



**Commission General Regulation 469
Truckee River Tackle Restriction
LCB File No. R094-16**

**Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners
September 24, 2016**

**Presented by
Jon Sjöberg - Fisheries Division Administrator**

Proposed Regulation Change

- The Department is proposing an amendment to NAC 503.504 to require the use of certain types of fishing tackle in portions of the Truckee River:

Only artificial lures with single barbless hooks may be used on the Truckee River from 1,000 feet downstream of Derby Dam to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation boundary from February 1 through May 31

- Objective: to reduce incidental mortality of spawning adult Lahontan cutthroat trout due to angling.
- Applies in companion to CR 16-02 amendment #1:
 - *zero harvest of trout from February 1 through May 31*

Background

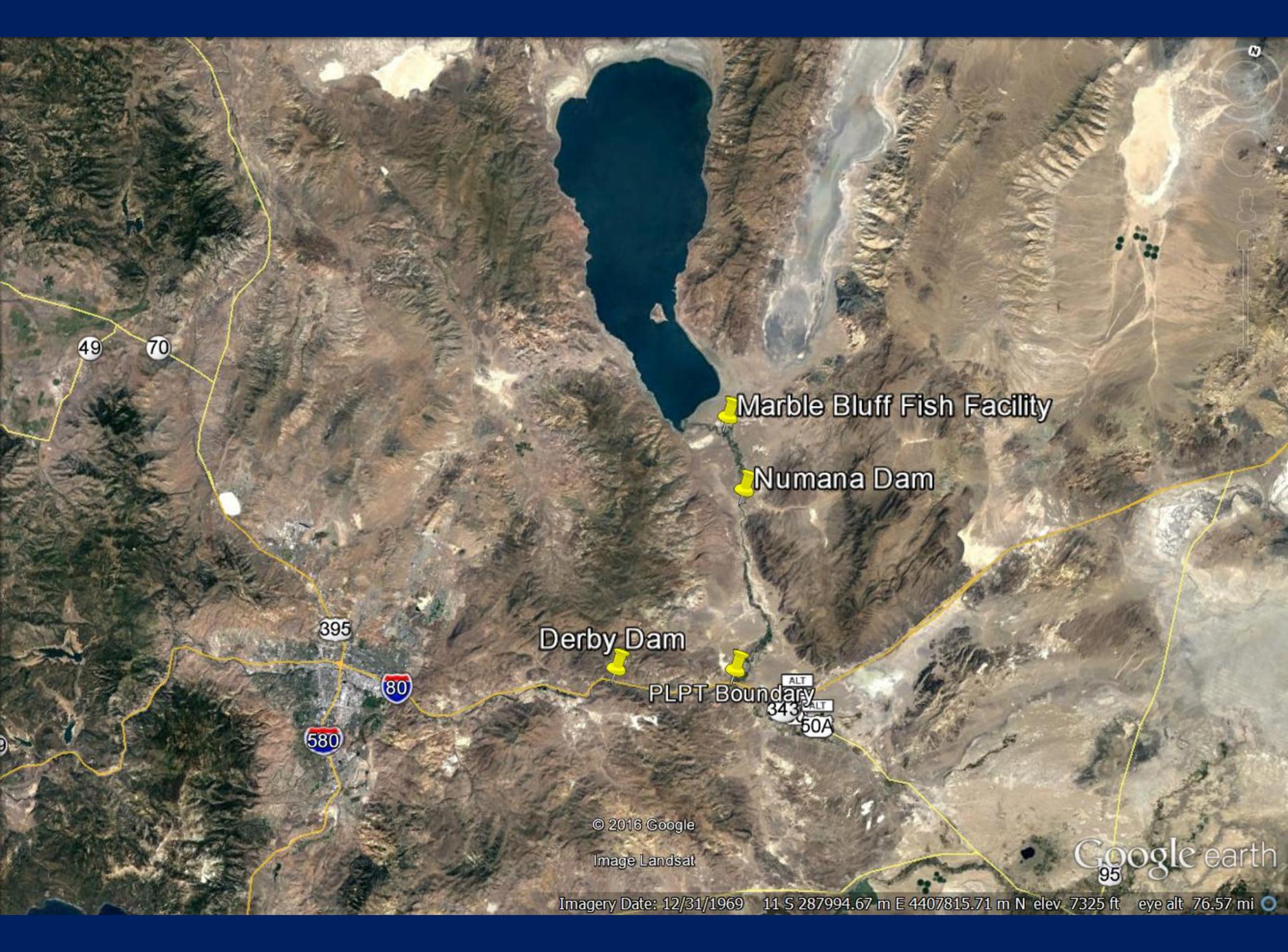
- 2015 MOU between NDOW, USFWS and PLPT
 - Work together towards restoring LCT to Truckee River by re-establishing a natural run of LCT
 - To utilize LCT in the maintenance of the Truckee River recreational fishery.
- Agency Authorities:
 - PLPT manages fishery on PLPT Reservation
 - NDOW manages fishery in Nevada
 - USFWS administers Endangered Species Act
 - Cui-ui – endangered species
 - LCT – threatened species

