

Easy Angling OREGON

A white silhouette illustration of a person in a hat and pants, standing on the right side of the title. They are holding a fishing rod that is bent, with a fish jumping out of a circular pool of water. The background of the entire top section is a wavy, textured pattern.

Great places for families to fish in Oregon



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

NO EXCUSES – GO FISHING!

Free Fishing Weekend

Always the first weekend after the first Monday in June.

- You don't need a license, and you don't need a tag for catching salmon, steelhead or sturgeon. (Bag limits and regulations still apply)
- Go on your own, or join ODFW and local sponsors for events at dozens of lakes and streams.
- Special events for children, loaner rods and reels, and help from experienced anglers at most sites.



The Youth Angling Enhancement Program (YAEP)

This family-friendly program is designed to introduce young people to the fun of fishing.

- Dozens of events held throughout the state, usually in the spring and summer months.
- ODFW provides loaner rods and reels, tackle and bait.
- Staff and volunteers are on hand to help bait the hook, cast the rod and land the fish.
- Ponds are generously stocked with trout to help ensure success.

For more information about Free Fishing Weekend and YAEP events, visit the ODFW Web site at www.dfw.state.or.us



Easy Angling Oregon

Great places for families to fish in Oregon



More than half the intense enjoyment of fishing is derived from the beautiful surroundings, the satisfaction felt from being in the open air, the new lease of life secured thereby, and the many, many pleasant recollections of all one has seen, heard and done."

-Charles F. Orvis

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Check the current ODFW Sport Fishing Regulations prior to planning your outing. If you have any questions, give us a call.

Additional ODFW Resources:

ODFW Headquarters: (503) 947-6000

ODFW in-state toll-free: (800) 720-6339

Information & Education: (503) 947-6002

Fish Division: (503) 947-6200

Licensing Services: (503) 947-6100

Web site: www.dfw.state.or.us

E-mail: odfw.info@state.or.us

Warmwater Fishing in Oregon

A series of 10 brochures covering warmwater fishing in 10 different regions in Oregon. Available at local ODFW offices or call 1-800-720-6339.

For a copy of ODFW's Sport Fishing Regulations

Visit your sporting goods store, local ODFW office or the Fishing Resources section of ODFW's Web site.

Other Fishing Resources available on ODFW's Web site:

Trout Stocking Schedule

A list of which waters will be stocked and when.

ODFW Weekly Recreation Report

Provides up-to-date reports on each of the sport fishing zones in the state.

Spring Fishing Forecast

Issued in April, this report focuses on statewide fishing opportunities and emphasizes hot spots.

Steelhead Angling Forecast

Issued early in the year, this report provides guidance and current information.

Other helpful information:

Oregon State Parks

Places to camp, fish, hike and enjoy

(503) 986-0707 or (800) 551-6949

www.oregonstateparks.org

Oregon Marine Board

Boating safety and regulations

(503) 378-8587

www.boatoregon.com



A portion of your angling equipment and tackle purchases are used to help clean up rivers and streams, restore fish populations and create public access to waterways. Every purchase of fishing tackle carries a tax that goes from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to state fish and wildlife agencies for fisheries research, habitat improvement, aquatic resource education programs and fishing and boating access.

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Cover photo by Meg Kenagy, ODFW

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Welcome to Easy Angling Oregon!

Fishing is fun! No activity bonds a family together quite like fishing. With some basic knowledge, beginning anglers can embark on a lifetime of fun and relaxation in the great outdoors. There are so many outstanding places to fish in Oregon, it's hard to know where to begin—especially if you're new to fishing or looking for the right experience to hook a first-time angler on the sport.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife invites you to visit the lakes, rivers and streams in this booklet. Our experienced fish biologists have selected the following water bodies because they provide some of the best opportunities for new anglers to catch trout or warmwater fish as well as have an enjoyable outdoor experience with friends and family.

These rivers, lakes, ponds and streams have been selected with families and newcomers in mind. Besides offering a representative sampling of the state's angling and scenic variety, these locations:

- Are easily accessible by family car;
- Hold lots of fish on which to try your luck and sharpen your skills;
- Offer good odds of success using basic angling techniques;
- Have comfort facilities available (such as toilets, drinking water, picnic tables); and
- Offer easy-to-understand angling regulations.

Easy Angling Oregon contains fishing opportunities from each of Oregon's six inland angling zones: Northwest, Southwest, Willamette, Central, Southeast and Northeast. These zones correspond to the geographic areas defined in the Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations. Within each zone you will find "Featured" and "Also Recommended" locations.

Information in "Featured Waters" helps you plan outings by including directions to the site and relevant fishing information. The "Also Recommended" waterbodies offer additional angling experiences; more information on these locations can be found on ODFW's Easy Angling Web site. For each Featured Water we've also included a list of nearby State Parks and Recreation Areas to help you plan a vacation or weekend getaway.

Make sure you check the current ODFW Sport Fishing Regulations prior to your next fishing outing! We have not included regulations in this booklet

because of the possibility that they may change in the future. You'll want to check for any Special Angling Regulations for the water body you intend to fish as well as the Statewide and Zone rules. Generally, where ODFW stocks catchable trout, our regulations allow five fish per day and the use of bait. For warmwater fish species such as crappie, sunfish and catfish there are no limits on size and numbers. There are areas in the state that have special angling regulations for largemouth and smallmouth bass. Again, make sure you check the current regulations just to be sure!

Oregon Fishing Zones



Call these ODFW offices for further information:

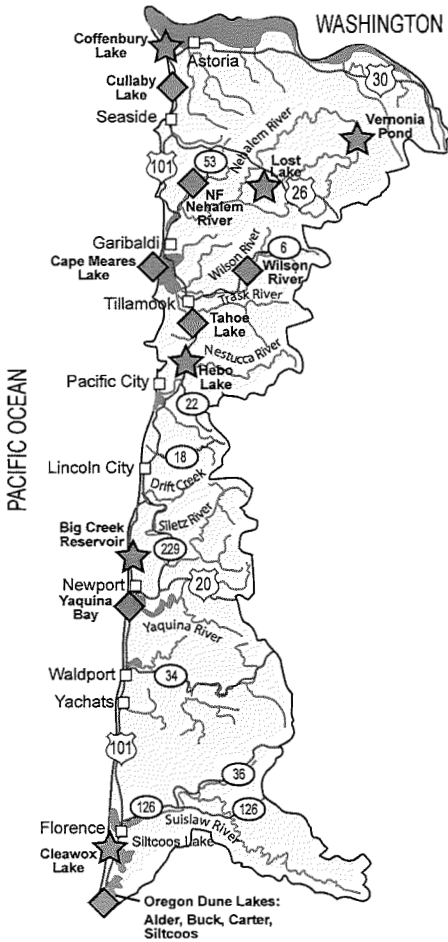
- Bend (541) 388-6363
- La Grande (541) 963-2138
- Clackamas (971) 673-6000
- Newport (541) 867-4741
- Corvallis (541) 757-4186
- Roseburg (541) 440-3353
- Hines (541) 573-6582

Oregon's Northwest Zone

A dozen great rivers pour out of the Coast Range Mountains into tidal bays that welcome runs of salmon and the seagoing rainbow trout called "steelhead." The bays are the year-round home to perch, rock fish, crabs and clams, while other species come and go with the seasons and tides. A handful of ponds dot the forested slopes, and there are dozens of dune lakes—many stocked with plump rainbow trout, and some that grow their own largemouth bass, perch, crappie and brown bullhead.



Photographs, clockwise from top: Sunrise on Coffenbury Lake, Masako Watanabe, *The Daily Astorian*; Fin-clipped chinook, Richard T. Grost; First Crab, Mark Van Duser. Opposite: North Fork Nehalem, Richard T. Grost.



Featured Waters

- ★ Coffenbury Lake
- ★ Big Creek Reservoirs 1 and 2
- ★ Lost Lake
- ★ Vernonia Pond
- ★ Hebo Lake
- ★ Cleawox Lake

Also Recommended

- ◆ Cape Meares Lake
- ◆ Oregon Dune Lakes: Alder, Buck, Carter, Siltcoos
- ◆ Wilson River
- ◆ Cullaby Lake
- ◆ Tahoe Lake
- ◆ NF Nehalem River
- ◆ Yaquina Bay



Coffenbury Lake

Getting There: From Hwy 101 north of Seaside, follow signs to Fort Stevens State Park. Turn onto Ridge Road, entering the park at the southernmost gate, which is signed for Coffenbury Lake and the campground.

Fisheries: This dune lake in Oregon's most popular state park is well-stocked with legal-sized rainbow trout from mid-March through mid-June. In summer, most fishing is for resident yellow perch, bluegills and brown bullhead. Trout 14 to 16 inches long are stocked in September. Excess hatchery steelhead released in late fall and winter are often available through May.

Useful Information: Trout are easily caught from platforms and banks soon after they're stocked. Later, there's more action in less heavily-fished areas, such as the shore opposite the access road.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. Use larger spoons and spinners and heavier (10 lb.) line when targeting steelhead, though they may grab even tiny offerings.

Facilities: Boat ramp, lakeside trail, wheelchair-accessible fishing platforms (no rails or edges), campground with RV hook-ups, tent sites, yurts, drinking water, wheelchair-accessible restrooms, showers, picnic tables, BBQ grills. Campsite reservations recommended.

Fees: Yes, for overnight and day use.

Additional Activities: Other fishable ponds nearby; jetty access for rock-fish and salmon; deep hole off jetty parking lot for sturgeon; beach access; Oregon's finest razor clamming (best at low and minus tides); biking and hiking trails; historic sites (shipwreck, Ft. Stevens). Other nearby state park: Sunset Beach State Recreation Area.

For More Information:

ODFW North Coast Watershed District Office (503) 842-2741
Oregon State Parks — (800) 551-6949

Big Creek Reservoirs 1 and 2

Getting There: Turn east on NE Big Creek Road in northern Newport near Mile Post 139. Follow for 1.5 miles; turn right at first junction, left at second junction. Reservoir 2 is a half mile past Reservoir 1 and offers bank fishing access.

Fisheries: From February through early June approximately 11,000 legal-sized rainbow trout are stocked in Reservoir 1 and 20,000 in Reservoir 2; they are usually available into July. Naturally reproducing yellow perch, bluegill, brown bullhead and largemouth bass are available year-round. Check ODFW's Web site for Youth Angling and Free Fishing Day events at this location.

Useful Information: The reservoirs are surrounded by spruce forests. Fair bank fishing is available along the access road for Reservoir 1 and around most of Reservoir 2. Boats may be used but are limited to electric motors only.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. A common angling technique is to use a small round piece of PowerBait with a weight about 2 feet above the hook. Casting small lures and jigs is also effective.

Facilities: A primitive boat launch is located on the west end of Reservoir 2. No camping, drinking water or restroom facilities in immediate area.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Yaquina Bay offers year-round recreational opportunities: fishing for rockfish from the jetties; catching herring from public docks in February and March and perch in spring; crabbing all year. Bank fishing for sturgeon January through May near markers 25 and 37 (north shore) and near markers 38 and 42 (south shore). Bank fishing for salmon from Elk City to Toledo from September through early November. Digging clams downstream of the Hwy 101 Bridge. Nearby state parks: Beverly Beach State Park, South Beach State Park, Agate Beach State Recreation Site, Yaquina Bay State Recreation Site.

