Fishing opportunities at Spada Lake Reservoir are provided by Snohomish County PUD as one of many mitigation measures for the continued operation of the Jackson Hydroelectric Project. This facility provides clean, renewable energy to approximately 56,000 homes annually. Spada Lake Reservoir also supplies 75% of the drinking water supply to Snohomish County.

Getting there:

From Highway 2, turn north on the Sultan Basin Road*. Follow the winding road for 13.5 miles to Olney Pass. Stop and register your visit at the Olney Pass registration kiosk. At the fork in the road, go to the right and drive 3.1 miles to the South Fork boat launch. Or, continue 2.0 miles past the South Fork site to the South Shore boat launch.

*The Sultan Basin Road is a county-maintained road paved for the first 10.5 miles. The final 3 miles to Olney Pass (end of county road) are gravel, as are all roads on PUD property within the Sultan Basin.

● Vehicular Access ☆ Boat Launch
● Hike-in Access Only I Gate

NORTH SHORE
Culmback Dam
GATEWAY
CULMBACK
Sultan River Canyon Trail
Locked Gates
SPADA LAKE RESERVOIR
NIGHTHAWK
BEAR CREEK
SOUTH SHORE
OLNEY PASS (REGISTRATION)
SOUTH FORK
SULTAN

PUD lands surrounding Spada Lake Reservoir are designated as wildlife habitat. Please do not disturb vegetation or wildlife.

Boat launches:

Boat launches are available at the South Fork and South Shore recreation sites on the south east side of the reservoir, down to 1,410 feet msl (South Fork) and 1,425 feet msl (South Shore). Parking for boat trailers is available at both recreation sites. No overnight camping is allowed.

Before you go:

Check the PUD website at **snopud.com/spada** to verify conditions such as reservoir levels and gate closures before leaving home. Occasional closures may be necessary for public safety during severe weather conditions, road maintenance or other reasons.

Aquatic plants and animals are often inadvertently moved from one water-body to another by trailered boats.

It is important to remove all visible plant or animal materials from your boat, motor, trailer or other equipment, and to drain all of the water from bilges and live wells away from the water body. Transporting aquatic plants on your equipment on any state or public road, including forest roads, is a misdemeanor. [RCW 77.15.290 (4)]

Water quality regulations:

Spada Lake Reservoir is the principal source of drinking water for 75% of Snohomish County's population. Water quality depends on public observation of the following:

1. Boat launching only at designated locations.
2. No combustion engines allowed on Spada Lake Reservoir.
3. Licensed motorized vehicle operation on improved roads only.
4. Picnicking only at approved sites.
5. Pets must remain in vehicles or be leashed at all times.
6. No overnight camping.
7. No swimming, paddleboarding, wading and/or water-contact activities in creeks or Spada Lake Reservoir.
8. No inflatable devices on Spada Lake Reservoir.

Fishing regulations:

Be aware of fishing regulations and comply with selective gear rules (only unscented artificial flies or lures with one single-point, barbless hook are allowed), size restrictions, catch limits, and fishing seasons. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Sport Fishing Regulation Pamphlet is available at local sporting goods store and at **wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/**

Take note that fishing is not allowed west of the log boom near Culmback Creek. Boat landings are not allowed anywhere on the north or east shores between Williamson Creek and North Fork Sultan River. Please watch for and respect all signage.

When on the reservoir:

▶ Be mindful of weather conditions and wind patterns that may impact boat travel and control.
▶ Be alert to the presence of submerged stumps and floating logs.

Snohomish County PUD
PO Box 1107 • Everett, WA 98206-1107

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Fishing at Spada Lake Reservoir

JACKSON HYDRO

renewable ● reliable ● environmentally responsible
SNOHOMISH COUNTY PUD

Snohomish County
PUD
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1

Where to fish in the reservoir

At high reservoir levels:

During the late spring and summer recreation season, the PUD maintains a higher level in Spada Reservoir to provide for enhanced recreational opportunities. As summer progresses and water temperatures increase, cooler waters are found deeper in the reservoir.

Trout prefer cooler water and, during summer, are more likely to be found in the deeper waters of the reservoir or in areas under the influence of the inflow of cool water from tributaries.

At low reservoir levels:

During fall, after September 15 and extending through the end of the fishing season, reservoir levels drop as the reservoir is drafted to prepare for increased rain and inflow. During this time of year, trout may be found higher in the water column as temperatures near the water surface cool. As during other times of year, trout may also occupy the tributary arms to take advantage of cooler temperatures and drifting food organisms.

Large-Scale Sucker

## How to fish the reservoir

From boat:

A boat not only provides access to different areas of the reservoir, it also provides a means to fish deeper areas. During summer, trout are known to concentrate near the thermocline. The thermocline is defined

Rainbow Trout

as a rapid or abrupt change in temperature relative to surrounding water. In Spada Reservoir, the thermocline is often found between 20 and 30 feet below the surface. The depth of the thermocline may vary as a result of temperature and inflow. Trolling, with an electric motor (combustion engines not allowed), is one effective technique for targeting fish occupying cooler areas in the reservoir. Try fishing at various depths until you determine the depth at which fish are currently residing.
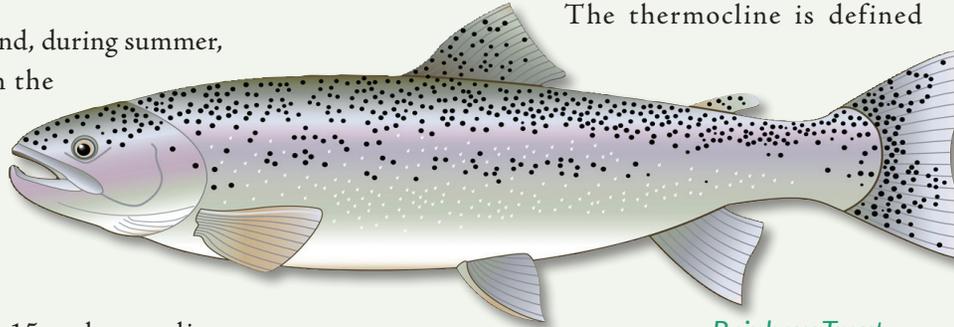
Cutthroat Trout

From shore:

Anglers fishing from shore are most successful near areas under tributary influence. Trout like these delta areas because they are cooler and because the tributaries provide a consistent and predictable source of food. *Please be mindful that the tributaries themselves are closed to fishing.* Flies and lures can be effective in areas with minimal shoreline vegetation. These techniques also are effective for boaters that motor into these delta areas. Boaters choosing this technique need to be alert to the presence of submerged stumps.

Fish you'll find in the reservoir

Rainbow Trout   *Cutthroat Trout*
Brown Bullhead   *Large-Scale Sucker*

Brown Bullhead