

ONION VALLEY RESERVOIR



ANGLER AND FISH SURVEY INFORMATION

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General information: Onion Valley Reservoir is managed as Quality Trout Fishery. This is a popular fishery for every type of angler. Rainbow trout, tiger trout (brook x brown hybrid), and cuttbow or bowcutt (rainbow x cutthroat hybrid) are stocked regularly in the reservoir. Trout range in size from 8 to 25 inches and the water record tiger trout was 6 pounds 5 ounces caught in 1998. Road access can be difficult and rough. 4-wheel drive vehicles with good tires and clearance are recommended.

Location: Humboldt County, Pine Forest Range, 90 miles north of Winnemucca. Use our FishNV tool (<https://fish.wildlifenv.com/>) to find waters near you, and buy your fishing license at ndowlicensing.com.

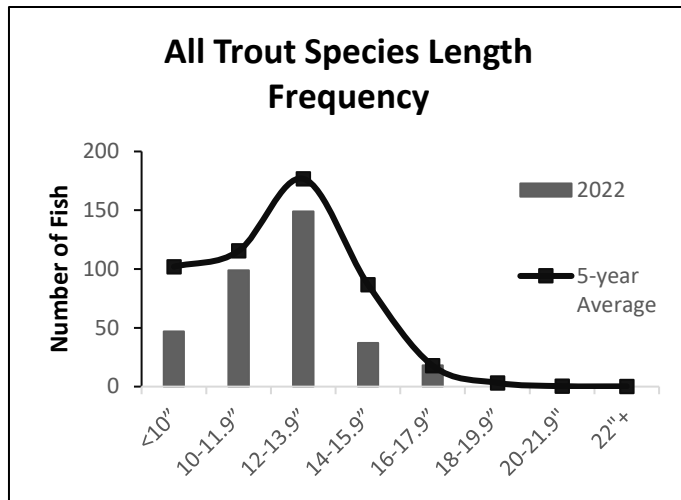
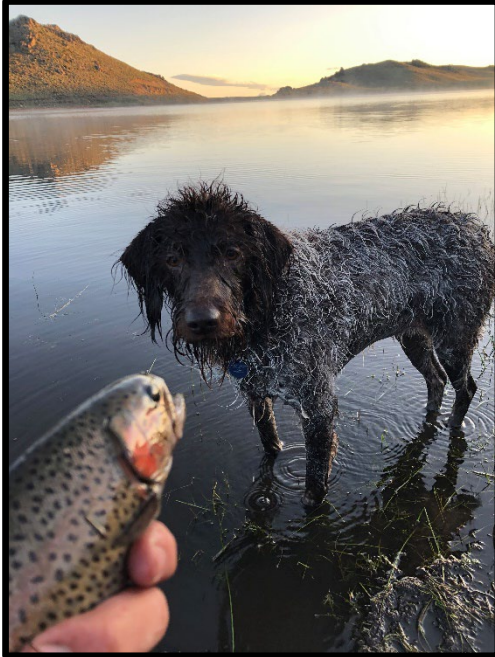
Size: 101 surface acres at a 1,630 acre-feet maximum capacity with a maximum depth of 42 feet.

Management: Nevada Department of Wildlife manages the fishery as a Trophy Cold Water Fishery, Nevada Division of Water Resources manages the irrigation water right. There is no minimum pool of water established for the reservoir. Bureau of Land Management manages the surrounding land and the adjacent Pine Forest Wilderness Area.

<u>Amenities and General Info</u>	<u>Previous stocking</u>	<u>Fishing notes</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some developed camping with fires pits and tables in the Aspen Trees • Restrooms • No boat ramps • Trailers not recommended • Float tube, pontoon boats, kayak, canoes and small boats recommended <p><u>Fishing/Boating Regulations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Season opens the second Saturday in June • Season Closes November 15 • Limit is 5 trout • Vessels must be operated at speeds that leave a flat wake 	<u>2022</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best fishing typically occurs in June, September, October. • Fly angling stripping woolly buggers, leach patterns, and bead head nymph patterns is usually successful. Midges under indicators are also successful. • Small spinners, Powerbait, and worms are standard tactics that work well for trout. • Trolling flatfish, spoons, Kastmasters, Rapalas, and spinners is a productive way to from a small boat. These lures can also be cast from shore with success. 	
	Rainbow		9,284 9.6 inches
	<u>2021</u>		
	Rainbow		4,000 9.0 inches
	Cuttbow		6,346 8.7 inches
	Bowcutt		4,248 9.3 inches
	<u>2020</u>		
	Rainbow		3,325 9.3 inches
	Tiger trout		1,004 10.0 inches
	<u>2019</u>		
Rainbow	9,967 9.3 inches		
Bowcutt	5,117 8.6 inches		
Tiger trout	650 10.0 inches		

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FISHERY SURVEY DATA & FORECAST
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5-YEAR ANGLER CATCH RATES ONION VALLEY RESERVOIR		
	fish/hour	fish/angler
2022	4.85	13.58
2021	7.59	29.92
2020	7.26	21.38
2019	3.35	14.49
2018	2.69	10.88
2017	1.61	10.70
Average	4.56	16.83

2023 Fishing Forecast- The Onion Valley Reservoir fishery has benefited from not being drained for several years. Hold-over Rainbow Trout, tiger trout, and bowcutt trout should be available for anglers to catch in 2023. Angler catch rates in 2022 were 4.85 fish per hour and 13.6 fish per angler. The average trout is typically 12-14 inches with some fish reported being over 18 inches. The fishing season opens on the second Saturday of June. Fishing is expected to be good to excellent with the best fishing occurring during June, September, and October.