

## LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANS

Updated April, 2019 – M. Schmuck

**Water(s):** Katey Lake

**Location:** Seep Lakes Wildlife Area, T17N R29E, S20 approximately 7 miles north of Othello and 6 miles southeast of the southeast corner of Potholes Reservoir, Grant County, WA

Size:	Mean Depth:	Volume:
6.6 acres	9.6 feet	64 acre-feet

**Water Source:** subsurface seepage springs

**Outflow:** None

### Management History:

Katey Lake is a small, 6.6 acre lake located on the Seep Lakes Wildlife Management Area in southern Grant County, Washington. Katey Lake has been managed as a trout-only water since its formation after the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project was finished and is open year-round. Largemouth bass were the first illegally introduced species and had been known to inhabit Katey Lake since at least 1985. The rehabilitation priority for this lake was low due to lack of funding and manpower. Rehabilitation with rotenone has been conducted only once (1996) in order to eradicate largemouth bass, bluegill and yellow perch.

Prior to the 1996 rehab the trout fishery languished due to abundant, small largemouth bass and bluegill. A post-rehab survey of Katey Lake found no live fish, and it was therefore believed to be a successful rehab.

Katey Lake has exhibited high productivity with yearling trout averaging 11 inches in spring and a relatively high carryover rate of better than 10% on age-2 fish. Historically, Katey Lake has received trout fingerlings (10-250 fish/pound) from Columbia Basin Hatchery in Moses Lake, WA. Currently Katey Lake does not receive any hatchery trout due to contamination with rough fish.

*T&E Flora and Fauna:* Professionals from many resource fields have visited this site countless times during the last 40 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**

- Trout-only production fisheries.
- Statewide general rules apply.
- Stocking rates of 200 fall fingerling rainbow trout.
- Retain present year-round fishing opportunity with a daily catch limit of five fish.
- Yearling trout should represent 90% of angler catch and growth should be 10-11 inches by spring after stocking.
- Carry over trout should represent 10% of angler catch and growth should be 12-14 inches by second spring after stocking.
- Adjust stocking rate based on trout growth, if necessary.
- Spot check angler participation and catch rates.
- Consider the use of remote cameras to gain better insight into angler usage patterns.
- Periodic surveys (gill, fyke-nets) to determine presence of nuisance fish species.