

# Welcoming **Dave Graybill** To The **Nickel Ads** **The Fishin' Magician**

This was an action packed weekend. I did another float on the Icicle, fished for walleye and smallmouth bass on Banks Lake, and I even made another trip to Rufus Woods. The weather was good for all of these trips, and got some great footage for my Fishing TV Show and awesome photographs. It was a week of long days, hard work and fun, fun, fun.

Kevin Winters, of Leavenworth, put me in his boat for the Icicle float. We were going to pace Shane Magnuson, Upper Columbia Guide Service, down the river to get some additional video for a Fishing TV show I am doing on the Icicle. Winters did such a great job of positioning our boat that we not only got excellent footage of the action in Magnuson's boat, he put me on to a couple of spring salmon, too. It was one of those classic mornings on the Icicle, with clear blue skies when the sun came up. A couple of times deer came out to the edge of river. There was lots of action between the two boats. There were some dandy adult springs landed and some jacks, too.

When I jumped on Magnuson's boat the previous week on the Icicle, one of his clients was Brett Telford, of East Wenatchee. Telford was the winning bidder at the fund-raising auction for the Fair in Waterville, and we made plans to do a trip in my boat this past week. He had never fished for walleye or bass, so I had suggested a trip up to Banks Lake to try for both of these species.

Telford, Brian Parsons and I drove up to Banks Lake last Friday. It looked perfect when we arrived. Clear and sunny with a slight breeze blowing up the lake. I started out by trolling for

walleye on the back side of Steamboat Rock. There were a few other boats in the area, and I took that as good sign there might be some fish around. I put our spinners and nightcrawler rigs out in 24 feet of water and it really didn't take too long before we had a walleye in the boat. Unfortunately, the fish was just short of the required 16 inches to be kept at Banks, so back in the water in went.

We made our way up and down in this patch of water for a while, and although both Telford and Parsons each got their first walleye, we couldn't get one big enough to keep. Neither of them had ever fished for bass either, so I decided to head over near the highway and fish the rip rap bank for smallmouth.

I put a Senko in Parsons' rod and set up Telford with a Baby Brush Hog. I instructed both of them on how to fish their respective lures, and before too long Parsons had a little smallmouth hooked and landed. They really liked the Senko, and Telford was getting hits on the Brush Hog, too, so I stayed with it. There were plenty of smallmouth along this bank, but there were a couple of other spots I wanted to show my fishing partners so we headed across and down the lake. We caught fish starting in the bay behind the big haystack rock above Rose Bush, and when the wind began to blow we ran around the corner and fished the lee shore south of Barker Flats. There were lots of smallmouth in this area, as usual and



we had a blast catching them. The wind had started blowing pretty hard by now, and with our mission accomplished we headed for the ramp.

The next morning I was on the road again, this time to Rufus Woods. I had taken my sister Amy, and her family; husband Todd and daughters Rachael and Katie to Rufus Woods in the winter. We had a great time and caught a bunch of fish, but it was a cold day. I wanted to get them to Rufus when fishing was just as good and the weather warm.

As usual, we put Todd up in the bow to cast with this fly rod and the girls and I ran the trolling rods out the back. This turned out to be a perfect day to be trolling up on Rufus. No wind and plenty of hungry triptoids. We tried a couple of different spots, working our way up the reservoir. Todd landed a couple of dandies on his fly rod from the bow and the girls reeled in some fat ones, too. We even ran into Telford and Parsons with a boat load of anglers. Everyone on Rufus was happy that day. I am sure the barbecues at home were cooking up fresh fillets of trout on Sunday.

I had received an e-mail from David and Nancine Lorz from Bridgeport. They have Grizzly Bait and Tackle shop and a café there, and invited me to stop by for a bite and to see what they had to offer for fishing gear. I arrived just in time for dinner and had a good visit with them. It's nice to know there is a place to get a good meal, and they have the right gear for the area, too. You can find their place on the main road when you cross the highway into Bridgeport from the Rufus Woods road.

I am looking forward to the opening day of the summer-run salmon season this Friday. Shane Magnuson says he has a plan for us and I am excited to find out what it is!

Reach Dave at: [www.FishingMagician.com](http://www.FishingMagician.com)  
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