



TECH BULLETIN

OREGON

PAULINA LAKE

Compiled from the Diaries and Logs of the Luhr Jensen Fishing Research Team.

By John Hofferd

Paulina Lake is a large, very popular lake located in the Paulina Mountains, southeast of Bend. Leaving Hwy 97 some five miles north of La Pine, about 13 miles of paved road (No. 2129) run east to the lake. The road continues past Paulina five miles to East Lake, its sister in the Newberry Crater. Paulina is the larger with about 1,400 acres of water. The resort is at the west end of the lake. A few summer homes are located on the south shoreline, so please don't trample the flowers. Good forest camps can be found on the east and southwest shores. These camps will hold trailers and have boat launching sites. This lake can "kick up" quickly in a storm, so be cautious, especially in small boats. For information, call 541-536-2240.

The angling at Paulina Lake is consistent from year-to-year, with especially good catches of kokanee. These are the predominant fish, with the average running from 12 to 18 inches and some lunkers going to 4 lbs. Trophy German brown trout and rainbow are also

available. eral years ago and now make a good contribution to the midsummer catch. This is providing a fishery in the center of the lake, with fish now running in excess of 14 inches.

STATE RECORD

A 28-lb. 5-oz. German brown was caught in Paulina Lake in early October of 2002.

The previous state record for that species was 27-lb. 12-oz.

available.

Trolling and bait fishing are a toss-up for popularity, with trolling probably getting the larger fish. Diehard fly anglers will take fish consistently, especially in late summer and fall.

Kokanee were stocked experimentally sev-

SPRING

Because it is located at such a high altitude (6,331 ft.), Paulina Lake is often ice-covered right up to the opening day - usually the third weekend of April. Still- fishing, trolling or casting close to the shoreline are the best bets for the early season. Concentrate your efforts close to the bank and within 35 feet of the surface for the rainbows and browns.

Casting lures from shore in early spring and in the fall is an effective method for catching large brown trout and rainbows. Use a *Super Duper*® or 1/4-oz. *Krocodile*® spoon. The Kroc is a favorite in windy conditions because of its tremendous "castability".

Change the speed of your retrieve often as a stop-and-go technique is very enticing to

The Record-Taking Lure!



7" Rainbow Pattern AC Plug™



TROLLING TIPS

Here are some techniques you can use to make trolling easier, more fun and more productive.

1. TROLL SLOWLY: Big fish will not expend any more energy than necessary to catch a meal. Also, most lures will not perform correctly at fast speeds. The best advice is to troll s-l-o-w-l-y -- the slower the better.

2. VARY YOUR SPEED: While slow is the password, this does not mean slow all the time. A lure running through the water at a constant speed, at a constant depth and giving off the same vibration pattern will not catch many fish . . . there's just nothing to indicate an easy meal is available or that something is in trouble. Slowly, yes, but adjust your speed every few minutes to change the lure's speed and vibration pattern.

3. WORK IN "S" CURVES: Consistent trolling results require that you do everything possible to keep from running in a straight line. We recommend an "S" pattern because each time the troll and lure are on the inside swing of the boat, the lure will drop deeper and slow down. On an outside turn, it will speed up and rise. With each turn you will impart a different action to the troll and trailing lure, signaling "Meal Time" to nearby fish.

HOT TACKLE FOR PAULINA



SUMMER

Hot summer days push fish into deeper water but fishing remains good if you concentrate your efforts where they congregate. Rainbows can be caught from mid-depth (20 to 60 feet) and browns caught shallow in the early morning and late evening. They are found around rapid drop-offs, rock shelves in 40-ft. or deeper water. Kokanee will school up, usually at or around the 40-ft. depth and may be found throughout the middle of the lake.

FALL

Fall fishing finds cooler water conditions and more active fish as winter approaches. Spring tactics again become most popular as the fish move into shallower water to feed, in preparation for the cold weather ahead. German browns and kokanee spawn in the fall, so efforts should be concentrated in shallower water areas. Look for gravel lake bottom or for underwater springs and creeks for best success. Fish at this time of year become very irritable and will strike out at anything that passes near them.

