

# MOUNT MASSIVE LAKES, INC.

P.O. BOX 1981

LEADVILLE, COLORADO 80461

"A Tradition of Fishing Excellence"

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## TROUTLINE APRIL 2018

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Rampart Supply, 1801 N. Union Blvd., Colorado Springs, at 9:30 a.m. The BOD will be finalizing the 2018/2019 budget at this meeting. Please feel free to attend and share your ideas.

**SPRINGTIME ROADS:** If you are planning on coming to your cabin this spring, please be advised that many of the roads will be soft and muddy as they begin to thaw out and accumulate snow melt. Please refrain from using these muddy roads. By keeping these roads undisturbed until they are dry will decrease time and money needed to repair them.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2018. We will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the club shop. The Board of Directors along with Club Staff will be reviewing 2017 and discussing the outlook for the 2018 season.

**FISHING 2018:** Inlets and the edges of lakes are beginning to open up. Temperatures are still relatively cool. Please check the MML website for the current fishing status and stay off of any remaining ice.

**IMPORTANCE OF DISINFECTION:** Before fishing, please disinfect all fishing equipment and gear that has been used off property, especially guests. There are disinfect tanks located at the office and hatchery. Aquatic nuisance species are aquatic plants and animals such as zebra and quagga mussels, New Zealand mudsnails, Rusty Crayfish, water fleas, and Eurasian milfoil. In addition to natural vectors, such as water and wind, invasive species are spread by humans as hitchhikers on belly boats, vehicles, tires, boots and waders, fishing equipment and gear, firewood, and even dogs. Last August, state and federal officials confirmed the presence of invasive quagga mussel larvae, known as veligers, in Green Mountain Reservoir. In 2017, Colorado inspectors intercepted 26 boats infested with adult mussels coming in from out of state—a new record. Colorado has intercepted a total of 144 boats infested with adult mussels since the ANS Program began in 2008. The infested vessels are coming from Arizona, California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, Nevada (Lake Mead), Oklahoma, Ohio, Texas, Utah (Lake Powell), Wisconsin, and the Great Lakes. Together, we can protect MML's waters by preventing the introduction of invasive species.

**HEALING WATERS:** We will host our Vets again this year on the 3rd of June. Our thanks to everyone who has volunteered and contributed to the success of past Healing

Waters/Mount Massive events. We should have 12 Soldiers and 4 Mentors this year. We will get together at the clubhouse at 10:00 Sunday morning to meet and greet and then proceed to our favorite hot spots to catch enough fish for a 4:00 picnic at the Tims garage and party house. All are invited to come and support our troops at this special event. Please contact Jim & Anne at 901-828-5295 for more information.

**WATER FLOWS AND SNOWFALL:** Our water flows have been stable and we are still running water throughout the entire system. So far, we have had very little snowfall this winter, only 54.9" since October 1<sup>st</sup>. Last winter, from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017, MML had significantly more snow, totaling 83.0". In order to have a good water year, we rely on late winter/spring snow storms which provide a lot of moisture to add to the current snowpack, along with a cool spring to allow spring runoff at a steady rate. Over the last five years, the average amount of snowfall from March through May has averaged 47.4". According to USDA Colorado SNOTEL, the Arkansas River Basin is currently at 53% snowpack. Although this number is hard to relate to the location of the club, Weston Pass has a satisfactory amount of snow.

**FIRE EVACUATION EXERCISE:** On Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, Lake County Emergency Services will be conducting an evacuation exercise. This is a disaster event practice to improve the services in Lake County. The exercise will go from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., with evacuation to Leadville, either CMC or Lake County High School, with lunch provided. There will also be emergency training for all area residents prior to the evacuation date to learn about what you can do to your property before evacuating to ready your home for fire fighters, law enforcement officers, and yourself in the event of a wildfire. Please email [friendsoftwinlakes@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoftwinlakes@gmail.com) if you are able to participate.

**ROADS:** Club roads are managed in three tiers:

1. All weather roads for the year around management of the club.
2. Primary fishermen roads that allow about 80% of our fishermen access to the lakes (ex: around Snowden or #6).
3. All other roads.

If you have a cabin or travel the tier 3 roads be advised that, except for general maintenance once a year, these roads will not be weatherized until all the other roads are weatherized.

If members, their guests or their contractors abuse or misuse any roads the responsible member can expect to receive a bill to repair that road.

When roads become full of water, please refrain from going around the hole/puddle. We don't want to ruin the vegetation or create a bigger hole. We will repair these issue areas with road base or slag when the time is appropriate.

**CABIN IDENTIFICATION:** Per request from the Lake County Sheriff's Department, please display your cabin number with light colored or reflective painted numbers to make it easier for all responding emergency personnel to locate your cabin.

