



The Almanor Fisherman

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ALMANOR FISHING ASSOCIATION

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Almanor Back in the Day

By Tom Maumoynier

My name is Tom Maumoynier and I am the owner of The Lake Almanor Fly-fishing Co. My shop is located at 159 Main Street in Chester. It is a full service fly shop providing equipment, guiding, instruction, and of course local flies.

I opened the shop out of a long time love for all types of fly fishing. I first started fly fishing in the late 60's, mostly dry fly fishing in the Sierra's. In the 70's I moved to the North Shore of Lake Tahoe where I learned to tie flies and build fly rods. I was fortunate to take a fly tying class from Joe Huesfelt, a fly fishing and tying instructor in the 1980's who lived in Truckee, California. He was amazing! The rod building was self-taught and has actually turned out to be a large part of my business. In the 80's I moved back and forth between Grass Valley and Truckee. In that time period I met my wife Mary and we had two boys. Mary is a great fly fishing widow, her only requirement was to return from fishing happy. In Grass Valley I worked at the Mother Lode Anglers for Jeff Adams and got to know Willie Hall, both very good fishermen.

In 1990 I received an offer for employment in the Lake Almanor area. After fond memories of fishing the area as a kid with my father, relocating was an easy choice. I ran into another fly fisherman my first time fishing at Butt Valley Reservoir; I told him I had just moved here. He quickly informed me that I had moved to some of the best stillwater fly fishing in the nation, and he was right. Shortly after that I met Hal Janssen. There are a few people in your life that open your eyes to a whole new way of looking at fly fishing, and Hal was one of them. From tying to stillwater fishing, my knowledge and technique took a giant leap.

I've guided for several magazine writers, champion fly casters, and Super Bowl heroes. I was previously the president of The Lake Almanor Fly Fishing Association, and I've been very lucky to be able to continue living my passion.



I really enjoy talking to the locals in and around the Chester area. There is a lot of history to be learned. For example, in the early 1900's Westwood was the main town in the area, but it was a dry town. Starting with Prattville and then followed by Chester, the Almanor area was best known for a place to kick up your heels in its many saloons. In 1868 W.W. Benner opened the first saloon in Prattville. At one time there were as many as 25 saloons in and around the lake. One of the more famous saloons was the Bear Club in Chester, it actually had a live Bear chained to the front until it mauled a patron. So, outdoor and indoor recreation was what the basin was famous for.

In life, if we are smart we learn from those before us; this is about the old timers that paved the way. The Almanor basin has always

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been known for its hunting and fishing but back in the day it was off the chart. One of the old sayings was if you didn't catch your weight limit in two holes on the Feather River above the lake, you would be laughed off the stream. This was the norm until they straightened the Feather River out and put the diversion dam in. There were many attempts at putting a workable fish ladder in around 1968 but they didn't work well. Before then the Feather was known for its great switch backs and cut banks. The story is that the person who bulldozed the stream was a fisherman that had to choose between his job and his passion - a very sad event but in the end it kept the town from flooding. The area was known as Big Meadow and around 1914 Great Western Power Company put in the dam that formed Lake Almanor.

We have some great anglers that are still with us: Doug De Angelo, a great conventional fisherman, and Hal Janssen, a great fly fisherman. I am talking about the names many might not know but these names are just as important. Most of these men started as conventional fishermen but went on to pioneer fly fishing in the area. Names like Albert Pippenburg, Jack Elliot, Irv Wheat, George Hoffman, Irv Wheat, and all the Powell's who have all since pasted fall in this category.



Albert Pippenburg, who passed away in 1941, was a famous race car driver and was known as the best stream fishermen in the area. Pippenburg drove a car named Whistling Billy, built by the White Steamer Company, and was undefeated in all 12 races on the west coast circuit. His other passion was fly fishing. At the time, the limit was 25 fish and Albert would almost always fill his. Albert's friend George Hoffman was known as the best lake fishermen and made his fortune diamond mining in Africa in the early 1900's. Jack Elliot's grandson is a good friend of mine and the family still has a place on the Feather River above town. Jack and his grandson would launch a boat at the old boat ramp, which was located south of the North Shore Campground by Gould Swamp (which was said to be haunted). They are now under water. The method was to use a fly rod with an unattached wooden spool holding line on the bottom of the boat.

Irv Wheat was a 6th grade school teacher and professional fly tier who help pioneer indicator fishing. He moved to Chester in 1966

and was a supplier of flies to Hendricks Outdoors. Irv was especially famous for the Wood Duck Nymph. He taught many local kids to tie and used the time to help counsel them as well.

There are still a few around with all great memories: Milt Jensen, Richard Wann and Mark Jimenez, legends in their own right and methods. I am sure that it drives them crazy with all the questions about the past but it would be a shame to lose all those great memories. Mark Jimenez still guides on the lake with a unique and very effective method of trolling flies. Richard Wann, as a young man in the 50's, tied many flies for the company store in Westwood. One of the flies was the Dark Fenian which was from Red Eldridge and closely resembles a hex nymph. Richard is still the best fishmen on the Hamilton Branch and has helped many achieve success there. Milt Jensen is another very successful lake guide who invented Milt's Floating Pond Smelt, which is very popular.

My largest rainbow was caught on a fly inspired by Milt's pond smelt. Milt's Hex Para Dun, Hex Cripple, and Hex Nymph are some of the most effective hex patterns used in Lake Almanor. Milt is a fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants, one of the largest suppliers of flies in the world.

At a young age I realized it was best to get to know the little old man knee deep in the stream. When you really gained his confidence he gave you a peak into his fly box. The local old timers I have known and heard about have in one way or another let me glimpse into fly boxes and shared their knowledge with me and for that I am always grateful.

I own the Lake Almanor Fly Fishing Company at 159 Main Street in Chester; please stop by and let's talk about the good old days. We are also opening a pub next door called the Thirsty Trout. We hope to see you soon.


Thank you
Tom Maumoynier

THE LAKE ALMANOR FLY FISHING COMPANY

181 Main Street
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The Evolution of a Trout Fisherman

By Roger Keeling, Rogers Guide Service

I use the term “evolution” to describe the gradual development of a mid-west warm water fisherman to someone completely engrossed in the pursuit of trout and salmon in both lakes and rivers in the Pacific North West. Due to the magnitude of the waters involved, I’ll have to condense this somewhat or it would take the rest of the year to write.

I moved to California from Illinois in 1964 and had only seen pictures of trout on magazine covers, usually in an arching leap showing all their iridescent colors. From this point on I’ll mention and describe my experiences on a few of the lakes, streams, and rivers that were all a learning process which eventually led me to a career as a professional guide spanning over forty years.

A short time after arriving in Fairfield, CA, I met a friend whose sister would later become my wife. He told me about a small stream directly below Lake Berryessa that had a good trout population. The name of this stream is Putah Creek and although I didn’t know much about fast water fishing, I caught my first trout there. My future wife’s father ran a boat rental for Travis Air Force base and I put in a lot of time fishing Suisun Slough and the Bay, but I was never really impressed with the Delta and had an insatiable desire to see more of the mountainous area of Northern and North Eastern California. I met another friend whose uncle had a jeep and loved to fish the middle fork of the Feather River between Quincy and Bucks Lake. This required hiking in on several miles of switch back trails but the fishing was spectacular and I caught my first large brown trout there. This area was loaded with rattle snakes and I had many close calls while fishing. I often wondered how you could make it out if you got bit.

