

## LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANS

**Water:** Big and Little Green Lakes and connecting channel

**Management Type:** Trout Only

**Location:** Four miles west of the town of Omak, WA, Sections 12-13-24, T34N, R25E in Okanogan County

**Size:** 58 acres, 40 feet maximum depth, 990 acre feet

**Water Source:** Subsurface flow

**Outflow:** Intermittent during spring only

**Management History:** Both Green Lakes have been managed in the past as an opening day fishery with standard gear rules and daily limits. The desire by some anglers to have a winter trout fishery prompted the department in 1988 to change over to a December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> season with standard gear rules. In addition, the season was further extended in 2000 to include a catch and release portion running from April 1<sup>st</sup> until November 30<sup>th</sup>. These changes provided a variety of fishing opportunities for the local anglers on a yearlong basis. Recent illegal introductions of bluegill have seriously compromised the quality as well as the quantity of the trout populations. Fingerling trout survival has been very poor with very few yearling trout showing up in the catch.

### **Current Management Objectives:**

Continue to manage this lake for a trout-only fishery with the present season. Provide at least four yearling and one carryover rainbow trout per angler trip during the winter fishery for up to 5,000 angler-trips per season.

### **(1) Sport Fishery Objectives:**

<u>Species</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Number of Fish</u>		<u>Avg.Size</u>	<u>Exploit.</u>
			<u>/hour</u>	<u>/Angler</u>		<u>Rate</u>
Rainbow	Prod	Standard	2-3	4+	11 inches	80% 1-yr-olds
		Fishery		1+	15+ inches	20% 2+-yr-olds

**(2) Sport Angler use objective (# angler days):** Season - 5,000 +

### **(3) Fish Stocking Objectives:**

<u>Lake</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number of Trout Stocked</u>			<u>Planting Month</u>
		<u>Total</u>	<u>/Acre</u>	<u>/pound</u>	
Big Green	Rainbow	10,000	49	100	April/May
Little Green	Rainbow	2,000	5	100	April/May

**(4) Management Strategy:**

- Check yearling growth; should be about 11 inches, adjust stocking rate as necessary.
- Expect 80% loss of yearling fish by end of season due to harvest and hooking mortality.
- Maintain about 15-20 percent of the catch at age 2+ years old, 15+ inch fish.
- Monitor angling activity and catch rates annually at opening day surveys.
- 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.
- Consider the use of sterile, triploid rainbow trout