

I would like to keep you updated from Reel-Lentless Guide Service on the current fishing information for our area. I hope you understand why the information may be a little general without specifics on techniques and locations. I will only relay information from myself, trusted anglers, WDFW agents, and others who are actively involved in our areas fishing..

May 14, 2010

This is the time of year many call the “Tweener” time for us in the upper Columbia River area. The Tweener is that time between Steelhead and the next Salmon Season. The winter run off in the local rivers (Methow, Okanogan, and Columbia) is really starting to hit hard and really dirty up the water and keep it cold. The water is still pretty cold up here, and the fish are just starting to come out of winter. They are hungry for sure, but we think a few more degrees in water temperature increase will really get the fish active. The weather report is for the 80’s this weekend and that will help a lot, but the snow is still visible in the mountains. The water coming out of the hills is just above freezing, and that will keep the main bodies of water in the lakes and rivers noticeably colder. Just to clarify there are Salmon available about 100 miles from us in the Icicle River near Leavenworth. These Chinook/Kings are actually “Springers”, but they are not ESA listed and they can be caught once they start up the Icicle River. Check out the fish count link, and they have more then double the 10yr average so far. I would recommend you contact Shane Magnuson at [Upper Columbia Guide Service](#) to fish for these early kings. Shane is fishing the lower river now, but will be back up soon and knows how to catch Icicle River Kings.

Sorry, but it does not look like a Springer season will happen for the Wenatchee River this year. Too much paperwork and Red Tape because if they are in the Wenatchee River the fish are ESA listed. I know, I know, but debating that issue here will not get the end result we all want. Trust us we are on your side with this one. We suggest you contact [WDFW](#), [NOAA](#), and voice your opinions and give input.

Lake Chelan offers King Salmon and that fishery is finally starting to come back. Still fairly slow for Kings on Lake Chelan, but the Lake Trout are always there and ready to bite. The Silvers should be starting to spawn soon, and that is a very busy and active fishery. Drop below the Silvers and catch a few of those predatory Lake Trout who are feeding on the Silvers.

Speaking of Silvers don’t forget Palmer Lake near Loomis in the northern part of Okanogan County. The Silvers are still biting, and it is not uncommon to have double digit days when it is hot. The Perch in Palmer have not turned on yet, but give them a little higher water temp and they will really school up to spawn.

Rufus Woods is still a consistent producer of Triploid Trout. Right now go after them with bait as they are a little slow. Soon enough they will go after moving plugs, spinners, and other lures. A family member brought in a 17lb and a 15lb using marshmallows and

worms recently. Don't forget every bait/scent caught fish counts towards your limit even if you release it back to grow bigger.

All the local lakes with planted fish are smoking hot, and should stay that way into early summer. Bass and Walleye are starting to go on the bite and should be really good from here on. Talked to a bud that had 20+lbs/5 fish of Small Mouth Bass the other day. That is good fishing for anyone and getting close to epic fishing.

Omak Lake on the Colville Reservation is turning out good numbers of Lahontan Trout. You will need a tribal permit to fish this, and they are available at the Triangle Shell in Brewster on your way to the lake.

Check back for more and updated information.

Ron
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