For More Information:

ODFW Newport Field Office — (541) 867- 4741

Lost Lake

Getting There: Lost Lake is accessible via forest roads in the Coast Range Mountains west of Hwy 26. Take Hwy 26 to Nehalem River Road. Follow Nehalem River Road south about 8 miles to Spruce Run Park. From Hwy 101, take Miami River-Foley Creek Road to Foss Road. Take Foss Road (becomes Nehalem River Road) northeast about 15 miles to Spruce Run Park. Turn east on Lost Lake Road and proceed about 5 miles to the lake.

Fisheries: Lost Lake supports a popular rainbow trout fishery. Legal-sized rainbow trout are stocked in the spring (March-May). Larger (approx. 14 inch) trout are stocked in mid-June. Trophy trout (approx. 18 inches) are stocked in mid-September. Surplus hatchery winter steelhead are stocked when available from December to February. These fish average about 6-8 lbs.

Useful Information: Lost Lake is located in a forested setting in the Coast Range Mountains west of Hwy 26 in the Nehalem River drainage. The lake is relatively small, about 15 acres.

Tackle & Techniques: Productive techniques for trout include using floating baits suspended off the bottom (use a 2-3 foot leader above a sliding weight with a small hook and a pea- to marble size- piece of bait), or baits such as worms or salmon eggs suspended beneath a bobber (use a small bobber with just enough weight about 1-2 feet above the hook to cast the bobber out without sinking). Casting lures such as spinners and spoons will also catch fish. Fishing sand shrimp beneath a bobber can be productive for the surplus hatchery steelhead.

Facilities: Some camping is available, but no improved facilities exist. The lake offers public bank access around the entire lake. A boat launch is available for small boats.

Fees: None.

Alternate Activities: Good opportunities for wildlife viewing, particularly deer and elk. The Nehalem River is nearby, offering steelhead fishing in the spring and catch and release sea-run cutthroat fishing in the summer. Nearby state parks: Nehalem Bay State Park, Oswald West State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW North Coast Watershed District Office — (503) 842-2741

Vernonia Pond

Getting There: Vernonia Pond is located on the south edge of Vernonia on Hwy 47 between Hwys 26 and 30. Take Hwy 26 west toward Seaside and follow the signs to Vernonia (about 43 miles from Portland).

Fisheries: Rainbow trout are regularly stocked in the spring. There is also a good warmwater fishery in the late spring and summer months with bluegill, crappie, perch and largemouth bass in the lake.

Useful Information: Vernonia Pond is located at a city park. A path encircles the pond and areas on shore are accessible by wheelchair. The best fishing for trout is in spring and early summer. Vernonia is occasionally stocked with adult hatchery steelhead in the winter.

Tackle & Techniques: Standard trout and warmwater fishing techniques work well in the pond. Cast spinners or use worm and bobber or PowerBait set ups for trout. Worm and bobber, rubber grubs, jigs and bass lures work well for warmwater fish.

Facilities: A primitive camping area has fire pits, restrooms, and drinking water. The user-friendly pond has a boat ramp (gas powered motors are not allowed); ADA wheelchair accessible fishing docks and restrooms; and a children's playground area. A snack bar, with bait available, operates in the spring and summer.

Fees: Yes, small parking fee May through September.

Additional Activities: The city of Vernonia offers numerous restaurants, motels and resorts. Local activities include golfing, hiking and a local pioneer museum. Nearby state park: Stub Steward State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW North Coast Watershed District Office — (503) 842-2741
City of Vernonia —(503) 429-6018

Hebo Lake

Getting There: From Salem, travel west on Hwy 22 towards Hebo. Just before the Hwy 101 junction, turn off Hwy 22 on to Forest Road 14 (first right past US Forest Service) and go about 4.5 miles. From Hwy 101, travel east on Hwy 22 and turn left on Forest Road 14 and follow the signs (about .5 miles).

Fisheries: Legal-sized rainbow trout are stocked in the spring (mid-March to mid-June). Occasionally some larger holdover trout are caught in early spring.

Useful Information: Hebo Lake is small (2-acre) and shallow. A gravel trail around the entire lake provides good bank access. There are four ADA barrier-free fishing platforms located on the lake; two are accessible from the paved road. Only non-motorized boats are permitted on the lake. Because the lake is so small, it is better suited to canoes, small rafts or float tubes.

Tackle & Techniques: Standard trout fishing methods work well at Hebo Lake including worm and bobber, PowerBait or casting spinners.

Facilities: The USFS operates a day use area with picnicking and restrooms, and camp ground with 15 sites.

Fees: Yes, for day use and camping.

Additional Activities: Hebo Lake is located near several popular hiking trails including Plantation and Pioneer Indian. The town of Hebo is located just 12 miles from Pacific City on the Oregon Coast, where the historic Dory fleet launches and tide pools can be explored. Nearby state parks: Bob Straub State Park, Cape Kiwanda State Natural Area, Clay Myers State Natural Area.

For More Information:

ODFW North Coast Watershed District Office — (503) 842-2741
US Forest Service, Hebo Ranger District — (503) 392-5100

Cleawox Lake

Getting There: Turn west off Hwy 101 about 3 miles south of Florence, follow signs to Cleawox and Jessie M. Honeyman State Park. The park continues on the east side of the highway.

Fisheries: Approximately 20,000 legal-sized rainbow trout are stocked from February through early June and are usually available into July. Crappie, yellow perch, bluegill, brown bullhead and largemouth bass are available year-round.

Useful Information: The lake is flanked by dunes on its west shore and has 82 surface acres. As the water warms, trout may move into deeper (colder) water in the center of the lake and about half-way up the long northwest arm. Good bank fishing is available around much of the lake.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. A common angling technique is to use a small round piece of PowerBait with a weight about 2 feet above the hook. Casting small lures and jigs is also effective.

Facilities: Boat ramp, designated swimming area, drinking water, wheelchair-accessible restrooms with showers, picnic tables, BBQ grills, tent sites, RV hook-ups. Campsite reservations are recommended.

Fees: Yes, for overnight and day use.

Additional Activities: Good early season fishing in Crater, Alder and Buck Lakes in nearby Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. Boating and water skiing on Woahink Lake (in Honeyman State Park); bird watching; off-road vehicle trails; hiking trails through forest, dune and wetland environments. Excellent boat fishing in Siltcoos and Tahkenitch Lakes. Nearby state parks: Jessie M. Honeyman Memorial State Park, Darlingtonia State Natural Area.

For More Information:

ODFW Newport Field Office — (541) 867-4741

Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area Visitor Centers —

Reedsport — (541) 271-6000

Florence — (541) 902-8526

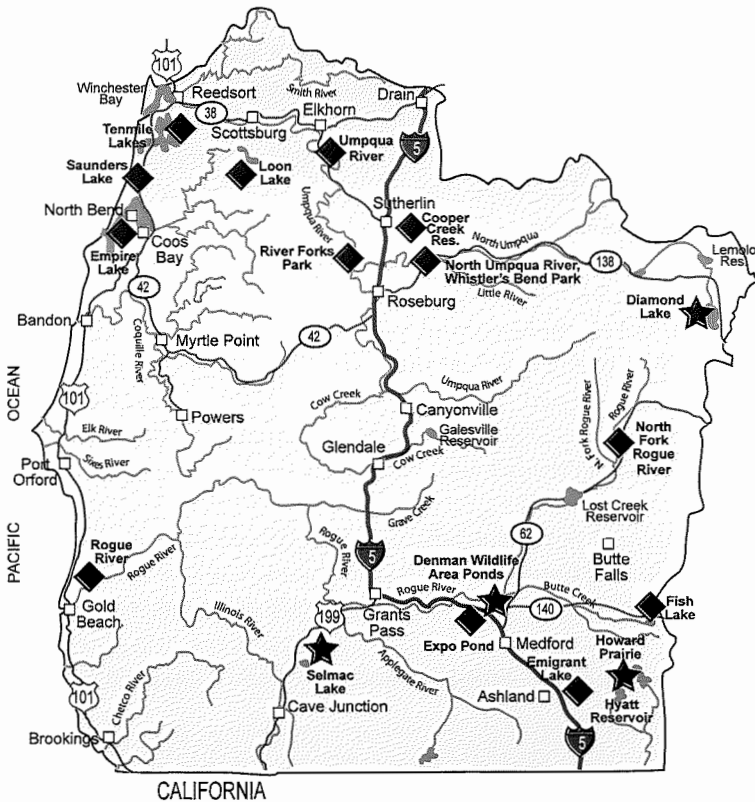
Oregon's Southwest Zone

Salmon, steelhead and smallmouth bass offer world-class fishing here year-round. Rainbow trout are stocked in the upper Rogue and in lakes nestled in settings as varied as fir forest and wind-swept dune. Big reservoirs provide fishing for trout and for thriving populations of largemouth bass, catfish, perch and crappies. Coastal bays serve as gateways to rich offshore reef fisheries, and miles of public beach welcome anglers to fish for surfperch against a backdrop of rugged capes.



From top: ODFW photo;
Emigrant Lake, Denise Baratta,
Ashland Daily Tidings





Featured Waters

- ★ Diamond Lake
- ★ Denman Wildlife Area Ponds
- ★ Howard Prairie and Hyatt Reservoirs
- ★ Selmac Lake

Also Recommended

- ◆ Cooper Creek Reservoir
- ◆ Loon Lake
- ◆ North Fork Rogue River
- ◆ Rogue River
- ◆ Tenmile Lakes
- ◆ Saunders Lake
- ◆ Empire Lake
- ◆ Umpqua River
- ◆ Fish Lake
- ◆ River Forks Park
- ◆ Emigrant Lake
- ◆ Expo Pond
- ◆ North Umpqua River, Whistler's Bend Park

Diamond Lake

Getting There: To reach Diamond Lake, follow Hwy 138 east from Roseburg or west from Hwy 97. Turnoffs to the lake are well-signed and easy to find.

Fisheries: Diamond Lake supports a renowned trout fishery. The lake is typically open from late-April through Oct. 31. Check the ODFW Web site for stocking information.

Useful Information: Fishing is best by boat on the south end of the lake near Silent Creek and on the north end in deep water areas. Bank fishing can also be very productive and there are many good bank opportunities around the lake that can be accessed via the trail network. Fishing is good throughout the season with some of the best fishing occurring during the end of April through May, and in the fall until the season closes.

There are five boat ramps spread around the lake, all are paved and provide good access to the lake. Bank fishing opportunities can be found near the resort, near Lake Creek, and throughout the US Forest Service campgrounds. Boat rentals, guides and other amenities are available at Diamond Lake Resort. It's a good idea to bring mosquito repellent. The speed limit on the lake is 10 mph.

Tackle and Techniques: Trolling for rainbow trout is one of the most efficient methods on Diamond Lake. Anglers will be successful using a variety of spinners and lures. When anchored near Silent Creek or Lake Creek, use flies (woolly-buggers, black ants) or PowerBait. A wide variety of lures can be successful while trolling: rooster tails, crocodiles and super dupers all produce. Check at Diamond Lake Resort, Marina or store to learn what is working best. The use of live fish is banned here, as it is statewide in freshwater fisheries.

Facilities: The US Forest Service has campgrounds available for both tent and RV campers; campers should make reservations. Diamond Lake Resort has rooms and cabins available.

