Anglers' Guide

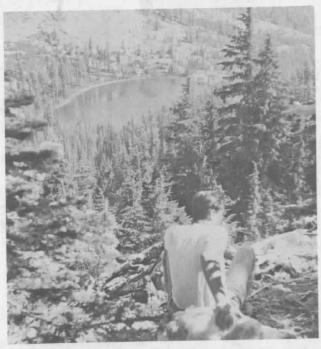
to the

LAKES AND STREAMS

of the

SALMON AND SCOTT MOUNTAINS

Siskiyou and Trinity Counties, California



Little Duck Lake

PDF Courtesy of HighCountryFlyfisher.com

State of California—The Resources Agency

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

1965

positing their eggs. This phenomenon, however, is unpredictable and is invariably of short duration.

Dependent upon previous winter conditions the lower elevation lakes are usually free of ice by the latter part of May or early June. Some of the higher lakes might be ice-bound well into July.

STREAM FISHING

The larger streams, such as both forks of the Salmon River, and the Scott and Trinity rivers, provide fishing for both steelhead (sea-run rainbow) and salmon during the open season. The lower stretches of many of the tributaries furnish a summer trout fishery for juvenile steelhead, which have not yet begun their migration to sea. Some of the streams have thriving populations of resident rainbow trout (called locally "mountain trout") above barriers which prevent upstream migration by steelhead and salmon. Many trails closely parallel the streams. As a rule the inlets and outlets of the lakes are rather steep, with intermittent or small flows subsequent to the spring runoff. However, there are a few small streams below lakes which meander through meadows and which have wary eastern brook trout in them.

ANGLING REGULATIONS

Angling is permitted in accordance with state fish laws. The latest angling regulations are obtainable at offices of the Department of Fish and Game and the U. S. Forest Service, or from most sporting goods dealers.

A good sportsman takes only as many trout as he can use; he uses what he takes. Trout he can't use he carefully releases and returns to the water. He may even remove the barbs from his hooks to do less damage to the fish he does not intend to keep.

FOR BETTER FISHING

In cooperation with sportsmen the department is trying to manage the state's trout fisheries to provide the best possible angling for the greatest number. In order to carry out proper management, accurate information about individual waters is required. This is obtained through special surveys of the lakes and streams.

The principal objectives of this work are to learn whether a water should be stocked and how. The size and depth of a lake and its richness determine to a larger extent the number of fish which should be planted. Overstocking results in large numbers of stunted fish which are too small to provide good sport. Understocking results in a few large fish which are hard to catch. In between lies the happy medium, wherein correct stocking allotments provide maximum numbers of nice-sized fish in good condition.

Getting the information needed for management

there are over 3,000 of them, and each one presents its own separate problems. Anglers who fish the Salmon-Scott Mountain area can help the department greatly with trout management problems there by reporting on the fishing they encountered. Send reports to the Fisheries Management Supervisor, Department of Fish and Game, P. O. Box 1687, Redding, California. The information you provide will help to keep the department abreast of changing conditions, and will help improve fishing.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The information in this guide is based largely on fisheries surveys by Millard Coots, Eugene German, and James Riley, biologists for the Department of Fish and Game.

Supplementary information and photos were supplied by personnel from the Klamath and Shasta-Trinity National Forests and by sportsmen.

The map was prepared by the department from U. S. Forest Service and U. S. Geological Survey maps, aerial photos and data from field observations and later redrawn by Cliffa Corson for the Anglers' Guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LAKES

Adams Lake. Elev. 6,200 ft., 1 acre, 16 ft. deep. The trail to Adams Lake leaves the Coffee Creek road in the vicinity of the Upper Nash Mine. Hiking time about two hours. The lake's owner, Major Phillips, reports that besides a few eastern brook, there are rainbows to 14 inches. Open to the public.

Lower Albers Luke. Elev. 6,900 ft., 2.6 acres, 15 ft. deep. Situated about 400 yards above Paynes Lake and almost 500 feet higher. One-half hour hike up the outlet stream from Paynes Lake. Contains brookies 8 to 12 inches.

