

# Cold Creek Reservoir



**ANGLER AND FISH SURVEY INFORMATION**  
**Heath Korell- Fisheries Biologist, Ely Field Office**  
**1218 N. Alpha Street Ely, NV 89301 775-289-1655 ext 3**

**General information:** NDOW is currently in the process of rebuilding the fishery at the reservoir following repairs to the outlet structure that required the water to be reduced to minimum pool multiple times in 2021. The fishery consists of Rainbow Trout, Cuttbow Trout, Tiger Trout, and Largemouth Bass. Since NDOW will be rebuilding the fishery, anglers should expect to catch hatchery-reared Rainbow Trout and Tiger Trout between 8 and 10 inches. Some Largemouth Bass survived the drawdowns in 2021 and still remain in the reservoir. The bass population was augmented in 2022 with 36 adult fish in the fall of 2022.

**Location:** White Pine County, 48 miles from Eureka and 96 miles from Ely along Highway 892. Use our FishNV tool (<https://fish.wildlifenv.com/>) to find waters near you, and buy your fishing license at [ndowlicensing.com](http://ndowlicensing.com).

**Size:** At capacity Cold Creek Reservoir is 14 surface acres with a maximum depth of 24 feet.

**Management:** Nevada Department of Wildlife manages the fishery as a quality cold water fishery and general warm water fishery. The reservoir sits on public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

<u>Amenities and General Info</u>	<u>Previous stocking</u>	<u>Fishing notes</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primitive boat ramp is available.</li> <li>• Primitive camping is allowed around the reservoir.</li> <li>• No restroom facilities</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Fishing/Boating Regulations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Season is open all year; any hour of the day or night.</li> <li>• Limit is 5 trout and 5 Black Bass.</li> <li>• Minimum size for Black Bass is 10 inches total length.</li> <li>• Fishing is closed in the spring head and corresponding outflow stream.</li> <li>• No special boating regulations.</li> </ul>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best fishing for trout typically occurs in March through June and October through November.</li> <li>• The best time to fish for Largemouth Bass is from June through September.</li> <li>• Casting nightcrawlers, Powerbait, and a variety of spinners work well on trout.</li> <li>• Nymphs and green or brown wooly buggers are productive patterns while fly fishing.</li> <li>• Bass anglers will do well using Rapalas, swimbaits, and crankbaits.</li> </ul>	
	Rainbow Trout		6,467    11.7 inches
	Tiger Trout		1,964    9.7 inches
	<b><u>2021</u></b>		
	Rainbow Trout		2,385    9.8 inches
	Cuttbow Trout		1,496    9 inches
	<b><u>2020</u></b>		
	Rainbow Trout		4,050    10.2 inches
	<b><u>2019</u></b>		
	Rainbow Trout		2,090    11 inches
Cuttbow Trout	1,052    8.2 inches		

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**2023 Fishing Forecast**  
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## Water level

As of late March 2023, the reservoir is sitting at approximately 70% of capacity. Water fluctuations can vary drastically because the primary use of the water is for irrigation. With the newly repair outlet structures, there may be more water in the reservoir in 2023.

## Trout

Anglers can expect to catch 8-to-10-inch hatchery reared Rainbow Trout and Tiger Trout in 2023. Some carry over of trout has undoubtedly occurred since the draw downs in 2021. Catch rates in 2023 were surprisingly high 4.3 fish per hour and 19.3 fish/angler, which are both above their the 5-year average of 2.8 and 8.8, respectively.

## Largemouth Bass

Anglers should expect a limited Largemouth Bass fishery in 2023. Even though there is some carryover of bass that survived the drawdowns in 2021, the population will have to be augmented to provide a viable recreational fishery. Augmentations will occur as Largemouth Bass become available from other nearby fisheries. Anglers should consider catch and release for Largemouth Bass until the fishery becomes established again.

