

Ian Stewart
April 23, 2015

Kissinger Lake Fishout April 16-19

The weather gods were smiling on our fish-out at Kissinger Lake last weekend! 25 club members and spouses descended on the campsite starting on Thursday and set up their camping units alongside the beautiful little lake 3 km west of Cowichan Lake.

The evenings were cool, driving most people into their units by 930 or so, causing the numbers at the communal camp fire to drop to 4 or 5 hardy souls. The area warmed up very quickly in the mornings allowing people to fish comfortably by 9AM or so, and by the afternoons, it was positively balmy out on the lake and the people left on shore were wearing T shirts and shorts.

Fishing was slow but consistent, with spells of good fishing happening at intervals during the day. Best success was achieved by using a sink tip intermediate line retrieved slowly as the boat drifted with the wind. Some fishers did well fishing fast sink lines and fishing near shore near the bottom.

When the fish were "on the bite" they seemed to bite just about any fly which had some olive or green in it. Dragonfly nymphs, Woolly Buggers, Doc Spratleys and Pumpkin Heads seemed to be good choices. There were no very large fish caught with a 15 inch trout caught by Andrew being the top fish. The fish seemed to be in two size ranges—9-10 inches (put in 3 weeks ago) and 12-13 inches (put in last fall).

A surprising development was the presence of a greenish-yellow plankton bloom which clouded up the normally crystal clear waters. I think that probably contributed to an overall slower fish catch than last year's outing had.

The Saturday night potluck was a big success with lots of hot dishes, salads and desserts to tempt the crew.

Some photos taken over the 3 days are attached, but if anyone would like to see some more, the website below has over a hundred pictures for your perusal!

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kyncmjyqfbmxlv9/AAAHSiegxOGVhdhfFktoP6uNa?dl=0>



All quiet at the dock



Early morning fog



A brave soul out by 630



Dennis ties a new fly on in his hot spot



Andrew on the near shore patrol



The gathering spot in front of Gerry and Lillian's trailer



Ian and Shawn have the lake to themselves on Sunday afternoon



The camp mascots



Diehards still on the lake



Back into the lake for another day's fishing



Gerry fishing a deep line



Trying to get all the group to smile for a group shot



Hungry fishers gather even as the potluck is set out



Other visitors to the campsite must have wondered where all the people came from