



# 2023 Warmwater Fishing opportunities in Central Washington



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## Washington's Warmwater Fish Program

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Warmwater Fish Program began in 1997 at the request of fishing organizations interested in Bass, Walleye, Crappie, Bluegill, Perch, and Catfish in Washington. The enabling legislation authorized WDFW to fund the program through a \$5 fishing license surcharge. Today, the Warmwater Fish Program is funded from a portion of freshwater fishing licenses sold to people participating in warmwater fishing. [Adobe Acrobat](#) is required for viewing these reports.

The Warmwater Fish Program's goal is to increase opportunities to fish for and catch warmwater game fish. To do so, the program conducts fish community assessment surveys in select lakes and identifies management strategies to improve the quality of fishing. Volunteers are used whenever possible, to involve and educate the public, minimize costs and gain the greatest return for the investment.

This document provides anglers with a summary of Region Two (Adams, Grant, Douglas, Chelan and Okanogan Counties) waters where warmwater fish are managed. There are also links to more detailed reports throughout this document. It is important to remember that lakes are biological systems and fish communities change over time. We will provide the best information we have at the time of publication. Our warmwater reports can be found at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications>

### Fish Washington Mobile app



Whether you are an experienced angler or just getting started, the Fish Washington app should be on your smartphone or other mobile device.

The **free** mobile app is designed to convey up-to-the-minute fishing regulations for every lake, river, stream and marine area in the state.

The app does not currently include information on shellfish and seaweed collection rules.

The app can be downloaded for free [Google Play](#) and [Apple's App Store](#).

The app contains many great features, including:

- Interactive mapping to help anglers find fishing near them.
- Details on harvest limits and allowable gear for fishable species in each body of water.
- Access to the Fish Washington website and instructional videos designed to convey when, where and how to fish in Washington.
- Locations of boat launches and other fishing access points.
- Ability to add waypoints on maps, and report poaching in progress.
- Downloadable updates and offline capacity designed for those who may not have cell service in remote areas or on the water.

WDFW encourages everyone to download the Fish Washington app by visiting Apple's App Store or the Google Play store. Please use the commenting features in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) to provide feedback, which will help the department make improvements to the app over time. The public can also leave comments at [MobileAppDev@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:MobileAppDev@dfw.wa.gov).

## Region Two Warmwater Team Duties

Marc Petersen serves as Region-2 lead warmwater fish biologist, overseeing a range of essential duties including:

- Conducting standardized fisheries assessments of regional warmwater lakes.
- Conducting Fall Walleye Index Netting (FWIN) surveys on major walleye lakes within Region-2, such as Banks Lake, Moses Lake, and Potholes Reservoir. These surveys enable ongoing monitoring of walleye populations and inform timely management decisions.
- Relocating warmwater fish from lakes where they are unwanted to lakes where they are needed.
- Developing, conducting, and analyzing creel surveys to assess angler effort and harvest on local warmwater lakes.
- Engaging with angler groups, such as Walleye and Bass clubs, to present survey results, discuss ongoing work, and address inquiries.
- Preparing and publishing reports summarizing data collected during surveys.
- Conducting research on unique or lesser-known aspects of warmwater fisheries in Washington.
- Contributing to the development and implementation of the agency's R3 (recruitment, retention, and reactivation) plan to attract and sustain anglers.

Since 1997, our team has surveyed most of the warmwater lakes in Region 2.



Above (L to R): Stocking juvenile Tiger Muskies into Evergreen Reservoir, Walleye tournament weigh-in on Moses Lake, WDFW biologists with a 20lb Channel Catfish from Potholes Reservoir.

## Summary of Regional Warmwater Activities in 2022-23

In 2022, we conducted a year-long angler creel survey and completed the Fall Walleye Index Netting (FWIN) at Banks Lake. We also analyzed the long-term FWIN dataset from Banks Lake (2002-19) and started preliminary data analysis for Moses Lake. This data modeling assesses natural mortality, fishing mortality, angler effort, fish population dynamics, and Walleye fishing regulation effectiveness.