Upper Albers Lake. Elev. 7,150 ft., 1.8 acres, 15 ft. deep. Formerly called Horseshoe Lake. Climb the rocky inlet stream which enters Lower Albers Lake from the south for about 200 yards to the lake. Contains brook trout to 7 inches. Occasional winter kill noted.

Big Bear Lake. Elev. 5,800 ft., 28 acres, 73 ft. deep. One of the larger lakes and picturesquely situated in a deep granite basin. Six miles, or about three and one-half hours by trail, up Bear Creek from the Trinity River Road. Both brook and rainbow trout plentiful and in good condition in 1957. Campsite at lake. Very little feed for stock.

Little Bear Lake. Elev. 6,200 ft., 6 acres, 74 ft. deep. A deep blue-water lake. No definite trail. Fifty-minute walk from Big Bear Lake by contouring in a southeast direction to the lake. Not advisable for stock. A good trout lake with both brookies and rainbows.

Wee Bear Lake. Elev. 6,150 ft., 5 acre, 14 ft. deep. Locate about 100 yards below Little Bear Lake. Populated with eastern brook trout to 12 inches.

Bingham Lake. Elev. 7,050 ft., 8.5 acres, 55 ft. deep. Take trail (private road) up Jackson Creek, tributary to the South Fork of the Scott River, for about two and one-half miles to a trail blaze on right side of the road. Two-mile U.S.F.S. trail goes by Jackson Lake (privately owned) to top of ridge overlooking Bingham Lake. Not advisable to take stock down to lake. Fat rainbows run to 10 inches. Contains a few brook trout.

Big Blue Lake. Elev. 6,800 ft., 17 acres, 96 ft. deep. No trail. Best approach is via trail from Taylor Lake to the

direction overlooking Hogan Lake for about three-fourths of an hour to the lake's outlet. You'll meet brush and broken granite talus. Upper Albers Lake is just over a steep rocky ridge to the east. Both rainbow and brown trout to five pounds have been caught from this lake. Rainbows scrappy and red-meated. Sheltered campsite near outlet. Sometimes ice-bound well into July.

East Boulder Lake. Elev. 6,700 ft., 32 acres, 60 ft. deep. Six miles by road from Callahan, then four miles by trail up East Boulder Creek to the lake. Largest lake in this area. Very popular lake. Brook and rainbow trout to 16 inches. Brown trout stocked in the past. Excellent natural reproduction in live inlet stream. Campsites and feed available. Privately owned and posted.

High Boulder Lake. Elev. 6,850 ft., 1 acre, 11 ft. deep. Twenty minute walk up trail from East Boulder Lake. Eastern brook to 12 inches in good condition caught in 1957. Excellent conditions for fly fishing. Privately owned and posted.

Middle Boulder Lake. Elev. 6,500 ft., 6.5 acres, 12 ft. deep. Six miles by road from Callahan and a four-mile hike up the West Boulder Creek trail. Contains brook trout. Privately owned and posted in 1958.

Upper Boulder Luke. Elev. 6,850 ft. 7 acres, 11 ft. deep. Fifteen minute walk up trail from East Boulder Lake. Abundant population of plump eastern brook to 12 inches in 1957. Excellent fly fishing conditions. Privately owned and posted.

West Boulder Lake. Elev. 7,000 ft., 7 acres, 29 ft. deep. Sometimes called Crater Lake. No visible outlet. Out of Callahan take the West Boulder Creek trail to Telephone Lake about four miles, then contour to the lake. Besides eastern brook this lake has scrappy rainbows to 16 inches.

Buck Lake. Elev. 6,800 ft., .8 acre, 9 ft. deep. This small lake is at the head of Saloon Creek, tributary to the North Fork of Coffee Creek. Lies just over the ridge from the South Fork Lakes. Good population of brookies to 8 inches.

Doe Lake. Elev. 7,000 ft., 4.5 acres, 15 ft. deep. A 10-mile, five-to-six-hour ride up the East Fork of Coffee Creek to the lake. Eastern brook to 10 inches abundant. Campsites and feed for stock.

Big Duck Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., 25.8 acres, 27 ft. deep. Take the Duck Lake trail from the Parrott Mill Road. Steep three-mile, two-hours-plus hike or ride. A popular lake.



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Both eastern brook and rainbow trout to 14 inches reported in 1957. Campsite at lake, but very little feed for stock in the vicinity.

