



FLYCASTER

APRIL 2026

EDMONTON TROUT FISHING CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

President's Message

March has been a busy month for the club. Paul Hvengaard had a very informative presentation and answer period regarding the trout lakes in the Peace region. Mar 8 saw the club members out on a very windy day fishing Spring lake. Despite the adventures caused by the wind, Gaetan managed a couple of Rainbows. Mar 24 fly tying had 11 members and guests out despite the snow.

Mar 8 wind knocked down the fence and broke numerous post around the aeration site on Spring lake. Thank you to Ray and Gaetan for replacing the post and putting the fence back up.

The club also had a booth at the Sportsman show. Lots of people dropped by to talk and learn about the club. The club raffle to support our projects was a big success. We sold out at the show. The club managed to have the draws at our fly tying night. Congratulations to the 3 winners. A very big thank you to Ken for all the effort he put in to make it happen and his donation of the fly rod and flies. The Fishing Hole provided the fly box and lures. April will see a zoom presentation on invasive species. A fly-tying night will be held on the 28. With some luck, the lakes will open and the open water season can start. As of April 1, the trout limit on Spring lake drops to 2.

Recent Club Activities

March 8 – Fishing at Spring Lake. No pictures were taken, it was too windy. But a few fish were caught and some buckets blown away.

March 11 Monthly Meeting - Paul Hvengaard. ACA Fisheries Biologist. Trout Fishing in the Peace River area via Zoom. Great presentation and great Q&A after with Paul and ETFC members.

March 19-22 - Edmonton Boat & Sportsmen show. All 750 raffle tickets were sold. Congrats to the winners (Fly Rod Combo winner was Al Tilsley). Thank you to all the volunteers who worked the show. Thank-you Ken for all your work organizing and prep work.

Thanks to Ken and the Fishing Hole for the donation of the prizes for the raffle.



March 24 - Fly Tying night – We had a great turn out and people were sharing their knowledge on the flies they were tying. Hopefully we will see more people at the April 28 tying night.

Upcoming Events

Apr 14 - 7pm - Nicole Kimmel - Invasive Species Specialist via Zoom. Link will be sent out closer to the date.

Apr 28 – 7pm - Fly Tying Night - Location to be announced closer to the date.

May 12 – 7pm - Paul Christensen – Southern Alberta Streams in the Crowsnest region– In person – location to be announced.

ETFC - BBQ – Spring Lake - in June, more details coming soon.

Tips, Techniques & Locations

Membership discounts:

A reminder that as part of your ETFC membership, you can bring your membership card into the fishing hole and receive 10% off your purchases on regular priced items.

Your ETFC membership also includes membership with the Alberta Wildlife Federation (AWF). In the most recent email from the AWF – March newsletter. You can shop on rapala.ca and save 25%!

From the AWF newsletter:

“We’re proud to announce we’ve joined many of our provincial and territorial affiliates across the country as part of a new national partnership with Rapala, one of the most trusted names in the fishing industry.

As a member of Alberta Wildlife Federation, you now receive 25% off online purchases at rapala.ca.

So whether you're gearing up for the water, upgrading your tackle box, or looking for some new clothing, this discount applies to the things you know, trust and already use.

How to access your discount through the member club :

Visit members.albertawildlifefederation.ca

1. Retrieve your exclusive member promo code
2. Visit rapala.ca
3. Apply your code at checkout to save 25%

****If anyone knows who we contact to get our account/access set up for the AWF website, please email scottbennet@gmail.com, so that I can send out a message to the membership. I emailed AWF but have not got a response yet. ****

Location: Rawson Lake

A deep ,beautiful mountain lake that is almost 1 km long and 250m wide . It is one of Kananaskis countries most popular hikes and fishing spots. It was a source of eggs for Cutthroat trout for Alberta. The lake was opened up to fishing in the 80s and fished so heavily that it had to be stocked. It was made a C&R lake along with many other lakes when Jim Stelfox implemented changes to fisheries in the area in the 90s.

Getting to Rawson lake is an approximate 5km hike. Starting in the Upper Kananaskis lake parking lot , you have a 1.5 km warmup walk along UKL. Just after crossing the bridge over Sarrail Creek , the trail leads you to the Rawson lake trailhead. The next kilometre and a half will make you reconsider the thought of going to Rawson lake. The trail zigzags through the forest. Listen for Rawson creek as it indicates the worst part is almost over as the trail levels off all the way to the lake. Near the lake you above a little dam, the spawning beds are very noticeable.

The lake opens 16 July and closes on October 31. A bait ban is in effect as are C&R regulations. The lake has a self reproducing population although it was stocked with 1500 cuts in 2023.

