

Lake Coeur d'Alene Anglers Association

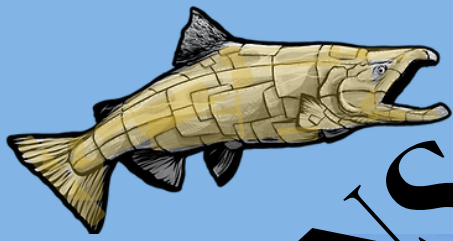
40TH BIG ONE DERBY JULY 24-28, 2024

2023 Big One
Derby Winner
Andy Hartin
27.30 Lbs



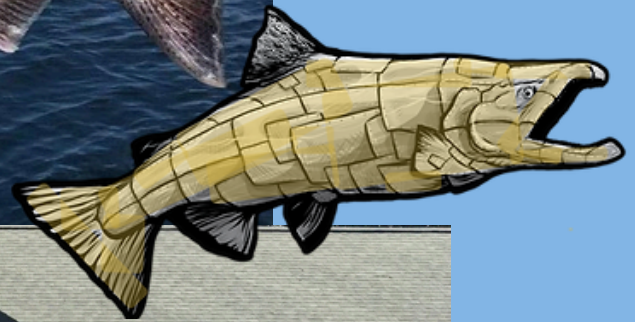
LCAA 40TH ANNUAL
BIG ONE DERBY 2024





FINS & FEATHERS

Your Derby Headquarters



YOUR AREA FISHING EXPERTS
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YOUR DERBY HEADQUARTERS



Letter from Fish Whisperer

Hello derby Anglers! Welcome to the 40th Annual Big One Derby. Time flies when you are having fun. Wasn't it just 1984?

If there's one thing I enjoy it's spreading the good word about our fishing community. The fishing history, angler competition, camaraderie, club members, board members, sponsors and or auction contributors have stepped up for 40 years. It takes a team effort & I want to personally thank you for all of your years of support.

As we transition in 2024 to a few new board members/club members, sponsors, I'd like to welcome back the hard copy LCAA newsletter. It takes time to transition & after 3 decades of editorial & organizational leadership, our beloved Benita Galland has turned over the keys to the spaceship.

Please help us to create & take on this task in the coming year. If you have ideas, input, fishing stories, experience with advertising, layout, design etc, feel free to reach out. We need your support & we would love to develop new community sponsorships along the way. It would be fantastic to rebuild previous advertising partnerships with sponsors that we may have lost through the Covid years. To our valued membership, your continued LCAA support/participation is greatly appreciated!!!

Many have probably heard by now that the LCAA has proposed a 2- over 24" minimum length (up from the current 2- over 20") on CDA lake chinook salmon. Our hopes are that we may be able to save a few 1-2 year old fish & grow the fishery over the next cycle of fish. We are experiencing a surge in smaller fish, so we have high hopes they stick around to be 4 year olds. We have had multiple meetings and discussions with IDFG. Shout out to Rick Alsagar, Bill Miles & Mike Mitale, who spoke at the recent annual IDFG state conference on the minimum length topic. You guys are a great reflection of the LCAA & are appreciated. We will know soon after public comment, if new length proposal shall change in 2025. We will notify the membership/general public as soon as we hear. Thanks to everyone that logged on to the IDFG website with your input. It takes an army to implement/advise change.

As we celebrate year 40 we hope that you mark your calendar and join us this summer for this year's Big One Derby event. July 24-28, 2024.

We currently have a Super Raffle going on (see page #15 of newsletter)

The Super raffle is currently our main revenue stream along with the Cabin Fever Auction. I'm asking all club members to support the raffle by purchasing/selling the \$10 raffle tickets. If you want to purchase tickets reach out & I'll get them to you!

The goal is that creating a new LCAA hard copy newsletter, will help create new & rekindle previous advertising partnerships from our community sponsors.

I'll be the 1st to admit that the fishery often has a huge impact on angler interest. When the fishing is good, the club thrives, angler support thrives, tackle shops thrive, sponsors thrive. I can't promise everyone a Big fish, but I can assure you we are working hard behind the scenes to make the 40th Annual Big One Derby as memorable as ever!

Yes there will be fun, yes there will be fish caught, yes there will be trivia & yes we will celebrate at the awards ceremony August 3rd at the Eagles Memorial Park on 15th Street in CDA.

I'm honored to be your 40th Annual Big One Derby, derby master. Best advice: Make sure you have a functional VHF radio for safety / to stay up to date on derby information. Remember, channel 16 is for contact & emergency traffic only. After contact, make sure to take all other radio traffic to another channel. I (Roger Blackstone/Fish Whisperer) will notify derby anglers and give information out throughout the entire contest. If you need to contact me by radio, haley Fish Whisperer on ch 16. Make sure to read your derby ticket rules, boat safely & respect your fellow anglers. If you have any questions, reach out.

I hope this publication is the start of many new opportunities. A huge Thank You to our Secretary, Christie Hartin for taking on the newsletter challenge. We appreciate you!!!

In closing, I look forward to seeing all my fishy friends on the water. Whether it's your 1st or 40th Big One Derby, I hope you will join us.

Cheers to All the Years!
Fish Whisperer

**Derby Master & LCAA President
Roger Blackstone**



Hello Anglers, I am Roger Blackstone, President of the LCAA and your derby master for the 40th Annual Lake Coeur d'Alene Anglers Association Big One Chinook Derby 2024.