The two main areas we fished on the middle fork of the Feather River were named Horseshoe Bend and No-ear Bar. About this time I also discovered Bucks Lake and nearby Three Lakes. I spent many a day trying to find the key to success at catching the large brook trout that inhabited one of these lakes. Somewhere around 1966 I discovered Topaz Lake which is partially in Nevada but can be fished with a California license. At the time it had a strain of hybrid trout called a cut-bow which is a cross between a cutthroat and a rainbow. I caught my first large trout in Topaz and I continued to fish this lake for a few years, mainly in the winter. We would tent camp, usually with snow on the ground, and would also take our pistols and shoot cotton-tail rabbits and have a rabbit fry. Topaz sits in a beautiful valley and is a wintering ground for large mule deer herd.

About this time a friend introduced me to the Trinity River and Trinity Lake. I was fortunate to be able to fish the Trinity River in its glory days for salmon and steel-head. We also mixed in trips to Trinity Lake and pack in trips through the Trinity Alps. I became obsessed with learning the secrets of fishing for steel-head in these waters and many other including the Eel River, Aualola and Garcia

Rivers. About this time I also started fishing the Sacramento River for salmon below Keswick Dam which is now closed to protect spawning salmon. Nearby Shasta Lake also caught my attention, especially the spectacular brown trout fishing it had at the time. Browns are no longer planted in Shasta and are left to only natural reproduction for this species.

In the late 60s my life took a major change when I discovered the Lake Almanor area when I was offered a job at Collins Pine Company. Chester became my home for about forty years and I became engrossed in learning all the secrets of fishing Lake Almanor, Butt Valley Reservoir, Eagle Lake and Antelope Lake. I also found a special interest in Pyramid Lake Nevada and became determined to learn how to fish this huge high desert lake. The world record Lahontan cut-throat trout was caught here in 1938 and weighed 38 pounds. When I first started fishing Pyramid I either shore fished using conventional spinning gear or fly fished in the winter when these large trout move into the shallows. I had moderate success and decided to get a little more serious and bought a seasonal fishing and camping permit from the local Indian reservation, and started using my boat. After a few trips my success rate grew dramatically. Also, my boat handling skills improved because this lake is known for its violent unpredictable winds. Pyramid Lake is over 30 miles long and approximately 15 miles wide. Someone drowns almost every year on Pyramid. An area called Warrior Point claimed three local Indians several years ago. I’ve only fished one other lake that was bigger than Pyramid and that was Great Bear Lake in the North West territories.

After starting my guide service in the early 1970s, a good client of mine arranged a trip for us which consisted of 8 days at Trophy Lodge, the northern most lodge on Great Bear lake, which I was told is the world’s largest unpolluted lake consisting of 1700 miles of shore line. The nearest lodge to Trophy was over 200 miles. The main fishery at Great Bear was for lake trout but I also caught northern pike on surface lures and fly fished for arctic grayling. We also flew into the Copper Mine River and caught arctic char. The world record lake trout came from Great Bear at this time but I’m not sure if it still stands. It was over 70 pounds. The environment is so harsh in this area the lodge only has an eight week season. Fish growth is only about a pound per year so strict catch-and-release rules are applied. We kept one six or seven pound fish each day for a shore lunch for the two of us and our Indian guide. If you desired a fish for mounting, the fish was measured, photographed and released and the taxidermist could make a fiberglass reproduction.

Well, the waters I’ve mentioned seem like enough to keep you busy for a lifetime but in my early guide career, I always kept a car-top aluminum boat handy in case Lake Almanor or Eagle Lake were in a slump. There are several small lakes within a one hour drive from Lake Almanor that can provide excellent fishing in a beautiful

setting. The few that I have guided on are Echo Lake, Shotoverin, Silver, Caribou, Crater, McCoy Flat, and Long Lake. Each one of these lakes has separate challenges but that's what fishing is all about. A few years ago I wrote an article for the newsletter called Almanor Techniques. Many of these techniques were developed on other lakes that I mentioned and slowly evolved into our arsenal of techniques used on Lake Almanor today. This took a lot of time and dedication by many good fishermen and there is still a lot to learn.



Chuck and Sherry Shepardson with their catch of the day browns, salmon, rainbows and smallmouth bass August 2013

Now a run-down on the 2013 season. I returned to Lake Almanor from Red Bluff on April 27th and after setting up camp I made my first trip on Almanor the 29th. The fishing was spectacular with the catch consisting of about 90 percent browns. Due to weather or wind conditions I occasionally go to smaller lakes but I can honestly say no one had an unproductive trip with me on Lake Almanor in 2013. Many of our summer trips produced the Almanor "SLAM" which consists of rainbows, browns, salmon, and small mouth bass all caught in one day. The fish were in super condition and 2013 was the best big fish year since 1991 and 1992. Many of these fish were large browns so hopefully the brown trout plants don't dwindle or the Lake Almanor fishery will really suffer.



Cameron and Ken Schwing Fishing Lake Almanor

I centered my fishing efforts in shallower water or flats where the pond smelt were the thickest and the trout, salmon and bass were filtering in and out feeding voraciously. I used ultra-light lead core techniques without any flashers and rarely used the down-riggers.

I'm currently spending the winter above Red Bluff and fishing Shasta Lake for trout and bass. The fishing has been excellent for both species and we just set some new record highs for mid-January, including 80 degrees today. Let's pray for rain though.

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Mike Morris caught this lovely 9 1/2 lb German brown Nov. 2, 2013 down by the dam on Lake Almanor

Fish For A Wish - How it all Began

By A.J. Casella

It all began with a simple idea to honor a friend who battled leukemia, but we've accomplished a lot over the past nine years and it is pretty incredible to see how Fish For A Wish has grown. Thanks to the generous support of our community in Lake Almanor, this annual event has blossomed into an amazing fundraiser that has granted the wishes of over 30 children. Year after year, the tournament continues to grow and has now raised over \$400,000 in cash and in-kind donations for Make-A-Wish, Greater Bay Area.

The idea for Fish For A Wish originally started as an effort to combine my passion for fishing and a desire that I had to give back to an organization like Make-A-Wish. That desire was born after seeing what Make-A-Wish did for one of our close family friends who had recently passed away from Leukemia. I witnessed first hand the positive effect that the wish experience had on our friend and his family during his treatments. This experience instantly determined me to build my idea into a successful event that could help children in need of a wish.

As we approach our 10th anniversary since the first Fish For A Wish event, we've decided to start planning some exciting new changes to this year's event. As an avid fisherman I have always been passionate about the amazing fishery that we have in Lake Almanor. I grew up fishing here, and have had some pretty amazing summers over the past 20 plus years fishing on Lake Almanor. Not only has Fish For A Wish been able to support so many children in need, but it has also brought together the fishing community and will now help to maintain this incredible fishery. All proceeds from our big fish side pots this year will benefit the trout and salmon fishery in Lake Almanor. The money will support the fish hatchery program as it is in need of funds for fish feed. We believe a potential partnership with Kokanee Power offers a unique opportunity to continue granting wishes for kids with life threatening illnesses and will also help to improve the fish population in Lake Almanor.

This year's Fish For A Wish tournament will be held on August 9th at Big Cove Resort. Cash prizes will be awarded to the teams that catch the largest bag limit of three trout or salmon, with additional cash prizes for the biggest fish caught. We will also continue with our bass category and hope to bring together the Lake Almanor bass fishing community. The tournament will begin at 6:00am and will conclude at noon with a weigh-in, lunch, and raffle.

Entry forms and tournament rules will be available at Big Cove Resort (530-596-3349) starting on June 1st. Please check out our website www.fishforawish.com for more information, entry forms, and donation forms. If you have any direct questions feel free to email me at ajcasella@gmail.com and remember to follow Fish For A Wish on Facebook and Twitter at [#fish4awish](https://twitter.com/fish4awish), for information and updates about this year's event.

