

Rainbow Trout



Rainbow Trout are native to Lake Creek and represent a superior fishery throughout the 50 miles of river. Although 'bows can be caught throughout the season, absolute best times occur in late May/early June in ideal water conditions, and throughout August in September behind spawning salmon. Fly fishermen rave at this abundant and magnificent species. Rainbows are the featured fish of the less-beaten waters we explore by raft from Lake Chelatna down to the lodge 50 miles. Dozens of fish may be caught daily during the late-season salmon spawn ranging 14 up to 30 inches in length.

To ensure the continuation of our excellent wild rainbow resource, regulations and lodge policy require single hook artificial lures and catch and release fishing only for 'bows.

Equipment

-Spinning/Bait casting:

- **Rods:** 6 ft. ultra light spinning rods are the standard choice
- **Reels:** Spinning – size = 110yds/6 lb test, i.e. Shimano Sedona 1000 or 2000 FA
- **Line:** Berkeley Trilene XL – for castability 6#
- **Lures:** -Blue Fox orange Vibrax Spinners 1/8 oz

-Fly-fishing:

- **Rods:** We use 5-7 weight fly rod/reel outfits

We usually fish rainbows in fast-water riffles and runs behind spawning kings, pinks, and chums. Dead-drift presentations thoroughly covering these areas work best. Strike indicators are often helpful, but not a necessity.

Fly line / leader: Typically use a floating double taper or weight forward 5-7 weight fly lines. A 5-6 ft. straight 4-6lb. mono or tapered leader is desired. Split shot may be added to leader to attain the desired drift.

Flies:

Early season;

Silver/blue streamers, sz 6-8

Sculpin patterns

Assorted dry flies – Adams, mosquito patterns, caddis

Late season;

Orange/pink glo bugs

“Cotton Candy” flesh flies

Battle Creek streamers!