Fees: Yes, at Forest Service boat ramps and campgrounds. Northwest Forest Pass may be required at some trailheads for hiking.

Additional Activities: Hiking trails lead to the top of Mt. Bailey and Mt. Theilson. The Pacific Crest trail and Crater Lake are nearby. Wildlife viewing and bird watching are plentiful. Swimming is good in the summer; there is an 11-mile paved bike trail around the lake. Snowmobiling and backcountry skiing are available in winter months. Nearby state park: Joseph H. Stewart State Recreation Area.

For More Information:

ODFW Umpqua Watershed District Office — (541) 440-3353

Diamond Lake Resort — (541) 793-3333 or (800) 733-7593

US Forest Service, Diamond Lake Ranger District — (541) 498-2531



Diamond Lake

Denman Wildlife Area Ponds

Getting There: From I-5 take exit 30 and head north towards White City on Hwy 62. Continue approximately 5 miles north and turn left on Agate Road. Head north on Agate Road for one block and turn left (west) on East Gregory Road. Continue on East Gregory Road approximately one-half mile until road makes a sharp left corner. The access to Whetstone Pond is to the right.

Fisheries: The 1,858-acre Denman Wildlife Area offers excellent fishing for warmwater fish species in several permanent ponds. Fish species include largemouth bass, bluegill, black crappie, green sunfish, brown bullhead and carp.

Useful Information: Whetstone Pond, adjacent to the wildlife area office, is the largest pond in the area. Anglers at Whetstone target largemouth bass, bluegill, black crappie and brown bullhead. Good bank fishing is available. Boats with electric motors are permitted. A map of all ponds in the wildlife area is available at the office.

Note: the Denman Wildlife Area is a high-use hunting area, especially for game birds. Hunting seasons typically run fall through early winter. Visit the ODFW Web site for more information.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. A simple technique is to fish a size 10, 12 or 14 hook baited with worms below a bobber. Casting small lures and jigs is also effective. Largemouth bass will strike surface or shallow running lures fished around cover as the water warms in the spring.

Facilities: Whetstone Pond offers an unimproved boat ramp, a wildlife viewing kiosk, wheelchair-accessible portable toilets, picnic tables and an access trail along the south bank.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Hunting in season, wildlife viewing, nature study, picnicking. Portions of the Denman Wildlife Area adjoin the Rogue River, Little Butte Creek and Tou Velle State Park. Other nearby state park: Valley of the Rogue State Recreation Area.

For More Information:

ODFW Rogue Watershed District Office — (541) 826-8774

Howard Prairie and Hyatt Reservoirs

Getting There: Go east on Hwy 66 from Ashland. Turn left on Dead Indian Memorial Road; follow the signs to mountain lakes. After approximately 17 miles, turn right on Hyatt Prairie Road. Howard Prairie is the first reservoir; Hyatt is located a few miles farther down the road.

Fisheries: These reservoirs are managed primarily as trout fisheries. Fingerling rainbow trout are released each year. Hyatt Reservoir also offers fishing for largemouth bass. At Howard Prairie fish for largemouth bass, brown bullhead, and pumpkinseed in summer and for smallmouth bass in summer and fall.

Useful Information: There is good bank access at the campgrounds. At Howard Prairie, a fishing platform on a jetty near the resort offers ADA access.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. Floating bait is popular for trout and can be very effective for early season bank anglers. Trolling flies and lures for trout is effective as well. Bass will strike surface or shallow running lures fished around cover as the water warms in the spring. Lead head jigs, plastic worms and deep running plugs are effective for bass during hot weather.

Facilities: Four boat ramps and campgrounds, both public and private, available at each reservoir. Boat rentals at the resorts on each reservoir.

Fees: Yes, at public and private facilities.

Additional Activities: Full service restaurants at both sites. Hiking, sailing and swimming.

For More Information:

ODFW Umpqua Watershed District Office—(541) 440-3353

Howard Prairie Resort — (541) 482-1979

Hyatt Lake Resort — (541) 482-3331

Jackson County Parks — (541) 774-8183

Selmac Lake

Getting There: From Grants Pass, follow Hwy 199 southwest 18 miles. South of Selma, turn east on Lakeshore Drive and travel 4 miles to Selmac Lake.

Fisheries: Selmac Lake is stocked with 20,000 legal-sized rainbow trout from February through June. The lake is also managed for trophy largemouth bass through a one bass per day limit. Fish for bluegill, black crappie and brown bullhead from pier and dikes. Fish for trout near the dam as water warms. Look for largemouth bass around stumps and overhanging brush.

Useful Information: Good bank fishing is available at the county park located at west end of lake.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. Trout anglers use floating bait or worms with a weight about 2 feet above the hook. Cast and retrieve lures or flies. Troll with lures and flies from a boat. For bass and panfish, use a size 10, 12 or 14 hook baited with worms below a bobber. Casting small lures and jigs is also effective. Largemouth bass will strike surface or shallow running lures fished around cover as the water warms in the spring. During hot weather largemouth bass seek deeper, cooler water so use lead head jigs, plastic worms and deep running plugs.

Facilities: Boat ramps, fishing pier, swimming areas, picnic tables, tent campsites, full RV hook-ups, wheelchair-accessible restrooms, drinking water, bicycle and hiking trails, rental boats. Additional RV hook-ups, tent sites and convenience store at Lake Selmac Resort.

Fees: Yes, for overnight and day use.

Additional Activities: The Oregon Caves National Monument, the Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area, the Illinois River and the Rogue River are all nearby. Nearby state park: Illinois River Forks State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW Rogue Watershed District Office — (541) 826-8774
Lake Selmac Resort — (541) 597-2277
Josephine County Parks — (541) 474-5285



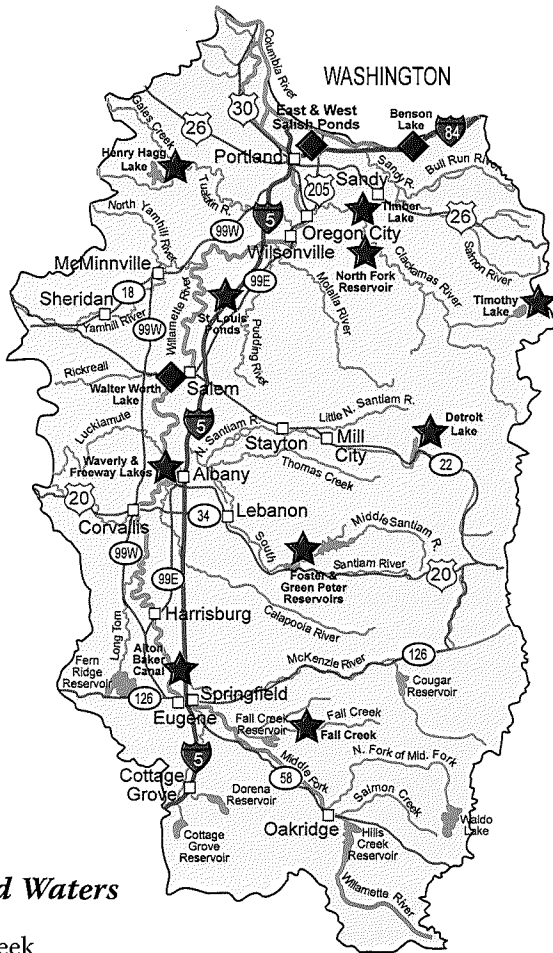
Young angler waits for a bite. *Photo by Meg Kenagy, ODFW*

Oregon's Willamette Zone

Abundant rainfall feeds the massive Willamette River watershed, tamed by a system of reservoirs stocked annually with hundreds of thousands of rainbow trout. Some of these reservoirs also grow trophy-size largemouth and small-mouth bass, and lots of bluegill, brown bullhead and crappies. Salmon and steelhead navigate the Willamette and its productive tributaries, many of which are also home to rainbow and cutthroat trout.



Photographs, clockwise from top: Detroit Lake, Jerry Korson; Fall Creek rainbows, Courtesy Lowell Service Center, Willamette National Forest; Henry Hagg Lake, Courtesy Washington County Parks Department.



Featured Waters

- ★ Fall Creek
- ★ Detroit Lake
- ★ Henry Hagg Lake
- ★ Timothy Lake
- ★ St. Louis Ponds
- ★ Foster and Green Peter Reservoirs
- ★ Waverly and Freeway Lakes
- ★ Alton Baker Canoe Canal
- ★ Timber Lake
- ★ North Fork Reservoir

Also Recommended

- ◆ Benson Lake
- ◆ East and West Salish Ponds
- ◆ Walter Worth Lake

Fall Creek (above Fall Creek Reservoir)

Getting There: From I-5 south of Springfield, take Hwy 58 east to Dexter Reservoir. Cross Dexter Reservoir on the Lowell Road and continue north to Unity County Road 6204 (becomes Forest Road 18) to Fall Creek Reservoir. Forest Road 18 follows Fall Creek to its headwaters. Ten-mile long Fall Creek National Recreation Trail begins at Dolly Varden Campground and has many access points.

Fisheries: ODFW stocks legal-sized hatchery rainbow trout into Fall Creek above Fall Creek Reservoir every other week late April through late June. Native cutthroat and rainbow trout are also present in this area. Fall Creek above the reservoir opens to trout fishing the fourth Saturday in April and continues through October with a limit of five trout per day, 8 inch minimum length. Bait is allowed. Be sure to check ODFW's stocking schedule for best success for stocked trout.

Useful Information: In spring the best opportunities for stocked rainbow trout are in the first 13 miles above the reservoir. Fish from shore near hatchery trout release points (near campgrounds) and where fish hold near tributary junctions and bedrock pools. The best fishing for native cutthroat and rainbow tends to be away from hatchery release locations.

Tackle & Techniques: Bait and spinners are most effective for trout early in the season. Opportunities for fly angling improve in summer and through the fall. Cast and retrieve when fishing pools; cast and drift when in the current. Fly fish nymphs (caddis, mayflies, chironomids) on a floating line, or cast dry flies to rising trout. Be prepared to wade (wet wading OK in summer).

Facilities: There are several US Forest Service campgrounds along Fall Creek, as well as 14-mile long Fall Creek National Recreation Trail, which is easily accessed at many locations. Bedrock Campground hosts a popular swimming hole.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Water skiing and warmwater fishing at Fall Creek Reservoir. Nearby state parks: Jasper State Recreation Site, Lowell State Recreation Site, Dexter State Recreation Site, Elijah Bristow State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW Springfield Field Office—(541) 726-3515

US Forest Service, Middle Fork Ranger District — (541) 782-2283

Detroit Lake

Getting There: Adjacent to Hwy 22, about 50 miles east of Salem.

Fisheries: ODFW releases 125,000 legal-sized rainbow trout between April and October, along with fingerling rainbow, kokanee and chinook. There are also brown bullhead, largemouth bass and pumpkinseed present in the reservoir.

Useful Information: Submerged tree stumps at all elevations of the reservoir can be hazardous to boaters and skiers. Boaters should be careful in shallow areas. Strong winds blow up the canyon in the late morning and blow all afternoon, often making the main body of the lake quite rough.

