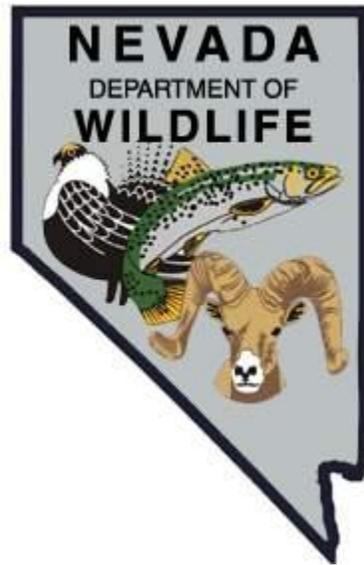


NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
STATEWIDE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT



FEDERAL AID JOB PROGRESS REPORTS
F-20-49
2013

EUREKA COUNTY
Small Lakes and Reservoirs



**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES DIVISION
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

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**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES DIVISION
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

State: *Nevada*
Project Title: *Statewide Fisheries Program*
Job Title: *Eureka County Small Lakes and Reservoirs*
Period Covered: *January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013*

SUMMARY

In June of 2013, Tonkin Reservoir was stocked with 1,003 Shasta strain rainbow trout. Objectives for JD Reservoir were not completed due to scheduling issues, but are expected to be completed in 2014 in conjunction with a larger Pine Creek survey.

BACKGROUND

JD Reservoir

JD Reservoir, constructed prior to 1955, is on a privately owned ranch, which was purchased by Barrick Goldstrike Mining Company in 2012. The reservoir is located 40 mi north of Eureka and covers approximately 10-12 surface acres, with a maximum depth of 9 ft and an average depth of 3.7 ft. Historic surveys, prior to 1988, have documented northern pike, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, brown trout, speckled dace, reidside shiner, sucker, and chub in the reservoir. On May 16, 1984, the dam structure failed, completely draining the reservoir. In March of 1985, the dam was reconstructed and presumed void of fish, as it was determined that all the fish had washed downstream. Access for surveys and angling at the reservoir has been restricted for several years, with the last documented survey occurring in 1987, which found only northern pike.

Tonkin Reservoir

Tonkin Reservoir was constructed in the early 1960's, and repairs/upgrades to the dam have been done twice since then. The most recent improvement to the dam occurred in 2008 and increased the height of the dam and water level by several feet. The reservoir covers less than 10 surface acres and has a maximum depth of 18 ft. The reservoir sets at an elevation of 6,470 ft and is fed by Denay Creek, which originates from a spring approximately one mile above the reservoir. The reservoir receives 1,000 hatchery trout every spring and relies heavily on natural reproduction from the inflow creek.

OBJECTIVES and APPROACHES

JD Reservoir

Objective: General Sport Fisheries Management

Approaches:

- Initiate a meeting with the new landowner (Barrick Goldstrike Mining Company) to discuss future management of the reservoir fishery.
- Conduct a single nighttime, electrofishing survey of three established transects during the summer.

Tonkin Reservoir

Objective: General Sport Fisheries Management

Approaches:

- Conduct a pre-stocking evaluation of road conditions and water quality/quantity.

PROCEDURES

Electroshocking surveys were to be conducted using the electroshocking barge with the fixed probes used as the anode and the barge serving as the cathode. A majority of the reservoir shoreline would be shocked due to the small size and the need to evaluate the entirety of the reservoir.

FINDINGS

JD Reservoir

Scheduling did not allow for a meeting with the new landowners and a second consecutive below average water year did not provide reservoir conditions suitable for survey. In 2014, it is expected to gain access from the landowner and do a species composition survey on the reservoir in conjunction with a larger Pine Creek survey.

Tonkin Reservoir

Water levels and road conditions were checked in May, and on June 12, 1,003 Shasta strain rainbow trout were stocked into the reservoir from Spring Creek Rearing Station.

MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The two approaches for JD Reservoir were not completed in 2013.

The one approach for Tonkin Reservoir was completed in 2013.

RECOMMENDATIONS

JD Reservoir

Management decisions and the future of the reservoir as a public fishery will be dependent on the level of involvement allowed by the new landowners.

Tonkin Reservoir

Resample the fish population in the reservoir in 2014 to evaluate carryover rainbow trout and monitor any changes in the fishery due to increased angler pressure.

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Date: February 2014