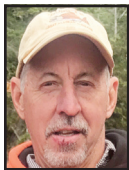


Beat the heat on a lake in the Blue Mountains



DENNIS DAUBLE

THE NATURAL WORLD

The history of the Blue Mountains does not begin with 10-foot-tall mastodons, wandering Indian tribes or the Oregon Trail. It is written in ancient rocks. According to the noted geologist Ellen Morris Bishop, the Blue Mountains of Northeastern Oregon began their life as a volcanic archipelago 400 million years ago. Only during the Ice Age did glaciers advance to scour bedrock, erode valleys and sculpt tall mountain peaks. Examples of such activity can be found in the Lake Basin of the Wallowa Mountains.

In contrast, the Blue Mountains were not glaciated. Consequently, they have few if any natural lakes. However, over the past several decades, creative engineering has led to a trio of scenic high mountain lakes having high recreational value. Each water body is well worth a visit as valley temperatures heat up.

Indian Lake

You could do no worse than start your summer trout experience at Indian Lake (Lake Hiyuumpitipin). Located near the crest of the Blues at 4,200 feet elevation, Indian Lake was created in the late 1960s by damming tiny Jennings Creek. Three years ago, I camped in the shelter of lodgepole pine with military veterans who affiliated with a recovery group called Heroes on the Water. We camped in the shelter of slender lodgepole pine, swapped tall tales and trolled flies from pontoon boats and kayaks for rainbow trout up to 14 inches long.



Dennis Dauble/Contributed Photo

Picturesque Jubilee Lake can be fished by wading along the shoreline or from a nonmotorized vessel.



U.S. Forest Service/Contributed Photo

Olive Lake holds a good population of brook trout, along with stocked rainbows and naturally produced kokanee salmon.

Much of Indian Lake's shoreline is accessible by well-worn trails. However, wading can be difficult because a rim of submerged aquatic vegetation lines much of the bank. Hence, launching a nonmechanized floating vessel to fish from is an advantage.

Owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of

the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Indian Lake is 34 miles southeast of Pendleton. Drinking water, 43 fee-based campsites with fire pits, tipi rentals and an RV disposal station are available for public use. A reservation fishing permit is required and can be purchased at the lake during the camping season (See ctuir.org).

Jubilee Lake

Jubilee Lake is the only game in town for still water trout in the Tollgate region of the Blues. This 20-acre jewel of a lake was created in the late 1960s by damming meandering Mottet Creek. Jubilee is primarily a put-and-take fishery for catchable-sized rainbow trout; however, holdovers

up to 16 inches are possible following a mild winter. The first stocking by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife occurred in early June this year with additional plants planned over the summer for a total of 16,000 legal-sized and 300 trophy-size trout (14-16 inches).

The lake's picturesque shoreline is lined with bulrush, willow and conifer, yet provides plenty of access for bank anglers. Cast from the gentle sloping shoreline or troll the inlet arm and deep area near the outflow where trout seek cool water refuge in late summer. Only nonmotorized watercraft, including float tubes, pontoon boats and car-toppers, are allowed, which lends to a quiet atmosphere.

Jubilee Lake is 12 miles northeast of Tollgate. Forest Service Road No. 64, off Highway 204 between Weston and Elgin, leads you there. Adjacent to Jubilee is the largest (53 camp sites) and most popular fee-based campground in the Umatilla National Forest. Handicap access is near the day-use area and a graded perimeter trail circles the entire lake.

Olive Lake

Travel south down the spine of the Blues and you find 160-acre Olive Lake at 6,200 feet elevation. A once-small natural lake was deepened and enlarged by a 30-foot-high crib-and-rock dam built in the early 1900s by the Fremont Power Company to provide hydroelectric power to the then-booming gold mining community.

Anglers have plenty of choices when it comes to fishing Olive Lake. Approximately 3,800 rainbow trout were stocked by ODFW in late June, of which 1,050 are trophy size. Natural-spawning populations of brook trout are also present. Kokanee, or landlocked sockeye salmon, can be

caught trolling or jigging. These "silvers" travel in schools that move up and down throughout the water column in response to water temperature, light, and presence of their favorite prey: zooplankton.

