

FISHING ON THE MONUMENT

In Celebration of Newberry National Volcanic Monument



Fish catch from Paulina Lake in 1934. Photo Courtesy of USFS

Fingerling Legacy in the Caldera

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In July of 1912, thousands of Rainbow trout fingerlings made a treacherous journey by four horse wagons from Bend to the Newberry Caldera. They became the first fish to live in both Paulina and East Lakes. One can only imagine the amount of sloshing that took place on the rutted wagon path. The fish stocking was proposed by the La Pine Commercial Club and supported by the Oregon Game Commission as a way to provide more recreation and fishing opportunities for local citizens, and in hopes of increasing the number of leisure tourists to Central Oregon.

Today, both lakes are regularly stocked by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. They stock approximately 20,000 Kokanee, 65,000 Rainbow trout and 10,000 Brown trout fingerlings each Spring in Paulina Lake. Similarly, East Lake receives 115,000 Rainbow trout, 20,000 Brown trout and 50,000 Brown trout fingerlings every Spring. You can also find Tui chub and Blue chub in the caldera.



Fish Stocking at East Lake in 1912 - Photo Courtesy of USFS

These volcanic lakes have become a happy home for fish who have grown large eating abundant insects, fish and other food readily available to them. In fact, the largest brown trout caught on record in the State of Oregon was caught at Paulina Lake in 2002 weighing in at an astounding – 28 lb., 5 oz.



Ladies Ice Fishing at East Lake - Photo Courtesy of USFS

This catch eclipsed previous records, also set at Paulina Lake. The Newberry Caldera is a dream for those who love to fish, and beginners alike. You can find great fishing from the shores of each lake, or out on a boat available for rent at the local marinas. Just remember to follow ODFW fishing guidelines and to purchase your license before you wet your line.