

## Memorandum

Date: 9/16/2019

To: Sarah Mussulman  
Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Subject: **Lower Lost Lake (14635) Survey**

On July 30 and 31, 2019, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) personnel completed an angling survey at Lower Lost Lake (Lower Lost), Alpine County. The purpose of the survey was to determine if any Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) (RT) had survived from the previous fingerling stocking in 2017 to reach catchable sizes. Prior to 2017, the last stocking was fingerling-size Golden Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss aguabonita*) in 2000.

At the time of the survey, Lower Lost was at full capacity and spilling (Figure 1). Angling methods included both float tube and shore angling. Five hours and 14 minutes were spent fishing. Weather was clear, cool in the mornings, and warm afternoons with a light wind during the survey. No RT were landed, but personnel hooked into multiple RT as well as observing RT swimming along the shoreline.

The Department will attempt to install an angler survey box at Lower Lost in 2020 to collect more information on angler usage and success. There is evidence that RT are growing to catchable sizes in Lower Lost. The Department will likely continue with the same allotment, but may switch to Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki henshawi*) if available to stock. Continued monitoring will be made with the angler survey box.



Figure 1. Lower Lost Lake, Alpine County (B.Ewing, 7/31/2019).