Tackle & Techniques: Angling for rainbow trout is most successful in the spring, early summer and fall when surface temperatures are cooler. By mid-summer, trout releases are mostly in the North Santiam Arm where cold water is entering the reservoir. Troll for trout with a small spinner or a piece of nightcrawler behind the flasher. Bank anglers can toss spinners or fish with worms, PowerBait or salmon eggs floated off the bottom. By late July or August most of the kokanee may be 80-100 feet deep; downriggers are an advantage, but a heavier fishing pole with sufficient weight will work. Common techniques include jigging with buzz bombs or kokanee jigs—pink or red are effective—and trolling using a Ford Fender or other flasher with a spinner behind it and some white corn or piece of worm on the hooks. Anglers fishing off the dam in the spring do quite well fishing for salmon as they leave the reservoir.

Facilities: There are several boat ramps and US Forest Service and state camping and day-use activities. ADA facilities are well-developed near the boat ramp at Hoover Campground on the North Santiam arm. Boat rentals and other amenities are available at Kane's Marina and the Detroit Lake Resort.

Fees: Yes, for overnight and day use.

Additional Activities: The water warms enough that swimming and other water sports become the primary attraction from June through August, though fish resources are still plentiful. Nearby state parks: Detroit Lake State Recreation Area, North Santiam State Recreation Area.

For More Information:

ODFW South Willamette District Office — (541) 757-4186

Kane's Detroit Lake Marina — (503) 854-3362

Detroit Lake State Park Visitor Center — (503) 854-9140

Henry Hagg Lake

Getting There: From Hwy 47 south of Dilley near Forest Grove, follow Scoggins Valley Road about 3 miles to the lake.

Fisheries: The lake is heavily stocked with legal-sized rainbow trout. Smallmouth bass, yellow perch, bluegills, crappies and bullheads are plentiful. Largemouth bass and cutthroat trout also are present. Holdover hatchery rainbow trout can reach 6 lbs. Smallmouth bass reach trophy size due to the abundant fish forage. To date, the state record smallmouth bass was caught here on May 10, 2005—it weighed in at 8 lbs. 1.76 oz.

Useful Information: Bank anglers are successful early in the season using spinners and bait near boat ramps. Smallmouth bass move into the lake's shallow arms when water temperatures are 60 to 65 degrees. Fishing for stocked trout is best in spring and fall when the shallows are cool. Tanner Creek Arm and the cove north of Boat Ramp A (east shore) are reliable for yellow perch. Look for bluegills and bullheads in the coves. Even at low pool, the lake can be fished from the bank and from the pier near Recreation Area C. The lake is not open to angling all year; check fishing season dates because they do not generally coincide with other trout openers. It generally opens in early March and closes in mid-November.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. In spring, fish for bass with lures imitating perch, crayfish and minnows. Plastic worms, grubs and jigs can be productive all year.

Facilities: Wheelchair-accessible fishing pier adjacent to Boat Ramp C on the west shore; early season wheelchair-accessible fishing pier adjacent to Boat Ramp A; wheelchair-accessible restrooms; drinking water; picnic tables; biking and hiking trails.

Fees: Yes, for both overnight and day use.

Additional Activities: Swimming, biking, hiking and boating.

For More Information:

ODFW North Willamette Watershed District Office — (971) 673-6000
Washington County Facilities of Parks — (503) 359-5732, (503) 846-8715
Lake Stop Store — (503) 357-4270

Timothy Lake

Getting There: About 11 miles east of Government Camp on Hwy 26, turn south onto Forest Road 42 (Skyline Road), then west onto Forest Road 57, which leads to Timothy Lake. The road may be blocked by snow until June. An unpaved route from Estacada is considerably slower.

Fisheries: Legal-sized rainbow trout are stocked by the tens of thousands. Resident cutthroat, brook trout to 6 lbs. and crayfish are plentiful. Kokanee are primarily accessible to boat anglers. The lake is open all year but snow often blocks access until the spring.

Useful Information: Best bank fishing is along the southern shore, near the dam, and at the mouths of inlet streams where fly fishing can be especially good in late summer and fall. Kokanee are available at shallower depths from spring through early summer.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. Crayfish (especially plentiful in the shallows right off the campgrounds) can be caught in traps baited with chicken or fish.

Facilities: Five large campgrounds (some with drinking water); wheelchair-accessible fishing dock at Pine Pt. campground near the dam; unpaved trail encircling the lake; boat ramps at most campgrounds; day-use area with swimming dock. Campgrounds are open from snowmelt through September.

Fees: Yes, for both overnight and day use.

Additional Activities: Swimming, wildlife viewing, hiking in Mt. Hood National Forest, exploring nearby Dinger Lake.

For More Information:

ODFW North Willamette Watershed District Office — (971) 673-6000
US Forest Service, Clackamas River Ranger District Office — (503) 630-6861

St. Louis Ponds

Getting There: West of I-5 about 15 miles north of Salem and 2 miles west of Gervais. From Gervais, take St. Louis Road west; turn left onto Tesch Lane before crossing the railroad tracks.

Fisheries: The seven ponds hold crappie, bluegill, largemouth bass, redear sunfish, green sunfish and channel catfish. Pond 3 is stocked with rainbow trout in the spring.

Useful Information: Summer growth of aquatic vegetation can make angling more difficult in warmer weather. The ponds are open all year but are closed daily from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise. The access gate is closed during waterfowl season but anglers can walk in during this time. Check the current Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations for any special regulations that may apply.

Tackle and Techniques: Light or medium weight tackle works well at the ponds. Warmwater fishing is best from spring through fall. For bass, use spinners or surface lures in the morning and evening, and deeper water lures, jigs, or plastic baits during mid-day. For panfish, use a bobber and small baited hook or jig. Fish for bass and panfish near weed beds, submerged logs or other areas that provide cover. Catfish can be caught using bait fished on the bottom. Fish for trout using a small spinner, or bait such as worms or salmon eggs.

Facilities: The seven ponds offer 54 acres of water and 7 miles of shoreline designed for bank angling. Boats and flotation devices are not allowed. ADA-accessible angling docks are located on Ponds 1 and 3. A parking area, trails and restroom are available but usually locked during winter. A volunteer host lives on-site seasonally.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Wildlife viewing. Dog training and organized bird dog trials are permitted only in the southernmost ponds. Nearby state park: Willamette Mission State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW North Willamette Watershed District Office — (971) 673-6000

Foster and Green Peter Reservoirs

Getting There: Foster Reservoir is located 3 miles east of Sweet Home on Hwy 20. Take the Hwy 34 (Corvallis) exit off I-5 and head east about 20 miles toward Lebanon and Sweet Home. Green Peter Reservoir is north of Foster Reservoir on Quartzville Road.

Fisheries: Foster Reservoir is stocked with over 40,000 rainbow trout from April to June each year. A small lake at Sunnyside Park is stocked with trout, and also has bass, bullhead and bluegill. The lake at Sunnyside Park is a good place for young anglers. Green Peter offers an excellent kokanee and landlocked chinook salmon fishery, with a 25 kokanee limit. There are also largemouth and smallmouth bass. Green Peter and Quartzville Creek, a tributary to the reservoir, are stocked with rainbow trout in the spring and early summer.

Useful Information: Boat angling is best April 1 to mid June. At Foster Reservoir, bank angling is popular near the dam at the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) park and at flat areas along the south side of the reservoir. At Green Peter, bank angling is available at the south end of the dam, at Thistle Creek boat ramp, off the Whitcomb bridge and other sites.

Tackle & Techniques: At Foster Reservoir, bank fishing is good using standard trout fishing techniques such as bobber and worms, casting spinners, or PowerBait. At both reservoirs, boat anglers can troll with spinners, such as rooster tails, and use their boats to gain access to more isolated areas of the reservoir. In Green Peter, fish for kokanee by jigging with Buzz Bombs or by trolling with the traditional flasher-wedding ring-white corn set-up. Kokanee are shallow in the spring and go deeper as the water warms.

Facilities: There are several Linn County and Army Corps of Engineers parks along Foster Reservoir. Boat ramps are available at Gedney Creek, Sunnyside Park and Calkins Park. Lewis Park, on the north side of the reservoir, offers swimming and picnicking. Sunnyside Park offers camping and picnicking. Numerous other private and public campgrounds are located in the general area. There are motels and resorts in the area around Sweet Home. There are Linn County Parks boat ramps at Green Peter Reservoir at Thistle Creek and Whitcomb Creek. There are also several campgrounds near the reservoir and on Quartzville Creek.

Fees: Yes, for parking at Lewis Park from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and camping at Sunnyside Park. The ACOE parks do not charge day use fees.

Additional Activities: Foster and Green Peter Reservoirs are at the gateway to South Santiam River recreational opportunities. There are numerous US Forest Service, Oregon State Parks, and Linn County campgrounds to the east on Hwy 20. Both reservoirs are popular for water skiing in the summer months, though Green Peter often becomes quite windy by late morning. Nearby state park: Cascadia State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW South Willamette Watershed District Office — (541) 757-4186
Linn County Parks — (541) 967-3917



Foster and Green Peter Reservoirs-Photos by Jessica Sall, ODFW

Waverly Lake and Freeway Lakes

Getting There: Waverly Lake is located in Albany on 99E just west of I-5. The Freeway Lakes are located south of Albany on Three Lakes Road. Take the Hwy 34 (Corvallis) exit off I-5 and go a short distance east to Seven Mile Lane. Go north on Seven Mile then right on to Three Lakes Road. From Albany, take the Hwy 20 (Lebanon) exit and go east to Spicer Road (Home Depot). Follow Spicer Road a short distance then travel south on Three Lakes Road.

Fisheries: Waverly and Freeway Lakes are stocked with rainbow trout in April and May. Later in the season, both lakes offer excellent warmwater fishing opportunities. Good-sized largemouth bass are routinely caught at both Waverly and Freeway Lakes. There is also an excellent bluegill and crappie fishery at Freeway Lakes.

Useful Information: Waverly Lake offers excellent bank fishing opportunities and also has good access for disabled anglers, including a dock. There is a paved trail around the entire lake. Bank fishing opportunities at Freeway Lakes are good for the two lakes to the east of I-5. A boat ramp is present for the launching of small boats, allowing access to the largest lake on the west side of I-5.

Tackle & Techniques: At all lakes bank fishing for trout is good with worm and bobber or PowerBait. There are good casting areas for working spinners. For warmwater fish, worm and bobber, or grubs and jigs work well, especially for crappie. Fish for bass along the lake shore near fallen trees and snags.

Facilities: Waverly Lake is located in an Albany city park with restrooms and picnic facilities. In the summer months, paddle boats are available for rent. Restrooms are located at Freeway Lakes.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Both of these lakes are located in or near the City of Albany. Numerous other recreational activities are available nearby including paved bike trails, hiking and wildlife viewing. Albany has many restaurants, motels and shopping opportunities including a nice downtown area along the Willamette River with small unique shops. Nearby state park: Sarah Helmick State Recreation Site.

For More Information:

ODFW South Willamette Watershed District Office — (541) 757-4186
City of Albany Parks — (541) 917-7777
Linn County Parks — (541) 967-3917

Alton Baker Canoe Canal

Getting There: The Alton Baker Canoe Canal begins just east of I-5 in Springfield, runs under the interstate and through Alton Baker Park before reentering the Willamette River near the Ferry Street Bridge. The Canal is accessed from Leo Harris Parkway, and at the west end near the Day Island Road parking lot (off of Club Road).

