catch them. To learn about the catch limits and the wide range of other species available in Lake Roosevelt, please visit the WDFW web site at **www.dfw.wa.gov**. Be sure to click on the “Fish Washington” logo on the Home Page and look under Stevens County Lakes, and Franklin Roosevelt Lake, to learn more. There is also a listing of public access found here.

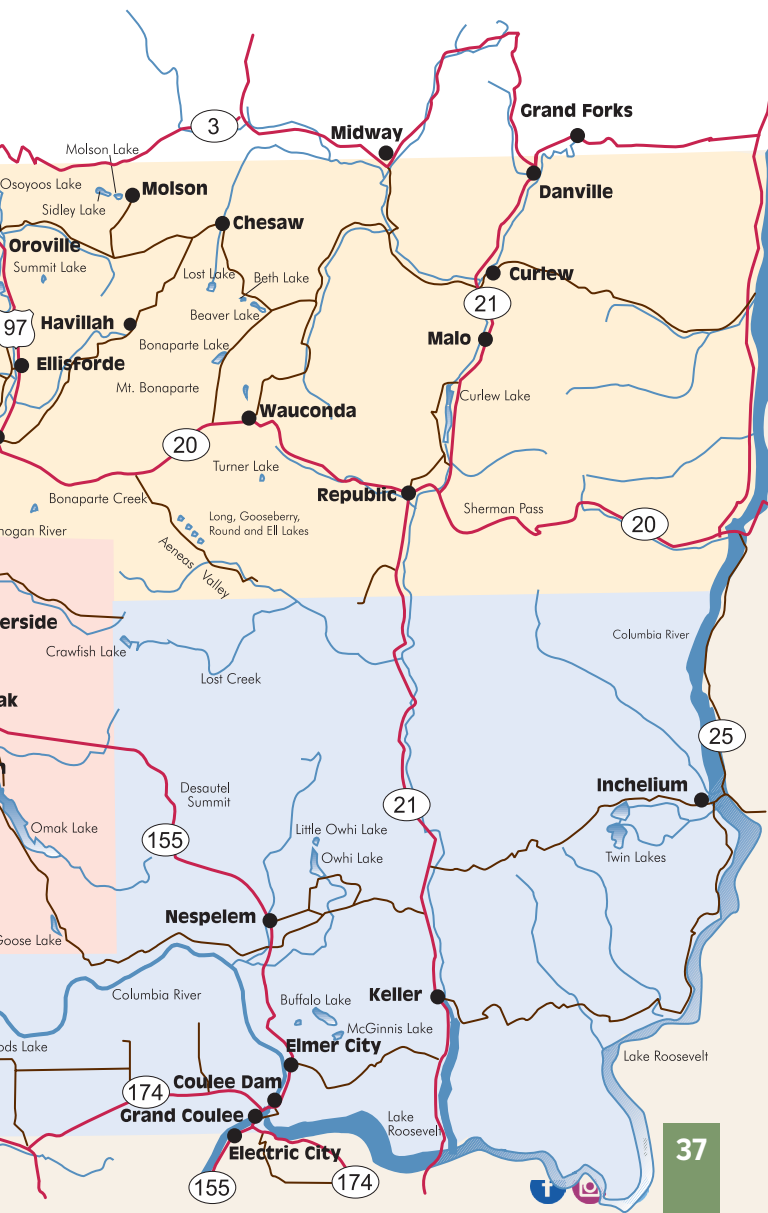
The two most used launch sites in the winter months are at Spring Canyon, just two miles east of the town of Grand Coulee, and the launch near Keller Ferry. The launch near the dam at Crescent Beach is used when the water level comes up in the spring.



OKANOGAN COUNTRY

Open for Adventure!™





WHERE I'VE BEEN!

Use these two pages to keep track of all the lakes you've fished this year.

