

Memorandum

Date: 11/10/2015

To: Kevin Thomas
Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor
Department of Fish and Wildlife

From: Ben Ewing
District Fishery Biologist (Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, and Lake Counties)

Subject: **Scotts Lake Survey**

On August 17, 2015, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) personnel completed a gillnet and angling survey at Scotts Lake, Alpine County. The purpose of the surveys was to determine if any Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkia henshawi*) (LCT) had survived from the previous fingerling stockings in 2013 to reach catchable sizes.

At the time of the survey, Scotts Lake was significantly down from full capacity (Figure 1). The gillnet was placed into Scotts Lake at 08:06 and pulled at 14:29. Nineteen speckled dace (*Rhinichthys osculus*) and four LCT were collected. The four LCT collected measured 14.75, 16, 15.25, and 14 inches.

Angling sampling included two sessions. One began at 12:15 and ended at 12:30. The other began at 12:59 and ended at 13:09. One LCT measuring 15.5 in. was landed.

Although Scotts Lake was far from full capacity, it appears that the LCT that were stocked in 2013, have survived in the lake and grown into healthy, quality-sized fish. With the success of the fingerling plants, the Department will likely continue to plant LCT as long as water conditions and hatchery production allow.



Figure 1. Scotts Lake (Alpine County) (B.Ewing, 8/17/2015).

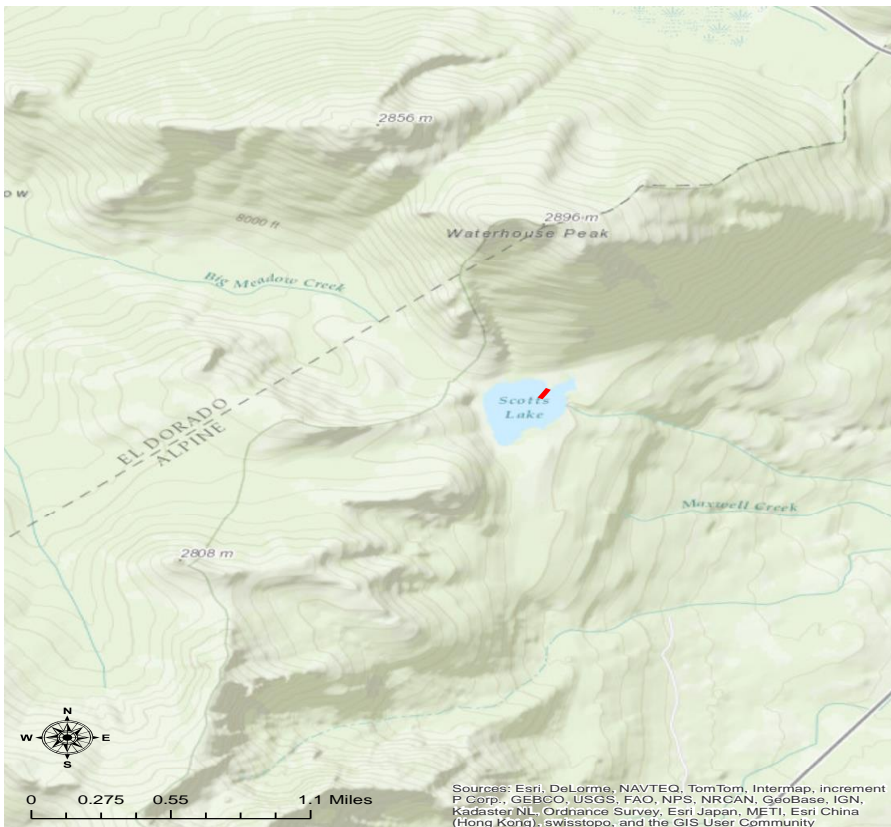


Figure 2. Scotts Lake transect placement on 8/17/2015 (Alpine County, CA).