

## LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

**Water:** Schalow Pond

**Management Type:** Trout Only

**Location:** 12 miles northwest of Omak/Okanogan, located within Sec 22, T35N, R26E

**Size:** 10 acres, maximum depth 10 feet, 60 acre-feet

**Water Source:** Underground springs, overflow from Fish Lake (during high water years only)

**Outflow:** Intermittent

**Management History:** Schalow Pond is a year-round trout water that can provide good fishing for anglers interested in a quality hike-in fishery. Standard gear rules apply along with a five fish limit, and most of the fishing effort occurs from shore or float tubes that are carried into the lake. Alternating fingerling plants of eastern brook and rainbow trout have normally produced yearling fish in the 11-12 inch range, with carryover fish to 15 inches.

However, in recent years, the illegal introductions of brown bullhead and smallmouth bass have seriously compromised the trout fishery. The bullhead were more than likely introduced into Fish Lake and then populated Schalow Pond during spring overflow. Fingerling plants have experienced reduced survival to yearling size and angler effort has dropped substantially.

### **Current Management Objectives**

Management at Schalow Pond should concentrate on a multi-species trout fishery in a small hike-in lake setting. Fish planting should be geared toward rainbow and triploid eastern brook trout, which will provide a good variety for anglers.

**Fishery Objectives:** Continue to manage this lake as trout only water. Provide at least 1-2 larger rainbow and/or brook trout per angler within the 12-14 inch range for up to 100 angler trips per year.

**Angler use objective (# angler days):** 100+

**Stocking Objectives:** Fingerling rainbow and/or brook trout stocked at 100 fish per acre and at 75 fish per pound annually.

## **Management Strategy**

- Check yearling growth in spring; should be about 11-12 inches, adjust stocking rate and fish size as necessary
- Mix species to provide angler interest
- Monitor angling activity and catch rates periodically throughout season
- Closely monitor any invasive species and react immediately to control population by all means before treating with rotenone (angling, electroshocking, netting, and regulation changes).