

LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Water: Starzman Lakes

Management Type: Trout Only

Location: 10 miles north of Brewster, Washington lying within Sec 35 and 36, T32N, R24E

Size: 18 acres, maximum depth 26 feet, 252 acre-feet

Water Source: Ground water (underground springs)

Outflow: Intermittent

Management History: Starzman Lakes are year round trout lakes that can provide good fishing for anglers interested in smaller production waters. Standard gear rules apply along with a five fish limit, and most of the fishing effort occurs from shore or in a small non-motorized craft. Fingerling plants of either eastern brook or rainbow trout have normally produced yearling fish in the 11-12 inch range, with carryover fish to 15 inches. Winterkill in the upper lake has occurred at varying degrees of frequency.

However, in recent years, the illegal introductions of bluegill have seriously compromised the trout fishery. Fingerling plants have experienced reduced survival to yearling size and angler effort has dropped substantially. Bluegill populations have increased to the point where trout size has gone from a 12" yearling to 9 inches.

Current Management Objectives: Management at Starzman Lakes should concentrate on a multi-species trout fishery in a small lake setting. Fish planting should be geared toward rainbow and eastern brook trout, which will provide a good variety for anglers.

Fishery Objectives:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Fish/hour</u>	<u>Fish/angler</u>	<u>Ave size</u>
RB/EBT	Production	Standard	1.5	2-3	11"-12"

Angler use objective (# angler days): 200

Stocking Objectives:

<u>Lakes</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Total Fish</u>	<u>Fish/Acre</u>	<u>Fish/pound</u>	<u>Planting Month</u>
Starzman	RB/EBT	4,000	222	50	Apr/May

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).