History of Pilot Peak LCT

- LCT extirpated from Pyramid Lake by 1944
- Nevada Fish and Game and PLPT initiated reestablishment of LCT into Pyramid Lake in the early 1950s using LCT stocks from Walker, Independence and Summit lakes
- Pilot Peak strain discovered on NV/UT border in the late '70s and genetic analysis in 80's and 90's determined the fish originated from the original Pyramid Lake stock.
- In 2006, began stocking Pilot Peak LCT into Pyramid Lake in cooperation with Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

Fast forward 10 years ...





49 70

395

80

580

Marble Bluff Fish Facility

Numana Dam

Derby Dam

PLPT Boundary

ALT 343 ALT 50A

© 2016 Google

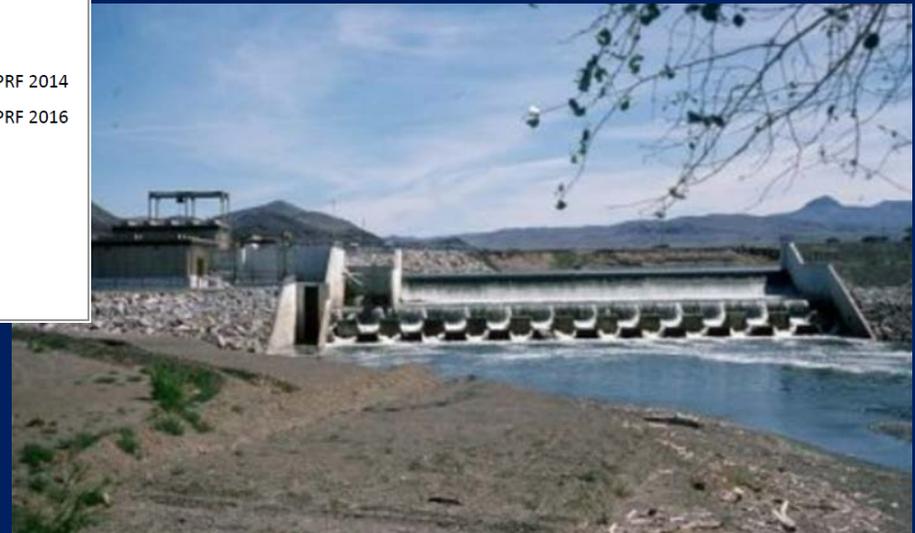
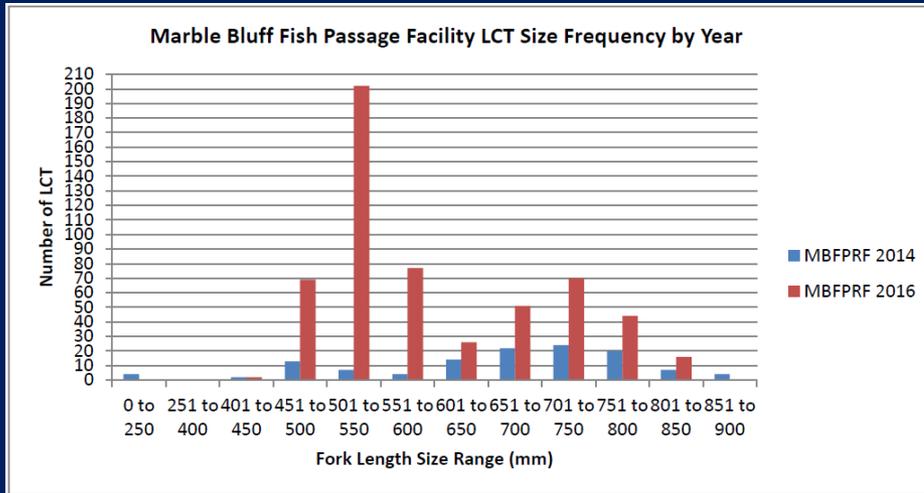
Image Landsat