TECHNIQUE HINTS

RAINBOW TROUT: Still-fish near the bottom with salmon eggs, worms, Velveeta cheese, Berkley Power Bait, etc. *Jensen Dodgers™*, *Giant Cowbell®* or *Ford Fender®* lake trolls make excellent attractors. Probably the most critical aspect of setting up your trolling outfit is to use a rather long leader from the attractor to the lure or bait. Because of the lake's crystal-clear water, you need a longer leader between lake troll flasher and lure or bait than is the custom elsewhere. A leader length of at least 36 to 84 inches is recommended.

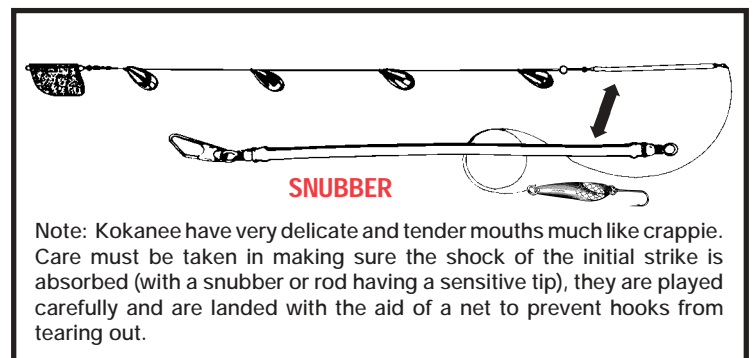
GERMAN BROWNS: Troll near shoreline or drift and cast to the bank with Krocodile spoons. Change the speed of retrieve often to get the most strikes. Try trolling a K14 *Kwikfish®*. Brown trout are predators, so fish-imitating finishes work the best.

KOKANEE: Troll using a Giant Cowbell or a Jensen Dodger for an attractor. The 3/0 model dodger is perfect for kokanee trolling. Most anglers find trolling a *Needlefish®*, *Kokanee King™*, Super Duper or a *Hot Shot®* 18" to 60" behind a lake troll also a very effective kokanee technique when fish are near the surface in spring and fall. Flatlining, a technique whereby a small troll, lure or lure tipped with bait is let out behind the boat and trolled close to the surface in the top 10 feet of water with little or no weight attached. It is particularly adaptable to light tackle where 4- to 8-lb. test main line commonly is used. It can also be used in conjunction with floating or slow-sinking fly lines with good

results, utilizing 15 to 25 feet of 4- to 6-lb. test mono as leader.

Trolls are especially effective for kokanee in medium to deep water or on overcast days. Small trolls can be flat lined with the larger models geared for deeper running. The "*Kokanee Trolling Rig*" (with rudder, Cowbell troll, snubber, leader and No. 1 *Rainbow Needlefish*) is deadly for kokoes and should be rigged as illustrated below. A Jensen Dodger or Ford Fender are also effective. A troll appeals to several fish feeding instincts, providing flash and visual attraction and, particularly in the case of kokanee, representing other kokanee feeding. When trolled, the blades act as attractors, kokanee follow the sound and flash to the source, spot the trailing lure and attack it. For extra appeal, tip your hook with white corn.

When fish schools can be located, maintain your position directly above them and use 1/2-oz. and 3/4-oz. *Crippled Herring®* or *.025 Nordic™*, minnow-imitating jigs. These produce great results but colors vary with conditions. This technique can be extremely effective when weather conditions permit. Use a short twitching motion of the fishing rod for best results.



KEEP YOUR HOOKS SHARP!

One of the easiest things you can do to improve your fishing success is to maintain super-sharp hooks on your lures at all times. A fine-toothed file such as Luhr Jensen's *Sharp Hook File™* is the absolute best hook sharpening tool available. Hold the file parallel to the hook point and with gentle, one-way strokes, remove a small amount of metal on at least two sides to obtain a sticky-sharp point with a knife-like cutting edge.

To obtain a copy of our *Hook Sharpening Tech Sheet #8822-565*, send a business size self-addressed, stamped envelope to Luhr Jensen Hook Sharpening Tech Sheet, P.O. Box 297, Hood River, OR 97031, Attn: Customer Service.