**2018 FISH STOCKING:** We did our first stocking of the year on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, which consisted of our super catchable rainbows. We stocked 907 fish into Lakes 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 16, 19, and 20. The average size of these Kamloops rainbows were 19", weighing 2.9 lbs (45.7 oz). We decided to stock this year class of fish through the ice to reduce the mortality of spawning behavior in the rearing pond. Last year, we experienced significant mortality with this species of fish as the ice began to come off. In late February, they began showing signs of spawning behavior and increased mortality. Stocking these fish early will give them a better opportunity to be available for the fishing season.

Every year we experience unaccounted mortality in our rearing ponds, which range from 325 fish (13%) to 3,292 fish (39%) depending on the pond, which is caused by predators. This spring, we experienced a 56% unaccounted mortality in Pond 2, where these super catchables have been held since last summer. This is a significant increase from only 13% one year ago. We hope to have better results in our catchable rearing ponds this summer from our experiments including longer inlet pipes to move the fish into deeper water away from the predators over the winter.

We will begin stocking our 2018 catchable Triploid rainbows on April 30, along with additional stocking on the days of June 4, July 9, 30, and August 13. We expect to stock nearly 15,400 fish this year. If you would like to help stock on any of these dates, please contact Brent at 719-293-5441.

**2018 TRIPLOID RAINBOWS:** We currently have 17,389. They are 29 months old, 16" long, and weigh an average 26.7 ounces (1.7 pounds). The biggest fish of this year class are in Pasture Pond, which measure 16.8" and weigh 30.8 ounces (1.9 pounds). As spring nears and the ice recedes from the ponds, we will continue feeding these fish to increase their size before stocking. We will hold back 2,500 of this year class this summer for our super catchable program in 2019. We plan for a 10% unaccounted mortality each winter from predation (coyotes, eagles, etc.). During our fall grading in 2016, we kept extra "runts" in Hatchery Pond to replenish the ponds the following fall. We added nearly 2,000 fish to the 2018 catchable rainbow year class last fall before ice on. This is our first year adding these extra fish into the catchable year class. We hope this will help to achieve our goal of having additional fish to stock. Our 2018 fish stocking will provide excellent fishing as we return to our fishery management goals of stocking 16,000 fish, 28,000 pounds, with an average size exceeding 28 ounces. The 2018 catchables are located in New Pond, Pasture Pond, and Rainbow Pond until they are stocked out this summer.

**2019 TRIPLOID RAINBOWS:** This class of fish is one year old. We currently have 23,171 and they are 10.2" long. They are slightly larger than the 2018 rainbows were at this time last year. Instead of getting rid of extra fish after our fall grading, we decided to keep 3,000 "runts" to hold in Hatchery Pond over the winter so we can replenish our numbers of lost fish due to disease and predator loss this winter. These fish have begun to show signs of cold water disease in Jones Pond. We have treated these infected fish numerous days with medicated feed and diquat, along with picking pond mortalities daily. After the first stocking of the year these fish will be thinned out to Pasture Pond, which will give them additional room to recover from sickness and get healthy. This year class of fish are spread out in Pond One, Jones Pond, and Hatchery Pond for the winter.

**2020 TRIPLOID RAINBOWS:** Our triploids are growing fast and they are already at 3.0". We currently have 36,440 and they are 5 months old. We will begin to grade these fish next week and save the biggest 28,000. Grading allows us to keep the bigger fish, keep uniform size, and gives us an accurate number of remaining fish. These fish are currently in spring water which is consistently 48 degrees, optimal growth temperature. As these fish keep growing, we will continue to move them into additional tanks to keep them thinned out and healthy. Once the water outside warms up, we will move these fish into the Hatchery Raceways.

**2018 BROWN TROUT:** We currently have 5,200 fry which are 1.6" long. Once these fish reach 3" in mid-June, we will stock 2,270 into Lakes 6,9,10,11,12,15, and 18.

**2018 TIGER TROUT:** We currently have 1,601 tiger trout that are 1.6" long. Once these fish reach 3", we will stock 1,100 into Lakes 1,2,15, 21, and 26.

**2018 CUTTHROAT TROUT:** Our cutthroat trout are in the hatchery and are growing well. We have 4,282 and they are nearly 3". Once these fish reach 3", we will stock 2,475 into Lakes 2,3,4,5,7,8,12,15, and 20 at ice off.

**CUTBOWS:** These fish are eating and are growing well. We have 4,578 that are 1.7". We will stock some of these fish as fingerlings throughout the club when they reach 3" and add the remaining fish into the 2020 catchable stocking class.

**FISH HARVEST LIMITS:** Please remember that harvest limits for members are 15 fish in one day and 25 fish in possession plus no limit on brook trout 12" or smaller. This includes all fresh fish, processed fish, fish located at home or in your cabin. The harvest limit for the guest of a member is 10 fish per permit plus no limit on brook trout 12" or smaller. All fish 19" and larger must be returned to the water immediately. Arctic grayling, lake trout, splake, and tiger trout are catch and release status in all lakes.

