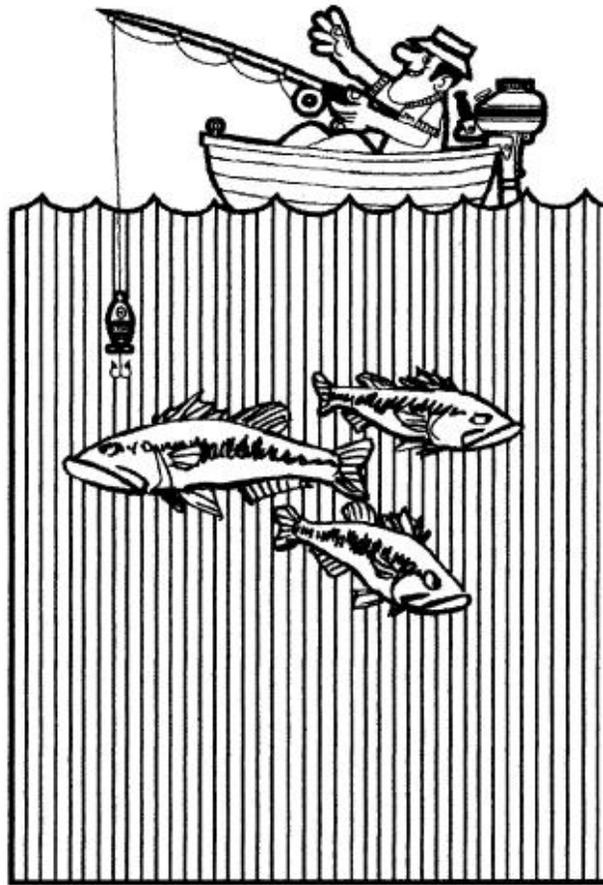


# 2009 Washington Fishing Prospects

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## WHERE TO CATCH FISH IN THE EVERGREEN STATE



Washington Department of  
**FISH AND WILDLIFE**  
600 Capitol Way N – Olympia, WA 98501-1091  
<http://wdfw.wa.gov>



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## **AGENCIES CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency Internet address — <http://wdfw.wa.gov>

On-line license sales — <http://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov>

Toll-free license sales — 1-866-246-9453

For fishing regulation changes, email: [fishregs@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:fishregs@dfw.wa.gov)

For all other questions or comments, email: [fishpgm@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:fishpgm@dfw.wa.gov)

Poaching Hotline – (877) 933-9847

To report derelict fishing gear – (800) 477-6224

To report fish kills, or oil or hazardous material spills, contact:

Department of Emergency Management: (800) 258-4990

Toll-free WDFW shellfish rule change hotline — 1-866-880-5431

Toll-free DOH Shellfish Biotxin hotline — 1-800-562-5632

Fishing rule change hotline — (360) 902-2500, press 2 for recreational rules

Email fishing regulations questions to: [fishregs@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:fishregs@dfw.wa.gov)

Email other fishing questions/comments to: [fishpgm@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:fishpgm@dfw.wa.gov)

### **Fishing & Shell Fishing Rules for National Parks, certain Federal Lands, and Indian Reservations see:**

Olympia National Park - (360) 565-3130

Gifford Pinchot national Forest – (360) 891-5009 or [www.fs.fed.us/gpnf](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf)

Mt. Rainier National Park – (360) 569-2211

North Cascades National Park – (360) 854-7200

For rules that apply within the parks (State parks) – (360) 902-8500

State license and rules apply on Private, State and National Forest Lands.

Before fishing on Indian reservations, contact the tribe for the necessary permits and rules.

Quinault Indian Nation – (360) 276-8211

Colville Confederated Tribes - (509) 634-4711

Puyallup Tribe of Indians (253) 845-9225

Yakama Nation – (509) 865-5121

Lummi Tribe - (360)348-1489

Swinomish Tribal Community – (360) 466-7200

Makah Tribe - (360) 645-2201

Kalispel Tribe (509) 445-1147

An access permit is required to fish waters on a Military reservation

Fort Lewis - (253) 947-7974

McChord Air Force Base fishing information – (253) 982-3913

General inquiries about Canadian fishing regulations and licensing

Phone (604) 666-0384 or FAX (604) 666-1847

Fishing in Washington Sport Fishing regulations pamphlet is available online at

[http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regs\\_seasons.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regs_seasons.html) or  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/erules/index.jsp>

## Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Regional Contact Information



### Headquarters/Switchboard

600 N Capitol Way  
Olympia WA 98501-1091 (mailing address)  
1111 Washington Street SE  
Olympia WA (physical address)  
Phone: (360) 902-2200 (reception desk)  
(360) 902-2700 (Fish Program)

### Eastern Washington (Region 1)

2315 N Discovery Place  
Spokane Valley WA 99216  
Phone: (509) 892-1001

### Southwest Washington (Region 5)

2108 Grand Boulevard  
Vancouver WA 98661  
Phone: (360) 696-6211

### Columbia Basin (Region 2)

1550 Alder Street NW  
Ephrata WA 98823-9699  
Phone: (509) 754-4624

### Coast/Olympic/South Sound (Region 6)

48 Devonshire Road  
Montesano WA 98563  
Phone: (360) 249-4628 or 586-6129

### South Central Washington (Region 3)

1701 S 24th Avenue  
Yakima WA 98902-5720  
Phone: (509) 575-2740

### Wenatchee District Office

3860 Chelan Highway North  
Wenatchee WA 98801-9607  
Phone: (509) 662-0452

### North Puget Sound (Region 4)

16018 Mill Creek Boulevard  
Mill Creek WA 98012-1296  
Phone: (425) 775-1311

### Point Whitney Shellfish Laboratory

1000 Point Whitney Road  
Brinnon WA 98320  
Phone: (360) 796-4601

## What's New for the 2009-10 Season

2009 will bring several changes to be aware of regarding Fishing Regulations. These rule changes are described in the front section of 2009/2010 "Fishing in Washington" regulations pamphlet (available on or before May 1, 2009) and online at [www.wdfw.wa.gov](http://www.wdfw.wa.gov) for the actual regulatory language and rules. For a complete text and a listing of the changes made by the WDFW Commission at the February, March and April 2009 meetings, please refer to [http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/rule\\_proposals/index.htm](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/regs/rule_proposals/index.htm).

### STATEWIDE RULE CHANGES

*In the past, statewide rule changes have been included in Fishing Prospects for the benefit of the anglers accessing this document. Unfortunately this will no longer happen due to the timing of the publication and regulation change/approval timelines. Currently all marine water rules are negotiated under the North of Falcon committee process. The outcomes will be announced just prior to the release of the "Fishing in Washington" sport fish regulations pamphlet. Refer to this pamphlet and to the agency website for all changed, new and for those updated throughout the season. The website is <http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>.*

*Please make sure that you return/report your catch record information for fishing and crabbing. The information on these cards is vital to providing accurate fish and crab harvest numbers. . Remember that early crab, late crab and fish catch record cards are three separate documents.*

**Remember, when preparing to enjoy a day on the water fishing, it is each angler's responsibility to know the rules for the waters they are fishing in. Keep a copy of the current *Fishing in Washington* Sport Fishing regulations pamphlet with you at all times and be sure to check the WDFW website for any changes that may have occurred after the publication of regulation pamphlet.**

## INTRODUCTION

Washington State continues to provide good to excellent marine fishing and shell-fishing along more than 500 miles of Pacific coast shoreline, and over 2,000 combined miles of Puget Sound, San Juan Islands, Strait of Juan de Fuca and Hood Canal shoreline. Sport fishing opportunities also abound in our 4,000 rivers and streams (stretching over 50,000 miles), more than 7,000 lakes (over 2,500 at alpine elevations) and 200+ reservoirs. Many lakes in the state are now open year around, but the spring lake fishing “opener” on the last Saturday in April signals the traditional start of Washington’s most intense freshwater fishing activity. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) estimates that as many as 300,000 anglers are out looking for a “bite” on that weekend alone. Other waters are managed in shorter seasons, often to protect nesting waterfowl or for other biological reasons. To meet fishing demand, WDFW hatcheries stock about 19 million trout and kokanee fry annually that will grow to catchable size in time for the spring opener. Another three million catchable trout are planted in lakes and streams in the late winter through spring. In addition, a number of lakes throughout the state will receive “bonus” plants of sterile triploid rainbow trout that can grow to impressive size. For a list of lakes and streams that are planted, along with their scheduled allotments of fish, visit [www.wdfw.wa.gov](http://www.wdfw.wa.gov). Phone numbers and website address information can be found at the front of this publication.

Most rivers and streams open to fishing on the first Saturday in June, after trout have had a chance to spawn and most anadromous salmonid smolts (juvenile salmon, steelhead, sea-run cutthroat, and char) migrate to saltwater. Most rivers and streams are now managed to produce wild trout, coastal and westslope cutthroat, salmon and steelhead. Consequently, few are stocked with hatchery reared trout. Open seasons for marine fish, anadromous fish and shellfish vary according to species, and sometimes are set or adjusted during the year. Some rules and seasons may seem complex or restrictive, but are necessary to protect fragile populations of animals and in the case of shellfish sometimes are set to protect people. In addition to more publicized fish planting programs, WDFW also manages stocking programs designed to enhance fishing opportunities for species such as clams and oysters.

Shellfish beaches and regulations are listed on WDFW’s website. Winter storms sometimes have a negative impact on fisheries. Excess silt coupled with strong stream flows can present serious problems for egg and juvenile fish survival, and excess turbidity hurts survival and growth of fry. Road washouts can make access to some waters difficult due to lowered water levels or stream blockages, and can also have a negative effect on egg and juvenile salmonid survival. The County-by-County listings later in this publication attempt to note any issues that may be caused by weather. Remember that this year the winter snowpack is significant and at lower elevations. As spring melt occurs, additional hazards may be uncovered and cause road and trail closures for public safety reasons. Be sure to contact state and national forest / land managers to be sure of access and safe passage. Here are some fishing highlights to consider each year:

- Even though many lakes are open year around and are stocked with hatchery trout as early as mid March, they don’t get much angling pressure until the traditional “opener” on the last Saturday of April. Anglers may be missing a good bet for some early season trout success in late March and early-middle April. In recent years several lakes have been added to the list

of March 1 opener. Some of these include Liberty, Downs, and Medical Lakes in Region 1 (Spokane area). Look for the March 1<sup>st</sup> opening lakes and give these a try for some outstanding fishing action. Lakes opening later in the year will be stocked according to the stocking plan that can be found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>, be sure to check this out. Dates for stocking are generally listed in a two-week time frame. Some bodies of water are not stocked until right up to the day of the lakes opening due to fish predation issues by waterfowl.

- Planted trout tend to remain in the top 3-5 feet of water for up to a week after planting. Anglers can improve their success rate by shallow-trolling small lures or baits during this period.
- Trout fishing, especially for rainbows in lowland lakes, is usually best in spring and fall when the water is cool (but not frigid).
- Larger, deeper lakes can be good for trout all year. Fishing shallow waters in the spring and fall and deeper waters in the summer months will add to the success of a fishing adventure, especially when fishing for warmer water species.
- May, June and July are usually best for kokanee (a landlocked or non-anadromous sockeye salmon).
- Many alpine or high elevation lakes are stocked with cutthroat, rainbow and golden trout between June and October. A few lakes have naturally reproducing populations, while some are purposely left barren. Introduced eastern brook trout, lake trout, tiger trout, and brown trout add diversity to the program. Stocked fry generally reach harvestable size in a year or two, depending on a lakes nutrient and food levels. The shorter high lake-growing season often limits the size of the catch.
- As temperatures rise, warm water species such as bass, crappie, sunfish, and catfish provide yet other angling prospects.
- Walleye fishing in Columbia River reservoirs is mostly a year-round opportunity, with most trophy class fish caught in late winter and early spring months.
- Mountain whitefish are popular stream catches in winter when they gather in schools to spawn. Some streams have special “whitefish-only” winter seasons. Please be sure to review the special gear rules that apply to this fishery. These can be found in the Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet in the green section under definitions.
- Angling opportunities for anadromous fish such as steelhead and salmon vary widely according to area, time of year, and status of the particular run or species. Due to the variable nature of these returns, salmon seasons are sometimes limited, opened and closed so as to assure escapement for spawning in addition to catch allowances or may be curtailed all together. Check the latest regulations pamphlet, and be sure to review all subsequent changes as the season continues throughout the year on WDFW’s website, or call your

nearest WDFW regional office for details. The website address and phone numbers can be found in the front of this publication.

- Watch news media and WDFW website for information on eulachon (smelt) runs on the Columbia River and its tributaries. This year's season was better than in the past several, but was not a banner run. Future fishing opportunities depend on annual smelt abundance. North Coast and Puget Sound fisheries for other smelts, such as surf and longfin, also vary with the run size.
- Watch the media and agency websites for up to date information on spring and fall Chinook returns. Information on these runs is also included in individual river descriptions when data or projections were available at time of printing.
- Shad runs in the lower Columbia River generally peak in late May through early July, with several million shad passing Bonneville Dam annually. Large runs and little pressure on this hard fighting, non-native fish make chances of success high.
- Sturgeon fishing on the Columbia River is growing more popular each year, requiring more restrictive measures to protect its future. Harvest quotas are often reached and published regulations are changed during the season. Effective starting January 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 a new method of measurement for legal retention size was put in place for all sturgeon fishing in Washington. Please see the Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet section on definitions (green section) for this new way of measuring your catch to determine if it is legal to keep. This is also explained in the 'New for 2009' section of this publication. Daily limits continue to remain at one (1) fish per day, five (5) fish annually. Catch record cards are required and must be marked immediately upon landing your legal catch. Check the WDFW fishing hotline (360) 902-2500, the Vancouver regional office (360) 906-6700, or WDFW's website for the latest information. The 2009-2010 sturgeon seasons are expected to be similar to those in 2008-09 seasons. Don't forget to turn in your catch record card at the conclusion of this year's season.
- The steelhead catch record card process has been updated to allow for the purchase of additional catch record cards. While the **only one-wild fish retention per year** on selective streams and rivers is still the rule, read the regulations to become familiar with this new opportunity. **You can only retain one wild steelhead per season, and only from a limited list of streams or rivers. This is NOT per stream or body of water.** Only certain streams or rivers are open to this retention option. Read the regulations pamphlet for more information.
- To continue the protection of some marine populations of lingcod, halibut and Yelloweye rockfish; open seasons for these species vary among the 13 marine areas, so be sure to check the regulations pamphlet for the area you plan to fish. Other marine bottom fish are generally available year around. Again, check the regulations pamphlet for special closures and seasons in some areas to protect these additional species: Cabazon, sturgeon, wolf eel, and various rockfish.

- Oysters, clams, shrimp and crab are in their prime in the spring during daytime low tides on Puget Sound and Hood Canal beaches. 2009 will again see some record low tides at the end of the month of May and the first part of June. Many different species will be out in the open for all to see and experience. Make sure if you are harvesting these species, you are familiar with the current harvest regulations and have checked on any health advisories that may be in affect at that time. There are many different issues that can affect shellfish health and it is important to familiarize yourself with these in advance of harvesting these species. The Washington Department of Health website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/recshell.htm> can help you in learning about current health advisories. You can also contact the shellfish hotline by calling 1-800-562-5632, for current information.

**Whatever kind of fishing you enjoy, always remember that many factors influence how good it will be on any given day. Both air and water temperatures, water levels, wind, natural predation, food availability, and the balance of species in a waterway can change widely, even within a single season. Check the listings that follow, by sport fish species and by county waters, for where and when best fishing can usually be expected.**

## LICENSING

License requirements are merely summarized here. For more information, including list of species for which a recreational license is required, refer to the latest sport fishing rules in the 2009/2010 edition of the pamphlet "Fishing in Washington." Recreational licenses are sold through a computerized point of sale license system at dealers throughout the state, by toll free telephone and over the Internet. Be sure to consider making a donation to the youth fishing program (Go Play Outside), when you purchase your license. The "Fishing in Washington" pamphlet includes phone number and the Internet address where you can buy your license.

- Annual recreational licenses and catch record cards run from April 1 through March 31 of the following year.
- Recreational licenses are required for both residents and nonresidents 15 years of age and older (see "Juvenile, Youth and Senior Anglers" below for more information). Reduced fee licenses are available for qualified disabled persons, disabled veterans, youth age 15 years and younger, and resident seniors (age 70 +; see below).
- A recreational saltwater fishing license is required to fish for most marine and anadromous species in saltwater. Salmon, Steelhead, Halibut and Sturgeon also require a catch record card, see below. A recreational shellfish/seaweed license is required for all shell fishing and gathering of seaweeds.
- A recreational freshwater fishing license is required to fish for most freshwater fish species and anadromous species (salmon and steelhead) in freshwater. Some species require a catch record card, see below.
- A recreational combination freshwater/saltwater and shellfish/seaweed license is available to all license buyer categories except resident seniors.
- Recreational short-term combination freshwater/saltwater and shellfish/seaweed licenses are available to both residents and non-residents for one through five-day periods.
- Annual and 3 day recreational razor clam only licenses are available to resident and non-resident adults and seniors.
- A combination catch record card is required to fish for and retain steelhead, salmon, sturgeon, halibut or Dungeness crab. A card (one only) is issued free upon request with any appropriate license purchase (but not with razor clam only licenses). Catch record cards for fish need to be returned to the mailing address on the card or to a regional office no later than April 30<sup>th</sup> each year. Effective in 2007, crab catch record cards were separated in two reporting seasons (Summer and Winter) and must be reported according information as described on the license for each. Electronic reporting has been made available and is easy to do through the Internet for Crab Catch Records. WDFW uses this information to help manage fisheries that recreational harvesters participate in each year. Remember, even if you do not harvest any fish or shellfish it is important to return your catch record card. Without this critical data, it becomes very difficult to measure the success or failure of each fishery.

## Recreational License Types and Fee Schedule\*

License Type	Youth Age 15 Resident/ Non-resident	Adult Age 16-69 Resident	Senior Age 70+ Resident	Persons with Disabilities See qualifications in Fishing in Washington Pamphlet)	Non- Resident Age 16+
Valid from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010					
Annual Combination	\$ 8.21	\$ 42.16	Not available	\$ 8.21	\$ 81.58
Annual Freshwater	See annual combo	\$ 21.90	\$ 5.48	See annual combo	\$ 43.80
Annual Saltwater	See annual combo	\$ 20.26	\$ 6.02	See annual combo	\$ 39.97
Annual Shellfish/Seaweed	See annual combo	\$ 10.95	\$ 8.76	See annual combo	\$ 25.19
Annual Razor Clam	See annual combo	\$ 8.21	\$ 8.21	See annual combo	\$ 14.24
3 day Razor Clam	\$ 4.93	\$ 4.93	\$ 4.93	\$ 4.93	\$ 4.93
1 day combination	\$ 7.50	\$ 7.50	\$ 7.50	\$ 7.50	\$ 14.50
2 day combination	See annual combo	\$ 10.50	\$ 10.50	See annual combo	\$ 20.50
3 day combination	See annual combo	\$ 13.50	\$ 13.50	See annual combo	\$ 26.50
4 day combination	See annual combo	\$ 15.50	\$ 15.50	See annual combo	\$ 30.50
5 day combination	See annual combo	\$ 17.50	\$ 17.50	See annual combo	\$ 34.50
<b>Catch Record Card</b>	<b>The first catch record card(s) are issued free with your license; replacement and additional cards are \$10.95 each for all ages.</b>				

\* Final License fees are current as of April 1, 2009, user fees may also apply for Puget Sound Crab and other species. See Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet for more details.

### Juvenile, Youth and Senior Anglers

Juvenile anglers include residents or non-residents 14 years of age or under. Juveniles can fish for free; no licenses required for all legal species, in all open waters during open seasons. A free catch record card is still required in most areas for steelhead, salmon, sturgeon, halibut, and Dungeness crab.

Youth anglers include residents or non-residents 15 years of age. They can buy the recreational freshwater, saltwater and shellfish/seaweed combination license for \$ 7.67 (includes Razor Clam license). At age 16 they are required to purchase the standard adult resident or non-resident recreational license.

Resident seniors, 70 years of age or older, can purchase reduced-fee freshwater, saltwater, or shellfish/seaweed and razor clam licenses. Non-resident seniors pay the standard non-resident fee.

### MILITARY AND VETERAN LICENSES

*Currently legislation is being considered by the Washington Legislature that may modify the information contained below. Please consider this issue when reading what is in place at this time for the requirements to purchase or secure a fishing license in the State of Washington if you are currently active or are a veteran of any of our Armed Forces.*

### MILITARY PERSONNEL STATIONED IN WASHINGTON

All military personnel stationed in the state of Washington may purchase a resident recreational fishing license from a local licensing vendor at the resident rates for the calendar year. A valid military ID with a copy of orders showing Washington as duty station will be required to meet

this qualification. For fee rates see chart above, referring to the Adult (Age 16-69) Resident column.

### **MILITARY VETERANS**

Currently the state of Washington does not provide a reduced rate or free license for Veterans unless there is a medical or service related disability. These are as follows:

- Resident veterans with a service connected disability of 30% or more.
- Resident veterans 65 years of age or older with a service connected disability

If these conditions apply, an application for reduced fees or a designated Harvester card must be processed through a Department of Fish and Wildlife office. To request an application or for more information write: WDFW Licensing Division, 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501-1091; or call ((360) 902-2464; or visit the agency website at <http://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov>

### **FISHING KIDS EVENTS**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation, and several local and national sponsors offer a number of “Fishing Kids” events throughout the state. These events are designed to introduce youth ages 5 through 14 to sport fishing. Fifteen events are scheduled for this year. For more information, including a list of events plus sign-up forms, you can download; go to the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation website at <http://www.castforkids.org>.

Vancouver, Kline Pond, April 18<sup>th</sup>, contact info: WDFW (360) 906-6706  
Lacey, Long’s Pond, April 18<sup>th</sup>, contact info: Lacey Parks Dept. (360) 491-0857  
Seattle, Green Lake, April 18<sup>th</sup>, contact: C.A.S.T. for Kids (425) 251-3214  
Longview, Lake Sacajawea, April 25<sup>th</sup>, contact: Longview Parks (360) 442-5400  
Kennewick, Columbia Park Pond, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, contact: Kennewick Parks (509) 585-4293  
Spokane, Clear Lake, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, contact: Spokane Co. 4H (509) 477-2166  
Everett, Silver Lake, May 9<sup>th</sup>, contact: Everett Parks (360) 257-8300  
Yakima, Sarg Hubbard Pond, May 9<sup>th</sup>, contact: Yakima Greenway Foundation (509) 453-8280  
Seattle, Lake Washington (Seward Park) May 16<sup>th</sup>, contact: C.A.S.T. for Kids ((425) 251-3214  
Lakewood, American Lake, May 16<sup>th</sup>, contact: Pierce Co. Parks Dept. (253) 798-4176  
Renton, Lake Washington (Gene Coulon Park), June 6<sup>th</sup>, Renton Parks and Rec. (425) 430-4700  
Wenatchee, Leavenworth Hatchery, June 6<sup>th</sup>, contact: Hooked on Toys (509) 663-0740  
Moses Lake, Moses Lake, June 13<sup>th</sup>, contact: Moses Lake Park and Rec. (509) 766-9240  
Colfax, Gilchrist Pond, June 13<sup>th</sup>, contact: Whitman Co. 4H (509) 397-6290  
Silverdale, Island Lake, June 20<sup>th</sup>, contact: Kitsap Co. Parks (360) 337-5370

Other youth fishing activities happen throughout the year with many different local community groups, associations and business entities. These may have a WDFW component, but many do not and are not advertised by WDFW, rather are done so by the group directly involved. All youth related fishing activities are indeed important and of value as educational activities.

### **“Go Play Outside™” INITIATIVE**

“Go Play Outside™” is an effort with the objective of increasing interest, support, and participation in outdoor recreation. This effort helps WDFW reconnect with traditional users and build bridges to new ones. Included in the initiative are public workshops on fishing, hunting, shooting sports, and wildlife watching sponsored by WDFW or presented through partnerships.

This initiative creates new partnerships and expands existing ones; recruits new outdoor recreationists; encourages mentoring efforts; while providing information, outreach, and education to the public. A primary role of WDFW in this initiative process will be to act as a catalyst, and to provide statewide coordination and consistency for "Go Play Outside™" clinics and other activities conducted by our partners. If you are interested in making a tax deductible donation to this program, sponsoring an event or activity, presenting a workshop, or providing mentoring services for hunting, fishing, shooting sports, or wildlife watching, please contact a local license vendor or visit WDFW by internet to make a donation at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/wdfw/donate.html>, to contact WDFW about scheduling an event or activities or to get your organization involved in the "Go Play Outside™" program, please email: [goplayoutside@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:goplayoutside@dfw.wa.gov) or by mail: Go Play Outside, FISH Program - WDFW, 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501-1091 for more information on this great program.

## **FISH CONSUMPTION (HEALTH) ADVISORIES**

Fish consumption advisories are the responsibility of and provided by the Washington Department of Health (DOH), see their website for ALL advisories and information. The website is <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/oehas/fish/default.htm>. These advisories are meant to inform the public that elevated concentrations of elemental and chemical contaminants have been found in certain species of fish and of specific water bodies, and to advise the public on the amount of fish that can safely be consumed. The biggest culprit as far as fish consumption safety is methyl-mercury. This is the form of mercury that can be found concentrated in fish. Methyl-mercury can be found in fish, especially in large predator fish and long-lived fish. Because methyl-mercury binds to muscle tissue, it cannot be removed by cleaning or special preparation or cooking methods. Methyl-mercury contamination is a worldwide problem. It can come from many sources: from industrial pollution such as mining, burning fossil fuels such as coal, and from burning household and industrial wastes. It can also occur naturally in our environment in rocks soils, water and air. Volcanoes may also be a natural source of mercury in the environment. Contaminants other than mercury may be a problem for fish in certain areas of Washington State. But unlike mercury, the amounts of contaminants like PCBs and many pesticides are stored mostly in the fat of fish, and so preparing the fish in ways that reduce the fat can reduce them. Links on the DOH website (see above) lead to details on how to prepare fish.

### **Bass and Mercury in Washington**

Freshwater bass (largemouth and smallmouth) are popular game fish species in Washington, both for sport and consumption. However a study of bass in 20 Washington lakes and rivers found levels of mercury are cause for concern. Consequently, the DOH has issued a statewide advisory for bass consumption: Children under age six and women of childbearing age should limit their consumption of these two species to no more than two meals per month. The assumed fish meal size for an adult is eight ounces; for children, proportionally smaller. For example the meal size for a six-year old child weighting 45 pounds is 4 ounces. It is suggested that if you eat the maximum recommended amount of fish from an advisory area, do not eat any other meals including servings of fish that week or month. In addition to limiting consumption of these species, a good way to reduce mercury intake is to keep only smaller fish as larger fish generally contain more contaminants as a percentage of size. Washington's statewide bass slot limit encourages retention of bass in the safest size range of 12 inches and under.

### **Specific Freshwater Advisories**

In addition to the statewide mercury consumption advisory, specific advisories have been issued for several lakes and streams, including Lake Chelan (lake trout), Lake Roosevelt (walleye), Lake Whatcom (smallmouth bass and yellow perch), Lake Washington (cutthroat trout, largemouth and smallmouth bass, yellow perch and northern pikeminnow), Spokane River (all species), Yakima River (carp, channel catfish, mountain whitefish, northern pikeminnow, along with bridgelip and large-scale suckers), Walla Walla River (carp and northern pikeminnow), More information and details on these advisories can be found on the DOH website.

### **Specific Saltwater Advisories**

Shellfish and marine fish advisories have been issued for all or portions of bays, inlets and areas throughout Puget Sound, Hood Canal and some other locations. For the most up to date

information, check the DOH website at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) or call the DOH office at Environmental health Assessments in Olympia at (360) 236-3200 or (877) 485-7316.

## **ACCESSIBLE FISHING AREAS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

### **Public Fishing Piers**

Puget Sound has more than 50 public fishing piers designed for shore bound anglers. Many of these are state of the art facilities providing access for persons with disabilities. A **new online website** has been developed and is available with a listing of Piers that can be found throughout Puget Sound, Hood Canal and in some areas along the Pacific Coastline. The website is <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/piers>.

### **Accessible Outdoor Recreation Guide**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Recreation and Conservation Office, Department of Natural Resources, and State Parks and Recreation Commission have a jointly produced document titled “*Washington Accessible Outdoor Recreation Guide*”. This guide is available online through the WA State Parks at [www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec](http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec). Not all lakes presented in this year’s Fishing Prospects have ADA availability due to the nature of the resources and the actual accessibility required to reach them in remote locations. Interested persons should review the Washington State Parks website for any available updates. Every attempt has been made to make note of locations listed in this publication that are found also in this Accessibility Outdoor Recreation Guide.

### **Launch and Moorage Locations**

The Recreation and Conservation Office for the State of Washington maintains a listing of all recreational locations that have boat launches or moorage facilities that are accessible to the public. This is an extensive listing for all bodies of water in the state, including both marine and freshwater locations. Due to the amount of information contained on this internet site, it is suggested that interested persons look up the locations that they are considering and seek out more specific details. The website for this information is <http://www.rco.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm>. In addition to this information WDFW has also put an access webpage in place to search for sites that WDFW maintains as access points for fisheries or boating. This site is found at [http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/water\\_access/index.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/water_access/index.html). Yet another possible location to search is the Recreation and Conservation Office website <http://www.rco.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm>.

## **WASHINGTON STATE PARKS**

Washington’s state parks offer a wide range of fishing opportunities for Evergreen State anglers. Some state parks facilities have plenty of room for more visitors, especially during the mid week periods in April, May and early June, when many anglers are out prospecting for the hottest fishing action. The fact that Washington state parks offer access to more than 100 freshwater and saltwater fisheries may be one of the state’s best kept angling secrets. Currently 51 parks are on freshwater lakes and streams, another 47 provide saltwater angling access, and 2 parks offer both fresh and saltwater fishing. State parks provide a whopping 825 miles of freshwater shoreline for anglers to explore, ranging from tiny ponds and creeks to vast expanses along the shores of the Columbia River and some of its largest impoundments. The Washington State Parks and Recreation commission also maintains boat ramps at more than 40 of its parks.

Several of these ramps provide access to saltwater with the remainder providing access to freshwater lakes and streams. Daily launch fees are collected at most sites, but an annual boat launch permit is available. This permit can be purchased from their website at [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov). Many of the lakes with boat ramps also have camping facilities and information can be found about these online at [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov). For other information on Washington State Parks, please contact the Washington State Parks and Recreation commission 7150 Cleanwater Drive SW, Olympia WA 98504-2650, (360) 902-8844 (8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday) or by email at: [info@parks.wa.gov](mailto:info@parks.wa.gov).

## SPORT FISH OF WASHINGTON

Few states offer the variety and quality of fishing that Washington does. WDFW lists state record catches for more than fifty (50) freshwater species of fish and almost as many in saltwater. In addition to the listing below you can also order for yourself a copy of the CD-rom titled "Sport Fish of Washington," (to order this multimedia presentation for your computer go to [http://wdfw.wa.gov/outreach/cd\\_rom.htm](http://wdfw.wa.gov/outreach/cd_rom.htm)). Listed below is a limited selection of the more common fish species anglers often pursue in the Evergreen State.

### **Rainbow Trout**

This is the most popular game fish in the state of Washington. Native to the western U.S., this species is widely distributed throughout our state. Like other trout, they need clean, cool water to survive. Rainbows can usually be recognized by the red or pink stripe down both sides from the gill covers to the tail, but the coloration sometimes varies. Two subspecies of rainbow are native to Washington: coastal rainbow trout and redband rainbow trout. Both rainbow subspecies have resident and anadromous (steelhead) forms. In general, coastal rainbows are found west of the Cascade Mountains, redband rainbow are east of the Cascades. However, their ranges may overlap. In addition, the trout most commonly raised in WDFW hatcheries and planted in lowland lakes are a mixture of stocks and subspecies that has been developed over decades of selective breeding. Steelheads are described later in this section. Because of the rainbow's popularity among anglers, natural populations are supplemented by WDFW stocking programs that provide millions of trout annually to the state's lakes and streams. The natural diet of rainbows consists primarily of plankton, insects, other invertebrates, and smaller fish, but anglers can take them on a wide range of baits and artificial lures. Favorite baits in Washington lakes include worms, salmon eggs, marshmallows, cheese, artificial baits, and natural insects. Artificial lures such as wobbling spoons, spinners, and small diving plugs work well for rainbows. Fly anglers have good luck on dry and wet flies, nymphs, and streamer patterns.

### **Beardslee Rainbow Trout**

A unique population of rainbow trout called the Beardslee trout deserves special mention, since it is found in only one place in the world: the Olympia Peninsula's Lake Crescent. Beardslee trout can grow to impressive proportions, often topping 10 pounds. They are usually caught by anglers' deep-trolling large spoons or plugs. The national Park Service establishes regulations and seasons for Lake Crescent and other Olympic National Park waters. Because of concern for these unique fish, angling seasons are currently short, with catch and release only fishing.

### **Brown Trout**

Frequently called German Brown trout, as their name implies they are not North American natives, having been imported from Europe. Kettle River, Crab Creek and a few other eastern Washington waters have somewhat self-sustaining populations of browns. However this species is also stocked by WDFW in a number of lakes throughout the state. Browns are more tolerant of warm summer temperatures than our native trout. They can also be harder to catch. Larger brown trout feed extensively on other fish.

### **Golden Trout**

This species of trout is another of the introduced species, found only in a few remote, high-country lakes, where the water is cold and clear. These brilliantly colored trout, native to the high Sierras, feed on plankton and small insects, but are caught on a wide range of artificial flies and lures. Stocking of this unique fishery is limited at this point in time. Information about stocking of Golden Trout may be found by researching the High Mountain Lakes stocking plan at [http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/reports\\_plants.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/reports_plants.html).

### **Tiger Trout**

Washington's newest and most exotic freshwater sport fish is the tiger trout, a hatchery-produced cross between Brown trout and Eastern Brook trout. So named because of the tiger-like stripes on their back (a little imagination is needed here, but are distinct), these sterile hybrids are stocked in an increasing number of lakes throughout the state. Most tiger trout activity so far has been in Lincoln, Grant and Okanogan counties. More locations each year are being stocked with this species. Information regarding this can be found in the annual stocking plan found on the WDFW website, <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>.

### **Dolly Varden/Bull Trout**

Though generally called trout, these fish are actually char, more closely related to brook trout and lake trout. The Dolly Varden is native to this state and is fairly common in many rivers and some lakes west of the Cascades. WDFW, however, is concerned about the state's Dolly Varden populations, and they are protected now in many areas by a closed season. Bull trout, once thought to be the same species as Dolly Varden, are now considered a separate species. Like the Dolly Varden, our bull trout populations have declined, and fishing for them is restricted. Unless specifically allowed in the current *Fishing in Washington* Regulations pamphlet, both of these fish species must be released unharmed.

### **Eastern Brook Trout**

The brook trout, commonly referred to as a brookie, is another char and also an introduced species. They are found mostly in the north-eastern and north-central parts of the state, and along the slopes of the Cascades. Worm shaped markings called vermiculations along their back and upper sides easily identify brookies. Brook trout grow rapidly when conditions are right, reaching six or seven inches in a year and sometimes growing to five pounds. They are also subject to stunting from overpopulation in some lakes. Insect larvae and nymphs make up a large part of their diet, so they are a logical favorite of fly fishers.

### **Lake Trout**

The lake trout is yet another char, and another non-native species that has done well in a few Washington lakes, such as Lake Chelan, Loon, Deer, Cle Elum, Chelan, Bead and Bonaparte. A population of lake trout in St. Helens Lake, just above Spirit Lake, managed to survive the 1980 Eruption of Mt. St. Helens. Known by the name "mackinaw" throughout much of the west, lake trout are our largest purely freshwater salmon, which sometimes tops 60 pounds around the country where they are found, however this is not the case in Washington. Lake trout are coldwater fish. They can be caught on large plugs or spoons trolled near the surface early in the spring, but as the water warms you'll have to use a downrigger or try vertical jigging with large leadhead or metal jig.

## **Kokanee**

Sometimes called referred to as “silvers” or “silver trout,” they are in fact not trout at all. They are sockeye salmon that do not go out to sea, but live out their lives in freshwater lakes. Like all Pacific salmon, they die at sexual maturity regardless of their size. And like all sockeye salmon, kokanee is one of the best eating fish that swims. Although they feed on plankton, kokanee can be caught on small baits as maggots, white corn kernels, or small pieces of worm. These baits are either still-fished on painted hook, or trolled behind a beaded spinner or small flasher.

## **Cutthroat Trout**

There are three subspecies of cutthroat trout present in Washington State. The native species includes the coastal cutthroat (*O. clarki clarki*), often called the sea-run cutthroat or Harvest trout, and westslope (*O. clarki lewisi*) cutthroat. It is thought that at the beginning of the Pleistocene Era, about two million years ago, a common western trout ancestral species diverged into two lines, one leading to cutthroat trout and another leading to rainbow trout. About a million years ago, the cutthroat line separated into the coastal and westslope forms and the westslope form gave rise to the Lahontan and Yellowstone forms (Behnke 1997). Not native to Washington State are the Lahontan (*O. clarki henshawi*) cutthroat trout. While there is some mark variability among the subspecies, all have irregular dark spots and in freshwater have red coloration on the opercles. All three subspecies also have the typical red-orange marks resembling slashes on the undersides of the lower jaw (however these marks may be missing on bright silvery sea-run cutthroat).

Sea-run cutthroat trout are an anadromous cutthroat found throughout Puget Sound, western Washington river basins including coastal rivers and in the Columbia River as far inland as the Klickitat River. In marine waters the fishery is open year round and is exclusively a catch and release fishery. Anglers will need to check the most current “Fishing in Washington” sport fishing rules pamphlet for freshwater regulations of the river or stream they intend to fish. They can be caught in saltwater by trolling small herring or spinners and flies. All wild sea-run cutthroat must be released.

In Washington, the westslope cutthroat were historically native to the lake Chelan and Methow River basins in the Columbia River basin and the headwaters of the Pend Oreille River in the northeastern part of Washington. The first trout hatchery in Washington began in 1903 and cultured westslope cutthroat trout in the Stehekin River at the head of Lake Chelan. Today, the westslope cutthroat trout occurs in virtually all subbasins above 3,000 feet in elevation, in over 1,509 miles of 493 streams and 311 lakes in the Yakima, Wenatchee, Entiat and Methow Rivers, the Lake Chelan drainage, and Pend Oreille River basin. The fish will take a wide variety of baits including spinners, rooster tails and flies.

Lahontan cutthroat was introduced into Washington State in 1968 when Omak Lake was stocked. This is the largest cutthroat trout in Washington with a current state record of 18.04 pounds. This subspecies prefers the more harsher alkaline/saline environments found in several eastern Washington lakes. Today, these fish are routinely stocked into lakes Lenore, Grime, Big Twin (Okanogan County), Affluent, McManaman and Para-Juvenile. These fish behave similar to the other subspecies and will take spinners, rooster tails and flies.

## **Whitefish**

Washington has three species of whitefish, but only two species are commonly fished for. Native to Washington, mountain whitefish are closely related to our trout and salmon. They are common in both eastside and westside streams. Averaging 10 to 13 inches, mountain whitefish are most easily caught on maggots, small grubs, and stonefly nymphs or sparsely tied artificial flies and small lures fished along the bottom of deep pools in winter. A number of streams have special winter “whitefish only” seasons. Lake whitefish, on the other hand are an introduced species. They are generally larger with a bigger mouth than mountain whitefish. Originally introduced in a few Western Washington lakes, they are now distributed throughout the Columbia River Basin irrigation system, including Roosevelt, Banks, Moses and Soda Lakes, and Potholes and Scootenev Reservoirs. Be advised that these fish may be on the Washington State Department of Health’s fish consumption advisory listings, please refer to their website when listed in the regulations for further information as these fish to accumulate mercury and other biohazards. Please review Department of Health Fish Consumption Advisories at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) for any considerations concerning this species prior to preparing for consumption.

## **Largemouth Bass**

One of America’s most popular game fish and that popularity certainly extends to the state of Washington, where they were introduced in the late 1800’s. This warm water fish does not achieve huge size here, where the growing season is relatively short. Still, Washington anglers do catch their share of bragging-size largemouth bass. Washington boasts many productive largemouth bass waters, including Cowlitz County’s Silver Lake, the Pend Oreille River, and Spokane County’s Eloika Lake, just to name a few. Largemouth bass are particularly fond of lily pads and weed beds, submerged stumps, logs and other fairly thick cover, and these are good places for anglers to look for them. They are caught on a wide range of lures, including diving plugs, spinner baits, plastic baits and surface lures. A bass “slot limit” is in effect throughout the state (with few exceptions) to protect bass of the most effective spawning size, generally 12 – 17 inches. This rule allows harvest of bass both below and above the “slot” size. Please review Department of Health Fish Consumption Advisories at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) for information about a statewide bass consumption advisory.

## **Smallmouth Bass**

Another introduced species; smallmouth bass usually run smaller than their relative largemouth bass. Washington produces some of the west’s biggest smallmouth. Smallmouth bass are especially fond of rocky areas, where they feed on crayfish, insects and smaller fish. Try fishing with plastic grubs, tube or worms on leadhead jigs, diving plugs, or spinners with fur or feather tails. The Snake River, Lake Whatcom, Lake Sammamish, Lake Washington, Potholes Reservoir, much of the Columbia River, Banks Lake and the Okanogan River all are good smallmouth bass waters. In early spring, the Yakima River between Richland and Benton City is a top choice for trophy smallmouth bass. Where they are in effect, bass slot limits apply to smallmouth bass, so be sure to review the Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet. See the Department of Health Fish Consumption Advisories at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) for information about a statewide bass consumption advisory.

## Walleye

If any game fish species has taken the state – and the country – by storm, it has to be the walleye. Introduced to our state in the 1950's, one of the country's best kept trophy walleye fisheries has developed in the Columbia River system. Although sometimes erroneously called "walleyed pike", they are actually the big cousins to the yellow perch. Productive fishing methods for walleye include trolling with spinner- nightcrawler rig or plugs that imitate small baitfish. Casting small jigs with plastic grub bodies that mimic leeches or worms can also be effective. Walleye like to feed over submerged weed beds and around rocky structure. Many sections of the main Columbia River, Banks Lake, Moses Lake, and Potholes Reservoir are favorites of Washington walleye anglers. Another good location is Scooteney Reservoir with ample bank access to fish from, in Franklin County. This is a species of fish that when found, can produce exciting results due to its desire to school in groups of like size fish. Check the regulations pamphlet for walleye regulations that vary between the mid and lower Columbia River (below Priest Rapids Dam), Lake Roosevelt and its tributaries, and the remainder of the state. Please contact or review Department of Health Fish Consumption Advisories at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) for information about a Lake Roosevelt's walleye consumption advisory.

## Crappie

Pronounced "*Craw-pea*"; these are one of the prettiest and tastiest of all warm water fish. Although WDFW lists state records for both white and black crappie, black crappies are the most common. Both are introduced species. One of the best places to look for crappie is around submerged trees, stumps and brush, since they seem to love woody cover. If woody cover is not available, fishing around lily pads or aquatic vegetation for these fish may produce some action. Crappie are often found in schools in the spring, but usually scatter and move to deeper water in the summer months. Small leadhead jigs or artificial flies work well for these popular panfish, since small fish are a large part of the mature crappie diet.

## Yellow Perch

Introduced in the 1890's, yellow perch are abundant throughout Washington. They have saved many an otherwise unsuccessful fishing trip. They are very good table fare either filleted or cleaned and skinned. Many of Washington's year-round lakes and reservoirs are teeming with perch, providing good fishing 12 months a year. All you really need to catch these is a can of worms or grubs, although they will strike small jigs, spinners and other artificial lures as well. Please review Department of Health Fish Consumption Advisories at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) for information about Lake Whatcom and Lake Washington perch consumption advisories.

## Other Panfish

One of Washington's most popular introduced sunfish is the bluegill, a hard fighting, and good eating game fish. They are found in many lowland lakes on both sides of the state. Pumpkinseed sunfish are a little small to eat, but fun to catch, especially for kids. They will take almost anything small enough to fit in their tiny mouths. Rock Bass, also a non-native sunfish, their mottled dark bronze body and red eyes assist in the identification of this species. They are common in several Thurston and southern Pierce County Lakes, and average 7 to 10 inches in size. A similar species, the warmouth, is also found in a few western Washington lakes. Both rock bass and warmouth are fun to catch and good to eat, although not as prized as crappie or bluegill. **Note: the statewide slot limit on bass does not apply to rock bass.**

## **Catfish**

The introduced channel catfish is a hard fighting and good eating game fish that requires clean water to survive. Washington's best channel cat fishing is the Yakima and Snake Rivers, and the top baits are worms and chicken or beef livers. Unlike other catfish, this fish also readily takes artificial lures. A far more common catfish species is the brown bullhead. Although they are considered pests in some lakes, they provide a lot of fun and good eating, when of sufficient size to filet. Other non-native catfish that anglers may encounter include yellow and black bullheads, and rarely blue and flathead catfish. All are good eating and will take worms and other baits. Best fishing times for each of these species is usually at night.

## **Tiger Muskie**

A relatively recent addition to Washington's freshwater sport fishery is the tiger muskie, a northern pike-muskellunge sterile hybrid cross first introduced in Mayfield Lake to help curb a serious rough fish problem and to provide a trophy fishery. The success of the Mayfield program led to the planting of tiger muskies in Clark County's Merwin Reservoir, Ferry County's Curlew Lake, Grant County's Evergreen Reservoir and Red Rock Lake, King County's Green Lake, Pierce County's Lake Tapps, Spokane county's Newman Lake, and Whatcom county's Fazon Lake (to date). Tiger muskies can be very big, hungry predators that many grown to 20 pounds or more. Tiger Muskie are aggressive feeders and will take most large jigs and lures or plugs. Bucktail spinners are another good option if fished during the warmer summer months. Recreational anglers may retain only one fish per day and it **has to be at least 50 inches in length in order to be retained by anglers.**

## **Northern Pike**

Migrating from Lake Pend Oreille in Idaho after being introduced into that body of water, these fish are gradually moving downstream into Washington State. Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*) like their hybridized relatives, are an aggressive carnivorous species of fish. These fish are currently found in the Box Canyon Reservoir and other areas of the Pend Oreille River and Spokane River systems. It is also likely that an insignificant number may currently reside in Lake Roosevelt. Like the sterile Tiger Muskie, Northern Pike are capable of becoming very big, hungry predators and can potentially reach upwards of 30 pounds or more in some areas. They are normally a solitary species and not found in schools, this said, if one is caught in an area, work the area nearby exploring similar territory. They can be found lying under large logs, hidden in reeds or grassy areas along shores awaiting smaller fish, frogs and other food sources. While they generally like shallow waters 2-8 feet, they can transition to nearby deeper waters if temperatures rise too much, returning in the evenings and early mornings to feed in nearby shallows. Successful anglers often utilize large lures connected to wire leaders hooked by swivel to lighter mono or braided lines to prevent their teeth from cutting the lines during the battle. These fish can also be successfully caught on fly fishing gear. Caution must be given in handling these fish as placement of hands in the mouth or under the gill plate can also provide severe cuts to fingers due to the "rakers" on the gills themselves. These fish provide for good eating once learning the process of fileting a Pike. Their "Y" bones often frustrate even the most skilled. Look for this species to grow in population and popularity as they continue their migration into larger and warmer bodies of water in Washington. Currently there are no catch limits on this species in Washington State. If you practice catch and release, it is best to keep the fish in the water

alongside the boat as the fish will be calmer and much easier to release by removing the hooks carefully with long nose pliers or a good hook remover.

