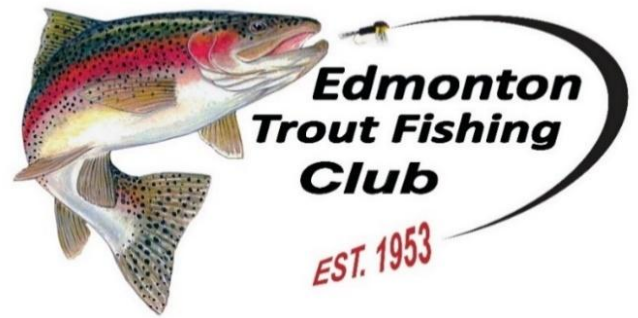


# FLYCASTER

MARCH 2025



**The February Meeting** - featured Craig Copeland, Alberta's Fish Culture Director. His slideshow and explanation of the lasers in the Alberta hatchery was very informative. Craig also talked about this year's stocking plans along with a description of all trout species and strains recently stocked. Unfortunately, Zoom doesn't seem to work in the Jefferson Armoury.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Mar 11** - meeting via Zoom - Jay White from Aquality is presenting on *Invasive Species in Alberta Waters* Zoom ID = 311 840 7613 Passcode = 206411

**Mar 20-23 - Sportsmen's Show** – the Club has a booth along with other Edmonton area Fish and Game clubs at the upcoming Show. The booth is manned by two members selling raffle tickets, memberships and providing information sheets and answering questions about the club and trout fishing in general. **We need 2-3 more volunteers** to cover Friday night (5-9) and Saturday (10-1). Contact Ken Bodden 780-237-8327 or [kenr.bodden@gmail.com](mailto:kenr.bodden@gmail.com) if you can help. Volunteers work a 3-4 hour shift. You will be assigned a pass for the day and be free to visit the show before or after your shift. Please consider volunteering.

**Apr 5 - Members' Dinner** to be held in the at the Warrant Officer and Sergeants mess, Jefferson Armouries (67-11 PM). \$40 RSVP to [Chuck](#) by March 31.

**Apr 8 - Phil Rowley** – fishing South America. (last free presentation to the club by Phil)

**Apr 29** - our last fly-tying/swap night, again at the Armouries 7pm

## ETFC NEWS:

Need **your input** - to [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com) on two items (but we won't use your name without your permission); please let us know what you think, any suggestions etc:

- Our bylaws require us to review the club's **Aims and Objectives** annually: i.e. "The objectives of the Club are to provide for a community in which members may develop their angling knowledge and skills, to maintain property at Spring Lake for the benefit of its members, and to support the mission and objectives of the Alberta Fish and Game Association (on our club website [edmontontrout.ca](http://edmontontrout.ca) ). They ok? Any changes recommended?

- **Youth participation** - how can the club promote youth involvement? A reduced membership fee, maybe, free flycasting session at the property for under 18's? Let us know your ideas

**Aeration Update:** Ken Bodden reports "Onoway Fish and Game Club is supportive of our efforts to aerate Spring Lake and approved a donation of \$2,500 to help ETFC maintain the aeration through the winter of 2025-'26. This unsolicited support is greatly appreciated and will allow us to free up some of our resources for other fisheries or environmental projects. A number of their members either belong to our club or fish Spring Lake. They are aware of our need to raise funds to meet the shortfall on power costs that isn't covered by the Spring Lake Village contribution of \$3,000 for the 2025 season. The Onoway club is also upgrading their aeration equipment on Salter's Lake and if our club members can assist with their operation, I am sure it will be appreciated.

**.2025 Conservation Raffle** - has been approved.

**Europa Canopy and Marine** has generously donated a Quicksilver 365 HD PVC boat with aluminum frame and flooring, capable of holding 1598 lbs and support a 25hp motor (not included). Value \$2,373 Also comes with a carry bag, repair kit and paddles. Draw - September 20 at Spring Lake unless we sell out earlier.



Our AGLC Licence #726584 allows sale to anyone 18+, 500 tickets only at \$10 each. You can buy them at any of our meetings including the dinner in April, at the Sportsmen's Show, or by Interac e-transfer to [ETFC.finance@outlook.com](mailto:ETFC.finance@outlook.com). (In the comment box please provide first and last name, address and phone number and number of tickets). Tickets will be completed and held until the draw unless you indicate you want the hard copy. Otherwise a photo or email with ticket numbers purchased will be sent to you. Please consider taking a book of 25 (these can be split) and sold to others. Books are available in north Edmonton (Ernest Kitt 780-945-1668) or south (Ken Bodden 780-237-8327) or at meetings.

## **FISH and FISHING:**

- **Interesting news for walleye anglers** - in its 2025/26 plan the ACA states:

To further increase the capacity of Alberta's Walleye Stocking Program, ACA is designing and purchasing a mobile walleye hatchery. This mobile hatchery should be ready to receive up to 5 million walleye eggs in the spring of 2025. Eggs will be reared in the trailer in upwelling jars and provided a continuous supply of temperature controlled and oxygenated water. Water temperature will be increased by approximately 0.33 degrees per day and hatch out is expected in approximately 3 weeks. ACA staff will monitor the trailer constantly for the incubation period to ensure water quality parameters are suitable for the development of eggs to fry. ACA staff will collect DO, temperature and flow data hourly around the clock, remove dead eggs and fry, administer antifungal treatment, and clean eggs hulls from fry tubs. Additional tasks and responsibilities in maintaining the mobile operations will be identified as work with the supplier of the mobile hatchery and GOA fish culture staff. Walleye fry from our mobile hatchery will then be distributed to recipient waterbodies as identified by GOA.

Alberta's Walleye Stocking Program relies on the collection of gametes from wild walleye populations. Fertilized eggs are then reared to fry or fingerlings and stocked into recipient waterbodies. For 2025, GOA has been mandated to increase walleye production including additional donor populations and increased walleye numbers in the Cold Lake hatchery. Their end goal is an overall increase in the number of walleye stocked out of the program. To support our mobile hatchery initiative, we propose to assist GOA spawn camps in the spring of 2025 to acquire the skills and capacity within ACA to run our own spawn camp and egg takes in later years. ACA's support at spring spawning camps could increase overall capacity by adding an additional donor lake/population/eggs to the program.

- **The Tiger Trout**– before 2015 we had to drive to Manitoba to fish for them. For two or three years previously we had been arguing the case with the province at the Fisheries Roundtable meetings for stocking them in a few Alberta lakes. When the province finally agreed, did its due diligence, and began stocking them in 2015 they were an immediate success. The province has now made the species available to private fish hatcheries.



The tiger is a sterile hybrid of Brown and Brook trout. It can live eight to 10 years if the water's good and food is plentiful. Craig Copeland says "the reason why anglers like catching the Tiger trout is the way it bites the hook. It sort of hunts from below... it attacks, swims very fast, hits the bait and then comes right down, and so if you're fly fishing, they hit that fly and they go right down and you get an immediate fight." They seem to prefer minnows and other small fish so there's some hope they will help control the Prussian carp in the lake. We're fortunate to see the [eye of the tiger](#) and the thrill of the fight in Spring Lake and elsewhere. Check back in the January Flycaster for Chuck's recommended pattern for tiger fishing - *Murrays Rolled Muddler*.

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And, for those who haven't yet made it out to a meeting at **the Armouries**. here's what the room looks like:

**Newsletter – next one coming on April 1st, 2025** - suggestions, requests, questions, and contributions to [etfcnews@gmail.com](mailto:etfcnews@gmail.com) would be much appreciated - we won't use your name unless you indicate otherwise.

PSL/

