17.
KNOTT CREEK RESERVOIR

History - Knott Creek Reservoir is located in the Pine Forest Mountains in northwestern Humboldt County at an elevation of 6,400 feet. The dam was "rebuilt" in 1988 following NDOW's purchase of a "minimum pool" of 500 acre feet of storage from the landowner.

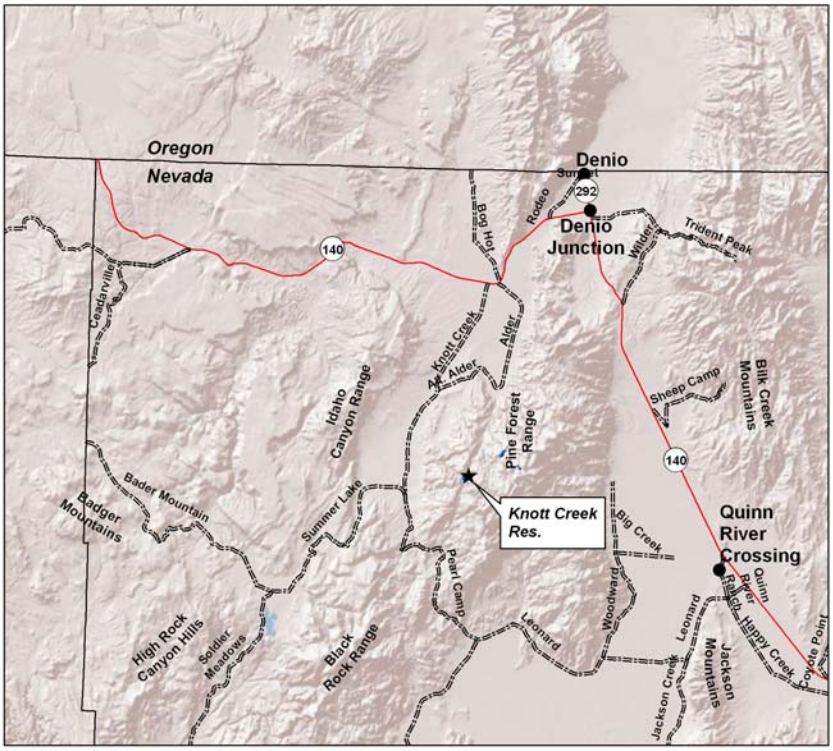
Pertinent Information - Knott Creek Reservoir covers 216 surface acres and stores 2,700 acre feet of water. The maximum depth is 24 feet. Fish species present include rainbow trout, bowcutt trout (rainbow x cutthroat hybrid), tiger trout (brown x brook trout hybrid) and Lahontan speckled dace. The trout range in size from 5 to 30 inches. The water record for rainbow trout in NDOW's Trophy Book is a 7-pound, 8-ounce fish captured in 2004. Angler questionnaire data from 2007 showed that 1,089 anglers fished 2,845 days to catch 22,202 trout for an average catch rate of 7.8 fish per angler day. In 2008, the largest rainbow trout caught was 9 pounds 2 ounces, while tiger trout were running between 3 and 5 pounds. Best Time of Year to Fish - the best angling is usually during the first two weeks in June and the month of October. Productive Fishing Methods - during the early portion of the season, fly fishermen using emerger patterns and leeches do well. Later in the season fly fishing with damsel patterns and dark wooly buggers are most productive. Other successful artificial lures include flatfish and dark pattern rooster tail spinners. Camping - primitive campsites are available around the lake. There are no garbage facilities or restrooms available. Bonus: This lake is one of Nevada's most beautiful.

Stocking – In 2009, 2,500 rainbow trout are scheduled for introduction in the spring and 2,500 bowcutts and 1,000 tiger trout are scheduled for fall stocking.

Regulations - Season is open from the second Saturday in June through November 15. The limit is one trout per day, one in possession with a minimum size of 18 inches. Hours: any time of the day or night. Only lures with single barbless hooks may be used. Boats must be operated at a speed that leaves a flat wake. **Note** - regulation was changed for 2006 to include inlet and outlet streams of the reservoir

Biologist Forecast for 2009 - This year, run-off will be about normal and corresponding lake levels should be good (above 1,000 acre feet). The lake has been stocked annually from 2001 through 2008, following a fish kill in 2000. Last year, rainbow trout got up to 9 pounds. Fishing opens June 14th. Tiger trout have been stocked into the reservoir in the past and are now abundant in the creel.

Boating Regulations –A vessel must be operated at a speed that leaves a flat wake, but in no case may a vessel be operated at a speed in excess of 5 nautical miles per hour.



No warranty is made by the Nevada Department of Wildlife as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

Access - Travel north out of Winnemucca 33 miles on US 95, turning left onto SR 140 and on to Denio Junction (100 miles from Winnemucca) before turning left and traveling 9 miles before turning south onto the Knott Creek Road. Follow the Knott Creek Road for 7 miles to the junction of Sand Pass Road, then another 7 miles into Knott Creek Reservoir. Be prepared for rough and slippery roads. Vehicles with 4x4 are advised, high clearance is recommended. Towed trailers, cabover campers and tent trailers are not recommended.