Thank you for your past support in previous tournaments and we look forward to seeing you in August 2014.





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C.C. with a nice brown trout caught while fishing with Rick's Guide Service



Dan Dailey with two of his browns while fishing with Rick's Guide Service

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Big Cove Resort (530) 596-3349

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Successfully Trolling Lake Almanor

By Bob Kopernik, Lucky Grady Fishing Guide Service

In last year's edition of "*The Almanor Fisherman*" I wrote that one of the most important tools you can invest in is your fishing electronics, especially if it has a lake map feature. Two years ago I expressed my belief that all fish are "object freaks". This year I will try to explain how integrating these two factors will produce more hits and hopefully put more quality fish in your box. I'll also share some thoughts and ideas that help me get a few more hits and sometimes a few bigger fish. To see or review last year's article go to page 4 of the 2013 newsletter at www.almanorfishingassociation.com.



Believe it or not there are times that fish will hit almost any bait at most depths. For those seemingly rare times just enjoy the experience and have fun. (These are the moments that we all remember and talk about for weeks and possibly years to come.) It's for all the other hours of fishing without a bite that I offer the following ideas and suggestions that I have developed or learned over the past 60 plus years. I hope that they might be of help to you and don't hesitate to contact me to share any ideas or techniques that have produced positive results for you.

Some people with whom I often fish and a few clients have said that I know this lake like the back of my hand. A more accurate observation would be that I know "some portions" of this lake like the back of my hand. These are the areas where I have had very good fishing success over the past years. When I get multiple hits or fish in a particular "spot" I pay attention to what lake structure or cover has attracted the fish to that particular area.

More often than not there will be a weed bed, a stand of old trees, a peninsula ridge jutting out from the shore or a steep drop off. I rarely pass up the opportunity to drop (free fall) my down rigger balls 10 to 20 feet when passing over the edge of a drop off. If I

catch a fish or two or the feature just looks like it should hold fish I will put a mark on my GPS plotter so I can return to the exact spot another time. Over the years I have developed a mental catalogue of lake-bottom features that serve me quite well. One thing for sure is that when motoring from place to place on the lake I always have one eye on my sonar unit looking for interesting bottom features that could attract and hold fish.

Many years ago Scotty Down-Rigger and Dick Poole made a documentary film about fishing with down riggers. The film was shown at most of the big fishing shows and rented out to fishing clubs and the like. What I remember most was the underwater camera shots of huge salmon following the bait or lure even bumping it and getting it into their mouths without the fishermen ever knowing. About that time I was regularly fishing with a friend from work and his wife Debbie. Debbie had a renowned reputation to always and I mean ALWAYS catch more fish than anybody else on the boat. After fishing with her a few times I began paying close attention to what she was doing. It turned out that she was constantly fiddling with her pole and checking her bait. In and out, up and down. What I came to believe is that very often fish will follow the bait for a long time and more frequently hit it when something changes like the action, speed, or depth of the bait.

A few tips and tricks when fishing with down riggers:

If you only have a few days or a couple of weeks to fish a lake, spend the \$10.00 on a good lake map and study it for features that look promising. I catch very few fish out in the open lake where the bottom is mostly flat and featureless. (This may partially be true because I only fish there out of desperation on a slow day when nothing else has worked or I'm just exploring one of the many old creek beds that meander about out there.)

I run my baits only 10 to 15 feet back behind the down rigger cable. I think it is much easier to check the baits without having to undo and redo the line snap. I get fewer snags especially when trolling over submerged tree tops and the shorter line allows me to set the hook with more "authority" when I do get a hit.

When I drop my downrigger ball I often will drop it to a 15 or 20 feet hold and then drop it to the depth that I intend to fish. Fish especially like to hit falling baits so pay attention for a possible hit while the bait is dropping. Likewise, when checking my bait I often raise the ball 10 or 15 feet and leave it there for a few seconds being very mindful that it could get hit.

I make fairly tight boat turns which speed up the bait on the outside rod and slow and drop the bait on the inside rod. If I get a few hits on the falling bait I might consider fishing a little deeper.

If you get a short strike or miss a hit especially when using night crawlers, quickly pay out about 15 to 20 feet of line. You just

be surprised how many times you will get a second hit which usually produces a hook up.

When fishing is slow I use a kitchen timer set at 20 minutes to remind me to check my bait and or try something different. You will be amazed how often the end of a night crawler has been nipped off or a piece of grass has caught onto your hook.

After reading the above you are probably coming to the conclusion that serious fishing can be hard work. In fact, very often when I come in after a fishing trip with a family member, friend, or client, my wife will ask me if we had a "good visit". My answer has always been, "Visit? We were too busy fishing to engage in any mindless chit chat".

One last suggestion that I offer is if you are discouraged by not catching very many quality fish or just want to gain a wealth of knowledge about fishing this wonderful but sometimes frustrating body of water, is to consider hiring a fishing guide. This publication lists a good variety with some having patio boats for large parties, others offering fly fishing or bass fishing, and others offer trips that include both still fishing and trolling. (Note that I specialize only in trolling for trout and salmon.) At least one other guide plus myself offer a "Learn the Lake" trip that spends more time motoring from one prime fishing location to another than actually fishing. Be sure to clearly communicate with the guide that you choose what your hopes, desires, and expectations are being aware that even the best fishermen on the lake can't guarantee that you will catch fish. (That's really why we call this sport "Fishing" instead of "Catching".) To see the guides listed with this publication go to The Almanor Fishing Association's website and follow the link to Fishing Info/Maps and then Fishing Guides.

THINK BIG FISH!

Bob Kopernik

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- Threaten the state's water treatment plants, hydroelectric plants, and reservoirs.
- Clog municipal water intake structures and obstruct the flow of drinking water.
- Cost taxpayers millions of dollars to repair damaged pipes and water transport facilities.
- Wreak havoc on the environment by disrupting the food chain by filtering the water column of phytoplankton and out-competing other species, including sport fish and endangered species.
- Change water conditions, causing heavier aquatic plant growth, oxygen loss, and fish kills.
- Result in infested waters being closed to boating and fishing together.

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Notice to Fishermen

*Cedar Lodge Motel is offering 10% discount
off room rates when guests use a fishing guide
from the Lake Almanor area*

Life is Good

By Richard R. Mason, Dick's Guide Service

Life is good. We are currently in Shasta Lake for the winter - January, February, and March. We do this each year to get out of the snow and cold weather. The weather in January was fantastic in the mid 70's, and we have been leaving the windows and door open in our fifth wheel.

I guide on Lake Almanor and other north lakes from April to December. The three months at Shasta Lake is just a vacation for me. I have family and friends that come down to fish with me for spotted bass, and also have my favorite clients come and fish. No guide fee because they are people I enjoy being in the boat with. We had fish tacos last night, and the three months we are down here, we have fish at least once a week. I keep the bass in an aeriated live well, and before I come in, I bleed them. When I fillet the fish, they are pure white and not even a tinge of blood in the fillets. We enjoy our kick back time on Shasta Lake so much. But, all good things have to end. We will be back in Lake Almanor around the first of April.

In early April I usually have a pretty good German brown bite in shallow stump areas down about 12 to 20 feet. My favorite lure is a three hook repala, clown color. I troll super fast, three miles an hour. It is kind of hard trolling because you hang up a lot. It's worth the effort because the fish are big and you have to pay your dues to catch the big ones.

