

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Fishing tip:

Next Report – Fishing Journal.

Legislation and/or News

DFG released their latest update on the lawsuit by adding 21 waters that can be stocked and removing 44 from the last list. You can go on their web site and see the entire list.

There are some rough roads ahead, so click it and hold on.

Fishing Report:

Not all waters above 9000 feet are thawed, but are rotten, please be careful and make the right decision when determining if the ice is safe to go out on if you want to slide a fly off the edge.

Remember to check the regulations prior to fishing unfamiliar water as to limits, size, and gear.

ROCK CREEK has been doing fairly well on large, of course, wooly buggers in dark purple, black or burgundy, still waiting to hear about the upper road.

HOT CREEK - Breezy afternoons with flows around 90-94cfs Midge in the afternoon, BWO mid-day, and caddis by afternoon on warmer days and the dry fly action is nil, and if you are not getting takes, try some WD-40 in olive or black, #16 Zebra or Pheasant Tails or olive or grey Scuds #14-16, olive fox pupa #16, or Parachute Adams size 16-20. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of New Zealand mud snails.

CROWLEY - Water temperature is the only thing that will bring fish to net. A thermometer will help locate the optimum temperature for feeding trout (46-50 degrees). Water is clear with only some sediment in the north arm. North area access has been restricted. According to the "master caster", use the 5 minute move, if no fish after 5, move. Check with the store for exact areas as they constantly change. Clear water with Optimidges probably around 11-13 feet, but test the waters. UPPER OWENS is flowing at about 90cfs and a little off color and very cold. Nymphing will see action with Optimidge #16-18 all colors, WD-40 black or grey, #16-18 Pheasant Tails, and Copper John in 16-18, and my personal favorite, the Zug Bug #16. Feeding fish are voracious between 11am and 4pm. Some dry action on Elk Hair Caddis in olive, and #18 Stimulators, Parachute Adams #18, and also Docs Twin Lake special in olive, black or brown. Doc Randall's ashes are to be spread in early June. He invented the Twin Lakes special.

CONVICT was stocked and good numbers of trout are coming to the surface reviewing your techniques so you better have your best ready if you want to see the best. Again, try some dark wooly buggers; spruce flies even some small streamers on the southwest corner. If you can use weighted flies, metal on their heads, propellers on their noses, then a gummy minnow might not be a bad choice.

MAMMOTH BASIN Twin Lakes has been doing fair to good with dark wooly buggers by the inlets and on the west side of the first section. Lakers are still on their drive and need to lift their heels when attempting free throws. Maybe Orlando has a chance.

SAN JOAQUIN ROAD plowing started May 10th as usual, so check with Forest Service in Mammoth Lakes for an exact opening date. 760.924.5500

JUNE LAKE - June Lake marina cage culture program released is still releasing some great cutthroats, and Tubing has been producing some nice trout. Don't underestimate your observation as to bugs, purchase a thermometer and drop your sinking line or sink tip to the optimum temp for feeding. GULL LAKE produced some nice rod benders on Hornbergs, Matukas and spruce flies, it's like free throw, every time you throw your line a trout hits the net, if he's Kobe.

SILVER LAKE has been doing the best near the weedy areas on both the East and south ends on large streamers, Hornbergs and Olive Elk Hair Caddis near the weeds at the north end toward Rush Creek.

GRANT LAKE is ice free and being fed at the west end by Rush Creek and more water is starting to come down and a lot of fish in the stream are moving into the lake.

LUNDY opened Memorial weekend and got some nice Alpers with a few hitting the Pistol Pete's (wooly buggers style). Edison is still doing repair work on the dam, but reports state it may be on the low side the duration of the trout season unless something happens.

VIRGINIA LAKES- The roads are all clear, and the lower creek campground is open at both ends. Fishing has been sensational during this siege of summer storms both in Big Virginia and Little Virginia. Some nice fish have been taking buggers near the inlet and some midges at the outlet. DFG planted both lakes last week along with Alpers in both lakes, and Little Virginia got a load of browns from the Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation. Dark Wooly buggers (BH) black, dark rust, purple or brown have been chewed up and not much action on the surface as the water temp is around 48 degrees. Mosquitoes are heavy, bring the "juice".

EAST WALKER flow is at 150cfs. Gourmet bugs have turned the fishing into the hottest place around if you know how to handle yourself in the flow. Weather took a bit of a change with summer thunderstorms washing a lot of bugs into the water. The Beatis hatch is caput, and Caddis may start to crank if the weather holds. Midge and stones are still on the menu so try some Stimulators #14, Parachute Caddis #16, #18 Zebras, Black Beauties, FB Pheasant Tail, Rock Worm #16-18 in dirty olive, or Hare's Ear in 14-16.

BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR water is low but rising slowly with water temp around 50-52. Water has been stocked with sub-catchable DFG bows recently and literally a ton of big fish last fall. Some Alpers were also added for more excitement. The Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation stocked catchable brown trout last fall and will be getting more in the near future. Try Hornbergs #10, Punk Perch #10, Zebra, Tiger, Black Beauty or Optimidge in dark grey #16-18. WEST WALKER flow is 708cfs and a definite Class III.

Only place to fish is at the south end near the first bridge and don't forget the bungee cord and attach an improved clinch knot to your SUV or maybe something larger, like the bridge. PASSES are open but subject to storm closures so check before you make the trip.

See you on the water. CJ 9.5