Little Duck Lake. Elev. 6,700 ft., 5.2 acres, 18 ft. deep. Easy 25-minute walk from Big Duck Lake. Fat eastern brook to 13 inches abundant in 1957.

Eaton Lake. Elev. 6,600 ft., 11 acres, 27 ft. deep. The trail to Eaton Lake turns off about two miles up the Duck Lake trail at the end of a steep rise. Blazed tree and a large inscribed boulder mark the route to the lake, which is about three-fourths of a mile away up a steep, rock trail. Rainbows to 12 inches caught in 1964.

Fish Lake. Elev. 6,050 ft., 3 acres, 4 ft. deep. From the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River it is a 1½ mile, 1 hour trip up the Fish Lake Creek trail. This rich shallow lake has a good population of eastern brook.

Fox Creek Lake. Elev. 6,600 ft., 9.5 acres, 38 ft. deep. It is seven miles by road from Callahan to the start of the Fox Creek Lake trail and then about four miles to the lake. Brook, rainbow, and brown trout are in the lake. In 1957 both brook and rainbow trout to 21 inches were caught. A productive lake with good natural reproduction.

Granite Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., 6.3 acres, 12 ft. deep. From the Eagle Creek Ranch it is about a 12-mile, six-hour ride to the lake. Also reached by going up the North Fork of Coffee Creek and then up Granite Creek. Both brook and rainbow trout in good condition to 12 inches, caught in 1956. Some natural reproduction. Good campsite and limited feed.

Hidden Lake. Elev. 6,700 ft., 3 acres, 15 ft. deep. Hidden Lake is situated almost at the top of the divide between the Salmon and Scott drainages. It is a 30 minute hike by trail from Heliport at the summit of the Callahan-Cecilville road. Contains eastern brook trout to 8 inches.

High Lake. Elev. 7,300 ft., 4.6 acres, 55 ft. deep. Formerly called Hidden Sugar Lake. No trail or visible outlet. Go up the Sugar Creek trail from the Parrott Mill Road, an easy three-mile, one-and-one-half-hour hike. Ascend the draw entering Sugar Creek Lake from the northwest to top of ridge overlooking Little Duck Lake. You'll meet some brush and fallen timber. From this point contour in a southerly direction for about 200 yards to the lake. Brookies to 8 inches numerous. Rainbows also present.



High Lake, Siskiyou County

Hogan Lake. Elev. 5,950 ft., 7.4 acres, 26 ft. deep. Also called Little Blue or Mud Lake. Take dim trail from the upper end of Taylor Lake to top of ridge on the west. Trail forking to the left at this point goes to the Twin Lakes, other trail goes down to Hogan Creek and up to the lake. About two miles from Taylor Lake. This rectangular shaped lake is noted for both plump rainbow and eastern brook. Good natural reproduction. Campsites and feed at

Holland Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., .5 acre, 32 ft. deep. No trail. Can be reached by following outlet from the East Fork of Coffee Creek in the vicinity of the Holland Mine, or by following the ridge above Stoddard Lake southward for about two-and-one-half hours. This small lake stocked with brook trout in 1956.

Horse Range Lakes. Elev. 6,600 ft., 2.5 acres, 5 ft. deep. At the head of Horse Range Creek are three small adjoining lakes. The lowest and largest of these lakes has a small population of eastern brook. No trail to the lakes. From the Parrot Mill Road go up the Horse Range Creek trail about a mile and one-half. Then follow the main branch of the creek two miles to the lakes.



Sounding Log Lake, Trinity County

Horseshoe Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., 6.1 acres, 21 ft. deep. Take the logging road from Parrott Mill Road to the lake. Both rainbow and brook trout to 12 inches caught in 1964. Rainbow fingerlings first stocked in 1956.

Jackson Lake. Elev. 6,200 ft., 28 acres, 77 ft. deep. Jackson Lake is on the Bingham Lake trail. Privately owned and posted. Contains brown and rainbow trout. Not stocked by the department.

Little Jackson Lake. Elev. 6,050 ft., 1.8 acres, 5 ft. deep. Trail goes up Little Jackson Creek from the Callahan-Cecilville access road. Two-mile, one-and-a-half-hour trip. Very productive brook trout lake. Lily pads cover most of the lake in the summer.