For the last two years in April, we had a very good land locked king salmon bite on the east shore. We limited the boat out every day for a month. The fish average 18" to 22", and on light tackle, they are the hardest fighting fish in Almanor.

Spring and fall on Almanor can be awesome. The size of fish is on the upside. I've boated more quality fish in the last few years than ever before. Seven or eight years ago I would run at least 30 trips on Eagle Lake in July and August. In the late 80's and 90's, Eagle Lake was the place to go for big fish and easy limits. The average fish was 3 pounds. Today the average fish is 1 1/2 pound. Almanor is the place to fish now.

I always run some trips on Butt Lake when the wind is forecasted. It kind of sits down in the a hole and you can usually fish it when Almanor gets too rough. I have people that say Butt is their favorite lake, especially if we get one of the big browns. We don't get the big browns every trip, but when we do, they are pretty impressive. We usually get enough rainbows to make a successful trip, and I don't know if it is just me, but the fish in Butt Lake are hard fighters.

I wish Antelope Lake was closer. I would never get skunked. I have never been up there when we didn't limit out on the boat. The fish don't average near as big as the fish in Almanor. We release the smaller fish and end up with quality fish. It is just non-stop action. I like to book trips up there when the clients have younger

kids. They don't get bored because of the fast action. The only draw back to Antelope is it takes me an hour and twenty minutes from Westwood. But it is a pretty drive, and we always see wild turkeys and deer.

I have had good trips on all four lakes that I have guided on this past year. When Almanor is on, you just can't beat it, especially the quality of the fish. The bite can get a little cranky but that is when you just have to dig down and fish a little harder. It is worth it.

We are lucky to have Almanor Fishing Association. They are definitely a major factor in helping our lake!

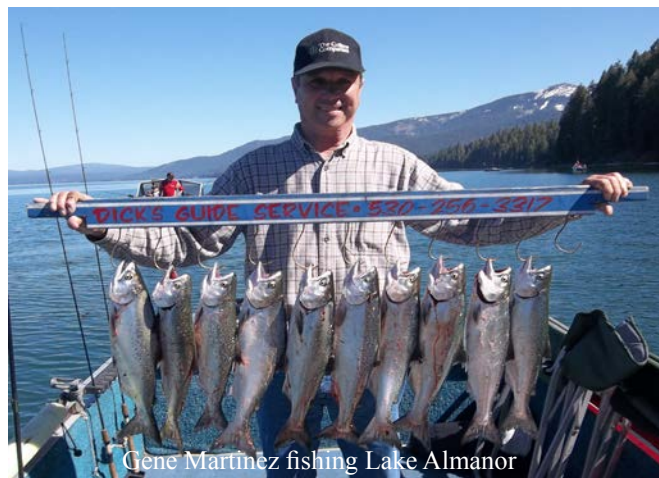
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Thermal Curtain Update

By Wendi Durkin



It is 2014 and we are continuing to “hurry up and wait” for the State Water Resources Control Board to release the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that will release the intended alternatives for cooling the water in the Feather River.

As you may remember, some of the alternative discussed included the Thermal Curtain, changing the operations of the intake tower at the dam, and much more. Save Lake Almanor was started in direct opposition to the installation of a Thermal Curtain, but has evolved to working to save Lake Almanor’s cold water. Our fish and our lake need the cold water we have.

Recently there have been reports that indicate that the draft EIR is scheduled to be released soon. We have heard this several times over the last several years, but we need to be ready when it is released. If there are alternatives that do take cold water from Lake Almanor, our community needs to be ready to respond. Typically the State offers a 60 day response time. Our Supervisor, Sherrie Thrall, has already requested an extension of that time.

Please keep this in mind and be prepared to help once we have the release of the draft EIR. The health of our lake is vital to the health of our community. Please let either Sherrie Thrall at sherrie.thrall@almanorpost.com or Wendi Durkin at wendi@baileycreek.com know if you can help!

If you would like to become involved with Save Lake Almanor, please call Wendi Durkin at 530-228-2683.

Responsible Boating

By Otto Brackett, Plumas County Sheriff’s
Boat Patrol Supervisor

Responsibility on the water is about more than life jackets. Whether you’re the captain of a ship, the skipper on a boat, or just the family leader at the helm for the day, you are the person responsible for the safety and security of all persons onboard, for damage to property, and for people you might injure or affect by your boat’s course or its wake. You have a duty and a legal obligation to be a person of trust and reliability. To earn that level of respect, you must know what you are doing and demonstrate it through example and practice.

While boat operators bear ultimate responsibility, passengers on boats must also bear accountability as individuals, even if not in the legal sense. For example, wearing a life jacket is not only boating smart, it’s about the boater staying alive. Life jackets save lives! Modern life jackets are smaller, lighter, more comfortable, more colorful, and are available customized for each type of boating activity. Wearing a life jacket while boating is a person’s first line of defense and sometimes, a person’s last line of defense as well.

Finally, boating under the influence (BUI) of drugs and/or alcohol even in small amounts can be a recipe for disaster. Alcohol not only depresses the central nervous system, but in conditions where your senses are further challenged by weather conditions and other stressors, a boater’s performance at the helm can be even further diminished. Factors such as the heat of the sun, glare, rain, wind, carbon monoxide exposure, the motion of the wakes, noise and vibration can all affect performance and increase alcohol’s effects.

Responsibility does matter, and it should apply not only to those with a legal obligation to others, but also to those with a personal obligation to themselves. We owe it to others and ourselves to stay the course.



Rob Hart
Guest Relations

Ph: (530) 596-3348 x 13
Fax: (530) 596-4404
Cell: (530) 258-6559

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Email: kprob@frontier.com
Website: www.knottypine.net

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FLATS/MOUTH FEATHER RIVER

9. Mouth of the Feather River.

Again extreme caution, stump fields & very shallow, lots of grass and other vegetation can stop your prop. Fish the stumps for smallies.

10. Chester Causeway / North Shore Campground.

Both sides of the causeway good for rainbows, browns, & bass. Bass anglers work the stumps on the east side of the campgrounds. Parking is along the causeway.

PENINSULA/WEST SIDE

11. Bailey Creek.

This seasonal creek can flow from May into mid July. Good trolling area in front of the mouth, & south to Bailey Springs & back. Shallow area around the mouth & close to shore, watch for hazards. Browns, rainbows, & bass from Bailey Creek to Rec. Area #2.

12. Almanor Peninsula (Recreation Area #2).

Good trolling from Rec Area #2, north to Bailey Creek, or south to the tip of the peninsula. A couple small springs just outside the log boom hold browns & rainbows almost all year. Bait fish on anchor or drift crickets, mealworms, or night crawlers 5 ft off the bottom.

NORTHEAST SIDE OF PENINSULA

13. Almanor Peninsula (Recreation Area #1).

Excellent fishing opportunities, troll close to shore early and move out to deeper water later in the morning and afternoon. Dodgers with a nightcrawler, or flashers for deeper darker water. Good area for trolling deep with downriggers, the bottom is consistent with few very few snag possibilities. Small mouth bass are abundant along rocky shore line areas.

14. The A-Frame.

Some have said that this is the best spot on the Lake!

A deep water cold spring located just off the shoreline brings them in. The A-Frame is a local land mark, it's easy to spot that aqua marine green roof. This area is famous for some really big fish and limits of browns, rainbows and King Salmon from time to time. Bait fish off the bottom or troll along the shore, both can be productive.

15. Big Cove Resort Marina,

Boat gas, boat rentals, bait/tackle/worms and other retail services are located at Big Cove Resort Marina. Good trolling from the marina South past the A-Frame, & down to Rec Area #1 and back or work the shoreline toward Big Springs.