### **Burbot**

Perhaps Washington's most peculiar freshwater fish is the Burbot, commonly called freshwater ling. Found in several central and eastern Washington lakes; they are usually caught through the ice on large baits such as a gob of night crawlers or a strip of sucker meat. Burbot populations are down in some waters, with more restrictive rules implemented to help them recover.

### **Sturgeon**

This is the largest freshwater species that Washington anglers are likely to encounter. This prehistoric fish is available in the Columbia River and other large northwest streams year round. Washington anglers may catch both the green or white sturgeon, but whites are the most common and certainly the largest, sometimes measuring over eight feet and weighing several hundred pounds. Green Sturgeon must be released unharmed and are not to be retained in Washington State. Sturgeon feed on the bottom, cruising along and picking up tasty morsels with their sucker like mouth. Anglers usually fish for them with smelt, shrimp, cut shad, and other baits anchored on the bottom. Hooked sturgeon, especially the larger ones, may jump completely out of the water, providing a spectacular show for anglers or anyone who happens by at the right time. The popularity of sturgeon fishing has drawn large numbers of anglers to the Columbia and Chehalis rivers in recent years, and more restrictive regulations have gone into effect to help protect this valuable resource from over fishing. Be aware of the process to measure this species of fish for retention. This species is limited to one fish per day and no more than 5 per year. Catch and release fisheries do exist and a catch record card is required to fish for this species. Please check all regulations for the waters where fishing is planned and be sure to know the difference between each of these two species (Green and White Sturgeon).

### **Halibut**

The heavyweight champ of the Pacific Northwest Saltwater fish is the Pacific halibut, which may grow to over 400 pounds. Halibut populations boomed in the early 1980's, and the fish's popularity also soared, to the point that halibut fishing has become extremely popular in Washington and throughout the Pacific Northwest. With the popularity of this fish species, follows new regulations on seasons and limits. This species is regulated by an international fishing pact that reviews each year's catch to determine future catch limits. Halibut like to feed on and around significant underwater structures and plateaus. The state's most well known halibut grounds are at Swiftsure reef, located on the Canadian border near the entrance of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, about 20 miles north of Neah Bay. Other productive halibut fishing areas are located off the northern Washington coast, and around Neah Bay and Sekiu, Port Angeles and on several underwater humps near the east end of the Straits of Juan de Fuca. Best fishing in these areas is during the spring. Halibut will take herring, squid and other baits, but deep water anglers often prefer to bounce heavy leadhead jigs with large plastic grub bodies, pipe jigs, or baitfish imitating metal jigs along the bottom for their "barn doors." Be sure to read all the regulations regarding fishing for Halibut as their habitat coincides with several other species that are now protected.

### **Other Flatfish**

Starry Flounders are found in many of Washington's marine areas, and are most commonly caught from shallow water estuaries such as Grays Harbor, Willapa Bay and some of Puget Sound's larger river mouths. They occasionally stray into freshwater, and ones have been caught up the Columbia River as far as Bonneville Dam. They are good eating and not too choosy about the baits or lures they will take. Washington also has a wide range of other Flatfish, including the Arrowtooth flounder, sand sole, English sole, and Petrale sole and Pacific sanddab.

### **Skates and Sharks**

The big skate might be considered a sort of halibut look alike, although it is much more closely related to sharks than to halibut. Sometimes growing to well over 100 pounds, their "wings" are highly prized table fare. Blue sharks grow to fairly large size in Washington and are pursued by some anglers, mostly along the coast. Washington anglers commonly catch these when salmon fishing with their bait near the bottom. Their fight is not spectacular, and although they are popular as a food species in Europe, they are not often eaten here. Six Gill sharks are protected and should immediately be released unharmed if caught.

### **Lingcod**

Prized by Washington saltwater anglers, lingcod are feared by other smaller fish and are often found trying to swallow a fish that has already taken the bait on a fishing rod. These fish eat everything from herring, anchovies, and crabs to other lingcod. Playing on its hearty appetite, anglers often use live bait to catch a big ling, but leadhead jigs, metal jigs and other artificial lures will also fool them. The best lingcod habitat is a hard, rocky bottom with lots of steep drops and jagged pinnacles. These areas are easy to find with a chart and depth sounder, but difficult to fish effectively without losing tackle. Lingcod are slow growing fish and the largest ones – sometimes over 60 pounds - are all females. To protect lingcod populations in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, both Pacific Marine waters and Puget Sound seasons and regulations are quite conservative. Be sure to check the regulations before fishing in all saltwater locations.

### **Rockfish**

A growing number of these species are now being protected as we learn more about their habitat and growth cycles. Although commonly lumped together under the label of "bottom fish," many rockfish species may be found well off the bottom, sometimes even right on the surface. Some of these species can become large fish and while they are a delicacy and fairly easy to catch, they are now becoming threatened. Among these are; *Yelloweye* are the most notable one, often weighing over ten 10 pounds. *Yelloweye* populations are very fragile by the nature of their species and their growth rate is slow, maturing over a longer period of time than was previously thought. *Canary rockfish*, is another brightly colored inhabitant of the Washington's deep-water marine areas of Washington State. Both *Yelloweye* and *Canary Rockfish* are now protected and not considered for retention or targeting when fishing in saltwater. See current Washington Fishing Regulations for more information regarding this species.

*Black or Blue rockfish* are one of our most common and most popular rockfish, providing fast action for coastal charter anglers as well as small boat fishermen in places like Neah Bay and Sekiu. Averaging two to three pounds each, both of these rockfish species are excellent light tackle fighters. They can be found at a virtually any depth, but many anglers search for schools

that are feeding in shallow water kelp beds or near the surface in open water. When near the surface, they'll take anything from herring to small jigs to streamer flies and surface plugs. *Copper rockfish* are common in Washington waters, especially near shallow water rock piles and other hard underwater structures. Most are small, weighing less than 2 pounds and are fun to catch on light tackle. *Tiger rockfish* are perhaps the most brightly colored example. The Bocaccio is one of the bigger rockfish, commonly topping 20 pounds, and is usually caught from fairly deep water. *China rockfish*, another fairly common species can be identified by their yellow on black coloration and are often caught in similar locations to black or blue rockfish.

### **Cabezon**

The largest member of the sculpin family found in saltwater locations of Washington's coastline, Cabezon sometimes grow to over 20 pounds. They can be tough fighters, especially when hooked in fairly shallow water or on light tackle. Cabezon feed primarily on marine crustaceans, using their powerful jaws to capture and crush their prey. Small fish, however, are also included in their diet, so herring and baitfish imitating metal jigs bounced along the bottom will take them too. Although the large head, fins and heavy bones are not edible, Cabezon provide a pair of thick, tasty, white meat fillets for seafood gourmets. Cabezon eggs are poisonous, so be very careful when cleaning them. Because of concerns about the long-term health of the species, Cabezon seasons are very restrictive east of Sekiu River.

### **Other Sculpin**

Other sculpin are of moderate interest to Washington saltwater anglers, including the red Irish Lord, great sculpin, staghorn sculpin and buffalo sculpin.

### **Other Bottom fish**

*Kelp greenlings* are smaller relatives of lingcod, common throughout Washington's marine waters. Kelp beds and shallow, rocky areas are the best places to look for them, and they are easily caught on small baits and jigs. Greenlings are among the fish commonly used for live lingcod bait. But they are very good table fair in their own right, providing firm, white-meated fillets. *Pacific cod* is a true codfish, which explains its most common nickname, "true cod." Cod fillets are excellent on the dinner table, making true cod popular among anglers even though they are not tough fighters. Baits such as whole or plug-cut herring will take cod, as will pipe jigs and other artificial. Whatever you use, fish it close to the bottom. *Pollock* are another good eating Bottom fish that are closely related to pacific cod, although somewhat smaller. They are often found over the same sand and gravel bottoms where cod are found, and the can be caught with the same baits and lures. **It is important to note the Pacific cod and Pollok populations are in trouble in some areas, and fishing for them is restricted or closed. Be sure to check the regulations pamphlet for the marine area in which you are fishing.**

### **Saltwater Perch**

Sea perch and surfperch are widely available in our marine waters. The three most popular are *pile perch*, *striped sea perch* and *red-tailed surfperch*. Casting in the breakers along virtually any coastal beach with clam necks, shrimp, sand worms or other bait will take the red-tailed surfperch, an amazingly strong fighter. Redtails are also a very good eating fish, which, like other sea perch species, bear live young rather than laying eggs like most fish. Striped sea perch

and pile perch are more common in Puget Sound, where they are often caught around docks, floats and piers on an incoming tide. Small pieces of bait often work best for these species.

### **Albacore Tuna**

An inhabitant of blue-water, the albacore tuna makes its annual migrations during the summer months as the warmer waters of the ocean shift north. These migrations often bring it to within reach of Washington's coastal anglers. There commercial charter boats operating out of Westport and Ilwaco pursue it. The fishing strategy usually involves trolling surface lures until a school is located, then drifting live anchovies. Recently, fly fishers have found this fish to be a new challenge and groups can be found that charter a boat for only fly-fishing. Heavy fly-fishing equipment is essential and a requirement for this species with 15 wt Fly rods and reels that contain significant fly line and backing materials. Albacore tuna are incredibly strong, fast swimmers, and also are excellent table fare.

It is not uncommon to find other species of fish more related to Tropical waters when fishing for Albacore Tuna. Yellowtail and Striped Marlin are but two of these species caught off of Westport. Other species often go unreported, but may be retained by anglers in these waters.

### **Anadromous Fish**

Some fish spend part of their lives in fresh water and part in saltwater. Fish that hatch in freshwater, spend part of their lives in saltwater, then return to freshwater to spawn are known as "anadromous" species, and Washington has a variety of them.

### **Steelhead**

Steelhead start their lives in freshwater rivers, creeks, and streams; migrate to sea, then spend one to six years in the Pacific before returning to their home streams to repeat the cycle. Unlike other anadromous salmonids, steelhead can migrate to and from freshwater and saltwater to spawn several times in their lives. Most steelhead naturally spawn from mid-winter to late spring, however two different runs – summer and winter - return to freshwater at different times. Adult winter-run steelhead return to over 100 Washington streams from November through April. The remaining run of Steelhead is considered Summer run and returns to freshwater from April to October. Some of these streams will have wild steelhead runs that provide good fishing and a self-sustaining population. But a loss of clean spawning gravel and suitable rearing habitat, coupled with other environmental problems, has greatly depleted the wild steelhead runs in many river systems. As a result, wild steelhead retention is now allowed in only a few streams, with very restrictive annual limits.

In terms of sport catch, the state's top winter steelhead waters include the Cowlitz, Bogachiel/Quillayute, Skykomish, Snoqualmie and East Fork Lewis rivers. Summer-run steelhead return to freshwater from April to October, and anglers catch these summer fish in good numbers from about three dozen rivers and creeks. Summer Steelhead rivers and streams that treat anglers best include the Columbia below the Bonneville, portions of the Snake River, plus the Grande Ronde, Cowlitz, Little White Salmon, and Kalama Rivers. A majority of adult

steelhead return from the Pacific Ocean after two or three growing seasons. They generally average about 8 pounds and range between 5-14 pounds. The true trophies are fish that stay at sea four to six years, these 20-, 25-, 30-pounders are fish that an angler may get a shot at only once in a lifetime. WDFW plants hatchery winter steelhead in some 75 streams to enhance recreational angling opportunity and about 45 streams receive plants of summer-run steelhead.

Many fishing methods take steelhead, but drift fishing is the most popular. It involves casting upstream and letting the lure sink to the bottom, there it drifts downstream with the current. Standard baits and lures for steelhead drift fishing include clusters of fresh salmon or steelhead roe, live ghost shrimp, brightly colored steelhead “bobbers” and tufts of florescent nylon yarn. Casting wobbling spoons, spinner and artificial flies also produces steelhead strikes, as does drifting a leadhead jig suspended beneath a bobber. Anglers should be aware of special regulations that require wild steelhead to be released in most streams. It should also be noted that it is illegal to take a wild steelhead out of the water in these fisheries when they are required to be released unharmed.

### **Chinook Salmon**

Like steelhead, Pacific salmon spend part of their lifecycle in freshwater and part in saltwater. Unlike steelhead, though, adult salmon always die after completing their spawning runs. First and foremost among salmon fishing trophies is, of course, the Chinook; also known as the King Salmon, Tyee, or Blackmouth in some areas of the state. Chinook are the largest of the Pacific salmon. Today, this species can reach weights of nearly 100 pounds in some locations and truly deserves the nickname King salmon. The name Blackmouth comes from their gum lines that help anglers identify them at younger ages. No other salmon has this coloration and is a sure identifier. Although the biggest saltwater kings are caught in the summer and early fall when mature salmon move toward freshwater spawning grounds, Washington offers various saltwater Chinook-fishing opportunities throughout most of the year.

Productive saltwater fishing techniques for Chinook include trolling or mooching (drifting) with herring, jigging with an of several baitfish imitating metal jigs, or trolling with plugs, spoons, plastic squid or other artificial lures. Fishing near the bottom is often the key to success. Besides the well-known saltwater Chinook fishers that exist on the coast, in Strait of Juan de Fuca, the San Juan Islands and Puget Sound Chinook also provide some great freshwater angling action. Spring Chinook fishing techniques are similar to those used for steelhead, except most anglers prefer heavier tackle for these bruisers. Although uncommon, “resident” Chinook may be found in some lake systems that support runs of the anadromous form. Examples are lakes Sammamish and Washington, where resident Chinook 12-15 inches long make up a small percentage of the catch. Inland fish managers are also experimenting with Chinook as predators on stunted perch or other over abundant species in some lakes. Chinook are also sometimes planted in landlocked lakes to provide a freshwater fishery.

### **Coho**

Due to their relative abundance and unpredictable fighting style, this member of the salmon family is a favorite of the angling public in Washington. A typical adult Coho weighs four to ten pounds, but specimens up to 20 pounds have been caught in both marine and fresh water locations. Fresh from the ocean it is easy to understand why the Coho’s most common nickname

is “Silver” salmon. WDFW hatcheries produce millions of Coho each year to supplement wild coho runs, which have succumbed to a wide range of issues relating habitat loss on many of the state’s river systems.

The same baits, lures and techniques that take Chinook will also take coho from Washington’s marine waters, but remember that these fish are usually found near the surface, in about the top 30 feet of water. Like Chinook, coho are also a favorite of freshwater anglers when the adult salmon return to their home streams to spawn. Flashy spinners, wobbling spoons, diving plugs and well-fished cluster of fresh roe will take them when they hit fresh water. Some lakes may be stocked with landlocked coho salmon. Like kokanee, these fish are sometimes incorrectly called “silver trout.” They grow to 20 inches or so and provide excellent sport and table fare.

### **Pink Salmon**

Pink salmon are a common catch for Washington anglers during odd-numbered years. With a two-year life cycle, shorter than any other of the salmonid family, they don’t get as big, averaging three or four pounds at maturity, seldom topping the 10-pound mark. Pink salmon are commonly called “humpies” because of the large hump that develops on the back of the mature males in the spawning stage. Both males and females can be identified by the large oblong or oval spots on both the upper and lower portion of their tail and by their very small scales. Trolling with herring or any other standard salmon offerings will take pinks from saltwater, but hot colors tend to work best. The same general rule seems to apply when fishing for pinks in fresh water.

### **Chum Salmon**

This species of salmon provide for some of the most challenging fishing in the fall as these fish return to their spawning grounds. The chum salmon’s nickname “dog salmon” is due to its large lower and upper teeth that develop as the fish begins the final or spawning stage in its lifecycle. Chum are the second largest of the Pacific salmon, and Washington anglers catch many of them weighing in the high teens and low 20 pound range. They are the last of the salmon to return each fall, usually arriving at their stream of origin from November to January. Both fly-fishing and spinning action can take these fish during this migration period of time. Fly fishers use green or pink colored flies that emulate small shrimp. Bait or spinning anglers use a corky/yarn combo or spinners, casting into areas where these fish congregate. Chum salmon are seldom caught in open marine waters.

### **Sockeye Salmon**

Considered by many to be the best eating of all the salmon species, the name Suk-kegh, meaning red fish, is derived from a poor translation of the British Columbia Coast Salish language. The most notable fishery in Washington happens in Lake Wenatchee and in some years on Lake Washington. These fisheries are sporadic at best and when open provide for a very busy fishing experience due to the number of anglers on the water at one time. Sockeye are one of the smallest of the salmon found in the Pacific Ocean. They range in size from 24 -33 inches in length and weigh between 5 and 15 pounds.

### **Shad**

American shad are a large member of the herring family. Their life cycle is like that of the Pacific Salmon in that they are anadromous; they hatch in freshwater, migrate to sea, then return to freshwater to spawn when they reach their adult stage. Shad are not a Washington native, having been imported to this part of the country from the East Coast in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Washington's most important shad run and shad fishery occurs in the Columbia River, extending up into the Snake River. Smaller runs enter a few other streams. In recent years, the Columbia has seen record runs, with annual returns numbering in the millions of fish. The height of the run is from mid-May to mid-June. Adult shad range in size from males averaging about 1½ pounds to females that weight four pounds or more. All are tough fighters and make a strong showing for anglers using light tackle. There is no daily catch limit on shad, and although they are "bony," the flesh has good flavor, especially when smoked. The roe is considered a delicacy by many shad anglers. Brightly colored mini-gigs, spinners, even a couple of red beads above the bare hook will take shad. There are several good places to fish for them between Bonneville Dam and the town of Camas on the Lower Columbia.

### **Smelt**

This family of schooling fish has members that include both anadromous and freshwater species. *Eulachon* are an anadromous smelt. Lower Columbia tributaries, most notably the Cowlitz River, historically provided good eulachon-dipping action, using long handled dip nets. Runs there were down in the 1990's, remaining low to date. Check the regulations pamphlet for specific seasons and catch limit information. *Surf* and *longfin* smelt are the most popular marine species, and are one of the most common fish of the near shore community inside Puget Sound, along the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the Washington coast. Fisheries occur on both spawning and non-spawning congregations of adults and juveniles. Spawning fish are best harvested from shore on early morning or late evening high slack tides using a dip bag or smelt rake. Non-spawning fish are most commonly taken with jig gear in deeper water from piers or boats. Other smelts found in Washington include *whitebait*, *night* and *capelin*. There is a landlocked population of longfin smelt in Lake Washington.

### **Squid**

A new addition to the Fishing Prospect pamphlet and species listing is the squid family. By no means new to anglers, squid are commonly fished for from public piers and often from boats throughout the marine waters of Puget Sound, Hood Canal, the Straits of Juan de Fuca and Washington's Pacific coast. While charter-boat activities are not the norm in Washington, it is worth mentioning that there are now activities of this sort in along Oregon's coast line where the Humboldt is caught in waters as deep as 600 feet. Squid fishing is a growing activity and when properly prepared provide fine table fare, so are indeed worth mentioning in this publication.

The primary and currently most popular species found along Washington's coast, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Hood Canal, and Puget Sound is the Pacific Squid, opalescent, or otherwise known in the commercial industry as the common-market squid (*Loligo opalescens*). Adult market squid found in inside waters average about eight inches (mantle plus tentacles) in length. This species is thought to live for one year and is plentiful in many areas of the marine waters.

Humboldt squid (*Dosidicus gigas*), another species of squid usually found of the coasts of central and South America, are now showing up along Washington's coastline. This species is a

voracious feeder and has been noted as one of the future threats to the salmonid populations in some popular scientific journals due to climate changes effect in water temperatures. These squid can be found mainly during the late summer and early fall months when the water temperatures are at their highest. This species is a large schooling species and like their smaller Pacific cousins. They generally grow to between 4 and 7 feet in length and can weigh up to 100 pounds. Humboldt squid seen off the Washington coast are often encountered by persons fishing for tuna. They are also encountered in the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Hood Canal, and sometimes in Puget Sound. While this species of squid can be very good eating, anglers should be very careful when handling one of these animals. They are aggressive and can deliver a nasty, painful bite. In Mexico these squid are known as *diablo rojo* (red devil) due to their aggressive nature. Biologically, squid belong to the class of mollusks known as cephalopods. Squid are decapods, having ten tentacles, compared to the eight of octopuses. They also are free-swimming creatures and exhibit schooling behavior similar to many species of fish. Some evidence indicates that the Humboldt may live 4 or more years and research is ongoing on this species to better understand their habits and life-spans and habitat requirements.

For more information about squid and fishing opportunities in Washington, please visit the WDFW website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/squid/fishing.htm> . A fishing license is required to fish for these species. Additionally a Shellfish/Seaweed license may also be required, check the Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet for seasons and catch limit. Pier locations and fishing information is found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/piers> .

## COUNTY-BY-COUNTY LISTINGS

The following pages provide a brief description of fishing opportunities arranged in alphabetical order by county, then alphabetically by lakes and streams within that county. **Open seasons and other regulations are given for convenience only and should be verified to be sure of any changes prior to departing for your fishing activities.** This can be done online at <http://wdfw.wa.gov>.

For specific regulation information, refer to the *Fishing in Washington* sport fishing regulations pamphlet. Fishing regulations pamphlets can be safely downloaded at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or picked up from local WDFW license contract vendor, WDFW License office located in Olympia at the Natural Resources Building, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, or at one of six WDFW region offices located throughout the state of Washington (Spokane, Ephrata, Yakima, Millcreek, Vancouver or Montesano). **It is important to note that sport fishing regulations run from May 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> each year. Fishing licenses run from April 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>.** Catch record cards are due for Salmon, Halibut, Sturgeon and Steelhead no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. Currently these record cards must be submitted in original form and cannot be done online. Crab catch record cards are due two times a year, one for the first half of the season and the second half of season respectfully. The due dates for these are clearly printed at the top of each record card under the crabbing season dates. Crab catch record information can now be entered online. By following the web-based information, it is simple to do and saves on postage.

Throughout the year fishing regulations may change due to fish runs on specific bodies of water or emergency situations required to protect certain species. It is therefore important to check on any updated fishing information which can also be found by checking with the nearest WDFW regional office, or local newspapers for the latest information on emergency closures or special openings. WDFW office telephone numbers and locations are listed in the first part of this document or can be found in the front part of the *Fishing in Washington* pamphlet.

For specific information about the 2009 Hatchery Trout Stocking Plans for Washington Lakes and Streams, refer to the Department of Fish and Wildlife website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>. This listing includes all species of fish planned to be stocked in lakes and streams of individual counties in this state. Also included are approximate dates (months) when these fish will be moved into each body of water. For a more detailed listing each region may have listed on their websites a stocking plan that has no less than a two-week window of time in which these fish will be relocated to a specific lake or stream for anglers to catch. Fishing Prospects refers to this document for all stocking information that is contained in this publication. For informational purposes, Triploid trout stocking information only is included in the 2008 Fishing Prospects publication.

Site-specific accessibility information can be found in the *Washington Accessible Outdoor Recreation Guide*. The most current version of this pamphlet can be found online at <http://parks.wa.gov/ada-rec>. The information is maintained by Washington State Parks, with support from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. Locations with ADA accessibility have been noted with the website. Please check this website for more relative information.

Numerous boat launch facilities (public and privately owned) may be found on any specific body of water. Specific information on this is not listed in the *Fishing Prospects* publication. Fresh and salt-water boat launch information can be found on the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office's website <http://www.rco.wa.gov/> Select the left column link titled "Boat Launch and Moorage Maps" to find more specific information and maps about these locations.

Specific fish and shellfish consumption advisories are published by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and are not regulated in any way by WDFW. The best example of this process is when WDFW sets each of the Razor Clamming events throughout the year. A tentative date is set, DOH does the human health safety reviews and if given a clean bill of health, the season occurs. This independent agency is responsible for public health related issues. For a specific location or body of water all health related issues you can obtain the most current information from the Department of Health's. The Department of Health's website is <http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish>. If a specific location in Fishing Prospects has ongoing issues or listed as a new location from past years records, it will refer to this site for more information. It is the public's responsibility to be informed of these issues by looking this information up.

## **ADAMS COUNTY**

*Note: Many of the lakes in this area are on the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge. For a map to help explore the many fishing opportunities available here, including lakes that are not part of the refuge, contact Columbia National Wildlife Refuge headquarters at P.O. Drawer F, Othello, WA 99334; phone (509) 488-2668.*

**Bobcat Creek and Coyote Creek Ponds:** On the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge about five miles north of Othello. April 1 through September 30 open season. These small ponds support a few bluegills and some fair-sized largemouth bass. Access is by foot, south off of McManamon Road.

**Fourth of July Lake:** Refer to Lincoln County for a description of this lake straddling the Adams/Lincoln County line. It is managed with Lincoln County waters.

**Herman Lake (35 acres):** About five miles north of Othello, on the east of Seep Lakes Road. April 1 through September 30 open season. Herman is stocked with rainbow trout fingerlings, which should be 10 to 12 inches this spring. However, carp and other spiny-ray fish have taken over these waters and depressed trout survival. An unimproved small-craft boat launch is available, but there are no toilet facilities or vehicle parking.

**Hutchinson (49 acres) and Shiner (33 acres) Lakes:** On the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge seven miles north of Othello. April 1 through September 30 open season. Angling for largemouth bass and bluegill has been very good on these connected lakes. Crappie and perch can also be caught. Access is via a spur south off of McManamon Road. Hutchinson has a gravel boat launch and internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Lyle Lake (12 acres):** Five miles north of Othello, on the westside of Seep Lake Road. April 1 through September 30 open season. Lyle is stocked with rainbow trout fingerlings, which should

reach 10 to 12 inches by this spring. However, carp and other spiny-ray fish have taken over these waters and depressed trout survival. Small boats can be launched, and toilet facilities and parking are available

**Para-Juvenile Lake (12 acres):** On the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge about seven miles northwest of Othello. This small lake shared by Adams and Grant Counties is open to juveniles only (14 years old and younger). April 1 through September 30 open season. Stocked with rainbow and Lahontan cutthroat trout, however, sunfish have taken over these waters and depressed trout survival. Access is walk-in east off of Morgan Lake Road.

**Seep lakes (located north of Othello):** The “Seep lakes” area includes many of the Adams County lakes listed here, plus others. Grant County (see below) also has many lakes in the area. For a map to help navigate this puzzling plethora of piscatorial potholes, contact Columbia National Wildlife Refuge headquarters at P. O. Drawer F, Othello, WA 99334; (509) 488-2668.

**Shiner Lake:** See Hutchinson Lake.

**Sprague Lake (1840 acres):** Sprawling across the Adams-Lincoln County line, this lake is co-managed with Adams and Lincoln County waters, and its prospects are also listed there. Sprague Lake was rehabilitated during the fall of 2007. The lake has been stocked with rainbow trout fingerlings and catchables, mostly 8-10” and some up to 16”, for the 2008 season. These fish have all grown fast, most reaching 15-16 inches by fall, and half-pound rainbow should be common by fall. Approximately 3,250 Triploid trout were also be stocked. Lahontan cutthroat were added last fall and should enter the fishery in fall 2009 as one pound fish. Bass, bluegill, crappie, and catfish were also stocked; however, it will take 3-5 years for the fisheries for these species to develop. Be sure to check the regulations pamphlet for special closure information.

## **ASOTIN COUNTY**

**Asotin Creek:** Most tributaries on the important and productive Snake River tributary are closed to protect wild steelhead populations, and trout are no longer stocked. The season is open from June 1 through October 31 in the main stem portion of the creek, and with *selective gear rules* on a portion of the North Fork. Check the regulations pamphlet for details.

**Golf Course, Silcott and West Evans ponds:** These small impoundments off the Snake Rivers near the bottom of Alpowa Grade (west of Clarkston) are open to fishing year-round. They normally are stocked in the spring with Rainbow Trout. **Golf Course** and **West Evans** ponds will receive 400 jumbo (14 inch or larger) rainbow trout this year, in addition to the regular stocking of 20,000 8-12 inch rainbows in each of these two locations. This will provide for some great fishing in the early season and throughout the year. *Two fish over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit* on **Golf Course** and **West Evans** ponds. These ponds get fished intensively during spring and early summer. All three have public access.

**Grande Ronde River:** Steelhead are the primary attraction in this Snake River tributary. Steelhead cannot be retained in the lower 2 ½ miles, but this area provides exceptional catch-and-release fishing in fall and early winter. *Anglers are allowed to retain up to three-hatchery steelhead a day in areas that are open to retention.* Smallmouth bass and channel catfish also offer good angling near the mouth of the river during late spring, summer and fall. Various restrictions are in effect to protect wild trout and

salmon, including selective gear rules for part of the year. Salmon fishing is closed to protect threatened Chinook salmon. Be sure to check the latest regulations pamphlet for current rules.

**Headgate Pond:** This small impoundment off Asotin Creek in Headgate County Park is eight miles west of Asotin and is open only to juveniles, seniors and those who have a disability license. Open season is from the last Saturday in April and continues through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This pond is stocked with catchable size rainbow trout. Fishing is good during spring before the water warms too much.

**Snake River:** Refer to Garfield County.

## **BENTON COUNTY**

**Columbia Park Pond (7 acres):** This small pond is located near the Kennewick end of the Highway US-395 Bridge and the Columbia Park boat ramp. It is open only to juveniles (14 years of age and younger) and holders of disability licenses. Open season is year-round except for a possible short emergency closure before the Fishing Kids derby described below. This body of water currently has a daily limit of five game fish (all species combined). Rainbow trout are stocked annually. Smallmouth and largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, and channel catfish have also been planted. A “Fishing Kids” derby designed to introduce youth ages 5 to 14 to sport fishing is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>; contact Kennewick Parks & Recreation at (509) 585-4293 for more information or check the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation website at <http://www.castforkids.org>.

**Columbia River plus pools and sloughs:** Various species provide good fishing opportunities. Walleyes are caught throughout the McNary and John Day pools with popular areas near the Boardman and Irrigon boat launches (Oregon) and below McNary and John Day Dams. Boat launch facilities in Washington below McNary Dam are available at Plymouth, Paterson (primitive), and Crow Butte Park. Expect excellent smallmouth bass fishing in the river and sloughs at Paterson, Casey Pond, near the mouth of the Yakima River, and in the Hanford Reach. Channel catfish are caught throughout the McNary Pool but the best fishing is usually found near the mouth of the Walla Walla and Yakima Rivers in the spring and early summer. Sturgeon fishing has been fair throughout this area of the Columbia River. Sturgeon fishing is open year around in Lake Wallula (above McNary Dam) but is only open until the quota is reached below McNary Dam, often closing before June. Annually, from May through June the Columbia River between McNary Dam and the I-82 Bridge downstream is closed to fishing for sturgeon. Steelhead fishing opens June 16 from John Day Dam to the Highway US-395 Bridge at Kennewick. The Hanford Reach steelhead fishery (Highway US-395 to the old Hanford town site) is scheduled to open October 1 through March 31 (See Washington Sport Fishing Rules for special regulations in this area). Fishing for hatchery steelhead is best in October and November. In October, only hatchery steelhead with a missing adipose and right ventral fin and a healed scar where the fins were clipped can be kept. In November, any hatchery steelhead with an adipose fin clip can be retained. All wild steelhead must be released. Fall Chinook salmon return to the Umatilla River (Oregon), Yakima River, and Hanford Reach from August through November, with the best fishing in late September to mid-October. There are primitive launch facilities in the Hanford Reach at Highway SR-240 (Vernita Bridge) and at Ringold (Franklin County), and developed launches at Wahluke (Franklin County), Leslie Groves Park (Richland), and

Columbia Point Park (Richland). Be sure to check the latest regulations and emergency measures for additional salmon fishing opportunities and for early closures

**Mitchell (3.7 acres), Mound (34.8 acres), Palmer (4.9 acres), Switch (6.7 acres), and Yellepit (36.3 acres) Ponds:** These ponds are located in railroad fill on the northwest side of McNary Reservoir about 15 miles southeast of Kennewick. All have year-round open fishing season. Fishing should be fair-to-good for a variety of warm water fish including smallmouth and largemouth bass, crappie, yellow perch, sunfish, plus bullhead and channel catfish.

**Yakima River:** The lower Yakima River from Granger downstream to the Columbia River is well known for robust populations of smallmouth bass and channel catfish during the spring and summer months. Though some shoreline areas are open to the public, most of the better fishing areas are only accessible by boat. Boat launch sites are located at Granger, Prosser, Benton City, Horn Rapids Park, Snively Road, Hyde Road, and Duportail Road. Smallmouth bass are generally under one and a half pounds, but fish up to six pounds have been caught. Recent research confirms that smallmouth from the Columbia River begin moving into the Yakima River in March and remain through the summer months. **Trophy smallmouth bass can be caught during this spring migration.** Anglers may catch and keep an unlimited number of bass less than 15 inches in length, but no more than three over 15 inches. Channel catfish in the 8-pound class are not uncommon, but average size is 1-2 pounds. There is no current minimum size and no daily limit on channel catfish in the Yakima River. The lower Yakima River is closed to trout fishing (both resident trout and steelhead) and is open to fishing for bass, catfish and other game fish from March 1 – October 22 below Prosser Dam and May 1 – October 31 above Prosser Dam to the Hwy 223 bridge at Granger. A fall chinook and coho salmon season is scheduled for September 1 to October 22 from the mouth to Prosser Dam. Watch for news releases with details for these special fisheries, or check with the Yakima regional office at (509) 575-2740 or the agency website. **The entire river including all tributaries and drains is closed to steelhead fishing. The Washington Department of Health (DOH) has issued this fish consumption advisory for the Yakima River due to DDT and DDE contamination: all anglers are recommended to limit consumption of carp, channel catfish, mountain whitefish, suckers, and Northern pikeminnow to one meal (8-ounce portion for adults, proportionally smaller for children) per week. For more information, contact the DOH Office of Environmental Health Assessments at (877) 485-7316 or visit the DOH website at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish).** (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for accessibility information.)

## **CHELAN COUNTY**

**Beehive Reservoir (12 acres):** Is located eight miles southwest of Wenatchee, about a mile northwest of Squilchuck State Park. The season opens on the last Saturday in April, with *catch-and-release and selective gear rules from July 5 to the October 31 closure*. This small lake usually has a fair carry-over of **rainbow** and **eastern brook trout**, and is planted with catchable-size rainbows as weather and conditions allow.

**Chelan, Lake (33,000 acres):** Stretching over 50 miles from the town of Chelan to Stehekin, this is the largest natural lake in Washington. *Although most of the lake is open year-round, the*

*upper end is closed during April, May and June and tributary stream-mouths are closed year-round to protect pre-spawning adult trout; check the current regulations pamphlet carefully for details concerning size and catch limits, and wild cutthroat (adipose fin present) release requirements. As of May 1, 2006, the Old Mill Stream tributary is closed to fishing year round.* Good fishing for nice-sized **kokanee** is usually available from mid-April through June. *The daily limit on kokanee here is now 10 fish, which are **not** included in the trout daily limit.* In June and July, catchable-size **rainbow trout** are planted in the lower lake near the towns of Chelan and Manson. Some fine wild trout fishing, mostly for rainbows, occurs throughout the upper lake basin above Twenty-five Mile Creek beginning in early spring. Anglers after trophy fish have a chance to catch **lake trout** (mackinaw) year round. The state lake trout record has been broken three times here in the last few years. There are no size or daily limits on lake trout here during open seasons. During the past 5 years WDFW has been stocking triploid landlocked Chinook salmon fry. These fish are now abundant enough to provide a legitimate opportunity of catching one. An abundance of **Burbot** offer excellent fishing opportunities from February through April, with fishing popular in the Manson/Wapato Point area. A limited **smallmouth bass** fishery exists in the lower lake. **The Washington Department of Health (DOH) has issued this fish consumption advisory for the Lake Chelan due to DDT contamination:** the general public, especially women who expect to get pregnant or are pregnant, nursing mothers, and young children should limit [consumption of] lake trout (mackinaw) to one meal (8-ounce portion for adults, proportionally smaller for children) per week. For more information, contact the DOH Office of Environmental Health Assessments at (877) 485-7316 or visit the [Http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish).

**Chelan River:** This Lake Chelan outlet has been closed to fishing for several years to evaluate the impacts of angling on Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed fish. Data gathered so far indicate that a **bass** and **walleye** fishery would have little if any negative impact. Therefore, the area from the Chelan PUD safety barrier downstream to the railroad bridge is open May 15 through August 31 for all game fish except trout and salmon. *Non-buoyant lure restrictions are in effect: check the regulations pamphlet for details.* WDFW is working hard to establish a run of summer Chinook that will return to the Chelan River. Future plans include a sport fishery for these fish.

**Clear Lake (5 acres):** Eight miles south of Wenatchee, access is south off of Loop Road. The season opens last Saturday in April, *with catch-and-release, selective gear rules from July 5 to the closing date of October 31.* This small lake is planted with catchable-size **rainbow trout** as weather and road conditions allow. There is a fair carry-over of both rainbow and **eastern brook trout**. In addition in the spring of 2007 tiger trout fingerlings were released in to the lake. The 2009 season will the first year fishermen will have the opportunity to catch a 10 – 12 inch tiger trout from Clear Lake.

**Columbia River Pools:** Fair **walleye** fishing is available in the Wells, Rocky Reach and Rock Island dam tailraces. Best chance for large (10-pound plus) walleyes is from February through April. **Sturgeon** are occasionally caught in this area; *however, all sturgeon caught upstream of Priest Rapids Dam must be released.* Backwater sloughs hold small populations of **bass**, **perch** and **sunfish**. **Summer Chinook** and **steelhead** angling may be allowed, depending upon size and composition of the runs. *Chinook decisions will be made annually after June 15; steelhead*

*decisions after September 15. Check local newspapers, the WDFW web site, or the WDFW regional office in Ephrata for the latest information concerning salmon or steelhead seasons. Whitefish* are available on shallow gravel bars below river mouths.

**Dry Lake (77 acres):** Located about a mile north of Manson. Dry Lake is also known as Grass Lake. Year-round open fishing season. Some good-size **largemouth bass** are available, plus an over-abundance of **yellow perch, sunfish, crappie** and some large **brown bullheads**. Fishing will be good in March and April if spring weather has been warm, but difficult in mid-summer due to excessive emergent vegetation.

**Entiat River:** Hatchery rainbow trout are no longer planted, and steelhead fishing is closed because of ESA listing. Wild trout are available in the upper reaches and tributaries. Above Entiat Falls, the river is open from June 1 to October 31. *Please check the latest regulations pamphlet for trout rules, including more liberal eastern brook trout limits, which are changed effective May 1, 2006.* Below Entiat Falls, the river is closed year-round except for a special winter whitefish only season. *Check the latest regulations pamphlet for whitefish rules which changed in 2002.* Below Highway US-97, Columbia River rules apply.

**Fish Lake (513 acres):** About 16 miles north of Leavenworth, a mile northeast of Lake Wenatchee. Year-round open season. Access is through a private resort. This lake produces good fishing throughout the year. Angling effort is split between **trout** and **perch**. Fly-fishing for **rainbows** is best in spring and fall months. Trophy **brown trout** are available for those willing to work at it. *Check the regulations pamphlet for special trout size and catch limits.* Perch fishing is best in early summer, but good catches are made all year, even through the ice. A few **largemouth bass** are available too.

**Fishing Kids Derby:** An annual “Fishing Kids” derby, to be held at Leavenworth Fish Hatchery on June 6th this year, introduces youth age 5 to 14 to sport fishing. For more information, contact Hooked on Toys in Wenatchee at (509) 663-0740.

**Icicle River:** This heavily fished Wenatchee River tributary, also known as Icicle Creek, has lots of small wild **rainbow** and **cutthroat trout** in higher tributaries and away from roads and campgrounds. Trout season is open June 1 through October 31, with *selective gear rules in effect* from the Leavenworth Hatchery rack to Leland Creek. Check local newspapers, the WDFW web site, or the WDFW office in Ephrata or Wenatchee for the latest information on a **spring Chinook** fishery below Leavenworth Hatchery. *Night closure will be in effect during any open spring Chinook fishery. Steelhead fishing is closed because of ESA listing. Waters within 400 feet downstream of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery rack are closed.*

**Lily (Lilly) Lake (15 acres):** Nine miles south of Wenatchee, about half a mile south of Loop Road. Open season is from the last Saturday in April to October 31. *Catch-and-release, selective gear rules are in effect from July 5 through the closure.* This small lake has a fair carry-over of both **rainbows** and **eastern brook trout**, and is planted with hatchery rainbows as weather and road conditions allow. A recent problem with water leaking through the dam has resulted in unsuitable water conditions resulting in fish mortality. The number of fish stocked in Lily Lake has been reduced until this problem is fixed.

**Little Wenatchee River:** This river is now closed to fishing from Lake Wenatchee up to the falls below the USFS Road 6700 Bridge at Riverside Campground to reduce impacts of angling on ESA-listed fish.

**Meadow Lake (36 acres):** One mile south of Malaga. Meadow lake has a year-round open season with fair fishing for **warm water species**. Muddy water conditions prevail through most of the irrigation season. Private lands surrounding the lake make access difficult.

**Nason Creek:** This stream is closed to fishing from the mouth up to Smith Brook to reduce impacts of angling on ESA-listed fish. Above that, it is open from June 1 through October 31, small wild **rainbow** and **cutthroat trout** are common. *Selective gear rules are in effect up to Stevens Creek, and steelhead fishing is closed.*

**Roses Lake (131 acres):** About a mile north of Manson. Roses Lake has a year-round open season. The public access area has a boat launch. Roses provides a good winter fishery for fall-planted **rainbow trout** in the 11- to 20- inch range. **Largemouth bass, black crappie, yellow perch** and **channel catfish** have also been planted. **Brown trout** fry were stocked in spring of recent years, and catchable-size browns should be available this year. A bonus plant of 1,000 **triploid** rainbows will be made this year.

**Wapato Lake (186 acres):** About two miles north of Manson, just north of Dry and Roses lakes. Last Saturday in April through July 31 open season, with *catch-and-release for trout, and selective gear rules for all species, from August 1 to the October 31 closure, except internal combustion engines are allowed.* Game fish other than trout **may** be kept during the August 1 to October 31 catch-and-release period. The former public access area at the east end of the lake is no longer controlled by WDFW; new owners are presently **not** charging a fee to use this site. Private campgrounds are located at both ends of the lake. Wapato has been, until last year, the best spring trout fishing opportunity in Chelan County. Fishing at Wapato was poor in the 2008 season compared to previous years. WDFW is attempting to understand why this happened and change management strategies to prevent further problems.

**Wenatchee, Lake (2,445 acres):** Fifteen miles north of Leavenworth. Open year-round, with *selective gear rules*, except fishing from a boat equipped with a motor is allowed. Several campgrounds and access areas surround the lake. ***This natural lake does not provide any significant trout fishery.*** It is closed to Kokanee angling. Since no kokanee have been stocked here in many years, and there apparently is no natural spawning of kokanee in the system, all so-called “kokanee” are probably juvenile anadromous sockeye. The WDFW is trying to increase sockeye abundance to the point where annual sport fisheries can occur. *Check local newspapers, the WDFW web site, or with the WDFW regional office in Ephrata for the latest information.* Anglers are reminded to carefully release all bull trout caught. This lake is the main rearing area for these native char in the Wenatchee basin. Bull trout are a species of concern and thus their season is closed throughout most of the state.

**Wenatchee River:** The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in 1997 designated steelhead runs in the upper Columbia River Basin as in danger of becoming extinct. WDFW is currently developing recovery plans. Because of ESA listings, the river is closed to all fishing from the

mouth to Lake Wenatchee, except for a special winter **whitefish**-only season from December 1 through March 31 from the mouth to the Highway US-2 Bridge at Leavenworth. WDFW is working to increase steelhead and spring Chinook abundance to the point where annual sport fisheries can occur. *Check the latest regulations pamphlet for whitefish gear rules.* Check local newspapers, the WDFW web site, or the WDFW office in Ephrata or Wenatchee for the latest information on potential steelhead and spring Chinook Fisheries.

## **CLALLAM COUNTY**

**Aldwell, Lake (240 acres):** Five miles southwest of Port Angeles. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. The state access has a boat launch and two toilets. This Elwha River impoundment is fair for wild rainbows, especially during the summer. Some brook trout are also available. Selective gear rules are in effect, except motors are allowed. Daily trout limit is two fish, with a 12-inch minimum size.

**Beaver Lake (44 acres):** Located about four miles north of Sappho, along the east side of highway SR-113, this body of water has a year-round open season. There is a rough launch area, suitable mainly for car-toppers. This small lake is good for six to 10 inch cutthroat, with an occasional 12–15 incher. Yellow perch and a few largemouth bass are also present. Selective gear rules are in effect for all species, except electric motors are allowed. Trout daily limit is five fish, with a 12-inch maximum size limit. Standard statewide limits apply for other species.

**Cline Spit:** Located in the Strait of Juan de Fuca on the south shore of Dungeness Bay, beaches around the launch ramps and on the south shore of Dungeness Spit provide dip bag fishing for surf smelt October through January.

**Crescent Lake (5,127 acres):** Contained within Olympic National Park, Crescent Lake is regulated by the National Park Service. The lake has unique populations of rainbow (Beardslee) and coastal cutthroat (*Oncorhynchus clarki clarki* f. *crescentii*) trout. Because of concern for these fish populations, fishing in Crescent Lake is currently catch-and-release only. Gear is limited to artificial lures with single barbless hooks, and a 2-ounce weight restriction. Open season is June 1 through October 31. For more information, call Olympic National Park HQ at (360) 452-4501 or check the Internet at [www.nps.gov/olymp/regs/fishregs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/olymp/regs/fishregs.htm).

**Deep Creek, East and West Twin rivers:** Some public access east of the mouth of Deep Creek, at the East and West Twin rivers, provides access to surf smelt spawning from May through September.

**Elwha River:** The river between Lake Aldwell and Mills Reservoir provides quality fishing for resident rainbow trout, with selective gear rules in effect. The lower river (from mouth to outfall of WDFW rearing channel) is closed to all fishing from March 1 through September 30. Check the regulations pamphlet for seasons and special regulations.

**John Wayne Marina:** Dense concentrations of surf smelt may be available here for jigging in the winter months.

**Mills Lake (aka Mills Reservoir and Glines Canyon Reservoir) (451 acres):** This Elwha River reservoir is contained within Olympic National Park, and is regulated by the National Park Service. It offers limited trout fishing, primarily for rainbow and eastern brook trout. Current regulations are catch-and-release only for all species except eastern brook trout. There are no size, daily or possession limits for eastern brook trout here. However, anglers must be certain that they can tell eastern brook trout from Dolly Varden and bull trout, which are protected. Open season is from the last Saturday in April through October 31. Gear is restricted to artificial lures with a single barbless hook. For more information, call Olympic National Park headquarters at (360) 452-4501 or check on the Internet at [www.nps.gov/olym/regs/fishregs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/olym/regs/fishregs.htm).