Keep your radios on and tuned to channel 16 as I will be announcing daily winnings and updates throughout the day. We will have trivia, trivia prizes, daily catch prizes and overall fun during this derby. Make sure you keep an eye out for the ducks! Good Luck!!

**Big One Derby is Managed by:
Lake Coeur d'Alene Anglers Association
PO Box 2004
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816**

**Board of Directors
President: Roger Blackstone
Vice President: William Miles
Treasurer: Donna Schwenk
Secretary: Christie Hartin
Membership: Donna Schwenk
Web Coordinator: Bret Merry
Derby Newsletter: Christie Hartin
Board Members:**

Benita Galland, Jim Morrison, Mike Mitale, Don Houk, Susan Houk, Andy Hartin, Rick Alsagar, Debi Alsagar, Bill Shaffer, Bob Priebe, Bret Merry and Jim Clamp.

Visit our website: www.lcaaidaho.com



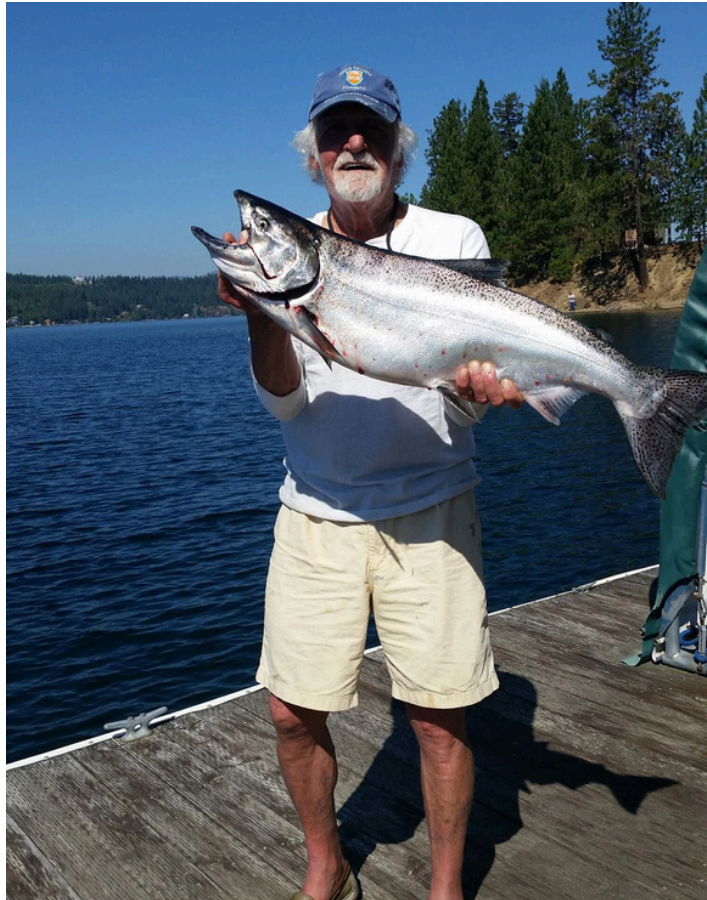
Frisky Jenny \$150 Challenge

The 1st derby angler to weigh in a fish BIGGER than last years Big One Derby Champion, Andy Hartin, will receive \$150

Beat Andy's 27.30 pound winner!

Susan and Don Houk would like to thank all of the anglers who support their business and wish them all good luck in the derby!

40th Annual Big One Derby 2024



2024 Honorary Veteran LCAA Member Don Fabian

This year we honor our friend, the remarkable Don Fabian. Don, (Phantom) LCAA original club editor, a board member, fabulous host who contributed countless years of club work.

To me, Don was a true American Hero. United States Marine, Korean War Veteran, Purple Heart recipient & extremely humble, talented man. I was proud to call him a friend. I'll miss his wisdom, compassion, generosity & complements as he kept me thinking in between laughter. We shared our brotherhood of being part of the few, the proud, the Marines.

To say I was honored to speak at Don's memorial service, is an understatement. I'll never forget you my friend. Rest easy Phantom, you were 1 in a million.

Fish Whisperer



WE SUPPORT VETERANS



Chinook Big One Derby
Proceeds go to support our
Veterans Programs
Tunnel 2 Towers, Honor Flight,
Wounded Warriors, American
Legion (St. Maries), Newby
Ginnings & Veterans Family
Christmas

