

# Casting Clinic Westwood Lake May 24<sup>th</sup> and Panther Lake May 28<sup>th</sup>

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There was a good turnout of instructors for the clinic at Westwood and about an equal number of students. "Students" all seemed pleased with the tips they got from the more experienced casters.



Panther on Sunday was a "picture perfect" day with the wind never getting above creating a small riffle on the lake.



The fish were cooperative as usual with most fish being taken on some form of green damselfly or small dragon imitation. I personally had a great time from 1100 to 1 PM using a rather large stimulator casting toward the weed beds on the SW end of the lake. I had non stop action getting many fish in the 13 to 15 inch range. a good number of the fish were coloured . . . I



guess this is the time of year for spawning. That didn't affect their fighting qualities too much though . . . still totally outfought any Fraser Valley strain trout! (I had two fish jump right in the canoe!) Everyone has noticed this year that the trout are not quite as fat as they used to be . . . this seems to confirm what the fellow from Freshwater Fisheries Society who told us that the improvement to the spawning area on the outflow stream has resulted in some overcrowding in the lake resulting in less large fish and hungrier smaller ones. Maybe they should consider actually putting a retention of 2 or more fish to provide some more control on the numbers.

I think also with the long period of cold weather last winter, that the fish probably were in a non-feeding mode for much longer than in previous years. It will be interesting to see how the lake does after a full summer of good insect hatches to fatten up the fish.

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