

## HAPPY FISHING & GOOD CATCHING FOR 2003 FROM KOKANEE POWER

By Gary Alcorn

A new fishing year is about to start, so don't forget your new fishing license and also don't forget to send in your Kokanee Power dues for 2003. Those dollars are needed more this year than ever before, because the Dept. Of Fish & Game budgets are being cut in all of their departments. So you can count on less trout and Kokanee fish being stocked in our lakes.

Where your membership money goes:

Gathering eggs from female Kokanee fish in full spawn. Helping the Department of Fish & Game get the eggs in the incubators to hatch. Raising the fingerlings to a length of 3" to 6" long and then planting these fish in our California lakes.

Kokanee Power members in Fresno used some of your membership money and made 12 incubators for the Department of Fish & Game Shasta Hatchery in 2002. By doing this project, we saved the Department of Fish & Game \$4,300.00.

Kokanee Power members helped fin clip trout and Kokanee at the Friant Hatchery for future identification after being planted in our lakes. Our members also helped measure fish to check growth rate and any other help Fish & Game needed.

The number of Kokanee stocked in our lakes in 1995 – 2002

Bass Lake 461,609

Huntington Lake 87,876

Pine Flat Reservoir 300,297

San Luis Reservoir 150,677

Shaver Lake 402,326

Kokanee are stocked in 27 California lakes for a total of 13,539,392 fish so far. As Kokanee Power members, you helped plant these fish.

Kokanee are stocked in the spring as fingerlings that are 3 to 6 inches long. The Adult fish are caught in the 3rd & 4th year of their life at 14 to 20 inches. At the end of their 4th year, they die. So they must be planted each year to keep the cycle going. Kokanee are small Salmon, not trout. Trout cost dollars to get to the point that they can be planted in our lakes and Kokanee only cost pennies to be able to be stocked in our lakes.

To be able to keep stocking our lakes we need your help, your neighbors help, your friends help and anybody else you can think of.

**WE NEED MORE MEMBERS! MORE MEMBERS, MORE MONEY = MORE AND BIGGER FISH FOR ALL OF US!**

**HELP US GET MORE MEMBERS – PLEASE?**