

Welcoming Dave Graybill To The Nickel Ads Classifieds

The Fishin' Magician



probably missed as many, and we didn't encounter another boat all day. If fishing the Yakima is something you'd like to learn more about, visit the Troutwater Fly Fishing web site at tightlinesangling.com or Facebook pages. Boitano and all the guys there are very helpful and will give you latest reports on fishing conditions and the best patterns, too.

I got out on Lake Chelan last Saturday with my brother Rick and Eric Granstrom. Conditions were much better than I experienced the week before, when we were blown off the lake early. We had a slow start this time, though. We spotted a nice batch of fish just below Mill Bay, but when we put our gear down we couldn't coax any to bite. We moved further down lake and started looking for fish off Peterson's, where I usually do pretty good. Fish were still scarce, until we moved out into the middle of the lake. Then our luck changed. All of a sudden our rods started going off in rapid succession. We had doubles, triples and had nine fat kokanee in the cooler in no time.

Then, as it often does when kokanee fishing, it went dead. We trolled around for 40 minutes without a bump, and then it was on again. At one point all four rods went off and we landed all four of them! We needed to clean our fish and get home in time to watch Gonzaga play, so we quit when we had 16 fish in the box. Most of the fish were taken at 70 to 90 feet deep, with the really deep rods producing the best. We were using small trout dodgers with short leaders to small hoochies baited with white corn, scented of course. We kept our speed right about 1 mph. I had one fish on for a while that was taking some good runs. We never saw it though, as it broke my 13-pound

leader! There were a lot of people out taking advantage of the early appearance of the kokanee in the lake. It should get better and better, and no one can believe that we are once again seeing such big kokanee at Chelan.

There are some more great fishing opportunities coming up very soon here in the region and you don't want to delay getting your new license. It is going to get crowded at the local sporting goods stores as we approach April 1st, when new licenses are due. You'll want to stock up on new trout gear to get ready for the opening of the lakes in the Columbia Basin. Fishing should be outstanding this year for the "April Fools" opener.

I want to remind everyone about the new derby at Banks Lakes on April 6th and 7th. The Triple Fish Challenge is a great way to test your skills at catching a variety of our most popular species here in Central Washington. The two-day derby will see who can catch the biggest and most rainbow, walleye and smallmouth bass on Banks Lake. The top prize is a 14-foot Achilles inflatable fishing boat and motor, and there are prizes each day for biggest fish of each specie and heaviest stringer in both adult and youth categories. To sign up, go to my web site and click on the Pepsi Calendar and follow the link to derby page.

Here comes spring fishing. Get your license and gear up to get out and go!

Reach Dave at:
www.FishingMagician.com
or Fishboy@nwi.net

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<http://grandcouleecc.blogspot.com/p/fish-challenge.html>

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