**NATIONWIDE TROUT LOSSES:** The USDA reports total losses of all trout intended for sale were 31.4 million fish during 2017 nationwide, a decrease from 32.1 million fish in 2016. MML experiences about a 20% loss annually from disease and predators. The

USDA reports that the major contributing factor for the 2017 nationwide losses was from disease, which accounted for 94% (29.5 million fish).

**SPRING ROLLOFF CONTAINERS:** Each Spring, MML has two roll off containers available for member use which are located just south of the dumpsters. Last spring, MML paid an extra \$2,400 for “dirty” loads. These “dirty” loads contained prohibited items such as construction materials, appliances, oil, paint, tires, auto parts, etc. These prohibited items must be hauled to the dump or disposed of accordingly. The Lake County Landfill is located at 1500 CR 6, Leadville, CO 80461. The hours are 8am to 4pm, Friday – Tuesday. For more information, please visit <http://www.lakecountyco.com/landfill>. The first roll off will arrive during the week of May 21, after the annual meeting weekend.

**FOR SALE LIST:** Is no longer part of the Troutline but is located on the MML website. If you would like to post your cabin for sale, please visit the website and follow the instructions. If you have any questions, please call Gregg Anderson at 303-324-9893.

**MML WEBSITE:** If you have not had a chance to check out the new website, please do so at [mountmassivelakes.org](http://mountmassivelakes.org), password Fishing1. The “for sale section is now up and running and also check for updates in the “Managers Corner” section for the latest news and recent activity from MML staff. The website will also provide information such as fishing status, club updates, BOD meeting dates/times/locations, annual meeting date/time, and previous club material such as Troutline. We would like to thank BOD member Gregg Anderson for all the great work he has done to make this new website successful and current.

**MML VEHICLE WINDOW STICKERS:** We have new MML stickers (old ones don’t need to be replaced) for members to place on the window of their vehicles. Please stop by the office next time you’re at the Club if you would like one.

**DUMPSTERS:** As spring nears, please remember that our dumpsters are for household trash only. Construction materials, furniture, appliances, oil, paint, tires, auto parts, etc, are prohibited and must be hauled to the dump. To save the club money, we remove three dumpsters after Labor Day weekend until May 1<sup>st</sup>. The Lake County Landfill is located at 1500 CR 6, Leadville, CO 80461. The hours are 8am to 4pm, Friday – Tuesday. For more information, please visit <http://www.lakecountyco.com/landfill>.

**NEED COPIES OF MT. MASSIVE LAKES BY-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS, LAND USE APPLICATIONS AND RULES AND REGULATIONS OR MAPS OF THE CLUB?** They are available to the membership and can either be downloaded from the website or are available in plastic file holders mounted on the wall inside the Clubhouse, just to the right as you enter the Clubhouse door. If you elect to acquire them at the Clubhouse, limit one per member, please!

**LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS:** Remember, if you are planning a construction project at your cabin you will need to follow MML rules and regulations governing land use. These rules, published on the website or available at the clubhouse, include submitting a Land Use Application to the Land Use Committee for their approval, **prior** to starting construction. The rules state "**A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR INSTALLATION OF NEW CABINS, OUT BUILDINGS, ADDITIONS TO PRESENT CABINS, OR CONSTRUCTION OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS, FENCES, ANTENNAS, FLAGPOLES, SIGNS, PARKING AREAS, ROADS, CONCRETE, OR ANY DISTURBANCE OF THE LAND**". Please remember that the land use committee only operates from May – October. Applications received outside of these months will be reviewed as time permits. For prompt approval, please properly submit an application, including drawings, elevations, and neighbor approvals. If there is a question about whether or not you need to submit an application, or to submit an application, please call Land Use Committee members, Bill Bennett at (720) 300-9949, Janice Good at (719) 207-1596, Brent Groenke at (719) 293-5441.

**IS YOUR CABIN TITLED PROPERLY?:** The Lake County Assessor wants to remind Club Members that when they transfer their cabin and membership to a new owner, to an heir or to a trust, they will also want to change the title to their cabin by deeding it to the appropriate entity. If you have recently acquired a membership and cabin or put your membership and cabin into a trust, be sure to record the appropriate document (ie. a "Quit Claim Deed" or "Bill of Sale") with the Lake County Clerk and Recorder so that the title to your cabin matches how you want your membership titled. This will prevent Lake County Tax notices being mailed to the wrong address and eliminate a lot of headaches for you down the road. Simply filling out a Mount Massive Lakes "Transfer Form" will not officially transfer the cabin into your name.