Thank you for your support



LCAA Past Derby Winners & 40 years of Celebration

1985 Joe Miller 29lbs

1986 Joe Cross 33lbs

1987 Gayne Clifford 41 lbs

1988 Forrest Graham 30lbs

1989 Michael Klein Jr. 30lbs

1990 Tom Hasenoehrl 33lbs

1991 Mary Ann Palmer 29lbs

1992 Dick Fulton 31lbs

1993 Jen Overson 23lbs

1994 Leo Wolf 30lbs

1995 Jerry Sturgis 26lbs

1996 Bob Oberg 23lbs

1997 Ernie Crossley 22lbs

1998 Frank Whitney Sr. 23lbs

1999 Benita Galland 20lbs

2000 Bucky Finley 17 lbs

2001 Butch Hall 19lbs

2002 Benita Galland 20lbs

2003 Ron James 24lbs

2004 Brett Nearing 21lbs

2005 Len Schwenk 18lbs

2006 Bill Shaffer 17lbs

2007 Dave O'Neil 17lbs

2008 Clarice Priebe 17lbs

2009 Wayne Dreager 20lbs

2010 Dan Rife 24lbs

2011 Frank Whitney Sr. 25lbs

2012 Mary Finley 26lbs

2013 Doug Sheldon 23lbs

2014 Jordon Smith 24lbs

2015 Dave Palmer 28lbs

2016 Jim Almond 24lbs

2017 Andy Hopek 23lbs

2018 Denny Stewart 24lbs

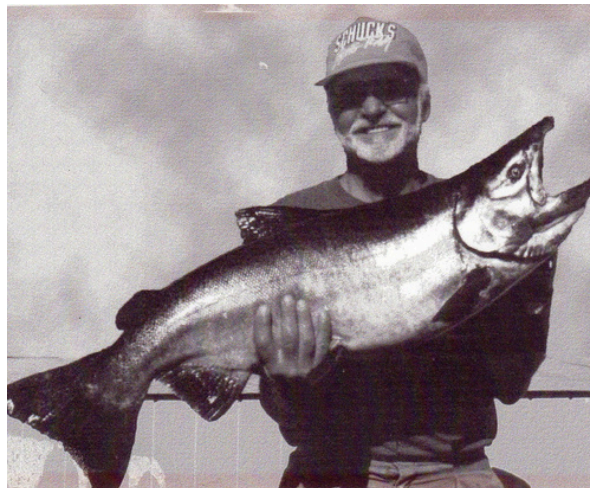
2019 Bret Home 13lbs

2020 Mike Mitale 17lbs

2021 John Perez 28lbs

2022 Mike Mitale 22lbs

2023 Andy Hartin 27lbs



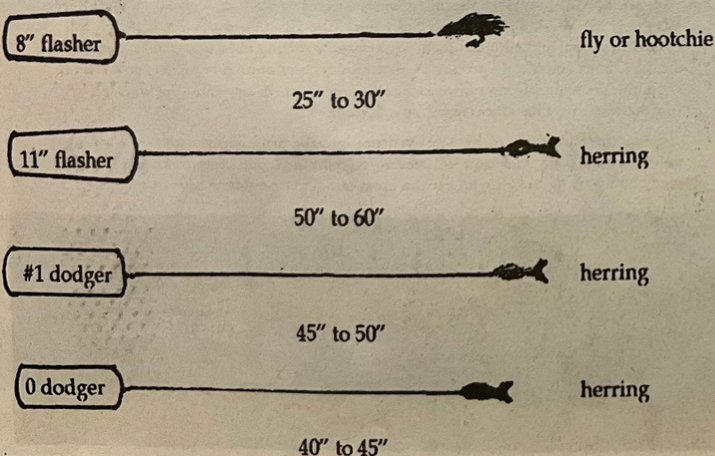
Don Fabian

Don Houk's Rule of Thumb

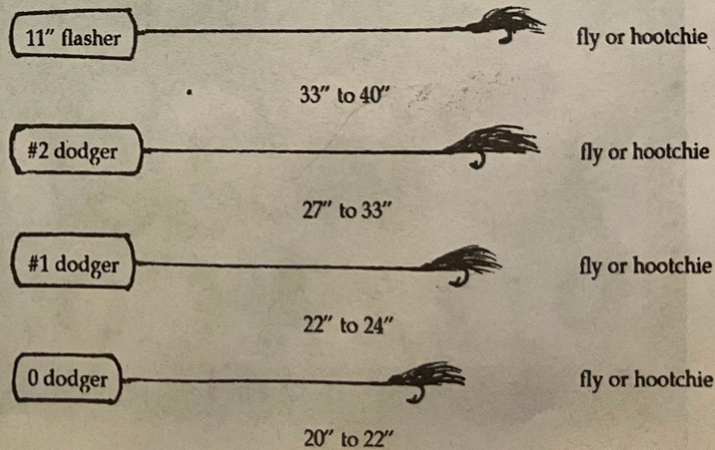
These combinations have worked consistently over the years for Lake Coeur d'Alene chi-nook salmon. When I'm running a fly or hoochie in combination with either a flasher /dodger, I'll use a 20# leader. On herring and flasher/dodger combinations, I'll use a 15 # leader.

There are no set rules with any of these setups. At times, speeding up or slowing down may help. Maybe a little longer or shorter leader is needed. Your setup may work better 100 feet behind the downrigger ball rather than 30 feet. Sometimes the slightest change in your presentation will be enough to trigger a strike. Good luck to you!

Recommended Trolling Speed 1.6 mph to 1.8



Recommended Trolling Speed 1.3 mph to 1.5



Frisky Jenny Flies is immensely grateful for your continual support of the Frisky Jenny products! Thank you for being part of our 39 year success story!!
Susan and Don Houk

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Coeur d'Alene ID, 83814
208-667-3474

FriskyJennyFlies.com

Family Fishing Folly's

I consider myself to be a very fortunate man by the choices I have made and the people I have been around thus far in my life. Let me start by giving you a little overview of my family. I am the youngest of six, 5 boys and 1 girl, she is lucky to have any marbles left in her head. My dad was born in 1917 in Vermont, living a dream life, in my opinion, fishing/hunting daily to put food on the table. He told me a story of how the one room school house he went to for K-12, had a place to put your rifle. He would walk in the school house door, take his cap and jacket off and hang them on the hook, place his book bag on a shelf and lean his rifle in the V notch next to his jacket. If anyone was late to school, there was no worry, it was just assumed they had hunted on the way to school and would be there as soon.

