

Angler Ted Fardoe enjoys the sunshine and great fishing at Crowduck Lake in Whiteshell Provincial Park.

Crowduck experience

Reaching the camp is a treat; lake is full of hungry walleye

AN early morning mist was rising off Big Whiteshell Lake as Bill Kolanski idled his boat to the dock at the north end of the lake.

Bill owns and operates Crowduck Lake Camp and he was here to pick up Ted Fardoe and myself last week for two days of fishing at his camp.

My friendship with Bill dates back eight years ago when I came out to film two episodes of The Complete Angler TV show. As he boated us across to the other side of Big Whiteshell, we caught up on fishing and business.



The Complete Angler
Don Lamont

Part of the experience of Crowduck is the trip in to Bill's camp; guests are picked up by Bill or one of his staff at Big Whiteshell and ferried to a dock across the lake where Bill has a fleet of trucks waiting to take anglers by a graded road some 10 minutes to his camp. Along the way this day, we stopped for a deer that was staring at us from the middle of the road.

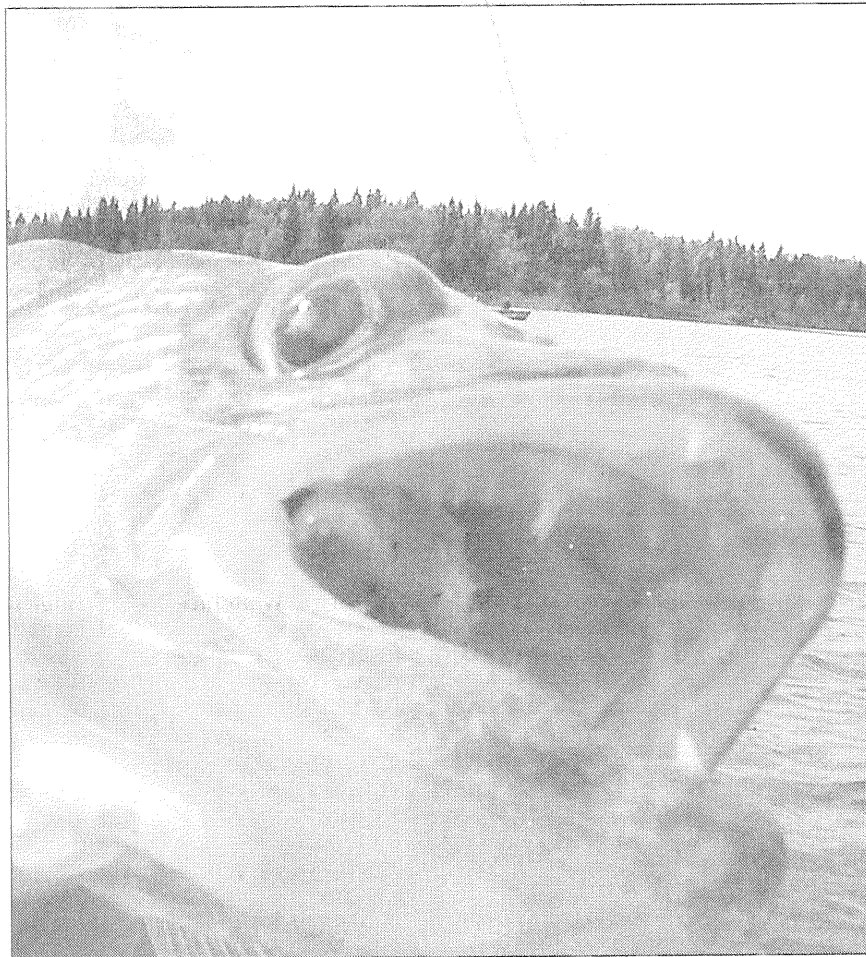
Upon arrival, Bill dropped us at cabin Five where we were met by the four other people who were joining us. Ted and Alfred Schleir from PCL Constructors had won the trip to Crowduck at the 14th annual Fish Futures banquet this past spring and I was fortunate enough to be invited along.

Kolanski has donated this trip to Fish Futures for a number of years and at each banquet it raises \$2,400 for the fisheries resource, a gesture much appreciated by members of the angling community in Manitoba.

For people looking for a fishing experience of a lifetime, Crowduck has become internationally renowned for its walleye fishing. Located in the middle of Whiteshell Provincial Park, this large mesotrophic lake has been producing world-class walleye fishing for more than a decade, ever since a strict catch-and-release policy was implemented.

