

LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANS

Updated June, 2008 – C. Donley

Waters: Hatch Lake, Little Hatch Lake, Keogh Lake

Location: Hatch and Little Hatch Lakes are 5.25 miles southeast from Colville, Keogh Lake is .75 miles to the north of Hatch Lake.

	Size:	Max. Depth:	Volume:
Hatch	34 acres	34 ft	540 acre feet
Little Hatch	14 acres	10 ft	74 acre feet
Keogh	18 acres	60 ft	668 acre feet

Water Source: Mostly groundwater seep, with limited overland flow. There is no defined intermittent or year-round stream that feeds into these lakes.

Outflow: Intermittent outflow leading to adjacent wetlands. Outflow will be dry during time of treatment.

Management History:

Hatch Lake has been historically managed as production winter season trout fishery. Since the 1960s, Hatch Lake has provided a consistent winter ice fishery that has been popular for all of the greater Colville to Spokane angling base. The number of winter only fisheries in the greater Spokane area is limited to four production trout lakes. The limited amount of winter fishing opportunity renders Hatch Lake highly desirable to provide wintertime recreation. The presence of undesirable species of fish is the greatest impediment to maintaining trout fisheries in this water. Yellow perch and other warmwater species were introduced, probably illegally, into the system during the early 1960s, and six rehabilitations (1963,1971,1978,1988,1995,1999) have failed to eradicate these species.

Little Hatch and Keogh lakes are privately owned waters. Historically, they have been rehabilitated to prevent the re-introduction of undesirable species into Hatch Lake. Generally, in exchange for using rotenone on the private lakes WDFW will do the initial restocking of Little Hatch and Keogh Lakes. There are no management or harvest objectives for these private waters.

T&E Flora and Fauna: Professionals from many resource agencies have visited this site countless times during the last 50 years. No known report exists of any threatened or endangered species habitually found in or near these lakes. Occasional visits from both bald and golden eagles occur, although no nests of these two species are known in the area. Protected species of waterfowl and other birds frequently are found here at times, as well.

Current Management Objectives:

Hatch Lake is a winter opener, December 1 to March 31, production fishery. Five trout limit, no size or gear restrictions. Provide 2 to 5 rainbow trout per angler trip with a carryover harvest rate of 10 to 15 percent. Fishery should generate a minimum of 2,500 angler-trips per season.

1. Fishery Objectives:

Species	Type	Category	Fish/Hour	Fish/Angler	Exploit. Rate
Rainbow	Production	Opening Day	2	3 to 5	85%- 90% 1 yr cohort
Rainbow	Production	Remainder of season	1	2 to 3	85%-90% 1 yr cohort

2. Angler use objective (# angler days): Season – 2,500 angler days on water

3. Stocking Objectives:

<u>Lake</u>	Species	Number of Fish Stocked			Planting Month
		Total	/Acre	/Pound	
Hatch - Year 1	Rainbow	10,000	294	<100	April-May
	Rainbow	3,500	102	≤ 5	March-April, <i>first year post rehabilitation</i>
Year 2	Rainbow	10,000	294	<100	April-May
Year 3	Rainbow	10,000	294	<100	April-May
Year 4	Rainbow	10,000	294	<100	April-May
Year 5	Rainbow	10,000	294	<100	April-May
Little Hatch	Rainbow	2,000		<100	April-May
	Rainbow	500		≤ 5	March-April, <i>first year post rehabilitation</i>
Keogh	Rainbow	5,000		<100	April-May
	Rainbow	500		≤ 5	March-April, <i>first year post rehabilitation</i>

Management Strategy:

- Plant rainbow fry and catchables in spring.
- Check yearling growth; should be about 11 inches, adjust stocking rate as necessary.
- Harvest 85%- 90% of yearling fish by end of season.
- Monitor all fish species periodically by electrofishing or netting.
- Control spiny-ray species with rotenone when trout survival is inadequate to produce an acceptable fishery.