

Welcoming Dave Graybill To The Nickel Ads Classifieds

The Fishin' Magician

What a great week. The skies didn't fall and bury us with snow. It didn't get bone-chilly, forget about fishing cold. It was a week to get out and do something, and I did! I hope some of you got out taking advantage of the weather break, too, I spent some time on Rocky Ford with my fly rod for the first time this winter, and I also fished for steelhead in a spot that I had never tried before. First I will share my experience, steelhead fishing in that new spot.

I was already in Wenatchee, getting some things done, when Rollie Schmitten called. Once again he was tempting me with an offer of coming along on a fishing trip. He wanted to put his boat in the Columbia and try for steelhead off the mouth of the Entiat River. He had heard that fishing here was very good on some days, and given the weather it looked like a great day to put his 14-foot boat to use. I didn't think about it too long. I turned around and headed back to Leavenworth to get my gear.

It didn't last though. We decided to move upriver a bit to see if it would change our luck, but it didn't. We went back near our original spot, and as soon as we began fishing again, Schmitten mentioned that he thought something had changed. It had. The current had dropped off to nothing. It appears that fishing here is affected the same way that it is in other areas of the Columbia. When the current drops off, so does the bite. We'll plan another trip to this area, though, when we have more time, and hope the current stays with us longer.



about steelhead fishing. This is a great opportunity to learn some tricks from an expert on fishing for steelhead on rivers throughout the Northwest. I have also got Anton Jones of Darrell and Dads Family Guide Service coming. He will provide information on fishing for triploid rainbow trout at Rufus Woods. He has been guiding up here for years and really knows his stuff. I will provide an update on the Colville Tribal triploid releases for the season that evening, too.

Just before I started writing this I logged onto the Time Lapse web cam at Fish Lake to see what the ice looked like. The lake is completely covered with snow, but I can't tell how thick the ice is. I'll try to run up there and check on the ice very soon, and give you all an update. I want to remind everyone that there is now a 25-fish limit on perch at Fish Lake.

Just in time for your Holiday parties and gatherings of friends and family, my smoked salmon spread is now available. You can find it in the cooler at Mike's Meat and Farmers Market, which is just across the parking lot from the Buzz Inn on north Wenatchee Avenue. Look for the FishingMagician's Signature Smoked Salmon Spread. Pick some up, share it with your friends, they will thank you!

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the middle of the stream my indicator disappeared. As soon as I set the hook I knew I had a good fish. I was using a 10-foot, five-weight rod, and I couldn't do much with this fish.

When I finally got it to shore my knees were knocking. This was one of the best fish I have ever landed at the Ford. I didn't have a tape with me, so I laid a reed next to the fish and broke it off. When I measured it later it was a smidge over 25 inches, and it must have weighed 5 or 6 pounds. What a hog! It was a great way to start my winter fishing at Rocky Ford.

I wanted to remind you that Buzz Ramsey is coming to Town Ford on Wednesday, January 12th to talk



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