Olive Lake campground is 12 miles west of the old mining town of Granite and 27 miles east of Dale on Highway 395. The fee-based, first-come, first-served campground features 28 campsites, toilet facilities, a boat ramp and two docks. A 2-mile hiking trail circles the lake. No potable water or garbage service is available. Gas and electric trolling boat motors are allowed but no personal watercraft.

The U.S. Forest Service closed the campground temporarily in mid-June for hazard tree removal with a planned opening by early July. Additional maintenance work may be conducted around the dam this summer (see fs.usda.gov/Umatilla for more information). Also starting in July is the ability to reserve most campsites on Recreation.gov, while a limited number of sites remain available first come, first served.

If you are like me, fishing is the main draw when I visit a Blue Mountain lake. But that's only part of the experience. There also is ample opportunity for hiking, swimming, bird watching, photography, mountain biking, wildlife viewing and berry picking. Alternatively, you might choose to relax in the shade of a tall fir tree and consider the origin of ancient rock formations.

Dennis Dauble is a retired fishery scientist, outdoor writer, presenter and educator who lives in Richland, Washington. For more stories about outdoor adventure, including fish and fishing in area waters, see DennisDaubleBooks.com.

Bucks: 'She's is the kind of defender everyone hates to play against'

Continued from Page B1

other three key players are juniors. We had four freshmen play in the championship game in Ridgeview. The future is looking bright here at Pendleton."

Hoisington led the Bucks with an average of 10 points a game. She also had 51 steals, 42 assists and 35 rebounds.

"It's hard for me to figure out how she wasn't Player of the Year in the conference," Porter said. "There are some good players, but as an all-around player, she is one of the better, if not the best, in the league."

Taber also averaged 10 points a game, and added 50 rebounds, 29 assists and 14 steals.

"Chloe is the kind of kid, if it's a game or practice, you don't see a change in her work ethic," Porter said. "She is the best pure shooter

I have ever coached."

Jeness, who went down with a knee injury in the next-to-last regular-season game, averaged 9.5 points a game. She led the Bucks with 86 rebounds and also had 13 steals and nine assists.

"She is becoming a complete basketball player," Porter said. "Every year she has been on varsity, she has increased her rebound totals. She has a knack for watching the flight of the ball and how it's going to come off the rim. She has the heart and determination to get every rebound and get the ball down the floor."

Samp finished the season with six points per game, along with 17 rebounds and 13 steals, but it's her defense that put her on the list.

"She's is the kind of defender everyone hates to play against," Porter said. "Her knack for getting steals

and the pressure she puts on people is phenomenal. She is known for defense, but this year she became a 3-point shooter."

Wilson chipped in six points a game, along with 36 rebounds, 12 assists and 12 steals.

"Josie is a really, really athletic player," Porter said. "Her first varsity action was when she was a freshman, and we were loaded and won the league title. I believed in her. She's never filled up the stat sheet like Muriel, but she is consistent with points, rebounds and steals. Without her, there would have been a hole there someone would have had to fill."

The Bucks finished 9-1 in IMC play and 10-2 overall. They lost the IMC district championship game game to Ridgeview. Ravens senior Paige Pentzer was named Player of the Year.

ON THE SLATE

SATURDAY, JULY 3

Youth baseball
Spokane Tournament: Pepsi Diamondjazz vs. TBD; Hodgen Distributing vs. TBD

SUNDAY, JULY 4

Youth baseball
Spokane Tournament: Pepsi Diamondjazz vs. TBD; Hodgen Distributing vs. TBD

MONDAY, JULY 5

No events scheduled

TUESDAY, JULY 6

Youth baseball
The Dalles at Hodgen Distributing, (2), 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Youth baseball
La Grande at Pepsi Diamondjazz, (2), 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Youth baseball
Hodgen Distributing at Selah, (2), 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 9

No events scheduled

SATURDAY, JULY 10

Youth baseball
Walla Walla Grizzlies at Pepsi Diamondjazz, (2), 11 a.m., at BMCC

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