Josephine Luke. Elev. 7,350 ft., 1 to 4 acres, 7 to 16 ft. deep. No trail. Situated just over the top of the grey granite cliff at the south end of Horseshoe Lake and about 1,000 feet higher. No visible outlet. Has annual fluctuation of at least nine feet. Eastern brook to 7 inches, plentiful, and eager for a fly.

Lipstick Lake. Elev. 6,350 ft., 1.25 acres, 9 ft. deep. The outlet crosses the Horse Range Creek trail about two-and-one-half miles up from the Parrott Mill Road. Go up the outlet about 400 yards to the lake. In 1957 Lipstick Lake was devoid of fishlife and was stocked with eastern brook in 1958. Fat trout to 9 inches were caught in 1964.

Log Lake. Elev. 6,050 ft., 4.6 acres, 18 ft. deep. Formerly called Moss Lake. No trail. Drive up the Tangle Blue Creek access road to the Wilderness Area boundary. (Jeeps and pickups advisable.) Take the Horse Creek trail about one mile to meadow. Steep tributary stream entering from the south is the lake's outlet. Considerable brush to negotiate before reaching open rocky terrain below the lake. At least a two-hour's hike from the road's end. Log Lake is just over a granite ridge about one-half mile below Big Bear Lake on the trail. Brookies to 9 inches reported in 1957.

Long Gulch Lake. Elev. 6,450 ft., 14 acres, 21 ft. deep. From Carter Meadow it is a three-and-one-half-mile, two-hour's hike up the Long Gulch Creek trail. About seven miles by trail from Coffee Creek. Contains brook trout with

Big Marshy Lake. Elev. 6,300 ft., 5.5 acres, 15 ft. deep. Drive up the Tangle Blue Creek access road to the Wilderness Area boundary. (Pickups and jeeps advisable.) The road continues to the meadow just below Messner cabin. The lake is about a one-mile, 45-minute hike from the cabin by trail. Brook trout present.

Little Marshy Lake. Elev. 6,200 ft., 1.5 acres, 6 ft. deep. This tarn lies just below Big Marshy Lake on the trail. Open and a good eastern brook producer with flies.

Mavis Lake. Elev. 6,700 ft., 3.5 acres, 16 ft. deep. A fork about three and one-half miles up the Fox Creek ridge trail out of Callahan goes directly to Mavis Lake. This lake has very fat brook trout.

McDonald Lake. Elev. 6,000 ft., 4 acres, 15 ft. deep. Formerly called Middle Stoddard Lake. About a 10-minute walk up from Stoddard Lake. Populated with brookies.

Meeks Meadow Lake. Elev. 6,150 ft., 1.9 acres, 10 ft. deep. A trail goes up the north side of Meeks Meadow Creek from the Parrott Mill Road. About a two-hour hike or ride. Numerous brook trout with good natural reproduction. Upper Ruffy Lake is about a 20-minute walk over a low gap to the north. Feed available.

Lower Mill Lake. Elev. 5,600 ft., 2 acres, 14 ft. deep. No trail. Go up the Mill Creek access road from the Callahan Public Camp to Little Mill Creek. Lower Mill Lake lies just over the next ridge to the south and about a 25-minute hike away. Rainbows do very well in this lake. Water lilies encroach as the season progresses.

Mill Creek Luke. Elev. 6,600 ft., 3 acres, 16 ft. deep. Take the Mill Creek access road from the Callahan Public Camp to the Wilderness Area boundary. Trail goes up Little Mill Creek two miles to the lake. Has a good population of eastern brook. Some large brown trout have been caught.

Mosquito Lake. Elev. 6,600 ft., 5.5 acres, 12 feet deep. Located in Tangle Blue Creek drainage. Contains brook and brown trout. Privately owned and posted.

Nell Lake. Elev. 6,500 ft., .7 acre, 16 feet deep. No trail. Climb steep rocky outlet up to lake from south side of Hogan Lake, or go down and around through broken talus from the outlet of Big Blue Lake. Contains eastern brook. Many fish noted in small ponds just below lake.