In 2023, Phase 3 of the Roses Lake Access redevelopment, costing \$325,000, will conclude with a large T-dock for shoreline angler access. Total renovation funding from RCO for all three phases is \$850,000. Phases 1 and 2 improved fishing access with parking area paving, new toilets, fishing platforms, boat ramp extension, shoreline trail system, invasive blackberry removal, native vegetation planting, and a larger boat loading float.

Additionally, the Glenn Williams Access Redevelopment on Potholes Reservoir received a \$1,400,000 phase 2 RCO grant in early 2023. Phase 1 included a new boat launch, paved approach, ADA boat loading platform, three ADA vault toilets, and native vegetation plantings. Phase 2 aims to add a permanent boat loading float and pave a parking area for up to 76 trailer spaces. Total funding for phases 1 and 2 of the Glenn Williams Access Renovation is \$2,650,000.

These warmwater activities in 2022-23 are significant steps towards enhancing fishing access, preserving natural habitats, and promoting sustainable angling practices in the region.

### Walleye Surveys (FWIN)

Since 2002, WDFW fisheries biologists have monitored Walleye populations in Washington using the Fall Walleye Index Netting (FWIN) method from Ontario, Canada. In 2022, we conducted FWIN at Banks Lake and a year-long angler creel survey. To enhance efficiency and coverage, Region-2 FWIN surveys will rotate, focusing on Moses Lake, Banks Lake, and Potholes Reservoir every three years. Our main goal is to conduct minimal sampling while ensuring effective Walleye management.

During the 2022 Banks Lake FWIN, we collected an average of 7 Walleye per net, surpassing the 2020 and 16-year averages of 5 per net. About 73% of Walleye collected measured 12-20 inches, with 17% exceeding 20 inches. The average size in 2022 was 15 inches, matching the 19-year average. Anglers harvested 17,039 Walleye in 2022 during 10,739 trips, but the harvest rate was low at 0.58 fish per hour, and we anticipate similar harvest rates to continue in 2023. FWIN reports can be found here: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications>.



# Prospects for Region Two Warmwater Lakes

## Adams County

### **Cow Lake** (Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, and Rainbow Trout emphasis)

Cow Lake, spanning 200 acres, is situated about nine miles east of Ritzville, accessible via Wellsandt Road. The access area currently offers a rudimentary boat launch without restrooms or additional amenities. At present, fishing opportunities in Cow Lake include Largemouth Bass, Bluegill Sunfish, and Brown Bullhead. Additionally, WDFW regularly stocks the lake with catchable size Rainbow Trout. For those seeking a unique fishing experience, Cow Lake is abundant with Grass Pickerel which are often confused with Northern Pike but seldom reach sizes greater than 14 inches. Angler should expect to catch numerous smaller size fish of all species with the occasional large fish. Anglers should take note that Brown Bullhead are not only relatively easy and enjoyable to catch but also offer excellent table fare. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

### **Hutchinson—Shiner Lakes** (Largemouth Bass and Bluegill emphasis)

Hutchinson and Shiner lakes are located approximately four miles west of Othello, WA. The access area has a gravel boat launch, fishing dock, and a restroom. These lakes are part of the Seep Lakes chain that originates south of Potholes Reservoir. Hutchinson and Shiner lakes, combined, have a surface area of 83 acres, and a mean depth of 11.5 ft. Water drains from Shiner Lake into Hutchinson Lake via a small channel approximately 150 ft. long. These lakes are managed for Largemouth Bass and Bluegill. Anglers can also find the occasional Black Crappie and Yellow Perch. Expect Largemouth Bass to be the most abundant species caught followed by Bluegill. These lakes are consistent fisheries year after year, especially for Largemouth Bass and Bluegill and at times the fish can be quite large. (Check for Special Regulations)



## **Sprague Lake** (Trout, Bluegill, and Channel Catfish emphasis)



Sprague Lake is located in eastern Washington approximately 3 miles southwest of Sprague, Washington. There are two resorts, Sprague Lake Resort and Four Seasons Campground as well as a WDFW access with boat launch and restrooms. The lake has a surface area of 1,760 acres, a mean depth of 11.5 ft., and is approximately 6 miles in length. Sprague Lake was rehabilitated in 2007. Following the 2007 lake rehabilitation, WDFW has stocked rainbow trout, Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and