Back to the story, my dad was 47 years old when I entered the world. He worked long hard days to provide for his family. There was not a lot of money but we weren't in want of a lot of things. There was a lot of hand me downs and rustic meals. He always had time to take us hunting and fishing for quality family time. We all thought it was awesome!

We can talk about what my mom thought about it later.

Here is where the story begins; from age 10 to whatever I wanted to rent a boat at the local lake. We fished from shore at least 3 times per month. I used to watch people zoom by on the lake, going to far away destinations or trolling by and reeling up giant fish you could only catch from a boat, (in my mind). My birthday came on a Thursday, my dad started getting the fishing gear ready for me and my brother's days in advance. The excitement would grow with everyday getting closer. Saturday arrives just in time, my brothers and I load up in the family truckster, aka: the family ford station wagon with blood stained carpet from the deer that were harvested the year before. My mom had packed us a lunch basket that we got into before we left the driveway. Not long after we arrived at the lake my dad parked the wagon and said, "stay in the car and be quiet". He wandered off into the darkness towards a small light that reflected off the lake. Of course the fighting began before he got out of sight, standard daily event. He came back 20 minutes later wearing a life jacket from WWII cinched down so tight his voice changed an octave or two. I have to mention that my dad didn't swim at all and was not happy about water activities. The boys on the other hand, loved the water and that made my dad happy we didn't inherit his fears. We exited the wagon and lined up to get our arms filled with fishing poles, tackle boxes, nets and bait. He packed everything you need for 6 days on the water or a half day boat rental. We marched down to the water, happy as could be, with the light just coming up over the horizon. We walked down to the boat dock by all the 12 and 16 foot aluminum boats, all fixed with engines, my dream has come true. We keep walking right to a 12 foot boat with NO engine and only oars. The whining began in my mind but wouldn't come out of my mouth, "this is NOT what I wanted for my birthday". The "you should be thankful" began to come out of my dad's mouth. Can he hear my thoughts? "In MY day", began flowing from dad's mouth like a raging river. We accepted our fate and got into the boat. Dad sat in the back so he could see where we were going. My two brothers began rowing and my dad started deploying 4 poles before we even left the safety of the marina. My father had 4 poles out with at least two of the lures still back at the dock. He went on to tell us how the fish love the action of the rowing and that is why he opted for a non motorized vessel for us. After about an hour we started to bounce off the sides of the boat and my dad started to freak out over the boat rocking back and forth. I have to tell you the age of our crew on the boat.

I was 10 years and two days old and my brother closest in age was 14 and the next was 16 and my dad was 57, his sense of humor was worn out. I think after the first hour my dad closed the bales on the reels with hundreds of feet of line out and the fishing began. We got about 2 hours into the troll and no fish YET! I looked at my older brother and he was standing on the bow of the boat with a net in his hand. WHAT? The next thing we know he is netting something. That is when we all learned that rattle snakes swim. The net came into the boat with a 3 foot rattlesnake slithering through the holes in the net and promptly fell into the boat. We all jumped up and got on the sides of the boat, my father yelling profanities, the boat listing heavily to one side as the snake was thrown out of the boat. My dad was surprisingly calm and preceded to direct us to the shoreline where he promptly got out of the boat and started walking towards the marina.

The three of us rowed the boat back to the marina while giggling quietly so he wouldn't hear us. We could hear my dad yell out profanities like a crazy person walking down a busy street whilst wearing his orange life jacket. An hour later we were driving down the road, in the back seat, dad with his life jacket still intact.

It was 5 years before we could talk about the story without his profanities.

Happy Fishing,
Lip Ripkin

ENTRANT DERBY RULES

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE IDAHO FISH AND GAME AND THE CDA TRIBAL RULES & REGULATIONS. Any Angler receiving a fishing citation while participating in the Big One Derby is automatically withdrawn as a derby entrant from this derby. All other fishermen in the boat are also disqualified.

All participants further agree to abide by the rules set forth by the Big One Derby Committee. Any disputes regarding eligibility or legality of fish or an angler, will be decided by the derby committee and all decisions are final. A polygraph test may be required.

EVERY LICENSED IDAHO ANGLER IN THE BOAT MUST HAVE A DERBY TICKET. DERBY TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT FINS AND FEATHERS OR BLACK SHEEP SPORTING GOODS.

Participants must register themselves prior to fishing. The registration form must be signed by the angler and in the anglers possession when entering a fish into the derby.

Youth 13 years old and under must register themselves, at no cost, prior to fishing. They may register as an adult and be eligible for adult prizes only.

A registered angler may enter two fish per day. Fish must be weighed in on the same day caught. All fish must be weighed in at one of the designated weigh stations, Sun Up Bay Marina on the south end or Schwenk Dock on the North End.

The fish must remain intact with entrails, taken to a derby weigh station, weighed and measured on the day it was caught. After fish have been recorded for weight, length and photographed, they can remain with the fisherman.

The only fish eligible in the adult category are Chinook Salmon 30" or larger, caught in Lake Coeur d'Alene and limited by IDFG & CDA Tribal regulations.

Chinook Salmon must be caught in Lake Coeur d'Alene ONLY. Lateral waters (tributaries and the chain lakes) ARE NOT INCLUDED. The designated boundaries of Lake Coeur d'Alene for the purpose of this derby are:

NORTHWEST: The pilings standing in the water at the mouth of the Spokane River, stay on the lake side of the pilings.

