

## DIAMOND LAKE OUTING

October 6, 7, & 8 2017

Marv Clemons – Host

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After waking up to snow-filled boats, float tubes etc. for the last three years at our late October outing at Diamond Lake, it was unanimously decided to move the outing up to the second weekend of October, the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to hopefully find improved weather and fishing conditions. If you have not already made your reservation, call the Diamond Lake Resort at 541-793-3333 and select the type of room or campground you are interested in. We are not sure whether the late-season discount will be offered at this time, but be sure to let the folks at the reservation desk know you are with the Cascade Family Fly Fishers from Eugene and ask for the end-of -season discount. It never hurts to ask.

Although we will arrive a few weeks earlier this year, for those who haven't fished Diamond this late in the season, we could still hit some rough weather. Snow is a possibility as well as wind. If we are lucky, we will hit beautiful blue skies and relatively warm temperatures in the 50s and low 60s. The weather does not seem to bother the fishing, as the callibaetis hatch will be on. Size fourteen and 16 blue winged olive dries and nymphs will work, as well as other standard nymph patterns like gold ribbed hare's ear, pheasant tail, prince and the ever-ubiquitous Chironomids in sizes 18/16/14. Also size 8 and 10 wooly buggers and damsels in midnight fire, brown, black and olive will work. We had good luck last year trolling size 14/16 olive damsels on an intermediate sinking line behind the wooly buggers. Most of your fishing in the open lake will in in 8 to 10 feet of water so the sinking line will be helpful with a 10-count giving your fly time to get down along the weed beds. Last year we noticed that most of the fly fishers were fishing from 10 to 50 feet from shore sometimes in 3' to 6' of water and doing really well. Also last year with lots of rain, the fish really turned on as soon as the rain started, providing some exciting fishing. Even though these trout do not spawn in the lake, they do prepare their redds bringing them into the shallow water which allows the stealthy fisher to sight fish for these lunkers.

Diamond is a big lake so plan to bring some kind of water craft. If you don't have a float tube, pontoon boat, drift boat, or a power boat you can rent one from the lodge for a reasonable price. Be sure to bring warm clothing: rain gear, wool and fleece garments for layering, gloves, a warm hat, polaroid glasses, a Coast Guard approved life jacket, and a full change of clothes just in case. I find waders are my best bet as they keep me dry, feet warm and easy to move around in. Plenty of water and munchies are also a good idea. For fishing gear a rod anywhere from 5 to 8 wht. 8' – 9' works well. Having two rods ready, one with a sinking line and one dry, will allow you to adapt to what ever the fish are taking, and you will see many fish rising for the callibaetis as they come off but remember they are also taking the nymphs sub-surface.

I plan to arrive at the lodge a little after noon on Friday the 6th, check in, stow my gear, and be fishing by 1:30 after a bit of lunch. If you are there at that time, we can fish together. Regardless of the route you take to Diamond, always check the road report for that route so you can plan your arrival at Diamond accordingly, as the weather this time of year can change in a heart beat. To assist others who may be coming get squared away, we will all get together for dinner at the lodge at 7:30 PM Friday evening to discuss the days fishing and plan the next two days. It's really nice to have a hot meal after a day on the water.

If you have any questions about the trip, please give me a call at 541-688-8774. If you need a ride, give me a call and we will do our best to find one for you. Take care and I look forward to fishing with you at Diamond.

Marv