Most anglers fish along the trail by the scree slope which is about half way down the lake. The lake drops off dramatically there. It is probably also the hardest place to fish as the trail is right behind you and on a warm day ,100-200 people will pass by. Fishing from a belly boat is my preferred method and is usually worth the extra effort. Cutts can get over 20 inches and close to 5 lbs. My best is just under 20 inches and 4 lbs.



Conservation Corner

The 2026 fishing regulations for Alberta have been released.

They go into effect April 1, 2026.

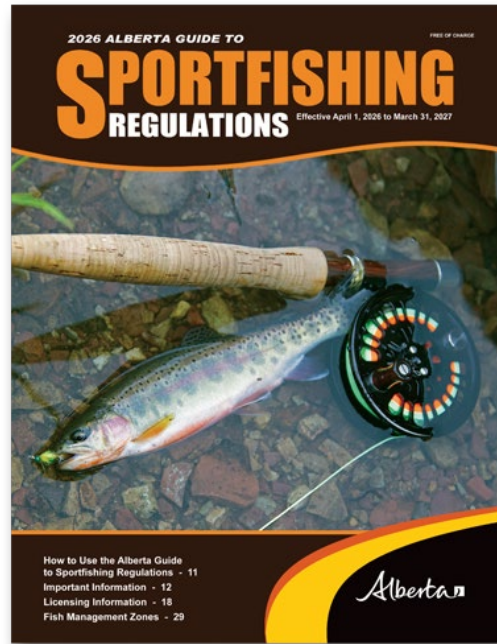
Here is page where you can download a specific region:

[Alberta Regulations and Special Licence Draws](#)

PDF link is here:

[2026-Alberta-Guide-to-Sportfishing-Regulations.pdf](#)

You will see that Spring lake now has a retention of 2 trout, in the new regulations.



PP2 - Lakes, Reservoirs and Ponds									
Waterbody	Waterbody Detail	Season	Bait ● = Bait allowed	WALL	NRPK	YLPR	LKWH	BURB	Trout Total
Isle Lake	Includes tributaries and outlet (Sturgeon River)	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●	1 fish any size	1 over 63 cm	10 fish		0 fish	
Jack Fish Lake	52-2-W5	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●	1 fish 50-55 cm	0 fish	0 fish	0 fish	0 fish	
Kerbe's Pond ➡	NE-19-36-20-W4	OPEN APR. 1 TO NOV. 30	Bait ban	3 fish	3 fish	15 fish			1 trout over 50 cm
Lac Ste. Anne	Includes tributaries & outlet (Sturgeon River)	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●	0 or SHL tags	0 fish	15 fish	10 fish	2 fish; but limit is 0 from Feb. 1 to Mar. 31	
Lessard Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		3 over 63 cm	15 fish			
Little Fish Lake	Includes tributaries & outlet	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		0 fish	0 fish			
Lloydminster Pond ➡	SE-6-50-1-W4	OPEN ALL YEAR	●	3 fish	3 fish	15 fish			2 trout
Magee Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		1 fish				
Matchayaw (Devil's) Lake	Includes tributaries and outlet (Sturgeon River)	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●	0 fish	3 over 63 cm	15 fish		2 fish; but limit is 0 from Feb. 1 to Mar. 31	
Mayatan Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		3 fish	15 fish			
Medicine Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		3 over 63 cm	5 fish			
Mere Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		3 over 63 cm	15 fish			
Mink Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		3 over 63 cm	15 fish			
Muir Lake ➡	31-53-27-W4	OPEN MAY 1 TO OCT. 31	Bait ban	3 fish	3 fish	15 fish			1 trout over 50 cm
Pigeon Lake	Includes tributaries and outlet	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●	0 or SHL tags	0 fish	5 over 25 cm	10 fish	1 fish; but limit is 0 from Feb. 1 to Mar. 31	
Pine Lake	Includes tributaries and outlet	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●	1 fish	1 over 63 cm	5 fish			
Raft Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		3 over 63 cm	15 fish			
Rat Lake	10-46-6-W5	OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●	1 fish 45-50 cm	0 fish				
Spotted Lake		OPEN MAY 15 TO MAR. 31	●		0 fish			2 fish; but limit is 0 from Feb. 1 to Mar. 31	
Spring Lake ➡	SW 30-52-1-W5	OPEN ALL YEAR	●	3 fish	3 fish	15 fish			2 trout

Photo Gallery

Gaetan catching lake trout on Cold Lake



Scott catching lake trout on Cold Lake



****If anyone wants to share pictures of their catch, please email scottbennet@gmail.com****

Aerator Fence Repair at Spring Lake

A big thank you to Ray and Gaetan for replacing the fence posts that broke off during the March 8 windstorm.

They changed 18 posts that broken from the wind on March 8. All the broken posts were 2 x 2 and were replaced with a 2x4 post.

Ray purchased 35 studs and the leftovers are in the shelter. They will be used next fall.



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