EAST: The highway bridge as it crosses over the eastern tip of Wolf Lodge Bay and the Highway 97 bridge over the Coeur d'Alene River near Harrison, stay on the lake side of the bridges.

SOUTH: The railroad trestle south of Conklin Park, stay north of the trestle. Do not go under the trestle into the Chatcolet Lake.

THESE BOUNDARIES WILL BE OBSERVED BY THE DERBY RULES COMMITTEE VIA PRIVATE BOATS AND WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF THE ANGLERS AND BE SAFE!

BOATING SAFETY LAWS ARE MANDATORY: LIFE JACKETS FOR EVERY PERSON ABOARD YOUR BOAT, LICENSE AND REGISTRATION, FLAG, HORN, PADDLE, FLOAT PAD, NAV LIGHTS REQUIRED IN THE EARLY MORNING AND LATE EVENING.

LAKE ETIQUETTE: LEAVE PLENTY OF ROOM BETWEEN BOATS ESPECIALLY WHEN BRINGING IN A FISH. DO NOT TAILGATE. LEAVE AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM BOATS AND DOCKS WHEN TROLLING. WHEN UNDERWAY AND ON PLANE, LEAVE 300 FEET BETWEEN DOCKS AND BOATS THAT ARE UNDER TROLL.

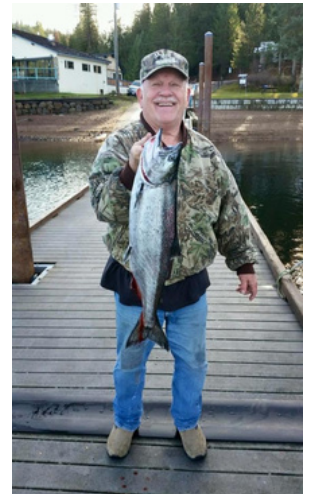
KEEP RADIOS TUNED TO CHANNEL 16 FOR UPDATES AND FISH REPORTS DAILY



40 YEARS LCAA



40 YEARS



40 YEARS



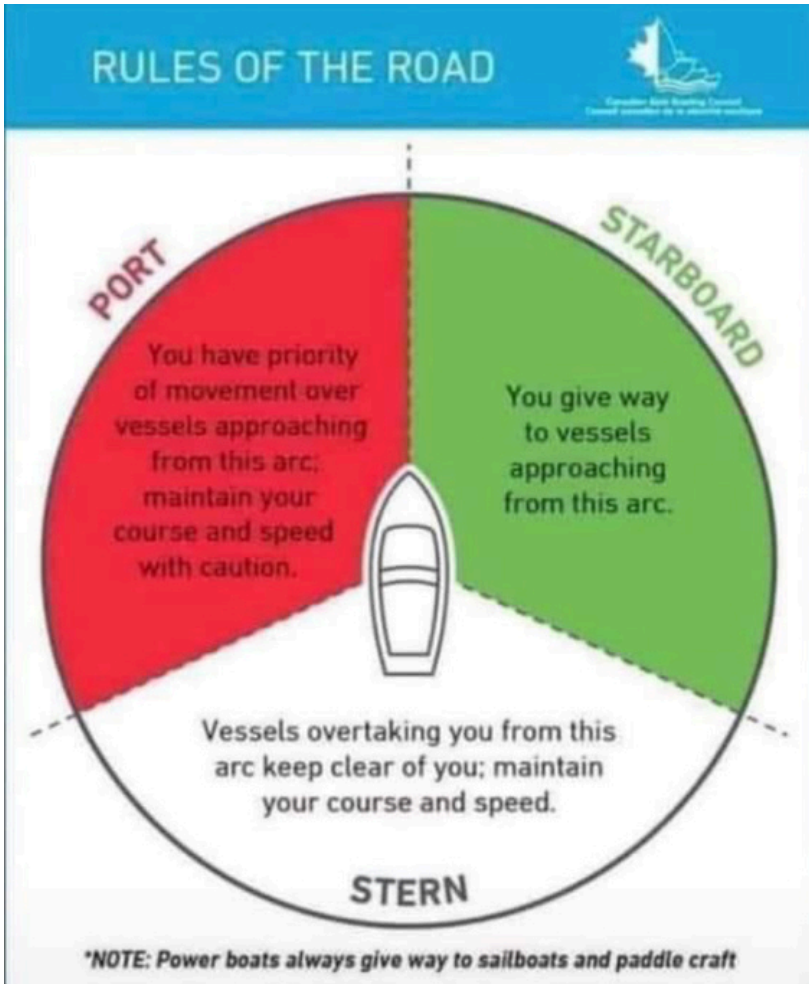
40 YEARS



40 YEARS



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**Please join us at MacKenzie River Pizza the last
Wednesday of the month for a fun filled evening of fish
stories, dinner and our club meeting. Social hour is at
6:00 pm and meeting starts at 7:00 pm.
MacKenzie River Pizza on Hwy 95 in Coeur d'Alene,
Private room is in the back of restaurant!!**

Prize drawing EVERY meeting!!

