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Cc: Region 2 Fish Files

### Granite Lake Amphibian Survey

On July 6, 2018, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) completed an amphibian survey at Granite Lake (Granite). The purpose of the survey was to determine if any Sierra Nevada mountain yellow-legged frog (*Rana sierra*) were present, and to assess if the pre-stocking evaluation could be re-approved.

Granite Lake is a small, five acre lake in Alpine County located at 38° 37' 12. 19" N 119 57' 40.07 W situated at 8,722 feet above mean sea level. The shoreline is a mix of rocks, sand, willows, and conifer forest. The lake bottom appears mostly mud and various sized rock substrate. At the time of the survey Granite was spilling. When Granite spills, water drains into the Upper Blue Lake watershed. The lake receives water from rain and snowmelt runoff from the immediate area. Granite historically has received fingerling stockings of golden trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss aguabonita*) and Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki henshawi*) with the last recorded plant of golden trout in 2015.

Department personnel used the Fellers and Freel 1995 Visual Encounter Survey (VES) Protocol as modified by the Department to conduct the amphibian survey at Granite Lake. The VES began at 10:20 and ended at 10:53 on July 6, 2018, and the majority of the lake shoreline was surveyed. No amphibians were observed. In 2001 and 2013 during a High Mountain Lakes survey at the lake, no amphibians were observed (CDFW HML Database 2018). Based on the results of the evaluations completed, a pre-stocking evaluation will be written to keep Granite Lake to the Department fish stocking list.

#### Literature Cited:

1. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, High Mountain Lakes Database, North Central Region.

2. Fellers, G. M. and K. L. Freel. 1995. A standardized protocol for surveying aquatic amphibians. National Biological Service Cooperative Park Studies Unit, University of California Division of Environmental Studies, Davis, CA. Technical Report No. NPS/WRUC/NRTR95-01 (UC CPSU TR # 58).



