



I had some great fun this week. I traveled to Potholes Reservoir on Thursday to see if the perch were biting, and found that more than just perch can be caught there right now. Then on Friday I took a couple of auction winners to Banks Lake. They had never done any bass fishing and wanted to give it a try. They were real pros by the end of the day. There is some great fishing to do before the fall run kings show up in our area.

I ran into someone at Hooked on Toys last week and they said that they were catching some big perch on Potholes Reservoir, so I called my buddy Brian Nielson, of BJs Guide Service, to see if he wanted to give it a try. Nielson said he had talked to Mike Meseberg at Mar Don Resort, and he said that it was a good time to catch a variety of species on the reservoir. I met Nielson early Tuesday morning and we launched at Mar Don. He ran us across the bottom end of the reservoir to Perch Point, which is just up lake from the mouth of Lind Coulee.

We rigged up just like we were going walleye fishing, using Slow Death Hooks and a green Smile Blade on bottom walkers. We got off to a slow start, catching a few perch, but then it got hot. We were both using two rods and we had a hard time keeping both of them in the water at the same time. We burned through the nightcrawlers. We caught perch all right, and we also got a bunch of other fish. In fact we tallied eight different species! We hauled in perch, crappie, sunfish, rainbow trout, walleye, catfish, smallmouth bass and even a whopper carp. The perch we kept ran from 9 to 11 inches. The rainbow was a fat 17-incher. The biggest smallmouth tipped the digital scale at 4 pounds, six ounces. What a blast. We trolled along the shore from Perch Point up to Medicare Beach at about 1



mph and tried to keep the boat in 20 feet of water. The bite never slowed down once it got started. If you want to get a real smorgasbord of fish and have some fact action while you're at it, Potholes would be the place to go. It should be like this until we get a serious cold snap that drops the water temperature. September could be fantastic.

I took a day off and got caught up on my writing and on Thursday I went to Banks Lake. I had Wes Childers and Sharon Rose with me. They had won the auction at the Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association Banquet this year, and they had never done any bass fishing. I love it when people tell me that. Banks is about as sure a thing as you can get for smallmouth bass in this region.

We put the boat in at the Northrup ramp and I steered us down lake to a spot that I found the week before. I gave them a quick orientation on where to cast and how to retrieve and we went to work. I had set them up with 3-inch Yamasenkos, pumpkin with black flake, on wide gap hooks and put a 1/8th ounce bullet weight ahead of the bait. We were into fish immediately, and the action never stopped. We hit a few dead spots, but for the most part there were fish everywhere.

Later in the day I switched to a 4-inch Zoom lizard, in chanteuse watermelon, which is my favorite. The fish loved it, and Sharon just had to try one and didn't change the rest of the day. Wes decided to try the Yamasenkos in cinnamon no flake, and he didn't change after that, the fish were hitting it so well.

We started below the big basalt island that is on the west shore above Rosebush, and I just kept trolling up the lake. We didn't stop until we were at the big point where you turn to go to Barker Flats. They kept some fish for the pan and we estimated that we had easily got 100 fish that day. Wow, what fun!

Fall can be a great time to be on Banks for smallmouth bass. A fishing buddy of mine that has fished for bass on Banks for many years says that it can be very good clear into October. I sure hope so. I want to go back and do this again.

Like so many other anglers I have been watching the fish counts to see when the fall run salmon will be showing up in good numbers over Bonneville Dam. The counts took a jump, then stalled, and now are starting to pick up momentum. I think we are seeing the leading edge of what could be an all-time record return of fall fish this year. If you want to get in on the action, you may want to attend one of two free seminars that are scheduled soon in Wenatchee. The first one will be at Town Ford in East Wenatchee. Rick Graybill, former noted guide and fishing expert at Hooked on Toys, will be doing a presentation on fall king fishing on Thursday, September 11th at the dealership, starting at 6 p.m. On Saturday, September 13th I will be doing a seminar at Bob Feil Boats and Motors on Sunset Highway in East Wenatchee. I will be sharing what I have learned from my personal experience fishing the Vernita area and from local guides and other experts. The seminar will start at 1 p.m., and there will be plenty of parking. Hope you can make one of these informative seminars.

I have a whole new experience ahead for me. I am going to fish for tuna off the coast. I will have my video gear with me and will share the experience with you in a new Fishing TV Show. Look for it soon on my web site at FishingMagician.com.

Reach Dave at:
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OPEN HOUSE SAT. SEPT 13TH FREE FISHING SEMINAR

Join Bob Feil Boats and Motors for an open house showing off their recently remodeled showroom. There will be door prizes with light refreshments and drinks. Plenty of on-site parking end of season specials on water toys and clearance prices on 2014 model boats. Check out the largest selection of Lowrance electrics in central Washington with on site demos. Saturday store hours are 9-5 open house from 11-1 and the seminar starts at 1.

A record number of fall Chinook salmon is returning to the Hanford Reach this year, and you'll want to know how to catch them. If you plan on fishing for these prized sport fish, you'll want to attend the free seminar on Saturday, September 13th at Bob Feil Boats and Motors. Dave Graybill will be sharing what he has learned from guides and other expert anglers on fishing for fall kings. The seminar will begin at 1 p.m. For information call 509-884-3558.

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