Bill runs his camp in a truly professional manner. As we got our equipment unpacked, the boats already were running and ready to go down at the dock. On the back of each of the boats is a map of Crowduck with some of the traditional hotspots marked, places like the Gull Islands or Dark Bottom Bay.

We checked out a number of areas in the next couple of days and most produced one walleye after the other. You pretty much had a fish on before your jig hit the bottom, with the largest



This Crowduck Lake walleye chowed down on a Berkely Power Tube jig.

walleye landed the first day measuring 67.3 centimetres (26.5 inches), a nice fish.

Still, Bill and the rest of the anglers who frequent this lake will tell you it doesn't match the glory days when most everyone who spent time on the lake would catch a 76-cm (30-inch) walleye.

Part of the problem — and it's a nice problem to have, says Bill — is that there are so many hungry walleye in the lake, they have eaten themselves out of house and home. While that is a good thing for anglers who like to catch 100 fish in a day, for those who angle for bigger fish, it becomes a problem.

Manitoba Conservation has made Crowduck a catch-and-release lake since the restocking program in the early 1980s. Despite lobbying from a number of groups to allow anglers to keep one walleye each for shore lunch, the request has fallen on deaf ears.

Still, Crowduck Lake Camp is always full and Bill has no problem renting his extra boats to anglers who want to come in on a day trip. I do recommend that if you do want to experience walleye fishing second to none, give Bill a call well in advance, then get ready to catch more walleye than you can imag-

ine!

You can reach Bill or his dad Nick at 1-204-222-7307.

Anglers notes: Walleye fishing on the Red River and at Pine Falls has been a hit-or-miss proposition so far this fall. Some anglers are doing OK while others are drawing a blank, though things seem to have improved in the last few days.

The biggest walleye recorded so far on the Red that I've heard about was 5.2 kilograms (14 pounds), caught on Monday. Meantime, sauger action is hot-and-heavy from Lockport to Selkirk on the Red with big catfish still on the bite.

Anglers across the province are always looking for the latest information on where the fish are biting. One of the best Web sites on fishing in Manitoba is Daniel Kiazzyk's Cat Eye Outfitters. You can find it at www.geocities.com/dkiazzyk2000/ and it has plenty of information plus a Fishing Manitoba bulletin board with some great information. More and more anglers in Manitoba are contributing to the board, making it a great source of information.

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DATE
October 17, 2002

TIME
Doors Open at 5:00 PM
Dinner at 7:00 PM

LOCATION
Winnipeg
Convention Center
375 York Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Four Course Dinner
& Entertainment

TICKETS
Adults \$65
Children \$20

Tickets Available Here:

S.L.R. Sports Store
1385 Ellice Avenue Winnipeg
Farmers Supply
1094 Notre Avenue Winnipeg
Jo-Brook Firearms
143 - 10th Street Brandon
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246 Saskatchewan Avenue East
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Solunar tables

Solunar tables for fishing have long been used to find the best fishing times and peak feeding periods. Expert fishermen believe the phase and position of the moon greatly affects fishing results. This solunar table predicts the two best times for fishing each day for the next week. Use this chart to help plan your next fishing trip.

Oct. 5 — 10:54 p.m. to 12:54 a.m.; 11:18 a.m. to 1:18 p.m.
Oct. 6 — 12:06 a.m. to 2:06 a.m.; 11:42 a.m. to 1:42 p.m.
Oct. 7 — 12:30 a.m. to 2:30 a.m.; 12:54 p.m. to 2:54 p.m.
Oct. 8 — 1:18 a.m. to 3:18 a.m.; 1:42 p.m. to 3:42 p.m.
Oct. 9 — 2:06 a.m. to 4:06 a.m.; 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Oct. 10 — 2:54 a.m. to 4:54 a.m.; 3:18 p.m. to 5:18 p.m.
Oct. 11 — 3:42 a.m. to 5:42 a.m.; 4:06 p.m. to 6:06 p.m.

The four-letter word game

FOURWORD

E			
	I		
		I	T
	E		S

ADDEI
KNSTW 05-10

Place the letters below into the blank spaces on the left to create four-letter words down and across.

EDGE
BRAN
BOLD
SPAS

previous solution

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