

## Simon Lake, June 2

More on Interior fishing from George.  
Norm

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From: **George Bowron** <[georgebowron@yahoo.ca](mailto:georgebowron@yahoo.ca)>  
Date: Sat, Jun 3, 2017 at 8:44 PM  
Subject: Fw: more fishing reports  
To: Norm Neiderer <[nnwneiderer@gmail.com](mailto:nnwneiderer@gmail.com)>

A second hand report from Brian Smith who fished Simon on Tuesday. He reported that he was anchored in 9 feet of water and fishing in toward the reeds in the first bay along the north shore (near boat dock). He said he hooked at least 20 fish, but only got 10 to the boat. He was using his black leech and size 14 chromie and indicated that both took fish equally. He also said he broke off a number due to weak leader, another thing to check before heading out is the breaking strength of tippet material. I have had the same experience after buying spools which had been too long on the shelf. It pays to give them a quick tug to make sure they have not lost strength due to age or exposure to the sun.

Brain said the water temperature was 50 F. He was very happy with his first outing of the year landing fish to 3 lbs.

Yesterday, Larry Anderson and I went with Jimmy to Simon Lake where we met up with Jay. It was overcast when we arrived, with a light breeze out of the east. Larry and I headed toward the narrows and anchored in 7 feet of water, casting our leeches in toward the reeds and letting the wind drift them straight below the boat about a foot off the bottom. I think Larry was the first to hook a feisty fish of about 2 ½ lbs that fought honourably before coming to the net and released. That was the start of a very memorable day that saw us changing locations ever so slightly from deeper water (9 feet) to shallower (6 feet). I tenaciously fished my in size 12 leech while Larry tried his chironomid pattern for all of 10 minutes changing back to his leech pattern as I took 3 fish while he watched his indicator.

Jimmy and Jay were anchored about 100 feet behind us and were also into fish on leech patterns. They returned to shore to help Ron stow his fencing for the aerators. (This is a good place to commend the Ministry for continuing their aerator projects in the Cariboo, as the superb fisheries they have created is a testimony to their effectiveness. Ron reported earlier that his oxygen readings for Simon throughout this last winter were higher than he had ever seen. Both Irish and Simon contain many double digit fish now due not only to their productivity, but mostly to the fish sustaining oxygen levels provided by aeration. Their

stocking program is also first rate, utilizing creel counts to determine optimum numbers and strains that will ultimately provide fishers with great angling opportunities.)

In the afternoon, Bob Campbell motored over to us and said he had landed 10 fish with the largest he estimated at over 10 lbs, all taken on his leech pattern under an indicator. He spent a few minutes talking first with Larry and I, and then with Jay and Jimmy before anchoring near us.

By mid-afternoon the clouds had left for a while and we enjoyed the warm Cariboo sunshine before the clouds again drifted in shortly before we packed up around 4. The water temperature had warmed a couple of degrees since Tuesday, and the east wind was tolerable despite a couple of gusts. At least we were able to see our indicators bobbing below us most of the time.

By the end of the day, Larry and I had netted 30 fish with his 3 largest at 5 ½, 8, and 11 lbs (the latter two were Fraser Valley bows).



**Larry's 5 ½ Pounder**



**Larry's 11 Pounder**

My largest was between 4 and 5 lbs but all were the strongest Pennask strain fish I think I have hooked in a while. They were all in terrific shape, well fed and healthy. The few fish we sampled showed a mixed bag of morsels, with a couple of chironamids (even though there was a steady hatch for a few hours of small ones), a lot of daphnia, a couple of mayfly nymphs, and a few shrimp, and one chaoborus larvae.

Jimmy and Jay managed to get 14 or 15 to the boat, but lost a couple of hours helping Ron, and (back to my preseason preparedness), Jay was spooled and broken off by a very large fish as his reel lacked the minimum 100 yard capacity needed when fishing for larger fish). We saw Bob (his first trip ever to Simon) fighting as least one more fish before we left.

I cannot overemphasize the terrific work the Ministry has done in creating for us (BC anglers) possibly the best ever fishing opportunities in a large number of Cariboo Lakes. It is obvious by looking at the photos taken of Larry's 5 ½ Pennask and 11 lb Fraser Valley strain rainbows that these fish are in prime condition!

See you on the water....

D