**Ozette Lake (7,787 acres):** Ozette is within Olympic National Park and is regulated by the National Park Service. Resident cutthroat trout, yellow perch, largemouth bass, yellow bullhead catfish and northern pikeminnow are present, and various anadromous species migrate through the lake. Current regulations are catch-and-release only for trout, and no size, daily or possession limits on bass, perch, catfish and pikeminnow. Only artificial lures with single barbless hooks can be used (for all species). Open season is last Saturday in April through October 31. For more information, call Olympic National Park headquarters at (360) 452\*4501 or check on the internet at [www.nps.gov/archive/olym/regs/fishregs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archive/olym/regs/fishregs.htm). (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec>)

**Pleasant, Lake (500 acres):** About eight miles northeast of Forks, along Highway US-101. Pleasant Lake has a year round open fishing season. A county park on West Lake Pleasant Road provides a boat launch, loading and mooring docks, accessible restrooms, parking, and a playground. There is fair opportunity for cutthroat, with kokanee fishing improving later in the spring. To protect anadromous sockeye smolts and adults, there is an eight-inch minimum on all trout, and 20-inch maximum length limit on kokanee.

**Port Angeles boat haven:** Occasional concentrations of surf smelt are available in winter months for jigging in the boat basin. Fishing from floats is not allowed.

**Port Williams boat launch:** This launch located at the southeastern point of Dungeness Bay provides access to Dungeness Bay Coho salmon fishing when open. Check the regulations pamphlet for open salmon season. Good access for crabbing in Marine Area 6. For latest information on shellfish seasons and emergency closures, call the toll-free Shellfish Hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or check the department's website at [Http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg).

**Quillayute River system:** There are several boat and bank access along each of the tributaries to this system, including the Quillayute, Dickey, Soleduck (Sol Duc), Boagachiel and Calawah rivers. These rivers provide access to excellent salmon, steelhead and cutthroat fishing. Check the regulations pamphlet for seasons, open areas and catch limits. For areas within Olympic National Park, check regulations on the Internet at [www.nps.gov/archive/olym/regs/fishregs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archive/olym/regs/fishregs.htm) or call park headquarters at (360) 452-4501.

**Rialto Beach:** Dipping spawning surf smelt in high surf is a change from the usual Puget Sound surf smelt dipping. Most activity occurs May through September. Some surfperch are also taken. Strait of Juan de Fuca shellfish: Recreational shrimp and crab harvesting opportunities are

present throughout the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Please consult the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for specific seasons. For clam and oyster openings, check the Shellfish Hotline or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg>, or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules pamphlet. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for accessibility information)

**Strait of Juan de Fuca streams:** Access is available to rivers and creeks including: Dungeness River, Morse Creek, Elwha River, Lyre River, Salt Creek, Pysht River, Clallam River, Hoko River and Sekiu River. These streams provide fair-to-good winter steelhead fishing and some summer steelhead, salmon and trout opportunities. Refer to the Fishing in Washington fishing regulations pamphlet for seasons, open areas and catch limits. For areas within Olympic National Park, check regulations on the Internet at [www.nps.gov/olym/regs/fishregs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/olym/regs/fishregs.htm) or call park headquarters at (360) 452-4501.

**Sutherland Lake (370 acres):** Located ten miles southwest of Port Angeles this body of water has a year-round open season. This lake should be good for cutthroat and rainbow up to 12 inches or larger. Rainbows are stocked in March and May.

**Wentworth Lake (54 acres):** Located just eight miles northwest of Forks and sandwiched between the East and West forks of the Dickey River this body of water has a year-round open season. Wentworth will be stocked prior to the opening day in April.

**Whiskey Creek Recreation Area:** This area provides access to surf smelt spawning sites from May through September. An access fee may be charged.

## **CLARK COUNTY**

**Battle Ground Lake (30 acres):** Located inside Battle Ground Lake State Park about two miles northwest of the city of Battle Ground, off of Heisson Road. Fishing is open year round. Rainbow, cutthroat trout are stocked during late winter through spring. 250 triploid rainbow trout will be part of this year's stocking schedule. Surplus hatchery steelhead are stocked during late winter and spring when available. A catch record card is not required to fish for or retain steelhead. There is a daily trout limit of 5 trout, no more than two over 20 inches. There is a small population of largemouth bass. The lake offers some bank access, a dock and a fee to park within the state park. Grass carp have been stocked in this lake. **Fishing for or retaining grass carp is prohibited.** (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for accessibility information)

**Canyon Creek:** This North Fork Lewis River tributary will be planted with several thousand catchable size rainbow trout in early June. Flooding this past winter has washed out the road, check with the U.S. Forest Service office in Amboy at (360) 247-3900 for current road access. Check with the Vancouver WDFW office at (360) 696-6211 for fishing information.

**Columbia River:** The Columbia offers both shore and boat angling as it passes through Clark County. Species available include white sturgeon, shad, winter and summer steelhead, plus salmon during open seasons. The river is open for hatchery steelhead May 16 from the I-5 Bridge downstream and on June 16 above the I-5 Bridge. Fishing for shad opens May 16 from Bonneville Dam downstream. Seasons for spring, summer, and fall Chinook are much more complicated. Check with the Vancouver WDFW office at (360) 696-6211 or the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> for the latest information on seasons and catch limits. New seasons were enacted in December 2007 to keep white sturgeon catches under the annual guideline. The main stem Columbia and its tributaries from the Wauna power lines near Cathlamet upstream to Bonneville Dam are open for white sturgeon retention on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only January 1 through July 31, and again from October 1 through December 31. Retained white sturgeon must be a minimum of 42 inches and a maximum of 60 inches in this area. Catch-and-release fishing is allowed during non-retention days and August and September. Again, check with the Vancouver WDFW office or department's website for the latest information. Fishing for shad peaks in June, with most of the effort in this area concentrated at the upper end of Lady Island, near the mouth of Camas Slough, and off the public dock in Washougal. Yellow perch, various catfish species, largemouth and smallmouth bass, sunfish and crappie are caught in the main river and connecting sloughs, with some walleye taken too. Boat launching is available at Ridgefield City Marina, WDFW's Shillapoo facility, Marine Park in Vancouver, and at the Port of Camas-Washougal.

**Klineline Pond:** Located inside of Salmon Creek Park, just west of I-5, north of Hazel Dell. Fishing is open year round. Rainbow (31,888 rainbow and 256 triploids) and brown trout are stocked during late winter through spring. A few broodstock are stocked in late winter. A few broodstock are also stocked in late winter. There is a daily trout limit of 5 trout, no more than two over 20 inches. There is a small population of largemouth bass. The lake offers great bank access; floating devices on the pond are restricted. There is a fee to park during the summer. Grass carp have been stocked in this lake. Fishing for or retaining grass carp is prohibited. A "Fishing Kids" derby will be held on the pond on April 18th. This is a pre-registered fishing event for kids ages 5 –14. Contact the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 5 office in Vancouver, at (360) 906-6706 for more information.

**Lacamas Lake (315 acres):** Located one mile north of Camas. Take Everett Road, which doubles as SR-500, north out of Camas, then turn left on Leadbetter road. Fishing is open year round. Rainbow and brown trout are stocked during late winter through spring. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, bluegill, brown bullhead and channel catfish are also available. The WDFW access area is small and caution needs to be taken when launching boats. Round lake, located at the southeast end of the lake provides good bank access for trout and warm water fishing. Bank access is limited (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for accessibility information).

**Lewis River, East Fork:** The East Fork Lewis offers fishing for summer and winter steelhead. Both boat and bank angling are available. Under permanent regulations, the entire river is closed to fishing March 16 through April 15. From April 16 through May 31, hatchery steelhead (adipose fin-clipped, minimum size 20 inches) may be kept from the mouth up to the top boat ramp at Lewisville Park; selective gear rules (artificial lures or flies) are in effect. Bait is allowed

beginning June 1. All salmon and trout (except steelhead) angling is closed in the East Fork Lewis, and the river and all its tributaries upstream from Horseshoe Falls are closed to all angling under permanent regulations. Boat launching is available at Daybreak Park and Lewisville Park, both operated by Clark County Parks Department. For current, real-time river flows, check the USGS website at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/data>. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Lewis River (mainstem):** This area produces spring and fall Chinook, early and late stock Coho salmon plus summer and winter steelhead. A popular and crowded spring Chinook fishery has typically taken place near the mouth from mid-March through May. All wild Chinook (with an intact adipose fin) must be immediately released unharmed from January 1 through July 31. All chum and sockeye salmon, wild Coho salmon, wild steelhead, and any trout other than hatchery steelhead must be released year-round. Late summer and fall months bring lots of interest in fall Chinook, Coho and summer steelhead. Check the department website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or with the regional WDFW office in Vancouver at (360) 696-6211 for the latest information on seasons and catch limits. Some bank access is available along the dike area. There are several public and private boat launches along the lower Lewis, including a WDFW launch on the dike just below the confluence of the East and North Forks. For current, real-time river flows, check the USGS website at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/data>. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information).

**Lewis River, North Fork:** The lower North Fork provides ample fishing opportunities for early and late stock Coho, spring and fall Chinook salmon and summer and winter run steelhead. Lots of bank and boat access. Popular and productive spots near the salmon hatchery and Cedar Creek Hole can be extremely crowded creek. All trout, except hatchery steelhead, must be released. All Chinook with an intact adipose fin must be immediately released unharmed from January 1 through July 31. All chum and sockeye salmon, wild steelhead, and wild Coho must be released. Check the Fishing in Washington regulation pamphlet for night closure and gear restrictions. Check the department website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or with the regional WDFW office in Vancouver at (360) 696-6211 for the latest information on season and catch limits. For real time river flow information at Merwin Dam, call (800) 547-1501. Boat launching sites on the North Fork include the Island boat launch and Cedar Creek boat launch (across the river from the Lewis River Hatchery), both managed by WDFW, the Haapa launch, and the Merwin launch operated by PacifiCorp. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Merwin (Lake) Reservoir (4,090 acres):** This North Fork Lewis River impoundment located near the town of Ariel, on the south side of Highway SR-503, is shared by Clark and Cowlitz counties. The lake is open to fishing year-round. Kokanee are the main target. Angling is best in early spring, with fish averaging 12-inches. Tiger muskies were planted in 1995 to help control pikeminnow populations. There is a 50-inch minimum length and a daily limit of 1 on tiger musky. PacifiCorp operates boat launches at Speelyai Bay and Cresap Bay. Call (800) 547-1501 for updated reservoir levels.

**Salmon Creek:** This stream can provide good fishing for hatchery winter steelhead. Good access is available near Salmon Creek (Klineline Pond) Park. All trout, except hatchery steelhead, must be released. Salmon Creek is closed to salmon fishing year-round.

**Vancouver Lake (2,858 acres):** Located on the northwest side of Vancouver, this shallow lake averages only three feet in depth, with a lot of fluctuation, both seasonal and tidal. The flushing channel and surrounding area are closed for part of the year; Check the regulation pamphlet for details. Open season for the rest of the lake is year-round. Black and white crappie, largemouth bass, channel catfish, yellow perch, common carp are abundant. Trout limit is two, with a 12-inch minimum size. There is a commercial carp fishery on this lake during the spring and various times throughout the rest of the year. The WDFW boat ramp on the south end of the lake is accessed from LaFrambois Road. The Felida ramp near the north end has a better boat launching facility, but finding a channel into the lake from the north can be a challenge for large boats. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information).

**Washougal River:** The Washougal supports summer and winter steelhead, fall Chinook, and late stock coho fisheries. Summer-run fishing peaks in June and July, while winter-run catches are usually best in December and January. All trout, except hatchery steelhead, must be released. Selective gear rules (artificial flies and lures) are in effect from April 16 through May 31 from the mouth upstream to the Mt. Norway Bridge. Bait may be used beginning June 1. Check the Fishing in Washington regulation pamphlet for night closure and gear restrictions all chum salmon, wild steelhead and wild Coho must be released. Check the department web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or with the regional WDFW office in Vancouver for the latest information on seasons and catch limits. Boat launching facilities include Hathaway Park, managed by Washougal Parks Department, and Washougal River County Line Park, operated by the Washougal Department of Fish and Wildlife.

**Yale Reservoir (3,802 acres):** This reservoir is located on the North Fork Lewis River. Fishing is year round. Kokanee are the main target. Shallow fishing for kokanee is best in the spring and fall; in the summer months deep fishing is the best method. Cutthroat trout can be caught near the mouth of Siouxon Creek. There are some bull trout in the reservoir. All bull trout and Dolly Varden must be released. PacifiCorp operates all boat launch facilities at Saddle Dam, Yale, Cougar Camp and Beaver Bay. All ramps maybe out of the water when the lake level is lowered. Call (800) 547-1501 for updated reservoir levels.

## **COLUMBIA COUNTY**

**Beaver, Big Four, Blue, Deer, Rainbow, Spring, and Watson Lakes:** Along Tucannon Road, south of Marengo, these small, bank fishing only lakes off the Tucannon River all have public access. All these lakes have a March 1<sup>st</sup> opening date and remain open until October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fishing from any floating device is prohibited on all of them. Big Four is *Fly-fishing only, with a two-fish daily limit. Two trout over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit* on Blue, Deer, Rainbow, Spring and Watson Lakes. These lakes are well stocked with 10-12 inch rainbow trout, plus some jumbo (14 inch plus) rainbows in all except Beaver. Rainbow Lake offers disability access, please see Washington State Parks website at <http://parks.wa.gov/ada-rec>. *Fishing from any floating device is prohibited in all these lakes.*

**Curl Lake (3 acres):** This small lake off the Tucannon River is used as a salmonid smolts acclimation pond, so it opens later than other nearby lakes. Also see note under other Tucannon lakes above regarding access limitations. This lake opens the last Saturday in April, with a season that continues through the end of October. *Fishing from any floating device is prohibited. Two trout over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit here.* The lake is well stocked with rainbow trout after salmon smolts leave in April. (see Washington State Parks website <http://parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Dam Pond:** Just above Little Goose Dam, on the south side of the dam. This year-round open season pond off the Snake River gets catchable size rainbow trout for early season fishing.

**Dayton Juvenile Pond:** As its name suggests, this is a *Juveniles-only* fishing pond in the town of Dayton. The pond is listed as open year-round, but current management is to maintain water in the pond from March 1<sup>st</sup> to the middle of July. The pond will be stocked by the first week in March. This pond will be stocked with 3,000 catchable, 125 jumbo size (14 inch or larger) rainbow trout and may also get some additional large rainbow or brown trout, with the last plants occurring before the end of June. *Only two trout over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit.*

**Orchard Pond:** This Snake River pond near the Lyons Ferry Marina provides early fishing for catchable-size rainbow trout with a year-round open season.

**Snake River:** Refer to Garfield County.

**Touchet River:** This Walla Walla River tributary is no longer stocked with catchable-sized trout. Hatchery steelhead are planted downstream of the confluence of the North and South forks, however and several do not migrate to the ocean. These fish are available to the anglers as resident rainbow trout after the June 1<sup>st</sup> stream opener that includes *selective gear rules* in open waters above the confluence of the North and South forks. *Anglers are allowed to retain three-hatchery steelhead a day here during open seasons.* Some large brown trout may still reside in the Dayton area from prior plants. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons, catch limits and special gear restrictions designed to protect wild fish populations. Smallmouth bass may be caught in the lower river (below Prescott). *Special restrictions are in effect in some portions to protect wild salmon and steelhead reproduction; check the latest regulations pamphlet for details and closure area.*

**Tucannon River:** Plants of catchable size rainbow trout no longer occur here because of threatened species concerns. Hatchery steelhead area stocked downstream of the hatchery, at or below Marengo, however, and those that don't migrate to the ocean can be caught as resident rainbow trout when the fishery opens on June 1<sup>st</sup>. *Special restrictions are in effect in some portions to protect wild salmon and steelhead reproduction; check the latest regulations pamphlet for details and closure area.* Anglers are allowed to retain three-hatchery steelhead a day here. Note: **The Tucannon River is closed to all salmon fishing, and all Tucannon tributaries, except Pataha Creek area closed to fishing of any kind.**

## **COWLITZ COUNTY**

**Abernathy, Germany and Mill creeks:** Winter steelhead are no longer planted in these small streams west of Longview, but strays may be caught in the winter season beginning November 1. All trout fishing is catch and release only, except that two-hatchery steelhead (adipose fin-clipped, minimum size 20 inches) maybe retained during open seasons. All wild steelhead must be released. These streams are closed to salmon angling at all times, and closed to all fishing during September and October to protect naturally spawning fall Chinook

**Castle Lake:** Located in the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Castle Lake requires a 20-plus mile drive over rough logging roads, followed by a tough hike down a steep hillside to the lake. The key to finding the lake is to first find the Weyerhaeuser 3000 road. Would be anglers not familiar with this area should get a St. Helens West hunting map, published by the Washington Forest Protection Association. Those who put forth the effort have a chance for some outstanding rainbow trout fishing. This is a self-sustaining fishery; with no fish planted, so selective gear rules are in effect, along with a one fish, 16-inch minimum size limit. The lake is open year-round, but the road in may be blocked by snow until at least May. The area may also be closed by the U.S. Forest Service due to Mount St. Helens activity. For additional information contact the USFS Mount St. Helens monument headquarters at (360) 274-2131.

**Coldwater Lake (750 acres):** Located in Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument off Highway SR-504, at 2490 feet elevation, a debris dam resulting from the eruption of Mount St. Helens forms the lake. Skamania County has a larger share of the lake, but the main access is in Cowlitz County. Rainbow trout stocked in the late 1980s are reproducing on their own; no additional future stocking is planned. In the past cutthroat trout, both coastal and westslope (and hybrids) also inhabited the lake and still do today. Closed waters include all inlet and outlet streams. Selective gear rules are in effect and there is currently a 16-inch minimum size and one fish daily limit. Although the lake is open to fishing all year, access may not be available during winter, and volcanic activity from Mount St. Helens could result in closure. There is limited access available; contact National volcanic Monument Headquarters, (360) 449-7800 or (360) 274-2114 for specific information.

**Columbia River:** This stretch of the Columbia offers beach and boat angling for white sturgeon, winter and summer steelhead, sea-run cutthroat trout, plus salmon during open seasons. Shad are available as they pass through on their way upstream. The river is open for hatchery steelhead and shad beginning May 16. Seasons for spring, summer, and fall Chinook are much more complicated. Check with the Vancouver WDFW office at (360) 696-6211 or the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> for the latest information on seasons and catch limits. All chum, wild cutthroat, wild steelhead, and wild Coho must be released. White sturgeon fishing can be good, especially during smelt runs. New seasons, areas and size limits were enacted in December 2007 to keep white sturgeon catches under the annual guideline. The mainstream Columbia and its tributaries from the Wauna power line near Cathlamet upstream to Bonneville Dam are open for white sturgeon retention on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only through July 31, and again from October 1 through December 31, with a 42-inch minimum size and 60-inch maximum size for both periods. Catch-and-release fishing is allowed during non-retention days and August and September. Again, check with the Vancouver WDFW office or the

department's website for the latest information. Yellow perch, various catfish species, largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappie and other sunfish are caught in the main river and connecting sloughs, plus an occasional walleye. Boat launching facilities are available at Coal Creek Slough ramp, operated by WDFW; Willow Grove Park, operated by Cowlitz County Parks; the Sportsmen's Club gravel launch at the mouth of the Kalama River, also managed by WDFW; and the Port of Kalama Marina

**Coweeman River:** This Cowlitz River tributary provides good fishing for hatchery (adipose-clipped) winter steelhead. All trout, except hatchery steelhead, must be released. All salmon fishing on the Coweeman is closed. Additional measures may be put in place to protect naturally spawning fall Chinook. Check the Fishing in Washington regulation pamphlet for further information.

**Cowlitz River:** The Cowlitz typically provides excellent angling for summer and winter steelhead, sea-run cutthroats, spring and fall Chinook, and late stock coho. Summer-run steelhead fishing usually peaks in June and July, with December and January best for early winter-runs and March and April for late winter-runs. Plentiful sea-run cutthroat plants also provide good fishing from August through November. All wild cutthroat and wild steelhead must be released. Also, all right-ventral fin clipped steelhead must be released in the lower Cowlitz (below the Barrier Dam); these fish provide natural production and enhance fishing opportunities in the upper river. All Chinook with an intact adipose fin must be immediately released unharmed from January 1 through July 31. All salmon other than Chinook and coho must be released. Check with the Vancouver WDFW office at (360) 696-6211 or the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> for the latest information on the latest season and catch limits. Some fishing for white sturgeon takes place in the lower river; sturgeon regulations are the same as in the Columbia. A limited smelt (eulachon) fishery may be available in late winter, usually peaking in February to March. For updated smelt information, call the WDFW Vancouver office at (360) 696-6211 and press \*1010. For current, real-time river flows, check the USGS web site at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/data> or call Tacoma Power's toll-free fishing hotline at (888) 502-8690. Boat launching facilities include Gearhart Gardens, operated by Longview Parks and Recreation Department; Hog Island, managed by Cowlitz County Parks and Recreation; and Olequa ramp, managed by WDFW. Refer to the Lewis County listing for additional Cowlitz River information.

**Green River:** This Toutle River tributary offers easy access along Weyerhaeuser logging roads (if the roads are not gated shut) for much of its length, and average fishing for summer steelhead plus opportunities for fall Chinook and early stock coho. All wild steelhead must be released, and the river is closed to all trout fishing other than hatchery steelhead. All chum salmon and all wild coho must be released. All Chinook must be released beginning October 1. Check the department web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or with the regional WDFW office in Vancouver at (360) 696-6211 for the latest information on salmon seasons and catch limits. Check the Fishing in Washington regulation pamphlet for legal fishing boundaries, open seasons, and gear restrictions.

**Horseshoe Lake (80 acres):** Located in the city on Woodland, with a year-round open fishing season. It is stocked with catchable-size brown and rainbow trout, plus larger broodstock and

608 triploid rainbows. Excess adult hatchery steelhead are planted when available. A catch record card is not required to fish for steelhead in the lake; they count as part of the trout daily limit: five fish, with no more than two over 20 inches. Landlocked salmon rules allow anglers to take surplus hatchery salmon. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for more information. The lake also supports populations of largemouth bass and a few other warm water fish. A city park provides ample fishable shoreline plus a public boat launch.

**Kalama River:** The Kalama has summer and winter steelhead, spring and fall Chinook, and early and late stock Coho. All trout, except hatchery steelhead, must be released. Chum salmon, wild Coho salmon and wild steelhead must be released. To further protect wild steelhead, hatchery winter and summer steelhead returning to the upper (Kalama Falls) Hatchery are recycled downstream to the lower river. All wild Chinook (those with an intact adipose fin) must be released between January 1 and July 31. Check the department web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or with the regional WDFW office in Vancouver at (360) 696-6211 for the latest information on seasons and catch limits. Check the Fishing in Washington pamphlet for legal fishing boundaries and gear/boats with motor restrictions. A section of river above the upper hatchery is set aside for selective gear rules fishing, another section for fly-fishing only; check the regulations pamphlet for boundaries. Both of these areas are open to catch-and-release fishing only. The river is easily accessible from I-5, and gets quite a bit of pressure from the surrounding metropolitan areas. Several boat-launching sites operated by WDFW are available: Lower Kalama, Modrow Bridge, Lower Kalama Salmon Hatchery, and Pritchards. Privately operated ramps are available at Mahaffey's and camp Kalama RV Park. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Kress Lake (30 acres):** This popular spring-fed lake is located near I-5 and the Kalama River Road, about three miles north of the city of Kalama (east from I-5 Exit 32). It is open to fishing year-round. The lake is stocked with rainbow trout, both broodstock and 352 triploid rainbows, brown trout, and summer and winter steelhead when available, and channel catfish. A catch record card is not required to fish for and retain steelhead planted here. They count as part of the daily trout limit: five trout, with no more than over 20 inches. Landlocked salmon rules allow anglers to take surplus hatchery salmon. This lake provides an excellent trout fishing opportunity from late fall through late spring. There is a fair largemouth bass population, and Kress also contains numerous small bluegill and pumpkinseed sunfish. A rough launch area is best suited for car-top boats; gasoline motors are not allowed. Kress provides lots of bank access. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Merrill Lake (344 acres):** This fly-fishing only lake is located north of Cougar near Mount St. Helens. It is open to fishing year-round, but action is usually slow and often inaccessible during the winter months due to snow. Merrill contains coastal cutthroat, brown trout to several pounds and some rainbow trout. The rainbow and browns are stocked. Merrill Lake will receive 224 triploid rainbow trout as part of this year's stocking plan. Special creel and size limits are in effect: please check the regulation pamphlet. Internal combustion engines are prohibited on boats that are used for fishing. The DNR campground is currently closed, but anglers can walk in

and carry a boat from the gate. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Merwin (Lake) Reservoir (4,090 acres):** Refer to Clark County, which holds the majority of this North Fork Lewis River impoundment.

**Sacajawea Lake (48 acres):** This lake within Longview's city limit provides an excellent urban fishing opportunity, with good bank access available throughout the city park. This body of water has a year-round open fishing season. Internal combustion engines are not allowed. Sacajawea is usually stocked in late winter early spring with good numbers of catchable-size rainbow and brown trout, plus broodstock rainbows. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, bluegill, warmouth and other sunfish are also caught. Grass carp have been planted; note that it is illegal to fish for or retain grass carp. A "Fishing Kids" derby designed to introduce youth age 5 to 14 to sport fishing is scheduled for April 25th. This is a pre-registration event for youth; 5 to 14 years of age. Contact Longview Parks and Recreation, (360) 442-5400 for more information and to register.

**Silver Lake (3,000 acres):** Located along the south side of Highway SR-504 between Castle Rock and Toutle, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. Considered by some to be the best largemouth bass lake in western Washington, it also provides good fishing for yellow perch, bluegills, brown bullhead catfish, and both black and white crappies. Check the *Fishing in Washington* regulations pamphlet for limits and size requirements. Grass carp planted in 1992 have reduced the aquatic vegetation. Anglers are reminded that regulations prohibit fishing for or retaining grass carp. A few cutthroat and rainbow trout are also available as a result of natural production in the tributaries. The WDFW boat access has a single lane concrete ramp and a small dock and can be hard to find if signage is missed on SR-504. Private resorts also offer additional boat ramps and rentals. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Toutle River (North and South forks):** The South Fork Toutle supports an excellent fishery for hatchery summer steelhead, plus limited, mostly catch-and release fishing for winter steelhead (no hatchery winter-run steelhead are planted). Check the regulation pamphlet for fishing boundaries. Selective gear rules are in effect for the winter season. All trout, except hatchery steelhead, must be released. The North Fork and main stem Toutle (from the mouth to the forks) also provide some fishing for hatchery summer steelhead. Again, all trout except hatchery steelhead must be released. The North Fork and mainstem also provides opportunity for fall Chinook and early Coho. Please contact the Vancouver WDFW office at (360) 696-6211 for the latest on seasons and catch limits. The South Fork is closed to salmon fishing year round. All North and South Fork Toutle tributaries are closed to fishing.

**Yale Reservoir (3802 acres):** Please refer to Clark County, which holds the majority of this North Fork Lewis River impoundment.

## **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

**Columbia River:** The Columbia River from Wells Dam to Chief Joseph Dam holds good numbers of smallmouth and largemouth bass, as well as walleye. Bank access is limited in this

area, but boat anglers can use any one of the launching facilities at Brewster, Bridgeport, and Pateros. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Grimes Lake (124 acres):** Five miles southeast of Mansfield. June 1 through August 31 open season. Selective gear rules are in effect, with a 1-trout daily limit. Fishing should be good for Lahontan cutthroat trout up to 20 inches. Access is off of Wittig Road just south of Mansfield.

**Jameson Lake (332 acres):** Eight miles south of Mansfield. The lake is open from the last Saturday in April through July 4, then again from Oct 1-31. Jameson Lake has suffered from algae blooms the last few years, and trout survival sometimes suffers. If water quality is favorable, 30-50,000 catchable-sized (10-12 inch) rainbow and close to 1,500 triploid rainbow at 1-2 lbs each will be stocked before the opener. For updates, call the region 2 office (509-754-4624). To reach the resort at the north end of the lake, follow Mansfield Road and Wittig Road south of Mansfield. To reach the resort and WDFW access site on the south end, go north on Jameson Lake Road from Highway US-2 about 20 miles east of Coulee City. Campsites, toilets, and boat launching are available at both the north and south ends of Jameson Lake. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Pit Lake:** This small pond in Rock Island is open to juveniles only (14 years of age and younger) and has a year-round open fishing season. Catchable-size **rainbow trout** are planted in spring.

**Rock Island ponds:** These small ponds border the town of Rock Island off of Highway SR-28 and have a year-round open fishing season. These waters are managed primarily for **bass and bluegill**. Rehabilitation was done a few years ago to remove stunted perch and sunfish that were limiting growth of bass and bluegill. Illegal reintroductions have been made, unfortunately, and bass/bluegill populations are growing slowly, but should offer limited catches of bass over 12 inches and bluegill 7 to 8 inches. Catchable-size (10 inches) rainbow trout are stocked annually in March and again just prior to Free Fishing Weekend in June. Expect fair trout fishing this year. Early-season trout angling (in March) may be slow due to cold-water temperatures.

**Rufus Woods Lake (7,800 acres):** Forming the border between Douglas and Okanogan Counties, this 51-mile long Columbia River Reservoir's acreage is about evenly split between these two counties, except for a very small portion immediately below Grand Coulee Dam in Grant County. This body of water has a year-round open fishing season. Walleye, triploid rainbow trout, smallmouth bass, yellow perch and kokanee are the main species available. Limit is two trout and two kokanee. Chumming is permitted. Colville tribal boundary waters apply: only a state fishing license is required when fishing from a boat; a tribal fishing permit is required when fishing from shore on tribal lands. Boating access is good with launch sites at Bridgeport State Park, the Army Corps of Engineers' site upstream of Chief Joseph Dam, and at Seaton's Grove two miles downstream from Elmer City.

## **FERRY COUNTY**

**Columbia River / Roosevelt Lake:** See Stevens County, which contains 43% of this impoundment. (Compared to 35% in Ferry County.)

**Curlew Lake (870 acres):** Located four miles northeast of Republic, along Highway SR-21, this body of water has a year-round open season. Spring and early summer fishing for fry planted and net-pen reared rainbow trout should be good. Largemouth bass are caught in summer and fall. Tiger muskies were planted in 1998 to control a large northern pikeminnow population. Camping, picnicking, and public boat access are all available at Curlew Lake State Park and private resorts.

**Davis Lake (10 acres):** Five miles northwest of Boyds, at 4,550 feet elevation in Colville National Forest. Fishing season starts the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31, but heavy winter snowfall can impede access to the lake on opening day. Internal combustion engines are prohibited by Ferry County ordinance. This small lake offers nine to 12-inch cutthroat trout from annual fry plants. A Forest Service campground is available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Ellen Lake (78 acres):** Fourteen miles north of Inchelium, at 2300 feet elevation in Colville National Forest. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. As of 2005, the lake was re-contaminated with largemouth bass and green sunfish. Trout growth in 2007 was poor so trout fishing in 2008 was poor. This lake was rehabilitated in fall 2008, and will be re-planted with rainbow trout catchables and fry this spring. Expect fair numbers of small trout on the opener. A developed Forest Service campground is available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Empire Lakes (6 acres total):** These three small lakes are located eleven miles north of Republic, at 3,600 feet elevation in the Colville National Forest. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Eastern Brook trout fry plants are regularly made in these small lakes and anglers can expect to land eight-inch rainbows by the opener. Use of motorized boats is not allowed.

**Ferry Lake (19 acres):** Located nine miles south of Republic, west of Highway SR-21, up Forest Road 53/Scatter Creek, at 3329 feet elevation in Colville National Forest, this body of water has a year-round open season. Annual plants of fry and catchable-size rainbow trout keep this lake a useable fishery, despite frequent winterkills. A Forest Service campground is available.

**Fish Lake (4 acres):** This little near-alpine lake, at 3,300 feet elevation, is located about one mile south of Ferry Lake by county road. Open season is from the last Saturday in April through October 31. Catchable-size rainbow trout are planted annually. Motorized boats are not allowed. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Kettle River:** Expect excellent late-winter mountain whitefish angling during the special November 1 through May 31 whitefish season. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for gear restrictions on whitefish. To protect its native spawning rainbow trout, this waterway is closed to fishing for all species except whitefish from November 1 through May 31 above the Roosevelt

Lake boundary (Barstow Bridge). Selective gear rules are in effect during the June 1 through October 31 open season. Sturgeon fishing is closed at all times.

**Long Lake (14 acres):** About eleven miles southwest of Republic, in the Scatter Creek drainage and located in the Colville National Forest, at 3,250 feet elevation this body of water opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31. **Fly-fishing only.** Fry-planted cutthroat trout should yield some 9-17-inch catches, especially by fall. There is a Forest Service campground and boat launch, but motorized boats are not allowed.

**Renner Lake (9.6 acres):** Two miles west of Barstow and six miles south from Orient, at 2,525 feet elevation in the Colville National Forest. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Internal combustion engines are prohibited by Ferry County ordinance. Access is a walk-in of about one-half mile. The lake is stocked occasionally with catchable brown trout and brook trout fry. This small lake has a small Forest Service campground and a primitive boat launch site.

**Roosevelt Lake:** See Stevens County, which contains 43% of this impoundment (compared to 35% in Ferry County).

**Swan Lake (52 acres):** About 10 miles southwest of Republic, up the Scatter Creek drainage, in Colville National Forest just a few miles east of the Okanogan County line. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This high-elevation (3,641 feet) lake is stocked annually with rainbow trout fry. An improved Forest Service campground is located on the east shore. Motorized boats are not allowed.

**Trout Lake (8 acres):** Eight miles west of Kettle Falls, at the southeast end of Hoodoo Canyon in Colville National Forest, at 3,000 feet elevation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Internal combustion engines are prohibited by Ferry County ordinance. Rainbow trout fry are stocked to give anglers some nice-size trout early on. There is a primitive boat launch at the Forest Service campground.

**Ward lakes (7 acres total):** These two small lakes are 9½ miles north of Republic at 3,625 feet elevation in the Bacon creek drainage. They are part of the Colville National Forest. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Internal combustion engines are prohibited by Ferry County ordinance. Spring angling action should be good for eastern brook trout if winterkill is not a problem.

## **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**Clark Pond (49.3 acres):** About five miles southwest of Mesa, on the north side of Ironwood Road. Open season is year-round. This pond contains largemouth bass, crappie and perch.

**Columbia River, Pools and Sloughs:** This area offers good fishing for smallmouth bass, walleye, whitefish, white sturgeon, steelhead, and salmon. The Hanford Reach from the old Hanford site upstream to the Hwy 24 bridge (Vernita) is closed to all angling from October 23 through January 31 annually. The walleye population appears to be on the rise as the catch has improved in recent years. Sturgeon fishing has been fair throughout this portion of the Columbia

and is currently open year around for retention. Fall Chinook salmon return to the Hanford Reach area from August through November; the population is currently on the decline. . Due to a gap in Ringold hatchery production, the Ringold-area spring chinook bank fishery is not expected to open in 2009. Steelhead fishing opens annually on October 1 and is open from Highway 395 upstream to the old Hanford town site wooden power line towers. *Only hatchery steelhead identified by a missing adipose fin and healed scar can be kept and only adipose and right ventral fin clipped steelhead may be kept in this area of the Columbia River in October.* There are primitive launch facilities in the Hanford Reach at Vernita Bridge (Highway SR-24, Grant County side) and Ringold, and developed launches at Wahluke (Grant County), Leslie Groves Park (Richland), and Columbia Point Park (Richland). *Be sure to check the latest regulations and emergency measures for additional salmon fishing opportunities or early closures to protect sturgeon and salmon.*

**Dalton Lake (60 acres):** Located about five miles northeast of Ice Harbor Dam, on the north side of the Snake River, this body of water has a year-round open season. This narrow lake is planted in late winter with catchable-size rainbow trout. Trout fishing is good but short-lived with few trout caught after June 1. Largemouth and smallmouth bass, perch, black crappie and bullhead catfish are also present. Public access including a boat launch is provided by the Army Corps of Engineers and is located at the end of Herman Road, off Pasco-Kahlotus Road.

**Emma Lake (20 acres):** Near the town of Page, about seven miles northeast of Ice Harbor Dam, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. This railroad-fill lake has largemouth and smallmouth bass, black crappie, yellow perch and bullhead catfish. Access is from Murphy Road, off Pasco-Kahlotus Road.

**Marmes Pond (3 acres):** Located near the Palouse River mouth, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. This small pond is stocked with rainbow trout in March and occasionally provides some larger trout (carryovers from the previous year). The lake can be reached by boat from the Palouse River or a short hike from Lyons Ferry Park.

**Mesa Lake (50 acres):** Located about one mile southwest of Mesa, off of Langford Road, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. This lake contains warm water species, including largemouth bass, black crappie, yellow perch, walleye and bullhead catfish.

**Powerline (Barker) Lake (50 acres):** On WDFW managed Windmill Ranch Unit, eight miles northwest of Mesa; this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. Good fishing for largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie, and rainbow trout. Designated parking area and walk-in access only (approximately 1.5 mile hike). Statewide rules apply. Parking area is located at the end of Merion Road from Highway 17.

**Scooteney Reservoir (685 acres):** Situated about nine miles southeast of Othello, west of Highway SR-17, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. Smallmouth and largemouth bass, walleye, bluegill, crappie, and yellow perch produce good action throughout the year. The lake has a large population of lake whitefish that largely goes unfished. This lake is popular for ice fishing when conditions allow. The Bureau of Reclamation campground has a developed access area with boat launch, a small dock, and toilets. In 2009, the walleye minimum

size will be decreased from 16” to 12” to allow greater harvest of abundant walleye in the 12-16” size range that would otherwise be lost to the fishery when sexually mature walleye over 12” leave the reservoir via the irrigation canal outlet to spawn and cannot return to the lake (one-way fish passage).

**Snake River:** Refer to Garfield County.

**Worth Lake (10 acres):** Located just four miles northwest of Mesa, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. This small lake has a variety of warm water fish, including largemouth bass, bluegill, black crappie, yellow perch, and bullhead catfish.

## **GARFIELD COUNTY**

**Casey’s Pond:** This little pond off the Snake River is open to fishing year-round. It gets a small plant of 500 catchable-size (8-12 inch) rainbow trout sometime in April. This will provide for some early season action only.

**Pataha Creek:** This location is no longer stocked with hatchery fish. The upper portion near Columbia Center has naturally-produced brook trout. **This is open to juveniles only within the Pomeroy city limits, with selective gear rules upstream from Pomeroy.** The season is open starting June 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Snake River:** This is a major year-round fishery that forms the county line for several southeast counties. Hatcheries provide annual steelhead and salmon smolts that are part of the mitigation plan in compensation of the dams found along its course. **\*NOTE: Snake River Confluence Protection Area – effective in 2007-08 fishing season, waters of the Columbia River from the railroad bridge between Burbank and Kennewick upstream approximately 2.1 miles from the first powerline crossing upstream of the navigation light on the point of Sacajawea State park. Daily limits, season restrictions, and gear restrictions are the same as those in the adjacent area of the Snake River.** Boat launches, campsites and picnic areas are available near some of the dams and along the shorelines. Check with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office in Walla Walla for more specific information about these. Hatchery programs have made some section of the Snake among the best steelhead rivers in the state. *Anglers are allowed to retain three-hatchery steelhead as part of the daily limit during open steelhead seasons.* The sloughs and backwaters provide excellent fishing for warm water species, particularly for channel catfish later in the summer. Smallmouth bass fishing is good throughout most of the river. Some sturgeon fishing is available. *The Snake River is closed to the taking of any trout from April 1<sup>st</sup> through June 15<sup>th</sup>, to protect young steelhead. In addition, all steelhead must be released between June 16<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>; all wild steelhead must be released all year.* A spring Chinook salmon fishery is set for April 24<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup> for a small area around Little Goose Dam. With large numbers of spring Chinook salmon expected for 2009 watch for emergency regulations to open other areas of the Snake as well. A limited fall Chinook fishery was also held in the Little Goose area in 2008, and we hope to have or possibly expand this fishery in 2009.

## **GRANT COUNTY**

**Ancient Lake (30 acres):** See Quincy Wildlife Area lakes following.

**Banks Lake (27,000 acres):** Stretching almost 27 miles from Coulee City in the south to Grand Coulee in the north, this large reservoir is popular with anglers pursuing many species. Smallmouth bass up to 4 pounds are plentiful along rocky shoreline areas and largemouth bass fairly abundant in the northern part and weedy bays. Effective May 1, 2006, the daily limit for smallmouth bass here increases to 10 fish, with no more than 1 over 14 inches; rules for largemouth bass are unchanged from the standard statewide slot limit. Walleye fishing is still very good. A cooperative rearing project between WDFW, an Electric City sportsmen's group, and Coulee City Chamber of Commerce offers improved fishing for rainbow trout up to 5 pounds. Approximately 1 million kokanee have been stocked annually in recent years, some of which the net pens also help raise. Angling for kokanee up to 19 inches has been variable during mid to late summer. Chumming is permitted. Yellow perch and crappie angling is good, but bluegill fishing will be poor-to-fair. There is a 25-fish daily limit on perch to prevent over harvest of this important forage and sport fish species. Lake Whitefish are a very abundant and overlooked game fish. Several public access areas are well developed, including a Steamboat Rock State Park about mid-way up the lake, a city park at Coulee City on the south end, and several resorts at the north end. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Beda Lake (50 acres):** Situated about 4 miles south of I-90 just south of Winchester Wasteway and one half-mile east of Dodson Road, Beda Lake has a year-round open fishing season. Selective gear rules and a 1-fish daily limit are in effect. Beda was last rehabilitated in 2000, and sunfish are again a problem. Fingerling trout survival has been poor, so almost 2,000 large (2 lb) rainbow trout were stocked late last fall. Over-winter survival is expected to be good and brown and tiger trout are also available in this quality water. Access is by foot only.

**Billy Clapp Lake (1,000 acres):** Found two miles northeast of Stratford, this body of water has a year-round open season. This reservoir offers a good, but overlooked kokanee fishery. These tasty sockeye are not stocked, but drop down from Banks Lake. There is also a good fishery for 1- to 2-pound rainbow trout, and walleye fishing is fair. Access at the southwest end, on the Stratford Wildlife Area, provides a boat launch, dock, and toilets. The steep shoreline provides very little foot access so most fishing is done by boat. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Blue Lake (532 acres):** North of the city of Soap Lake along the east side of Highway SR-17 and south of Park Lake in the Sun Lakes chain. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. This popular lake was rehabilitated in the fall of 2006 to remove perch and other warm water species. The lake was stocked with 200,000 rainbow trout fingerlings for the 2009 opener and should produce an excellent fishery for 12-inch yearlings. The catch should also include a significant number of carryovers at 15 – 17 inches. The lake has three resorts and a public access with toilets. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Blythe Lake (30 acres):** Please see Seep lakes below. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Burke Lake (73 acres):** Please see Quincy Wildlife Area lakes below. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Canal Lake (76 acres):** Please see Seep lakes below.

**Caliche Lakes:** Three relatively small lakes right along I-90 and just west of the town of George, these popular lakes are open March 1 through July 30. Only Upper Caliche was heavily stocked (4,000 half-pound rainbow) for the 2009 fishery. Early season limits should be plentiful, but the fishery only lasts a month or so.

**Columbia Basin Hatchery Creek:** This small creek by Columbia Basin Hatchery near the city of Moses Lake receives plants of rainbow trout spring through mid-summer. The creek is now open only to juveniles and disability license holders. April 1 through September 30 open season and a 3 fish daily limit. Disabled accessibility. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Columbia River:** There are some smallmouth bass and walleye opportunities in Wanapum Lake and above. Refer to Benton and Franklin Counties for information on the area below Priest Rapids Dam (Hanford Reach). (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Corral Lake (80 acres):** Please see Seep Lakes below. ). (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Deep Lake (107 acres):** In Sun Lakes State Park north of the City of Soap Lake. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. This deep lake (surveyed at 115 feet) features **kokanee** during the late spring and summer fishery. Rainbow trout fishing has been fair early in the season for stocked catchable-size trout. A boat launch and toilets are available.

**Dry Falls Lake (99 acres):** Located at the base of Dry Falls about three miles west of Coulee City. April 1 through November 30 open season. Selective gear rules are in effect for all species plus a 1-fish daily limit on trout. Dry Falls had a very good season in 2008, and fishing should again be good this year for 14-inch yearling rainbow trout and carryovers to 20+ inches. Brown trout and tiger trout have also been stocked. Car-topped boats can be launched through Sun Lakes State Park, but there is no actual launch. A toilet is available.

**Dusty Lake (83 acres):** On the Quincy Wildlife Area. March 1 through November 30 open season. Selective gear rules are in effect for all species with a 1-fish daily harvest limit on trout. This lake was rehabilitated in the fall of 2003 to remove dace and goldfish. The rainbow trout fishery has been very good. Expect 14-inch yearlings and 16- to 22-inch carryovers. Tiger and brown trout fingerlings were also stocked, some of which should be reaching 18-20 inches.

**Evergreen Reservoir (235 acres):** Located on the Quincy Wildlife Area three miles northwest of George and just south of Burke Lake this reservoir has a year-round open season. Walleye are abundant, and largemouth bass and bluegill are the other main warm water species. Tiger muskies are present with a 50-inch minimum size and 1-fish daily limit for this sparsely stocked

species. Access to the west end, with a good boat launch, is off of Road 5 NW, also known as White Trail Road, but this access is closed to vehicles in the fall. The east side of the reservoir can be accessed through the Quincy Wildlife Area off of Road 3 NW ). (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**“H” Lake (7 acres):** Please see Quincy Wildlife Area lakes below.

**Hampton Lakes, Upper (53 acres) and Lower (19 acres):** On the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge eight miles north of Othello. April 1 through September 30 open season. Both Upper and Lower Hampton and associated drainages, including the Pillar-Widgeon chain of lakes to the north, were rehabilitated in the fall of 2004 to curtail populations of sunfish and perch. Fingerling rainbow trout were stocked in all these waters, and the 2009 opening-day fishery should be good in Upper Hampton and fair in Lower Hampton. Access to Lower Hampton is via a spur off of Seep Lakes Road. Small boats can be launched on Lower Hampton, but internal combustion engines are prohibited. Upper Hampton and the Pillar-Widgeon lakes (see separate listing, below) have walk-in access only.

**Heart Lake (26 acres):** Please see Seep Lakes below.

**Lenice Lake (94 acres), Merry Lake (40 acres), and Nunnally Lake (120 acres):** These three adjacent lakes are in the Crab Creek Wildlife Area just east of Beverly. All three lakes have selective gear rules for all species, with a 1-fish daily limit on trout. Open season is March 1 to November 30. Sunfish populations have again expanded tremendously since the 2000 rehabilitation, reducing fingerling survival. Lenice and Nunnally each received about 4,000 large (2 lb.) rainbows last fall 2008, and over-winter survival is expected to be good. Carryovers from past stocking of triploids should provide rainbow to more than 20 inches. Tiger trout have also been stocked, and a several state records (over six pounds!) for this hybrid have come from Lenice. Access to Lenice is on foot (one-half mile walk) with toilets at the parking area. Foot access to Merry is from the Lenice parking area. Two access trails and parking areas for Nunnally are located at the west end and mid-lake.