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
LAKE COEUR D'ALENE ANGLERS ASSOCIATION INC
P.O. BOX 2004
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83816-2004



PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CELL

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

BOAT NAME: _____ HANDLE: _____

Thank you for joining the LCAA. A receipt of the dues and the membership card will be mailed to you. Dues will not be sold over the phone or VHF. Cut this out and mail to the above address with your dues. Yearly dues are \$20 dollars per year for single membership or \$100 for corporate membership. Children 13 and under are free. (Please circle one)
Visit our website at lcaaidaho.com

DERBY WEIGH STATIONS

Sun Up Bay

South End Weight Station

Gas, C-Store & Launch

Wed-Sat 7am-9pm & Sun 7am-12pm

Schwenk Dock

North End Weigh Station

Wed-Sat 7am-9pm & Sun 7am-12pm



CHINOOK



40th Annual

Tickets \$50
Youth - 13 yrs and younger FREE

DERBY

July 24th - 28th, 2024 - Lake Coeur d'Alene

TOP AWARDS

1st Place	\$5000
2nd Place	\$3000
3rd Place	\$1000
4th Place	\$750
5th Place	\$500
6th-10th Place	Prizes
Youth Division Trophies & Merchandise	

DAILY PRIZES

LCAA MEMBERS ONLY	
1st Place	\$500
2nd Place	\$300
3rd Place	\$100
Largest Pike Minno \$25 a day	

Proceeds support our Veterans Programs

Tunnel 2 Towers • Honor Flight • Wounded Warriors
American Legion (St. Maries) • Newby Ginnings • Veterans Family Christmas

All fish must meet minimum length requirements to qualify for cash.

Prizes: Adult - 30", Youths - 20"

Weigh Stations: Sun Up Bay - South • Schwenk Dock - North • Wed-Sat. 7am-9pm, Sun 7am-12pm

SPONSORS: Dave Smith GMC • Blacksheep • Fins & Feathers • Anthony Pereira

Marks Marine • The Miles Insurance Team • Frisky Jenny Files • StanCraft Boat Works

Managed by the Lake Coeur d'Alene Anglers Association, Roger Blackstone Derby Master

Updated Standings @ www.lcaaidaho.com • Check us out on Facebook

Rubber Ducky Hunt

Keep your eyes on the water and your binoculars ready. Spot one of these rubber ducks, net it and bring it to the awards ceremony to collect your cash. Awards Banquet is August 3rd!



Good luck Anglers

AWARDS BANQUET
AUGUST 3RD AT THE EAGLES
EVENT PARK



Lake Coeur d'Alene Anglers

\$10

40th Annual Raffle

- SMITH & WESSON M&P 15 SPORT RIFLE* (RET. VALUE \$459) or use for items of your choice
- GLOCK 26 9MM* (RET. VALUE \$579)
- SUPER 1 FOODS \$500 GIFT CERTIFICATE (IDAHO STORES ONLY)
- VISA \$500 GIFT CARD
- CANNON MAGNUM 5 ELECTRIC DOWN RIGGER (RET. VALUE \$529)
Donated by Fins and Feathers and the Miles Insurance Team

*Drawing order (1-5) gets choice

Proceeds support our Veterans Programs

Tunnel 2 Towers • Honor Flight • Wounded Warriors
American Legion (St. Maries) • Newby Ginnings • Veterans Family Christmas
Tickets available at Fins & Feathers and all LCAA Board Members.

Drawing will be held at Big One Derby Awards

August 3rd at the Eagles Event Park

Gun donated by
Anthony Pereira

*MUST PASS FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECK

Nº 021

INCREDIBLE CASH PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN TO THE TOP 5 DERBY WINNERS. PRIZES FOR THE 6-10 PLACE WINNINGS WILL BE AMAZING!!
GRAB YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS AT FINS & FEATHERS IN COEUR D'ALENE OR FROM AN LCAA MEMBER!!

Chinook or Kokanee ????

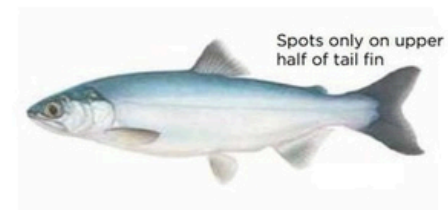
The Chinook population in the Coeur d'Alene Lake is struggling. It is the hope of LCAA that anglers will take an active roll in enhancing this special fishery. Please examine your fish and make sure you dont mistake young Chinook for Kokanee and respect the 20 inch minimum length. Releasing the Chinook to grow and spawn will ensure their future and create a strong fishery. See diagram, juvenile Chinook can be mistaken for Kokanee.

Check your fins!!

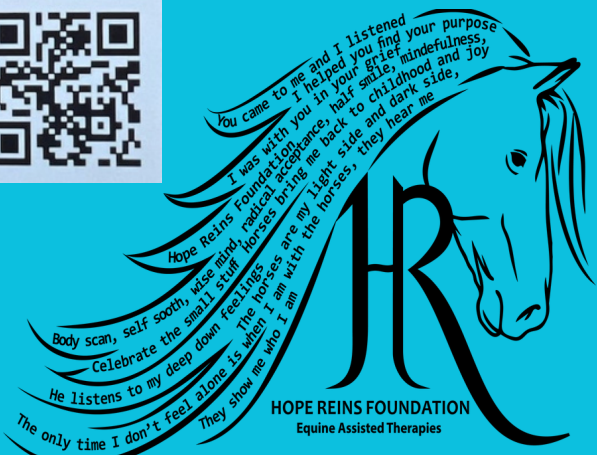


Black mouth, black gums

Adult Chinook Salmon



Kokanee (Blueback)



Hope Reins Foundation provides Equine Assisted Psychotherapy to adults, children, veterans and first responders who have experienced trauma.

