



Date	March 2006	Time	Morning to mid day
Location	Hagerman Wildlife Management Area (Oster Lakes)	Weather	Cold, snowy, very windy
Fish Species	Rainbow Trout	Size Range	10-12" 1 20" Yellow Rainbow
Fish Caught	A half dozen between us all		
Flies Used	Olive and Black Bead Head Wooly Buggers (size 6), Nymphs		
Techniques	Cast out letting the fly sink and strip back using small quick jerks. Dunking worms with a bobber.		
Comments	Shane caught a 20" Yellow Rainbow Trout! Plan to deal with the crowds!		



Shane's 20" Yellow Rainbow Trout

I went fishing with my two oldest daughters and some friends from my church ward. Karl and his girlfriend also met us at the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area. It lies just south of Hagerman at the State Fish Hatchery near Thousand Springs. The season opens on March 1st for trout and ponds with Bass open up on July 1st. There are several ponds that are stocked by Idaho Fish and Game for recreational fishing and these ponds also serve as winter resting areas for waterfowl.

It was a miserable, cold, blustery day and the fishing was no better. I came down this time last year and had some good fishing in one of the outlets accompanied by very nice

weather. Fish weren't in those places this year due to the loss of vegetation. What was a blanket of vegetation flowing back and forth with the stream flows had become nothing but mud.

We ventured over to Oster Lakes #1. I didn't do much fly fishing because I was helping my girls and the other two boys and their dad that came with us. There were a few fly fishermen that were doing OK but it was rather slow fishing for most that I saw including us. We did catch a few, which made for a couple of exciting moments.



Camden and his Rainbow

The kids didn't last long in the cold so we decided to warm them up by taking a drive to see Thousand Springs just down the highway. After getting warm and getting a bite to eat we decided to try the big lake just west of the fish hatchery.

It was hard finding a place to fish with all the crowds. Between the crowds, the slow fishing and the cold, we didn't last long. The only bright spot was Shane catching a 20" Yellow Rainbow Trout.

It was off to Boise for us and off to the hot springs down the street for Karl. I decided I wouldn't be making any more special trips to the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area. It can be good fishing if you time it right so it's worth a try if you're in the area and don't mind the crowds. Don't forget about Billingsley Creek and the Malad River!