**Lenore Lake (1,670 acres):** Two miles north of the town of Soap Lake along the west side of Highway SR-17. March 1 through November 30 open season. Selective gear rules apply for the entire open season. Fishing is catch-and-release only from March 1 through May 31, and a 1-trout daily limit during the June 1 – November 30 season. Anglers should check the regulations pamphlet and also note posted closed areas at the north and south ends. While angling in 2007 and 2008 was a bit slow, no sign of any die-off was observed. Two- to four-pound Lahontan cutthroat trout are abundant with trophy fish up to ten pounds. Lenore can be a slow starter in March, but the fishery picks up in April and remains good through May. The fall fishery has also been especially good in November. There are four access areas, three rough boat launches, and toilets. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Long Lake:** Please Soda Lake below. ). (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Lower Goose Lake (50 acres):** Please see Seep Lakes below.

**Martha Lake:** This relatively small lake right along I-90 and just east of the town of George is among the most popular lakes in the March 1 Opener group of waters. For the 2009 fishery, Martha received 8,000 half-pound rainbows. Early season limits should be plentiful, but the fishery only lasts a month or so.

**Merry Lake:** Please see Lenice Lake above.

**Moses Lake (6,800 acres):** Located in its namesake town, this body of water has a year-round open season. Biological surveys continue to indicate an overabundance of walleye plus plentiful smallmouth bass. The walleye rule changed two years ago to a daily limit of 8 (eight) fish, minimum size 12 inches, no more than one over 22 inches; the smallmouth bass rule changed to daily limit 10 fish, no minimum size, no more than 1 fish over 14 inches; largemouth bass rule changed to standard statewide (slot) limit; crappie rule changed to daily limit 10 fish, minimum size nine (9) inches; and the yellow perch rule changes to daily limit 25, no minimum size. (**Note:** revised Moses Lake daily and possession limits also apply to the area from Grant County Road 7 downstream to the fountain buoy and shoreline markers, or 150 feet downstream from the Alder Street Fill.). This is among the best walleye fisheries in the state, especially in April and May, and again in the fall. The Crab Creek Inlet from just below Alder Street upstream to Grant County Road 7 and outlets downstream of Moses Lake to their confluence with Potholes Reservoir, have gear restrictions (one single-hook with  $\frac{3}{4}$ " gape) from March 1 through May 31 to prevent snagging of spawning walleyes. Largemouth bass and crappie fishing is improving. Yellow perch have been inconsistent. Bluegill fishing will still be poor and this species will retain the current 8-inch minimum size, 5-fish daily limit. A volunteer cooperative net-pen project provides angling for rainbow trout but trout angling has been sporadic as of late, probably due to predation by fish and birds. An annual "Fishing Kids" derby, to be held at Cascade Park on June 13<sup>th</sup> this year introduces youth ages 5 to 14 to sport fishing. For more information contact Moses Lake Parks at (509) 766-9240. There are several public boat launches; two with public facilities. Disabled accessibility is available at the North access point. ). (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Nunnally Lake:** See Lenice Lake above.

**Para-Juvenile Lake (346 acres):** This small Columbia National Wildlife Refuge Lake is shared by Grant and Adams Counties and is open to juveniles only. Please see the listing in Adams County for more information.

**Park Lake (346 acres):** North of the City of Soap Lake in Sun Lakes State Park. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. This popular lake was rehabilitated last fall 2006 to remove perch and other warm water species. The lake was stocked with over 100,000 rainbow trout fingerlings for the 2009 opener and should produce an excellent fishery for 12-inch yearlings. The catch should also include a significant number of carryovers at 15 – 17 inches. In addition to the state park, there is a resort.

**Perch Lake (16 acres):** In Sun Lakes State Park. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. This small lake should provide good fishing for 12-inch yearling rainbow trout. Because it's small and receives intense pressure, catch rates will drop off markedly after the first few weeks of the season.

**Pillar-Widgeon chain of lakes:** On the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge eight miles north of Othello. April 1 through September 30 open season. This chain of 10 relatively small, walk-in only waters offers anglers a chance to explore the channeled scab lands while fishing lake to lake for rainbow trout. Fingerling rainbow trout were stocked in all, and yearling generally run about 10-12 inches and carryovers can be up to 20 inches. Parking and access is just south of the Soda Lake dam.

**Ping Pond (formerly Oasis Park Pond):** This small pond on the south side of Ephrata is open only to juveniles (under 15 years of age) and persons with a reduced-fee disability license. This lake has a third Saturday in April through Labor day (September 1<sup>st</sup>) fishery. Opening day boasts a well attended kid's derby. There is a 5-fish harvest limit, all game fish species combined.

**Potholes Reservoir (23,000 acres):** Located about seven miles south of the town of Moses Lake backed up by O'Sullivan Dam, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. The results of annual surveys indicate an abundance of walleye and a plentiful supply of smallmouth bass. The daily limit for walleye is eight (8) fish; with a 12-inch minimum size and no more than one over 22 inches. The rule for smallmouth bass changes to a daily limit 10 fish, no minimum size and no more than one over 14 inches. A gear restriction (one hook with a maximum  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch gap – see Crab Creek listing in Fishing regulations pamphlet for more details) remains in effect for the Crab Creek Inlet (from Moses Lake outlets to the confluence of the outlet streams) from March 1 through May 31, and is designed to prevent snagging of spawning walleyes. Fishing will also be excellent for largemouth bass; daily limit 5, no minimum size, only Bass less than 12 inches may be retained, with no more than one (1) over 17-inches. Yellow perch, crappie, and bluegill populations remain at less than historic levels. Bluegill and crappie have a combined daily limit of 25 fish, with a 9-inch minimum size limit on crappie. Yellow perch also have a 25-fish limit (separate from the combined bluegill/crappie limit). The best time for warmwater species is in mid-summer through fall. The main reservoir and Lind Coulee arm are popular for fishing through ice in years when it is thick enough. The reservoir also produces fishing for rainbow trout as a result of production from a volunteer cooperative net-pen rearing project; however, predation has limited survival. A large private resort, a state park, and several developed public access areas provide all necessary amenities for this large reservoir. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Quincy Lake (43 acres):** Please see Quincy Wildlife Area lakes below. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Quincy Wildlife Area lakes:** Located southwest of the town of Quincy off Road 5 NW. Refer to a separate listing for Evergreen Reservoir and Dusty Lake. **Quincy and Burke Lakes** were rehabilitated in the fall of 2005 and both waters produce nice sized (12-15 inch) rainbow trout for

opening day. In addition, Quincy Lake received an additional 4,000 half-pound rainbow. Both Quincy and Burke are open March 1 through July 31. In addition to the west end access, Burke can be accessed on the east end through the Quincy Wildlife Area off of Road 3 NW. The small seep lakes below Quincy and Burke will offer fair rainbow fishing this year. **Stan Coffin, "H", and part of the Ancient lakes** provide a warm water fishery primarily for bass and bluegill. All three are open year-round. Stan Coffin features the only catch and release bass fishery in the state and has a very high density of largemouth bass. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Rocky Ford Creek:** Flowing into the north end of Moses Lake, this is one of the premier small fly-fishing streams in the Northwest. It is open year-round to catch-and-release, fly-fishing only, and bank angling only (no wading). Anglers can expect rainbow trout over 24 inches. The upper mile is on WDFW land and offers the best fishing. The lower 2-mile stretch meanders across state land and is less crowded. Fish densities are lower, but there are some nice rainbows in this stretch. The middle three miles are on private land and are not accessible. An access area near the headwater springs has toilets. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Seep lakes (located south of Potholes Reservoir and north of Othello):** Most of these waters have year around seasons, however, anglers should check the latest regulations pamphlet for specific lake seasons. Most of these waters are stocked annually with rainbow trout. **Corral, Blythe, and Chukar** lakes, all with year-round open season, were rehabilitated fall 2007; only **Corral** will have carryovers in 2009. **Windmill, Canal, Heart**, all with year-round open season, have burgeoning sunfish populations, but all were stocked with catchables for the 2009 season. Trout fishing in **Herman** and **Lyle Lakes** (both in Adams County) and the **Teal** lakes also suffers from populations of undesirable species; their season runs April 1 through September 30. **Upper Goose Lake** has been stocked the last few years, and catches of 12" rainbow were good in 2007 and 2008. **Lower Goose Lake** is managed as a warmwater fishery and has a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie plus a bluegill regulation during its year-round season. Also check out some of the many smaller, out-of-the-way lakes in this same area. These are walk-in lakes at distances of ¼ to 1¼ miles from parking. Larger lakes have boat launches and some of these are equipped with toilet facilities. Please refer to separate descriptions for **Upper and Lower Hampton Lakes** and **Warden Lake**. For a map to help navigate the myriad lakes and canals in this area, contact Columbia National Wildlife Refuge headquarters at PO Drawer F, Othello, WA 99334; phone (509) 488-2668.

**Soda Lake (180 acres) and Long Lake (75 acres):** On the Potholes Canal below Potholes Reservoir. Both lakes are open to fishing year-round and should provide good fishing for walleye and bass, but rainbow trout and yellow perch angling has only been fair. Soda offers good lake whitefish catches in late fall and winter, and several large rainbow trout (5-8 pounds!) are taken here each year. There are two access areas, one with toilets.

**Stan Coffin Lake (41 acres):** Please refer to listing for Quincy Wildlife Area lakes above. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Teal Lakes, North (22 acres) and South (28 acres):** Please see Seep lakes above.

**Vic Meyers (Rainbow) Lake (8 acres):** In Sun Lakes State Park. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Vic Meyer was rehabilitated last fall 2006. The lake was stocked in with rainbow, brown, and tiger trout fingerlings for the 2009 opener and should produce an excellent fishery for 12-inch yearlings and carryovers.

**Warden Lake (211 acres):** About five miles east of O’Sullivan Dam just south of Road 7 SE. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Rainbow and brown trout fingerlings are stocked annually, and fair catches of 12-16 inch fish can be expected for the 2009 season. An access with parking, toilets, and a rough launch is available at the north end, and a resort at the north end has recently reopened. Access at the south end off of Seep Lakes Road is for shore angling only. Please respect adjacent private property. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Windmill Lake (34 acres):** Please see Seep lakes above

## **GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY**

**Aberdeen Lake (63 acres):** About three miles east of Aberdeen, just north of Highway US-12. Open season runs from the last Saturday in April to October 31, and season may modify if surplus adult steelhead become available. Fishing should be good for 10- to 11- inch rainbow trout with good numbers of some much larger fish available, including some triploid rainbows that average 1.5 to 2 pounds each, and “quality trout” reared through a cooperative project with Elma Game Club and WDFW, that average 4-6 pounds. Some of these rainbow trout selectively reared and planted weigh more than 10 pounds each. If you are lucky enough to hook one, and can land it, these are very large, beautiful rainbows. Aberdeen Lake (also known as Lake Aberdeen) will be crowded on opening day. Access is through a city park. There is a rough gravel launch on the SW side of the lake. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Chehalis River:** The Chehalis is a popular river system for spring and fall Chinook, coho and chum salmon, steelhead and sturgeon. All wild steelhead must be released. At 28<sup>th</sup> Street Landing just west of the port of Grays Harbor dock in Hoquiam, coho returning from a net-pen rearing project provide additional recreational fishing opportunity. Check the current regulations pamphlet for information on salmon and steelhead seasons and area boundaries. Single-point barbless hooks are required for all species from August 16 through November 30. The river is open year-round, 24 hours a day for sturgeon. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Chehalis River:** At Friend’s Landing- Level 1; DP, WCT, fishing shelters, boat launch, paved and packed gravel trails, boat floats, fish pier on river, totally accessible facility. See also Quigg Lake. For more information on Friend’s Landing, call Grays Harbor Trout Unlimited at (360) 533-4648. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Chehalis River - potholes:** These waters south of Highway US-12 and adjacent to the Chehalis River contain largemouth bass, perch and trout. Winter floods mix fish, making for interesting catches. Open season is last Saturday in April to October 31. (Note: the regulation for the “potholes” does not include Chehalis River sloughs and adjacent beaver pond, these areas open June 1 in conjunction with stream regulations.) Access is through private property, so be sure to check with the landowner first.

**Chehalis Wildlife Area ponds:** This is a series of mostly unnamed sloughs and ponds on the Chehalis Wildlife Area are off Schouweiler Road, a couple miles southwest of Elma. The area is bordered by Hwy US-12 on the north side, Newman Creek on the west, and Vance Creek on the south. Largemouth bass, crappie and some cutthroat trout are available thanks to periodic flooding by the nearby Chehalis River. Easy access on gravel walking paths makes this a good place to take small children when not flooded. The ponds are open to fishing year-round, but not always easily accessible. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Cloquallum Creek:** This small stream is best fished from shore, with access points along Cloquallum Road. It has winter steelhead and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat. All wild steelhead must be released. Minimum size for trout is 14 inches, with a 2-fish daily limit. Check the regulations pamphlet for seasons and area boundaries.

**County Ponds:** Many smaller ponds (including beaver ponds, etc.) throughout the county were planted in the past with cutthroat trout. The ponds are no longer planted. But there may be some resident cutthroat trout in ponds that have inlet or outlet stream with suitable spawning areas. Be familiar with regulations regarding these ponds and how they are constructed as beaver ponds and non-beaver (created) ponds may have different fishing seasons by description in the *Fishing in Washington* regulations pamphlet.

**Duck Lake (450 acres):** Located near Ocean Shores has a year-round open season. Duck Lake offers fair fishing for stocked rainbow trout, and good fishing for largemouth bass, black crappie and bluegill. There is a 10-fish limit and 9-inch minimum size limit on crappie. Parking and boat launches are available, maintained and patrolled by the city of Ocean Shores.

**Failor Lake (65 acres):** Nine miles north of Hoquiam, with public access off Highway US-101 via logging roads. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Anglers should find good fishing for stocked 10 to 12 inch rainbow trout, and some opportunity for resident cutthroat trout. Some of these rainbow trout selectively reared and planted into Failor weigh more than 10 pounds each. If you are lucky enough to hook one, and can land it, these are very large, beautiful rainbows. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Grays Harbor:** Watch for salmon fishing opportunity in Marine Area 1.2. Access points are at Westport, 28<sup>th</sup> Street Landing, and the launch at Johns River. Coho salmon reared in Net pens located in Westport Harbor can provide a unique terminal area fishery during peak return timing in the fall. (See Westport) (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Hoquiam River; All forks:** Winter steelhead, Chinook, chum and coho salmon and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout are available. All wild steelhead must be released. Check the current regulations pamphlet for information on seasons and open area boundaries. A canoe-type craft may help access difficult areas, but caution should be used in these rivers. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Humptulips River:** This popular coastal river fishery includes winter and summer steelhead, anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat, fall Chinook, coho and chum salmon. All wild steelhead must be released. Check the current regulations pamphlet for information on seasons, limits and area boundaries. Bank and boat access is available at several sites, with restrooms. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Johns River:** Winter steelhead, coho salmon and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat are all found in this river. All wild steelhead must be released. Check the regulations pamphlet for fishing seasons, limits and area boundaries. This stream provides miles of canoe water. Public access with launch is available.

**Klone Lakes:** These three small lakes in beautiful surroundings above Wynoochee Reservoir range in size from two to nine acres. Planted with trout every three to four years, they require some effort to reach. Year-round open season, but elevation (all about 3,200 feet) and snow levels usually keep them inaccessible part of the year.

**Mill Creek Pond:** (near Cosmopolis, in Grays Harbor County) is dewatered, The structure that held water in the pond failed this past winter, and no permit has been issued to repair it at this time. It will NOT be planted with trout in 2009.

**Ocean beaches:** Excellent razor clam digging and surf perch fishing opportunities range from Ocean Shores north to Moclips. Crabbing in beach lagoons is popular during the late spring and summer months. Seasons change frequently, so contact the WDFW Region 6 office at Montesano (phone numbers are inside the front cover) for the most current information, or call the Shellfish Hotline at 1-866-880-5431. There are numerous beach access sites for visitors.

**Quigg Lake (32 acres):** Located at Friend's Landing, about three miles southwest of Montesano (see Chehalis River above). June 1 through April 15 open season, with special size restrictions. Check the current regulations pamphlet for size and catch limits and information on salmon seasons. Some warm water fish are present, plus opportunity for sea-run cutthroat. Coho returning from net-pen rearing project also provide recreational fishing. All wild steelhead must be released. Public access with a rough boat launch is available, plus fishing platforms and a blacktop trail along or near the lakeshore. This is a redeveloped site with diverse recreational opportunities.

**Satsop Lakes:** About three miles east of Wynoochee Reservoir, just across the line from Mason County. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. These small lakes at about 2,200 feet elevation provide fishing for small rainbow trout following a pleasant walk through large timber. Cutthroat trout fry were planted in these lakes in 2006.

**Satsop River, include East Fork:** This lower Chehalis River tributary is known for producing large fish. Winter steelhead, Chinook, coho and chum salmon, and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat are available from the mouth to the bridge at Schafer State Park. All wild steelhead must be released, along with all adult Chinook from October 1 through January 31. Upper areas above Schafer Park have resident and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat, with a minimum size of 14 inches, and are ideal canoe water; rubber rafts may puncture on dense brush (some area may require “wet” portages due to dense debris). Night closure and single point barbless hooks are required for all species from August 16 through November 30. Check the current regulations pamphlet for information on fishing seasons, limit and area boundaries. Public access with boat launches available at Schafer State Park, with a steep, rough gravel launch on the West Fork Satsop, just upstream from the confluence of the East and West forks. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Streams:** Many streams in Grays Harbor County have special size, bag limit, and gear regulations to protect juvenile salmonids from harvest until they mature. Check the regulations pamphlet for specific details. Bait fishing restrictions increase survival of released fish and ultimately improve stream fishing. Circle and barbless single hooks may also improve survival.

**Sylvia Lake (32 acres):** Located approximately one mile north of Montesano, this body of water has a year-round fishing season. Good spring, early summer and fall fishing for 9- to 10-inch rainbow trout, with larger rainbows and resident cutthroat available. The first fish stocking typically occurs in mid to late March. This popular lake receives additional trout for *Free Fishing Weekend* (in June, 2009 - dates are the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>), and plants in April, May and September. Additionally, “quality trout” reared through a cooperative project with Elma Game Club and WDFW that average 4-6 pounds each are also planted in the lake. Some of these rainbow trout selectively reared and planted weigh more than 10 pounds each. If you are lucky enough to hook one, and can land it, these are very large beautiful rainbows. Surplus adult hatchery steelhead may periodically be available also and are placed into this body of water to add to the potential excitement. These steelhead count as part of the daily trout limit, and a catch record card is not required to take them. There is good access through a state park. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Vance Creek (Elma) ponds:** Across Highway US-12 from Elma. Last Saturday in April through November 30 open season. **Pond #1** (the first pond on the north side of the access road) is open only to juveniles, seniors, and holders of disability license. **Pond #2** is open to all properly licensed anglers. These small ponds are planted with 10 to 14 inch rainbow trout in April and May. “Quality Trout” that averages 4-6 pounds each, reared through a cooperative project with Elma Game Club and WDFW, are also planted into both ponds. Some of these rainbow trout, selectively reared, are also planted that weigh more than 10 pounds each. If you are lucky enough to hook one, and can land it, these are very large beautiful rainbows. Surplus adult hatchery steelhead are also planted when available. Landlocked salmon rules apply and a catch record card is not required. However, all steelhead caught and retained count as part of the trout daily limit. Some largemouth bass are also present, and fishing improves for these fish as

the waters warm in the summer. These ponds offer diverse recreational, and are popular with swimmers after waters warm up.

**Westport:** A large charter fleet is available for salmon and bottom fish. Coho salmon from a net-pen rearing project provide recreational fishing within the Westport Boat Basin. Other popular activities in this area include surf fishing, crabbing and whale watching. (See also Grays Harbor)

**Westport Jetty:** The south Grays Harbor jetty provides angling access to salmon, crabs, rockfish, lingcod and other bottom fish. To find out more about this type of fishing, please contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife and request a copy of the pamphlet Coastal Washington Jetty and Surf Fishing. This publication is dated but information is still current. To check on shellfish and crab seasons and emergency closures, call the toll-free Shellfish Hotline at 1-866-880-5431.

**Wishkah River:** Winter steelhead, coho salmon, and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout are available, as are several miles of canoe-water. All wild steelhead must be released. Season, size, bag limit and gear restrictions are in effect; check the current regulations pamphlet for specific details, area boundaries and season changes. The mainstem from the dam at Wishkah rearing ponds downstream to 400 feet below the outlet is closed to all fishing. There is a public access with a rough launch near Greenwood, and several rough launches along Wishkah Road, below Aberdeen Gardens.

**Wynoochee Reservoir:** About 25 miles northwest of Shelton. June 1 through October 31 open season. Trout and whitefish provide action for anglers on this Wynoochee River impoundment. There is a 12-inch minimum size, two-fish catch limit on trout. The Forest Service campground has toilets and boat launch.

**Wynoochee River:** Winter steelhead, Chinook, chum and coho salmon, and resident and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat are available. Public access with toilets and concrete plank boat launch at White Bridge (old county road crossing), and launch with no restrooms at Black Creek, in the lower Wynoochee area. Bank access is fair in select areas of the valley. Take care not to trespass on posted open lands. All wild steelhead must be released. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for information on seasons, gear restrictions, size and catch limits. Above the 7400 Line Bridge selective gear rules are in effect during all open seasons, except that two-hatchery steelhead may be retained. Fishing is also open above the reservoir up to the base of the Wynoochee Falls during the winter seasons. Fishing from any floating devices is prohibited in all areas above the 7400 Bridge. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

## **ISLAND COUNTY**

**Camp Grande:** Located at the north end of Camano Island, this area offers the most famous of the “classic” surf smelt fishing opportunities. Most of the area is private, but public access is available at Maple Grove County Park. Surf smelt are taken by rake, from June through October.

**Cavelero Beach:** There are many potential sites for taking surf smelt on Camano Island's eastern shore between Triangle Cove and Camano Head. Best opportunity is June through October.

**Cornet Bay State Park:** Located just east of the Deception Pass bridge, the state park's dock offers jigging opportunities for surf smelt and herring. A concrete boat ramp provides boating access to prime salmon, bottomfish and crabbing areas in season. Coupeville Waterfront: The Coupeville waterfront plus the shoreline to the east and west offer surf-smelt opportunities from June through October.

**Cranberry Lake (128 acres):** In Deception Pass State Park. Year-round open season. Stocked rainbow and brown trout, plus largemouth bass and yellow perch are present in the lake. Trout fishing should be fair-to-good, with some larger carry-overs caught during the early winter to early spring months. A few brown trout may also be available from prior year's plants. Catchable-size trout are stocked in the spring on a varying schedule to minimize bird predation, a major problem. Access is through the park main entrance. There is a fishing pier on the east shore, and a small, undeveloped gravel boat launch on the northwest corner of the lake. Internal combustion engines are not allowed.

**Deer Lake (82 acres):** One mile west of Clinton on Whidbey Island. Last Saturday in April through October 31, opening day season or fishing season (whichever you think is the best wording). Fishing is usually good to very good for stocked catchable-size rainbow trout early in the season. Patient anglers who are willing to invest some time can catch carry-over rainbows or cutthroat ranging from 13 to 15 inches. Deer Lake has a WDFW access on the northeast corner of the lake with a gravel boat ramp and parking area.

**Goss Lake (55 acres):** Three miles west of Langley on Whidbey Island. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Expect fair-to-good fishing for stocked catchable-size rainbow trout and an occasional cutthroat. . The WDFW access on the east end of the lake consists of a sand/gravel boat ramp and parking area.

**Island County Shore Fishing:** There is an expanding recreational fishery along Island County shorelines casting for pink salmon (odd years), coho salmon, and steelhead. Popular areas include, but are not limited to: the Deception Pass area: Hoypus Point, Ala Spit and West Beach; Whidbey Island south shore: Admiralty head, Admiralty Beach, Lagoon Point, South Whidbey State Park and Bush Point; Possession Point Beach on Whidbey Island's southeast shore; and Camano State Park on Camano Island.

**Lone Lake (92 acres):** Occupying a broad meadow area 2-1/2 miles southwest of Langley on Whidbey Island, Lone Lake is managed as a quality fishing water with selective gear rules in effect, except electric motors are allowed. Daily trout limit is one fish, with a minimum size of 18 inches. Year-round open fishing season. A mix of stocked catchable-size rainbow trout and larger triploid rainbows augment the trout carry-over population. Anglers use large-fish methods here: leech wet fly patterns, and large lures. A bloodworm pattern is often effective in February and early March. Introduced largemouth bass, yellow perch and brown bullhead catfish compete for habitat and forage. They are regulated under statewide rules for size and daily limits, but

selective gear rules still apply (i.e.; no bait, unscented lures only, and single barbless hooks only). A large WDFW access on the north shore has a concrete boat ramp, parking area and toilets.

**Marine Fish and Shellfish:** Piers and docks for saltwater fishing can be found at Cornet Bay State Park, Coupeville, Kayak Point County Park, Langley and Oak Harbor (Flintstone Park). Oak Harbor marina provides a fair-to-good smelt jigging fishery. Popular surf smelt dip net fishing beaches include Cavelero Beach County Park, southeast Penn Cove (Coupeville to Long Point), and Utsalady. Utsalady is also a very popular crabbing site. Good shrimp and crab fishing exists throughout Port Susan and Saratoga Pass. Popular Whidbey Island clamming includes Freeland County Park, North Penn Cove, and the naval Air Station's Maylor Point near Oak Harbor. To check on shellfish and crab seasons and emergency closures, call the toll-free Shellfish Hotline at 1-866-880-5431.

**Penn Cove:** The beach located on the southwest shore of Penn Cove on Whidbey Island has been enhanced with Pacific oysters. It is accessible by boat, with launches in Coupeville and at Penn Cove Park on the north shore. To check on shellfish seasons and emergency closures, call the toll-free Shellfish Hotline at 1-866-880-5431.

## JEFFERSON COUNTY

**Anderson Lake (68 acres):** Located about a mile west of Chimacum. Fishing season starts the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup> with standard statewide minimum size and catch limits. In the fall, *Catch-and-release only with selective gear rules are in effect* from September 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>. **Internal combustion engines are prohibited all year.** This lake is excellent to outstanding for rainbows averaging almost 12 inches, with some carry-over in the three-pound range. A boat launch and good bank fishing access are available on Anderson Lake State Park land. **The lake has been closed the past two years beginning about mid-June due to toxic bluegreen algae blooms.** The lake is being monitored annually now by the Jefferson County Health Department. It is recommended to fish the lake early in the season due to another potential early closure this season. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information)

**Beach Accesses #4 and #6, and Ruby Beach:** Dipping spawning surf smelt in high surf is a change from the usual Puget Sound surf smelt dipping. Most activity occurs May through September. The area north of Kalaloch is most popular. Some surfperch are also taken.

**Clearwater River:** Several boat and bank access site along the Clearwater provide access to good salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat fishing. Check the current fishing regulations pamphlet for seasons, open areas and daily limits. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Devil's Lake (12 acres):** Two miles south of Quilcene last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This small lake has good fishing for cutthroat up to 11 inches. Access is hike-in only.

**Gibbs Lake (37 acres):** Located approximately three miles southwest of Chimacum, this body of water has a year-round open season. *Selective gear rules are in effect for all species; electric motors are allowed.* Trout fishing is catch-and-release only. Standard statewide size and limits are in effect for other species, which include largemouth bass and brown bullhead catfish. Gibbs is also scheduled for a bonus plant of larger triploid rainbow trout this year. This lake is under Jefferson County Park's jurisdiction, with limited access and no developed boat launch.

**Hoh River:** Several boat and bank access site along the Hoh and South Fork Hoh rivers provide access to good-to-excellent salmon and steelhead fishing. Effective in 2006, the daily limit for hatchery steelhead downstream of the Oxbow campground from November 1 through February 15 changes to three fish. Check the current WDFW fishing regulations pamphlet for areas outside Olympic National Park. For areas within the park, call Olympic National Park headquarters at (360) 452-4501 or check regulations on the Internet at [www.nps.gov/olymp/regs/fishregs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/olymp/regs/fishregs.htm). (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Hood Canal shellfish:** Recreational shrimp and crab harvesting opportunities are present throughout Hood Canal. Please consult the WDFW toll-free Shellfish Hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for specific seasons. For clam and oyster seasons and closures, check the Shellfish Hotline or the website at <http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg>, or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules pamphlet. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety.

**Horseshoe Lake (13 acres):** Four miles southwest of Port Ludlow. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Selective gear rules are in effect for all species, plus a one-trout daily limit. Fishing should be good for stocked rainbow trout averaging nine to 11 inches. Horseshoe is also scheduled to receive a bonus plant of larger triploid rainbows this year. Horseshoe Lake is only accessible via private roads on Olympic Resources property, however, the gates are usually open throughout the entire fishing season and/or it is a scenic walk into the lake.

**Leland Lake (100 acres):** Located about five miles north of Quilcene on Highway US-101, this body of water has a year-round open season. Good fishing for stocked rainbows up to 12-inches in length during the fall, winter and spring, with good largemouth bass, bluegill and crappie fishing during warm weather. The WDFW access has a paved boat ramp and two toilets.

**Ludlow Lake (16 acres):** Four miles west of Port Ludlow. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout in spring, Ludlow is also good for largemouth bass and brown bullhead catfish. Ludlow Lake is only accessible via private roads on Olympic Resources property; however, the gates are usually open throughout the entire fishing season.

**Mystery Bay State Park:** The beach at this park on the west shore of Marrowstone Island has been enhanced with Pacific oysters. There is a health closure between May 1 and October 31 each year.

**Ocean Beaches:** Kalaloch Beach (in Olympic National Park) offers excellent razor clam and beach-combing opportunities in season. Please consult the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for specific seasons. Call the WDFW Region 6 office at Montesano or the toll-free Shellfish Hotline at 1-866-880-5431 for more information about seasons.

**Puget Sound shellfish:** Recreational shrimp and crab harvesting opportunities are present throughout Puget Sound. Please consult the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for specific seasons. For clam and oyster openings, check the Shellfish Hotline or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/shelfish/beachreg>, or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules pamphlet. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety.

**Queets River:** This river flows primarily within the Olympic National Park, with a small section of the lower end on Quinault Indian Reservation land. For areas within the park, call Olympic National Park headquarters at (360) 452-4501 or check regulations on the Internet at [www.nps.gov/olymp/regs/fishregs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/olymp/regs/fishregs.htm). There are several boat and bank access sites along the river in the park. They provide access to good-to-excellent salmon and steelhead fishing.

**Ruby Beach:** See Beach Accesses #4 and #6. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Sandy Shore (Sandysore) Lake (36 acres):** About five miles southwest of Port Ludlow. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Rainbow trout are stocked to provide a fishery here. Access is available only via Pope Resource's private roads.

**Silent Lake (12 acres):** Located about five miles southeast of Quilcene, on the east side of Dabob Bay, the season for this location is the last Saturday in April through October 31st. This small lake is stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout. Internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Tarboo Lake (24 acres):** Three miles north of Quilcene. Last Saturday in April through November 30 open season. Tarboo is usually fair-to-good for nine- to 11- inch rainbows and cutthroat, with some larger carry-overs available. The state access has two toilets. Internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Teal Lake (15.3 acres):** Located two miles south of Port Ludlow, Year round fishery with *Selective gear rules: no internal combustion engine (motors) allowed; and a catch limit of one trout.* Catchable-size and a few jumbo rainbow trout are stocked. There is a small dock that provides disabled accessibility, plus a small parking area and toilets.

## **KING COUNTY**

**Alice Lake (22 acres):** Two miles south of Fall city. Year-round open season. Eastern brook trout are planted as fry the previous fall, plus catchable-size rainbows stocked in spring, provide

good action. Expect fair fishing for a few larger carryovers. Largemouth bass and sunfish are also present. The public access has parking, a boat ramp and toilets.

**Angle Lake (102 acres):** Near SeaTac Airport, just south of 188 and east of Highway SR-99. Year-round open season. Fishing is for stocked rainbow trout, plus largemouth bass, crappie, perch and kokanee. Triploid Rainbow spice up the action. Kokanee and perch fishing can be good in the summer months. There is a boat launch on the west shore off SR-99, with bank access and a fishing pier from a county park.

**Bass Lake (24 acres):** About three miles north of Enumclaw. Year-round open season. Primary species include yellow perch, crappie and pumpkinseed sunfish. Bass Lake has a primitive WDFW boat ramp on the east shore, just off Highway SR-169.

**Beaver Lakes (11.6, 62.5, and 5.9 acres):** These three connected lakes are located five miles west of Fall City. All have a year-round open season. Stocked catchable-size and triploid rainbow trout are primary targets. Catchable-size rainbow (2-4 lbs/each) are stocked annually in the fall around mid-November. Largemouth bass and yellow perch are also present. Two of the lakes are accessible to boat anglers, and the largest of the three has a WDFW public access with ramp and toilets located near the southeast corner. There is a county park across the lake from the WDFW boat ramp.

**Beckler River:** This major South Fork Skykomish tributary supports rainbow and cutthroat trout in the six- to 10-inch range, plus juvenile steelhead, several salmon species, and mountain whitefish. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for current rules. There is a county park on the riverbank just off US Highway 2.

**Bitter Lake (19 acres):** In north Seattle of Highway SR-99 at 130<sup>th</sup>. Year-round open season. Primary species are pumpkinseed sunfish, largemouth bass and brown bullhead catfish. A small plant of catchable-size rainbow trout is planted annually in the spring. A city park on the east end offers shore fishing, but no developed boat ramp. Car toppers may be launched from the north and east sides.

**Boren Lake (15 acres):** Four miles north of Renton. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass, yellow perch and brown bullhead catfish are available. A small plant of catchable-size rainbow trout is planted annually in the spring. There is a beautiful new public park on the lake's southeast corner, with ample facilities and a fishing dock.

**Burton Acres County Park:** Located on Vashon Island's Quartermaster Harbor, this park has good surf smelt opportunities on the north side of the point from October through February.

**Cedar River:** The River from its mouth upstream to Landsburg Dam is open for selective gear rules, catch-and-release fishing from June 1 through August 31. A night closure is in effect. This 21.5 miles stretch of river provides a high-quality trout fishery, including trophy size rainbow and cutthroat. A proposed regulation change to allow trout retention this year did not pass. Waters above Landsburg Dam remain closed to fishing. Trespassing incidents could

jeopardize this fishery, so please get permission from property owners before entering private property.

**Cherry Lake (3 acres):** Seven miles northeast of Duvall. Year-round open season. Fishing is fair-to good for seven-to 10-inch naturally spawning eastern brook trout. Best fished from a raft or float tube, as the shoreline is brushy. An angler's trail winds through the woods from a logging road to this small lake.

**Cottage Lake (63 acres):** On the Woodinville-Duval Road, three miles east of Woodinville. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This highly productive lake yields 10- to 12-inch rainbows from a spring fry plant, along with some native cutthroat trout. A large plant of catchable-size rainbows occur at Cottage Lake too. Cottage also provides better-than-average opportunity for yellow perch, largemouth bass, black crappie, and brown bullhead catfish. Access is through the county park on the north shore, along the highway. Car-toppers can be carried to the lake across a short graveled section of shoreline. There is a recently built fishing pier for shore-bound anglers.

**Deep Lake (39 acres):** About a mile southwest of Cumberland in Nolte State Park. The lake is open to fishing year-round, but seasonal park closures are in effect. Rainbow trout, kokanee, cutthroat trout, yellow perch, crappie and brown bullhead catfish contribute to the mixed-species fishery. The park provides bank access and a small fishing pier.

**Desire Lake (72 hours):** About four miles southeast of Renton. Year-round open season. Stocked rainbow trout, plus yellow perch, pumpkinseed sunfish and largemouth bass provide fishing opportunity. A sizable public access on the north end of the lake includes parking, toilets, a small fishing dock and a boat ramp.

**Dolloff Lake (21 acres):** Three miles northwest of Auburn, just off the Military Road. Year-round open season. The mixed-species fishery includes stocked rainbow trout, plus largemouth bass, yellow perch and brown bullhead catfish. A WDFW access ramp on the southeast shore also provides bank access.

**Fenwick Lake (18 acres):** Two miles southwest of Kent. Year-round open season. Annually stocked with rainbow trout, plus largemouth bass, brown bullhead catfish, and yellow perch are present in the lake. Fenwick has a WDFW boat ramp on the west shore, a convenient fishing dock in Lake Fenwick Park, and trails for shore anglers.

**Fish Lake (16 acres):** Located 1 ½ miles southwest of Cumberland. Year-round open season. Naturally reproducing cutthroat trout provide the fishing. Catchable-size rainbow trout are planted annually in the spring. The lake level may fluctuate substantially with the seasons. There is a poor access, a small gravel parking lot, and primitive boat access ramp on the south end.

**Fivemile Lake (38 acres):** Four miles southwest of Auburn. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass provide the primary fishery. Catchable-size rainbow trout are planted annually in the spring. Dock and bank access (but no boat ramp) are through a county park.

**Foss River:** This large wilderness drainage basin is sprinkled with dozens of alpine lakes of various sizes. Trout can be found throughout the mainstem and forks of this scenic stream system. Above barriers that block the passage of anadromous fish, look for cutthroat and rainbow trout up to 12 inches in fair abundance. Below the anadromous barriers, mountain whitefish are available. Statewide freshwater rules apply.

**Geneva Lake (28 acres):** Two miles southwest of Auburn off Highway SR-18. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked rainbow trout provide fair-to-good action in spring months. Largemouth bass are also present. This small lake has a WDFW boat ramp on the northwest shore. Bank access, including a fishing pier, is available through a county park on the northeast shore.

**Green Lake (255 acres):** In the heart of Seattle near the intersection of Highway SR-99 and 60<sup>th</sup> North. Year-round open season. Rainbow trout are stocked several times a year from late-winter through spring, plus larger triploid rainbows on occasion. Brown trout, largemouth bass, rock bass, yellow perch and brown bullhead catfish are also present. Channel catfish are stocked in some years for more diversity. Extremely abundant common carp present an elusive quarry and a challenge to land. Tiger muskies, a sterile hybrid between north pike and muskellunge, were planted in 2000 in an experiment to help control the rapidly expanding carp population. There is a 50-inch minimum size limit on muskies. A “Fishing Kids” event scheduled for April 21, 2006 (add new date for this event) is designed to introduce youth aged five through 14 to sport fishing. Contact C.A.S.T. for Kids at (425) 251-32314 for more information. There is no public ramp, but ample bank access and fishing piers located at the south, east and northeast shores of the lake provide fishing sites.

**Green (Duwamish) River:** This popular metropolitan area river provides good angling for both summer and winter steelhead, chum and coho salmon, sea-run cutthroat, resident trout and whitefish. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons, catch limits, and size restrictions. Due to chemical contamination, the Washington Department of Health has issued this fish consumption advisory for the Duwamish in Seattle: all groups (male, female and children) and all ages: do not eat any resident fish (e.g., shiner perch, flounder, English sole, rockfish) or any shellfish (clams, mussels) or crabs from the Duwamish.

**Haller Lake (15 acres):** Located in North Seattle at Meridian Avenue North and 125<sup>th</sup> North. Year-round open season. The lake offers primarily largemouth bass and yellow perch. Catchable-size rainbow trout are planted annually in the spring. Haller is accessed via a small clearing to a limited shore fishing area; there is no boat launch, but car-toppers and inflatable rafts and similar devices can be carried from Meridian on the north shore and North 125<sup>th</sup> Avenue at the west end of the lake.

**Holm Lake (19 acres):** Sometimes called Nielsen or Neilsen Lake, Holm is midway between Auburn and Black Diamond. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass and stocked rainbow trout are the primary species. A small WDFW access area with boat ramp, limited parking, and pit toilet is located at the lake’s south end off SE Lake Holm Road. Internal combustion motors are prohibited by local ordinance.

**Killarney Lake (31 acres):** Three miles southwest of Auburn, just south of Highway SR-18. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, pumpkinseed sunfish and brown bullhead catfish provide most of the fishing. Catchable-size rainbow trout are planted annually in the spring. Killarney has a narrow WDFW boat ramp on the northeast corner (across from the access to Geneva Lake). NOTE: the north end of the lake becomes shallow in the summer and fall, and boat launching becomes difficult; a shallow isthmus separates the main lake from the access bay.

**Langendorfer Lake (5 acres):** Also known as Stossel Lake, this and one or two adjacent ponds lie in the headwaters of Stossel Creek, about six miles northeast of Stillwater. Year-round open fishing season. Look for chunky coastal cutthroat of both wild and hatchery origin. This small, low-elevation (580 feet) lake is best fished early in the season from a float tube or raft. It is accessible from an adjacent logging road.

**Langlois Lake (40 acres):** Located 1 ½ miles southeast of Carnation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 season. Stocked rainbow trout provide early season action. Rainbow carryovers, kokanee and largemouth bass spice the action in mid to late-season. Expect good fly fishing for large carryover rainbows on summer evenings. Langlois has a well-developed WDFW access at its east end, with a ramp, parking and toilets. Disabled-accessible facilities with paved surface are available.

**Larsen Lake (7 acres):** Footpath access is available through Bellevue Park to this peat bog lake. Year-round open fishing season. Some native cutthroat are present, but the principal species are yellow perch, largemouth bass and brown bullhead catfish. There is one public fishing pier-float. This is an ideal lake for float tubers.

**Margaret Lake (44 acres):** Four miles northeast of Duvall. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked catchable-size rainbow trout provide early season action. Naturally spawning and stocked cutthroat trout, and introduced largemouth bass are also present. There is public access with an undeveloped boat ramp, parking and toilets at the southwest corner.

**McLeod Lake (13 acres):** Five miles north of North Bend, off the county road along the North Fork Snoqualmie River. Year-round open season. McLeod offers high-quality fishing for rainbow trout and eastern brook trout. Anglers must walk in about five minutes from the county road. A float tube or raft is needed, since shoreline access is brushy or poor. There are no toilets, and fires, shooting littering or camping are not allowed.

**Meridian Lake (150 acres):** Located about two miles southeast of Kent, just north of Highway SR-516. Year-round open season. Stocked catchable-size rainbow trout provide fair-to-good fishing in the early season. Larger triploid rainbows are also stocked annually. Kokanee fishing in Meridian is very good for 8-11 inch fish from April through August. Meridian also has largemouth bass, yellow perch and brown bullhead catfish. Dual WDFW and county park access on the southeast shore provides a concrete, on-lane boat ramp. An excellent fishing pier is available through the county park.

**Miller River:** Anadromous fish and mountain whitefish have access to the West Fork and about 2 ½ miles of the East Fork. The typically high-gradient river system has cutthroat and rainbow trout ranging from six to nine inches where suitable pool habitat exists. Statewide freshwater season and rules apply on this South Fork Skykomish River tributary.

**Morton Lake (66 acres):** Four miles west of Black Diamond. Year-round open season. Stocked catchable size rainbow trout are the main draw this year. Largemouth bass are also present. A WFW access on the northwest shore provides a boat ramp, parking, and toilets.

**Moss Lake (6.5 acres):** Three miles north of Carnation off the Kelly/Stillwater Road. Year-round open season. Wild cutthroat predominate. There is a primitive, undeveloped access from the south shore for float tubes, car-toppers, and shore anglers.

**Mud Lake (11 acres):** Also known as Ink Lake, it is located about four miles south of Index, in the Index Creek drainage. Year-round open season. Eastern brook trout are maintained by natural production, and can provide fast action for fish nine to 11 inches, with some up to 14 inches. This unusual Cascade foothills lake is a worthy destination for hardy anglers desiring solitude and willing to beat the brush. You can get close on old logging grades. Best in spring when the brush is still “thin,” the lake diminishes greatly in size by late summer/fall.

**North Lake (55 acres):** Three miles west of Auburn, just north of Highway SR-18. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. North is stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout, the main source of early season action. Carry-over rainbows to 16 inches test angler’s patience, experience and effort. Introduced largemouth bass are also present. The large developed access area has a graveled boat ramp, toilets, a short fishing pier and paved parking.

**Peterson Lake (5 acres):** Two miles northwest of Maple Valley, off Petrovitsky Road. Year-round open season. Fry-planted cutthroat and rainbow trout are the main draw. This small lake has no developed access. Look for several angler “tunnels” through the brush down to the lake, which is best fished from a raft or float tube.

**Phantom Lake (63 acres):** Three miles southeast of Bellevue. Year-round open season. Phantom offers largemouth bass and black crappie fishing, as well as yellow perch and brown bullhead catfish. There is public access on the west side. A boat launch permit must be obtained through Bellevue City Park Department. A small float exists for shore fishing.

**Pine Lake (88 acres):** Four miles north of Issaquah. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked rainbow trout are the principal early season draw, with carry-over rainbows and an occasional brown trout to 16 inches sprinkled among the catch. Largemouth bass and pumpkinseed sunfish add variety. Access is through a renovated (in 2004) county park on the east shore. The park offers a remote, paved parking area; toilets, picnic area, ball field, and kids play areas. Shore-bound anglers have good access from the park and an excellent fishing pier. The boat ramp is restricted to car-toppers and float tubes. Outboard motors are prohibited.

**Rattlesnake Lake (50-112 acres):** About half a mile from Cedar Falls, south of North Bend (I-90 exit to 436<sup>th</sup> SE). Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Selective gear rules are in effect; electric motors are allowed. The lake is stocked with rainbow trout; carry-overs to 15 inches are taken infrequently. A plant of larger triploid rainbow trout will spice up the action this year. Cutthroat trout are also stocked into Rattlesnake Lake. Highly variable springs cause this unusual lake to fluctuate greatly in volume and surface area through the summer months. A well-developed park on the east shore has ample parking, toilets and a small gravel boat ramp.

**Rutherford Slough (18 acres):** Located adjacent to Highway SR-203 across the Snoqualmie River from Fall City. Open to fishing year-round. This sprawling oxbow lake has good-to-excellent largemouth bass fishing, away from the urban crowds. A raft or float tube is required. Respect private property; public access is only off of the highway right-of-way.

**Sammamish Lake (4,897 acres):** Four miles east of Bellevue. Year-round open season. Wild cutthroat trout and smallmouth bass are the main draw. Yellow perch, brown bullhead catfish and largemouth bass are also present. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for special rules. Closed to fishing for kokanee (freshwater sockeye), steelhead and some salmon species. Salmon opportunity will depend on in-season abundance. Public access is through Lake Sammamish State Park plus a few private resorts. The state park surrounds the lake's south shore and offers a wide range of amenities, including multi-lane boat launching. There are no fishing piers, but angling is possible year-round from the shoreline or tie-up floats at the public launch.

