



JANET & BILL ROBERTSON

Never met a fish they didn't like

Bill Robertson has deep roots in the county; his grandparents homesteaded on Rudio Creek, and his parents on Holmes Creek. Janet moved to the county in 1962 and the couple have raised their family here.

As he grew up, Bill fished across Grant County, soaking up the history and beauty of the place as he explored.

"There is nothing as satisfying as catching a salmon or steelhead, while a bald eagle flies overhead and some deer watch from the other side of the river," he says.

Today, both Bill and Janet are avid anglers, and they also enjoy hunting, hiking, camping – basically anything they can do with family.

Bill was a builder and worked for the Forest Service, and the couple have owned several businesses including The Outpost Restaurant in John Day. They retired three years ago, and are enjoying the great outdoors.

When friends come to Grant County, the Robertsons have no shortage of ideas for entertainment: "We like to take them to Magone Lake, the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness, the John Day Fossil Beds – and of course, fishing."

"What we love about Grant County is the pace of life. We have so many friends and family members here, and we like the way people smile at you when you meet them on the street."



FISHING

Whether you like to cast a fly rod over a rippling river or dangle a bobber in a serene lake, there's no shortage of opportunities in Grant County. Depending on the time of year, you can try your luck with steelhead, rainbow trout, kokanee or bass and other species.

Special fishing regulations apply in some waterways, as the John Day Basin is home to protected and recovering fish species.

STREAM FISHING

Fishing for adipose fin-clipped steelhead is permitted during various seasons on various segments of the John Day River.

For further information, please check the Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations booklet, available where sporting licenses and tags are sold. It is also available for download from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife website, www.dfw.state.or.us

LAKES AND PONDS

State wildlife officials continue to increase the number of fish that are stocked in Grant County ponds and lakes.

In 2014, ODFW crews stocked ponds and lakes with nearly 20,000 legal-sized rainbow trout, 12,500 fingerlings, and 2,700 trophy rainbows. Coming in 2015, anglers can expect to see more than 3,000 trophy fish, plus 10,700 sub-legal fish and 21,600 legal keepers, introduced to the waterways.

For information on fishing the Forrest Conservation Area: Call 541-820-4521.