

Memorandum

Date: 11/15/2019

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: Upper Lost Lake (14648) Survey

On July 31, 2019, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) personnel completed an angling survey at Upper Lost Lake (Upper 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 Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) in 2000.

At the time of the survey, Upper Lost was at full capacity (Figure 1). Thirty-six minutes of shore angling was used to assess the fishery. Weather was clear and cool in the morning during the survey. Three RT were landed (Figures 2 and 3), measuring 14.0 in., 14.25 in., and 15.5 in. in total length.

The Department will attempt to install an angler survey box at Upper Lost in 2020 to collect more information on angler usage and success. There is evidence that RT are growing to catchable sizes in Upper Lost with beautiful physical features. 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. Upper Lost Lake, Alpine County (B. Ewing, 7/31/2019).



Figure 2. Rainbow Trout caught at Upper Lost Lake on 7/31/2019 (B. Ewing, 7/31/2019).



Rainbow Trout caught at Upper Lost Lake on 7/31/2019 (B. Ewing, 7/31/2019).