**Sawyer Lake (279 acres):** Two miles northwest of Black Diamond. Year-round open season. Sawyer offers a diverse mix of species, including rainbow cutthroat trout, kokanee, yellow perch, largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappie, brown bullhead catfish and pumpkinseed sunfish. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. Northern pikeminnows are abundant in the lake, which also hosts a salmon run. Sawyer is scheduled for a bonus plant of larger triploid rainbow trout this year. Boat ramp and bank access is available through Lake Sawyer County Park on the northwest shore.

**Shadow Lake (40 acres):** Located 2 ½ miles west of Maple Valley. Year-round open season. Shadow's primary species include various sunfish, yellow perch, largemouth bass, and stocked rainbow trout. WDFW access on the north arm. There is a large covered parking area and concrete boat ramp. Internal combustion motors are prohibited.

**Shady Lake (21 acres):** About 3 ½ miles northwest of Maple Valley. June 1 to October 31 open season. Catchable-size rainbow trout are stocked to supplement the lake's bass and sunfish populations. Check the regulations pamphlet for special trout limit. There is a developed WDFW access on the south shore with parking, toilets, and ramp. Internal combustion motors are prohibited.

**Shellfish and Marine Fish:** Recreational shrimp and crab harvesting opportunities are present-adjacent to many King County beaches. Washington Department of Health cautions that bottom feeding fish, all shellfish, and seaweed may be unsafe to eat on all Puget Sound beaches in King County except Vashon Island, and the viscera (wet-gooley insides) of crabs should never be

eaten. See also a description and advisory for Duwamish River. Piers and docks available for squid and marine fishing include: Dash Point pier, Des Moines pier, Dockton Park dock (Vashon Island), Elliot Bay fishing pier, Maury Island dock (Tramp Harbor), North Shilshole pier, Pier 86, Redondo marine pier and Sea Crest pier in West Seattle. Please consult the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the Web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for specific seasons. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety.

**Snoqualmie River:** Below the falls, anglers catch coho salmon, steelhead and sea-run cutthroat. Mountain whitefish are common here. The river is closed to fishing for Chinook and pink salmon. Above the falls, resident rainbow, cutthroat and eastern brook trout and whitefish are caught. Wild steelhead retention is permanently banned. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for season, size, gear, and catch limit restrictions, or check the department's Web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov>.

**Snoqualmie River, mainstem above the falls:** Look for good-to-excellent dry fly action for some rainbows, but mainly for native cutthroat up to 18 inches, between Snoqualmie Falls and the North and Middle Fork junctures. Best on evening hatches after mid-July. Selective gear rules are in effect at all times for all species, with a 10-inch minimum size for trout during the June 1 to October 31 season, and catch-and-release only for trout during the special November 1 through May 31 season. Mountain whitefish are also available in this stretch of river, and can be harvested during all open seasons.

**Snoqualmie River, Middle Fork:** The upper reaches of this fork's valley can be angler's paradise. Catch and release, selective gear rules in effect during the year-round season are designed to protect all ages and sizes of wild cutthroat and rainbows in the Middle Fork proper and all its tributaries, including Pratt and Taylor rivers (but the Pratt and Taylor rivers have a June 1 through October 31 open season). Cutthroat to 16 inches abound in the middle and upper reaches of the stream. Road access gives way to riverside trails as you enter the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Trout to 12 inches can be found in deeper pools in the upper valley, where the crystal-clear, freestone stream is bounded by snow-capped peaks skirted with old growth conifers. In the lower reaches where roads parallel the stream, expect much better fishing by walking upstream or downstream a fourth of a mile from points of easy access. Hike the Old Taylor River Road (now reverted to trail), which parallels the Taylor, for cutthroat and rainbows in the six to nine inch class. Ford the Middle Fork to access the Pratt River. The Pratt River valley offers a semi-wilderness experience, with no roads and little in the way of trails. Cutthroat predominates here, but rainbows also occur up to 11 inches in the deeper pools. Mountain white fish are found in the lower few miles of the Middle Fork.

**Snoqualmie River, North Fork:** At least three distinctive zones can be described for this fine trout stream. A deeply-incised, high-gradient reach known locally as the "Black Canyon" ends about two and a half miles upstream from the confluence with the Middle Fork. Cutthroat and rainbows attain large size in this difficult-to access stretch of canyons and deep pools. Fine fly and spin fishing also exists in the middle reach of about four miles between Calligan Creek and the Spur 10 concrete bridge. Very deep pools have developed in this area where the river has cut into the bedrock. Look for scattered pockets of eastern brook trout in the upper reaches of the

river where it meanders across a very low-gradient lakebed. Cutthroat and brookies in this upper stretch average six to nine inches. A 10-inch minimum size limit for trout applies throughout the North Fork during the June 1 through October 31 regular season, with an extended catch-and-release only season November 1 through May 31. Selective gear rules are in effect at all times, for all species. Mountain whitefish are available in the lower river, with standard statewide harvest limits during the June 1 through October 31 catch-and-keep season.

**Snoqualmie River, South Fork:** Access to the South Fork is generally excellent, since it is paralleled by I-90 for much of its length, and flows through North Bend. Extensive reaches of the lower South Fork have been channelized and diked for flood control. Small six to nine inch rainbows predominate in this stretch of river, due to lack of deep pools. Look for rainbows up to 14 inches or larger in the less-fished reach between Twin Falls (Olallie State Park) and 436<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Although cutthroat and rainbows can be found in fair abundance up to the South Fork's headwaters at Source Lake near Snoqualmie Pass, most fish in the upper river where it is paralleled by I-90 are small due to a combination of limited holding water and low productivity. A few mountain whitefish are found in the nine miles below Twin Falls. A 10-inch minimum size limit for trout applies throughout the South Fork during the June 1 through October 31 regular season, with an extended catch-and-release only season November 1 through May 31. Selective gear rules are in effect at all times, for all species.

**Spring Lake (67 acres):** Located midway between Renton and Maple Valley. Year-round open season. Rainbow trout are stocked, and largemouth bass, yellow perch and brown bullhead catfish are caught too. Spring Lake has public access with a narrow ramp, limited parking and toilets on the lake's southwest end. There is no pier and very limited shore fishing.

**Star Lake (34 acres):** Three miles south west of Kent. Year-round open season. Primary fishing is for various warm water species and stocked rainbow trout. There is a primitive boat ramp (an extension of 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue South), but shore access is extremely limited.

**Steel Lake (46 acres):** Two miles west of Auburn, between highways I-5 and SR-99. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. The largemouth bass and yellow perch population is augmented each spring with stocked rainbow trout. Excellent shoreline and boat access available through the large park located midway on the south shore.

**Sunday Lake (21 acres):** This unusual lowland lake is found just within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, in the North Fork Snoqualmie River drainage about 12 miles northeast of North Bend. It has a year-round open season, and produces relatively large cutthroat trout, particularly in mid-to-late summer for skilled fly anglers. The hike-in access requires fording of Sunday Creek. The lake may fluctuate widely in size in drought years, and is best fished from a raft. Expect slow fishing when the lake is swollen with snowmelt.

**Tolt River:** Surprisingly good numbers of resident rainbow trout as well as cutthroat are found in the Tolt's upper reaches, near the forks. Expect very good fishing for trout 12 inches or larger, but keep in mind the 14-inch minimum size limit below the forks. Selective gear rules are in effect from June 1 through November 30. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for complete

season information and special area closure. The main fork also supports winter steelhead and limited summer steelhead fisheries. All wild steelhead must be released.

**Tolt River, North Fork above Yellow Creek:** Rainbow trout to 12 inches are found in this fork above the mouth of Yellow Creek (near a 60-foot barrier falls). Catch-and-release, selective gear rules are in effect during the June 1 through October 31 open season. Access is by way of private timber company roads.

**Tradition Lake (19 acres):** Alongside the extremely popular Tiger Mountain trail system, one and a half miles east of Issaquah. Year-round open season. Yellow perch and largemouth bass are caught. A moderate hike is required when the access gate is locked.

**Trout Lake (18 acres):** This “urban” Trout Lake is located four miles southwest of Auburn. Year-round open season. Fishing prospects include ramp (an extension of 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue South), but shoreline access is limited.

**Trout Lake (21 acres):** This is the “wilderness” Trout Lake in King County. It is located in the West Fork Foss River drainage, about seven miles south of Skykomish. The lake is open to fishing year-round, but at slightly over 2000 feet elevation, may not be easily accessible during colder months. This lake is heavily fished, so the naturally reproducing rainbow trout do not reach large size. Expect fair fishing for six to ten inch trout. Best early morning and evening, due to high water clarity. A very popular hiking destination for generations, the lake was raised several feet by a major rockslide across its outlet in the early 1990s.

**Twelve Lake (43 acres):** About one and a half miles northeast of Black Diamond. Year-round open season. Primary species include largemouth bass, brown bullhead catfish, pumpkinseed sunfish and stocked rainbow trout. There is a WDFW boat ramp on the south shore. The access is steep, and parking is limited. Aquatic vegetation can be a nuisance.

**Tye River:** Anadromous fish are blocked by Alpine Falls. From the Foss River mouth to Alpine Falls, selective gear rules and a 14-inch minimum size limit are in effect during the June 1 to October 31 regular season. A special whitefish-only season runs from November 1 through February in this stretch; bait can be used for whitefish during this special winter season. Above Alpine Falls, six to nine inch rainbow, cutthroat or eastern brook trout can be caught on flies, lures, or bait during the June 1 through October 31 open season; there is a 10-inch minimum size limit in this stretch. Access is best along the Old Stevens Pass Highway segment near Scenic. **Note**, however, that this route cannot be driven clear through, as a footbridge has replaced the old auto bridge roughly one mile from the old road’s southern end. The river can be waded for extensive distances during lower flows.

**Union Lake:** In the center of Seattle. Year-round open fishing season. The fishery here is poorly documented. Species present include largemouth bass, yellow perch, crappie, other sunfish and brown bullhead catfish. An occasional cutthroat is also taken. Migratory salmon and steelhead use the lake as a pathway to lakes Washington and Sammamish. Fish production is probably affected by high salinity in the lower portions of this lake.

**Walker Lake (11 acres):** About one and a half miles southeast of Cumberland. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Catchable-size rainbow trout are stocked annually into Walker Lake. There is a narrow, steep WDFW boat ramp on the south shore. Parking is limited, as is shore fishing access.

**Washington Lake (22,000 acres):** This large lake between Seattle and Bellevue holds dozens of fish species, but the principal game fish attractions are cutthroat trout (trolled deep), a few rainbow trout, both largemouth and smallmouth bass (smallmouth dominate), and yellow perch. Chinook and Coho salmon are also available, but be sure to check current regulations. Sockeye salmon are available when run sizes permit an open season. The lake is open to fishing year-round, but there are zone-fishing closures along each of the floating bridges, and a minimum size to help protect juvenile steelhead in the spring. Two “Fishing Kids” events are scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> at Seward Park (contact CAST for Kids, 425-251-3214) and on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Gene Coulon Park (Contact Renton Parks at 425-430-6700) designed to introduce youngsters age 5 through 14 to sport fishing. Principal access ramps are at Kenmore, Magnuson Park at Sand Point, Gene Coulon Park in Renton, and Rainier Beach Park in Rainier Beach. Bank access is abundant. Numerous fishing piers dot the perimeter of the lake. Some of the more popular piers near Kirkland are located in Waverly Park, Marina Park and at the Old Ship Museum Park. Near Renton, Gene Coulon Memorial Park offers public fishing piers, and a fishing pier is available in Seward Park on the south west side of the lake. On the north end of Mercer Island, Luther Burbank Park offers a finger pier and boat docks for fishing. The Washington State Department of Health has issued these fish consumption advisories for Lake Washington: all groups (children and adult men and women), because of PCB contamination; do not eat any northern pikeminnow. All groups, because of mercury contamination; for yellow perch greater than 10.5 inches, eat no more than one meal (8 oz serving) per month; for cutthroat trout greater than 12 inches, eat no more than one meal per month; for cutthroat trout less than 12 inches, eat no more than three meals per month; for largemouth and smallmouth bass of all sizes, eat no more than two meals per month. See [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) for more information.

**Wilderness Lake (67 acres):** About two miles south of Maple Valley. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Rainbow trout and kokanee are stocked, and some largemouth bass are available. The WDFW access has a shallow, gravel boat ramp best suited for car-toppers and inflatables. Ample bank access is available through a county park on the northwest shore.

## **KITSAP COUNTY**

**Buck Lake (20 acres):** Located 1-1/2 miles southwest of Hansville. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Buck Lake should provide fair fishing for 10- to 12-inch rainbows. The state access has one toilet, with limited parking.

**Carney Lake:** Please also see Pierce County, which has the larger share of this lake straddling the county line.

**Hood Canal:** Numerous fishing and recreational shrimp and crab harvesting opportunities are present throughout Hood Canal. This area has been in the news recently due to low oxygen levels in the southern areas of the canal. Currently this has not affected the seasons, but has

affected the availability of some species due to poor water quality. Please consult the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for specific seasons. For clam and oyster openings, check the Shellfish Hotline or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg/>, or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules pamphlet found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety. Also see Fish Consumption Advisories on page 4 for Dyes Inlet, Eagle Harbor and Manchester State Park. For more specific information contact the Department of Health at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish>.

**Horseshoe Lake (40 acres):** Nine miles south of Port Orchard. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Expect fair fishing for seven- to nine-inch stocked rainbow trout. There is a state access with two toilets.

**Island Lake (43 acres):** Two miles southwest of Keyport, this body of water enjoys a year-round open season. Watch for the juveniles-only fishing pond. Expect fair fishing for eight- to 10-inch stocked rainbow trout.

**Kitsap Lake (240 acres):** Located just outside Bremerton, this lake is open the year around to fishing activities. Kitsap Lake offers good fishing for rainbow and cutthroat trout, plus largemouth bass and other warm water species. This lake is also scheduled for a bonus plant of larger triploid rainbow trout this year. A state access with boat launch and two toilets is available. A county park just east of the state access area has a public dock and restroom facilities. This is a great site to take a family for a picnic and enjoy some fishing fun!

**Mission Lake (88 acres):** About nine miles west of Bremerton, Mission Lake enjoys a season that starts the last Saturday in April and continues through October 31<sup>st</sup> for fishing activities. Fishing should be fair-to-good for stocked eight- to 10-inch rainbow trout, plus a few larger cutthroat. A state access with two toilets is available.

**Panther Lake (104 acres):** About 10 miles west of Bremerton, straddling the Kitsap/Mason county line, with 74 acres in Kitsap County, this body of water opens the last Saturday in April and continues through October 31<sup>st</sup> for fishing activities. Panther Lake should provide fair fishing for stocked catchable-size rainbow trout, plus some larger triploid rainbows. There is a small public boat launch.

**Poulsbo:** There are a few small spots for taking surf smelt at the southern edge of Liberty Bay. The shoreline is mostly private and parking is poor. Be sure to ask for permission to enter all private properties and leave it the same as or better than you found it. Best opportunities occur October through February.

**Ross Point:** This WDFW-owned beach on the southern shore of Sinclair Inlet, one mile west of Port Orchard, offers some surf-smelt opportunities. Parking is limited and there are no facilities. The best smelting occurs October through February, although some spawning occurs here year-round.

**Tiger Lake (110 acres):** Tiger Lake is located in both Kitsap and Mason Counties, with only about six acres in Kitsap. See Mason County for more information about this location.

**Wildcat Lake (112 acres):** Six miles northwest of Bremerton, Wildcat Lake opens the last Saturday in April for fishing and continues through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Expect good fishing for eight- to 10-inch rainbow trout. For the skilled angler, there are also opportunities to catch cutthroat trout, largemouth bass and brown bullhead catfish throughout the fishing season.

**Wye Lake (38 acres):** Located 3-1/2 miles southeast of Belfair. Open the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup> open season. Wye Lake is fair for stocked rainbows around 12" long, with smaller trout also available. Largemouth bass fishing gets good as the water warms up. This site has State access with one toilet.

## **KITTITAS COUNTY**

**Cle Elum Lake (4,810 acres):** Seven miles northwest of the town of Cle Elum. Fishing season is open year-round, but there are no boat launch facilities after mid-summer due to excessive reservoir drawdown. This large storage reservoir gets light fishing pressure and is a fair producer of 8- to 12-inch kokanee, with trolling the most effective technique. The kokanee catch limit is generous; check the regulations pamphlet for details. Some lake trout (mackinaw) are taken each spring; the lake has a 12-inch minimum size limit, two fish daily limit for trout. Burbot are also available. The lake is closed to fishing for bull trout; please carefully release any bull trout that are hooked. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Cle Elum River:** This is a very popular recreational area with large campgrounds at Salmon-La-Sac. In the lower river (below Cle Elum lake), expect poor fishing for small rainbow trout. The lower river is open year-round with selective gear rules and catch-and-release only for trout. The river above Cle Elum Lake offers small rainbows and an occasional eastern brook trout. It is also on selective gear rules between Cle Elum Lake and the outlet of Hyas Lake with a June 1 through October 31 open season. Whitefish angling should be good during the special December 1 to March 31 whitefish season between the dam and the mouth. Check the regulations pamphlet for whitefish gear rules. The entire river is closed to fishing for bull trout, salmon, and steelhead.

**Columbia River:** Although lightly fished, a few walleye and smallmouth bass are available in the Wanapum Lake area and upstream. The river here is closed to salmon and steelhead fishing as the result of ESA listings, unless opened by emergency rule. Sturgeon fishing in this area is catch-and-release only.

**Cooper Lake (120 acres):** This high lake (2788 feet) 3½ miles northwest of Salmon-La-Sac is accessible by a Forest Service road from the upper Cle Elum River. Cooper Lake enjoys a year-round open fishing season and produces fair fishing for brook trout and rainbows 7-10 inches. Brown trout in the 1- to 3-pound range have been caught in recent years. Small kokanee and cutthroat are also taken. A boat launch is available, ***but all motors are prohibited by county ordinance.***

**Easton Lake (237 acres):** One mile northwest of the town of Easton. Open season runs from the Saturday before Memorial Day through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This lake has fair fishing after late May for 8- to 10-inch rainbow trout. There is an 8-inch minimum size limit and 2-fish daily limit on trout other than eastern brook trout. Check the regulations pamphlet. The lake is closed to fishing for bull trout. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Easton ponds (12.7 acres total):** These three easily accessible gravel-pit ponds are adjacent to I-90 Exit 71 near Easton. They are open to fishing year-round and will be stocked with catchable-sized rainbow trout beginning in late April.

**Fio Rito lakes (54 acres total):** About three miles east of Ellensburg alongside I-82 accessed via Thrall Road, this location offers a full year of fishing opportunity, as it is open season for fishing throughout the entire year. Fishing should be good for 8- to 14-inch rainbow trout. A few broodstock rainbows in the 6- to 12-pound range are stocked in late fall. Pan fish may also be caught. Good access facilities for shore anglers and car-topper boats, but internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Hanson ponds:** Except for Kiwanis Pond (see below), these small ponds near the town of Cle Elum are no longer stocked. The levy separating them from the Yakima River has been breached, thus creating off channel rearing habitat for salmon, steelhead, and wild resident trout. Be sure to check the fishing regulations pamphlet for information regarding this location, see Yakima River details ( <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing> ).

**High lakes:** Many unlisted lakes offer good fishing for trout. For more information on Region 3 stocking, please visit the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing> , then select fishing reports and see section titled Fish Plants and Stocking Reports. For those without Internet access, contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 3 office in Yakima and request a copy of the booklet, "**Region Three High Lakes Primer.**"

**Hyas Lake (124 acres):** This lake is a short trail hike above Fish Lake in the headwaters of Cle Elum River at 3550 feet elevation. Hyas offers a Year-round open fishing season with a good brook trout fishery from July through September. Fish are 8-14 inches, however can sometimes be difficult to catch.

**Kachess Lake (4,540 acres):** Situated just north of I-5, about five miles west of Cle Elum Lake. With a year-round open season, Kachess should be fair for 8- to 12-inch kokanee by early June. Rainbows, cutthroat, and burbot are also taken. There is a 16-fish catch limit for kokanee in addition to a 2-fish, 12-inch minimum size trout daily limit. **The lake is closed to fishing for bull trout; please carefully release any bull trout that are hooked.** This is a very popular lake with good camping and good boat launching area.

**Keechelus Lake (2,560 acres):** Located just three miles southeast of Snoqualmie Pass along the south side of I-90, you will take the Hyak exit from I-90 and follow it towards the WSDOT station, following the road to the right just prior to their road entrance. This year-round season can be very good at times, primarily in May and June, for 8- to 12-inch kokanee. Burbot are

also available. Kokanee and trout limits are the same as in Kachess (see above). **The lake is closed to fishing for bull trout; please carefully release any bull trout that are hooked.** Keechelus gets light fishing pressure, with poor boat launching after the reservoir is drawn down. Caution should be taken if fishing during the winter months due to snow and ice conditions.

**Kiwanis Pond:** The smallest and most westerly pond in the Hanson ponds complex near Cle Elum is open only to juveniles (14 years of age and younger) and disability license holders. It will continue to be stocked with rainbow trout. This pond has a year-round open season.

**Lavender Lake (20.3 acres):** Three miles east of Lake Easton State Park near the north side of I-90. This small lake has a year-round open season. One can expect good fishing for rainbow trout.

**Lost Lake (145 acres):** You'll find this lake about a mile west of Keechelus Lake. With a year-round open season, small kokanee and brook trout provide most of the action. Although brookies average only nine inches, there are some lunkers. No more than one trout over 14 inches may be retained in the 5-trout limit.

**Manastash Lake (23 acres):** Nineteen miles west of Ellensburg and a drive through mountain conditions that can include deep mud, rough road and near 4-wheel conditions. This year-round fishing location can be a consistent producer of 8- to 14-inch eastern brook trout. Ongoing midsummer algae blooms have become heavier and can make fishing rough. This high-elevation lake (5063 feet) is usually accessible to four-wheel drive vehicles by late May but this season's snowpack may delay access.

**Mattoon Lake (25 acres):** Located at Ellensburg. Open season is year-round. This lake offers good fishing for 8- to 14-inch rainbow trout. Mattoon offers a good bank fishing opportunity for those who do not have boats, although the lake gets quite weedy in summer. Internal combustion engines are prohibited here. This is a great place to take the family for a fun fishing outing.

**McCabe Pond:** Five miles southeast of Ellensburg at the junction of Thrall Road and Canyon Road. Year-round open season with a 5-fish limit for all fish species combined. Fishing from floating devices is prohibited. This small pond is good early in the year for planted 8- to 11-inch rainbow trout and for channel catfish to eight pounds later in the summer.

**Mercer Creek:** This stream is open to juveniles only within the Ellensburg city limits. *It is no longer stocked with trout.* New fishing rules on Mercer Creek for 2009 will follow the statewide daily limit (2 trout, with 8" minimum size) and the new statewide opening date for streams (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in June). The creek will remain open to fishing thru October 31.

**Naneum Pond (4.4 acres):** About three miles east of Ellensburg off Vantage Highway on Naneum Road. With a year-round open season, this small pond is open only to juveniles (only to those 14 years and younger). It is stocked with catchable-sized rainbow trout in early spring. Sunfish species are also available. Best fishing is early in the spring as the pond becomes very weedy and difficult to fish in late spring and summer.

**Taneum Creek:** This creek offers fair fishing from June through August for rainbow and cutthroat. Selective gear rules are in effect. June 1 through October 31 open season.

**Teanaway River:** The Teanaway is fair for rainbow trout from June through August. There are cutthroat in the upper reaches. **New for 2008—the river has catch and release for trout, selective gear rules** in effect including the North Fork, from the mouth to Beverly Creek (*Closed waters from Beverly Creek upstream 8 river miles to waterfall at the end of USFS Rd. 9737*). Please refer to the 2008 fishing regulations at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing> for details. This stream and its tributaries are closed to fishing for bull trout, salmon, and steelhead. June 1 through October 31<sup>st</sup> open season.

**Wilson Creek:** The two branches of this stream within the city limits of Ellensburg are open to juveniles only. *It is no longer stocked with trout.* New fishing rules on Wilson Creek for 2009 will follow the statewide daily limit (2 trout, with 8" minimum size) and the new statewide opening date for streams (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in June). The creek will remain open to fishing thru October 31.

**Woodhouse ponds:** These four small ponds southeast of Ellensburg are reached off of Woodhouse Road. With a year-round open season, this area has a walk in only access. Early-season fishing should be good for planted 8- to 11-inch rainbow trout. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, and sunfish are also present.

**Yakima River:** The Yakima above Roza Dam is widely considered to be one of the best resident trout streams in Central Washington. Best catches are in March, September, and October for wild rainbows averaging 11 inches; but larger rainbows in the 13- to 16-inch range are not uncommon. Fly-fishing is especially good in September and October. Expect excellent fishing for 8- to 16-inch whitefish in January and February. The river is open year-round between Roza and Easton Dams with *catch-and-release, selective gear rules* in effect for trout. During the winter whitefish season, bait with one single barbless hook size 14 or smaller may be used for whitefish only. These same rules apply between Easton Dam and Keechelus Dam except that eastern brook trout may be kept with no limit. Check the latest regulation pamphlet; found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>, and **be sure you can distinguish brook trout from bull trout before keeping any**. The entire river, including tributaries, is closed to fishing for bull trout and steelhead. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

## **Klickitat County**

**Columbia River:** This section of the Columbia offers good fishing for smallmouth bass and walleye, and few other warm water species, along with white sturgeon. Sturgeon catch guidelines are established for each pool. Fishing for sturgeon is prohibited from May 1st through July 31st from the grain silo at Rufus, Oregon, upstream to John Day Dam. Various anadromous fish (shad, steelhead, and salmon) pass through on their way upstream. Check the regulation pamphlet for sturgeon and salmon seasons, and be alert for emergency closures or extensions. Check the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or contact the WDFW Vancouver regional office at (360) 696-6211 for the latest information seasons and catch limits. Numerous boat-launching facilities are available, including at Bingen, Lyle, The Dalles Dam, Avery,

Maryhill State Park, Railroad Island (just above John Dam), Rock Creek Park, Sundale Park, and Roosevelt Park. For boat launch directions and information, go to [www.rco.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm](http://www.rco.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm).

**Horsethief Lake (92 acres):** Located in Horsethief State Park near Lyle between the Columbia River and Highway SR-14. The fishing season is the last Saturday in April to October 31<sup>st</sup>. The lake is planted with thousands of catchable rainbow trout for the opener, plus a few broodstock. Horsethief also contains largemouth and smallmouth bass, bluegill, crappie, catfish and an occasional walleye. A public boat launch, picnic and camping facilities are available at the state park. Check with the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for park opening and closing dates.

**Klickitat River:** The Klickitat is best known for its summer steelhead, with the best fishing usually between June and September when the river is clear. All wild steelhead must be released. There should be some limited opportunity for hatchery spring Chinook. Check the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or contact the WDFW Vancouver regional office at (360) 696-6211 for the latest information seasons and catch limits. The fall salmon season should provide good fishing for bright stock Chinook and coho. Check the latest regulation pamphlet for seasons, legal areas and gear restrictions. Good fall salmon fishing can also be found at the mouth of the Klickitat. There is a special winter whitefish-only season on sections of the Klickitat. Check the latest regulation pamphlet for season and whitefish gear rules (see <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>). A small sandy boat ramp exists at Lyle, but most boaters prefer to launch at Mayer Park in Oregon. Farther upstream, WDFW manages several access sites including: Mineral Springs, Leidl and Stinson Flats. For boat launch information on the Internet, go to [www.rco.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm](http://www.rco.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm). For real-time Washington river flows, check the USGS web site at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/data/>.

**Northwestern Reservoir (97 acres):** This reservoir is located behind Condit Dam on the White Salmon River. Open seasons run from the last Saturday in April through February. The reservoir is stocked with rainbow trout fingerlings during summer to produce 10 to 12 inch catchable size rainbows. Broodstock and 256 triploid rainbow trout are also stocked in this body of water. There is a public boat launch with picnic area on the northwest shore, and a small park at the north end. Shore fishing is limited.

**Rowland Lakes (85 acres total):** This lake, split by SR-14, four miles east of Bingen; is open to fishing from the last Saturday in April through the end of February. Stocked with Brown and Rainbow trout including some broodstock and 928 triploids (N. Rowland lake) makes this location a popular lake for opening weekend. Largemouth Bass, bluegill, crappie and catfish are also caught here. There is limited very rocky shore access available and a rough WDFW unimproved boat launch on the north side of the lake.

**Spearfish Lake (22 acres):** Located just north of the Dalles Dam. The fishing season runs from the last Saturday in April through the end of February. This popular lake should provide good fishing on opening day for catchable-size rainbow trout, with some broodstock rainbows also available. Shore access around the entire lake is excellent, with a boat ramp and adjacent park.

**Streams:** Several streams in Klickitat County will be stocked with legal-size rainbows before the June 1 stream opener. These include: Bird, Bowman, Outlet, and Spring creeks, and Little Klickitat River (April opener; juveniles-only within Goldendale city limits). Another plant of legal rainbows will be ready for a derby on Jewitt Creek (juveniles only).

**White Salmon River:** This river system offers fine fishing for summer run steelhead plus some opportunity for spring and fall salmon and winter steelhead. See Skamania County for more information.

## LEWIS COUNTY

**Carlisle Lake (20 acres):** Located on the northwest edge of Onalaska. The fishing season runs from the last Saturday in April through the end of February. This popular opening-day lake is stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout grown from net pens for opening day, plus some large broodstock and 330 triploid rainbows. Landlocked salmon rules are in effect, in case excess hatchery fish become available. Carlisle also has a few largemouth bass. Public access is available, and small boats can be launched, but internal combustion engines are not allowed.

**Cowlitz River:** See Cowlitz County for a general description of the species available. Boating access is available at the I-5 Bridge just south of exit 59, Massey Bar, Blue Creek (Cowlitz Trout Hatchery), and the Barrier Dam (Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery). For more information and directions on boating access sites, go to <http://www.rco.wa.gov>. For current, Real Time River flows check the USGS web site at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/data> for the latest map or call Tacoma Power's toll-free fishing hotline at (888) 502-8690. The access areas at the Cowlitz salmon and trout hatcheries provide some of the most popular bank fishing areas on the river. Mill Creek provides an additional hatchery winter steelhead opportunity during some months. Night closures and non-buoyant lure restrictions are in effect. Check the latest regulation pamphlet for additional restrictions in the Mill Creek to Barrier Dam area. The outfall area at the trout hatchery provides a special fishing area for wheelchair-bound anglers; again, check the latest regulation pamphlet for boundaries and more information. All cutthroat must be released in the Cowlitz and Cispus rivers upstream from Cowlitz Falls Dam, including Lake Scanewa, Clear and Muddy forks of the Cowlitz, Ohanapecosh River, and North Fork of the Cispus. The North Fork Cispus, and Clear and Muddy forks of the Cowlitz, have *selective gear restrictions* during all open seasons.

**Fort Borst Park Pond (5 acres):** In Fort Borst Park near Centralia. Open only to juveniles (14 years and younger). The fishing season runs from the last Saturday in April through the end of February. The lake is stocked with stocked with catchable-size and 390 triploid rainbow trout for opening day. A few warm water fish are also available.

**Mayfield Lake:** About three miles west of Mossyrock, this lake has a year-round open season. The big attraction on this Cowlitz River impoundment is tiger muskies. The state record for this introduced hybrid is currently over 31 pounds; larger ones are out there. Best musky fishing is during the warmer months. Currently the minimum size limit for muskies is 50 inches. Check the latest fishing regulation pamphlet for details. ***Anglers are asked to consider releasing all muskies, which help control the northern pikeminnow population.*** Fishing should be good this year for stocked with catchable-size and 390 triploid rainbow provided by Tacoma Power as part

of their federal hydro power license. There is an 8-inch minimum size on trout. All cutthroat trout in Mayfield Lake and in tributary Tilton River must be released. Remember, ***only adipose clipped rainbow trout may be retained in Mayfield Lake and the Tilton River.*** Surplus hatchery Coho and fall Chinook may be placed in the lake for additional fishing opportunity. Yellow perch are also caught in fair numbers, and a few largemouth bass are present. Boating access is available at a Lewis County park just off of Highway US-12, at Ike Kinswa State Park, and at a private resort. There is fair shore fishing access at the state park and at the Mossyrock Trout Hatchery. Call Tacoma Power's toll free fishing line at (888) 502-8690.

**Mineral Lake (277 acres):** Three miles southeast of Elbe. Anglers are often rewarded with a magnificent view of Mt. Rainier. The fishing season runs from the last Saturday in April through the end of February. More than 100,000 fingerling rainbow trout are planted each year, and good fishing is anticipated for trout up to 12 inches long with a few larger ones. As a bonus, 720 larger triploid trout will also be added to the mix sometime in April, 2009. In a cooperative venture with Mineral Lake Resort, 15,000 catchable size rainbows are being raised in net pens this past winter, to be released for the spring opening. Some catchable, broodstock and triploid rainbows will also be planted before the opener, and several thousand brown trout. Illegally introduced largemouth bass are also present. The WDFW boating access is small, so patience is needed when launching. A public fishing dock provides very good access for all anglers. A private resort provides boat rentals. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Plummer Lake (12 acres):** This lake is on the east side of I-5 at Centralia, with a fishing season that runs from the last Saturday in April through the end of February each year. Catchable-size rainbow trout are planted for opening day. This small lake also has yellow perch, bluegill and largemouth bass. Public access is limited, but a small car-topper launching area is available at the end of Lewis Street.

**Riffe Lake (11,830 acres):** This Cowlitz River reservoir stretches more than 13 miles along US-12 east of Mossyrock and has a year-round open fishing season. Riffe provides good fishing for, primarily, landlocked coho and Chinook salmon, plus an occasional large brown trout. Rainbow and cutthroat trout are also available. Landlocked salmon rules apply. Smallmouth bass are well established, and a few largemouth are taken too. Other warm water species present include brown bullheads, along with a few bluegill and crappie. Mossyrock Park, near the west end on the south side of the dam, has camping facilities that can be reserved by calling (360) 593-3900. Mossyrock Park boat launch remains useable during most low-water conditions. Boat launches at the east end (Kosmos and Taidnapam Park) are not usable during low-water periods. Bank access is available on both sides near the dam and at the Taidnapam Park "fishing bridge" near the upper end of the lake. Call the Tacoma Power toll-free fishing hotline at (888) 502-8690 to check reservoir levels.

**Scanewa Lake (610 acres):** This Cowlitz River reservoir is located about 10 miles southwest of Randle. To get there, turn on Savio Road west of Randle, go south on Kiona Road two miles to Falls Road, then west on Falls Road to signs. Open season is June 1 through February. The reservoir is stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout by Lewis County PUD. Only adipose fin-clipped rainbow trout may be retained here; all catchable rainbow trout stocked will be fin-

clipped. All cutthroat in the Cowlitz and Cispus rivers upstream from Cowlitz Falls Dam, which includes Scanewa Lake, must be released. Excess hatchery coho are planted here in fall to provide additional fishing opportunity; spring Chinook and steelhead have also been released here. All wild coho must be released, and all wild Chinook must be released during June and July. Two parks have been constructed by the PUD, one with campgrounds and one for day use. The campground park is closed during winter; about October 1 through May 1. Both parks provide a boat launch with 8-foot dock, and good disabled accessibility. For campground information call (360) 497-7175 (May-September).

**Skate Creek:** This popular stream near Packwood is stocked by Tacoma Power with catchable-size rainbow trout by the June 1 opener and throughout the summer. Only adipose fin-clipped rainbow trout may be retained here; all catchable rainbow trout stocked will be fin-clipped. Check the regulation pamphlet for special trout size limits.

**South Lewis County Park Pond (17 Acres):** This small pond just southeast of Toledo has good shore and fishing pier access, and a boat launch. This pond has a year-round open season and is stocked with catchable-size rainbow and brown trout, and excess sea-run cutthroat when available. Some largemouth bass and bluegill are also available, and a few tiger muskies were introduced in 1999. *Tiger Muskies minimum size limit is currently 50 inches. It is encouraged that all Tiger Muskies caught be released as these fish are stocked in locations as a apex predator to control introduced species of fish that can over populate a body of water. Grass carp have also been planted and it is illegal to fish for or retain grass carp.*

**Swofford Pond (240 acres):** Located near the south shore of Riffe Lake east of Mossyrock; Follow Mossyrock Road east out of town, then turn right on Swofford Road. With a year-round open season, this lake provides naturally reproducing populations of bluegill, crappie, largemouth bass, and brown bullheads. Channel catfish have been stocked, and a couple of fish in the 20-pound class have been caught. Swofford also receives plants by Tacoma Power of several thousand catchable-size rainbow and brown trout in the spring, and there are some large carry-over browns in the lake. There is an unimproved boat launching area. Internal combustion engines are not allowed. Call Tacoma Power's toll free fishing line at (888) 502-8690.

**Tilton River:** The mainstem from the mouth to West Fork is planted with catchable-size rainbow trout by Tacoma Power by the June 1 stream opener and throughout the summer. All cutthroat must be released in the mainstem. Only adipose-clipped rainbow trout may be retained; all-catchable rainbow trout stocked will be fin-clipped. Surplus hatchery steelhead and coho salmon are planted here during fall and winter. Check the regulation pamphlet for special trout size limits. All Tilton forks have different rules than the mainstem, including selective gear rules and a shorter season. Again, check the regulation pamphlet for details. Also, call Tacoma Power's toll free fishing line at (888) 502-8690.

## LINCOLN COUNTY

**Coffeepot Lake (317 acres):** 12 miles northeast of Odessa. March 1 through September 30 open season. While this lake is a "Selective Gear" rule lake, gas motors are allowed. See current Fishing Regulations pamphlet for more information. This enlargement of Lake Creek consists of two sections, and provides a quality angling and wildlife viewing opportunity. 5,000

to 7,500 catchable-size rainbow trout are stocked annually. Fly-fishing for trout, and gear fishing (small jigs) for yellow perch and black crappie can be excellent. The BLM access provides boat launching and limited camping.

**Crab Creek:** Fishing can be good for brown and rainbow trout in some portions of this Lincoln County farmland drainage. Open season is year-round, with this location quickly becoming a popular destination for fly-fishers. This location is not restricted to fly-fishing, but does have restrictions in some locations. Please make sure to read the current Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing> to be up to date on any changes also check this same website. Access is primarily from private property. Be sure to get permission. When crossing or fishing from private property, it is important to practice the Leave No Trace principles, please see <http://www.lnt.org/programs/principles.php> and be aware that it is important to leave the locations like they were or cleaner so that we can continue to utilize these as access points.

**Deer (Deer Springs) Lake (60 acres):** About 12 miles northeast of Odessa. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Fry and catchable-size rainbow trout are planted annually, and brown trout have been stocked. Fishing for yellow perch and black crappie can be good some years. Pumpkinseed sunfish and largemouth bass are also present. Rough campsites are available on the north end. Access area can be muddy early in the season.

**Fishtrap Lake (196 acres):** Located six and a half miles east of Sprague, on the Lincoln/Spokane County line, with about 173 acres in Lincoln County. Fishtrap can be reached from the east via I-90 Exit 254 to a county road (Old State Highway) running south, then easterly on Fishtrap/Scroggie Road to the northeast end of the lake, or from the west via the Sprague exit (Exit 245). Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Fishing is expected to be fair to good this year for fry planted rainbow trout, with larger carryover, broodstock and triploid rainbows available. This will be one of the best opening-day trout lakes in the state. Both a resort launch and public access launch are available

**Fourth of July Lake (110 acres):** Two miles south of the town of Sprague. This lake straddles the Adams/Lincoln County line, with 74 acres in Adams County and 36 acres in Lincoln County. Although the majority of the lake lies in Adams County, it is managed with Lincoln County waters. The special winter season runs December 1 through March 31. Rainbow trout from fry-plants, catchable, and some carry-overs running to 20 inches provide the action. Large (13 to 20 inches) rainbows are not uncommon here. Tiger trout will be stocked in the spring of 2008 and are expected to be of harvestable size by winter of 2008. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for special size restrictions. There is a WDFW access area with a boat launch west off of Highway SR-23, but internal combustion engines are not allowed.

**Goose Creek:** This waterway runs through the town of Wilbur on its way to join Wilson Creek. Within Wilbur city limits, fishing is limited to juvenile anglers and reduced-fee disability license holders, with a year round open season. Rainbow trout are available. Other portions of the creek have standard statewide freshwater stream rules and season.

**Hawk Creek:** This Lake Roosevelt tributary flows northwest from Davenport. Year round open season. It is not stocked, but has naturally produced brook and rainbow trout in places.

**Pacific Lake (140 acres):** Located about five miles northwest of Odessa this location has a year-round open season for fishing. The wet years of 1996 and 1997 filled this “wide spot” in Lake Creek, supporting a rainbow trout fishery for several years, but the water has dropped again, and the trout fishery was not viable in 2008 and is not expected to be in 2009. Plants of rainbow trout fry will resume if and when the lake returns to a usable water level. Check with the Spokane Regional office at (509) 892-1001 for the latest information. Access via Lakeview Ranch Road, running by the west end of the lake, offers car-topper boat launching when water level is adequate, and camping, with fire pits and toilets.

**Roosevelt Lake:** Refer to Stevens County, which contains the largest portion (43%) of this Columbia River impoundment (compared to 18% in Lincoln County.)

**Sprague Lake (1,840 acres):** This large lake is approximately two miles west of the town of Sprague, and bordering the south side of I-90, is shared by Adams (1,203 acres) and Lincoln (637 acres) counties. Open for Year-round fishing, Sprague Lake was treated with rotenone in the fall of 2007. WDFW expects that the lake will provide excellent fishing for trout, pan fish, catfish and bass for the next 20 years following the rotenone treatment. During spring of 2008, trout (rainbow, tiger and triploids), bluegill, crappie, catfish and bass will be restocked. The trout fishery has already provided excellent angling opportunity and within the next four years the warm water fish communities will become established and provide for good fishing opportunities. For current information or details on the lake rehabilitation contact the Spokane Regional office at (509) 892-1001.

**Twin Lakes, Upper (39.2 acres) and Lower (44.9 acres):** Located in the Lake Creek drainage about 20 miles southeast of Davenport. This year round open season location has access provided by the Bureau of Land Management, website <http://www.blm.gov/or/st/en.html>. Contact the BLM for access information. Upper Twin is stocked with fry and catchable-size rainbow trout, and also provides good fishing for largemouth bass, with pumpkinseed sunfish, yellow perch, black crappie and brown bullhead catfish available. Lower Twin can be decent for trout that move downstream from Upper Twin, but it is an excellent perch fishery in the early spring months, before water levels drop and weeds claim the lake. The lower lake also has the same warm water species listed for Upper Twin, but the bass and crappie tend to run smaller in Lower Twin. Lower Twin is subject to winter and summer kill during low water periods.

## **MASON COUNTY**

**Aldrich Lake (10 acres):** About 1-1/2 miles southwest of Dewatto. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing should be fair-to-good for eight to 10-inch rainbows. The WDFW access has a primitive ramp. The gate is closed from September 16 to opening day, requiring a hike to campsites.

**Benson Lake (82 acres):** Seven and a half miles southwest of Belfair. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Statewide minimum size and limits apply to all game species in this body of water. Expect fair fishing for nine- to 11-inch cutthroat and

rainbow trout, plus some larger triploid rainbows. Largemouth bass and sunfish have also been reported. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets, but motorized boats are prohibited by Mason County ordinance. .

**Cady Lake (15 acres):** Located two miles southeast of Dewatto, this body of water has a year-round open season. The lake is stocked with seven- to 13-inch cutthroat trout. It is limited to *catch-and-release and fly-fishing only, and internal combustion engines are prohibited*. There is a public access with one toilet.

**Clara Lake (17 acres):** About 1-1/2 miles south of Dewatto. Also known as Don Lake, opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fishing should be fair-to-good for seven- to nine-inch rainbows. A state access with one toilet is available, but a closed gate often requires a short hike to the lake.

**Cushman, Lake (4,000 acres):** Four miles northwest of Hoodspout, Cushman Lake offers a year-round open season. This North Fork Skokomish River impoundment is a natural lake enlarged by a dam. Caution has to be taken in some areas due to stumps and other sunken debris. It offers kokanee fishing in the summer and good late-season cutthroat fishing. ***Cushman is closed to the taking of Dolly Varden/bull trout.***

**Devereaux Lake (94 acres):** About 1-1/2 miles northwest of Allyn, this lake opens the last Saturday in April with a season that concludes the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. Expect fair-to-good spring fishing for planted catchable-size rainbows, with carry-overs sometimes reaching five pounds, plus a few cutthroat trout. This lake is also good for Kokanee as the water warms. The State access has a boat launch and two toilets. *Internal combustion engines are prohibited by county ordinance.*

**DNR24:** The beach at this park on the east Shore of Harstene Island, just northwest of McMicken Island and south of Fudge Point, has been enhanced with Pacific oysters. Please respect private property in the Fudge Point area. It is always best to seek permission when utilizing any access or activities on private property. See under Hood Canal below for information on seasons and emergency closures.

**Haven Lake (69 acres):** Seven miles west of Belfair. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This lake is good-to-excellent for rainbows up to a foot long, plus cutthroat. Haven will also receive a bonus plant of larger triploid rainbow trout. There is State access with one toilet available onsite.

**Hood Canal:** Recreational shrimp and crab harvesting opportunities are present throughout Hood Canal. Please consult the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for specific seasons. For clam and oyster openings, call the Shellfish Hotline or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>, or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules pamphlet found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety.

**Howell Lake (9.6 acres):** About nine miles west of Belfair. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked annually with rainbow trout. The gate is open for two weeks only after opening day; thereafter, a short hike to the lake will be required. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Isabella Lake (208 acres):** About two miles south of Shelton. This location has year-round open season and provides fair fishing for rainbows up to a foot long. Largemouth bass and other warm water species are also present. A State access with boat launch and two toilets is available.

**Island Lake (109 acres):** About two miles north of Shelton, Island Lake has a year-round open fishing season. The lake provides fair fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass, plus a few large rainbows. Some triploid rainbows are scheduled to be stocked this year. There is a state access with boat ramp and one toilet. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Kokanee Lake (150 acres):** About four miles northwest of Hoodspport. Located immediately downstream of Lake Cushman, Kokanee Lake is sometimes called Lower Cushman and offers much the same type of fishing as this namesake. It is planted with legal-sized rainbows in the spring, and is open to fishing year-round.

**Lilliwaup State Park:** Located on the west shore of Hood Canal just north of the town of Lilliwaup, the southern portion of the beach has a Washington state Department of Health restriction, but the northern half of the beach has a nice bed of Pacific oysters. See under Hood Canal above for information on seasons and emergency closures.

**Limerick Lake (80 acres):** About five miles northeast of Shelton. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. It is fair for rainbow trout, good for perch later in the summer, and fair for largemouth bass. Limerick has State access with two toilets. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Lost Lake (121 acres):** You'll find this lake 7-1/2 miles southwest of Shelton, about half a mile north of Cloquallum Road. This lake has a year-round open season and fishing should be fair for seven- to nine-inch rainbow trout and kokanee. Brown bullhead catfish have been reported. Access is via Gallagher Road and Lost Lake Road. There is a State access available with two toilets.