Channel Catfish. In recent years Sprague Lake has been producing rainbow trout from 2.5 – 5 pounds consistently. Also expect to find plentiful Largemouth Bass with large fish fairly common; however, Bluegill and Channel Catfish are likely to be found in low numbers. To further enhance the warmwater fish community in recent years, WDFW has been active in stocking Black and White Crappie. We are always interested in hearing about your fishing success and would appreciate you reaching out to Region 1 (Spokane) or Region 2 (Ephrata) Warmwater Biologists with your stories. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## **Chelan County**

### **Antilon Lake** (Trout and Black Crappie)

Antilon Lake is actually two lakes (total area 96 acres) located north of Roses Lake near Manson, WA. Antilon Lake is managed as a Brown Trout and Black Crappie fishery and anglers report excellent fishing at times for both. There is an unimproved launch at the lower lake with good access for small boats and the upper lake launch has become overgrown with brush and is better suited for hand launch watercraft. During winter of 2022, biologist discovered winterkill in upper Antilon which may take a year or two to recover. Fingerling Brown Trout were stocked in early 2023 and should begin providing a good fishery by late fall. Additionally, large Pumpkinseed



Sunfish are found at times in lower Antilon and can provide a very unique fishery not found in many waters. Expect to find most Black Crappie in lower Antilon with occasion catches of larger fish. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## **Dry Lake** (Largemouth Bass and Bluegill emphasis)

Dry Lake, covering 94 acres, is situated approximately 1.5 miles northeast of Lake Chelan and the city of Manson in Chelan County, Washington. Access to the lake is confined to a small, improved area at the East end, allowing for boat launching. Unfortunately, there are no restroom facilities available on site. Largemouth Bass and Bluegill are the dominant two species in Dry Lake. Bluegill have been observed up to 10.5 inches, while the Largemouth Bass may reach sizes up to 22 inches and over 6lbs. The population of Largemouth Bass is ideally structured to support the production of large Bluegill. Additionally, expect to catch lower numbers of Black Crappie, Yellow Perch, and Brown Bullhead as well. To enhance angler opportunities and improve the size structure of Bluegill, we introduced 1,100 adult Largemouth Bass into Dry Lake during the spring of 2015. Subsequently, in 2017, we successfully negotiated with private landowners, leading to the opening of a new public access point located at the northeast corner of the lake. This access point offers limited parking and allows for the launching of small boats. (Statewide Regulations Apply)



Largemouth Bass collected on Dry Lake, May 2016.

## **Fish Lake** (Trout and Yellow Perch emphasis)

Fish Lake, spanning 492 acres, is located approximately 16 miles north of Leavenworth and one mile northeast of Lake Wenatchee. Access to the lake is granted through the Forest Service approved concession called "Cove Resort." This picturesque lake consistently offers excellent fishing opportunities year-round. Anglers visiting Fish Lake can divide their efforts between fishing for trout, Largemouth Bass, and Yellow Perch. The spring and fall months provide the best conditions for successful Rainbow Trout fishing. For those seeking a challenging and rewarding experience, Trophy Brown Trout are also present in the lake, although landing them may require some extra effort. Yellow Perch fishing is particularly rewarding during the winter months, especially when the lake is frozen over, providing a unique ice fishing experience, though anglers can still make good catches of Yellow Perch throughout the year. Largemouth Bass can also be caught here throughout the summer making Fish Lake a diverse and rewarding destination for fishing enthusiasts of all kinds. (Check for Special Regulations)





## **Roses Lake** (Channel Catfish, Largemouth Bass, Bluegill and trout emphasis)

Roses Lake is located approximately one mile northeast of Lake Chelan and 1 mile north of Manson, Washington. The lake is 131 acres, and a maximum depth of approximately 30 feet. Roses Lake is managed as a mixed species Rainbow Trout and warmwater fishery. Roses Lake contains a healthy population of Largemouth Bass and Bluegill, as well as a popular Rainbow Trout and Yellow Perch fishery. There is a notable Channel Catfish population in Roses Lake – some of which are very large (see photo). Channel Catfish have not been stocked in Roses Lake since 2014, but we expect stocking to resume in the near future. The



presence of a band of bulrush and cattail surrounding **20 lb. Channel Catfish collected on Roses Lake, June 2015.** Roses Lake creates an ideal habitat for many large bass.