16. Big Springs.

Several deep underwater springs are scattered along this area, and a couple in closer to shore. King Salmon, browns & rainbows all can be found moving around this entire area. Trolling can be very productive, but bait fishing is often the method that produces faster action. Crickets, mealworms, crawlers are effective for trout. Salmon like anchovy tails 5 ft off the bottom.



Lake Almanor

EAST SHORE FISHING

Designed by: Jason Pleau



1. Hamilton Branch Area and Powerhouse.

Probably the best bank fishing at Almanor. Bait, jigs and spinners all can be effective. Fisherman's access, parking, picnic tables and restrooms at the intersection of A13 and Hwy 147. Provided by the Almanor Fishing Association.

2. East Shore.

Trolling from the Hamilton Branch into Lake Cove and on to Canyon Dam. The east shore offers great rainbow and brown trout action. Try rainbow runners, speedy shiners, needle fish, or z-rays. Threaded night crawlers are good also. Troll top water early, deeper later in the day.

3. The Snag.

While trolling the east shore beware of the "Snag". It's a point that juts out and it get shallow there quickly, hence the name. Many a downrigger ball and tackle have been lost here; keep your eye on your depth finder. Deep salmon hole on the south side of the snag, use anchovy.

4. Canyon Dam also known as "Geritol Cove".

Another good bank fishing area is in Geritol Cove. For browns and rainbows use inflated nightcrawlers or powerbait off the bottom. Trolling can be great right from the ramp to the east shore and back. Public boat ramp, parking, handicap access, restrooms, picnic tables.

WEST SHORE FISHING

5. Rocky Point Campgrounds.

Good trout and bass fishing right off the point. Crickets, inflated crawlers, powerbait, or spinning tackle.

6. Prattville.

A good place to start you trolling or have breakfast. Head west toward the jetties for browns and rainbows.

6A. USFS Public Boat Ramp.

West of Prattville, in the old town of Almanor.

Offers easy access with plenty of parking, 2 ramps with dock, and restrooms. Very good spring and summer time trolling from Prattville to the tip of Almanor West peninsula. Browns and rainbows will hit threaded crawlers, lures, behind blades or a dodger, or just by themselves.

7. Almanor West.

Excellent spring time trolling for rainbows and browns, close to shore or out in deeper water. Lead core or down-rigged threaded night crawlers are recommended. Good bass fishing later in the summer along rocky areas and around docks. Lots of hex activity beginning late June and through July.

8. Goose Bay - West Shore area.

Extreme caution shallow areas, stump fields, and grassy bottom. Rainbows and browns. One of Almanor's best bass areas, largemouth bass, and small mouth bass. From Goose Bay back into the airport flats. Best early morning and late evening. Use plugs lures bait or white jigs for trout. For bass use crank baits, rattletaps, or plastic worms.

Almanor

Map Details Provided By Doug Neal

Chester High School's Trout Hatchery

By Dallas Tognotti

Chester Jr/Sr High School offers a unique experience for its students in the Almanor Research Institute (ARI) and the aquaculture, or farming, of trout. Started in 2000, the aquaculture program has grown from a classroom endeavor to a state of the art hatchery occupying the old auto shop building and capable of raising up to 3,000 pounds of trout. The overarching goal of the hatchery program is to educate students on environmental stewardship and aquaculture practices, while utilizing local resources from the upper Feather River Watershed. Our aquaculture class this year has 16 juniors and seniors tasked with the management of the ARI hatchery and its fish. The hatchery though goes well beyond this single class and has become the keystone program for the entire science department. Using the aquaculture program, our students at Chester learn about freshwater ecosystems and energy flow, water quality and analysis, aquaculture, fisheries biology, as well as the laws and regulations to protect our natural resources.

This year has been a challenging year for ARI! I have undertaken the massive job of being the director and manager of ARI from the previous lead, Caitlin Dalby. Thankfully, I have had the fortune of having the program's founder, Dave Bradley, to assist with the transition. My students and I have learned everything about aquaculture and fish rearing together as the year has progressed. We have had a number of setbacks that have resulted with the death of numerous fish; however this has forced us to lace up our boots, pull up our sleeves, and use critical thinking and problem solving skills to make the necessary corrections. I was told early on by one of our biggest supporters at the department of fish and wildlife that he didn't care if we ever released a live fish into Almanor, but that the important thing was we had this program and the unique learning experiences available for our students. While my goal is certainly to improve the hatchery program, its sustainability, and fish survivorship; he was absolutely right. Our students (and their instructor!) learn so much about fish and aquaculture systems when things go wrong.



One of our most pressing needs for the upcoming year and into the future will be a water monitoring system to monitor water flow, temperature, and dissolved oxygen. Our system failures that resulted in fish death occurred exclusively overnight, weekends, or on holidays, when there was no one around to monitor the hatchery and making necessary adjustments and fixes. With a monitoring system in place most of our fish losses would have been avoided, or at least minimized. In addition, we have pumps that are in need of reconditioning and repair, and need backup systems in place for when equipment fails.

The funding for the hatchery relies heavily on the support of the community that has continuously supported us since our inception and continues to work hand in hand with us as we move forward. We are very appreciative of the support from our community and would like to offer our most sincere thanks. I'd also like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to visit our facility and learn more about the great things we have happening at the Almanor Research Institute. We will also be looking for community volunteers to help myself and our student volunteers with the hatchery over the summer months. If interested in a tour or volunteering, please do not hesitate to contact me at Chester High School, (530) 258-2126, or via email at dtognotti@pcoe.k12.ca.us. Lastly, we are planning a couple of fund raisers for the remainder of this year. This May, we plan to have a carwash fundraiser and also hope to host what we hope becomes an annual pasta feed. Dates will be provided later – we hope to see you there!



The Almanor Advantage

By Doug Neal, Almanor Fishing Adventures

The Almanor Advantage? Some would say it's the elevation. At 4500 ft. cool mountain air offers relief from the dry valley blast furnace below. Others hit the hiking trails at nearby Mt. Lassen Volcanic National Park, Drakesbad, and the vast Caribou Wilderness Area. Anglers like us are here for the excellent fishing opportunities.

The real Almanor Advantage is "The Springs". There are hundreds of springs scattered beneath Lake Almanor and the surrounding area. It has clean, pure and fresh oxygenated upwellings. Once sources of volcanic gasses from nearby Mt. Lassen activity a long time ago, these springs now deliver the water that makes Almanor trout, salmon, and smallmouth bass so clean and big. Spring flows are important to Lake Almanor, this year more than ever. Some springs are small, just a trickle. While others are real gushers that flow like submerged creeks. Some of the well-known springs can be found on local fishing maps; however, most of them are not. It takes many years and a lot of time on the water to find and log them, and I am sure I haven't found them all.



How much spring water flows into Lake Almanor? Well it's been estimated that spring flows contribute as much as 70% of Almanor's water which, if even close, is amazing, and is the "Almanor Advantage" during dry years like this one. The springs will play a very important part in this year's fishing strategies, more than usual. Lake levels are predicted to be lower than the record lows of the 1976-77 year. Lower lake levels mean fish will be holding in springs earlier and hanging out there longer. Trolling or suspending baits around springs will be the place to be as afternoon surface temps rise.

Aquatic insect hatches will also begin earlier and there could be some great trolling happening as early as mid-March. I bought a place here in the summer of 1999, and I have been guiding here for more than 10 years now. We have learned a lot about Almanor's springs, special events, and features that draw in fish.