Fisheries: Legal-sized rainbow trout are stocked regularly at several locations along the length of the canal from February through June. The canal is open for trout and adipose fin-clipped steelhead all year.

Useful Information: The Alton Baker Canoe Canal is a 2-mile long water diversion constructed along an old river meander off of the Willamette River. The waterway was created in 1974 for recreational boating and today provides good angling opportunities for stocked trout. Along the way there is a weir structure popular with kayakers, a wildlife viewing pond, a canoe chute, a second weir that needs to be portaged and, finally, a double pond feature that is very popular with ducks and geese.

Tackle & Techniques: Standard trout fishing methods, including worms, PowerBait, spinners and fly casting work well. Bait is allowed and the daily limit is five trout per day, 8-inch minimum length. This is an excellent area to introduce young anglers to fishing because of the number of fish released, the large unobstructed casting area and the very easy access along the canal.

Facilities: Alton Baker Park (City of Eugene) provides restrooms; walking, biking and running trails; wildlife viewing areas; picnicking.

Fees: None

Additional Activities: Alton Baker Canoe Canal is located in the heart of the Eugene/Springfield metro area. There are numerous restaurants, movie theaters and shopping opportunities in the general area. The Canal is also known for waterfowl and other wildlife viewing opportunities. Nearby state parks: Elijah Bristow State Park, Jasper State Recreation Site, Lowell State Recreation Site, Dexter State Recreation Site.

For More Information:

ODFW Springfield Field Office — (541) 726-3515

City of Eugene Parks Department — (541) 682-4800

Timber Lake

Getting There: Hwy 224 East of Estacada about 15 miles.

Fisheries: Timber Lake is stocked with rainbow trout. There are also native cutthroat in the lake. Cool water temperatures in the lake create good trout fishing opportunities throughout the warmer summer months.

Useful Information: Timber Lake is divided in to two lakes, east and west, with a foot bridge crossing the narrowest point. The west side of Timber Lake is deeper and weed-free, and is stocked by ODFW with rainbow trout. No boats are allowed but there is excellent bank access around the lake.

Tackle & Techniques: Standard trout fishing methods, including bobber and worm, PowerBait, spinners and fly casting work well at Timber Lake.

Facilities: There are restrooms at the lake. Numerous campgrounds, both private and US Forest Service, are in the general area.

Fees: None

Additional Activities: Recreational opportunities abound in the immediate area around Timber Lake. There are numerous hiking trails, including Dry Ridge and Austin Creek Trails. Timber Lake is in the heart of the Upper Clackamas River recreation area with river rafting, catch and release trout fishing, North Fork Reservoir, Timothy Lake, as well as many opportunities for hiking, biking, camping, and wildlife viewing. Nearby state parks: Bonnie Lure State Recreation Area, Milo McIver State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW North Willamette Watershed District Office — (971) 673-6000

US Forest Service, Clackamas River Ranger District Office — (503) 630-6861

North Fork Reservoir

Getting There: The reservoir is located 7 miles south of Estacada off Hwy 224.

Fisheries: North Fork Reservoir is stocked regularly with rainbow trout. Wild cutthroat, bull, brown and brook trout are also in the reservoir but these fish are catch and release only. Only adipose fin clipped trout may be kept.

Useful Information: The upper end of the reservoir where trout are stocked offers the best fishing. There are many bank angling locations and an area near the mouth is great for kids. Small Fry Lake, a one-acre lake within the Promontory Park, was developed for the exclusive use of young anglers. Kids up to 13 years old can fish for their limit of three fish per day on Small Fry Lake. Alcohol use is not permitted in the Promontory Park campground, day use shelter or at Small Fry Pond.

Tackle & Techniques: Use standard trout fishing techniques including worm and bobber or PowerBait. If using a boat, troll with spinner combinations.

Facilities: PGE operates Promontory Park (open mid-May through mid-September) and provides three boat ramps on the reservoir. A concession stand has fishing supplies and boat rentals at the upper end of the reservoir. For people with disabilities, the park has an accessible restroom, campsites, boat dock and rentable patio boats.

Fees: Yes, for camping.

Additional Activities: Recreational opportunities abound in the immediate area around North Fork Reservoir. There are numerous hiking trails, including Dry Ridge and Austin Creek Trails. North Fork Reservoir is in the heart of the Upper Clackamas River recreation area which offers river rafting, catch and release trout fishing, Timber Lake, Timothy Lake, as well as many opportunities for hiking, biking and wildlife viewing. Nearby state parks: Bonnie Lure State Recreation Area, Milo McIver State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW North Willamette Watershed District Office—(971) 673-6000
PGE Parks—(877) 444-6777 or (503) 630-7229



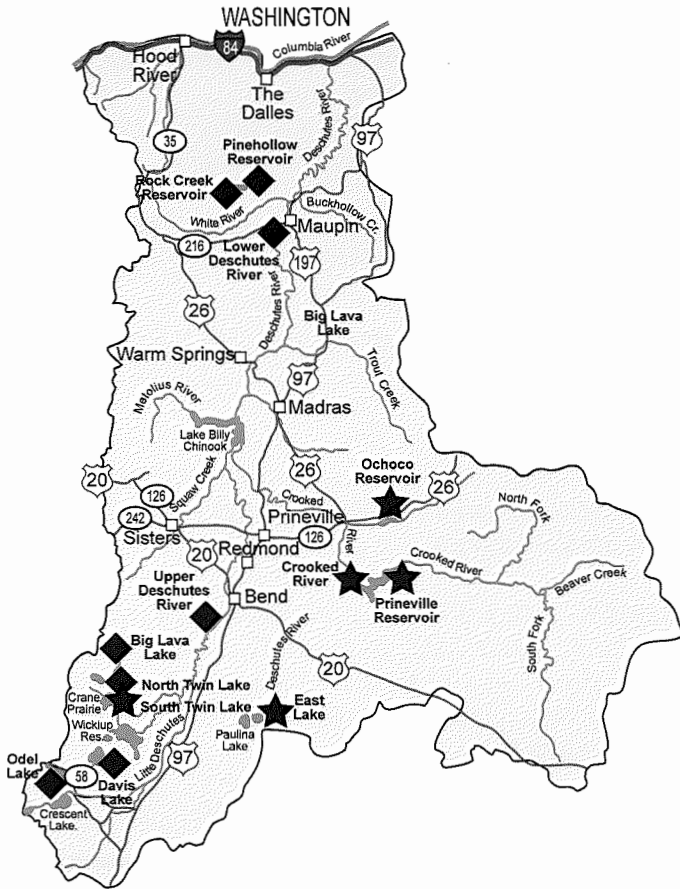
North Fork Reservoir-Photos by Jessica Sall, ODFW

Oregon's Central Zone

Known for its high desert climate, sage-covered canyons, glacial peaks and mountain lakes, this zone is defined by the reach of Oregon's finest trout stream. The Deschutes River is no bigger than a creek when it passes close by South Twin Lake on its way toward temporary captivity in Wickiup and Crane Prairie Reservoirs. But it soon gains power enough to grow athletic rainbow trout. The considerably tamer Crooked River offers good practice if you're just learning how to keep your footing in a slippery freestone stream.



Photographs, clockwise from top: Deschutes River rainbow; Prineville Reservoir crappie bonanza, Bud Hartman; Crooked River, Jim Schollmeyer.



Featured Waters

- ★ South Twin Lake
- ★ Ochocho Reservoir
- ★ East Lake
- ★ Prineville Reservoir
- ★ Crooked River

Also Recommended

- ◆ Davis Lake
- ◆ Lower Deschutes River
- ◆ Upper Deschutes River
- ◆ Rock Creek Reservoir
- ◆ North Twin Lake
- ◆ Big Lava Lake
- ◆ Odell Lake
- ◆ Big Lava Lake
- ◆ Pinehollow Reservoir

South Twin Lake

Getting There: From Bend, head south on Hwy 46 (Century Drive). Take the Wickiup Reservoir turn off (County Road 42) east. The road to Twin Lakes is 1 mile past the Deschutes crossing.

Fisheries: Stocked rainbow trout 9 to 15 inches.

Useful Information: Best fishing is within 30 feet of the shore and in the top 30 feet of water. Fishing can be poor right off the campground's day-use area. The northwest shallows offer especially good fly fishing. Fish over weed beds and submerged timber. A trail encircles the lake and offers many opportunities for bank fishing.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective here. PowerBait is popular, but spinners, small lures and flies all catch fish. Natural forage includes damselflies, caddisflies, midges and leeches. This is a good lake for float tube fishing.

Facilities: US Forest Service campground with boat ramp, drinking water, picnic tables, fire grates and flush toilets. Twin Lakes Resort with rental cabins and apartments with kitchens; RV park with full hook-ups, showers and Laundromat; restaurant; fishing guide service; rental boats for both South Twin and Wickiup Reservoir.

Fees: Yes, for overnight and day use of campsites. Northwest Forest Pass required to park at boat ramp.

Additional Activities: Paddle boats, swimming, hiking, exploring other lakes in the area including North Twin Lake (one-half mile by trail). Nearby state park: LaPine State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW Deschutes Watershed District Office — (541) 388-6363
Twin Lakes Resort — (541) 382-6432

Ochoco Reservoir

Getting There: Ochoco Reservoir is located in Crook County, 6 miles east of Prineville on Hwy 26.

Fisheries: Provides opportunities for stocked rainbow trout and native red-band trout, and warmwater fish including black crappie, largemouth bass and brown bullhead. The trout fishery is supported by a combination of natural production and through annual stocking of 25,000 fingerling trout. Trout angling is available year-round. Most shoreline angling occurs within the county park or near the dam. Crappie angling is popular during spring and summer months; target shoreline areas near structure such as downed logs and rocky areas.

Useful Information: Trout angling is good throughout the year. Most fish are located near the shoreline except during the summer months when warm water sends trout to the deeper water near the dam and southwest shoreline. Bullhead angling is best in April-May in the shallow water at the east end of the reservoir.

Tackle & Techniques: Bank anglers targeting trout are most effective using bait (worms, PowerBait, corn, etc.) Boat anglers are effective either fishing bait or trolling lures such as Rooster Tails. Jigging in shoreline areas with some cover is the most effective means of catching crappie. Anglers targeting bullhead should fish with bait on the bottom at the east end of the reservoir.

Facilities: Public access to the reservoir is primarily via Ochoco Lake County Park on the north shore on Hwy 26. There is a public boat ramp at the park and overnight camping facilities. Lakeshore Lodge, on the north shore, has small boats available for rent. There is a 10 mph speed limit in the upper one-third of the reservoir.

Nearby State Park: Prineville Reservoir State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW Deschutes Watershed District Office — (541) 388-6363
Crook County Parks and Recreation District — (541) 447-1209

East Lake

Getting There: East Lake is 30 miles south of Bend in the Newberry Crater at the summit of the Paulina Mountains. Road access to Newberry Crater is primarily provided by Hwy 97 and Deschutes County Road 21 from the west. Access from the east is via Forest Road 18 and Forest Road 21, which is an extension of County Road 21.

Fisheries: East Lake offers fishing opportunities for rainbow trout, brown trout, Atlantic salmon and kokanee. The trout and salmon fisheries are supported by annual stocking of fingerling-sized fish that are available to catch the following spring. Rainbow trout are abundant and average 12 to 16 inches in length. Trophy-sized brown trout to over 10 lbs. are caught annually.