	✓ CHECK IF YOU'VE BEEN!	HOW MANY FISH DID YOU CATCH?
METHOW REGION		
NORTH OKANOGAN		

HEART OF OKANOGAN

Leader Lake (pg. 12)

Green Lake (pg. 13)

Conconully Lake (pg. 14)

Conconully Reservoir (pg. 15)

Okanogan River (pg. 17)

✓
CHECK IF
YOU'VE
BEEN!

HOW
MANY FISH
DID YOU
CATCH?

COLUMBIA RIVER REGION

Washburn Island Pond (pg. 26)

Rat Lake (pg. 26)

Pateros to HWY 173 Bridge
(pg. 28)

**HWY 173 Bridge to mouth of
the Okanogan River** (pg. 29)

Pelican to Chief Joseph Dam
(pg. 30)

Rufus Woods Reservoir
(pg. 32-33)

Lake Roosevelt (pg. 34-35)

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LODGING INFO

METHOW VALLEY

A Bend in the River Lodge & Cabin	• • • • Winthrop	• • • (800) 422-3048
Alderbrook Inn	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-3100
Aspen Loft Cabin	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-3535
Badger House Inn	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 741-0418
Bernie's on the Bluff	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (360) 391-1719
Boesel Canyon House	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-4431
Brown's Farm House Inn	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-2571
Cascade Inn	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (800) 468-6754
Central Reservations	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (800) 422-3048
Chewack River Guest Ranch	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-2497
Chewuch Inn & Cabins	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-3107
Cottonwood Cottage	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 997-2193
Country Town Motel Resort and RV	• • • • Carlton	• • • • (509) 997-3432
Deer Run Chalet	• • • • Mazama	• • • • • (800) 843-7951
Duck Brand Hotel	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-0408
Eagle Pine Chalets	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 885-7565
Freestone Inn	• • • • Mazama	• • • • • (509) 996-3906
Hazel's	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-2778
Hotel Rio Vista	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-3535
Idle-A-While Motel	• • • • Twisp	• • • • • (509) 997-3222
Lightning Pine Cabins & RV Park	• • • • Methow	• • • • • (509) 923-2572
Mazama Country Inn	• • • • Mazama	• • • • • (800) 843-7951
Mazama Ranch House	• • • • Mazama	• • • • • (509) 996-2040
Meadows End Chalet	• • • • Mazama	• • • • • (877) 463-8469
Methow River Lodge & Cabins	• • • • Winthrop	• • • • • (509) 996-4348
Methow Suites B&B	• • • • Twisp	• • • • • (509) 997-5970

METHOW VALLEY CONTINUED

Methow Valley Inn	• • • • Twisp	(509) 997-2253
Mountain View Chalets	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 527-3113
Mt. Gardner Inn	• • • • Winthrop	(509) 996-2000
North Cascades Lodge	• • • • Mazama	(509) 996-2334
North Cascades Mountain Hostel	• • • • Winthrop	(509) 699-0508
Pearl's Place	• • • • Twisp	(509) 996-2148
River Pine Cottage	• • • • Twisp	(800) 422-3048
River Pine Inn	• • • • Winthrop	(509) 322-4062
River Run Inn & Cabins	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 757-2709
River View Inn	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 422-3048
Riverbend RV Park & Cabin Rentals	• • • • Twisp	(800) 686-4498
River's Edge Resort	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 937-6621
Rock 'n River Guest House	• • • • Mazama	(509) 996-8144
Rolling Huts Mazama	• • • • Winthrop	(877) 223-1137
RRRaceway Getaway B&B	• • • • Carlton	(866) 827-5766
Sportsman Motel	• • • • Twisp	(509) 997-2911
Spring Creek Ranch	• • • • Winthrop	(509) 997-2495
Sun Mountain Lodge	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 572-0493
The Winthrop Inn	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 444-1972
Timberline Meadows Nightly Rentals	• • • • Winthrop	(509) 996-3949
Twisp River Inn B&B	• • • • Twisp	(509) 997-4011
Twisp River Suites	• • • • Twisp	(855) 784-8328
Virginian Resort	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 854-2834
Vista Grande Ranch	• • • • Carlton	(509) 923-2123
Winthrop Mountain View Chalets	• • • • Winthrop	(509) 996-3113
Wolfridge Resort	• • • • Winthrop	(800) 237-2388