Horses For Mental Health

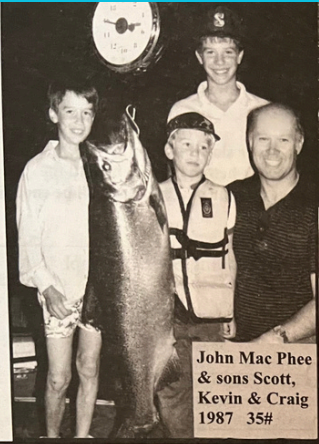
Our team of experts are located in Athol & Plummer, ID

www.HopeReinsFoundation.org

Annal Fundraiser July 12, 2024

Silver Buckle Event 2024

Tickets via QR code



John Mac Phee & sons Scott, Kevin & Craig
1987 35#

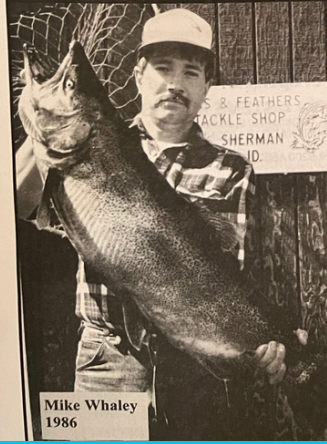


Herb Singer
1987

Some super sized chinook from the 1980's WOW!