Useful Information: Anglers have good success within 200 feet of the shoreline around the lake. In particular, fly anglers have good success along the southeast and eastern shorelines early and late in the day.

Tackle & Techniques: All angling methods are popular including fishing with bait, trolling or casting lures, and fly angling. There are good opportunities for both bank and boat angling. Fishing from float tubes or pontoon boats has become very popular in recent years.

Facilities: East Lake lies within the Newberry Crater National Monument and is surrounded by public lands. Facilities include four public boat ramps with docks. East Lake Resort offers boat rentals and has a store, restaurant and lodging.

Nearby state park: LaPine State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW Deschutes Watershed District Office — (541)388-6363
East Lake Resort — (541) 536-2230

Prineville Reservoir

Getting There: From Prineville on Hwy 26, follow signs toward Prineville Reservoir (not toward Bowman Dam). Juniper Canyon Road reaches the reservoir in about 12 miles.

Fisheries: This high desert reservoir on the Crooked River is stocked annually with as many as 170,000 rainbow trout, many of which grow to 14 inches. There are also large populations of smallmouth bass, black crappie and brown bullhead, and smaller numbers of largemouth bass.

Useful Information: Best fishing is from January through June. Ice fishing can be excellent. There is good bank fishing at Prineville State Park, Jasper Point and at the dam. Crappies are caught in the coves upstream of the resort and off the resort docks. Best bullhead fishing is in May and June and in September. Fish for bullheads by the dam, in the Bear Creek arm, and along the road that runs through the local wildlife area (when it is open).

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective; most crappies are caught on worms or small jigs.

Facilities: At Prineville Reservoir State Park there are boat ramps, drinking water, tent sites, full RV hook-ups, cabins, wheelchair-accessible restrooms with showers, fish cleaning station, day-use facilities. Prineville Resort has boat rentals and moorage. There are primitive undeveloped campsites on public land on the reservoir's south shore.

Fees: Yes, for overnight at the state park; no, for day use.

Additional Activities: Water skiing, swimming, rock hounding, hiking, wildlife viewing.

For More Information:

ODFW Prineville Office — (541) 447-5111

Prineville Reservoir Resort — (541) 447-7468

Crooked River

Getting There: From Prineville, follow Hwy 27 toward Bowman Dam. Do not follow signs toward Prineville Reservoir.

Fisheries: This section of the Crooked River provides native rainbow trout and whitefish fisheries due to cool productive waters in this reach. Whitefish abundance has increased in recent years and offers excellent angling.

Useful Information: Best fishing is in the 7 miles immediately below Bowman Dam because of high trout and whitefish densities in this reach. Trout can average from 9-12 inches with larger fish occasionally taken. There is excellent access from day-use sites and campgrounds, with trails following the river closely in many places. This stretch of the river supports a robust trout population with good fishing year-round, though it's best from September to mid-May. The river is murky from dam-released sediment, but fish can spot very small artificial flies. This is a good place to learn wading techniques since it isn't too big or too powerful. Fish are found close to the banks.

Tackle & Techniques: This is a wonderful river to fly fish, with good back-casting room and lots of natural insect life. Blue-winged olive mayflies, midges and scuds are the natural forage in winter. Mahogany dun mayflies and caddis are present in late summer, and nymphs of many species are present year-round. Fishing spinners can be effective, as can bait when regulations permit.

Facilities: Nine campgrounds and three day-use areas with picnic tables, pit toilets; drinking water at Chimney Rock campground only.

Fees: Yes, for overnight use; no, for day use.

Additional Activities: Nearby Prineville Reservoir for boating, waterskiing, swimming, hiking. Nearby state park: Prineville Reservoir State Park.

For More Information:

ODFW Prineville Office — (541) 447-5111

BLM, Prineville Office — (541) 416-6700



Crooked River *Photos by Brett Hodgson, ODFW*

Oregon's Southeast Zone

Wide open spaces, wild windy places, and extreme temperatures characterize Oregon's largest, most remote fishing zone. Scarcity makes water especially precious here, providing welcome oases in an often rugged, but spectacular landscape. Rainbow trout are native to its streams, including the Williamson, Malheur and Chewaucan rivers. And stocked rainbow and brown trout grow to trophy size in many of its lakes and reservoirs.



Photographs, clockwise from top: Lake of the Woods, Courtesy Lake of the Woods Resort; A quiet pond, Linda Deere Nelson; Brown trout, Richard T. Grost.

Lake of the Woods

Getting There: Lake of the Woods is located off of State Route 140 mid-way between Medford and Klamath Falls.

Fisheries: Stocked with legal-sized rainbow trout throughout the angling season. Fingerling rainbow, brown trout and kokanee are also stocked. Naturally producing warmwater fish are present including largemouth bass, crappie, yellow perch and brown bullhead. Smallmouth bass have recently been illegally introduced into the lake.

Useful Information: Lake is in a forested setting with vacation cabins, forest service campgrounds and a resort surrounding most of the lake. There is also a full service resort at the lake that rents a variety of boats.

Tackle & Techniques: Anglers should target kokanee and brown trout early in the season for best success. Kokanee are often caught by jigging in the deeper sections of the lake or by trolling. Brown trout anglers have the best success trolling lures that resemble available prey species (silver, rainbow colored, black and gold rapalas or similar lures) off shore in depths of 10-20 feet. Use long leaders and electric motors for best results. Rainbow trout are available around the shore of the lake, especially near boat ramp areas. There is good bank fishing around most of the lake. Anglers are successful using a variety of spinners, various commercial baits, worms and flies.

The lake is open to angling 24 hours a day for trout fishing so anglers can target the large brown trout—up to 10 lbs.—lurking along the lake's shoreline at night. During the summer anglers should fish early morning and evening hours for best results.

Facilities: Lake of the Woods has a resort and well-developed US Forest Service campgrounds. There are several boat ramps on the lake.

Fees: Yes, day-use fee, parking fee at boat ramp, campground fees.

Additional Activities: Water skiing, bird watching, sightseeing and hiking, including nearby Mt. McLoughlin. Nearby state park: Tou Velle State Recreation Site.

For More Information:

ODFW Klamath Watershed District Office — (541) 883-5732
US Forest Service, Klamath Ranger District — (541) 885-3400
Lake of the Woods Resort — (541) 949-8300, (866) 201-4194

Willow Valley Reservoir

Getting There: From Klamath Falls travel on State Route 140 to Dairy, then turn right on County Road 70. Continue south on Langell Valley Road through Lorella. As you near the California border watch for a sign to the reservoir and turn left on Willow Valley Road.

Fisheries: Warmwater gamefish are prevalent in the reservoir including largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill and a few yellow perch. Largemouth bass grow quite large, often to 6 pounds or bigger. Trout fishing can also be excellent in good water years.

Useful Information: Willow Valley Reservoir is located on BLM land at an isolated location. The reservoir and facilities offer an undeveloped and unpopulated outdoor experience. Be cautious of native snakes and insects, such as spiders and scorpions, which may bite or sting.

Tackle & Techniques: Use standard warmwater fishing techniques such as bobber and worms, and jigs. While bait is allowed, soft plastic lures imitating worms, frog and grubs work well for largemouth bass. There is good bank access around the BLM campground.

Facilities: A “primitive” BLM campground with well maintained boat ramp and restroom facilities is located at the reservoir.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Wildlife and waterfowl are prevalent at Willow Valley Reservoir. Antelope live nearby, and bald and golden eagles as well as many other bird species are common. Nearby state park: Goose Lake State Recreation Area.

For More Information:

ODFW Klamath Watershed District Office — (541) 883-5732

BLM Klamath Falls Office — (541) 883-6916

Anthony Lake

Getting There: From North Powder on I-84 between La Grande and Baker City, head west on North Powder Road, then south on Anthony Creek Road (Forest Road 73), which leads to the lake.

Fisheries: Stocked legal-sized rainbow trout grow to 14 inches by fall. Stocked trophy-sized trout can reach 17 inches and weigh 2 lbs. Naturally reproducing brook trout from 8 to 10 inches are also available.

Useful Information: The lake is often iced over until July 4th. Fishing is good throughout summer and fall. A trail circles the lake and offers many opportunities for bank fishing.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective here, though most anglers cast bait. Fly anglers can wade and cast from the submerged vegetation at the southwest end.

Facilities: Primitive boat ramp; attractive campsites accommodate RVs but have no hook-ups; walk-in tent sites; drinking water, fire grates; picnic tables; wheelchair-accessible toilets; day-use area with shelter and fire place, BBQ grills and picnic tables. Supplies are available in North Powder.

Fees: Yes, for overnight use; no, for day use.

Additional Activities: Trails to Hoffer and Black lakes (each less than a mile from Anthony) branch off this trail. The trail to Hoffer is steeper but follows a delightful stream with visible trout. Both lakes offer good trout fishing in a handsome setting beneath the granite crags of the Elkhorn Mountains. There's also swimming, hiking, wildlife viewing. Oregon Trail Regional Museum is in nearby Baker City and the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is off Hwy 86 just east of Baker City. Nearby state parks: Hilgard Junction State Recreation Area, Red Bridge State Wayside.

For More Information:

ODFW Grand Ronde Watershed District Office — (541) 963-2138
US Forest Service, Whitman Ranger District — (541) 523-4476

Chewaucan River

Getting There: From Lakeview, follow Hwy 395 north to Valley Falls, then State Route 31 to Paisley. A paved road west out of Paisley follows the Chewaucan through BLM land and into Fremont National Forest (Forest Road 33).

Fisheries: Wild redband trout are abundant. The Chewaucan River is a jewel in southeastern Oregon. It produces wild redband trout that reach 6 pounds. There are brook trout in the higher reaches.

Useful Information: The Chewaucan River offers quality wild trout angling in a primitive setting. It's an excellent choice for introducing families to primitive style camping and to stream fishing. Getting here is part of the adventure. Fill up your gas tank whenever you find an open pump, and come prepared with all your camping needs, including water.

Tackle & Techniques: Small spinners work well for redband trout. Flies can be very effective. Try grasshopper imitations in summer, stonefly and caddis nymph imitations year-round. A good way for kids to fish is with an artificial fly (such as a grasshopper, stonefly or caddis nymph imitation) and casting bobber. Live bait is not allowed in the Chewaucan River

Facilities: Primitive forest camps (rock fire rings, pit toilets and a few picnic tables); drinking water (hand pumped) at Marsters only; wheelchair-accessible outhouses at Marsters Spring and Chewaucan Crossing. Pleasant undeveloped sites along the river, and additional forest camps along Dairy Creek and at Deadhorse and Campbell lakes. Some supplies and services available in Paisley.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Swimming at The Falls (a BLM site about a mile west of Paisley), hiking in Fremont Forest; taking a scenic drive to alpine lakes Deadhorse and Campbell (accessible July through October).

For More Information:

ODFW Lakeview Office — (541) 947-2950

US Forest Service, Paisley Ranger District — (541) 943-3114

Yellowjacket Lake

Getting There: From Hwy 20 south of Burns, turn north on Hines Logging Road (County Road 127), cross Emigrant Creek and continue east and north on Forest Road 47. Turn east (right) on Forest Road 37 and after 2-3 miles take the access road south to the lake. The lake is 35 to 40 miles from Burns.