Looking to shorten your Lake Almanor learning curve? Hire a guide! Almanor Fishing Adventures offers year round guided fishing trips, all baits and tackle provided. My boat "The Almanor

King" is comfortable and equipped with the latest electronics and gear necessary to get on the fish. Bring the kids; I also offer an affordable "Family Plan" package.



For the guys that are bringing their boat up for the week, or even just a few days, I offer the very popular "Pro-Tour" package. The Pro-Tour instructional package takes about 4 1/2 hours. The Pro-Tour targets springs, fish funnels, deep holes, and other features.

How to fish them once you get there? Fish them with step by step hands-on demonstrations. Bring a GPS, notepad, video camera and map to write on and up to three friends, all for the same low price. This tour will get you up to speed a lot faster than just striking out alone. Allowing, you can make the most of your time spent on the water.

Check out or contact me from my web page www.almanorfishingadventures.com for availability, current fishing reports, fishing packages, rates, and general information.

Have a question? Give me a call at 530-258-6732, or while on the water, Marine CHL 69 "Almanor King".

Doug Neal

(530) 258-6732

Almanor Fishing Adventures



Guide Service

www.almanorfishingadventures.com

Fishing Lake Almanor

By Cliff Spediacci, Hook & Ladder Guide



Lake Almanor is one of the best fisheries in Northern California. It offers a wide variety of fish and 2014 should be a great year. My fishing technique is primarily trolling; I enjoy trolling for rainbow trout, brown trout and salmon. I also do bait fishing but there are many other ways to catch fish at Lake Almanor. Trolling Sep's Dodgers with a night crawler at a speed of approximately 1.5 M.P.H. prove to be very productive. I also use Speedy Shinner's and other lures at about 2.5 to 3.0 M.P.H

Even though my wife and I live and fish at Eagle Lake, we have our R.V. at Lake Haven Resort on the East Shore from May to October. We fish Lake Almanor 3-5 days a week. I am always talking to some of the seasoned people who have fished this lake for decades.

Our 2013 23ft. Duckworth Navigator is equipped with all the latest gear and tackle. Come out for a fun filled day of fishing and I will show you where to fish and what I use.

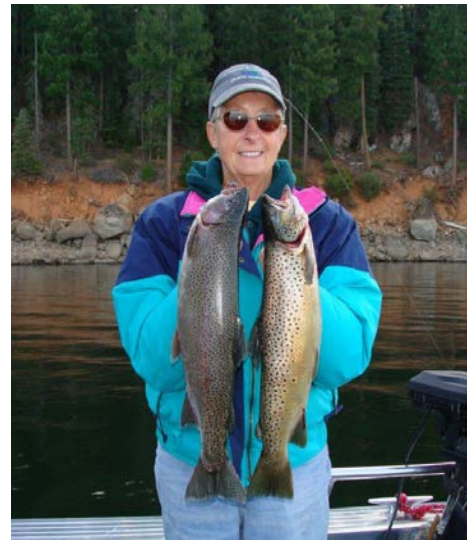
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Hook & Ladder Guide Service
Cliff Spediacci
530-250-5996



*Nick Rodgers from Skippers Cove fishing with
Cliff Spediacci, Hook & Ladder Guide
September 2013*



*Shirley Spediacci fishing with her husband Cliff
on beautiful Lake Almanor*



Charles Bluth
Owner

541 Catfish Beach Rd.
P.O. Box 1102
Chester, CA 96020

Phone: (530) 258-3376
Fax: (530) 258-2838
charles@northshorecampground.com



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A Fishing Story

By Susan and Matt O'Bryne

Recently, our daughter wanted to go on a fishing trip with us while she was home from college on summer break. Well naturally we took her to one of our favorite places, Lake Almanor. In late July we ventured up to the lake for a few days for some relaxation and fishing. We decided to book a fishing trip for the three of us with Allen Sheppard, owner of Quail Lodge, during our stay. The weather was beautiful and warm, but less than ideal for fishing with temperatures reaching the mid to high 90's. Due to the high temperatures, the fishing for the entire lake was very slow. We met Allen very early in the morning to ensure that we would be on the lake long before the temperatures peaked for the day and in hopes of catching some fish.



*Maria O'Byrne fishing Lake Almanor
with Allen Sheppard of Quail Lodge*

As the sun rose and temperatures increased we noticed that there were not many boats on the lake. Few of the boats (if any) were catching fish, but due to Allen's knowledge of the lake and his persistence, we were able to catch and land four nice rainbow trout. We spent the morning trolling with four lines in the water. Allen helped us put the lines in at different levels and he also had us try different lures on each line to mix it up. Once we got a couple of hits, he knew which lure was attractive to the fish on that particular day. By the time we were done for the day, we had caught four beautiful rainbow trout with the largest of the group caught by our daughter weighing in at 4 pounds. Despite the blazing sun and warm temperatures on that summer day, we had a great time fishing, visiting and virtually cruising the lake all by ourselves. We will definitely be back!

Submitted by Susan Sheppard, Quail Lodge, Lake Almanor

Sierra Institute for Community and Environment

By Lauri Rowllins-Betta

Sierra Institute's Center of Forestry tours have been in existence since 2005. The tours focus on the achievement of local forest and watershed management groups and on agencies and their connection to the economic and cultural health of rural communities. We look at the Northern Sierra Nevada from many points of view - geological, historical, and futuristic. Through our tours, it is possible to learn so much about the Northern Sierra Nevada.

Each tour costs \$50 per person and includes transportation, food, handouts, and expert knowledge from our guides. Our tours are small, with 10-participants on each tour, making it easy for discussion, questions, and in-depth information.

May 17 - Geology 101: From Soda Rock to the Melones Fault. On this tour we learn from Dr. Derek Lerch the history of the geology of California, particularly the Sierra Nevada.

June 21 - The Birds of Lake Almanor. Nils Lunder of the Plumas County Audubon Society will lead us around Lake Almanor talking about the unique birds found there, bird habitat, and what it means to the local and tourist inhabitants of the area.

July 12 - Three separate tours: The Ishi Trail and Marker, The Maidu of Indian and Genesee Valleys and The Trail to Drakesbad with author and historian, Beverly Ogle. Ms. Ogle grew up in the area and is one of the indigenous people able to provide us with historical facts, and share personal stories, particularly of growing up in the shadow of Black Rock and Ishi.

September 11 - Sustainable Forest Management. This is a tour of the Collins Pine state-of-the-art sawmill in Chester, and the Water, Power, Fish & Fire, following the "Stairway of Power" from Prattville/Lake Almanor (our 3rd largest lake in the state) while exploring the impacts of hydroelectric production on rural communities.

Lauri Rawllins-Betta - Administration
Sierra Institute for Community & Environment
530.284.1022 / 530.284.1023-FAX



2013 The Year of Ice and Big Browns

By Bryan Roccucci, Big Daddy's Guide Service

2013 got off to a rocky, or should I say icy start. Thanks to the "Polar Express", the months of January and February found much of Almanor's surface covered in a fairly thick layer of ice and since an ice auger is the one piece of equipment my boat isn't equipped with, fishing was not an option until we experienced some sort of break up. As small fronts would move in and out, the lake would partially open revealing some great winter time fishing then slam closed again a few days later as the next blast of cold clear air would descend from the north. On days when we could get out, it became a game of "fish where the ice isn't" instead of fishing where you wanted to, which made things a little challenging. Much of the water I normally focus on this time of year remained covered in ice and unfishable which forced me to fish other locals around the lake.



