

Fishing

fishing is a major outdoor activity both upstream and downstream from chief joseph dam. in rufus woods lake, the lake above the dam, people fish primarily for walleye, rainbow trout, and landlocked sockeye salmon (kokanee). there are several commercial fish rearing operations on the lake which raise various types of trout. occasionally fish escape from the pens or are intentionally released into the lake to supplement the existing fish available to fisherman. these escaped fish may be extremely large with weights over 20 pounds.

boat access into the lake is very limited. there is a double lane ramp at bridgeport state park that is open march through november, a single lane ramp located in douglas county just above the dam, and a single lane ramp located approximately 45 miles upstream from the dam in okanogan county.



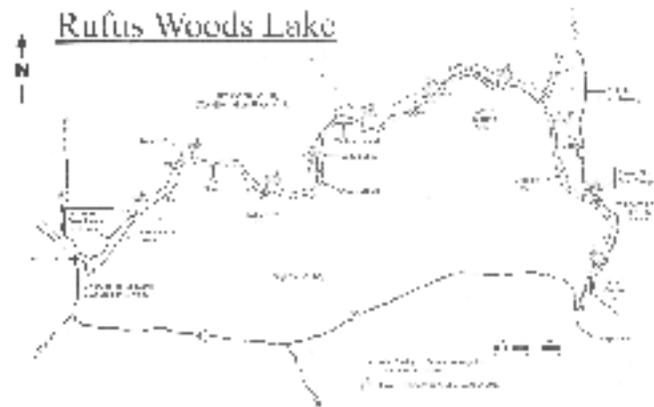
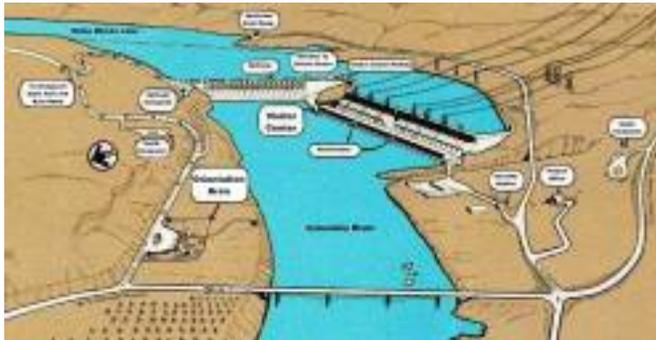
the single lane ramps are open year-round. shoreline access is very limited. around the dam there is good access near the boat ramp and at various areas along the douglas county shoreline from the dam upstream four miles. no other access is available along douglas county. okanogan county shoreline access is limited to the area around the state park and the area from 20 miles upstream from the dam to the boat ramp located 45 miles upstream. the areas immediately downstream from the two fish rearing operations in okanogan county are very popular for shore fishing.

fishing in rufus woods lake is under the jurisdiction of the washington department of fish and wildlife and the confederated tribes of the colville reservation. contact these agencies for license requirements.

fishing below chief joseph dam is generally for walleye or trout. most fishing occurs by boat as shoreline access is relatively limited. a year-round launch ramp is located in bridgeport. seasonally members

of the confederated tribes of the colville reservation fish in the tailwaters of the dam. during the months of july, august, and september, tribal members are allowed to fish off of the tailrace portion of the dam. throughout the year tribal members fish on the okanogan shoreline primarily for salmon and steelhead. fishing below the dam is regulated by the state and tribal fisheries department.

maps below will help you located these areas.



Point of Contact: Natural Resource
Manager

Phone:
509-686-2225

Email:
LAURA.M.BEAUREGARD@USACE.ARMY.MIL