

# MOUNT MASSIVE LAKES, INC.

P.O. BOX 27

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"A Tradition of Fishing Excellence"

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## TROUTLINE

## OCTOBER 2013

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**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** January 18, 2014, Shaun Mulligan residence, 5925 Zinnia Court, Arvada, 9:30am.

**NO BAG LIMIT:** In an effort to utilize trout that will not survive until the next fishing season, bag limits on rainbow trout, less than 19" in length, will be suspended beginning September 3, 2013. Please feel free to harvest rainbow trout at will until the fishing season closes at "ice on".

Rainbow trout that remain in our lakes after "ice on" experience an 85% mortality rate by the next season. This high mortality rate is partially due to the poor habitat these fish experience under the ice. High numbers of fish, low winter water flows and extreme ice cover produce poor habitat conditions. Harvesting most of the rainbow trout will improve habitat quality and increase survivability of the remaining fish.

**MML WEBSITE:** [mountmassivelakes.org](http://mountmassivelakes.org)

**Login:** member

**Password:** fish

**MEMBERSHIP FOR SALE LIST:** Is no longer part of the "Troutline". We have started a separate list of memberships for sale that we will send out with each Troutline and whenever there is a change in the list. If you wish to add to, or change the list of memberships for sale, please email to [mountmassivelakes@gmail.com](mailto:mountmassivelakes@gmail.com) or call Shaun Mulligan at 303-513-0624.

**DROUGHT CONTINUES:** August and September rain events increased water flows dramatically. These encouraging events gave staff the opportunity to revitalize the 2014 and 2015 fish crops.

The 2014 year class is few in numbers but strategies will be implemented next summer to mitigate these low numbers. The 2015 year class will have normal numbers but these fish are smaller than we expect. A plan to help the 2015 year class "catch up" size wise is underway and we hope to see initial positive results by the end of October.

The problem achieving fish production goals is made evident in the attached water flow chart. The MML fish program was designed for August water flows that were observed prior to 1987. The MML fish production system requires at least 4.6 cubic feet/second (cfs) for adequate operation. That amount of water was available every year but one (2000) from 1984-2001. Since 2002 4.6 cfs has been available in only 5 years and lacking in the other 7 years. It is extremely difficult to maintain consistent crops of fish with far less water than the production system was designed.

A number of options are being developed to address the lack of water in our system. Each is being carefully analyzed before implementation. If a program is deemed feasible that project will be constructed barring any budget constraints. This process will take years to be fully implemented. The good news is that each year water flows exceed 4.6 cfs we can reach fish production goals using existing infrastructure.

**CONDOLENCES:** To Jack Landis on the passing of “Mary”, basically the patron of all who have fished MML waters. Remember she will always be watching over us.

Jack Landis writes “many thanks to all of you who helped us through the trying times of Mary’s last days at MML and the celebration of her memories at church and Lake 6”.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:** Wade Arnold purchased from Bill Arnold; Jim Berwick purchased the former Vickery membership and cabin; Frank Gustafson purchased from Bill Downey; Hal McKnight purchased from Bill Blackburn; Shane Copsey purchased from Dave Copsey; Bruce Waring purchased from Bob Beanblossom.