Mike and Joe on our way back in through the ice pack

The first order of business each morning was to launch the boat and then try and find the shortest way through the skin ice that had formed overnight. In some cases that meant a slow push through the ice for as much as 3 miles to hit open water. Most days it would melt off as we were fishing revealing a glass smooth water surface and a nice ride back to the boat ramp. Then there were the days where the fishing was so good and the boat filled with limits so fast that we would again have to trudge back through the ice to get home. (A small price to pay for red hot fishing)

Much of the east shore and the south east side of the peninsula had open fishable water so that is where we spent the bulk of our time and with good reason, it was full of hungry king salmon and browns. The quality of the fish was good, what you have come to expect from Almanor, with the kings running 17 inches or so and browns in the 2 to 3.5 pound range; solid fish to play out on the light tackle. One mid February day I saw the first of the "Big Browns" for 2013 and the first of two that would break the 10 pound mark. Towards the end of a solid day of fishing spoons along the east shore one of the rods took a dramatic hit which had the rod tip nearly to the water and line leaving at a frantic pace.



Joe with his 10.5 pounder

As Joe picked up the rod it was clear that we had a good fish on. I watched the battle and tried to surmise what it might be. Early on in the battle the fish rocketed to the surface, convincing me it must be a big rainbow as the browns usually like to stay down unless they are caught shallow. And then we saw it - totally fooled by her "rainbow type antics" it indeed was a big brown. Now we had confirmation of what it was; the problem was that this fight was just getting started. As Joe battled the fish the rest of us cleared the other gear and settled in, this was going to take a while. Luckily Joe is no stranger to landing some really nice fish and played it out cool and calm. As the lengthy battle concluded I slid the net under this 10.5 pound beauty, the 2013 brown catching was officially ON! This fish of a lifetime would be backed up several months later by another brown that just broke the 10 pound mark on the scale.

The water of the lake began to warm as February gave way to March, the ice was behind us and it was time to change things up. I spend a good portion of the spring targeting the shallow trophy browns for my clients and 2013 was no different. East shore, west shore, the lake was fishing great. Lots of feed kept these Browns in great shape and we were reaping the rewards with the fish being hotter than usual and hammering our baits. This type of "top-line fishing" is where the "rubber meets the road". While downriggers, outriggers and assorted other tools are very effective in catching fish, nothing beats having the rod in your hands and feeling that electric sensation when one of these beasts crushes your bait.

Once the shallow brown bite started to taper off we were back out over the open water not specifically targeting browns but there were certainly plenty of them, along with great numbers of quality rainbows and king salmon. Working areas that were producing insect hatches as well as areas that have spring activity were the tickets to our success, and the big browns just kept coming. Areas such as Lake Cove, Dorado, Big Springs, and The A-Frame

were all giving up fish to properly presented spoons along with Arctic Fox Trolling Flies and custom soft plastic baits.

While the brown population is a great fishery, it is a finite resource, and with that in mind I do encourage people to catch and release these amazing fish. Many of my brown fishing clients practice catch and release religiously, maybe keeping one fish a day for the dinner table. Protection of the resource is the reason I target the browns in spring instead of fall. In fall when the browns are preparing to spawn and actually are spawning the fish have a lot of physical demands put on their body. Females loaded with eggs (our future trophy browns) may be stressed to the point of death from the fight that ensues after being hooked, and if landed, being handled and held for a photo may actually do internal damage given the heavy payload being carried. During spring the fish are at their strongest, making it much easier for them to shake off the effects of a battle with an angler, resume a normal life, and most importantly grow bigger for the next time.



Steve had one of the best fishing days of his life when he went back to back with these two bruiser browns.

2014 is off to a solid start fishing wise, with browns and rainbows both over the 5 pound mark and some extremely well fed king salmon already pushing the 20 inch mark. Ice wasn't a factor this winter with February days feeling more like spring than winter. While the fishing and the weather has been great, rain and snow amounts have been dismal. Lake Almanor's water level is currently in decent shape but the lack of precipitation doesn't bode well for later in the year and the California drought in general. As I write


this article we have a series of storms on the way in and they are predicted to be wet ones; we can only hope.

I am looking forward to another great year in 2014 and to seeing many of my clients/friends again. Stay tuned - more big browns are on the way.





Capt. Bryan Roccucci proudly displaying his catch

Capt. Bryan Roccucci is a full time professional fishing guide and operator of Big Daddy's Guide Service. Bryan has been offering trips and show casing the waters of Northeastern California to clients for 16 years. Bryan specializes in year round trophy trout fishing while emphasizing light tackle fishing techniques on Lake Almanor (Year Round), Lake Davis (May), Bucks Lake (May – Sept.), Lake Tahoe (June – Sept.), and Eagle Lake (Sept. – Dec.) To book a trip on Lake Almanor or any of the other waters fished by Bryan or for more information please visit www.bigdaddyfishing.com or call (530) 283-4103.



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208 Main Street
PO Box 1199
Chester Ca 96020

thenut@citlink.net

Highlights of the 2nd Annual Almanor Team Trout & Salmon Fishing Derby

The Almanor Fishing Association partnered with Kokanee Power on June 15, 2013 to host the 2nd Annual Almanor Team Trout & Salmon Fishing Derby which was held in the U.S. Forest Service ramp area on the west side of the lake. Sign-ups were Friday evening June 14th and again on the morning of the derby. Fishing began at 5:30 a.m. Weigh-in took place between 1pm and 2pm in the ramp area.

The derby, with its trout and salmon format, allowed for the weighing in of three fish from either rainbow trout, brown trout, or salmon as a team of three fishermen (or less).

Kokanee Power volunteers operated the winner's prize distributions, conducted a raffle with many great prizes, and handled the fish weigh-in operation. The Department of Fish and Wildlife were present and took samples of each fish being weighed. The derby is a great place for them to collect fish sampling at one time!

The Almanor Fishing Association provided and served lunch consisting of pulled pork sandwiches, chips, coleslaw, water and soft drinks to all who entered the derby. Food was also provided to non-fishermen present at the weigh-in for \$15.00.

In 1st place, the winning team for cash prizes in the derby was the team of Stefanie Hilder, Rob Hilder, and Kerry Hilder with a total of 9.88 lbs. The biggest trout at 4.47 lbs was again the team of the three Hilder's. The biggest salmon went to Allan Shephard at 2.42 lbs. The junior winner was Kaylee Morgan with a trout weighing 3.19 lbs. There were many other cash winners for the derby with team categories paying out to 15th place and several side pots.

Both Kokanee Power and the Almanor Fishing Association view this derby as a fund raiser for the Lake Almanor's Fish Rearing Cage Program and not a derby to just win cash prizes. All proceeds from the derby go toward the purchase of fish food for the 50,000 Eagle Lake trout that the Almanor Fishing Association nurtures in their Hamilton Branch cage program. This outstanding program greatly benefits the Lake Almanor fishery and the surrounding communities and businesses. Sadly, there was little support from local fishermen in the community at last years derby. We hope for a better turnout this year as we need more support to keep the cage program going in the future.

LET'S HELP SUPPORT THIS DERBY IN 2014!





KOKANEE POWER & THE ALMANOR FISHING ASSOCIATION PRESENT THE: LAKE ALMANOR TEAM TROUT & SALMON DERBY

Saturday, June 14, 2014

Heaviest Team Limits Win

Sponsored By:



www.pge.com



www.davey.com



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Derby Chairman

Gary Coe: 916-985-4943
coekanee@att.net

Derby Co-Chair

Wes Hamasaki: 916-402-5274

KOKANEE POWER

P.O. Box 3857
Merced, Ca 95344
"a 501(c)3 Non-profit
Organization since
1998"

www.kokaneepower.org
info@kokaneepower.org

TEAM ENTRY FEES:

(per participant)

- \$45.00 (member) / \$55 (non-member)
 - Open to any age
 - **THREE** fish weigh-in per team
- Rainbow, Brown Trout and/or King Salmon
 - A TEAM is one or more anglers.
- All team members must be in the same boat
 - One boat per team. One team per boat

All California Fish & Game laws apply. At age 16, a Junior will be required to possess a valid adult fishing license.

