

# Welcoming Dave Graybill To The Nickel Ads Classifieds

## The Fishin' Magician



The kokanee at Buffalo average a solid 13 inches and are very fat. They can be found from one end of the lake to the other. I began looking for them at the east end of the lake, where I found them last fall. The last day I discovered that there were just as many within a quarter mile of Reynolds Resort, which is at the west end. If you plan to make a trip to Buffalo, in search of kokanee, I will share what I did to catch them and it may contribute to your success.

I found two set ups that worked very well. One was the very popular Flash Lites and Wedding Ring spinner method. I put the Wedding Ring about two feet behind the Flash Lites. The Wedding Ring that I first put on worked so well I never changed it. It was the old style with a single hook (size 6) with the egg pater blade and green beads. The other rig that worked well was a trout dodger and Super Duper. The dodger was chartreuse and white and the Super Duper was bright orange with a Mylar prism strip. I put a kernel of corn on the hook of both rigs.

I put these rigs 30 to 50 feet behind my downrigger ball, and the depth that produced the most strikes was 40 feet. One thing that I found interesting was that the fish like a fairly fast troll. I got my best action when trolling at around 1.7 miles per hour. It didn't seem to matter which direction I trolled. If

there were fish in the area, they'd hit.

As I mentioned earlier, the lake was full of kokanee. They were jumping and rolling on the surface everywhere. There was some concern about "parasites" on the fish. Most had little bugs attached at the base of the fins. I have learned that these bugs are called copepods, and actually are great fish food, and don't harm the trout or kokanee and after I scaled and washed my catch, they were gone. The kokanee tasted great, too.

We are definitely going to make another trip to Buffalo Lake this fall. The kokanee that are 13 to 14 inches could be 18 inches by September or October. I want to be sure people know that the limit for kokanee is five per day here, and a Colville Tribal Fishing Permit is required to fish at Buffalo. They can be purchased at Reynolds Resort. The resort is managed by Mike Hall, and he is very helpful. You can call ahead to check on the fishing, reserve an RV hook up or cabin by calling 509-633-1092.

The folks at High Mountain Hunting and Fishing Supply are inviting everyone to the store on Saturday, June 12th for a bass seminar. Bob Akers, owner and product developer at Mad Bass Lures will there to share information about his soft and hard plastic baits and his muskie lures. He will be talking about techniques he uses to fish them and there will be demonstrations. The seminar is scheduled to start at 2 p.m.. The store is located at 223 N. Mission Street, in Wenatchee. For more information, contact Mike Bohr by calling 509-665-9362.

Last weekend was the Kids Fish-In Day at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery and I have learned that there will be kids fishing events on Saturday the 12th at both the Entiat and Winthrop hatcheries. These free events are designed for family fun and if you want to learn more about them you can contact the Entiat National Fish Hatchery at 509-784-1131. The number for the Winthrop National Fish Hatchery is 509-996-2424.

I also want to get an invite out to area guides and the fishing public about what I have planned for June at Town Ford in Wenatchee. Town Ford has hosted seminars at their dealership, and on June 23rd we are inviting all the guides that will be fishing for summer-run salmon to come down, set up a table and bring their brochures. From 6 to 8 p.m. anglers can come down and meet the guides, and learn about their services. I am inviting all the licensed guides in the region, and if they have any questions, e-mail me at fishboy@nwi.net, and I'll try to answer all your questions.

I plan to fish Lake Chelan later this week. I am overdue on making a trip up there to fish for triploid Chinook. A photo that was sent to me recently showing a king that weighed 19 pounds that was caught last week has me very excited about giving it a try.

Reach Dave at:  
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