Anglers would be wise to focus their efforts on these areas, as they provide excellent cover for both bass and the small prey fish that bass typically target as their food source. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## **Wapato Lake** (Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Black Crappie and trout emphasis)

Wapato Lake is approximately 3 miles from Manson Washington. Wapato Lake has a surface area of 216 acres and has a maximum depth of 68 feet. There are two campgrounds and a public boat launch with restrooms located on the lake. Wapato Lake is an excellent lake for Largemouth Bass, big Bluegill, Kokanee, Yellow Perch, and Black Crappie. In certain years, schools of large Yellow Perch can be found in deeper water using a drop-shot technique. Additionally, in recent years



Wapato Lake has had an abundance of crayfish that have rewarded anglers who set out their traps before their fishing day. Please consult the WDFW fishing regulations before your trip. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## Grant County

### **Ancient Lake South** (Warmwater species emphasis)

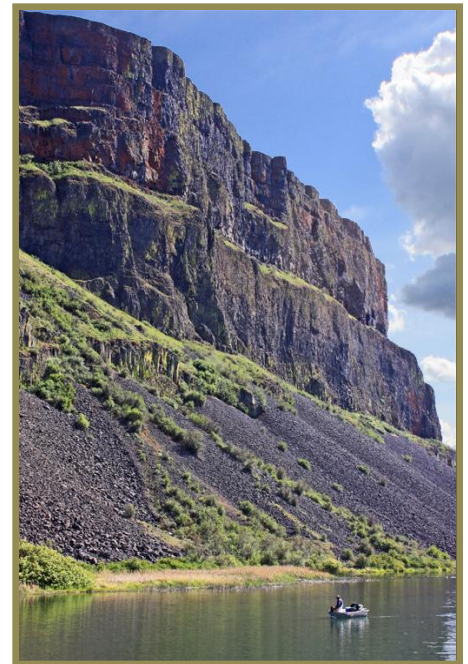
South Ancient Lake, nestled within WDFW's Quincy Wildlife Area and situated west of Stan Coffin Lake along the Babcock Bench, offers a unique and natural fishing experience. The lake is managed as a mixed species fishery, providing anglers with the opportunity to target Rainbow Trout, Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Pumpkinseed. Despite its promising fish community, our knowledge about South Ancient Lake remains limited due to restricted access for launching boats. Anglers can access the lake through a hike-in route, allowing for an adventurous and secluded fishing trip.



For those seeking a more immersive experience, camping at or near South Ancient Lake is a viable option. However, it's essential to exercise caution as rattlesnakes are prevalent in the Quincy Wildlife Area, particularly in areas with rocks and water. Being aware of this potential hazard and taking necessary precautions can help ensure a safe and enjoyable outdoor experience. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

### **Banks Lake** (Walleye, Smallmouth Bass, Black Crappie, Lake Whitefish emphasis)

Banks Lake, situated between Coulee City and Electric City along Highway 17, is a remarkable irrigation impoundment offering a vast surface area of 26,887 acres and an average depth of 46 feet. Traditionally renowned as one of the state's premier Walleye fisheries, Banks Lake has experienced a surge in popularity among anglers targeting Smallmouth Bass. For anglers seeking other gamefish, excellent Yellow Perch and Black Crappie fishing can be found along the jetties on the south end, near the north-end west of Steamboat Rock, and seasonally in the shallow bays of the northeast side of the reservoir. Furthermore, Banks Lake hosts various gamefish, including Bluegill, Bullheads, and Rainbow Trout. Among the deepwater species, anglers may encounter Burbot and Lake Whitefish, the latter of which has grown increasingly popular at Banks Lake and can now be caught throughout the year. The annual stocking of Rainbow Trout ensures that anglers have opportunities for trout fishing at Banks Lake. Notably, the Walleye abundance in the lake has consistently been at or above the long-term average since 2010, with most fish falling within the highly sought-after 12–20-inch range. With its diverse fishery and abundant species, Banks Lake continues to be a cherished destination for anglers seeking a rewarding and exciting fishing experience. (Check for Special Regulations)



