LUHR·JENSEN®
OF HOOD RIVER, OREGON

LAKE TROLLING

Trolling is a technique tailor-made for anglers with all degrees of expertise because it's easy, fun and it works! It is a fishing technique employed by hundreds of thousands of anglers every day because of its proven success.

Put the deadly technique of trolling together with a high quality lake troll and you have a fish-catching combination that's unbeatable.

Flex-i-Trolls manufactured by Luhr-Jensen are world-renowned for their craftsmanship, high quality and fish-attracting characteristics. They're made of aircraft-grade flex cable (for easy storage and improved action), spring brass blades and assembled by hand to provide you with the most popular and productive lake trolls in the world.

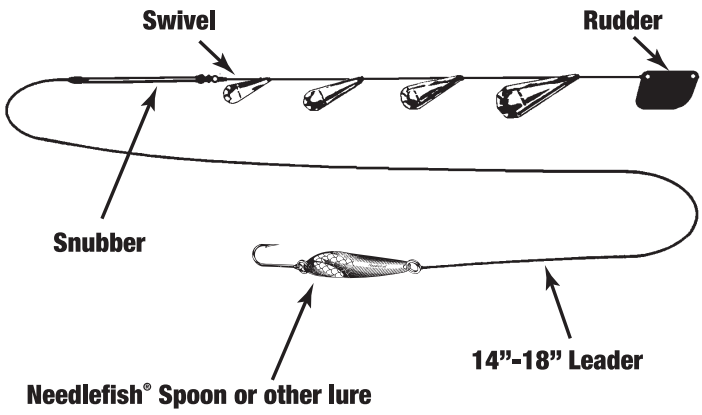
Trolling requires a boat, method of propulsion (motor or oars), rod and reel, blade string (troll), leader and lure or bait. The troll is let out behind your moving boat until you have from 75 to 150 feet of line out and then you're ready to catch fish. The forward speed of your boat will dictate just how fast or slow the troll and trailing lure will move and also how deep it will run.

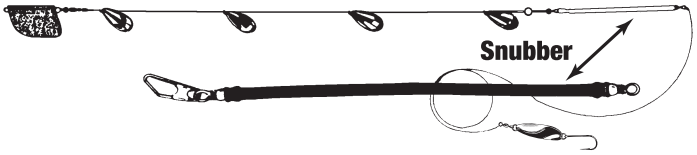
Trolls are particularly effective in deep, murky waters or on overcast days. The basic difference between lake trolls is the number and shape of the blades and the length of the Flex-i-Troll cable. The shape of a blade determines how fast or slow it will rotate and the particular sound vibration produced underwater. A round or nearly round blade such as the small Bolo or Cowbell® fluted blade swings slow and wide from the shaft while narrow blades such as the Willow Leaf spin fast and close to the shaft.

A troll can be used with just about any lure or bait, some of the most effective being a small spoon, such as the Needlefish®, worm or small spinner such as Shyster®.

From the end of the troll a leader should extend at least 12 inches back to the chosen lure (many anglers prefer leaders from 14 to 18 inches). When trolled, the blades act as attractors, fish follow the flash and sound to the source, spot the trailing lure and go after it!

TROLL RIGGING





Snubbers are attached between the troll and leader-to-lure to absorb the shock of hard strikes.

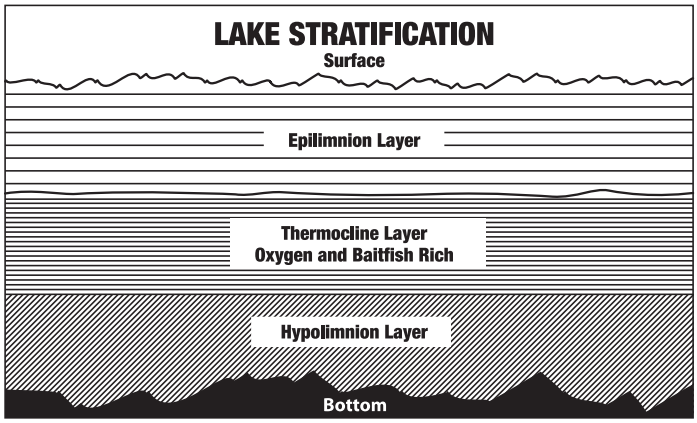
Larger and more blades should be used for deep trolling or for working murky water. Clear water or depths of 10 to 20 feet require fewer blades which can be a smaller in size. Nickel works best on bright days or in clear water while brass and copper finishes produce better results in murky or deep water. Brass, 50/50 brass/nickel, or copper finishes work well on days with overcast skies.

TROLLING TIPS

A. TROLL SLOWLY: Big fish will not expend any more energy than they have to catch a meal. Additionally, most lures will not perform correctly at fast speeds. The best advice is to troll slow – the slower the better.

B. VARY TROLLING SPEED: While slow is the password to successful trolling, this does not mean slow all the time. A lure running through water at a constant speed, at a constant depth and giving off the same vibration pattern will not catch many fish… There's just nothing there to indicate to a fish that there's an easy meal available or that something's in trouble.

C. WORK IN S CURVES: Consistent trolling results require that you do everything possible to keep from running a straight line, such as working in an "S" pattern. Every time the troll and lure are on the inside swing of the boat the lure will drop deeper and slow down while on an outside turn in speed up and rise in the water.



Most lakes stratify into three layers during late spring and stay that way until late fall. The middle layer of water, the thermocline, contains both a large amount of dissolved oxygen and forage fish. Your trolling, to be most effective, should be concentrated close to or in the thermocline, which will be from 10 to 20 feet down in most lakes.

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