

NOVEMBER 2006

29th TROUT SEASON OPENER

Once again the days are getting shorter, the weather is cooling off and the water temperatures are dropping. These signs all point to the return of the Rainbow Trout to Lake Mission Viejo. The **29th Annual Trout Opener** was held on Saturday November 18th at 6:00 AM. Anglers found 9,000 pounds of the beautiful Rainbow Trout ready to attack lures and go after the power bait thrown their way. These fish came all the way from Nebraska. They arrived on Thursday after a 24 hour ride in a very large trout truck. We dropped the fish in the marina area about 4 PM on Thursday and they dispersed quickly in to the Lake environment. We had a fairly large crowd observe the stocking. After all these years staff at the Lake still get excited over the anticipation of the Trout Fishing season. The rental fleet is being spruced up with new batteries, anchors and paint.

The initial stock of trout attracted a large crowd of anglers to the Lake. Fishing was slow on Saturday as the fish seemed lethargic after their long ride. We look for these trout to settle in and in a few days I think they will begin to attack bait and lures with abandon. The load was the largest ever stocked at one time here at LMVA and the fish averaged 2 pounds each. The next stock is scheduled for Tuesday November 28th prior to our first tournament of the year (See below for Details).

FISHING CONDITIONS

Trout fishing conditions during the opening part of the season remain consistent with past years. The Lake water temperature will be around 65 degrees and the water visibility is approximately 35 feet in most areas of the lake. The fish were seen in the first cove across from the marina and in abundance in the Market Cove. We saw a few limits opening day with many anglers coming in with one or two fish each.

Light line is essential for success when targeting trout. Use 4 lb. Test as a main line with 2 lb. Leader material. Number 16 and 18 treble hooks work very well with the Berkley Power Bait. Casta Bubbles filled with water are a favorite substitute for lead sinkers here at the Lake. Another method of targeting the trout is with a variety of lures. Kastmasters, Rooster Tails Mepes Spinners and Panther Martin lures are all favorites of lake anglers.

The best suggestion for catching trout in the lake is to get out on the lake, enjoy the peace and quiet and take advantage of the opportunity to catch beautiful rainbow trout in your own backyard.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lake Mission Viejo Fishing Club members should begin to make plans for another season of fun and competition here at the Lake. The first meeting of the Fishing Club will take place on Wednesday November 29th in the Lake Administration building at 7:00 PM. We will be welcoming new members, talking about the up-coming season and taking sign-ups for our initial tournament of the season scheduled for Saturday December 2nd.

The November Trout Tournament will be held on Saturday December 2nd from 6:00 AM to 11:00 AM with weigh-in at 11:30 AM. There are three divisions: Adults (18 and over) fee \$5.00, Teens (12 to 17) fee \$5.00 and Kids (11 and under) fee \$4.00. There are prizes for the first 3 places in each division and a Big Fish Prize for the largest trout taken in the Tournament. Prizes are awarded in a Blind Bogey format so everyone that catches a fish has a Chance a prize. Anglers should stick around for the weigh-in even if they don't catch a fish as we always have a drawing for free rental boats.

We hope that you can all join us for another fun filled season of trout fishing and camaraderie With Kaveh, Paul, Dennis and Zach and I as we start the 29^h Trout Season here at Lake Mission Viejo.

Dave Kerr

