

41.

WHITES AND THOMAS CREEKS

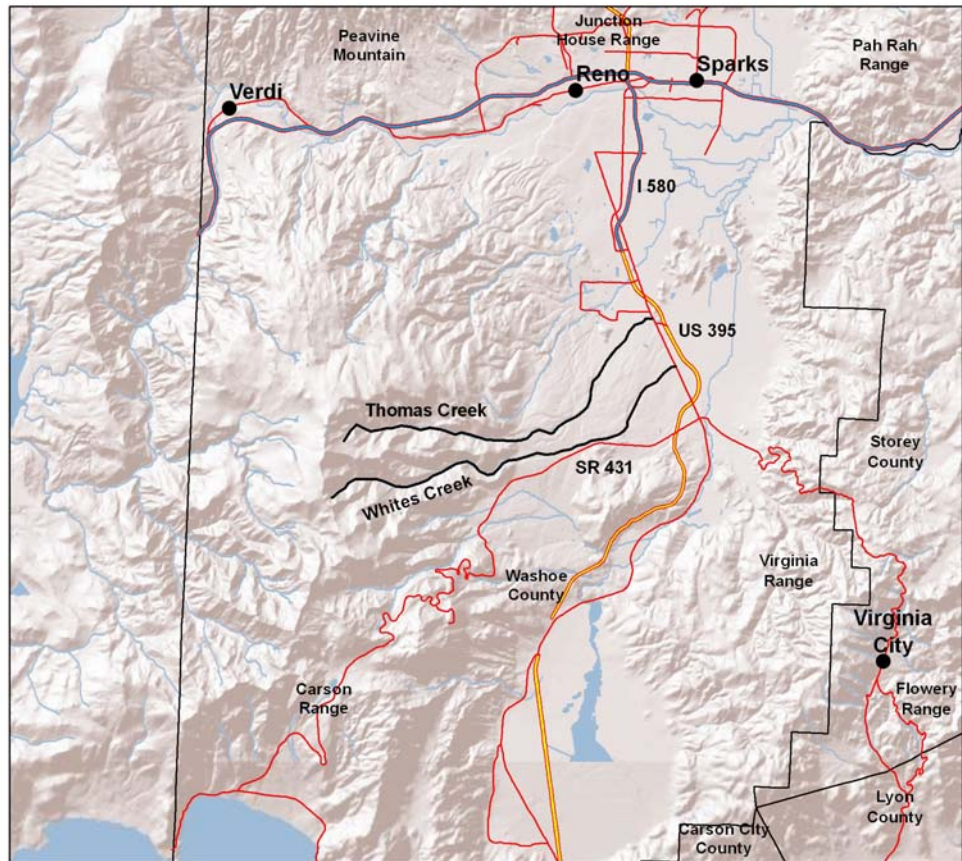
History – Brook trout were stocked into Whites and Thomas Creeks from the 1950s until 1971 and continue to thrive in both systems today. Between 1951 and 1966 cutthroat trout were stocked, however they no longer occur in either stream. Rainbow trout have been stocked into both streams since 1951 and, to date, continue to be stocked on an annual basis.

Pertinent Information – Both Whites and Thomas Creeks originate from the east side of the Carson Range at approximately 9,000 feet. At 6,000 feet, the creeks leave the Carson Range and flow onto the upper slopes of the Truckee Meadows and ultimately empty into Steamboat Creek. On their way down the mountain, each creek runs through a matrix of U.S. Forest Service land and private property. By the time the creeks reach US 395, they are fairly channelized and provide poor habitat for trout. Fish species occurring in the streams include brook and rainbow trout. Brook trout tend to be found in the higher elevations, while rainbow do better in the lower sections of the streams. The most recent surveys conducted on the streams indicate that trout populations in the upper sections of Whites Creek (above Timberline Drive) are fairly low which is probably due to the high gradient of the stream and scarcity of pools. Thomas Creek exhibited a more abundant population of both rainbow and brook trout. Camping - unimproved.

Stocking – Whites and Thomas Creeks receive approximately 2,000 rainbow trout each spring.

Regulations – General regulations apply. Limit is 5 trout. Open year around, any hour of the day or night.

Biologist Forecast for 2009 – Lower Whites Creek and upper Thomas Creek should provide the best fishing. Anglers can expect to find hatchery rainbows or wild brook and rainbow trout in the streams.



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 – Whites and Thomas Creeks run parallel to the Mount Rose Highway (SR 431) with Whites being just north of the highway and Thomas running north of Whites. Turn right onto Timberline Road, then left on Whites Creek Road. Whites Creek Road is the last road prior to the bridge over Whites Creek. This is a very rough road and only goes for ¼ mile or so before being blocked off. To get to Thomas Creek, continue on Timberline Drive for another ½ mile and follow the road as it turns west and parallels Thomas Creek.