## **Billy Clapp Lake** (Smallmouth Bass, Rainbow Trout, and Kokanee emphasis)

Billy Clapp Lake, spanning 973 acres, is nestled approximately two miles northeast of the Town of Stratford. This picturesque lake offers access points and restrooms at both ends, with a boat launch available only at the South access point. Anglers visiting Billy Clapp Lake are in for a treat, as the lake provides good fishing opportunities for a diverse range of species. Among the highlights are Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, various panfish, Rainbow Trout, and Kokanee. Notably, the species composition in the lake is significantly influenced by out-migrating fish from the connected Banks Lake. However, Rainbow Trout and Kokanee are stocked, adding to the lake's angling diversity.



Kokanee fishing at Billy Clapp Lake can vary from year to year, but during favorable times, anglers can routinely catch Kokanee exceeding 20 inches, particularly in late winter through early spring. Presently, in 2021, the lake boasts excellent Rainbow Trout fishing opportunities, with impressive catches of 16–20 inch fish. With its abundance of species and scenic surroundings, Billy Clapp Lake is an inviting destination for anglers seeking a rewarding and memorable fishing experience. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## **Desert Lake** (Largemouth Bass, Bluegill emphasis)



Desert Lake, situated south of Winchester Wasteway and a mile west of Potholes Reservoir, offers a unique and rewarding fishing experience. This hike-in lake is known for its abundant Largemouth Bass population, providing anglers with hours of enjoyment as they catch 13–16 inch bass. Access to the shore is quite limited due to the abundant bulrush and cattail growth around the lake. To fully take advantage of the fantastic fishing opportunities that Desert Lake has to offer, anglers are encouraged to carry in a float tube. With a float tube, they can easily navigate the water and reach prime fishing spots, maximizing their chances of hooking into some impressive Largemouth Bass. For those seeking a tranquil and secluded fishing adventure, Desert

Lake is an ideal destination. The abundance of Largemouth Bass and the peaceful natural surroundings ensure an unforgettable fishing trip for anglers willing to explore this hidden gem. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## **Evergreen Reservoir** (Walleye, Tiger Muskie, Black Crappie, Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass emphasis)

Evergreen Reservoir, located within the Quincy Wildlife Area in Grant County, Washington, is a fishing haven situated approximately 8 miles southwest of Quincy. Spanning 247 acres and boasting a mean depth of 19 feet, the reservoir offers a diverse range of fishing opportunities for anglers to explore. Among the popular species sought by anglers at Evergreen Reservoir are Walleye, Largemouth Bass, and Smallmouth Bass. Additionally, a growing number of fishermen are targeting Black Crappie and Bluegill. Notably, Evergreen Reservoir stands out as the only Tiger Muskie lake in central Washington. Annually, around 300 Tiger Muskies, each measuring 12–13 inches, are stocked, providing a thrilling challenge for anglers to tackle. Tiger Muskies are known for



their voracious feeding habits, often found near the edge of weed beds, where they hunt for small fish. For those aiming to catch Black Crappie, success can vary from year to year, with good catches at times of fish reaching up to 12 inches. Anglers are encouraged to search for typical crappie habitat, characterized by brushy shorelines, aquatic vegetation, and access to deeper waters. With its variety of sought-after species and open surroundings, Evergreen Reservoir presents an inviting destination for anglers of all skill levels, promising unforgettable fishing experiences and the chance to reel in some impressive catches. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## **Long Lake** (Walleye, Smallmouth Bass, and panfish emphasis)