**Maggie Lake (25 acres):** Just two miles northeast of Tahuya this lake has a season that starts the last Saturday in April through November 30<sup>th</sup>. Expect fair spring action for stocked catchable-size rainbow trout. A State access with boat launch and one toilet is available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Mason Lake (995 acres):** Approximately eight miles southwest of Belfair, with a year-round open season. The best fishing is for kokanee during the summer. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, and brown bullhead catfish are also available. The county access area has a boat launch, best for shallow-draft boats.

**Melbourne Lake (35 acres):** About 2-1/2 miles north of Lilliwaup. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing should be good-to-excellent for cutthroat up to 14 inches, especially in the fall. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Nahwatzel Lake (269 acres):** Eleven miles west of Shelton, with a year-round open season. One can expect fair fishing for stocked 10- to 12- inch rainbow trout, with good numbers of large carry-overs, and opportunity for some nice resident and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout. Largemouth bass become active as the summer warms up, and small pumpkinseed sunfish are plentiful. The WDFW access along Shelton-Matlock Road has a concrete plank boat launch with two toilets, but parking is limited and the turn-around area small.

**North Bay Oyster Reserve:** Located at the north end of Case Inlet. The bay north of a line drawn southwest from Rocky Point to the north end of Reach Island, then due west to the mainland is closed to the harvest of clams and oysters year-round, EXCEPT state-owned tidelands on the east side of North Bay north of the power transmission lines crossing the bay and 1600 feet south of the power transmission lines are open and have an enhanced bed of Pacific oysters. See under Hood Canal above for information on the seasons and emergency closures.

**Oakland Bay Recreational Tidelands:** This beach is located off Highway SR-3 just north of the Bayshore Golf Course. See under Hood Canal above for information on seasons and emergency closures.

**Phillips Lake (111 acres):** Seven miles northeast of Shelton. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fair-to-good fishing for eight- to 11-inch rainbows, and some larger triploid rainbow trout. Largemouth bass are also present. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets.

**Prices (Price) Lake (62 acres):** About five miles north of Hoodport. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Open only to catch-and-release, with selective gear rules in effect. Prices Lake offers fine fishing for large rainbow, cutthroat and eastern brook trout.

**Prickett Lake:** See Trails End Lake below.

**Rendsland Creek:** Located on the east shore of Hood Canal by The Great Bend, the beach here has been enhanced with Pacific oysters.

**Robbins Lake (17 acres):** About 1-1/2 miles south of Dewatto, this lake offers a season that starts the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This small lake has good fishing for planted rainbow trout. The gate will be closed from September 16 until opening day. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Spencer Lake (230 acres):** Seven miles northeast of Shelton, east of Highway SR-3. With a year-round open season, expect good-to-excellent fishing here all summer for 8- to 10-inch

rainbows, with some larger carry-overs. Fishing heats up again in the fall, and largemouth bass fishing is good in late spring and summer. State access with boat launch and two toilets is available.

**Stump Lake (23 acres):** About 7-1/2 miles northeast of Elma, a mile east off of Cloquallum Road, this lakes season starts the last Saturday in April and continues through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Stump has good fishing for planted 10 to 12 inch rainbow trout. Some limited opportunity for cutthroat trout, plus largemouth bass as the waters warm up. Small boats can be hand-carried to the water, or launched from a small trailer, but the primitive dirt launch is narrow and steep. Internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Tee Lake (38 acres):** Located about two miles southeast of Dewatto, this body of water has a year-round open season. Fishing can be good for yellow perch and largemouth bass, and fair to good for stocked catchable rainbows and triploid rainbows.. The WDFW access has a rough gravel ramp and one toilet.

**Tiger Lake (109 acres):** Nine miles southwest of Bremerton, on the Kitsap/Mason county line. Mason County has the lion's share, with 103 acres. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This is a good bet for stocked rainbows over 14 inches, with some larger carry-overs. A WDFW access with two toilets is available.

**Trail's End Lake (74 acres):** Situated five miles southwest of Belfair, formerly called Prickett Lake, this body of water is open year-round for fishing. One can expect fair fishing for rainbows up to 10 inches, and brown bullhead catfish have been reported. The WDFW access has a primitive ramp and one toilet.

**Twanoh State Park:** This south Hood Canal park (between Union and Belfair) offers good access on its east and west edges. Check park regulations for late evening use September through February. Currently all other fishing areas along southern Hood Canal are private. The beach here has been enhanced with Pacific oysters. See under Hood Canal above for information on seasons and emergency closures. Smelt dipping may be available from September to January. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Twanoh Creek:** provides a great opportunity to view chum salmon during their spawning run in November.

**Twin Lakes (15 and 5.5 acres):** These two small lakes about seven miles northwest of Belfair have also been known as Spider Lakes. Both lakes are open to fishing year-round. The largest, usually called Big Twin, is fair for stocked rainbow trout up to nine inches. Little Twin Lake is 200 feet to the west. Gate closure from September 16 to the last Saturday in April will necessitate a hike to the lake and campsites.

**Wildberry Lake (8 acres):** About 1-1/2 miles northwest of Tahuya. Open season is from the last Saturday in April through October 31. Fishing should be fair for stocked rainbow trout up to 11 inches.

**Wooten, Lake (68 acres):** Seven miles west of Belfair. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Expect fair-to-good fishing for rainbow trout up to 10 inches, plus some cutthroat. Wooten will also receive a bonus plant of larger triploid rainbow trout again this year. The WDFW access off of Haven Lake Drive has a concrete plank boat launch and two toilets.

## **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

**Aeneas Lake (61 acres):** Three miles southwest of Tonasket. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fly-fishing only. Use of motors, including electric, is prohibited. There is a **one (1) -fish daily limit for trout**. Fishing should be good this year for rainbow trout 14-16 inches. WDFW access area with campsites, toilet, and gravel boat launch.

**Alta Lake (187 acres):** Two miles southwest of Pateros at Alta Lake State Park. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Fishing should be good for 10- to 12-inch yearling rainbow trout, as well as carryovers to 15 inches. Public access areas, a state park, and a private resort provide services. Concrete boat launch available at state park. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Big Twin Lake (77 acres):** Two miles southwest of Winthrop. Last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup>. *Selective gear rules with a 1-fish daily limit for trout*. Fishing should be good for rainbow trout 12-18 inches. A resort and WDFW public access with toilets and graveled boat launch are available.

**Blue Lake (186 acres):** In the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area eight miles north of Conconully. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Selective gear rules with a 1-fish daily limit for trout. This lake should provide good fishing for rainbow and brown trout running from 12 to 18 inches. A graveled boat launch and toilets are available, as well as campsites

**Blue Lake (111 acres, near Wannacut Lake):** Situated four miles southwest of Oroville, this lake has a fishing season that starts the last Saturday in April and continues through October 31<sup>st</sup>. *Selective gear rules are in effect with a 1-fish daily limit for trout*. Fishing should be good for Lahontan cutthroat 16-18 inches. There is a WDFW access site with a graveled launch available.

**Bonaparte Lake (159 acres):** Located 18 miles northeast of Tonasket. Year round season. Only one trout over 20 inches is allowed in the 5-trout daily limit. Fishing should be good for kokanee from 8-12 inches. Bonaparte also has eastern brook, rainbow, tiger, and lake trout. There is a resort with cabins, launch area and restaurant, as well as a USFS campground on the lake..

**Chopaka Lake (149 acres):** Six miles north of Loomis. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fly-fishing only. **Use of all motors is prohibited**. Chopaka Lake was rehabilitated in fall 2007 to remove undesirable fish species. Fishing should be very good for rainbow trout 12-18 inches.. There are DNR and BLM campgrounds at the lake with toilets and a graveled boat launch. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Conconully Lake (313 acres):** On the east side of the town of Conconully and open the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup> prospects are good for yearling rainbow trout running 11 to 13 inches plus carryovers up to 16 inches. Several hundred triploid rainbow trout 1-2 lbs will be planted this spring to provide additional angler opportunity. There is a resort; dock access and boat launch facilities at the lake.

**Conconully Reservoir (450 acres):** Found on the south side of the town of Conconully and also opens the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup> this reservoir also provides good prospects for yearling rainbow trout running 11 to 13 inches, plus carryovers up to 16 inches.. Several hundred triploid rainbow trout 1-2 lbs will be planted this spring to provide additional angler opportunity. There is a state park with camping facilities, boat launching sites and two resorts on the lake.

**Crawfish Lake (80 acres):** In Okanogan National Forest located 15 miles northeast of Omak. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. The southern half of the lake is on the Colville Reservation, so boundary waters apply; only a state fishing license is required when fishing from a boat; a tribal fishing permit is required when fishing from shore on tribal lands. Fishing should be fair for rainbow trout 9-11 inches. Internal combustion motors are prohibited.

**Davis Lake (39 acres):** Three miles southwest of Winthrop. With a mixed season, be sure to pay attention to the fishing regulations. Here is a summary: Open to catch-and-release, *selective gear rules* fishing only from April 1 through August 31 - Davis Lake then switches to a “catch-and-keep” special winter season from September 1 through March 31 **without** selective gear rules. Fishing should be good for 11-13 inch rainbow trout, with carryovers to 15 inches There is a WDFW access site with a graveled boat launch available

**Ell Lake (21 acres):** Sixteen miles southeast of Tonasket in the Aeneas Valley this body of water opens the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Selective gear rules are in effect with a 1-fish daily limit for trout. Fishing prospects are fair for rainbow trout in the 12-14inch range. A WDFW access site provides toilet and camping areas. Boats must be carried a short distance to the lake.

**Fish Lake (102 acres):** Four miles northeast of Conconully located in the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area. This lake is open to fishing the last Saturday in April through the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. Fishing should be good for 10- to 11-inch yearling rainbow trout as well as carryovers to 15 inches. Two public access areas with boat launches, campground, and toilets are provided.

**Green Lakes (54 acres):** These two lakes (Big Green, 45 acres, and Little Green, 9 acres) are about five miles northwest of Omak. Both are open to catch-and-release, selective gear rules fishing only from April 1 through November 30. From December 1 through March 31 both lakes switch to a “catch-and-keep” special winter season **without** selective gear rules. Big Green Lake should provide good fishing for 10- to 11-inch yearling rainbow trout as well as carryover fish to 15”. Big Green Lake has a WDFW boat launch and toilets. Little Green Lake has a small access site with gravel boat launch and should provide good fishing for 10- to 11-inch yearling eastern brook trout, as well as carryover rainbows to 15 inches.

**High lakes:** There are over 200 high-elevation lakes in Okanogan County. Many are stocked with trout or have naturally reproducing populations. Fishing is good July through October. Westslope cutthroat are the main catch, but rainbow and eastern brook trout are also available. Many of these lakes can be located on an Okanogan National Forest map.

**Leader Lake (Reservoir) (159 acres):** Four miles west of Okanogan. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Good fishing for yearling rainbows 9-11 inches, but expect some carryovers in the 15 inch range. Several hundred triploid rainbow trout 1-2 lbs each will be planted this spring to provide additional angler opportunity. Crappie and bluegill fishing has been good in recent years and provides good action well into the summer after the trout fishing subsides. Boat launches, toilets, and camping are available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Little Twin Lake (24 acres):** Two miles south of Winthrop. Little Twin has recently changed to an opening day fishery with an open season from the last Saturday in April to October 31. Selective gear rules and one fish limit are in effect at Little Twin. Fishing should be good for rainbows 12-16 inches, but expect a few eastern brook 9-11 inches as well. There is a WDFW access area with toilet as well as a small graveled boat launch available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Long Lake (17 acres):** Located in the Aeneas Valley chain of lakes about 15 miles southeast of Tonasket with a season of the last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Fishing should be good for yearling rainbow to 11 inches, with some 15-inch carryovers available. There is a WDFW access site with campground, but due to low water anglers may have to carry boats a short distance to the lake.

**Lost Lake (47 acres):** Located north of Bonaparte Lake. Year-round open fishing season should provide for a fair opportunity to catch brook trout to 12". Internal combustion motors are prohibited. There is a USFS campground with a graveled boat launch available.

**Methow River:** Located in Okanogan County, the Methow River provides good opportunities for anglers during selected seasons. The catch-and-release trout season is June 1 through September 30 and provides good fishing for resident rainbow as well as cutthroat trout under selective gear rules. The winter whitefish season is December 1 through March 31. The steelhead fishery opens by emergency rule only, so anglers should check the WDFW website or call the Ephrata office for special steelhead season openers. There are several WDFW access sites along the river with toilets and boat/raft access to the river. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Okanogan River:** The Okanogan River has good opportunities for smallmouth bass along the entire length. Anglers should expect fish in the 10- to 12-inch range with some fish exceeding three pounds. Largemouth bass are also present, but in limited numbers and mostly restricted to the lower reaches of the river. Walleye fishing has grown in recent years, with the majority of the fish being located near the river mouth. The steelhead fishery opens by emergency rule only, so anglers should check the WDFW website or call the Ephrata office for special season openers. Summer chinook fishing is available during years when the run size is adequate, so anglers

should check the latest fishing regulations or the website for opening dates and restrictions. There is an excellent boat launch in Brewster and a gravel launch site at the Monse Bridge and at Riverside, but anglers should know that shore access is limited on the Okanogan due to private ownership.

**Osoyoos Lake (5,729 acres):** This large lake one mile north of Oroville spans the Canada/U. S. border, with 2036 acres in the U. S. It is open to fishing year-round. Expect low catches of naturally reproducing rainbows and kokanee. Trout to 14 inches and larger can be caught with kokanee running 10 to 14 inches. This lake also offers good smallmouth bass fishing spring through fall. State park facilities include a boat launch near the outlet to the Okanogan River. There is a city park with a boat launch at Boundary Point about four miles north of town. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Palmer Lake (2,063 acres):** About four miles north of the town of Loomis and has a year-round open fishing season. Palmer provides good smallmouth bass fishing with largemouth bass also present. Kokanee fishing is good in Palmer, with fish running 11-13 inches. Yellow perch, crappie, and burbot are also available with the latter being primarily a winter fishery. Campgrounds and toilets are available at each end of the lake, with a new concrete boat launch at the south end access area (BLM) and a graveled launch site at the north area (DNR). There is one resort on the lake with cabins and small boat rentals available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Patterson Lake (143 acres):** This lake is located three miles west of Winthrop. Patterson Lake was recently changed to a year round lake and should provide good fishing for rainbow trout in the 11"-12" range. Yellow perch fishing has picked up in recent years and provides additional opportunities for the angler during the hotter summer months as well as during the winter. Expect perch to be mostly in the 7- 8- inch range, with some larger fish to 10-inches. Additional fish plants of several hundred triploid rainbow trout in the 1-2 lb range will be made this spring to increase angling opportunity. There is a resort plus a WDFW access site with a gravel launch and toilet.

**Pearrygin Lake (192 acres):** One mile northeast of Winthrop bordering on the Methow Wildlife Area. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Pearrygin should be good for rainbow trout to 10 inches as well as 14"-15" carryover fish. There is a resort, state park, and WDFW access area with boat launches, campgrounds, and toilets. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Rat Lake (63 acres):** Located five miles north of Brewster and open to a catch-and-release, selective gear rules fishing only from April 1 through November 30, Rat Lake then switches to a "catch-and-keep" special winter season from December 1 through March 31 **without** selective gear rules. There is a WDFW access site with a concrete boat launch and toilet. Fishing should be good for 10- to 12-inch rainbow and brown trout as well as carryover fish to 15 inches.

**Round Lake (20 acres):** Located in the Aeneas Valley area east of Tonasket. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Fishing should be good for 11- to 12-inch rainbow

trout with larger fish to 15 inches. There is a WDFW developed boat launch at the lake, but due to low water anglers may have to carry boats a short distance.

**Rufus Woods Lake (7,800 acres):** See Douglas County.

**Sidley Lake (109 acres):** Located near Molson about a mile from the Canadian border, with a year-round open season, this lake has a trout daily limit of two (2) fish. Sidley should provide good quality rainbows in the 11- to 12-inch range with carryovers up to 16 inches. Shore access is good as the main highway parallels the lake. Sidley is also one of the more popular ice fishing lakes in Okanogan County.

**Silvernail Lake (5 acres):** Four miles north of Oroville. Open to juveniles only (14 years old and younger). With year-round open season fishing opportunities, this location should be good for rainbow trout to 12 inches. There is a WDFW site providing access to the lake.

**Similkameen River:** The Similkameen River offers a winter whitefish season, which opens on December 1, and closes March 31. Summer chinook and steelhead fishing seasons are open through emergency regulation only, so anglers should check the WDFW website or call the Ephrata regional office for opening dates and restrictions. Access is limited along the river, below Enloe Dam due to private ownership.

**Spectacle Lake (315 acres):** Nine miles southwest of Tonasket. April 1 through September 30 open season. Fishing should be good for yearling rainbow trout running 11-12 inches, as well as carryovers to 15 inches. Brown trout are also available in Spectacle. There are three resorts on the lake and a WDFW access site with campsites, toilet, and concrete boat ramp.

**Wannacut Lake (412 acres):** Four miles southwest of Oroville. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing should be good for 11- to 12-inch rainbow trout with carryovers to 15 inches. A resort and WDFW public access with toilets and launch are available.

**Washburn Lake (13 acres):** This is a small lake located near the town of Loomis. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing Regulations note that there is a daily limit of two (2) trout. Fishing should be good for triploid eastern brook trout 11-13 inches. There is a BLM campground nearby with boat access limited to craft that can be carried a short distance to the lake.

**Washburn Island Pond (130 acres):** This diked off oxbow near Fort Okanogan State Park is open April 1 through September 30. Bluegill and largemouth bass are the two predominant species present. A Colville tribal fishing license is required to fish from shore on reservation property. Boat anglers only need a state fishing license. There is an improved boat launch with toilets and parking, but internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Whitestone Lake (170 acres):** About five miles northwest of Tonasket along Loomis-Oroville Road. Year-round open season offers good fishing for largemouth bass from late spring to early fall. Bluegill and channel catfish are also available in Whitestone. A well-developed WDFW

access with launch and toilets is available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

## **PACIFIC COUNTY**

**Black Lake:** Just north of Ilwaco, along the east side of Highway US-101. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This small lake provides angling for planted rainbow trout, with largemouth bass and yellow perch more active as this shallow, weedy lake warms in the summer. There is a rough launch owned by the City on the NE side of the lake, with limited shore access is available in some areas, most notably a small park area along Highway 101.

**Cases Pond:** This small juveniles-only pond is located east of Raymond. There is a fishing dock/platform area, and rough trails extend around most of the pond. Open season runs from the last Saturday in April through November 30 and is stocked with rainbow trout prior to opening day. Surplus adult steelhead may be planted in December-January if available, in which case the season will be extended by emergency regulation. There are no restroom facilities.

**Columbia River/Ilwaco:** A large charter fleet operates out of Ilwaco, providing sport-fishing opportunities for salmon, sturgeon, bottom fish and albacore tuna. Sturgeon angling can be excellent spring through fall. To keep sturgeon catches under the annual guideline, the mainstem Columbia and its tributaries from Buoy 10 upstream to the Wauna power lines near Cathlamet is closed for sturgeon retention May 1 through May 12 and July 5 through December 31. Catch-and-release fishing is allowed during that period. Sturgeon retention is allowed seven days a week from January 1 through April 30, with a 42-inch minimum size, 60-inch maximum size, then again from May 13 through July 4, with a 45-inch minimum size. Annual limit is five fish per year. Fall Chinook and Coho returns are expected to be down this year, and offshore salmon angling will be limited as a result. Fall salmon fishing can be good in the Buoy 10 area, including just upstream from Astoria-Megler Bridge. For more information on sturgeon and salmon seasons, contact the WDFW Vancouver office or check the department's web site. Boat launches at Chinook, Ilwaco, Fort Canby and Knappton provide sport fishing and crabbing access to the lower river. For boat launch information and directions, go to [www.iac.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm](http://www.iac.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm) on the Internet. Jetty and surf fishing is available at Fort Canby State Park. Long Beach Peninsula ponds: Many smaller ponds on the peninsula contain yellow perch, with some largemouth bass available too. Most are open year round, with the exception of Loomis and Black lakes.

**Loomis Lake (170 acres):** Located about two miles south of Ocean Park, this lake is open the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This lake provides fair fishing for largemouth bass and yellow perch. It receives plants rainbow trout prior to opening day. The WDFW access has a small dock and a vault toilet. The shallow launch site is difficult for large boats. A boat/fishing dock constructed with IAC funds was badly damaged by storms in 2005 and again in 2006, and may not be repaired in time for the 2008 season opener. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Naselle River:** Winter steelhead, Chinook, chum and Coho salmon, sea-run cutthroat and sturgeon are found here. All cutthroat and all wild steelhead must be released. Check the current regulations pamphlet for fishing seasons, gear restrictions, limits and area boundaries.

**Nemah River (North, Middle and South):** These three small streams support runs of Chinook, chum and coho salmon, winter steelhead and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout. All wild cutthroat and wild steelhead must be released, except that up to two-hatchery steelhead may be retained. Selective gear rules are in effect in some areas. Check the current regulations pamphlet for seasons, gear restrictions, and area boundaries.

**North River/Smith Creek:** This site has public access for winter steelhead, Chinook, chum and coho salmon, and good anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout fishing. A rough graveled launch is located on HWY 105 where it crosses Smith Creek just above the mouth. All cutthroat and all wild steelhead must be released, except that up to two-hatchery steelhead may be retained. Selective gear rules are in effect for some areas. Check the regulations pamphlet for special size and species restrictions and area boundaries. This is a good canoe area for bird and estuary viewing. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Ocean beaches:** Excellent razor clam digging can be found on the Long Beach Peninsula and from the Grayland area south to North Cove on Twin Harbors beach. Seasons change frequently, so contact the WDFW Region 6 office at Montesano or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing> for the most current information. Crabbing, surf fishing and beach combing are also popular at these same locations.

**Palix River:** This small river southwest of South Bend supports runs of salmon, anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout, and a few winter steelheads. All wild cutthroat and wild steelhead must be released, except that up to two-hatchery steelhead may be retained. Check the current regulations pamphlet for seasons, salmon size and catch limits, and gear restrictions.

**Radar ponds (3.2 and 4.6 acres):** These two small ponds in the hills four miles north of Naselle have a year-round open season. Elevations are about 1000 and 1150 feet. They are good for stocked 9 to 10 inch Rainbow trout, and some cutthroat trout are also available. Isolated reports of some Eastern brook trout have been made in past years.

**Streams:** Many streams in Pacific County have special size, bag limit, and gear regulations to protect juvenile salmon from harvest, and to protect returning adult anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout for spawning. Check the regulations pamphlet for specific details at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>. Bait fishing restrictions increase survival of released fish and may ultimately improve stream fishing. Barbless single hooks also improve survival of released fish.

**Tokeland:** A two-lane concrete ramp boat launch and floats gives access to the Willapa Bay salmon fishery, including Washaway Beach. Crabbing is also available. For the many different fishing options and regulations, check the <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing> to see each area and what applies.

**Willapa Bay:** This large bay is popular for salmon fishing and crabbing. Sturgeons are also popular here, with the best success below the Naselle River mouth (Highway US-101). Shallow shoals can be rough depending on the tide. Nahcotta Tidelands Interpretive Center has public

beaches for gathering oysters and hard-shell clams seasonally. Contact: Willapa Bay Field Station - (360) 655-4166 for more information about this area. The Nahcotta site also offers educational opportunities through interpretive signage, plus disabled-accessible parking and toilets.

**Willapa River:** A good river for winter steelhead, Chinook and Coho salmon, and anadromous (sea-run) cutthroat trout. All cutthroat and all wild steelhead must be released, except up to two hatcheries steelhead may be retained. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for special gear, size and catch limits and seasons, and especially for several changes effective in 2006. Fishing from any floating device is prohibited in November 1 through March 31 from the bridge on Willapa Road (Camp One Bridge) upstream to Fork Creek

## **PEND OREILLE COUNTY**

**Bead Lake (720 acres):** Eight miles north of Newport, in Kaniksu National Forest and year round open fishing season, Bead Lake is not stocked by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, but contains self-reproducing populations of kokanee, lake trout, burbot, plus numerous northern pikeminnows. Fishing at this lake should provide a unique experience. A U.S. Forest Service boat launch and parking area at the south end of the lake can accommodate six boats and trailers, but may not be available by April due to snow conditions. Check with the USFS Newport Ranger District office at (509) 447-7300 for more information.

**Big Meadow Lake (70 acres):** About seven miles west of Ione on the Meadow Creek road. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Annual spring rainbow fry plants normally provide 10-16 inch fish.

**Browns Lake (88 acres):** About eight and a half miles northeast of Cusick, in Kaniksu National Forest. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fly-fishing only, all motors are prohibited. NOTE that Browns Creek, which previously was on the same open season as the lake, is now on a standard stream season (June 1 through October 31), and is also fly-fishing only. Spring and fall provide the best action for fry-planned cutthroat trout running about eight to nine inches, with winter carry-over at 10 inches or better. Check the current regulations pamphlet for catch and size limits. To find this high-elevation lake (3,450 feet), cross the Pend Oreille River at Usk, head north for five miles on LeClerc Creek Road, then northeast on Browns Creek Road, FR-1921 and FR-128 to the south shore of the lake. There you'll find a USFS campground and boat launch. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Carl's (Carl) Lake (20 acres):** About two miles as the crow flies southwest of Tiger, at 3,150 feet elevation in Kaniksu National Forest. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This lake was also formerly called Browns Lake, and is still identified as such on some maps. Rainbow trout fry and catchable plants at this rich lake produce yearlings nine to 11 inches and carryovers up to 14 inches. Winterkill conditions can limit the success of this fishery. Access can be rough (which contributes to the good fishing!), since it is four miles from the community of Tiger on the Tiger-Colville Road, and south on an unimproved road.

**Cook's Lake (11 acres):** Only about three miles northwest of Bead Lake, in Kaniksu National Forest at 3,075 feet elevation. Year round open season. Catchable-size rainbow trout will be planted again this year, plus a few broodstock rainbows. To get there, find Forest Road 5015 off of Boswell Road. A USFS campground is located at this Lake.

**Crescent Lake (22 acres):** Nine miles north of Metaline Falls, adjacent to the west side of Highway SR-31 about a mile south of the Canadian border. Open season runs from the last Saturday in April through October 31. This lake receives annual plantings of rainbow trout fry.

**Davis Lake (146 acres):** Located five and a half miles south of Usk, along the west side of Highway SR-211. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This lake receives plantings of rainbow trout catchables and fry. Early and late season fishing for sunfish, largemouth bass, kokanee, rainbow trout, and eastern brook trout can be good here. Public access with boat launch can be found on the north end of the lake. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Diamond Lake (755 acres):** About seven miles southwest of Newport, adjacent to Highway US-2. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, bullheads, rainbow and brown trout are available. In an effort to improve the fishery, Diamond has a cooperative net pen project that releases 12,500 rainbow trout, in addition to the stocked catchable-size rainbows and browns. This year, 1,000 larger triploid and a few broodstock rainbows will be added to improve the fishery. Diamond Lake has public access and resorts. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Fan Lake (73 acres):** About eight miles northeast of Deer Park, two and a half miles west of Highway SR-195, and less than a mile north of the Spokane County line. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Internal combustion engines are not allowed. Annual plants of rainbow trout catchables should provide only fair fishing, with too many competing species in the lake. Public access is available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Frater Lake (11 acres):** About 6½ miles southwest of Ione on the north side of Highway SR-20 in Colville National Forest. Elevation is 3200 feet. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Rehabilitated last fall to eliminate illegally introduced tench and pumpkinseed sunfish, this lake will be planted with cutthroat fry this spring to provide fishing opportunity for next year. In addition, advanced-size cutthroat and catchable triploid rainbow trout will be planted this spring to carry the fishery this year. Northernmost of the Little Pend Oreille chain of lakes, it's the only lake in the chain without a perennial surface-water link to the others. There is no boat launch, but car-toppers can be launched from shore. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Halfmoon (Half Moon) Lake (14 acres):** This small alpine lake is in the Kaniksu National Forest, 7½ miles northeast of Usk at 3250 feet elevation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Halfmoon is planted with cutthroat trout fry, but eastern brook trout have reappeared and negatively affected the cutthroat.

**Harvey Creek:** The inlet to Sullivan Lake, this little waterway produces eastern brook and cutthroat trout. Some portions are closed; check for details in the regulations pamphlet. Selective gear rules are in effect for the portion of the creek open to fishing.

**Horseshoe Lake (128 acres):** About four miles north of the Spokane County line, one mile east of Stevens County, and 8½ miles northwest of the town of Elk. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Catchable-size rainbow trout will be planted this year. Crappie, largemouth bass, perch, sunfish, catfish, kokanee, and lake trout are all available here, with a generous kokanee limit. Check the Fishing in Washington pamphlet (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>) for regulations. Chumming is not permitted. The WDFW access area has a gravel boat ramp and toilet.

**Ledbetter Lake (23 acres):** Also called Loon Lake and Leadbetter Lake. In Colville National Forest, about four miles north of Metaline Falls at 2628 feet elevation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Eastern brook trout fry plants provide the action here.

**Leo Lake (39 acres):** Seven miles southwest of Ione and several yards southeast of Highway SR-29 at 3165 feet elevation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Tiger and rainbow trout are available from fry plants. There is a Forest Service campground and launch on the north end.

**Lost Creek:** A tributary of the Pend Oreille River south of Tiger, access is by foot only. This waterway produces a few eastern brook and rainbow trout. A series of beaver ponds provide good holes.

**Marshall Lake (189 acres):** Located 6½ miles northwest of Newport, across the Pend Oreille River. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This beautiful lake receives annual plants of cutthroat trout fry. Public access and a resort are located at this lake.

**Muskegon Lake (8 acres):** Sixteen miles southeast of Metaline Falls in Kaniksu National Forest and about four hundred yards from the Idaho border. Elevation is 3441 feet. Also known locally as Moss Keg Lake. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Selective gear rules are in effect, and the daily limit is two trout. Cutthroat trout fry plants make for good carryovers in this small lake.

**Mystic Lake (17 acres):** About six miles east of Usk, and a mile north of Bead Lake in Kaniksu National Forest. Elevation is 2967 feet. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Cutthroat trout fry plants grow slowly in the low-nutrient water here, with 8- to 9-inch yearlings and 11-inch carryovers. The Forest Service campground gets lots of use.

**Nile Lake (23 acres):** Located 6½ miles southwest of Ione, about 300 yards east of Highway SR-20 in the Colville National Forest at 3190 feet elevation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Wild eastern brook trout here reach 8 inches as yearlings with a few attaining 14 inches. Fry-planted rainbow trout are frequent catches too. Pumpkinseed sunfish are a problem with fish growth and availability. Small boats can be launched from shore.

**No-Name Lake (18 acres):** Six miles east of Usk in Kaniksu National Forest just west of Bead Lake at 2801 feet elevation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Cutthroat trout fry plants produce 8-inch yearlings and 11-inch carryovers here. A Forest Service campground is available.

**Pend Oreille River (Boundary Reservoir, 1600 acres, and Box Canyon Reservoir, 6,000 acres):** Year-round open season. This river has good numbers of largemouth and smallmouth bass. Box Canyon is better for largemouth, Boundary for smallmouth. Northern pike can also be caught in Box Canyon. In addition, other species such as crappie, perch, net pen rainbow trout, and a few brown trout are found throughout the river. Small sunfish and tench are numerous in Box Canyon. Access is available at several points. Both a WDFW license and Kalispel tribal license are required to fish Calispel Slough. All other sloughs within the boundaries of the Kalispel Reservation are closed. See the Fishing in Washington pamphlet (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing>) for information on liberalized eastern brook trout limits on the following streams and their tributaries: Calispel Creek, Cedar Creek, Indian Creek, Le Clerc Creek, Mill Creek, Ruby Creek, Slate Creek, Sullivan Creek, and Tacoma Creek. Liberalized brook trout limits are designed to enhance bull trout recovery efforts in the Pend Oreille watershed.

**Petit Lake (11 acres):** Located on the northwest side of Diamond Peak, up LeClerc Creek Road from Ruby, in Kaniksu National Forest. Elevation is 3911 feet. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Internal combustion engines are prohibited. Fry planted cutthroat trout are the attraction at this small lake.

**Sacheen Lake (282 acres):** Eleven miles southwest of Newport along Highway SR-211. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Hefty plants of fry and Catchable-size rainbow trout are scheduled here, plus tiger trout fry and a few excess broodstock eastern brook trout this year. Sacheen has public access on the northeast shore.

**Skookum lakes, South (32 acres) and North (39 acres):** Located six and seven miles northwest of Usk, respectively, in Kaniksu National Forest. South Skookum is at 3529 feet elevation; North Skookum at 3577 feet. Both lakes are open last Saturday in April through October 31. Rainbow trout fry plants provide some nice catches in these twin lakes. Carryovers run 10 to 11 inches. Eastern brook trout are numerous in North Skookum. South Skookum has a Forest Service campground and boat ramp, while North Skookum has a state campground and resort.

**Sullivan Lake (1,291 acres):** Located approximately four miles southeast of Metaline Falls in Colville National Forest. This lake has a year-round open season. The state record brown trout (22 pounds) came out of here in 1965, and other whoppers are waiting to be caught! Kokanee will be small this year and occasional rainbow, eastern brook, and cutthroat are also available. Burbot are popular, and winter ice fishing for them provides a temporary cure for cabin fever. The adjacent Forest Service campground has boat access. Remember to check the Fishing in Washington Regulations pamphlet prior to fishing. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Yocum (Yokum) Lake (42 acres):** Six miles north of Ruby, across the Pend Oreille River, and up LeClerc Creek Road. This lake lies partly within the Colville National Forest. The lake season starts the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Cutthroat trout fry plants produce nice catches. Road access to the south end of the lake is not available until after May 30 due to road protection efforts by Simpson Lumber Company. It will open June 1 depending on moisture and road conditions but may be closed at any time due to road damage caused by vehicles, and closes on November 1, in any case. A Forest Service road to the north end of the lake provides an alternative route, but it is not suitable for trailers. An unimproved campground is available.

## **PIERCE COUNTY**

**Alder Lake (2,931 acres):** This large Nisqually River reservoir five miles south of Eatonville covers parts of Pierce (1690 acres), Thurston (1117 acres), and Lewis (124 acres) counties. With a year-round open fishing season, species including rainbow and cutthroat trout, kokanee, largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie and bullhead catfish can be found in this lake. The kokanee fishery is expected to be good this year. Try flashers and wedding ring-type lure with bait for terminal gear. There are several boat ramps and good bank access.

**American Lake (1,125 acres):** Eight miles southwest of Tacoma near Fort Lewis. With a year-round open season, good fishing for rainbow trout and kokanee can be expected. Additionally, with yellow perch, bullhead catfish, rock bass, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and cutthroat also available. Kokanee are usually caught 40-50 feet deep on flashy lures with bait on the hook. Chumming is permitted. A "Fishing Kids" derby scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup> this year that is designed to introduce youngsters age 5 through 14 to fishing. Contact Pierce County Parks at (253) 798-4176 for more information. WDFW boat ramp off of Portland Avenue SW (take exit 122 from I-5) has a two-lane concrete plank ramp and vault toilets, while two county parks provide access, bank fishing and toilets. Private and military resort facilities are also available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Bay Lake (118 acres):** About seven miles south of Vaughn on the Longbranch Peninsula. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Bay Lake is stocked with rainbow trout again this year. Bay Lake also provides fishing for largemouth bass, bluegill, perch, pumpkinseed sunfish, and brown bullhead catfish. The WDFW access off Sanford Road KPS has a rough gravel ramp, but adequate parking. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Bonney Lake (17 acres):** Located a couple miles southeast of Sumner and has a year-round open fishing season. This lake is stocked with catchable sized rainbow trout, plus bullhead catfish, yellow perch and pumpkinseed sunfish are caught. This small lake has WDFW boat ramp on the northwest shore, off of 74 Street E, with a shallow gravel ramp, no restroom, and limited parking.

**Bradley Lake/Pond (13 acres):** One mile south of Puyallup, just east of the South Hill Mall. With a year-round open season and stocked with rainbow trout make this small shore-access-only pond local option to consider. A warm water fishery for largemouth bass, crappie, perch

and brown bullhead catfish adds to angling opportunity. Adult coho salmon may be planted October-November if excess hatchery returns are available. Landlocked salmon rules apply: a catch record card is not required, and all salmon count as part of the trout daily limit.

**Carney Lake (39 acres):** Located four miles north of Vaughn on the Kitsap-Pierce County line (with Pierce County's share being slightly larger). The fishing season is split: last Saturday in April through June 30, closed during July and August, and re-opening September 1 through November 30. Carney is stocked primarily with 8- to 12-inch, and a few larger, rainbow trout. Adult Coho salmon may be planted October – November if excess hatchery returns are available. Landlocked salmon rules apply: a catch record card is not required and all salmon count as part of the trout daily limit. The WDFW access has a ramp and toilet facilities, but internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Clear Lake (155 acres):** About five miles north of Eatonville, just west of Highway SR-161 (meridian Avenue E). Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Primary species are rainbow trout and kokanee, and chumming is permitted. Landlocked salmon rules apply. Both largemouth and smallmouth bass are available here as well. The WDFW access on the northwest shore has a boat ramp with toilets. A private resort is located on the west shore.

**DeCoursey Pond (1 acre):** This small side-channel off Clarks Creek is located in Clarks Creek Park west of the Western Washington Fairgrounds in Puyallup. It is open only to juveniles (under 15 years old). Last Saturday in April through November 30 open season. Rainbow trout are planted annually, and adult Coho salmon may be planted in October – November if excess hatchery returns are available. Landlocked salmon rules apply: a catch record card is not required, and all salmon count as part of the trout daily limit.

**Florence Lake (42 acres):** On Anderson Island, just south of Guthrie Road and has a year-round open season with largemouth bass, bluegill and brown trout available. There is an undeveloped boat ramp on the north shore, in Lowell Johnson County Park.

**Gig Harbor:** Some surf smelt opportunities occur on the beach fronting the launch ramp at Randle Street, from October through March.

**Hart (Harts) Lake (109 acres):** Located seven miles southeast of Yelm and about five miles southeast from Highway SR-702 on Harts Lake Road. This year-round open season lake will get the regular annual planting of catchable-size rainbows. Channel catfish are stocked, and largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie, bullhead catfish, and bluegill and pumpkinseed sunfish are also present. A WDFW access on the northeast shore has a boat ramp and toilets, with some bank access also available.

**Kapowsin Lake (512 acres):** Thirteen miles southeast of Puyallup and with a year-round open season, Kapowsin is stocked with catchable-sized rainbow trout. Good fishing is available for rainbow trout, plus warm water species including largemouth bass, crappie, yellow perch, pumpkinseed sunfish and rock bass. The new WDFW access along the north shore is open and provides a boat ramp, dock, and parking. There is also bank access on the west shore, and boat rentals and small boat launching are available from a private resort.

**Ohop Lake (235 acres):** About one mile north of Eatonville. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Anglers can expect to find 8- to 12-inch stocked rainbow trout, plus black crappie, yellow perch, largemouth bass, bullhead catfish and pumpkinseed sunfish. There is a WDFW boat ramp and toilets on the south shore, with bank access along the county road. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Puyallup River:** Anadromous species are the main attraction for anglers on the Puyallup River, including Coho, chum, and Chinook salmon, pink salmon in odd-numbered years, plus winter steelhead. Check the regulations pamphlet for seasons, size restrictions and other rules, including season changes effective May 1, 2007. Watch also for emergency regulations necessary to protect wild salmon and steelhead.

**Rapjohn Lake (56 acres):** Four miles northwest of Eatonville, two miles south from Highway SR-792 and three-fourths of a mile east from Highway SR-7. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Primary species include rainbow and brown trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch and crappie. The WDFW access on the west shore, off of 384 Street E, has a boat ramp and toilets.

**Silver Lake (138 acres):** About 4-1/2 miles west of Eatonville, on the west side of Highway SR-7, a little over three miles south of Highway SR-702. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Rainbow and brown trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie and brown bullheads can be found here. There is no state access to the lake and it is not known if the private resort on the northeast shore will be open.

**Spanaway Lake (262 acres):** Located in the town of Spanaway, a bit west of Highway SR-7. Year round open season, including the outlet downstream to the dam (approximately 800 feet). Species available include rainbow trout, largemouth and smallmouth bass, rock bass, yellow perch, bullheads and crappie. No state access, but a county park on the northeast shore provides boat ramp and bank access. Disabled accessibility: steep hill down to fishing dock by boat launch.

**Steilacoom Lake (310 acres):** Located 3 miles east of the town of Steilacoom, this lake has a fishing season that starts the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This location has limited public access and has been providing some great catches. One will have to scout this location to see what options exist.

**Tanwax Lake (172 acres):** About Five miles north of Eatonville. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Rainbow trout, largemouth bass, black crappie, yellow perch, catfish and pumpkinseed sunfish are caught. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10- fish limit on crappie. A WDFW access on the north shore provides a boat ramp and toilets. Two private resorts also provide boat rentals, dock and bank access.

**Tapps Lake (2,296 acres):** Located three miles northeast of Sumner with a year-round open season, including the intake canal to within 400 feet of the screen at Dingle Basin. Largemouth

bass, yellow perch, and rainbow trout are found, and tiger muskies have been planted. All tiger muskies under 50 inches must be released. This reservoir has a city boat launch on the northwest shore. A county park on the northeast shore also provides a boat ramp and bank access. The lake level is down in winter and early spring.

**Wapato Lake (28 acres):** This small lake located in Wapato Park in southeast Tacoma is open to juveniles only (under 15 years old) and is open all year to fishing. While listed in Fishing in Washington sport fish regulations pamphlet, be sure to check with Tacoma Metro Parks as they regulate access to this urban lake, due to water quality issues.

**Waughop Lake (22 acres):** In Fort Steilacoom County Park, about a mile east of Steilacoom. Open season is year-round. Rainbow trout are planted annually. A warm water fishery for largemouth bass, crappie, perch and brown bullhead catfish adds to angling opportunity. Adult Coho salmon may be added in October – November if excess hatchery returns are available.

**Landlocked salmon rules apply: a catch record card is not required and all salmon count as part of the trout daily limit.** No developed boat launch, but small craft can be hand-carried a ways to the lake.

## **SAN JUAN COUNTY**

**Cascade Lake (171 acres):** On Orcas Island, three and a half miles southeast of East Sound. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Primary species are rainbow, cutthroat, and kokanee. Moran State Park provides public access and a boat launch.

**Egg Lake (7 acres):** This small lake is located 900 feet west of Sportsman's Lake on the northeast end of San Juan Island. The season is open year-round. Eggshells out largemouth bass and rainbow trout, with good fishing in April for three-quarter pound rainbows, and bass from late spring to early fall. There is a WDFW access with boat ramp on the west side.

**Hummel Lake (36 acres):** At the north end of Lopez Island. Year-round open season. Anglers here can collect three-quarter pound rainbow trout during April and May. Largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish are also available. The WDFW access at the north end of the lake provides a boat ramp with toilets.

**Hunter Bay County Park:** Located on Lopez Island, this park offers a year-round opportunity for taking surf smelt on the DNR public beach immediately east of the county park launch ramp.

**Mountain Lake (189 acres):** On Orcas Island, four and a half miles southeast of East Sound. Year-round open season. Mountain is good for kokanee in late May, early June, and in the fall. Some cutthroat and eastern brook trout are also available, and triploid rainbows will be stocked this year. The trout daily limit can include only one fish over 18 inches. Moran State Park provides public access and a boat launch.

**Shellfish and Marine Fish:** Good shrimp fishing exists throughout much of the interior San Juan Islands. To minimize pot loss from the strong tidal currents, add extra weight to shrimp pots here. Popular clam beaches are found at Spencer Spit State Park and at English Camp on Garrison Bay. Crab fishing is available in Mud Bay and Fisherman Bay (Lopez Island), Blind

Bay (Shaw Island), Dear Harbor (Orcas Island) and Garrison Bay (San Juan Island). Marine fishing is available at Friday Harbor Marina docks.

**Sportsman's Lake (66 acres):** On San Juan Island, 3-1/2 miles northwest of Friday Harbor. Year-round open season. Good fishing for largemouth bass during the summer. The WDFW access has a boat launch.

## **SKAGIT COUNTY**

**Beaver Lake (73 acres):** This Beaver Lake (there are at least 15 in Washington) is 3-1/2 miles south of Sedro Wooley, just south of Clear Lake and a mile east of Highway SR-9. Year-round open fishing season. Largemouth bass, crappie, yellow perch, and cutthroat trout are caught. Good for warmwater species in summer. A WDFW access on the lake's west side provides a boat launch and toilet.

**Big Lake (545 acres):** Five miles southeast of Mount Vernon, along the west side of Highway SR-9. Year-round open season. Fair for largemouth bass, with crappie and yellow perch also available. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. A few cutthroat trout are available as a result of natural production in the tributaries. WDFW access area with a boat launch and toilet.

**Campbell Lake (410 acres):** Four miles south of Anacortes, just west of Highway SR-20. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie and bullhead catfish are caught. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. Triploid rainbow trout will also be stocked this year. WDFW access with a boat launch and toilet.

**Cap Sante Marina, Skyline Marina:** Both of these marinas on Fidalgo Island offer jigging for surf smelt. Success is best during the winter months. Both offer boat hoists for access to Puget Sound.

**Cavanaugh Lake (844 acres):** Ten miles northeast of Arlington, about a mile north of the Snohomish County line. Year-round open season. Rainbow, cutthroat and eastern brook trout, kokanee, and largemouth bass are available. Chumming is permitted. WDFW access on the southwest shore with a boat launch and toilet.

**Clear Lake (223 acres):** This Clear Lake (one of at least 17 or 18 in the state) is three miles south of Sedro Woolley. Open season is year-round. Rainbow and cutthroat trout, largemouth bass, yellow perch, and bullhead catfish are available. A bonus plant of larger triploid rainbows is also scheduled for this year. The WDFW access has a boat launch and toilet.

**Erie, Lake (111 acres):** This "great" lake three miles south of Anacortes, just west of Heart Lake Road and north of Rosario Road, should be excellent for three quarter-pound rainbow trout on opening day. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. It has a WDFW access with boat launch and toilet on the west side and a resort at the south end.

**Fidalgo Bay and March Point:** Year-round surf smelt opportunities exist east of the Shell Oil pier and north of the railroad bridge on the east shore of Fidalgo Bay. A resort offers boat launching.

**Heart Lake (61 acres):** Two miles south of Anacortes, along the west side of Heart Lake Road. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing should be excellent for one-half-to three-quarter pound rainbows on opening day. The WDFW access has a boat launch.

**LaConner:** Located at the southern end of Swinomish Slough, LaConner offers some of the best-known surf smelt opportunities in Puget Sound. From October through March jiggers have success all along the waterfront, but the best jigging occurs in the northern boat basin. There is an annual smelt Derby in February; call the LaConner Chamber of Commerce for more information.

**McMurray Lake (160 acres):** Nine miles northwest of Arlington, just east of the SR-9/SR-534 junction. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing should be excellent for rainbow trout ranging from one-half to three-fourths of a pound on opening day. Cutthroat are also taken, and yellow perch and some clack crappie are available. Parking is difficult. A WDFW access at the south end has a boat launch and toilet, and a resort is near the north end.

