

MVFF CASTING PRACTICE AND TRAINING PONDS COURTESY OF

TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY

September 14, 2019

Our MVFF club has access and use now and into the future of the ponds shown and described in the attached excerpt from the TFCC Ditch Writer Spring, 2019 publication. I worked with Brian Olmstead, TFCC General Manager at Rock Creek Institute meetings this spring and summer and we finalized our use of them yesterday. I am working on the basic details of how we will start using the complex and maintain access control and transition then to open access for all paid club members. As the only group currently able to use these facilities and most likely the only one that will, we want to manage our access well to solidify a great working relationship with the Canal Company.

Brian and I also went over several other new and in process projects he hopes MVFF can join in on where they are developing several more ponds on canals and coulees around town. Some will be large and at least one he feels will be able to become a year round trout fishery with good quality water on a spring fed coulee. More on all this as it develops. More later too on his input on Rock Creek and our interest in the lower reach as well as lots more neat stuff we will be able to work with them on in the future.

The first pond/filter cell on the left is bordered on the left with the road that leads in from Hwy 30/ Chobani light below the bottom of the picture. There is ample parking along it and along the big finishing pond perpendicular at the upper end that receives all the water from the filter cells. At 80 feet wide and several hundred long it alone should be all we need for most casting groups. The cells all have some slow flow to function and that may be a benefit to us also. I have not yet had the time to investigate the big finishing pond with trees that was put in in 2005, holds water year round and should have some fish??(or possibly will as we proceed??). These pictures were taken last winter or early spring and now there's green grass and it is much more inviting. Brian says the filter cells should hold water into early winter for us but do go dry later before runoff starts. Casting on the ice isn't much fun anyway and we have a lot of places to do that!! Spring could be dicey with high runoff and mud but we'll deal with it! My Google Map visit does not show these new ponds as they haven't updated their map lately but the old big 2005 pond shows up well for location and perspective. If my street Elizabeth continued on across Hankins it would run right into this big finishing pond.

With this pond complex almost casting distance from my house, Don's, and several others at just ½ mile up the farm road at the light at Chobani's on 30, we couldn't have picked a better location for our own private place to practice our casting, teach those new folks that keep asking, and have on-the-water training on many facets of our addiction. With no trees, people with dogs and kids in our back-cast, Frisbees flying by, bicycles and skateboarders, seven days a week dawn to dusk, we can now get many things we've wanted-to-do-**DONE!!**

I especially want to thank Greg Edgar for telling me about these being constructed and for whatever persuasion he applied for us with them while he did his CPA business with TFCC.

This new club asset and our increasing new relationships with Brian, the Canal Company and the Rock Creek Institute will greatly help us give our members new tangible reasons **WHY** they want to be active in MVFF now and into the future. They will also help us fulfill our MVFF purpose and goals to do more for our community, improve watersheds and fisheries, and promote and enhance fly fishing in the Magic Valley.

More soon, Bryan.