Long Lake (75 acres) is located approximately 10 miles northwest of Othello, WA, in Grant County. It is an enlargement of the Potholes Canal with public access provided by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The lake is open for year-round fishing, including boats with internal combustion engines. Anglers can find bass, Walleye, occasional panfish, and Rainbow Trout opportunities. Rainbow Trout fingerlings are stocked annually in the fall. The fish community is influenced by out-migrating fish from Potholes Reservoir. (Statewide Regulations Apply)



## **Lower Goose Lake** (Walleye, Largemouth Bass, and Yellow Perch emphasis)

Lower Goose Lake lies among the seep lakes in Grant County approximately 9 miles northwest of Othello, Washington, and approximately 3.5 miles south of Potholes Reservoir. Lower Goose Lake has a surface area of 50 acres and a mean depth of 25 ft. Anglers can expect to find primarily Yellow Perch, Bluegill, and Pumpkinseed Sunfish here. A few Largemouth Bass, Walleye, and Smallmouth Bass can also be found in this lake. Anglers searching for Yellow Perch should consider visiting Lower Goose Lake. (Statewide Regulations Apply)



## **Moses Lake** (Walleye, Smallmouth, Largemouth Bass, Black Crappie, and Yellow Perch emphasis)

Moses Lake (6,800 acres) has year-round fishing opportunities for both warmwater fish and Rainbow Trout. Regulations on Moses Lake allow anglers to retain eight Walleye with a minimum size of 12 inches with one fish allowed over 22 inches. Previous fisheries surveys indicated a consistently high abundance of Walleye and Smallmouth Bass. Walleye in Moses Lake can reach and exceed 10-pounds, while Smallmouth Bass can reach and exceed 5-pounds. Largemouth Bass fishing can be excellent in select areas of Moses Lake as well. During certain times of the year anglers also catch Rainbow Trout up to 20 inches. Bluegill and Black Crappie fishing can be



good at times but can be inconsistent from year-to-year. Yellow Perch fishing is usually good during the fall through winter depending on the year. During certain winters, Moses Lake freezes offering a good ice fishery for Yellow Perch and Rainbow Trout. The most popular ice fishing location is near Blue Heron Park. (Check for Special Regulations)

**Potholes Reservoir** (Walleye, Black Crappie, Bluegill, Channel Catfish, Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass emphasis)

Potholes Reservoir is one of the most popular fishing destinations in Washington. It is a 28,200-acre reservoir in Grant County, formed by the construction of O’Sullivan Dam across the Crab Creek Valley in 1949. Known as a very popular Walleye fishery, Potholes also hosts a wide variety of other gamefish species including Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass, Bluegill, Black Crappie, Channel Catfish, Rainbow Trout and Bullhead. More recently, large Bluegill and Black Crappie are more frequent in angler catches as well as the occasional 20lb Channel Catfish. Anglers in search of large catfish should focus their efforts on Potholes Reservoir. (Check for Special Regulations)



WDFW biologists with a 20lb. Channel Catfish collected on Potholes Reservoir, October 2015.

**Red Rock Lake** (Largemouth Bass, Black Crappie, and Bluegill emphasis)

Red Rock Lake is approximately 3 miles southeast of Royal City, Washington. Water levels in Red Rock Lake fluctuate a great deal during the spring and summer which makes boat access difficult. Yellow Perch, Largemouth Bass, and Black Crappie are common species found by anglers in Red Rock Lake. Other gamefish that may be found by anglers include Bluegill and Brown Bullhead. There are a few very large bass in Red Rock Lake that reach large sizes. One fish we collected was eight pounds! (Statewide Regulations Apply)



**Stan Coffin Lake** (Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, and Channel catfish emphasis)

Stan Coffin Lake is located in the Quincy Wildlife Area. This lake has a surface area of approximately 40.9 acres and is approximately 20 feet at its deepest point. Stan Coffin Lake has an abundant Largemouth Bass population. Other gamefish found in Stan Coffin Lake include Channel Catfish, Yellow Perch, Bluegill and an occasional Black Crappie. Anglers are encouraged to keep all panfish they catch, as these populations are over-abundant and are in need of control. (Statewide Regulations Apply)



