

## Memorandum

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To: Sarah Mussulman  
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Department of Fish and Wildlife

From: Ben Ewing  
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Subject: **Shriner Lake (15094) Survey**

On July 15, 2020, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) personnel completed an angling survey at Shriner Lake, Amador County. The purpose of the survey was to determine if any Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) (RT) had survived from the previous fingerling stockings in 2018 to reach catchable sizes. Prior to 2018, the last stocking was with fingerling-size RT in 2000.

At the time of the survey, Shriner Lake appeared approximately two-feet below full capacity (**Figures 1 and 2**). The only angling method was shore angling. Seven hours were spent fishing. Weather was warm, clear, and sunny during the survey. No RT were caught, but one trophy-sized RT was seen in the lake. During the survey, Department personnel walked around Shriner Lake's entire shoreline and were able to get an aerial view of the lake. It appeared that a large part of the lake was very shallow. These parts of the lake that are very shallow may freeze solid during the winter, condensing the RT into a small area. This small area to live in may make overwintering for RT difficult. A prior survey by the Department recorded a depth of 24 feet at Shriner Lake (**Ewing 2017**). It is also possible that RT are being heavily harvested by anglers.

Although there is evidence that RT are growing to catchable sizes in Shriner Lake, the Department will likely monitor the fishery in the future with an angler survey box at the trailhead. This will be done to gather information on angler usage, harvest rate, and growth of RT from future stockings.



**Figure 1.** Shriner Lake (Amador County) (B.Ewing, 7/15/2020).



**Figure 2.** Shriner Lake (Amador County) (B.Ewing, 7/15/2020).

## Literature Cited

Ewing, B. 2017. Shriner Lake Fish and Amphibian Surveys. California Department of Fish and Wildlife.  
Available from: <http://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=149594>