Paynes Lake. Elev. 6,450 ft., 16.7 acres, over 50 ft. deep. Take Paynes Lake trail from the Parrott Mill Road. Steep three-mile, two-hour trip. A popular lake for both brook and rainbow trout to 12 inches and possibly larger. Campsites and some feed for stock available.

Lower Ruffy Lake. Elev. 6,050 ft., 1.5 acres, 4 ft. deep. This lake is about 350 feet directly below Upper Ruffy Lake. Despite its shallowness eastern brook fishing is very good at times.

Upper Ruffy Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., 2.5 acres, 8 ft. deep. Drive about one mile up the road towards Taylor Lake which turns off the Etna-Sawyers Bar road. At this point a dim trail goes up a draw and over the ridge to the lake. Stocked with brookies.

Rush Creek Luke. Elev. 6,600 ft., 2.5 acres, 15 ft. deep. Can be reached by going up the Rush Creek trail from the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River, or via trails from Coffee Creek. Abundant population of brook trout with good natural reproduction. Campsite and feed for stock.

Russian Lake. Elev. 7,100 ft., 5 acres, 72 ft. deep. From the South Fork of the Scott River take the logging access and jeep roads to the ridge ¾ mile beyond Syphon Lake. From here it is a 20-minute hike by trail to the lake. Also reached by the Deacon Lee trail from the end of the Eddy Gulch L. O. road. This deep blue-water lake has rainbows to 14 inches and possibly larger. Campsite and feed for stock.

Golden Russian Lake. Elev. 6,080 ft., 1.5 acres, 8 ft. deep. No trail. From Lower Russian make one's way in a northwesterly direction, descending into the adjoining canyon. This formerly barren lake was stocked by helicopter with Golden Trout through the courtesy of Mr. Trimble, Mr. Mathews and Mr. Hjertager of Etna.

Lower Russian Lake. Elev. 6,500 ft., 2 acres, 12 ft. deep. A faint trail leaves Waterdog Lake on the northeast side. Situated 500 feet directly below Waterdog Lake. Populated with natural propagating brookies.

Section Line Lake. Elev. 7,100 ft., 2.5 acres. No trail. The outlet stream can be followed just over a small rise to the east of Fox Creek Lake. About a 30-minute walk from either Mavis or Fox Creek Lakes. Six-to-eight-inch brook trout fairly abundant in 1964.

Sedge Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., 1 acre, 3 ft. deep. Slightly over one-mile up the Fish Lake Creek trail a trail forks to the right. Sedge Lake is about three-fourths of a mile up this trail. It is the westerly of two small ponds and has eastern brook. These two ponds have been called the Twin Lakes.

Senta Lake. Elev. 6,600 ft., 1.3 acres, 16 ft. deep. Located about 600 feet west of Lower Russian Lake over a slight rocky rise. Fat brookies to 12 inches.

5mith Lake. Elev. 6,950 ft., 5.9 acres, 56 ft deep. Sometimes called Syphon Lake due to irrigation syphon at outlet. Easiest approach is from Taylor Lake. Take trail to top of gap on east side of lake. Contour in a northerly direction on the Scott Valley side, climbing slightly for about 600 yards to the lake. You'll meet some brush. Has eastern brook, rainbow, and brown trout to 14 inches, possibly larger.

Lower South Fork Lake. Elev. 6,700 ft., 4.4 acres, 23 ft. deep. The South Fork Lakes are three miles by trail up the South Fork of the Scott River from the Callahan-Cecilville access road. Has both rainbow and brook trout to 12 inches. Campsites and feed for stock in the vicinity.

Upper South Fork Lake. Elev. 6,720 ft., 6.4 acres, 34 ft. deep. An easy five-minute walk from Lower South Fork Lake. Rainbow and brook trout present.

Statute Lake. Elev. 7,200 ft., .7 acre, 15 ft. deep. No trail to the lake. From the Parrott Mill Road take the Horse Range Creek trail to the summit. From this point contour in a southerly direction on the Russian Creek side for about one and one-half miles to the lake. A picturesque little lake with a 50-foot fingerlike granite projection at the south end. A hard-to-find lake stocked with eastern brook in 1956 and doing very well in 1957.