## **Upper Goose Lake** (Bass, Walleye and Yellow Perch emphasis)

Upper Goose Lake lies among the seep lakes in Grant County approximately 10 miles northwest of Othello, Washington, and approximately 3 miles south of Potholes Reservoir. Upper Goose Lake has a surface area of 130.5 acres, and a mean depth of 46 ft. Upper Goose Lake is known to have an abundance of Yellow Perch, although expect most to be less than 9 inches. Other fish species found Upper Goose Lake include Rainbow Trout, Largemouth Bass, and Walleye. (Statewide Regulations Apply)



## **Okanogan County**

### **Leader Lake** (Bluegill, Black Crappie, Largemouth Bass and Rainbow Trout emphasis)

Leader Lake (155 acres), located along Highway 20 just west of Okanogan is managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources Northeast Region. Located in Loup Loup State Forest, Leader Lake offers outstanding views with great fishing. Washington Dept. of Natural Resource's 10 campsites are spread around a portion of the lake with some close to the water and others tucked into the ponderosa pine and aspen forest. The



lake itself is managed as a mixed-species fishery. In addition to stocked Rainbow Trout, there are abundant Warmwater gamefish in Leader Lake. Anglers will find great opportunities to catch Largemouth Bass with many in the 12–17 inch protected slot; however, there are also some larger bass in this lake as well. Illegal introductions of Yellow Perch have produced an overabundance of small-size perch that could become detrimental to the existing fishery. We encourage anglers to

keep as many perch as desired to reduce competition with other fish species (i.e., Bluegill and Black Crappie) and help maintain this excellent fishery. The WDFW has begun stocking Tiger Trout in recent years to reduce the number of small yellow Perch within the lake. This lake is a favorite among local anglers throughout the year. (Statewide Regulations Apply)

## **Palmer Lake** (Smallmouth Bass and Kokanee emphasis)

Palmer Lake is located approximately 5 miles north of Loomis, WA. The lake has a surface area of 2,110 acres, and a mean depth of 51 feet. Yellow Perch up to 11 inches and Smallmouth Bass up to 22 inches were commonplace in recent years. Black Crappie and Bluegill are present in lower numbers and can be of larger size. In addition to great Smallmouth Bass fishing, Palmer Lake is known as Okanogan County's best wintertime Burbot fishery. Palmer Lake combines exceptional fishing opportunities with its breathtaking natural beauty, creating an outstanding angling experience. (Statewide Regulations Apply)



## **Washburn Island Pond** (Largemouth Bass, Bluegill and Black Crappie emphasis)

Washburn Island Pond is located approximately 5 miles southeast of Brewster, Washington off Hwy 17. The pond, which is primarily used by hunters and fishermen, has a surface area of approximately 140 acres, and a maximum depth of 21 feet. Washburn Island Pond is another of our Largemouth Bass—Bluegill fisheries. Largemouth Bass can be caught to 5 lbs., and Bluegill are very plentiful, though few are larger than 7 inches. In 2015, we stocked 500 Largemouth



Bass between 12-15 inches in hopes of increasing predation on small, plentiful Bluegill in hopes of improving their size. Anecdotal information suggests the Largemouth Bass fishery has improved though no information on increased Bluegill size is known. Black Crappie are also present in low numbers but can attain 11-12 inches in length. (Check for Special Regulations)



## **Whitestone Lake** (Largemouth Bass, Channel Catfish emphasis)

Whitestone Lake is located in the Okanogan River drainage approximately 5.7 miles northwest of Tonasket, Washington. The lake has a surface area of 173 acres, and a maximum depth of 25 feet. Previous fishery surveys of Whitestone Lake Largemouth Bass found a high abundance of fish greater than 15 inches in length. Anglers should expect to find lower numbers of small bass while angling in this “big bass” Lake. In addition to excellent Largemouth Bass fishing, anglers can also find good fishing at times for Black Crappie and Channel Catfish. Bluegill are present in large numbers in Whitestone Lake, but most never reach sizes greater than 6 inches. (Statewide Regulations Apply)



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