**Pass Lake (98 acres):** Six miles south of Anacortes, along the northwest side of Highway SR-20. Year-round open season. This trophy fly-fishing only, catch-and-release-only lake has a WDFW access and boat launch, but use of motors is prohibited. Species available include rainbow, brown and cutthroat trout. A bonus plant of large triploid rainbows is also scheduled for this year. Pass is usually excellent in early spring and late fall for fish averaging 15 inches, with some up to 28 inches.

**Samish River:** The Samish has runs of Chinook, chum and coho salmon, winter steelhead and seas-run cutthroat. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for season, size, catch, limit, and gear restrictions.

**Shannon Lake (2148 acres):** This Baker River reservoir is located just north of Concrete. Open from the last Saturday in April through October 31. Expect good fishing for kokanee. Chumming is permitted. Check the regulations pamphlet for size restrictions. The lake is closed to the taking of all bull trout/Dolly Varden. Puget Sound Energy provides public access, with a difficult gravel boat launch.

**Shellfish and Marine Fish:** Very good crab fishing opportunities exist throughout Skagit Bay, Fidalgo Bay and Padilla Bay. East March Point offers fair clam digging opportunities. Good surf smelt dip net fishing can be found along many Fidalgo Bay beaches. The beach at Bayview State Park on the east shore of Padilla Bay has been enhanced with Pacific oysters. Marine fishing is available from Anacortes municipal pier, Bowman's Bay pier at Deception Pass State Park, and at LaConner Marina docks. Please consult the toll free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for clam and oyster openings, check the Shellfish Hotline or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg>, or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules

pamphlet. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety.

**Sixteen Lake (41 acres):** Two miles east of Conway, about half a mile north of Highway SR-534. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Rainbow trout are the main attraction, with a few cutthroat. Excellent for half-pound to three-quarter pound rainbows opening day. The WDFW access has a boat launch and toilets.

**Skagit River and tributaries:** This large river system supports runs of Chinook, coho and pink salmon, summer-and winter-run steelhead, Dolly Varden and sea-run cutthroat. Check the 2006/2007 Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet for revised fishery boundaries. The entire river system, including the Cascade and Sauk rivers and Fisher Slough, is permanently closed to wild steelhead retention, and seasonal gear restrictions are in effect for the Skagit. For more information, check the latest regulations pamphlet or the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov>. Check also for emergency closures. For boat launch information, check the IAC web site at [www.iac.wa.gov/maps.boat.htm](http://www.iac.wa.gov/maps.boat.htm).

**Vogler Lake (3.5 acres):** Access to this small lake about two-and-a half miles north of Concrete is via Burpee Hill Road. Catch-and-release and fly-fishing only are the rules here. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Vogler is stocked with rainbow trout, and will receive a small plant of larger triploid rainbows this year.

**Whistle Lake (29 acres):** There is a walk-in public access to this lake three miles south of Anacortes. Year-round open season. Fishing should be fair for largemouth bass, yellow perch and cutthroat trout.

## **SKAMANIA COUNTY**

**Columbia River:** This section of the Columbia offers good fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass and walleye along with white sturgeon. A few other warmwater species are also caught. Summer steelhead, spring and fall Chinook and Coho salmon, and shad are taken above and below Bonneville Dam when seasons allow. Seasons for spring, summer, and fall Chinook are complicated, as are those for steelhead and coho. Check the WDFW web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or with the Vancouver WDFW office at (360\_696-6211 for the latest information. White sturgeon fishing can be productive from both bank and boat. Be aware of the change in how to determine the length for retention of sturgeon. While sturgeon fishing continues to grow in popularity, fishing seasons on certain stretches of this river and others where sturgeon is found are experiencing similar fishing regulation changes to that of the salmon species. Be sure to check the regulations pamphlet and the agency website for changes in these seasons for the coming year. Shad fishing also continues to grow in popularity. This fun fishery offers the opportunity to catch 1-5 pound fish on ultra light types of fishing tackle in some areas of the Columbia River. The Hamilton Island area is one of the top shad-producing spots in the state. Both boat and bank angling are productive. This season generally opens in May, but really gets going in early June most years. Look for this fishery to again be a fun one in 2008. Again, check regulations pamphlet for more information and restrictions that may apply to this fishery.

**Drano Lake:** This wide spot at the mouth of the Little White Salmon River is a popular fishing area for spring and fall Chinook, coho, and summer-run steelhead. The spring Chinook fishery can be very productive but crowded. Check the regulation pamphlet for details on seasons, daily limits, and other restrictions. Steelhead fishing generally peaks in August, with fall salmon picking up in September. **All wild steelhead and trout other than hatchery steelhead must be released.** Remember that wild fish that must be released are not to be taken out of the water and should be released as quickly as possible to reduce stress that can increase mortality. A few white sturgeon and bass are also caught here. Adjacent mainstem Columbia rules apply for sturgeon. Bank angling is limited, but can be fairly productive at times. The boat launch (w/ fee) was renovated in 2004. It has two concrete ramps and parking for 50 boat trailers. Overflow parking is available along Hwy. 14. See <http://www.rco.wa.gov/> for details.

**Icehouse Lake (2.5 acres):** Located along the north side of Highway SR-14, by the end of Bridge of the Gods. Open year-round, this small lake receives heavy angling pressure due to its easy access, but provides excellent fishing from late fall through early summer. Large excess broodstock rainbows augment the stocking of several thousand catchable-size rainbow and cutthroat trout. Daily limit is five trout, with no more than two over 20 inches. Bluegill and largemouth bass are also present for additional angling excitement.

**Kidney Lake (12 acres):** Located one mile north of the town of North Bonneville, with an open season that runs from the last Saturday in April through the end of February. Kidney Lake is stocked with catchable-size and larger rainbow trout (including some large broodstock), it should be good for the April opener. There are no developed access areas or boat ramps, but car-toppers can be launched.

**Lewis River, North Fork:** This includes all areas above Eagle Cliff Bridge to the lower falls, including all tributaries (such as Big Muddy, Pine and Rush Creeks). **It is important to note that this fishing location opens June 1 to catch-and-release fishing only, with selective gear rules in effect. Including tributaries, this opens up 136 miles of potential blue-ribbon trout waters, while protecting the bull trout in the area.** Note: *Closed Waters – old Lewis River streambed between Swift No. 1 Powerhouse and Swift No. 2 Powerhouse.*

**Lewis River (Swift) Power Canal:** This waterway that bypasses the old Lewis River channel to feed electrical generators was drained in 2002 when a berm gave way. It has been rebuilt; see the fishing regulation pamphlet for more information or check with the WDFW Vancouver office at (360) 696-6211 for more information.

**Little Ash (Ashes) Lake (5 acres):** About two miles west of Stevenson, along the north side of Highway SR-14. Open year-round, this lake is stocked with several thousand catchable-size rainbow trout, plus excess broodstock rainbows. Daily limit is five trout, with no more than two over 20 inches. A few bass are also present to add to this fisheries option during the warmer months.

**Swift Reservoir (4,589 acres):** Twenty-eight miles northeast of Woodland, on the south side of Forest Road 90. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Approximately 60,000 catchable-size rainbow trout will be stocked here just prior to the opener. During April and May

fish tend to congregate near the dam and around streams entering the reservoir. By June, trout should be dispersed throughout the reservoir. A “sleeper” late summer fishery for large rainbows (to several pounds) in the upper reservoir has developed in the last couple of years. Selective gear rules are in effect in the upper portion of the reservoir; check the regulation pamphlet for boundaries. A public boat launch at Swift Forest Camp, managed by PacifiCorp, has two concrete ramps. When the reservoir is drawn down, the water level drops below the end of the launch. Call PacifiCorp at (800) 547-1501 for reservoir level information.

**Tunnel Lake (13 acres):** Just north of Highway SR-14, between Drano Lake and Underwood. With a year-round open season, this small lake is stocked with catchable size and broodstock rainbow trout for anglers to catch. Daily limit is five trout, with no more than two over 20 inches. It also has a good population of yellow perch and a few largemouth bass. There is no boat ramp, but the west shore of the lake is close enough to the road that car-top boats can be carried to the water.

**Washougal River:** See Clark County.

**White Salmon River (Big White Salmon):** The big draw here are summer-run steelhead. The river provides a very popular steelhead fishery in August and early September. It also produces some spring and fall salmon and a few winter steelhead. Salmon are no longer released here but some stray hatchery spring Chinook and coho are caught. All wild spring Chinook and wild coho must be released. Fall Chinook fishing can be good, with most caught boaters near the mouth. The river receives a small plant of winter run steelhead smolts. All wild steelhead must be released. Check the Fishing in Washington regulation pamphlet for seasons, open areas, and gear restrictions. Bank angling can be productive near the mouth, but the area is limited and often crowded. Bank fishing is often only found between the Highway SR-14 Bridge and the buoy line. Boat launching is difficult near the mouth; boats must be carried down the bank. Better launching facilities can be found at Bingen or across the Columbia at Hood River, Oregon. From the natural gas pipeline crossing above Northwestern Reservoir upstream to Gilmer Creek, the river is open to trout fishing from June 1 through October 31, with selective gear rules in effect.

**Wind River:** The popular spring Chinook fishery near the mouth of the Wind is expected to be good this year. . All non-adipose-clipped Chinook and wild steelhead must be released. Regulations are complicated; check the regulation pamphlet for details. A fall salmon and steelhead fishery occurs near the mouth, even though those runs are not stocked in the Wind. All wild steelhead and wild coho must be released. Above Shipherd Falls, an additional catch-and-release fishery (with selective gear rules) may be open from September 16 through November. Check the WDFW web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> or with the Vancouver WDFW office at (360) 696-6211 for the latest information. Both boat and bank angling can be productive near the mouth; boats can be launched from the county ramp near the mouth. It has two concrete plank ramps and a loading float, but the boat ramp can be crowded and parking is difficult. In addition, a lot of area surrounding the boat ramp and the mouth of the river has filled in; caution should be used. The county charges a fee to use the ramp.

## **SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

**Armstrong Lake (31 acres):** Two miles north of Arlington. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Trout plants in this small lake have been badly hit in the past by cormorant predation. Plants of half-pound to three-quarter-pound rainbows are now being made closer to opening day, and fishing has greatly improved. Expect some carry-overs in the 1-1/2 pound range this year. A WDFW access on the south shore offers a boat ramp and toilets.

**Ballinger Lake (100 acres):** Located on the county line between Snohomish and King counties, just west of I-5. Year round open season. Rainbow trout are stocked, and largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie and brown bullhead catfish add variety to the fishery. Public access is through the city park in the northeast corner. A boat ramp, parking, toilets and a fishing pier are available.

**Barclay Lake (11 acres):** Situated at 2,300 feet elevation in the northeast shadow of Mt. Baring, Barclay has long been a favorite family hike in the Skykomish River valley. The lake is open to fishing year-round, but the trail is generally open only from mid-April through October. The rainbow trout population is maintained by periodic fry stocking, as well as some natural production in the large inlet system. Expect most fish to be in the 6- to 11-inch range, with a few larger. This lake is best fished from a raft, but can also be fished where several camps occur along the north shoreline. This is a great place to introduce youngsters to mountain lake fishing!

**Blackman's Lake (60 acres):** In the city of Snohomish, just east of Highway SR-9. Year-round open season. Catchable-size rainbow trout and cutthroat trout fry are stocked annually. Largemouth bass and yellow perch are available for year-round opportunity. Expect fair-to-good trout fishing in the spring and fall months. There is a boat and bank access on the south shore city park, with two disabled-accessible fishing piers on the northeast shore.

**Bosworth Lake (95 acres):** About two miles south of Granite Falls. Open season runs from the last Saturday in April through October 31. A sizeable plant of catchable-size rainbow trout are stock annually into Bosworth Lake. Cutthroat trout and largemouth bass add variety. A WDFW access on the northeast corner offers boat launching with limited parking, and a toilet. Gasoline-powered motors are prohibited.

**Cassidy Lake (124 acres):** Three miles east of Marysville. Year-round open season. Stocked rainbow trout, including some larger triploids, will provide fair-to-good action in the spring and fall months. Largemouth bass, perch black crappie, brown bullhead catfish, and pumpkinseed sunfish add additional opportunity. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. The WDFW access on the west shore has a gravel boat launch, gravel parking area and toilet.

**Chain Lake (23 acres):** Three miles north of Monroe. Year-round open season. Stocked rainbow trout, plus black crappie, pumpkinseed sunfish and largemouth bass provide the fishery. There is a primitive access on the south shore of this small lake and a gravel boat ramp. Gasoline-powered motors are not allowed.

**Chaplain pond (11 acres):** Located 4-1/2 miles north of Sultan, just below the Everett water treatment plant. Year-round open season. (NOTE: nearby Chaplain Lake is closed to fishing at all times.) This sprawling pond system is stocked with coastal cutthroat trout fry. It must be fished with a float tube, and is weedy.

**Chitwood Lake (6 acres):** Four miles east of Granite Falls. Year-round open season. Naturally reproducing coho and cutthroat share this marshy lake. Access is by foot or mountain bike beyond a locked gate a little under two miles west of the lake.

**Crabapple Lake (36 acres):** Seven miles northwest of Marysville. Open season is from the last Saturday in April through October 31. Fair fishing for stocked rainbow trout, with pumpkinseed sunfish available. The WDFW access on the north shore has a toilet.

**Crescent Lake (9 acres):** This oxbow lake 3-1/2 miles south of Monroe, on the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area, has a year-round open season. It offers bank or car-topper access only for largemouth bass, yellow perch, and sunfish.

**Echo Lake (Maltby)(16 acres):** About two miles southeast of Highway SR-522 near Maltby. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing is fair for stocked rainbow trout and small pumpkinseed sunfish. This Echo Lake has a state access on the east side with parking, boat ramp and toilets.

**Echo Lake (25 acres):** This Echo Lake is about nine miles north of Sultan in the headwaters of Miller Creek, in the Pilchuck River drainage, at 1670 feet elevation. It is open to fishing year-round. Fishing should be good-to-excellent for eastern brook trout and rainbow trout. Access is by mountain bike or foot off of Timber Company or Snohomish PUD road systems. A raft or float tube is almost mandatory due to brushy shoreline conditions.

**Flowing lake (134 acres):** Six miles north of Monroe. Year round open season. Largemouth bass and stocked rainbow trout provide most of the action. Cormorant predation can affect the fishing. . A few rainbow carry-overs to 15 inches are caught, and some large triploid rainbows will be planted this year. The WDFW access on the southeast corner, across from Storm Lake, has a toilet and limited parking. A new dock provides a stable fishing platform for shore-bound anglers. The county park on the north shore has a boat launch, paved parking and space for shore/dock fishing.

**Gissburg ponds (15 acres total):** About five miles north of Marysville. Both ponds are open to fishing year-round. The north pond (North Gissburg) is open only to juveniles (under 15 years of age). South Gissburg is open to all legal anglers. Rainbow trout are stocked several times in spring and early summer, and yellow perch, largemouth bass, bluegill, channel catfish and pumpkinseed sunfish are caught in both ponds. Both ponds have a two-fish limit on channel catfish. Larger triploid rainbows will also be stocked this year in the south pond. These small ponds are an excellent shore fishing opportunity for kids. Access is through Twin Lakes County Park.

**Goodwin Lake (546 acres):** Seven miles northwest of Marysville. Year-round open season. Rainbow and cutthroat trout are stocked after May 1 to minimize cormorant predation. Some carry-over trout to 15 inches are caught. Largemouth and smallmouth bass, perch, black crappie and pumpkinseed sunfish are also present. Access through Wenberg State Park on the east shore leads to a concrete boat ramp and paved parking. There is limited bank access of the boat ramp.

**Hanson Lake (10 acres):** A three-mile hike, mountain bike or horse ride past Chitwood Lake brings you to Hanson Lake, located 5-1/2 miles southeast of Granite Falls. Year-round open season. The lake supports cutthroat and eastern brook that can attain large size.

**Howard lake (27 acres):** Nine miles northwest of Marysville. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked “jumbo” rainbow trout averaging three-fourths of a pound should provide excellent opening-day action. There is a primitive state access with toilet on the northwest shore.

**Jay Lake (5 acres):** This small lake is part of the inlet system to Wallace Lake, in Wallace Lake State Park. Open to fishing year-round, it is better after the lake has warmed a bit (mid-May). Good fishing is available for naturally produced cutthroat trout and eastern brook trout. Access is by hike or mountain bike, but access routes are bushy, and may have snow in early spring (elevation is 1900 feet).

**Julia Lake (7.5 acres):** About five miles of hike or bike on a gated road is required to reach this lake, which is a little over four miles southeast of Granite Falls and just upstream from Smelling Lake, in the Worthy Creek/Pilchuck River drainage. Year-round open season. Expect fair-to-good fishing for eight- to 10-inch eastern brook trout and cutthroat trout. A float tube or raft is recommended.

**Kellogg Lake (16 acres):** Located along the Kellogg Lake road about three miles northeast of Sultan. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass, black crappie and cutthroat trout provide fishing action. Excellent wildlife viewing opportunities supplement the fishing. This lake consists of two basins connected by a long, snaking waterway, all surrounded by an extensive peat bog wetland. It is best fished from a raft or float tube.

**Ketchum Lake (19 acres):** Three miles north of Stanwood. Year-round open season. Stocked rainbow trout, plus largemouth bass, pumpkinseed sunfish, bluegill and bullhead catfish are waiting for you to catch them. This small lake has a WDFW access with a toilet on the south shore.

**Ki Lake (97 acres):** About eight miles northwest of Marysville, on the road to Wenberg State Park. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked and carry-over rainbow trout traditionally provide outstanding fishing on opening day, and excellent fishing through May for trout ranging from one-half pound to over a pound. Largemouth bass and yellow perch add variety. Access is from a county road on the north end of the lake. The gravel boat ramp with limited parking favors car-toppers and inflatables. Leave driveways on the north side of the road clear or you will be ticketed and/or towed away!

**Little Cavanaugh Lake (4-8 acres):** A little route finding on logging roads will lead to this small lake in the Proctor Creek valley, between Gold Bar and Index. Year-round open season. It is managed with an annual plant of rainbow trout fry. The lake varies in size annually, depending on the weather. Access is by foot, mountain bike or horseback south from gated Proctor Creek Road at Highway US-2.

**Loma Lake (21 acres):** About five miles northwest of Marysville. Year-round open season. Spring fishing should be good for stocked rainbow trout, with more good fishing after secondary planting (in the first week of May to avoid cormorant predation). This lake has a primitive launching site.

**Lost (Devil's) Lake (13 acres):** Find this lost lake two and a half miles east of Maltby off Highway SR-522, and you'll also find fair fishing for native cutthroat trout planted rainbow trout, and illegally-introduced largemouth bass. Fishing is open year-round. A WDFW access on the west shore offers a boat launch, parking and toilet.

**Lost Lake (18 acres):** This is but one of nine lakes in Snohomish County that have been "lost" at one time or another. This one can be found a mile west of Lake Chaplain, roughly six miles north-northwest of Sultan. Some route-finding skills are required. Year-round open season. Expect excellent fly-fishing for rainbow, cutthroat and brown trout taken from a float tube. There is a limited shore access due to pristine wetland vegetation surrounding the lake, but a small fishing pier is available.

**Martha Lake (Alderwood Manor) (59 acres):** Two miles northeast of Alderwood Manor. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked rainbow trout are the main draw; cormorant predation can affect the fishing. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, and bullhead catfish are available as well. The WDFW access on the southeast corner has a boat ramp, parking and toilet. A county park on the lake's south end also has parking and toilets, plus play and picnic areas and two large fishing piers. Disabled accessibility at county park – Level 1.

**Martha Lake (Warm Beach) (58 acres):** Located 10- ½ miles northwest of Marysville, this Martha Lake is open to fishing year-round. Stocked and some carryover rainbow trout provide good trout fishing in the spring. The lake will also receive a bonus plant of large triploid rainbow trout this year. Largemouth bass and yellow perch add variety to the fishery. There is a WDFW access with toilet on the north shore and a resort on the south shore.

**Panther Lake (47 acres):** Four miles northeast of Snohomish. Year round open fishing season. Stocked rainbow trout, with a few carry-overs plus a small number of triploid rainbows provide the trout fishery. Largemouth bass, pumpkinseed sunfish, black crappie and brown bullhead catfish are also available. Panther has a state access with paved ramp, gravel parking area and toilet on the west shore. Gasoline motors are prohibited by local ordinance.

**Roesiger Lake (352 acres):** About eight miles north of Monroe. Year-round open season. Catchable-size and "jumbo" rainbow trout will be stocked several times this season, along with some larger triploid rainbows. Other species available include naturally produced kokanee, largemouth bass, black crappie, bluegill, brown bullhead catfish, and yellow perch. There is a 9-

inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. Roesiger has a state access with boat ramp, limited parking and a toilet on the south shore. A county park is located on the east shore; it's former fishing pier has been removed, but bank access is available.

**Scriber Lake (3 acres):** This small, mixed-species lake is located in Scriber Lake Park in Lynwood. A small fishing pier provides access to very limited fishing for largemouth bass and yellow perch. The lake is open year-round.

**Serene Lake (42 acres):** Located just west of Highway SR-99 at Shelby Road in Lynwood. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Largemouth bass and stocked rainbow trout provide the fishing action. Serene has a public access with gravel parking area, toilet and concrete boat ramp at the west end of the lake. Gasoline-powered motors are prohibited.

**Shaw Lake (6 acres):** This is the uppermost named lake in the three-lake series ending with Wallace Lake in Wallace Lake State Park, near Gold Bar. It is good to excellent for cutthroat of all sizes, many 13-16 inches. Now that the old logging grades have grown over, it is a challenge to get to; expect solitude. Open to fishing year-round, but the 2075-foot elevation may make access more difficult in early spring.

**Shellfish and Marine Fish:** Recreational shrimp areas are found near Edmunds, and in Possession Sound and Port Susan. Squid fishing is fair-to-good at any of the lighted docks and piers during late fall and winter. Good crabbing opportunities are available adjacent to most marine shorelines. Marine fishing and crabbing are available at Edmunds fishing pier, Everett marine pier, Kayak Point State Park pier, and Mukilteo pier. Stewart's Dock in Everett and docks along the Swinomish Channel in La Connor are main sites for smelt fishing. Consult the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> or the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-886-880-5431 for specific crab season information. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety.

**Shoecraft Lake (137 acres):** Located 7-1/2 miles northwest of Marysville, west of Lake Goodwin. Year-round open season. Rainbow trout are stocked, and largemouth bass, perch, crappie and pumpkinseed sunfish round out the fishery. The WDFW access on the southwest corner has a boat ramp and toilet.

**Silver Lake (102 acres):** This Silver Lake (there are more than a dozen in the state) is located 5-1/2 miles south of Everett along the Bothell-Everett Highway. Open season is year-round. Stocked rainbow trout and kokanee co-exist with largemouth bass and yellow perch. A small number of larger triploid rainbows will provide additional fishing opportunity this year. An annual "Fishing Kids" event scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> this year is designed to introduce young anglers age 5 through 14 to sport fishing. Contact Everett Parks at (425) 257-8300 for more information. There is no developed boat access area, but car-topper access is feasible for a limited number of vehicles along the southeast corner of the lake. There is ample shoreline access and a fishing dock along the highway. Access and rest rooms are also available in a city park on the west shore.

**Skykomish River, North Fork:** The North Fork is closed to fishing from Deer Falls downstream to 1,000 feet below Bear Creek Falls. Below that point, the river is closed to all salmon angling, but open to steelhead. No longer open for Dolly Varden / bull trout, all incidentally-caught fish must be released immediately. For the area of the NF Skykomish River above Deer Falls, expect fair number of resident rainbow and cutthroat trout in the 6-9 inch size class.

**Skykomish River, South Fork:** Resident rainbow and cutthroat are found here, plus summer steelhead. Check the regulations pamphlet for gear restrictions, size and catch limits, and special area closures. All Dolly Varden/bull trout must be released. There is a special winter whitefish fishery above Sunset Falls.

**Smelling Lake (7 acres):** About four miles southeast of Granite Falls, a three-plus mile hike or bike ride on a logging road will sniff out this lake's outlet. Once there, you'll find fair-to-good fishing for naturally produced cutthroat and brookies in the eight- to 12-inch range. Open to fishing year-round, but often has snow until late March or early April, although the elevation is under 1000 feet. This lake has unusual depth for a small lake, surveyed at 107 feet deep.

**Snohomish County shore fishing:** There is an expanding recreational fishery along Snohomish County shorelines casting for pink salmon (odd years), Coho salmon, and steelhead. Popular areas include (but are not limited to) Mukilteo and Kayak Point.

**Snohomish River system (includes Skykomish and Snoqualmie rivers):** This river system provides excellent angling opportunities for summer and winter steelhead, resident and sea-run cutthroat trout, resident rainbow trout, Dolly Varden and whitefish. Chinook and pink salmon fishing will likely be closed this year. Sturgeon are found in the lower reaches. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for season, size, gear and catch limit restrictions. Check the WDFW web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> for emergency closures. Also see listing for Snoqualmie River in King County.

**Spada Lake (1,870 acres):** This municipal reservoir eight miles north of Sultan offers dramatic scenery and a totally wild rainbow and cutthroat trout fishery (plus their hybrids). Selective gear rules and special size restrictions are in effect, so be sure to check the regulation pamphlet and observe county signs at the lake. Electric motors are allowed. Open season runs from the last Saturday in April through October 31. All tributaries are closed to fishing. This fishery is currently being studied to determine how to increase the abundance of older, larger trout. Brown bullhead catfish have been found in the lake, but because of the selective gear rules, there is no effective fishery for them. Three boat ramps on the east shoreline provide access for car-toppers and trailered boats, plus some camping sites. Posted regulations are strictly enforced.

**Stevens, Lake (1,021 acres):** Located five miles east of Everett. Year-round open season. Species available include rainbow trout (best in fall-winter), largemouth and smallmouth bass, yellow perch, brown bullhead catfish, cutthroat trout and kokanee. Stevens is well-known for its large kokanee, especially during May through August, and has a generous kokanee bag limit. There is a WDFW access in the nearby town of Lake Stevens with a boat ramp, parking and toilets, plus a county park access off Davies Road with launch, parking, toilets and a fishing pier.

**Stickney Lake (26 acres):** About four miles northeast of Lynnwood, between I-5 and Highway SR-99. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, and black crappie are present, and catchable-size rainbow trout are stocked. The concrete WDFW boat launch on the north shore has parking and a toilet.

**Stillaguamish River:** The “Stilly” provides excellent fishing for summer and winter steelhead, sea-run cutthroat trout, and whitefish. Except for chum salmon, all salmon fishing is closed. Dolly Varden/bull trout fishing is no longer allowed here. Wild steelhead retention is permanently closed in the Stillaguamish system, including the North and South forks and Pilchuck and Canyon creeks. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for season, size, gear and catch limit restriction. Check the department’s web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> for emergency closures. There is a special fly-fishing-only season on the North Fork; effective May 1, 2006, opening date for this fishery changes from March 1 to June 1.

**Storm Lake (78 acres):** About five miles north of Monroe. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Cormorant predation has hurt the trout fishery here in the past, but expect fair-to- good fishing this year for stocked catchable-size and “jumbo” rainbow trout plus a few carry-over rainbows in the spring and fall months. Some largemouth bass and small cutthroat trout are present too. Storm has a WDFW access on the northwest corner with a narrow ramp, limited parking, and a toilet. Car-toppers and inflatables are most compatible with the ramp conditions and limited parking. Gasoline-powered motors are prohibited by local ordinance.

**Sunday Lake (34 acres):** Five miles east of Stanwood. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass, perch, black crappie and pumpkinseed sunfish are caught. There is a primitive access on the north shore.

**Temple Pond (8 acres):** This is the largest of several ponds located in the new Lord Hill Regional Park southeast of Snohomish. Year-round open season. Stocked with cutthroat fingerlings, Temple has produced good fishing for these species in the past. Illegally-introduced largemouth bass have a negative impact on trout survival.

**Thirtysix Lake (5 acres):** This peatbog-type lake varies from two to five acres, and lies in the headwaters of Elwell Creek about 5-1/2 miles south of Sultan. It is open to fishing year-round, and has grown large cutthroat in the past.

**Tye Lake (40 acres):** On the west side of the town of Monroe. Year-round open season. This manmade lake is stocked with rainbow trout, including some larger triploids this year. Plentiful shore access is provided by Tye Lake Park. Other species present in Tye Lake are largemouth bass, pumpkinseed sunfish, and brown bullhead. This is an excellent lake for families to take or introduce children to fishing. A city park is also present at the lake.

**Wagner Lake (20 acres):** A couple miles northeast of Monroe. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Stocked rainbow trout along with largemouth bass provide the fishery. The WDFW access on the southwest shore has a narrow ramp.

**Wallace Lake (55 acres):** Hike a combination of trails and closed (to motorized vehicles) roads via Wallace Falls State Park to reach this deep lake at about 1,850 feet elevation. The season is open year-round. Lake trout (mackinaw) are available, plus naturally produced rainbow trout and eastern brook.

**Wallace River:** Near-wilderness surroundings are found along this freestone stream above huge falls in Wallace Falls State Park. Old logging grades can be hiked to gain access to native cutthroat trout fishing in about four miles of gin-clear water. Steelhead and salmon are taken in the lower four miles. Check the regulations pamphlet for seasons and restrictions.

## **SPOKANE COUNTY**

**Amber Lake (117 acres):** Eleven miles southwest of Cheney. Selective gear rules are designed to create a quality fishery at this popular rainbow and cutthroat trout fry-planted lake. Electric motors are allowed. The trout daily limit from the last Saturday in April through September 30 is two fish over 14 inches. Anglers must release all trout with missing adipose fin – only unmarked trout may be retained as part of the legal limit. There are additional catch-and-release only seasons from March 1 through the last Friday in April, and from October 1 to November 30. The WDFW access off of Pine Springs Road, via Mullinix Road, has a boat launch and toilet.

**Badger Lake (244 acres):** Ten miles south of Cheney. To get there, go south on Cheney-Plaza Road (which becomes Rock Lake Road), right on Williams Lake Road, right on Badger Lake Road, and right 1½ miles to the lake at the “public fishing” sign. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. This will be one of the best opening-day trout lakes in the state. Both rainbow and cutthroat trout to 18 inches will be available for harvest. A late-season Mayfly hatch usually provides great dry fly fishing. The WDFW access area has a concrete plank ramp and toilet. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Bear Lake (34 acres):** Located in a county park off Highway US-2, about halfway between Spokane and Newport. This is a family fishing rules lake: only juveniles or licensed adults accompanied by a juvenile, plus holders of reduced-fee disability licenses, are allowed to fish. Open season is year-round, largemouth bass, perch, and planted rainbow trout, including a few broodstock rainbows are available. Channel catfish were stocked in 2004 and should provide an excellent fishery. Access depends on whether the county park is open.

**Chapman Lake (146 acres):** Eight miles south of Cheney, via Cheney-Plaza Road to Chapman Lake Road. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Good late-season action for largemouth and smallmouth bass with a few other warm water species present too. Chapman also provides good catches of rainbow trout and kokanee, with a generous kokanee limit; check the regulations pamphlet for details Chapman Lake Resort offers boat launching, rentals, and camping.

**Clear Lake (375 acres):** Two miles south of the town of Medical Lake. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Spring plants of yearling rainbow, broodstock rainbows, and brown trout should provide some good action. Good largemouth bass and black crappie

fisheries are available here as well. An annual “Fishing Kids” derby, to be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> this year, introduces youth ages 5 to 14 to sport fishing. For more information, contact Spokane County 4-H at (509) 477-2166. Two resorts and a WDFW access on the south end provide boating access. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Downs Lake (423 acres):** Seven miles east of Sprague, with about 29 acres at the outlet (mostly marshy) in Lincoln County. Access from Sprague is via Williams Lake Road. With a new fishing season that begins March 1<sup>st</sup> and continues through September 31<sup>st</sup>, Downs warms up earlier than other Spokane County lakes because it’s located in the southwest corner of the county. With a mild late winter, anglers can count on perch, largemouth bass, crappie and other warm water fish, along with stocked catchable-size rainbow trout. There is a resort with a small boat launch.

**Eloika Lake (660 acres):** This lake is seven miles north of Chattaroy off Highway US-2, with a year-round open season. Largemouth bass, perch, and crappie in spring and fall are the best bets. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. A few 4- to 6-pound bass are caught. Some brown trout yearling plants are made. Eloika has a resort with a boat launch and a WDFW access south of Gray’s Landing.

**Fish Lake (47 acres):** Two miles northeast of Cheney on the Cheney-Spokane Highway. Last Saturday in April through September 30 open season. Fish Lake has been stocked with brook trout and tiger trout and should provide excellent fishing this year. The most recent state record Tiger trout exceeding 14 pounds was harvested from this lake in the Spring of 2008. Access is via county park property. Internal combustion engines are prohibited.

**Fishtrap Lake:** Refer to Lincoln County, which has the majority of this popular and productive lake.

**Hog Canyon (aka Hog) Lake (53 acres):** Ten miles northeast of Sprague. Take the Fishtrap Lake exit from I-90. December 1 through March 31 open season. The winter-only season here should produce nice catches of rainbow trout to 10 or 11 inches. No more than two trout over 14 inches may be retained as part of the 5-trout daily limit. Hog Canyon has been stocked with catchable-size and fry rainbows. There is a WDFW access area.

**Horseshoe Lake (68 acres):** Ten miles west of the town of Nine Mile Falls. While a year-round open season is in place for this shallow lake, it gets annual plants of catchable rainbow trout to provide some fair fishing early in the season.

**Liberty Lake (711 acres):** At the City of Liberty Lake about a mile from the Idaho border. A change in the opening has occurred starting in 2007-08 fishing season. Liberty Lake now opens for fishing the first day of March and is open through October 31st. Although largemouth and smallmouth bass, perch, and other warm water species dominate here, Catchable-size and broodstock rainbow and brown trout are planted. This lake can provide an excellent brown trout fishery. Walleyes and saugeyes (walleye x sauger hybrids) have also been stocked. There is a

WDFW access and boat launch. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Little Spokane River:** Most access is on private property, but there is an access site downstream of the Spokane Hatchery. Check with Washington State Parks for restrictions. This Spokane River tributary can provide good catches of brown and rainbow trout and mountain whitefish angling is popular in the winter. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons, area closures, and whitefish gear rules.

**Long Lake (5,020 acres):** About 23 miles northwest of Spokane, with a year-round open season, this Spokane River reservoir provides good fishing for largemouth and smallmouth bass, perch, crappie, and bullhead catfish, plus an occasional northern pike. Planted Catchable-size brown trout are also taken, and tench are plentiful. Long Lake has several resorts plus a DNR camp and boat launch off the Nine Mile Falls Road. Check the regulations for any special seasons or harvest restrictions.

**Medical Lake (149 acres):** On the west edge of the City of the same name, this body of water's fishing season has changed; it now begins on March 1<sup>st</sup> and continues through October 31st. Selective gear rules apply so be sure to check the regulations pamphlet for special size limits. Brown trout, tiger trout and rainbow trout are the target here with regular plants providing catches in the 15 to 20 inch range. Accesses at the south and north ends of the lake provides a rough boat launch. This Lake is best accessed with smaller personal fishing craft.

**Medical Lake, West:** Please see West Medical Lake.

**Newman Lake (1,200 acres):** Twelve miles northeast of Spokane about a mile from the Idaho border, this year-round open season spot has something for everybody: largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, perch, catfish, plus some rainbow, and eastern brook trout. In addition, Newman has been stocked with tiger muskies and provides an excellent trophy fishery for this elusive fish. Be sure to check the new regulations on Tiger Muskie retention. They must be 50 inches or longer to be retained. A WDFW access on the east shore plus two resorts provide boating access. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**North Silver Lake (87 acres):** Separated from Silver Lake by the Medical Lake-Four Lakes Road. Split open season: from March 1 through September 30, there is a 14-inch minimum, two fish limit, and all adipose-clipped fish must be released. The second season, from November 1 through December 30, is catch-and-release only. Selective gear rules are in effect during all open seasons. This lake provides an opportunity to catch few but very large rainbow trout.

**Silver Lake (472 acres):** You'll find this year round season lake just one mile east of the City of Medical Lake on the south side of Medical Lake-Four Lakes Road. Largemouth bass, black crappie, bluegill, and pumpkinseed sunfish are also present. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. Tiger muskies have also been planted, be sure to check the new regulations on Tiger Muskie retention. They must be 50 inches or longer to be retained. Boating access is provided by a WDFW access on the north shore plus a resort.

**Spokane River:** The river supports wild rainbow trout from the Idaho border to Nine Mile Falls Dam, and brown trout have been stocked in the area from Monroe Street to Nine Mile Falls. The area from Upriver Dam to the Idaho border is open only to catch-and-release, selective gear rules. Check the latest regulations pamphlet or with the WDFW Spokane Regional office for gear, season, and catch limit information for various sections of the river. *Note that in 2006 the closing date for this fishery changed from October 31 to March 15 of the following year and has remained.* **The Washington Department of Health (DOH) has issued this fish consumption advisory for all fish species due to lead and PCB contamination: from the Idaho border to Upriver Dam: no consumption, all ages and groups; from Upriver Dam to 9-Mile Dam: one meal (8-oz. portion) per month, all ages and groups.** For more information, check the DOH website at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) or with the Spokane Regional Health District at (509) 324-1560.

**West Medical Lake (235 acres):** One mile west of the town of Medical Lake. The fishing season for this body of water opens the last Saturday in April and continues through the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. West Medical has been stocked with fry, catchable-size, broodstock and triploid rainbow trout. This will be one of the best opening-day trout lakes in the state. A WDFW access on the southwest corner of the lake provides boat launching and a toilet. An adjacent resort offers dock fishing, boat moorage and rental, a café, and additional facilities. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Williams Lake (319 acres):** Twelve miles southwest of Cheney reached via Mullinix Road. Open season is from the last Saturday in April through September 30. Williams Lake will provide excellent fishing for fry-planted rainbow and cutthroat trout up to 18 inches. This will be one of the best opening-day trout lakes in the state. Large triploid rainbow trout will also be planted this year. The Mayfly hatch in mid-May is usually the peak fishing time. There is a WDFW access on the northwest shore. The lake also has two full-service resorts.

## **STEVENS COUNTY**

**Bayley Lake (17 acres):** Ten miles north-northeast of Chewelah in the Little Pend Oreille Wildlife Refuge. Fly-fishing only. The catch-and-keep season is short: last Saturday in April through July 4, with a 1-trout, 14-inch minimum size limit. An additional catch-and-release season runs through October 31. Redband rainbow trout are stocked, and eastern brook trout may be available from spawning in the inlet creek. The inlet stream is closed to all fishing. The public access has a boat launch, but motorized boats are prohibited. Call Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge headquarters in Colville at (509) 684-8384 for the current lake level and fishing details.

**Black Lake (70 acres):** Twelve miles east of Colville up Gap Creek Road at 3700 feet elevation. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Tiger trout (a brook trout x brown trout hybrid) first planted in fall of 2002 continue to provide an interesting fishery on this lake. A resort is located on the east shore.

**Cedar Lake (51 acres):** One mile north of Leadpoint just four miles inside the US-Canada border. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fry plants of

rainbow trout make this lake a good producer, with some rainbows up to 18 inches. Public access is available.

**Coffin Lake (10 acres):** Buried in the hills 16 miles east of Colville in the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge, about three miles south of the Little Pend Oreille chain lakes. Year-round season. This enlargement of the Little Pend Oreille River offers several trout species plus some warm water species. Boat access is difficult.

**Colville River:** Catches of brown trout can be made here, but access can be difficult. Be sure to get permission from landowners. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons. All sturgeon fishing is closed here because the sturgeon population is not successfully reproducing.

**Deep Lake (198 acres):** Nine miles southeast of Northport and almost three miles up Deep Lake Boundary Road from Spirit. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fingerling plants of rainbow and cutthroat trout can produce nice catches. Public access is available.

**Deer Lake (1,163 acres):** Fourteen miles southeast of Chewelah, a couple miles east of Highway US-395. With a March 1, 2008 opener, Deer Lake's wide variety of species includes largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappie, perch, rainbow trout, lake trout and kokanee. Cooperative net-pen projects also provide kokanee fingerlings and catchable rainbows. This year, around 2500 catchable kokanee and 18,000 fingerling kokanee will be planted in Deer Lake, providing increased opportunity for this species for the next couple of years. No more than two trout over 30 inches may be retained as part of the 5-trout daily limit. A WDFW access provides boat launching, while a private resort offers boat launching, camping, and other amenities.

**Elbow Lake (48 acres):** About 9½ miles west of Northport in Colville National Forest up the Big Sheep Creek drainage at 2875 feet elevation. Previously known as the Crown Lake. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Annual eastern brook trout fry plants provide action.

**Gillette Lake (48 acres):** Seventeen miles northeast of Colville, and just east of Highway SR-20, at 3147 feet elevation. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. This Little Pend Oreille chain lake is stocked with tiger trout and rainbow trout fry. It has a Forest Service campground, boat launch, and resort.

**Hatch Lake (34 acres):** About five miles southeast of Colville. December 1 through March 31 open season. Rehabilitated in 1999, yellow perch were subsequently reintroduced and eliminated the trout fishery. The lake was rehabilitated again last fall (2008) and will receive catchable and fry rainbow trout plants spring. Expect good trout fishing this winter with rainbows 10-11 inches. The WDFW access area provides a gravel boat ramp and toilet.

**Heritage Lake (71 acres):** Another Little Pend Oreille chain lake just north of Gillette Lake at about 3150 feet elevation. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Tiger trout and rainbow trout are available from fry plants.

**Jump-Off-Joe Lake (105 acres):** Eight miles south of Chewelah just off Highway US 395. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Catchable-size rainbow and brown trout plants, and possible eastern brook trout from prior years' plants should provide some action here. Largemouth bass and yellow perch also do fair despite a goldfish population. A WDFW access on the east shore has a boat ramp. A resort offers boat launching, moorage and rentals, camping, RV spaces, and a variety of other services.

**Little Twin Lake (27 acres):** Twelve miles east of Colville, northwest of the Little Pend Oreille chain, in the Colville National Forest at 3179 feet elevation. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This lake has variously been called Spruce Lake, Big Twin Lake, Upper Twin Lake, and now Little Twin Lake. "Twin" refers to the fact that it used to be two lakes: Spruce and Cedar. Cutthroat fry plants are producing good catches.

**Loon Lake (1,120 acres):** Twenty-eight miles north of Spokane along the west side of U.S. Highway 395. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. The previous state record lake trout (30 lbs., 4 oz.) came out of here back in the 1960s. Loon is also known for its kokanee, which are now found in good numbers in the 11- to 13-inch range and have a generous catch limit. There are also largemouth and smallmouth bass, brown bullheads, yellow perch, bluegill, and a few other warm water species. A WDFW access and two resorts provide boating access and other services. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Lucky Duck Pond:** In the town of Springdale. This small pond is open to juveniles only (under 15 years of age). This year-round open season body of water is stocked with catchable rainbow trout.

**McDowell Lake (33 acres):** Located about 11 miles southeast of Colville on the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge at 2300 feet elevation. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fly-fishing only and catch-and-release are the rules here, and motorized boats are prohibited. McDowell was rehabilitated in the fall of 2006 to eliminate tench, an undesirable exotic species. It was restocked in the spring of 2007 with large rainbow, catchable rainbows, and finally redband rainbow fingerlings. Large rainbow and an occasional eastern brook trout provide good angling in the spring and again in the fall when water temperatures are cool. Public access is walk-in only.

**Mudget (Mudgett) Lake (32 acres):** Two miles south of Fruitland and about 400 yards east of Highway SR-25. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This small lake is stocked with rainbow trout fry annually. Public access is available.

**Pierre Lake (106 acres):** Four miles northeast of Orient in Colville National Forest. This is a year-round open season lake that has largemouth bass, black crappie, bullhead catfish, an occasional kokanee, and several kinds of trout are available. The Forest Service campground has a boat launch. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Potter's Pond (4 acres):** Also called Potter Lake, located three miles north of Colville on the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge, this body of water is open the last Saturday in April through October 31<sup>st</sup> and is stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout and fry planted redband rainbow trout. Potter's Pond usually grows large trout from previous rainbow trout plants. However, it nearly went dry last fall, so it will provide no larger carryover fish this year. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Rocky Lake (20 acres):** Located 3½ miles south of Colville. The catch-and-keep season is short; from the last Saturday in April through May 31. An extended catch-and-release, selective gear rules season runs from June 1 through October 31. This lake receives annual plants of rainbow trout fry. Overnight use of the DNR campground has been eliminated due to social problems; the boat launch is still available.

**Roosevelt Lake (79,000 acres):** This Columbia River impoundment stretches more than 150 miles from Coulee Dam into Canada. Fishing season is open year-round, except for sturgeon, which are closed to fishing all year. Walleye, rainbow trout, and kokanee are the star attractions. Smallmouth bass are plentiful. The bass daily limit is 10 fish, no minimum size, only one over 14 inches, and the walleye daily limit is eight fish with no minimum size and no more than one over 22 inches. With periodic drawdowns in the reservoir, trout reproduction is virtually impossible, but cooperative net-pen rearing projects at numerous locations provide the trout fishery. The cooperative net-pen project plants approximately 750,000 catchable sized rainbow trout annually into Lake Roosevelt. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for special trout and kokanee rules and redefined San Poil and Hawk's Creek boundaries. Other catchable fish are burbot, lake whitefish, and yellow perch. The National Park Service operates 35 recreation areas along the 660 miles of shoreline. Maps are available at the dam's visitor center and WDFW Spokane office. Water level fluctuations can be a problem for boat launching. For current water level information, call (800) 824-4916. Bow-and-arrow fishing for carp is prohibited. **The Washington Department of Health (DOH) has issued this fish consumption advisory for Lake Roosevelt due to mercury contamination: pregnant women, women of childbearing age, and children under six years of age should eat no more than two meals of walleye (8-ounce portion) a month.** For more information, check the DOH website at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) or with the DOH office of Environmental Health Assessment toll-free at (877) 485-7316.

**Sherry Lake (26 acres):** Southernmost of the Little Pend Oreille chain of lakes just south of Gillette Lake. Elevation is 3147 feet. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fry plants of tiger trout and rainbow trout should produce good catches this season.

**Starvation Lake (28 acres):** Almost ten miles southeast of Colville near the Little Pend Oreille Wildlife Refuge at 2370 feet elevation. The catch-and-keep season is short, from the last Saturday in April through May 31. An extended catch-and-release only, selective gear rules season runs from June 1 through the end of October. Angling is expected to be good this year for fry-planted rainbow trout. This small lake has public access and a newly expanded

campground. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Summit Lake (7 acres):** Seven miles northeast of Orient in Colville National Forest less than three miles from the U. S.-Canada border. Elevation is about 2540 feet. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season with rainbow trout fry plants, which produce a good fishery for a small lake.

**Thomas Lake (163 acres):** Seventeen miles northeast of Colville between Heritage and Gillette Lakes in the Little Pend Oreille chain at an elevation of 3147 feet. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Thomas has a Forest Service campground and a resort.