LODGING INFO

HEART OF OKANOGAN

12 Tribes Resort Casino	• • • • Omak	• • • • • (888) 298-7193
Baldy Mountain Lodge	• • • • Conconully	• • • • • (509) 826-6940
Best Western Peppertree Inn	• • • • Omak	• • • • • (888) 280-2088
Cabin by the River	• • • • Okanogan	• • • • • (509) 422-1601
Comstock Motel	• • • • Conconully	• • • • • (509) 826-1272
Deer Haven Lodges	• • • • Conconully	• • • • • (888) 805-3337
Gibson's North Fork Lodge	• • • • Conconully	• • • • • (800) 555-1690
Kokanee Cottages	• • • • Okanogan	• • • • • (206) 953-7226
Liar's Cove Resort	• • • • Conconully	• • • • • (800) 830-1288
Motel Nicholas	• • • • Omak	• • • • • (800) 404-4611
Okanogan River Guest House	• • • • Okanogan	• • • • • (509) 322-5926
Omak Inn	• • • • Omak	• • • • • (800) 204-4800
Omak Rodeway Inn & Suites	• • • • Omak	• • • • • (888) 700-6702
Ponderosa Motor Lodge	• • • • Okanogan	• • • • • (800) 732-6702
Quality Inn	• • • • Okanogan	• • • • • (877) 422-7070
Shady Pines Resort	• • • • Conconully	• • • • • (800) 552-2287
Stampede Motel	• • • • Omak	• • • • • (800) 639-1161
The Cariboo Inn	• • • • Okanogan	• • • • • (509) 422-6109

COLUMBIA RIVER

Alta Lake Golf Resort	• • • • Pateros	• • • • • (509) 923-2033
Apple Avenue Motel	• • • • Brewster	• • • • • (509) 689-3000
Columbia River Inn & Suites	• • • • Coulee Dam	• • • • • (800) 633-6421
Coulee House Motel	• • • • Coulee Dam	• • • • • (509) 633-1101
Howard's On The River	• • • • Pateros	• • • • • (877) 923-9555
Inn at Gamble Sands	• • • • Brewster	• • • • • (509) 436-8323
Lake Pateros Inn	• • • • Pateros	• • • • • (866) 444-1985
Reynolds Resort	• • • • Coulee Dam	• • • • • (509) 633-1092
Whistling Pine Ranch	• • • • Pateros	• • • • • (509) 923-2548

NORTH OKANOGAN

Bighorn Bunk House	• • • • Loomis	(509) 223-3144
Bonaparte Lake Resort	• • • • Tonasket	(509) 486-2828
Buena Vista Lodging	• • • • Oroville	(509) 429-2800
Camaray Motel	• • • • Oroville	(509) 476-3684
Canaan Guest Ranch	• • • • Tonasket	(866) 295-4217
Chopaka Lodge	• • • • Loomis	(509) 223-3131
Diamond Belle Ranch	• • • • Wauconda	(509) 486-1270
Eden Valley Guest Ranch	• • • • Oroville	(509) 485-4002
Howell Canyon Estate	• • • • Tonasket	(509) 322-9747
Junction Bunkhouse Motel	• • • • Tonasket	(509) 486-4500
K Diamond K Guest Ranch	• • • • Republic	(888) 345-5355
Lake Osoyoos Riverside Retreat	• • • • Oroville	(509) 476-2926
Lodge at Palmer Lake	• • • • Loomis	(509) 223-3177
Red Apple Inn	• • • • Tonasket	(509) 486-2119
Spectacle Lake Resort	• • • • Tonasket	(509) 223-3433
Sun Cove Resort & Guest Ranch	• • • • Oroville	(509) 476-2223
Willow Ridge Inn	• • • • Tonasket	(509) 486-2704

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