Fisheries: Fingerling rainbow trout are stocked each spring as soon as snow melt allows access (usually in May) and reach legal length (8 inches) by fall. In years when extensive snow pack limits trout survival over winter, legal rainbow trout are stocked at the same time as fingerling rainbow trout. There are no special regulations. Open to angling year-round.

Useful Information: There is one unimproved gravel boat ramp and extensive shoreline access. Although there is no official ADA access, the boat ramp and adjacent parking area are low gradient and have firm gravel. Angling access is good from both the bank and boats. Note the upstream end of the lake is posted private land.

Tackle & Techniques: Anglers should target rainbow trout early in the season before aquatic vegetation makes angling more challenging or in late summer/early fall when vegetation clears out. After aquatic vegetation gets established, some of the best fishing is either from boats in open water or off the east shore where the shoreline drops off quickly. Anglers are successful using a variety of spinners, various commercial bait, worms and flies. In most years, there is sufficient ice on the lake for ice fishing. However, vehicular access in the winter may be limited.

Facilities: Yellowjacket Lake is a 35-acre impoundment located on national forest land. There is a US Forest Service campground with outhouses available. The lake is located in a ponderosa pine forest. Bank access is excellent along much of the lake.

Fees: None.

Nearby state park: Clyde Holliday State Recreation Site.

For More Information:

ODFW Malheur Watershed District Office — (541) 573-6582

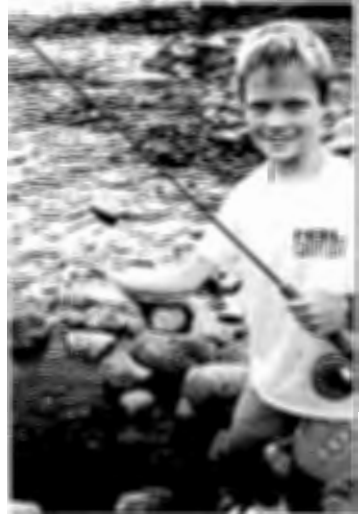
US Forest Service, Emigrant Creek Ranger District — (541) 573-4300



Yellow Jacket Lake, Photo by John Gutscher, ODFW

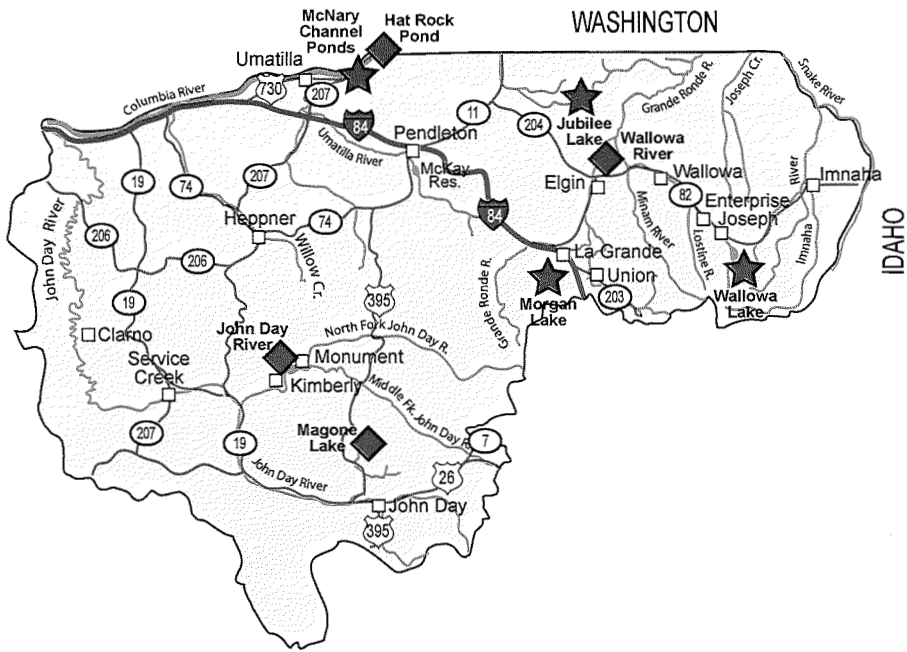
Oregon's Northeast Zone

The granite peaks of Oregon's Blue and Wallowa Mountains form the backdrop for many of this zone's glacier-carved lakes and crystalline streams. Pack trains are a common sight on steep backcountry trails. Bull trout thrive in this zone's cold, clear rivers, which also sustain rainbow trout and welcome returning runs of hatchery-reared steelhead. Warmwater fisheries are few and far between, but the John Day River makes up for the scarcity with world-class fishing for smallmouth bass.



Photographs, Largemouth bass,
US Fish and Wildlife Service;
Wallowa River rainbow,
Mac Huff; Rainbow trout,
Richard T. Grost.





Featured Waters

- ★ McNary Channel Ponds
- ★ Morgan Lake
- ★ Jubilee Lake
- ★ Wallowa Lake

Also Recommended

- ◆ Hat Rock Pond
- ◆ John Day River
- ◆ Magone Lake
- ◆ Wallowa River



McNary Channel Ponds, ODFW Youth Angling Event Program

McNary Channel Ponds

Getting There: From Hwy 730 at Umatilla, turn north onto Brownell Boulevard (just west of I-82). Proceed to West Third Street. Turn right onto Third Street and proceed through I-82 underpass. The ponds are to the north of Third St. between I-82 and McNary Dam.

Fisheries: Legal and trophy-sized rainbow trout are stocked from March through June. Legal-sized trout are stocked about twice a month. Several hundred trophy-sized trout are stocked annually in mid-May for a youth fishing event. Bluegill, crappie, bullhead and both largemouth and small-mouth bass are all naturally reproducing and available year-round. Best consistent fishing from March through June is for stocked rainbow trout.

Useful Information: The setting is within a 318-acre natural area downstream of McNary Dam, adjacent to the Columbia River. There is a series of eight ponds connected by stream channels. The natural area has a series of hiking trails with interpretive signing regarding natural resources. It is pleasantly shaded by cottonwood, black locust, mulberry and Russian olive trees which shelter visitors from the strong afternoon winds.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective. PowerBait fished from either a bobber or on the bottom works well for trout.

Facilities: There is good vehicle access to the area ponds and hiking trails. There are two wheelchair-accessible platforms at the Fountain Pond and numerous wheelchair-accessible sites at the other ponds.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Wildlife viewing, hiking. There are migratory fish viewing windows at McNary Dam fish ladder and Smolt Bypass Center. Nearby state park: Hat Rock State Park

For More Information:

ODFW John Day Watershed District Office — (541) 276-2344

Morgan Lake

Getting There: From Hwy 30 heading east, turn right onto Gekeler Lane, which becomes C Street in La Grande. Turn left on Walnut. As the road begins to climb, look for a sign to Morgan Lake. The paved road turns to gravel and climbs about 4 miles to a plateau. A dirt road on the right leads to the lake.

Fisheries: Morgan Lake is a former gravel pit that sits 5 miles above the City of La Grande. It offers fishing for rainbow trout, crappie and bullhead. Morgan is stocked annually with fingerling and legal-sized rainbows and sometimes with trophy-sized trout. The average catch for rainbow is 9 to 12 inches.

Useful Information: The lake opens near the end of April. The local Optimist Club regularly sponsors “opening day” activities, including fishing contests for kids, games and food. Free Fishing Day activities are usually held in June. The best fishing opportunities are spring through mid-summer, but late summer also can be good early and late in the day.

Tackle and Techniques: Bait fishing is the preferred method and standard tackle includes PowerBait and lures. Casting and retrieving wet flies and nymphs can also be productive.

Fees: None.

Facilities: The picturesque hill-top lake has 60 surface acres and is surrounded by pines and willows. Boats with motors are prohibited, but there are two, packed-dirt boat ramps for non-motorized boats. There are camping and day-use facilities including picnic tables, restrooms, and a wheelchair-accessible pier. Morgan Lake is recommended for all age groups, as fishing is easily accessible for kids.

Additional Activities: Bird watching, canoeing, hiking around the lake.

For More Information:

ODFW Grande Ronde Watershed District Office — (541) 963-2138

Jubilee Lake

Getting There: From Hwy 204 between Weston and Elgin, take Forest Road 64 12 miles to the northeast.

Fisheries: The lake is stocked with legal, trophy and fingerling-sized rainbow trout. Fingerlings reach 12-16 inches by the following year. Several hundred trophy-sized trout are stocked for a youth angling event held in late June or early July. Legal-sized trout are stocked from mid-June to mid-July.

Useful Information: Jubilee has a low bank, with excellent fishing access. Near the summit of the Blue Mountains at 4,696 feet, the lake can be snow-bound until mid-June. In June and July fish can be caught anywhere in the lake, but as the water warms in August better fishing can be found in the deeper water near the dam at the southeast side of the lake.

Tackle & Techniques: All lake-fishing techniques can be effective.

Facilities: There is a popular 50-site campground on the west side of the lake, the largest in the Umatilla National Forest. Facilities also include four day-use picnic areas, and a 2.8 mile paved hiking trail that encompasses the lake and is fully wheelchair accessible. There is a paved boat ramp adjacent to the campground. Only electric motors may be used on boats.

Fees: Yes, for camping and day-use.

Additional Activities: There is a paved hiking trail around the entire perimeter of the lake. The lake is surrounded by dense mixed conifer forest. Water quality is very good.

For More Information:

ODFW John Day Watershed District Office — (541) 276-2344
Umatilla National Forest Headquarters — (541) 278-3716

Wallowa Lake

Getting There: Follow Hwy 82 from La Grande through Joseph to Wallowa Lake.

Fisheries: The lake contains naturally reproducing populations of kokanee and lake trout. Legal-sized and sometimes larger rainbow trout are stocked from May through early September. Kokanee average 9 inches with some to 12 inches; lake trout range from a few pounds up to 25 lbs. Rainbow trout average 10 inches with occasional holdover fish to 5 lbs. Occasionally bull trout are caught but must be released.

Useful Information: Kokanee angling is best from May through early July when kokanee are near the surface in shallower water. Later in the season fish move off shore and into deeper water. Lake trout are generally found at depths over 50 feet near the lake bottom. Hatchery rainbow trout are generally available near shore and in the southern portion of the lake during the spring.

Tackle & Techniques: Kokanee and rainbow trout are caught from boats using a variety of methods, but the tried-and-true method of a gang spinner trailed with a wedding ring or other small, baited spinner (try worm, maggot or corn) seems most effective. Bank angling with bobber and bait, or pitching spinners is effective for trout. Successful lake trout angling requires patience and the use of large diving plugs fished near the bottom.

Facilities: Public boat ramps and restroom facilities are available at the north and south ends of the lake. An ADA-access jetty is available for use at the north end. Wallowa Lake State Recreation Area offers camping and opportunities to observe nesting bald eagles. Reservations are a good idea in the summer.

Fees: None.

Additional Activities: Horseback riding, camping, hiking and riding the nearby Wallowa Lake Gondola.

For More Information:

ODFW Enterprise Office — (541) 426-3279

Wallowa Lake State Recreation Area — (800) 452-5687

Lake-Fishing Techniques

The following techniques can be used to fish lakes for trout of all sizes (including land-locked steelhead) as well as bass, yellow perch, crappie, bluegills, sunfish and brown bullhead catfish. They are presented in order of difficulty, beginning with the easiest to master and most likely engage the interest of young anglers. Use 5 to 10 lb. test line with either bait, spinning, or fly rod and reel. Do not use bait if you plan to release your catch as fish tend to swallow the hook along with the bait, making it difficult to release fish unharmed.