TEAM SIDE POTS

- Blind Bogy: \$20.00 per team
(Heaviest Limit + Lightest Limit Divided By 2)
- Big King Salmon: \$20.00 per team
- Big Trout: \$20.00 per team
- All 3 Side Pots: \$50.00 per team

Check-In, Registration, Weigh-In, Lunch:

Almanor Campground / USFS Ramp —
Almanor Dr. West off HWY 89

**Go to the Kokanee Power Web site
for more information and directions
to the location**

JUNIOR DIVISION INFO

**JUNIOR DIVISION
ANGLERS FISH FREE !!!!**
(with paid adult)

- Open to anglers under age 16
 - **ONE** fish weigh-in per junior
- Must weigh-in separate from team.
 - Junior Division Prizes
- Anglers under age 16 cannot participate in Junior Division if they fish as part of a team
- All Junior Division Anglers must register to enter

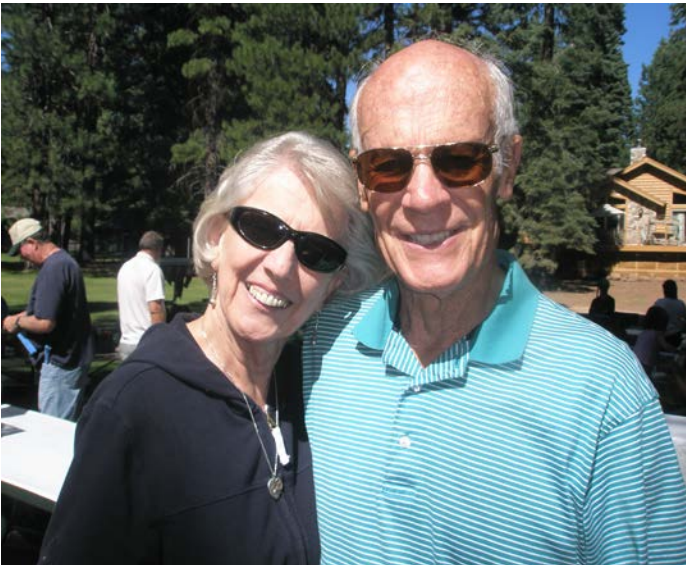
**FOR INFORMATION ON PLACES
TO STAY AT LAKE ALMANOR
CHECK OUT:**

www.plumascounty.org

Important Information

Registration: by mail, by phone, or at the Check-In (see below)	Mail completed registration no less than 7 days prior to the derby date, call the derby chairperson to register by phone or register at Check-In.
Check-In: Almanor Campground / USFS Ramp — Almanor Drive West off HWY 89	Friday June 13, 2014, 4:30pm-7:00pm and Saturday June 14, 2014, 5:00am-5:30am All anglers must check-in prior to fishing.
Derby Start Time:	5:30am (no exceptions)
Weigh-In: Almanor Campground / USFS Ramp — Almanor Drive West off HWY 89	Starts: 1:00pm Ends: 2:00pm * You must be in weigh-in line by 2:00pm NO EXCEPTIONS
Lunch: (included with entry fee & begins at 1:00pm)	Lunch Only (not fishing): \$15.00

Past BBQ Attendees Having Fun



Almanor Fishing Association's 22nd Annual Family BBQ



Saturday, August 9, 2014
4 to 9 p.m.
Lake Almanor Country Club
Recreation Area #1

Dinner served from 5 - 6 p.m.

New York Steak Dinner \$22 Donation
Hot Dog Plate \$5 Donation

Buy your dinner tickets early for \$20 and SAVE \$2
Pre-sale tickets available from the following businesses:

Good Vibrations, 278 Main Street, Chester
(530) 258-4663

Big Cove Resort, 442 Peninsula Drive, Lake Almanor
(530) 596-3349

LACC Restaurant, 951 Clifford Drive, Lake Almanor
(530) 259-2026

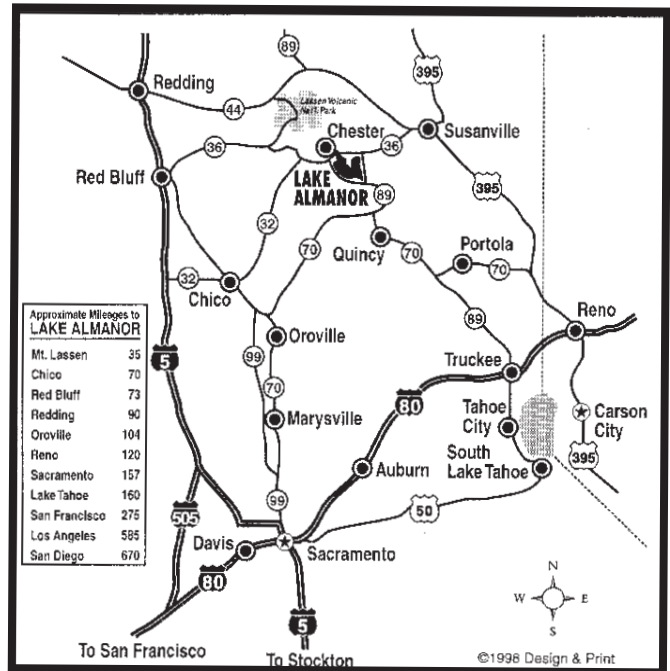
Lots of Raffle and Door Prizes

Fish Plants D.F.W. 2013

0*	Salmon
53,000	Eagle Lake Rainbows
10,000	Browns
50,000	Rainbows (AFA Cages)
113,000	Total

* No triploid Salmon available for 2013

In past years we have published D.F.W.'s projected fish plants. Do to current policy, D.F.W. is unable to provide The Almanor Fishing Association with 2014 future fish plants.



CALIFORNIANS TURN IN POACHERS AND POLLUTERS

1 888 DFG-CALTIP(888 334-2258)

A Confidential Secret Witness Program

Californians Turn in Poachers and Polluters (CALTIP) is a confidential secret witness program that encourages the public to provide California Department of Fish and Wildlife Services with factual information leading to the arrest of poachers and polluters.

CALTIP was introduced in California in 1981 in order to give Californians an opportunity to help protect the state's fish and wildlife resources. The toll free telephone number operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You do not have to give your name.

FISHING FYI'S

SPORT FISHING LICENSE ONLINE NOW

You can now buy your sport fishing license online & print them with internet access.

Licenses are required of any person 16 years of age or older.

To get your fishing license online go to www.dfg.ca.gov.

You can print a temporary document for immediate use which will be valid for 15 days. The original will be mailed to you.

Must use a Visa or MasterCard for secure purchasing.

FREE FISHING DAYS FOR 2014

July 5th (Saturday) and

Sept 6th (Saturday)

On Free Fishing days, Californians can fish any freshwater lakes without a fishing license. All fishing regulations remain in effect.

ALMANOR FISHING ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Dengler, President
Eric Rudgers, Vice President
Tommy Gaither, Treasurer
Ray Pallari, Board Member
Gary Spence, Board Member
Robert Gonzalez, Board Member
Paul Garrido, Honorary Member
Jim Pleau, Honorary Member

If it concerns fishing, we're concerned!

Visit the AFA WebSite at
www.almanorfishingassociation.com
or e-mail us at
almanorfishing@sbcglobal.net