

Notes from Cabin Lake March 9, 2025
Clayton Crofton

Winter is an important season out at CLBB. One of the volunteers has reported that the storage tanks are brim full and frozen solid. I like to think this is proof that the gutter replacement project improved collection. (Have not looked at the weather station numbers.)

Last spring the lower basin system was only 3/5ths full.

Will use this post to describe the guzzler system. The macro view is that these artificial water sources/holes are a relic of the fifties, meant to provide water for wildlife that relied on sources that no longer exist. There are thousands of them scattered throughout central and eastern Oregon. Many of them were built by an ODFW program.

Many of them are maintained by ranchers as part of their grazing allotment. Others by the Oregon Hunters Association. Cabin Lake has been adopted by ECBA.

The components to a guzzler include a corrugated roofing platform that collects and delivers precipitation to a storage tank, plus a delivery basin for the wildlife. There will also be a fence that excludes cattle.

Seems simple, yeah? Look for details in future posts.

Clay Crofton

Sisters