

Welcoming Dave Graybill To The Nickel Ads Classifieds

The Fishin' Magician



Quincy Valley Tourism Association conducts this derby, and in addition to the big cash prizes possible for catching the tagged trout, there is a ton of other prizes that anglers can buy a ticket to win. The QTVA did an excellent job of taking care of those who came out for the derby last year. Hundreds of folks participated in the event and they all said they would be looking forward to another one. Be sure to click on the "Something is Fishy in Quincy" tile on the FishingMagician.com Home Page to learn more, and you can even register on-line.

I don't know if you have had a chance to look at the forecasts for the salmon returns to the upper Columbia for this year, but there is some very good news. For example, we could see double the number of spring salmon coming to our area. We me not see the record numbers that arrived in the Icicle River two years ago, but we should have an excellent spring salmon season on this stream. Due to complications with the permit process it is highly unlikely that that the Wenatchee River will be open to spring salmon fishing this year. Out summer-run salmon season should as good as or slightly better than last year. Over 91,000 summer-runs are expected to reach our area this year.

and if the Okanogan River dumps warm water into the Brewster Pool this summer, the fishing for sockeye in this popular spot will be amazing. The bad news is that even fewer sockeye than last year are expected to make the turn up the Wenatchee River on their way up the Columbia. We fell short of the numbers to have sockeye season on Lake Wenatchee last year, and it looks like we are going to lack sufficient numbers of sockeye returning to the lake this year. In fact only 28,000 are forecast for the Wenatchee, which just about what is needed for escapement to sustain the run.

I made a short trip to Rocky Ford Creek last week. I have been trying to get there all winter but something always got in the way. My fishing partner and I didn't get to the Desert Fly Angler shop in Ephrata to meet Darc Knobel until the afternoon, and that was too late for good fishing.

The folks at Coulee Playland tell me that Banks Lake will be at full pool by the end of February. That's good news and it means that anglers will have no trouble navigating their way to schools of hungry trout, bass and walleye.

On February 2nd, Punxsutawney Phil predicted a late spring for this year, but who cares, we've got some great fishing ahead of us and it will pass in no time!

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

Soon after the Ice Fishing Festival there is the yearly opening of several lakes in the Quincy Wildlife Area and near the town of George. Things really look good for anglers for this opener for a couple of reasons. Fishing should be very good again at Martha Lake. The number and size of the trout should be excellent. I want to remind anglers that there was a rehab at Caliche Lake last year, and although a plant of larger-than-usual catchables was made, ice on the lake has prevented a test fishery. I should know more about this prior to the opener.

The biggest crowd on the weekend following March 1st will be at Burke Lake. Not only is the fishing forecast to be good, the 2nd Annual Tagged Trout Derby will be held here. Anglers will be attempting to catch tagged trout that are worth a total of \$2,000.00! The

The big news is the anticipated return of over 460,000 sockeye to the upper Columbia. Last year we got 187,000. Sockeye runs like this one brings anglers from all over the western state to our area. Hordes of these fish will be stacked up below our dams,

QVTA 2nd Annual Trout Derby

Prizes for:

- Tagged Fish
- Heaviest Fish
- Cumulative Weight
- Mystery Fish
- Raffles

2 Tagged Fish worth
\$1,000 & \$2,000

Sun-up until 1:00 p.m.
Burke Lake

Saturday, March 3



*Date subject to lake conditions.
See our website for more information

Ticket Sales &
Rules available at:

- Quincy Ace Hardware
- Quincy Chamber
- Hooked On Toys - Wenatchee
- High Mountain Hunting Supply

Moses Lake

or

www.quincyvalleytourism.org

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