

RED FEATHER STORAGE & IRRIGATION CO

2025 FISHING REPORT

2025 Stocking: Crystal Springs Trout Farm stocked all lakes except Shagwa with 12-15" rainbows and palominos and 18" + trophy rainbows and palominos during our spring and summer stocking. Ten per cent of all stockings were palominos with twenty per cent or all trout being trophy trout. Aquatic Associates stocked 13-15" Donaldson rainbows in Shagwa, 250, 7-9" browns in Apache, 500, 7-9" browns in Erie and 250, 8-10" Tiger trout in Nokomis. Stocking numbers of rainbows and palomino: Apache, 1850 #, Erie, 1500#, Hiawatha, 1500#, Letitia, 2250#, Nokomis, 1150#, Ramona, 1850#, Shagwa 150#, Snake, 1900#. Crystal Springs will stock four lakes with 750# of 12-15" rainbows and palominos in the fall. Apache and Ramona will receive 750# each, two other lakes are yet to be determined pending water levels and creel reports. Grass carp were stocked in all lakes. We plan on stocking 6-8" walleye in Apache this fall if walleyes are available.

Ice Fishing: The 2024-25 ice fishing season was the shortest in recent memory. Due to winds and warm temperatures, safe ice fishing was only available for 4-5 weeks on Ramona and 12 weeks on Apache.

Moss and Weeds: Algae growth was normal for all lakes except Erie. We experienced a different strain of algae growth than normal at Erie. Our fish biologist had to use a different type of chemical mitigation to eliminate the algae. The mitigation should last for two to three years.

Fish Surveys: This year we reinstated surveys at Nokomis and Shagwa. As a biological approach to bring the perch population in check at Nokomis, we stocked browns and tiger trout in Nokomis. We are hopeful the addition of these two varieties of predator trout will help decrease the perch population. It took three to five years for biological mitigation to work at Apache. We are hopeful we will have similar results at Nokomis. We are still interested in tracking the growth of the Donaldson trout in Shagwa. A summary of the surveys will be posted in the office.

Water Temperatures: Water temperatures were in line with average temperatures as in past years.

Water Quality: Water quality remained good throughout the year.