

# Dave Graybill

## The Fishin' Magician

Nickel Ads  
Classifieds



We quickly put the boat in the water and ran out to the can line to join several other boats trolling here. Most all of them had a fish or two in their boats, and we were excited to get the gear out. I put a small fly and Wiggle Fin Action Disc on one rod, and a pink fly on the other. Both rigs had Double D dodgers on them and I put them on the downriggers, just 12 feet down. We had some hits right away but no hook ups, and then wham. Jerry grabbed a rod that was really bouncing. He set the hook and the fight was on. This fish just didn't want to come in and I knew we had a good one. When we finally got it to the net and in the boat we both were amazed. The fish was only about 24 inches long, but it

had to be 7 pounds. It was a lot of fun playing this whopper on my light kokanee rod.

We ran this rig back out and it wasn't too long before the other rod went off and I landed another nice triploid. At first I didn't think it was close to the size that Jerry's was, but when it hit the deck and we saw how wide it was, it must have been at least 6 pounds. This one had hit the small fly, and when I pulled it out of the fishes jaw the hook broke! Darn. This was one of my favorites, and of course the only one I had.

Oh well, that's okay. Chuck Largent had said that he

got his fish on a purple Apex, and I just happened to have one in my box. I also switched the other rod to an Apex, this one bright orange. These both worked great! We released two fish that were about 2 pounds, got one more that was 5 or 6 pounds, and lost a 4 pounder right at the back of the boat. It was a fun time.

I had the Minn Kota bow mount down and used it primarily to steer. I put the Mercury kicker in gear and used the new Troll Master that Bob Feil Boats installed to keep my speed steady. I was going from 1.5 to 1.7 into the current and much faster coming down lake. We stayed pretty much by the can line, but got some hits making a loop at the top end and fifty yards toward the middle, but not very far out. We made one pass on the other side of the reservoir, but didn't even get a hit over there.

The weather was very overcast when we were up there, but there was little to no wind, which made it nice. I was surprised to see quite a bit of weeds on top of the water, and you may want to check your rigs every once in a while to be sure some weeds haven't gotten on your hooks. I tried running my downriggers down to as deep as 20 feet, but we got all of our action when they were at 12 to 15 feet down.

I expect to see the traffic to pick up on the reservoir now, and even the boats that were running up to the net pens were getting fish. You may have to park in the upper lot now, and take care on the ramp, it gets slick with ice in the morning.

Some of the members of the Icicle Valley Trout Unlimited club made a trip to Lake Roosevelt and tried

fishing from the shore there for trout. They had very poor luck in the morning and went to fish the bank near the net pens in the afternoon. This was also very slow. They visited with the folks at Coulee Playland and were told that the best time to fish for the trout off the shore at Spring Canyon is in the afternoon. We also had our best luck trolling off the park in the afternoon, too.

I want to remind members of the Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association that the annual Game Feed and Auction is coming up on February 8th. If you haven't got your tickets you can get them at Hooked on Toys and High Mountain Hunting in Wenatchee.

This is show season in Washington, and in addition to the sport shows in Yakima and Wenatchee again this year, there is a big one in Puyallup. The Washington State Sportsmen's Show in Puyallup is January 22nd through the 26th. The Central Washington Sportsmen's Show in Yakima is from February 14th through the 16th. The Wenatchee Sportsmen's Show is from February 21st through the 23rd.

I am so excited that the fishing has turned on at Rufus Woods that I am going back again. I will be going up early next week, and I'll let you know if there are still plenty of fish to be caught up there.

Reach Dave at:  
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