**Waitts Lake (455 acres):** Four miles west of Valley along Highway US-395. The season runs from the last Saturday in April through February 28. Planted with rainbow trout catchables, net-pen reared rainbow, and brown trout fingerlings, plus some broodstock. The increase of rainbow plants from the net-pen project has created good carryover potential. Largemouth bass, yellow perch, and numerous pumpkinseed sunfish are available as well. Waitts Lake has a newly improved access area which makes accessing the lake much more convenient.

**Williams Lake (38 acres):** Fourteen miles north of Colville this lake has an elevation of 1950 feet. The season is open December 1 through March 31 open season. This winter-only lake normally produces rainbow trout in the 10- to 13-inch range. Rehabilitated last fall to eliminate illegally introduced yellow perch, this lake will be stocked with rainbow trout catchables and fry this spring. Expect good trout fishing this winter.

## **THURSTON COUNTY**

**Alder Lake:** Since most of Alder is in Pierce County, it is described there. Thurston County has an access area on the north shore, but watch out for stumps!

**Bald Hill Lake (45 acres):** Eleven miles southeast of Yelm, off of Bald Hill Road. This body of water has a year-round open fishing season. Largemouth bass and perch are available. Best fishing is late spring and early summer, as aquatic vegetation can make it difficult to fish in late summer. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Black Lake (570 acres):** Located off of Black Lake Road, four miles southwest of Olympia, this body of water has a year-round open season. This lake has rainbow and cutthroat trout, and some large triploid rainbows. Largemouth and smallmouth bass, perch and crappie add to the fishery. There is a 9-inch minimum size, 10-fish limit on crappie here. A few brown bullheads are available. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets. Two resorts are also available.

**Black River drainage:** This low-gradient river drains Black Lake to the Chehalis River. Selective gear rules, which also apply to all tributaries west of I-5, are in effect during the June 1

– October 31 open fishing season. Ideal canoe water with two WDFW accesses make fishing for resident and sea-run cutthroat fun. The shoreline is brushy, so it is best fished from a boat.

**Burfoot County Park:** This Park, north of Olympia provides miles of spawning beach in Budd Inlet for surf smelt, September through February.

**Capitol Lake (270 acres):** In Olympia, this impoundment of the Deschutes River has a few cutthroat trout and a run of fall Chinook that passes through the lake, with a good fishery available some years depending on the strength of the run. This is a unique run of Chinook that was developed specifically for fishing opportunities throughout the south Puget Sound region. Check the current regulations pamphlet for the rather complex season and other restrictions.

**Chambers Lake (118 acres):** Within the urban growth boundaries of Lacey, located on the southwest side of Lacey, this lake is open year-round to fishing. This shallow and weedy lake (actually two lakes connected by a non-navigable canal) gets better for largemouth bass and perch as the water warms. Channel catfish and grass carp are present; **grass carp must be released if caught**. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets.

**Clear Lake (170 acres):** Ten miles southeast of Yelm, along Bald Hill Road. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fishing should be good for nine- to 13-inch rainbow and brown trout, with a few cutthroat and largemouth bass. Some brown trout to six pounds are caught. 176 larger triploid rainbow trout will be added to this year's stocking for this lake's fishery. The lake is generally crowded on opening day; get there early for limited parking. There is a WDFW access with boat launch and two toilets.

**Deep Lake (66 acres):** Located 9-1/2 miles south of Olympia. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This lake is good for nine- to 11 inch rainbow trout in spring. Action improves in summer for largemouth bass and bluegill. Yellow perch and pumpkinseed sunfish are also present. Millersylvania State Park provides access and a car-topper boat launch (no trailered boats).

**Deschutes River:** Chinook salmon and resident coastal cutthroat draw plenty of angling action to this area. Fishing is very slow for winter steelhead. The river above Henderson Boulevard Bridge near Pioneer Park is open to year-round, selective gear rules, catch-and-release only fishing. Check the regulations pamphlet for other open seasons.

**Fry Cove County Park:** Located on the west shore of Eld Inlet, the beach here has been enhanced with Pacific oysters. See Puget Sound below for information on seasons and emergency closures.

**Hicks Lake (160 acres):** Located in Lacey, just west of Carpenter Road SE. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Hicks should be good for nine- to 10- inch planted rainbows and some larger brown trout. It will also receive a bonus plant of 176 large triploid rainbow trout this year. As the water warms up, so does the action for black crappie, largemouth bass, perch, rock bass and bullhead catfish. The WDFW access provides a boat launch and two toilets.

**Kennedy Creek:** Fall chum salmon, winter steelhead, and resident and sea-run cutthroat provide angling action on this stream. Wild steelhead must be released. Check the regulations pamphlet for other open seasons and area restrictions.

**Lawrence Lake (330 acres):** Seven miles southeast of the town of Rainier and with a year-round open fishing season, this lake offers largemouth bass, perch, bluegill and pumpkinseed sunfish, and brown bullheads. Brown and rainbow trout should also provide good fishing. There is a WDFW access with boat launch and two toilets.

**Long Lake (330 acres):** Situated on the southeast side of Lacey, across Carpenter Road SE from Hicks Lake. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Rainbows from nine to 12 inches and brown trout to six pounds are caught here. Long Lake also has perch, pumpkinseed sunfish, largemouth bass, rock bass and common carp. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets.

**Longs Pond (10 acres):** This juveniles-only (age 14 and under) pond is located in Lacey's Woodland Creek Park and has a year-round open fishing season. Planted annually with rainbow trout. A few sunfish, largemouth bass, perch and carp are also available. An annual "Fishing Kids" event scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> this year is designed to introduce young anglers to fishing; call Lacey Parks Department at (360) 491-0857 for more information. There is good shore access and a fishing dock. Boats are not allowed.

**McAllister Creek:** This stream hosts a special late summer/early fall season for sea-run cutthroat trout. Be sure to check the regulations pamphlet for size and catch limit restrictions.

**McIntosh Lake (93 acres):** About 3-1/2 miles northeast of Tenino, along Highway SR-507. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. McIntosh is good for rainbow trout nine to 11 inches brown trout, lots of yellow perch plus a few largemouth bass. It will also receive a bonus plant of 175 larger triploid rainbows this year. A WDFW access with boat launch and two toilets is available. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec>)

**McLane Creek:** This small stream provides a fall chum salmon fishery in lower Mud Bay. The state Department of Natural Resources maintains a scenic walking area upstream from Delphi Road.

**Munn Lake (34 acres):** About 1-1/2 miles southeast of Tumwater. This lake has a March 1<sup>st</sup> opener for catch and release fishing. The opening day was a real experience! Catch and Keep season opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Munn is fair for 8- to 10-inch rainbow trout, with 265 larger triploid rainbows also available this year. Action is fair for largemouth bass and good for bluegill as the water warms, with an occasional crappie. There is a WDFW access with boat launch and one toilet.

**Nisqually River:** Chinook, Chum and Coho salmon, mountain whitefish and cutthroat trout are available. A pretty river to float down, but with limited access. Check the 2006/2007 Fishing in

Washington regulations pamphlet for revised seasons and gear restrictions. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Offut Lake (192 acres):** Located 3-1/2 miles north of Tenino. With a year-round open season. Offut is good for rainbow trout, plus largemouth bass and yellow perch after the water warms. 221 Triploid rainbows are scheduled to be added to the mix this year. The WDFW access has a small boat launch, two toilets and limited parking. A resort offers boat and dock rentals. Offut Lake has a 5 mph speed limit.

**Pattison Lake (270 acres):** Located in south Lacey. Various known in the past as Petterson and Patterson, this lake is now officially Pattison. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Opening day brings fair fishing for brown trout and planted rainbows. Later in the summer, anglers catch largemouth bass, perch, black crappie and rock bass. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets. A 5 mph speed limit keeps Personal Watercraft and water skiers away.

**Percival Landing, Olympia area:** Several beaches in this area offer access for surf smelt. Percival Landing offers occasional concentrations of winter surf smelt and herring for jigging.

**Priest Point Park:** This Park, north of Olympia, provides dip bag opportunities for surf smelt September through February.

**Puget Sound:** Dungeness and rock crabs, along with several hardshell clam species, are available in many areas. Anglers fish for salmon, sea-run cutthroat and bottom fish. The southeast tip of Anderson Island, Johnson Point and Hammersly Inlet are popular salmon areas. All cutthroat and all wild steelhead must be released in all marine areas. Check regulations and health restrictions before harvesting shellfish. Please consult the toll-free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/crabreg> for crab seasons. For clam and oyster openings, call the Shellfish Hotline or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg>, or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules pamphlet. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Bio-toxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety. Thurston County Health Department recommends that shellfish not be consumed from the south end of Budd Inlet near East Bay Marina due to chemical contamination. For more information, call Thurston County Health Department at (360) 754-4111. The Department of Health further recommends that shellfish not be consumed from any location in south Budd Inlet due to bacteriological contamination.

**Saint Clair, Lake (270 acres):** About five miles south of Lacey. Year-round open season provides for good fishing for rainbow trout. The lake is also popular for bluegill sunfish, and largemouth bass, perch, black crappie are available. There are two WDFW access with boat launches and toilets on opposite sides of Rehklau Road SE, of Yelm Highway.

**Skookumchuck Reservoir and River:** Rainbow trout and resident cutthroat trout are available in and above the reservoir, and steelhead and anadromous (searun) cutthroat below it. Selective gear rules apply above the reservoir, and a two fish, 12-inch minimum size limit on trout in the

reservoir. Open season is June 1 through October 31 in both the reservoir and the river above it. Check the regulations pamphlet for seasons below the reservoir. There is access to the river above the reservoir by timber company road from Vail, but the road is often gated shut. Motorized vehicle use is restricted in timberlands surrounding the reservoir and the upper watershed. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**South county ponds:** Many of the ponds in the Bald Hills region of southern Thurston County have good populations of largemouth bass and possibly perch, brown bullhead catfish and black crappie. Some of the larger ponds also receive cutthroat fry plants.

**Streams:** Most Thurston County streams have resident cutthroat. Be sure to check the regulations pamphlet for gear, size, and catch limit restrictions. Bait and gear restrictions increase survival of released fish and will result in better trout fishing in the future.

**Summit Lake (530 acres):** About nine miles west of Olympia, a mile north of Highway SR-8. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. This lake is a good choice for eight- to 10-inch rainbows, with cutthroat and kokanee available, plus largemouth bass, yellow perch and bullhead catfish. The kokanee fishery has been good at 40-50 foot depth. Smallmouth bass are also present. The kokanee are part of a study on the most effective way to stock them. If you catch kokanee in this lake and are not checked by a fish checker, please call (360) 902-2721 to report your catch. WDFW needs the number caught and how many of your catch were adipose fin clipped. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.) **Ward Lake (65 acres):** Located 2-1/2 miles south of Olympia, just north of Yelm Highway. This lake opens the last Saturday in April and runs through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Anglers should find good fishing for eight- to 10- inch rainbows here. Ward Lake will also receive a bonus plant of 147 larger triploid rainbows again this year. Kokanee, largemouth bass and bluegill show as the weather warms. The WDFW access has a boat launch and two toilets. Unauthorized swimming and/or partying may result in access closure some weekends.

## **WALLA WALLA COUNTY**

**Bennington Lake (52 acres):** Located about two miles east of Walla Walla, and formerly known as Mill Creek Reservoir, this body of water has a year-round open fishing season. Bennington offers good bank access and a boat launch, however internal combustion engines are prohibited. This popular impoundment receives a large annual plant of catchable-size rainbow trout, 200 jumbo size (14 inch or larger) rainbow trout, plus an additional 350 larger triploid rainbow trout weighing between 1 ½ to 2 pounds at the time of stocking. *Only two trout over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit here.* Some warmwater species are also present.

**Fishhook Pond (unknown acres):** This small pond, found along the railroad tracks west of Fishhook Park (east of Burbank) is formed by seepage from Ice Harbor Dam pool. The March 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup> fishing season takes advantage of the fact that this pond warms early and provides better fishing in early spring. Fishing is from the bank only; *fishing from floating devices is prohibited.* Spring fishing is good for planted rainbow trout, including 350 larger

triploid rainbow trout. *Only two trout over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit here.* Since Fishhook Park does not open until April, anglers will have to park outside the park and walk down the railroad tracks to reach the pond.

**Columbia River/Lake Wallula:** See Benton County.

**Jefferson Park Pond, Lions park Pond:** These small ponds in the towns of Walla Walla and College Place, respectively, are *open only to juveniles (14 years of age and under)*. They have a year-round open fishing season and are well stocked with 10- to 12-inch rainbow trout. In addition, triploid rainbow trout have been stocked in the past and will provide for some excitement if one of these larger fish is hooked and landed this year. *Only two trout over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit on these ponds.*

**Mill Creek:** This stream flows southwest out of the Blue Mountains into Oregon, then northwest into Walla Walla County and to the Walla Walla River west of College Place. It is no longer stocked with trout, and *restrictions are in place to protect wild steelhead and bull trout; check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons and more details, including a closure area near Gose Street. The daily limit for hatchery steelhead is now three fish at this location.*

**Quarry Pond (9 acres):** Located south of the mouth of the Snake River and Casey Pond, and west of Highway US-12 along the Columbia River. This pond has a year-round fishing season. *Fishing from any floating device is prohibited.* This pond will receive 26,500 8-12 inch catchable sized rainbow trout, plus 350 “jumbo” rainbows over 14 inches in length. *Only two trout over 13 inches may be retained as part of the five trout daily limit here.*

**Snake River:** See Garfield County.

**Touchet River:** See Columbia County.

**Walla Walla River:** Access can be a problem here, but three public access areas are now available west of College Place: one near the Whitman Mission, the other two further west near McDonald Bridge. Look for signed parking areas. **Steelhead** fishing can be very good during late fall and winter. *Anglers are now allowed to retain three-hatchery steelhead as part of the daily limit. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for gear restrictions and seasons.* **Channel catfish** and **smallmouth bass** are caught near the mouth. *The bass regulation now follows the general statewide minimum size/daily limits. The Washington Department of Health (DOH) has issued this fish consumption advisory for the Walla Walla River due to PCB contamination: all anglers, especially women who plan to get pregnant or are pregnant, nursing mothers, and young children should limit consumption of carp from the lower part of the river (below Dry Creek, near Lowden) to one meal (8-ounce portion for adults, proportionally smaller for children) per month, and northern pikeminnow from the upper part of the river (above Dry Creek) to one meal per month. For more information, contact the DOH Office of Environmental Health Assessments at (877) 485-7316 or visit the DOH web site at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish).*

## WAHKIAKUM COUNTY

**Columbia River:** Hatchery steelhead and sea-run cutthroat fishing is usually good around the Cathlamet area during the summer. The river downstream of the I-5 Bridge re-opens to fishing for hatchery steelhead and shad May 16. Spring, summer, and fall Chinook seasons are complicated. For more information, contact the WDFW regional office in Vancouver at (360) 696-6211 or visit the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov>. Sturgeon fishing can also be very good in this area, with limited bank angling along the Columbia White-tailed Deer National Wildlife Refuge. To keep white sturgeon catches within the annual guideline, the mainstem Columbia and its tributaries from Buoy 10 upstream to the Wauna power lines near Cathlamet is scheduled to be closed to sturgeon retention May 1 through May 9 and June 25 through December 31, 2008. From May 10 through June 24, the minimum size for white sturgeon is 45 inches below the Wauna power lines. Catch-and-release fishing is allowed during non-retention periods. The mainstem Columbia and its tributaries from the Wauna power lines upstream to Bonneville Dam will be open for white sturgeon retention on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only through July 31, and from October 1 through December 31. Catch-and-release fishing will be allowed during non-retention days and during August and September. Check with the Vancouver office or the department's web site for the latest information. Public boat launches are available at Cathlamet (Elochoman Slough Marina, small fee required), Brooks Slough Access along Highway SR-4 (WDFW), and Skamokawa Vista Park (free).

**Deep River:** This river has a fair warm water fishery for largemouth bass, crappie, and yellow perch. Near the mouth in Grays Bay is a popular spot for white sturgeon. See white sturgeon season, size and catch limit information under Columbia River. Deep River is open to salmon angling to harvest returning net-pen reared early Coho and spring Chinook. Fishing for spring Chinook should be best from mid-April through early June. All unmarked Chinook (with adipose fins intact) must be immediately released unharmed from January 1 through July 31. All chum salmon, wild Coho, , and trout except hatchery steelhead must be released. The best salmon opportunity should be in September for hatchery Coho. A private (fee) ramp near the mouth provides access to the Grays Bay-area sturgeon fishery.

**Elochoman River:** This river, west of Cathlamet, has good winter-run steelhead fishing in December, January and February. Summer-run steelhead planting has resumed and provides some opportunity when the river opens in June. The river also has hatchery produced fall Chinook and early plus late stock coho. The state freshwater record Chinook (68 pounds) was caught here in October 1992; however, most of the salmon anglers target coho. All Chinook salmon must be released upstream from the Highway SR-4 Bridge beginning in October. Check the current regulations pamphlet or the department's web site for the latest information. All chum salmon, wild steelhead, wild Coho salmon, and trout other than hatchery steelhead must be released. Bank access is available at Elochoman Salmon Hatchery and Beaver Creek Hatchery. (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

**Grays River:** Boating access is available at the Grange Ramp Access (WDFW) near Rosburg. This is a good steelhead river December through March. The West Fork up to the hatchery intake opens for winter steelheading in mid-December. All wild steelhead and trout other than hatchery steelhead must be released. The early hatchery coho return usually provides

opportunity in the mainstem and west fork. All Chinook, chum and wild coho salmon must be released in the entire Grays River system.

**Skamokawa Creek:** This small stream west of the town of Skamokawa gets some stray hatchery winter steelhead in December, January and February. Steelhead are no longer planted here, however. All trout other than hatchery steelhead and all salmon must be released.

**Wahkiakum Co. Ponds (unknown acres):** 96 larger triploid rainbow trout, 1 ½ to 2 pounds will be added to the stocking plan for this location for kid's fishing events.

## **WHATCOM COUNTY**

**Baker Lake (3,616 acres):** Six miles northeast of Concrete. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing in this Baker River reservoir can be excellent for kokanee in April, May and June and again in the fall. There is a six-inch minimum, 18-inch maximum size limit on trout and kokanee. Baker Lake is closed to the taking of bull trout/Dolly Varden, and an area 200 feet in radius around the pump discharge at the south end of the lake is closed to all fishing. Public access for boat launching is provided by Puget Sound Energy, and resorts and campgrounds are also available.

**Cain Lake (72 acres):** About nine miles southeast of Bellingham. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing should be excellent for rainbow trout in the 3/4-pound range on opening day. The lake also contains largemouth bass and perch. Cain has a public access and boat launch at the south end.

**Diablo Lake (910 acres):** Six miles northeast of Newhalem. Year-round open fishing season. Naturally reproducing rainbow trout are the main attraction on this Skagit River impoundment. The lake is closed to the taking of bull trout/Dolly Varden. Diablo's public access and boat launch are managed by the National Park Service.

**Fazon Lake (32 acres):** Located 1-1/2 miles northwest of Goshen. The lake is open to fishing all year, but fishing from any floating device is prohibited from October 4 through January 15. Largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish are available, and tiger muskies have been planted. Tiger Musky minimum size is 36 inches, with a daily limit of one fish. Daily limit and possession limit on channel catfish is two fish. Brown trout fry have been stocked. The WDFW access has a boat launch and toilet.

**Gorge Lake (210 acres):** About 2-1/2 miles northeast of Newhalem. Year-round open season. Expect fair fishing for rainbow trout in this Skagit River impoundment. Gorge Lake is closed to the taking of bull trout / Dolly Varden. The lake has public access and a boat launch, operated by the National Park Service.

**Nooksack River:** Dipping along the riverbanks downstream from Ferndale, longfin smelt, or "hooligans," can be taken in winter months. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons, catch limits, and gear restrictions. Check the department's web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov> for emergency closures. Boat access is available at a WDFW access site in Ferndale and at Nugent's Corner near Cedarville (on SR-542).

**Padden Lake (152 acres):** Located in the center of Bellingham City Park. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Fishing should be outstanding for rainbow trout averaging three-fourths of a pound opening day. Kokanee and a few cutthroats are also caught. This lake has some of the best shore access in western Washington, and is a wonderful place to bring the kids for safe shoreline fishing. There is a boat launch, but gasoline motors are not allowed.

**Ross Lake (11,674 acres):** This large Skagit River reservoir is 9-1/2 miles northeast of Newhalem. Open season runs from July 1 through October 31. Fishing is mainly for native rainbow trout. For their protection, special catch and size restrictions are in effect, plus selective gear rules (except outboard motors are allowed). Check the regulations pamphlet for details. The lake is closed to the taking of bull trout / Dolly Varden. There is a public access and boat launch at the north end accessible through British Columbia, and a trail/boat access resort on the south end, plus several boat-access camping sites along the east shore.

**Samish Lake (814 acres):** About 6-1/2 miles southeast of Bellingham. Year-round open season. Samish offers kokanee, largemouth bass, perch and cutthroat. Check the regulations pamphlet for a special size and catch limit on cutthroat. The best fishing is early June and September. Chumming is no longer legal due to water quality concerns. There is a WDFW access with toilet and boat launch on the east side.

**Semiahmoo Spit County Park:** This Park is located at the western end of Semiahmoo Spit in Blaine. Surf smelt spawn on beaches around and south of the headquarters buildings at the base of the spit on the west (outer) shore. Spawning activity is at its peak in July through January.

**Shellfish and Marine Fish:** Good crabbing can be found adjacent to most marine beaches and in Chuckanut Bay and Birch Bay. Please consult the toll free WDFW shellfish hotline at 1-866-880-5431 or department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish.crabreg> for specific seasons. Birch bay State Park also offers excellent clam digging opportunities. For clam and oyster openings, call the Shellfish Hotline or check the department's website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/shelfish/beachreg> or the Fishing in Washington sport fishing rules pamphlet. Call the Department of Health's toll-free Biotxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 to check on shellfish safety. Surf smelt can be harvested at Little Qualicum Park on Bellingham Bay. Marine fishing is available at 6<sup>th</sup> Street dock, Boulevard Park pier and Ferry Terminal fishing pier in Bellingham, and at the Blaine dock.

**Silver Lake (173 acres):** Three miles north of Maple Falls. Last Saturday in April through October 31 open season. Expect excellent fishing on opening day for rainbow trout averaging three-fourths of a pound. Cutthroat trout are also available. Whatcom County and WDFW access sites provide boat launching.

**Squalicum Lake (33 acres):** Located 6-1/2 miles northeast of Bellingham, one-fourth of a mile south of highway SR-542. Fly-fishing only and all motors are prohibited. Year-round open season. Cutthroat and brown trout are the main attractions. Larger triploid rainbow trout will also be stocked this year. There is walk-in access with a toilet on the north end.

**Squalicum Mall Marina:** This area offers winter jigging for surf smelt off marina floats. Current information can be obtained by calling the Bellingham WDFW office at (360) 676-2138.

**Terrell Lake (438 acres):** Five miles west of Ferndale. Year-round open season, but fishing from any floating device is prohibited for part of the year. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for dates. Excellent fishing for warm water species, with largemouth bass, yellow perch, and bullhead catfish taken. Cutthroat trout are also caught, and larger triploid rainbow trout will be added this year. There is public access, a fishing dock and WDFW boat launch on the west shore.

**Toad Lake (29 acres):** Five miles northeast of Bellingham. Last Saturday in April through October 31 season. Fishing should be excellent on opening day for three-quarter-pound rainbow trout. Some kokanee are also available. There is a WDFW access with toilet and boat launch on the west end.

**Whatcom, Lake (5,003 acres):** Located just east of Bellingham. Open season runs from the last Saturday in April through October 31. Available species include kokanee, largemouth and smallmouth bass, and yellow perch. Fishing for cutthroat trout is closed due to a decline in numbers caused by siltation from logging and urban activities in their spawning tributaries. It is no longer legal to chum for kokanee, due to water quality concerns. All tributaries and that portion of the lake between Electric Avenue Bridge and the outlet dam are closed to fishing at all times. Boating access and other amenities are available at Bloedel Donovan Park (Bellingham Parks), a WDFW access site, and a resort. The Whatcom County Health and Human Services Department and Washington state Department of Health have issued this fish consumption advisory for Lake Whatcom: due to mercury contamination, women of childbearing age and children under six years of age should not eat any smallmouth bass, and should limit consumption of yellow perch to one meal a week. Contact Whatcom County Health and Human Services at (360) 676-6724, Washington Dept of Health, Office of Environmental Health Assessment at (877) 485-7316, or the DOH web site at [www.doh.wa.gov/fish](http://www.doh.wa.gov/fish) for more information.

**Wiser Lake (123 acres):** Three miles southwest of Lynden. Year-round open season. Largemouth bass, brown bullheads and pumpkinseed sunfish are available. There is a WDFW access with boat ramp and toilet.

## **WHITMAN COUNTY**

**Garfield Pond:** Near the town of Garfield. With a year-round open season, this small juveniles-only (age 14 and younger) pond is stocked with rainbow trout to provide a fair spring fishery.

**Gilchrist Pond:** About six miles south of Colfax on Union Flat Road. This small farm pond is open year-round, with access by permission from the owners. It is stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout for bank fishing. An annual "Fishing Kids" derby, to be held on June 13<sup>th</sup> this year, introduces youth ages 5 to 14 to sport fishing. For more information contact Whitman County 4-H at (509) 397-6290.

**Palouse River:** Some fair-sized smallmouth bass are caught in portions of this Snake River tributary. Public access is limited, however. The daily and minimum size rules for game fish here are the same as the Snake River.

**Pampa Pond (3 acres):** Four miles southwest of LaCrosse along Highway SR-26. March 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup> open season. The early opener takes advantage of the fact that this pond warms early and provides better fishing in early spring. Fishing from any floating device is prohibited. Rainbow trout are stocked including some jumbos to two pounds.

**Riparia Pond:** This small pond is just below Little Goose Dam off the north side of the Snake River. With a year-round open fishing season, anglers will find catchable-size rainbow trout available, which are planted in the spring.

**Rock Lake (2,147 acres):** One mile north of Ewan. With a year-round open fishing season, this mixed-species lake produces nice largemouth bass, plus brown and **rainbow trout** from annual fry and yearling plants. The WDFW access is a rough boat ramp; launch your vessel with caution.

**Snake River:** Refer to Garfield County.

**Union Flat Creek:** This Palouse River tributary should provide good fishing for planted rainbow trout between Colton and Uniontown in early June after the water clears. Stocked irregularly, but carryovers can provide decent fishing. Suspected limited spawning success may contribute additional fishing opportunity.

## **YAKIMA COUNTY**

**Ahtanum Creek:** This Yakima River tributary normally offers fair fishing for 8- to 10-inch rainbow trout and an occasional whitefish. The South Fork, bordered by the Yakama Indian Reservation, produces small rainbows and cutthroat. The Middle and North Forks contain mainly cutthroat. All of these creeks are closed to bull trout fishing. Selective gear rules are in effect for the mainstem, Middle, and North Forks. Check the regulations pamphlet for closed areas and seasons. Tribal fishing regulations may apply in some locations, be aware of this and check for any applicable regulations.

**American River:** This moderate-sized, high elevation river follows Chinook Pass Highway (SR-410) before emptying into the Naches River. Expect only poor to fair summer trout fishing plus whitefish. The river is closed to fishing for bull trout, Chinook salmon, and steelhead. Selective gear rules are in effect. **Special Notice, the section of the river from the Highway 410 Bridge crossing below (down river) from Hells Crossing Campground to the Mesatchee Creek Trail crossing is closed July 16-August 31. Please see 2009 fishing regulations for more information on this closure.**

**Bear Lake (5 acres):** In Oak Creek Wildlife Area about 15 miles west of Naches. Although open to fishing year-round, this small lake is not accessible by vehicle until late April or early May over a rough road. Elevation is 4610 feet. Fishing should be fair-to-good for planted 8- to 10-inch rainbow trout with a few 14 inches.

**Bumping Lake/Reservoir (1,310 acres):** About eight miles east of Chinook Pass, in Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest at 3426 feet elevation. With a year-round open season, this Bumping River impoundment offers good fishing for six-to nine-inch kokanee starting in mid-May, with a generous kokanee limit. Trolling with gang trolls and maggots or still-fishing for eight to 11 inch rainbow and cutthroat trout are the best bets at this location. The reservoir is closed to bull trout fishing. Excellent public camping is available at the lake, plus a good boat ramp (managed by USFS), with a resort that includes a fee based launch on the northern side of the lake across the dam.

**Bumping River:** Hikers will find fair fishing for rainbow, eastern brook and cutthroat trout above Bumping Reservoir. Below the reservoir, there is fair fishing for wild rainbows, plus whitefish during the special whitefish-only winter season. Fish generally range from six to 12 inches. Selective gear rules are in effect for the river below Bumping Lake, except for whitefish. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for whitefish gear rules. The river is closed to bull trout, Chinook salmon and steelhead fishing. Numerous Forest Service campgrounds with good river access are available throughout the area.

**Clear Lake (265 acres):** Five miles east of White Pass above Rimrock Lake, south of Highway US-12 and located within the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest at 3011 feet elevation. This location has a year-round open season and one can expect excellent fishing for plated and carry-over rainbow trout. Good access, campgrounds, fishing docks, and a boat launch. The Forest Service charges a boat launch fee.

**Cowiche Creek:** This Naches River tributary provides fair-to-good summer fishing for small, wild cutthroat, rainbow and an occasional brook trout. Selective gear rules are in effect. Upper sections and forks provide the best fishing.

**Dog Lake (61 acres):** Located just east of White Pass along the north side of Highway US-12, in Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Open to fishing year-round, but this high-elevation lake (4207 feet) doesn't start producing well until early June. Fishing is good throughout the summer for seven- to 11-inch rainbow and brook trout. Only one fish over 14 inches is allowed in the five-trout daily limit. A large Forest Service campground and rough boat launch are located adjacent to the lake.

**High lakes:** Many unlisted alpine lakes offer good fishing for trout. For more information on Region 3 trout stocking, please visit the department's Web site, click on **Fishing/Shellfishing**, and scroll down to **Fish Plants**. For those without Internet access, contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 3 office in Yakima and request a copy of the booklet **Region Three High Lakes Primer**.

**I-82 ponds (8 to 30 acres):** These seven gravel pit ponds stretch from Union Gap to Zillah along Highway I-82. The ponds are open to fishing year-round, but parking and access is subject to seasonal closure. Gasoline-powered motors are prohibited by county ordinance. Ponds 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are stocked with catchable sized rainbow trout beginning in early March and in October. **Ponds 1 and 2** located between Mellis Road and Donald Road, also support largemouth bass, yellow perch and pumpkinseed sunfish. Expect fair fishing for small pan-sized perch and

sunfish. **Pond 3 which** is east of Donald Road, provides fair fishing for channel catfish, sunfish and yellow perch. Moving further east, **Ponds 4 and 5** (accessed from Flint Lane) has fair fishing for sunfish, bass, and channel catfish. Channel cats over ten pounds have been caught in **ponds 3, 4 and 5**. Buena or **Pond 6** is located off Buena Loop Road, and should have good early-season fishing for stocked rainbow trout and channel catfish. The state record channel cat (36.2 pounds!) came from Buena in 1999. **Pond 7** is east of Buena, has a fair population of largemouth bass, black crappie and channel catfish. Bass up to eight pounds have been caught in the I-82 ponds. Access to all ponds except Ponds 4 and 6 is by walk-in. However, there is a new access road that borders Highway I-82 that allows much closer access to Ponds 1 and 2.

**Leech Lake (41 acres):** Just east of White Pass, located near the Crest Trail, on the north side of Highway US-12, this lake is open year-round. This high-elevation (4412 feet) lake is open to fly-fishing only. The lake is usually ice-free by early June, and produces excellent fishing for eight- to 12-inch brook trout throughout the summer. Only one fish over 14 inches is allowed in the five-trout daily limit. Facilities include a Forest Service campground and boat launch, but use of motors is prohibited.

**Little Naches River:** There is good access via several Forest Service campgrounds. Fair-to-good fishing for wild rainbow and cutthroat make the Little Naches River a popular area. The upper sections and forks provide good fishing for small cutthroat. Selective gear rules are in effect. The river is closed to bull trout, Chinook salmon and steelhead fishing.

**Mud Lake (4 acres):** This small lake is seven miles northwest of Naches on the south side of Cleman Mountain, at a little over 2000 feet elevation. Open season is year-round. Selective gear rules are in effect, with a trout daily limit of one fish. Fishing should be good for eight- to 12-inch rainbow trout with some carry-overs in the 12- to 16-inch range. ***Special Notice: the private property owner closed the Mud Lake access road from Highway 410. Public access is only available via the 1701 Road and Cleman Mountain or the Garrett Canyon Road after May 1<sup>st</sup> These roads are often in poor condition and require a 4-wheel drive vehicle.***

**Myron Lake (12 acres):** Located in Yakima between Fruitvale Boulevard and Highway US-12. With a year-round open season and selective gear rules are in effect, Myron has a trout daily limit of one fish. Fishing is expected to be good for planted, catchable-size rainbow. A few broodstock rainbows in the six- to 12-pound range are stocked in late fall.

**Naches River:** This large river is adjacent to Chinook Pass Highway (SR-410) and is very accessible. It supports wild rainbow and cutthroat trout. Expect excellent whitefish angling during the special winter whitefish-only season, with whitefish ranging from eight to 14 inches. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for whitefish gear rules. Selective gear rules are in effect for trout, with a 12-inch minimum and 20-inch maximum size limit, and a two-trout daily limit, except from the confluence with Tieton River upstream to Rattlesnake Creek is catch-and-release only. Closed to all bull trout, steelhead and Chinook salmon fishing.

**North Elton Pond (15 acres):** Near Selah, alongside Highway I-82. December 1 through March 31 open season. There is a two-trout daily limit, and internal combustion engines are not allowed. North Elton is stocked prior to the winter-only season with half-pound rainbow trout.

**Oak Creek:** This small stream running through the Oak Creek Wildlife area provides good fishing for wild rainbow, cutthroat and brook trout to 10 inches.

**Rattlesnake Creek:** Wild cutthroat and rainbows ranging from six to 12 inches produce good fishing. Catch and release only. Check fishing regulations for details.

**Little Rattlesnake Creek** also provides good fishing for the same species. The best fishing is in hike-in areas. The statewide stream catch and possession limit applies in the Little Rattlesnake (e.g., 2 trout daily limit, 8" min. size). Anglers should avoid targeting bull trout, salmon or steelhead, which are protected here and required to be released unharmed. See regulations pamphlet for more information and details.

**Rimrock Lake (2,530 acres):** This large Tieton River impoundment stretches along Highway US-12, about 10 miles east of White Pass. It is in Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie national Forest at 2,922 feet elevation (at the spillway). Open to fishing year-round. Rimrock provides good fishing or eight- to 11-inch kokanee; with a generous kokanee catch limit, plus a few rainbows to 16 inches. This is normally one of the best and most popular kokanee-fishing destinations in Yakima County from early May most years running through July. Although predicting fishing success is difficult in this reservoir. The lake is closed to bull trout fishing. Public and private campgrounds are located by the lake and public and private launch ramps are available. The Forest Service charges a boat launch fee at their locations.

**Rotary Lake (23 acres):** Near the Greenway Trail in Yakima, about one-third of a mile from either Harlan Landing or the parking lot behind Boise-Cascade. With a year-round open season, this lake is stocked with catchable-size (eight-12 inches) rainbow. Largemouth bass up to seven pounds have been caught. Channel catfish have also been stocked. Rotary provides good fishing opportunity spring through fall.

**Sarg Hubbard Park Pond (aka, Reflection Pond) (3.5 acres):** Located near the Greenway trail at Sarg Hubbard Park in Yakima, this small pond is open only to juveniles (14 years of age and younger) and holders of disability licenses. Having a year-round open season, Sarg Hubbard Park Pond is regularly stocked with catchable-size rainbow trout. A "Fishing Kids" event scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> is designed to introduce youth ages 5-14 to sport fishing. For more information or registration forms, please contact the Yakima Greenway Foundation at (509) 453-8280 or the WDFW office Yakima at (509) 575-2740.

**Tieton River:** Numerous Forest Service campgrounds along Highway US-12 provide easy access. Fishing is fair for rainbows and whitefish, with whitefish angling best during the special whitefish-only winter season. Bureau of Reclamation irrigation water management results in high flows and unfishable conditions from early September to late October. **Check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons and fishing boundaries, as well as special regulations in the North and South Forks. (Note: new for 2009 is the August 15<sup>th</sup> fishing season closure date for the entire N. Fork Tieton River).** New whitefish gear rules and reduced trout daily limit went into effect in 2002. Closed to fishing for bull trout in all areas.

Tims Pond: Small pond located adjacent to the Oak Creek Wildlife Area and Highway 12 is stocked with catchable sized rainbow trout beginning in late March. Tims will also receive a plant of 40 larger triploid rainbow trout this year.

**Wide Hollow Creek:** This small creek in Yakima is no longer stocked.

**Yakima River: New for 2009 – the section of river between Highway 223 Bridge at Granger to 3500 feet below Roza Dam has been changed from a year-round season to the new statewide standard stream season of the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in June to October 31 and adds a whitefish only season with whitefish gear rules from December 1 – March 31. There is also an additional selective gear rule in affect from Sunnyside Dam to 3500 feet below Roza Dam. (Special Note: all trout caught in the section of river from the mouth to the Hwy 223 bridge at Granger must be released unharmed. There is also a special closure of the river in the area of the Chandler Powerhouse. Please carefully check additional details in the 2009 Fishing in Washington fishing regulations pamphlet for details: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing> ).** Excellent fishing for rainbow trout and whitefish can be found above Roza Dam (in Kittitas County). Rainbow action is best in the fall. See under Kittitas County for more information. Whitefish action is best in January and February. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for seasons, special regulations, and whitefish gear rules. The lower reaches support a popular smallmouth bass and channel catfish fishery. See under Benton County for more information. The entire river, including all tributaries and drains, is closed to steelhead and bull trout fishing. Public and private camping is available near the river. **The Washington Department of Health (DOH) has issued this fish consumption advisory for the Yakima River due to DDT and DDE contamination: all anglers are recommended to limit consumption for mountain whitefish, common carp, bridge lip sucker and all bottom fish to one meal per week. For more information, contact the DOH Office of Environmental Health Assessments at (877) 485-7316 or visit the DOH Web site at [www.doh.was.gov/fish](http://www.doh.was.gov/fish).** (See Washington State Parks website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/ada-rec> for ADA accessibility information.)

## **Juvenile-Only and Other Special Fishing Waters in Washington**

*The following lakes, rivers, and streams are where youth ages 14 and younger may fish using the appropriate fishing equipment as outlined by the 2007/2008 Fishing in Washington regulations pamphlet.*

Adams	Para-Juvenile Lake (shared w/Grant County) – juveniles only; 4/1-9/30
Asotin	Headgate Pond – juveniles, seniors, disability licenses; last Sat Apr-10/31
Benton	Columbia Park Pond – juveniles, disability licenses; year-round
Chelan	Enchantment Park ponds – juveniles; year-round
Clallam	Lincoln Pond – juveniles; year-round Peabody Creek, Valley Creek – juveniles; 6/1-10/31
Columbia	Dayton Pond – juveniles; year-round, 2 trout >13”
Douglas	Pit Lake – juveniles; year-round
Garfield	Pataha Creek (within Pomeroy city limits) – juveniles; 6/1-10/31
Grant	Columbia Basin Hatchery Creek – juveniles, disability licenses; 4/1-9/30 Oasis Park Pond – juveniles, disability licenses; 3 Sat Apr rd-Labor Day Para-Juvenile Lake (shared w/Adams County) – juveniles; 4/1-9/30
Grays Harbor	Mill Creek Pond – juveniles; year-round Vance Creek Pond #1 – juveniles, seniors, and disability licenses; last Sat Apr-11/30
King	Big Bear Creek and North Creek (Sammamish River tributaries) Coal Creek, Issaquah Creek Kelsey Creek, May Creek (Lake Washington tributaries) – juveniles; 6/1-10/31 Coal Creek (near Snoqualmie) mouth to I-90 Kimball Creek (near Snoqualmie) Mill Pond (Auburn) Old Fishing Hole Pond (Kent) – juveniles; last Sat Apr – 10/31 Soos Creek (mouth to bridge near hatchery) – juveniles (for coho only) - see regulations pamphlet
Kittitas	Kiwanis Pond – juveniles, disability licenses; year-round Mercer Creek (within Ellensburg city limits) – juveniles; 6/1-10/31 Naneum Pond, Wilson Creek (two branches within Ellensburg city limits) – juveniles; year-round
Klickitat	Jewitt Creek – juveniles; 6/1-10/31 Little Klickitat River (w/n Goldendale city limits) – juveniles; last Sat Apr-10/31
Lewis	Fort Borst Park Pond – juveniles; last Sat Apr-2/29
Lincoln	Goose Creek (within Wilbur city limits) – juveniles, disability licenses; Apr 28-10/31
Okanogan	Jasmine Creek, Silvernail Lake – juveniles; year-round
Pacific	Cases Pond – juveniles; last Sat Apr-11/30 South Bend Mill Pond – juveniles; year-round
Pierce	Bradley Lake – open to juvenile only May 1 <sup>st</sup> through Free Fishing weekend (June 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> ) DeCoursey Pond – juveniles; last Sat Apr-11/30 Wapato Lake – juveniles; year-round
Skagit	Northern State Hospital Pond – juveniles; last Sat Apr-10/31
Snohomish	Fortson Mill Pond #2, Jennings Park Pond – juveniles; last Sat Apr-10/31

	North Gissburg Pond – juveniles; year-round
Spokane	Bear Lake – juveniles, adults accompanied by a juvenile, disability licenses; year-round
Stevens	Lucky Duck Pond – juveniles; year-round
Thurston	Long’s Pond (Lacey) – juveniles; year-round
Walla Walla	Jefferson Park Pond, Lions Park Pond – juveniles; year-round
Whatcom	Fishtrap Creek (Kohl Road to Bender Road) Johnson Creek (from Northern Pacific Railroad tracks to Lawson Street footbridge in Sumas) – juveniles; 6/1-10/31 Whatcom Creek (from stone bridge at Whatcom Falls Park to Lake Whatcom) – juveniles; last Sat Apr-10/31
Whitman	Garfield Juvenile Pond – juveniles; year-round
Yakima	Sarg Hubbard Pond – juveniles, disability licenses; year-round Sportsmen’s Park Ponds – juveniles; year-round

## **Fly-Fishing Only Waters in Washington**

In “Fly-Fishing Only” waters, an angler may use only the following tackle: up to two flies, each with a barbless single-point hook which measures ½ inch or smaller measured from the point to shank, and a conventional fly line (other line may be used for backing or leader if attached to at least 25 feet of fly line). Anglers may not use fixed-spool reels, bait, or weight attached to the leader or line. An angler with a disability may fish in “Fly-Fishing Only” waters using spinning or spin-casting gear with a casting bubble, provided the angler has a special-use disability permit in his or her possession when fishing. All other restrictions listed above still apply.

Be sure to check all regulations for boat and motor restrictions. The following lakes below list these restrictions, however Fishing Prospects is not the authority and it is important to note that some bodies of water have allowances for these, but be sure to check each year’s version of the *Fishing in Washington* regulations pamphlet.

***Aeneas Lake, Okanogan Co. – last Sat Apr-Oct 31: motors prohibited; trout; daily limit 1***

***Agate Pass (p/o Hood Canal), Kitsap Co. – Jan 1-Mar 31: catch-and-release, no lead-core line***

***Bayley Lake, Stevens Co. – last Sat Apr-Oct 31: inlet stream closed; motors prohibited; last Sat Apr-July 4: trout, min. size 14”, daily limit 1; July 5-Oct 31: all game fish; catch-and-release***

***Big Four Lake, Columbia Co. – Mar 1-Oct 31: fishing from any floating device prohibited; trout; daily limit 2***

***Brown’s Creek, Pend Oreille Co. – June 1-Oct 31 (none)***

***Brown’s Lake, Pend Oreille Co. – last Sat Apr-Oct 31: motors prohibited; trout; no more than one over 11”***

***Cady Lake, Mason Co. – year-round: internal combustion engines prohibited; all game fish; catch-and-release***

***Chopaka Lake, Okanogan Co. – last Sat Apr-Oct 31: motors prohibited; trout: daily limit 1***

***Hoko River, Clallam Co. (from mouth to cement bridge on Lake Ozette Highway [upper Hoko Bridge]) – Sept 1-Oct 31: see regulations pamphlet for additional open seasons; trout; min size 14”***

***Hoko River, Clallam Co. (from upper Bridge to Ellis Creek Bridge (river mile 18.5) – June 1-Mar 31: all species catch-and-release, except up to two-hatchery steelhead may be retained.***

***Kalama River, Cowlitz Co. (from Summers Creek upstream to Kalama Falls) – June 1-Mar 31: fishing from floating devices equipped with motors prohibited; see regulations pamphlet for information on closed waters; all species, catch-and-release only (effective May 1, 2006)***

***Leech Lake, Yakima Co. – year-round: motors prohibited; trout; no more than one over 14”***

***Long Lake, Ferry Co. – last Sat Apr-Oct 31: motors prohibited***

***McDowell Lake, Stevens Co. – last Sat Apr-Oct 31: motors prohibited; all game fish: catch-and-release***

***Merrill Lake, Cowlitz Co. – year-round: internal combustion engines prohibited; trout; no min size, max. size 12”, daily limit 2***

***Quail Lake, Adams Co. – year-round: motors prohibited; all game fish; catch-and-release***

***Pass Lake, Skagit Co. – year-round: motors prohibited; all game fish; catch-and-release***

*Rocky Ford Creek and ponds, Grant Co. – year-round: fishing from bank only (no wading); all game fish; catch-and-release*  
*Stillaguamish River, NF, Snohomish, Co. (from mouth to Swede Heaven Bridge) – Apr 16-Apr 30: catch-and-release except up to two-hatchery steelhead*  
*Squalicum Lake, Whatcom Co. – year-round: motors prohibited; trout; no min size, daily limit 2*  
*Vogler Lake, Skagit Co. – last Sat Apr-Oct 31: all game fish; catch-and-release*

### **TROUT STOCKING PLAN (INCLUDES TRIPLOIDS)**

The Trout Stocking plans are developed and published by the Native Resident Fish Program. This document is posted online as a Acrobat reader file (.pdf) for download at [http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/reports\\_plants.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/reports_plants.html). For specific information about this program or the plan itself, you can read or download this file for future reference.

### **SPORT FISH RECORDS AND APPLICATION INFORMATION**

Sport fish records are kept for game and sport fish maintained on the WDFW agency website. All sport fish records and applications can be found on the internet at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/outreach/fishing/bigfish.htm>. Application forms can be downloaded and completed, then mailed to WDFW – Fish Program, Sport Fish Records Coordinator, 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501. For more information contact WDFW-Fish Program at (360) 902-2700 (8:00 am -5:00pm Monday through Friday except for Holidays)



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