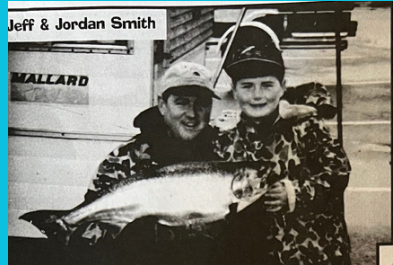
Butch Hull
1984
26 lb 11 oz



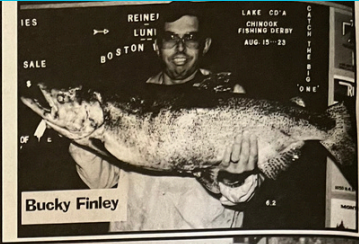
Mike Whaley
1986



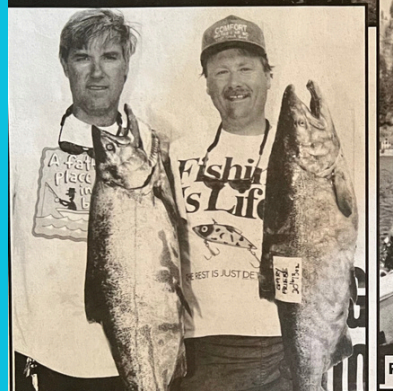
Forest Graham
1988 30lb 8 oz



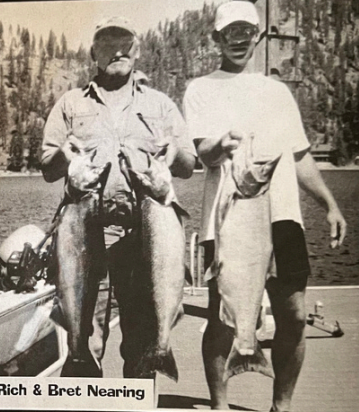
Jeff & Jordan Smith



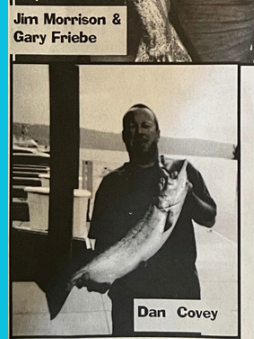
Bucky Finley



Jim Morrison & Gary Friebe



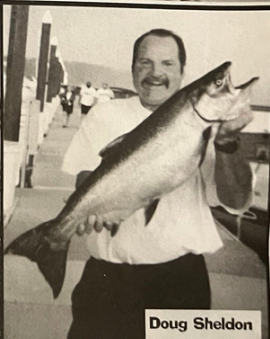
Rich & Bret Nearing



Dan Covey



Benita Galland



Doug Sheldon

Bob Oberg
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CANNON

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Dan Fialho

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StanCraft

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WWW.STANCRAFTBOATS.COM



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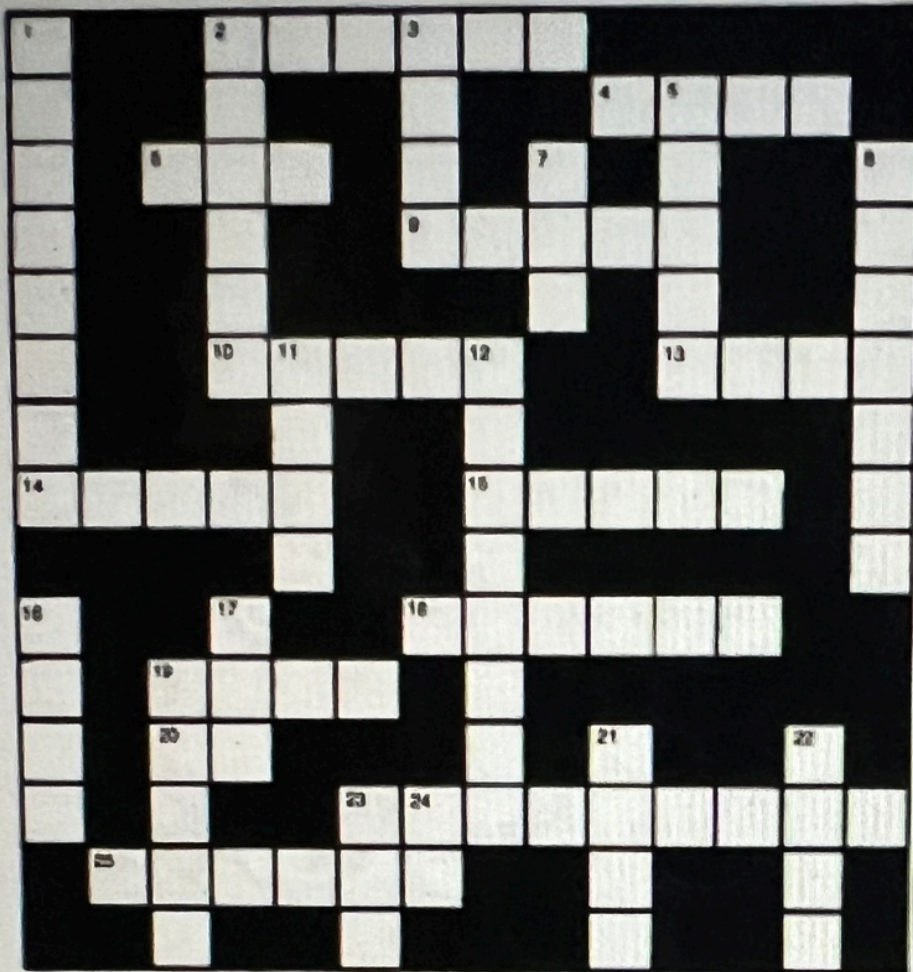
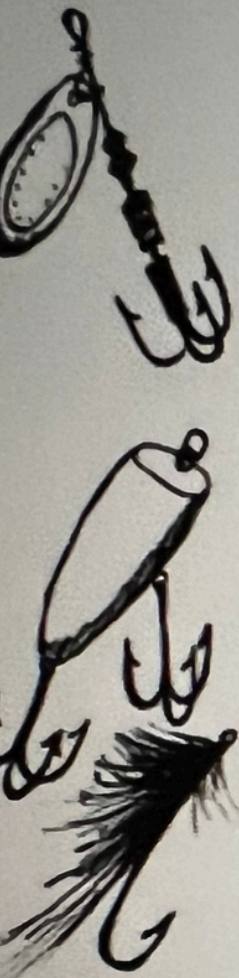
HEWES
Craft

Avalon
The Art of the Pontoon

Weldcraft

THUNDER JET

Get Hooked On Crossword Puzzles



ACROSS

2. Book is written about this fish
4. Kind of salmon whose name is the same as a nickname for a friend
6. Bulging pouch under baby salmon
9. A relative of salmon
10. To lay eggs
13. Bump on back of male salmon returning to home stream
14. A large stream of water
15. Salmon change for life in salt water during this stage
18. Small pebbles and rocks in which eggs are laid
19. A sea bird which eats salmon
20. Inside
23. Man who fishes
25. Name of young fish with yolk sacs

DOWN

1. Animal which eats other animals
2. Outside covering of fishes
3. Milky fluid from male fishes which fertilizes eggs
5. Process of coming out of the egg
7. Another name for chum salmon
8. Fleshy fin on back with no special purpose
11. Young salmon covered with dark stripes, bands of spots
12. A sense organ for smell
16. Provides food for baby salmon until they can feed themselves
17. Long journey of many salmon up rivers to spawn
19. Structures which help fish get oxygen from water
21. Salmon nest
22. Fin at rear of body
23. Many of these help fish swim
24. Inside



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SMOKED SALMON CANDY

Ingredients

5 pounds skin-on salmon pieces, cut into 1- to 2-inch thick strips

1 pound kosher salt

1 pound brown sugar

1 cup maple syrup or birch syrup

Mix the salt and brown sugar together. Find a lidded container large enough to hold the salmon; a big plastic tub works well. Lay down a layer of the salt/sugar mixture about 1/4 inch deep. Put a layer of salmon down on this, skin side up. Cover the salmon with more salt/sugar mixture. If you need a second layer of salmon, make sure the layer of salt and sugar between them is thick enough so that the pieces of salmon are not touching. Basically you are burying the salmon in salt and sugar. Cover and let cure in the fridge at least 30 minutes, and up to 3 hours. The longer the cure the saltier it will be; I cure for 2 hours.

Remove the salmon from the cure, which will get wet, and briefly rinse the fish under cold water. Pat dry with a paper towel and set the salmon on a drying rack skin side down. Let this dry in a breezy place for 2 hours, or in the fridge, uncovered, overnight. I put the racks under a ceiling fan near an open window with another fan blowing at the fish from the side. You are doing this to form a pellicle on the salmon, which helps it smoke properly. Don't skip this step!

Traditionally salmon candy is cold smoked for several days. If you can do this, go for it. Regardless, you want to bring the temperature up gradually over the course of an hour or so and let it sit at around 165°F to 200°F for at least 3 hours, and up to 6 hours if you like your salmon candy harder and smokier.

Every 90 minutes to 2 hours, paint the salmon with the maple syrup. This also helps to remove any albumen -- the icky white stuff -- that can form between the fish flakes if your smoker gets a little too hot too fast.

When the salmon looks good and lacquered, typically about 3 to 4 hours, remove it to the drying racks again and paint it one last time with the maple syrup. Allow to cool to room temperature before storing. Salmon candy will last a week in the fridge, longer if vacuum sealed. It freezes well, too.

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