

MOUNT MASSIVE LAKES, INC.

P.O. BOX 1981

LEADVILLE, COLORADO 80461

"A Tradition of Fishing Excellence"

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TROUTLINE DECEMBER 2017

NEXT BOARD MEETING: January 20, 2018 @ 9:30 a.m., Shaun Mulligan residence, 5925 Zinna Court, Arvada. We will be having a discussion about penalties for future violations of the 19" rule and will present the preliminary budget for 2018 – 2019. Please stop by and share your ideas.

ICE CONDITIONS: If you are at the club recreating during the winter months, please keep in mind that the thickness of ice varies from inlets to outlets and also from lake to lake. The most unstable ice will be by the inlets, outlets, and any place where springs enter lakes. Please be careful anytime that you are on the ice.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS: The BOD and staff of MML wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for a great fishing season and we look forward to seeing you next spring.

2017 GUEST PERMIT REVENUE: Guest permit revenue fell slightly (1%) in 2017 to \$48,330. Although we only stocked 12,034 super catchable and catchable fish last summer, we still exceeded our guest permit goal of \$48,000, with a total of 1,173 guests. With excellent water flows during the last two years, we expect to reach our normal stocking number of approximately 16,000 super catchable and catchable rainbows in 2018.

WATER FLOWS: 2017 has provided us with an abundance of water. As of December 1, we are taking between 4-5 CFS out of our 8 CFS water right. Our ditches still remain open and the water flows remains steady. To have good water years, we rely on spring time snow storms which brings the heavy, wet snow, loaded with lots of moisture.

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.

WINTER SAMPLING VOLUNTEERS: During the winter we sample each lake to check the abundance and condition of the fish population by ice fishing. We usually begin around the first of the year when the ice conditions become safe. If you are interested in coming to help out, please contact Brent or Bryan.

2018 CATCHABLE TRIPLOID RAINBOWS: We currently have 17,516 and they are 15.5", which is larger than what the 2017 rainbows were at this time last year. After our fall

grading in 2016, we decided to keep all of the “runts” and put them in Hatchery Pond over the winter and during the summer of 2017, to help mitigate with predator and disease loss. These “runts” grew well and caught up to the size of the graded fish. This fall, we moved these surplus fish, 2,023, into ponds with the 2018 rainbows, to have everything topped off going into the winter. We will hold back 2,500 fish from this year class for our super catchable program in 2019. Beginning with the 2018 catchable rainbows, all rainbows stocked in the future will be triploids. Our precise records show that we have a total of 19,704 fish to stock in 2018. Unfortunately, predators such as coyotes and eagles will lower this number throughout the winter, accounting for a loss of approximately 5,467 fish last winter. This fall we have increased the length of pond inlet pipelines to dump incoming water into the deeper sections of the ponds, which prevents fish from schooling up near the pond edges where they become more susceptible to predation. We hope this experiment along with intense predator control over the winter will dramatically decrease fish predation. These fish are currently in Pasture Pond, Rainbow Pond, and New Pond.

2018 KAMLOOPS RAINBOW SUPER CATCHABLES: We currently have 2,188 super catchables which are the last of the Kamloops rainbows and they are already 19”, weighing 3.0 pounds. Last spring, the catchable Kamloops rainbows showed aggressive spawning behavior which accounted for significant mortality in the rearing ponds. We expect the super catchables to begin this behavior as the ice comes off next spring, so we will be stocking these fish first to prevent significant mortality loss. This class of fish is currently in Pond Two.

2019 TRIPLOID RAINBOWS: Our triploids are healthy and growing well. They are already 9.5”, slightly larger than the target size they need to be at going into the winter. We currently have 23,716 in Pond 1 and Jones Pond. The “runts” we kept after our fall grading are now in Hatchery Pond until next fall.

2020 TRIPLOID RAINBOWS: We received our order of 38,000 triploid rainbow trout eyed eggs on October 12th. These eggs began to hatch on October 21st. After they all hatched, we moved them from the incubator into troughs. When they began to swim up, we begin to feed, which started on November 13th. We order these eyed eggs from Troutlodge, which is located in Washington State. These fish are sterile, which will provide them with better growth to large sizes as all their energy is transferred to growth rather than reproduction.

2017 BROOK TROUT REMOVAL: Each fall during the brook trout spawning run, we cull several brook trout, less than 12”, to prevent them from overpopulating, becoming stunted, and out competing other species of fish at MML. This year we removed 2,408 brook trout under 12” in length from ditches and lakes throughout the club, which is almost 1,400 additional brook trout removed in 2016. We use gillnets, traps, winter sampling, and electro fishing techniques to collect these fish, which allows us to keep the bigger fish alive and return them to the water. We hope our efforts will keep the

brook trout population in check, which will be determined from our summer samples in 2018. Members can help with this program by harvesting all brook trout under 12" that they catch.

2018 BROWN TROUT: Our annual fall spawning took place during the last week of September this year. We used an electro fisher this year to collect brown trout in the ditch between Upper and Lower Granite. Electro fishing allows us to collect all of the fish needed at one time and select the fish with the best milt and eggs for spawning, which significantly improves the survival from egg to hatch. We currently have 5,283 fry which is 89% survival rate, typical for this species of fish at MML. We will stock these fish next June when they reach 3".

2018 TIGER TROUT: We used an electro fisher to collect brown and brook trout from various ditches throughout the club for tiger trout spawning. We took 13,611 tiger eggs in late September. We currently have 3,363 tiger trout that should begin eating mid-December. The survival rate of tiger trout this year was 25%, which is up from only 10% in 2016. Tiger trout have a substantially lower survival rate than all the other species we have at MML. The low survival of this species is due to crossing fish from different genera.

2018 CUTTHROAT TROUT: Our cutthroat trout are in the hatchery and are growing well. We have 4,454 and they are almost 2". Once these fish reach 3", we will stock them out into the lakes at ice off.

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, 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: 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 money, we remove three

dumpsters after Labor Day weekend and have the current dumpsters dumped every other week during the winter instead of every week. The Lake County Landfill is located at 1500 CR 6, Leadville, CO 80461. The hours are 8am to 5pm, 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.