Fish from the Top with Bobber and Bait:

The object is to hang your bait at the level fish are cruising, and well above pesky submerged logs and weeds that can grab your hook. This technique is often best in mornings, evenings and other low-light conditions when fish feel more secure being closer to the surface. Effective baits include worms, corn, marshmallows and PowerBait. If using marshmallows or PowerBait, you'll need to add one or more weights (such as split shot) to the line 18 inches above the bait. Add weight to get the bait more quickly to the desired depth. When using PowerBait, try changing colors if you aren't having any luck.

Fish from the Bottom with Floating Bait

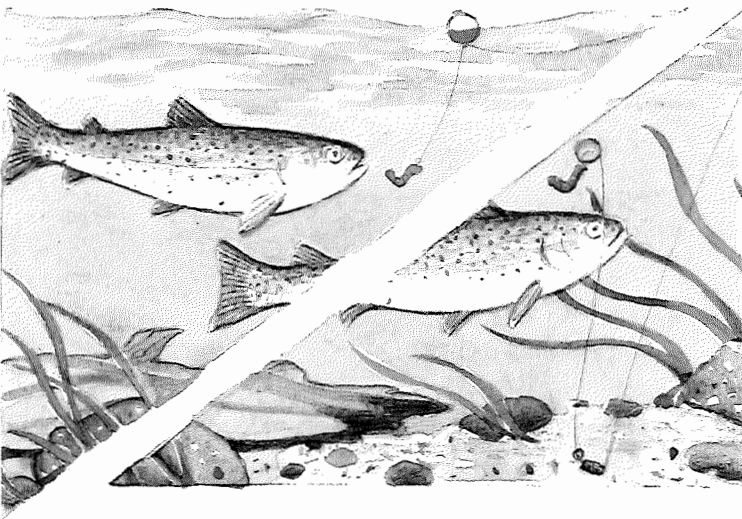
The object is to suspend your bait just above the bottom or above the bottom weeds. This is most often accomplished these days by using PowerBait molded around a small (size 16 or 18) treble hook or in conjunction with a worm. To rig for PowerBait and a worm, thread a sliding sinker on your line, then tie a No. 8 worm hook to the end of the line. Mold PowerBait around the eye of the hook or thread a worm onto the hook, burying the point inside the worm. Pinch a small split shot on your line below the sinker, about 18 inches from the hook (or however much above the bottom you want your bait to float). Slide the sinker down to the shot. This technique is often best when fishing mid-day or when the light is bright on the water and fish are feeling insecure about being seen by predators from above. Be prepared to lose plenty of tackle, since you'll easily catch on submerged plants, wood, rocks and debris.

Cast and Retrieve Lures

Spinners and spoons imitate the look and movement of the tiny fish that serve as natural fish food in many lakes. Use small spinners (such as Rooster Tails) or spoons (sizes 0-2), casting out and retrieving the lure back to you. As a rule of thumb, use smaller, darker spinners and spoons when the water is warmer and the light is brighter; use larger, brighter hardware when the water is colder and the light is darker. Vary the speed of your retrieve from fast to slow to fast to slow, imitating the movement of a wounded fish.

Cast Flies

Aquatic insects are the primary natural fish food in most lakes. If you see fish actively feeding on the surface of the lake, try casting dry flies. Cast, and wait. If there's no action on the surface, wet flies (such as nymph, larva and pupa imitations) are usually more effective. To fish wet flies, cast, pause, then retrieve (varying your retrieve: fast, slow, strip and pause) till you find a method that draws a bite. Common lake insects (found in the lakes as bug-like and worm-like creatures before they hatch) include caddisflies, mayflies, damselflies, dragonflies and midges. Leeches (aquatic worms) and scuds (tiny freshwater shrimp-like creatures) are also plentiful. Grasshoppers and ants are often blown into the lake; fish imitations of these "terrestrials" closer to the bank.



River-Fishing Techniques

Cast Spoons and Spinners

Use a spinning rod and reel to cast and retrieve lures in deeper pools or faster water. Use smaller, darker lures in bright light and clear water; larger, brighter lures in low light and murky water. Explore a pool from tailout to head, near to far. The biggest fish will usually be closest to the incoming food supply.

Fish Dry Flies on a Floating Line

The object is to keep the fly floating “naturally” as long as possible. Explore small stretches of a river at a time, fishing near to far (lots of catches are made within 10 feet of the bank). If you are wading, cast upstream, and let your fly drift back with the current, taking in line as the fly drifts toward you. As you cast farther out (upstream and across the currents), mend your line as needed to keep the line from dragging your fly. Re-cast as soon as the fly begins to accelerate faster than the current or skate across currents. Keep your eye on the fly. Set the hook when you see the “take.” If you wait to feel the take to set the hook, you will lose your fish.

Fish Wet Flies on a Floating Line

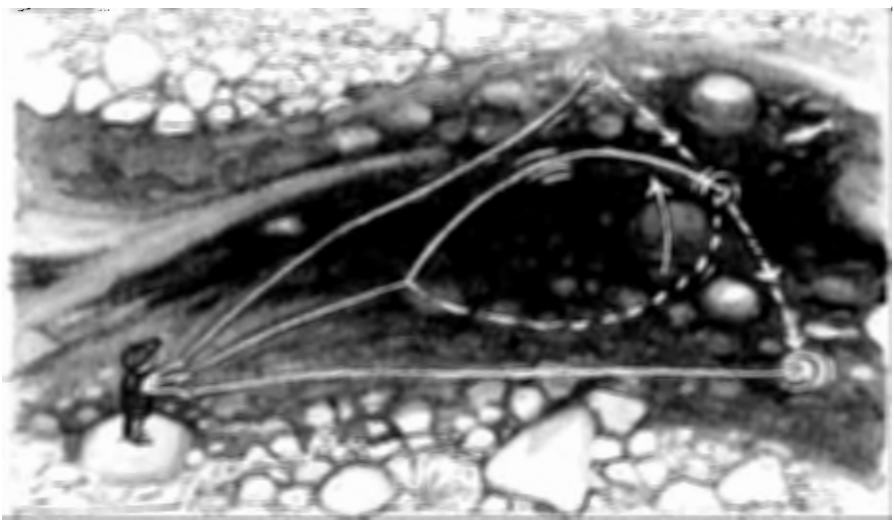
The easiest wet-fly presentation is a wet-fly swing. Cast downstream at a 45° angle (measured from a line drawn from your position directly across the stream: 2 o'clock on a clock face). Let the fly line and fly swing across the stream till they are directly downstream of your position. Mend the line to slow the progress of the fly as it moves across the current. Count to 10 before re-casting. Trout are more likely to take a fly hanging above them than they are to chase one whizzing by. A second effective wet-fly technique is dead-drifting the fly. Cast upstream as in dry-fly fishing. Picture your fly moving below the surface. Mend line when the current begins to drag the line. A strike indicator is very beneficial with this technique, since you won't feel a

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ough when the fish takes the fly. Instead, strike when the indicator hesitates
even for a moment. As a rule-of-thumb, place the strike indicator above the
fly one and one-half times the depth of the water being fished. If you aren't
getting any bites, use weighted flies, bead-head flies, split shot, or twist-on
lead wrapped around the leader to get your wet fly to drift deeper.

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Wet-Fly Swing

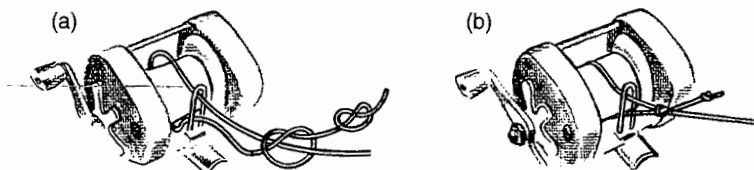


(1) Cast toward 2 o'clock. (2) Mend line. (3) Count to 10, then re-cast.

Knots You Need to Know

Fishing knots allow you to properly tie your line to your hook lure, and other tackle. These knots are easy to tie and are especially good for nylon monofilament, the most commonly used line for all fishing. Remember to wet knots with saliva as you pull them tight. This prevents damage to the line and allows the knot to pull tight.

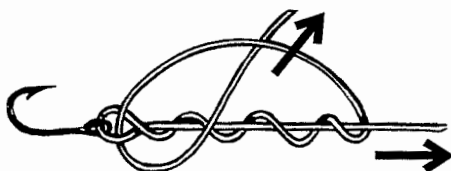
Arbor Knot Quick, easy connection for attaching line to the reel.



Palomar Knot The easiest to tie, a good choice to hold terminal tackle (hooks, swivels and lures).

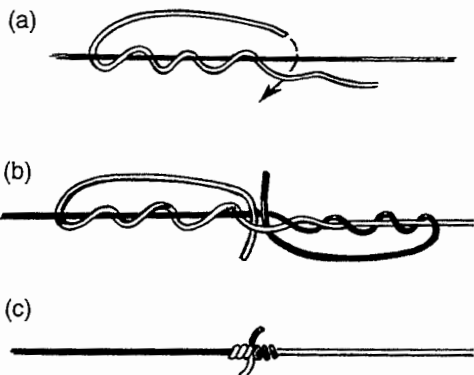


Improved Clinch Knot An old standby known as the fisherman's knot.



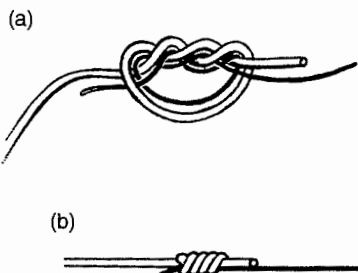
Blood Knot

Used to join two lines together.



Surgeon's Knot

Used to join two lines (one short) together.



aking Kids Fishing: What You Need to Know!

o you are going to take some kids fishing, fantastic! Here are some common sense steps to help make your outing a success.

ake it an adventure! Depending on their age, allow time and give permission for wading in the water, skipping stones, catching frogs or some other form of free play. Make it fun so they will want to go “fishing” again.

se simple tackle. Spincasting tackle is best for teaching children to fish.

se simple baits, such as worms or PowerBait with bobbers or sinkers. It's often easier than lure fishing, and lets kids explore the surroundings while waiting for bites.

e prepared to tie the knots, rig the gear, bait the hooks, make the casts, and take the fish off of the hook. If the kids want to participate, let them. Be sure to let them reel in the fish – that's the fun part! Don't be critical of their casting skill, knot tying ability or reluctance to handle bait or fish.

be safe. If the children are likely to wade or play in the water, consider having them wear a life preserver. If you are fishing from a boat, you must have a life preserver for each person on board, and children 12 and under must wear them at all times while underway.

ave Fun! The number, kind and size of fish caught is not as important as spending time with a child and helping him or her learn a sport they will enjoy for their entire lives.



Family fishing fun. Photo by Chris Willard, ODFW



Easy Angling Oregon is brought to you by ODFW's Aquatic and Angler Education Program and the Restoration and Enhancement Program. These programs are proud to be working together to help families experience Oregon's fishing and outdoor resources.

For more information about these programs, please visit www.dfw.state.or.us.



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE