

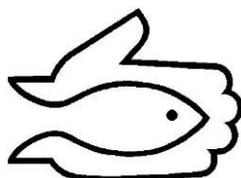
Bowsman River Angling Package



This package was created to provide anglers with information to enhance angling quality and opportunity on the Bowsman River. The document will summarize research completed on the river and along with maps and information that anglers can use to plan day or multi-day trips on the Bowsman River.

Swan Valley Sport Fishing Enhancement Inc.

January 2019



Background Information

The Bowsman River has been stocked intermittently since 1950. Plantings have been dominated by brook trout with select plantings of rainbow trout and splake. The most recent planting occurred in 2008 with 3,000 brook trout. Up to date stocking records can be viewed on the SVSFE website.

In the fall of 2012 SVSFE conducted a presence/absence survey on the Bowsman River. The objective was to identify stretches of the river where habitat was suitable for brook trout, and therefore angling opportunities. Brook trout were only found at one location near waypoint #4 (BS-Mid-1), however angling reports have determined that brook trout have been present as far upstream as Sinclair's Bluff. To date, there have been no reports of trout being caught in the lower reaches within agricultural land. Also, the 2012 survey found evidence of a naturally reproducing brook trout population. The report from 2012 Bowsman River Survey can be found on the SVSFE website (IFA#2 - Bowsman River).

Additional Information

This package is a summary of information collected in 2012 and therefore subject to change over time; especially in terms of access and trail information. The GIS data (.gpx, .kmz) from the map (page 3) can be downloaded from the "Go Fishing - Bowsman River" page on the SVSFE Website.

The most effective way to angle these backcountry streams is to travel far from the access points where there is far less angling pressure. Also, it is advised that trips be completed during low runoff periods when the water is clear. The following is a summary of river distances between access points and along with waypoint information.

| WPT #'s | Approximate Distance Between WPTS | WPT # | WPT Name | Comments |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-------|------------------|---|
| #2-#3 | ~200m | 1 | Parking Area | Landing and parking area off road |
| #3-#4 | ~1.1km | 2 | Crossing | Caution bridge out |
| #4-#5 | ~500m | 3 | Acces Point | No Trail - 25m to river |
| #5-#6 | ~2.5km | 4 | Acces Point | No Trail - 50m to river |
| #6-#7 | ~5.3km | 5 | Acces Point | No Trail - 50m to river |
| | | 6 | Pike's Peak | Lookout, picnic area, 250m trail to river |
| | | 7 | Sinclair's Bluff | River crossing at Sinclair's Bluff |

In most stretches of the river there isn't much bank width and very little clearings on shore for casting. For this reason, this particular fishery is better suited for a spin fishing as opposed to a fly fishing.

Travel along this particular stream is time consuming, therefore ensure that you're well prepared for very long days of angling. The rocky substrate, deep pools, fallen trees, and beaver flooded areas can make travel very slow, therefore ensure that you are well prepared before heading out on a day or multiday trip on the Bowsman River.

Bowsman River Map

