

# Collins Lake Tactics

**Prepared by:** Guy Brown, Alex Alexander, Hil Felton

**Lake:** Collins Lake (Rainbow)

**Month:** April 2011

**Areas:** See map below.

**Water temperature & likely depth(s) fish will be at:** 48-64 degrees, clear, surface to 35 feet down. After the sun comes up you may want to go deeper.

**Rod/reel/line :** Medium, medium light action, 6-7 feet, 8 lb. mono.

**Leader #/length:** 8 lb., 6-18 inches long.

**Dodgers, side-kicks, wiggle fins, e-chips, flashers:** Slim Willies with a night crawler; Wildthing dodger gold with night crawler. Apply a scent to the dodger.

**Lures/colors:** Apex (Firetiger, orange), 3 inch Grubs (orange, Firetiger 0.7-0.9, 1.3-1.6 mph), night-crawlers (1.6 mph), Rapalas (F-9 Black/silver, F-9 Firetiger, F-9 Hot Steel 1.8-3 mph), Serpent spoons (3 mph), Trout Worm (red fluorescent), Uncle Larry's Spinner (Firetiger).

**Scents/bait:** Night crawlers; Carp, Trophy Trout, shad, garlic, krill gels.

**Leadcore, Side-planers, downriggers:** Side-planers for surface bites. Lead core, down riggers can be productive if fish are not on the surface.

**Tactics:** Electric trolling motor line behind the boat 100+ feet, 150 feet for an outboard motor. <http://www.fishsniffer.com/trout-board/> and <http://www.anglernet.com/web/lakes/collins/collrprt.htm>

**Boat handling:** Troll at 0.9-3 mph. Vary speed based on your presentation. Change-up speeds, make "S" turns when the bite is slow.

**Amenities:** R.V. sites, tent sites, electric/water hook-ups, toilets, showers, laundry, marina, store, gas/propane, security patrol, launch, dock, moorage, rentals, beach, picnic area.

**Directions:** <http://www.collinslake.com/>

**Next page are some details from Alex Alexander and Rick Kennedy -----**

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**Alex Alexander - April 7, 2011:**

My fishing experiences at Collins Lake have varied. I have caught large fish on Thomas Buoyants, Clown Rapalas and a Rapala with a black back, gold sides and white belly. The broken back Rapalas seem to work a little better. If you want a limit of fish I suggest a worm behind a blue dodger or flashers trolled very slow. I've been at Collins when any lure with red on it trolled in front of the dam worked. The shore opposite the launching ramp and near the dam has produced best for me.

**Peak times:** First light and dusk.

**Fish finder:** Start the day setting it to read water depth to 20 feet. Go to 40 feet later.

**GPS:** If you have one mark hits, hook-ups as soon as they occur and then stay in that area until the bite stops. Watch the direction of the marks it may tell you which direction the fish headed

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**Rick Kennedy - April 8, 2011:**

Water will be muddy, uses lures with rattles, scent.

Lures:

Shasta Tackle Flea Bitty (Shad) at 1.3 mph with no hardware.

Humdinger fluorescent red w/gold tape. At 1.3 mph, no hardware.

1" grub in merthiolate (bright orange), size 2 or 4 hook, no hardware, 125' back, 2-3' down, 0.6-0.9 mph.

Trolling flies with a wiggle disc.

Areas:

Look for warmest water. Compare water temp where you are with temperature at launch ramp.

Sunken island 1 hour.

Dam early according to Hil Felton.

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**MAP IS ON NEXT PAGE**

1. Beach
2. Dam
3. Far Shore
4. Sunken Island
5. Up River