Google earth

95

Imagery Date: 12/31/1969 11 S 287994.67 m E 4407815.71 m N elev. 7325 ft eye alt 76.57 mi

Marble Bluff Fish Facility



- 485 Pilot Peak LCT passed above Marble Bluff in 2016
- Largest fish processed at MBFF was 19 lbs, 34 inches
- Largest fish documented in creel was 26 lbs, 36 inches

Spawning Activity below MBFF



Photo Credit USFWS

USFWS biologist measuring a spawning redd



Photo Credit USFWS

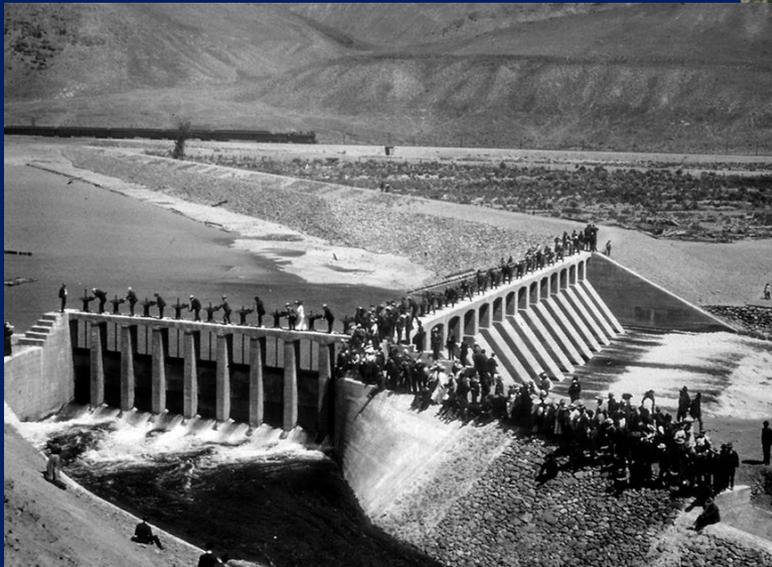
Numana Dam

- Located 12.5 miles upstream of Pyramid Lake
- Includes functional fish ladder.
- USFWS and PLPT plan to allow passage in 2017.
- Would open up 27 additional miles of spawning habitat.



Derby Dam

- Located 39.5 miles upstream of Pyramid Lake
- Constructed in 1905
- Complete fish passage barrier



- Includes fish bypass channel constructed in 2002 but has not been operational due to lack of fish screen on Derby Canal.
- Passage around Derby Dam may be possible in the future if screen is built.

Conclusion

- As water conditions in Pyramid Lake and fish passage in the Truckee River have improved, increasing number of LCT are anticipated to migrate into the Truckee during the spawning season.
- Special regulations are being proposed to reduce harvest and incidental mortality of spawning adult LCT resulting from angling
 - CGR 469: minimizes handling and makes hook removal easier. Reduced mortality.
 - CR 16-02 Amendment: Limits harvest of trout; allows for angling opportunity without inhibiting spawning activity.
- Anglers benefit from the regulation as it will preclude the need for seasonal closure, allowing catch and release fishing for trout and continued harvest of other sport fish species.
- LCT would have increased opportunity to spawn and their progeny would enhance resident population in the lower river, contributing to recovery efforts and increasing angler opportunity in a section of the river that receives very little use.

Questions?