Stoddard Lake. Elev. 5,900 ft., 25 acres, 84 ft. deep. Either go up the East Fork of Coffee Creek trail, or from the Eagle Creek Ranch. Traveling time three to four hours. A popular and productive lake for brook and rainbow trout to 16 inches and larger. Brown trout reported also. Campsites and feed for stock.

Upper Stoddard Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., .5 acre, 14 ft. deep. Approximately a 50-minute hike up from Stoddard Lake. Populated with brookies.

South Sugar Lake. Elev. 6,850 ft., 3.5 acres. No trail. Take the Bingham Lake trail to the top of the ridge overlooking Bingham Lake. Walk about 100 yards to the east to ridge overlooking Scott Valley. South Sugar Lake visible from this point at the base of Russian Peak. Very steep descent over broken talus. Rainbows to 12 inches reported.

Easy three-mile, hour-and-a-half hike up the Sugar Creek trail from the Parrott Mill Road. Rainbows to 10 inches caught in 1957. Good natural reproduction. During the summer aquatic growth almost necessitates wading out in the lake to fish. Campsite at lake.

Syphon Lake. Elev. 7,250 ft., 1.7 acres, 22 ft. deep. Named for an old mining syphon at outlet From the South

Fork of the Scott River take the Jackson Creek trail (private road) to the summit, about five miles. From this point the lake is about 25 minutes away on the Russian Lake trail. Stocked with rainbow trout. Campsite.

Tangle Blue Lake. Elev. 5,700 ft., 12 acres, 17 ft. deep. An access road goes up Tangle Blue Creek to the meadow just below Messner's cabin. (Jeeps and pickups advisable.) Take trail up outlet stream for about one-half mile to the lake. Popular and productive lake for both brook and rainbow trout to 14 inches present. Campsites.

Taylor Lake. Elev. 6,500 ft., 12 acres, 35 ft. deep. A logging road turns off the Etna-Sawyers Bar road just below the summit on the Salmon River side. Follow the road to the end. A 20- to 45-minute hike to the lake depending on road condition. A favorite lake due to its accessibility and other lakes in the vicinity. Angling for plump eastern brook best early and late in the season. Campsites and feed for stock.

Telephone Lake. Elev. 6,900 ft. 3.5 acres, 30 ft. deep. Located at head of West Boulder Creek out of Callahan. Has rainbows. Privately owned and posted in 1958.

Trail Gulch Lake. Elev. 6,400 ft., 10 acres, 47 ft. deep. The trail up Trail Gulch from the Callahan-Cecilville access road is about a two-hour ride, or hike to the lake. Eastern brook and rainbow trout present. Large trout have been landed trolling from a raft with flasher lures.

About a 30-minute hike from Taylor Lake. A dim trail goes to the top of the ridge at the southwest end of Taylor Lake. Near summit turn left at tree blaze; Twin Lakes can be seen below. Has eastern brook to 8 inches.

Upper Twin Lake. Elev. 6,720 ft., .9 acre, 4 ft. deep. Situated about 125 feet above Lower Twin Lake. Abundant self-supporting population of brook trout to 8 inches.

Virginia Lake. Elev. 6,900 ft., 3 acres, 16 ft. deep. No trail. Take Fox Creek trail out of Callahan to Fox Creek Lake, a distance of about four miles. Contour to the west about 400 yards and follow outlet stream for about one-half mile to the lake. Abundant brookies in good condition in 1957.

Washbasin Lake. Elev. 7,000 ft., 11 acres, 85 ft. deep. Washbasin Lake is about one mile from Mill Creek Lake via the Klatt Mine. A deep lake set in a crater-like depression with no visible outlet. Both brook and rainbow trout in lake.



Waterdog Lake, Siskiyou County

Waterdog Lake. Elev. 7,000 ft., 3.5 acres, 16 ft. deep. About a 20-minute walk down from Russian Lake by trail which crosses the outlet. Fat brook and rainbow trout to 12 inches. Campsite and feed for stock at lake.

Wicks Lake. Elev. 5,700 ft., .7 acre, 9 ft. deep. No trail. Make your way from the summit of the Etna-Sawyers Bar road on the Ruffy Creek side. A rough 40-minute hike. This lake, situated on a rocky ledge, has a small population of rainbows.

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