

KNOTT CREEK RESERVOIR



ANGLER AND FISH SURVEY INFORMATION

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General information: Knott Creek Reservoir is a trophy trout fishery. This is a popular fishery for catch and release anglers. 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 5 to 30 inches and the record rainbow trout was 9 pounds 2 ounces and the tiger trout was 8 pounds. 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: 216 surface acres at a 2,700 acre-feet maximum capacity. 1,000 acre-feet minimum pool for recreation purposes

Management: Nevada Department of Wildlife manages the fishery as a Trophy Cold Water Fishery, Nevada Division of Water Resources manages the irrigation water right. Bureau of Land Management manages the surrounding land and the adjacent Pine Forest Wilderness Area.

Amenities and General Info

- Primitive camping
- No restrooms
- No boat ramps
- Trailers not recommended
- Float tube and pontoon boats recommended

Fishing/Boating Regulations

- Season opens the second Saturday in June
- Season Closes November 15
- Limit is 1 trout over 18 inches in total length
- Artificial flies and lures only
- Single barbless hook
- Vessels must be operated at speeds that leave a flat wake

Previous stocking

2022

Rainbow	1,257	10.1 inches
Brown Trout	507	9.1 inches
Tiger Trout	758	8.4 inches

2021

Rainbow	1,005	9.3 inches
Cuttbow	1,188	9.7 inches
Tiger trout	745	10.2 inches
Brown Trout	252	10.3 inches

2020

Rainbow	2,295	9.3 inches
Cuttbow	2,065	9.6 inches
Tiger trout	750	10.0 inches
Brown Trout	998	9.2 inches

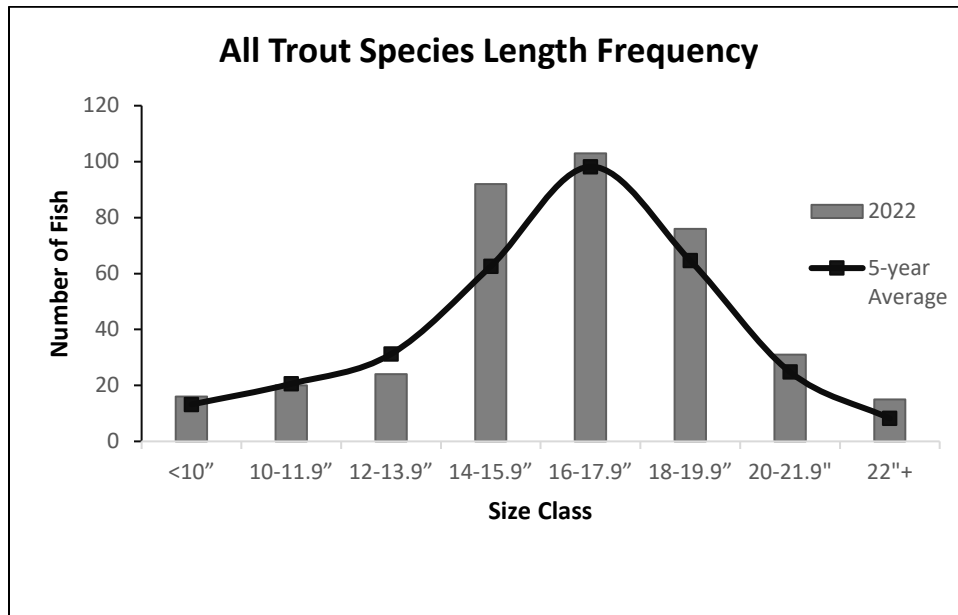
Fishing notes

- Best fishing typically occurs in June, September, October.
- Striping woolly buggers, leach patterns, and bead head nymph patterns is usually successful.
- Midge patterns and balanced leech patterns can be highly effective fished under a strike indicator.
- Scuds or bead head nymph patterns just under the surface near weed beds is also a productive method.
- From a small boat, trolling flatfish, spoons, rapalas, and spinners can be productive. These lures can also be cast from shore with success.

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FISHERY SURVEY DATA - 2022
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5-YEAR ANGLER CATCH RATES KNOTT CREEK RESERVOIR		
	fish/hour	fish/angler
2022	1.96	13.43
2021	1.25	7.70
2020	0.94	8.14
2019	2.03	14.95
2018	1.56	13.94
Average	1.45	10.0

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2022 Fishing Forecast Brad Bauman – Fisheries Biologist Winnemucca Field Office

2023 Fishing Forecast- Snow pack conditions in late winter of 2023 were above average for Northern Nevada. Knott Creek is expected to fill to around 80-90% capacity. Catch rates should be near 2 fish/hour and 10-15 fish/day. In 2022 32% of the fish caught were over 18 inches and 12% were over 20 inches. Anglers can expect to enjoy catching fish over 18 inches. Fishing is expected to be good to excellent at Knot Creek in 2023.

Rainbow trout

In 2022 a total of 1,257 Rainbow Trout were stocked in Knott Creek Reservoir that averaged 10.1 inches. Rainbow Trout are the most abundant species in the reservoir representing 80% of the angler catch in 2022. The most common size classes of rainbow caught by anglers in 2022 were from 16"-17.9". Overall, the Rainbow Trout population numbers are stable with multiple size classes present.

Cuttbow or Bowcutt trout

No cuttbow or bowcutt trout were stocked in 2022, but in 2021 a total of 1,188 cuttbow were stocked in Knott Creek Reservoir that averaged 9.7 inches. Cuttbow trout represented 11% of the angler catch in 2022. The most common size class of cuttbow trout caught by anglers in 2022 was from 14"-15.9".

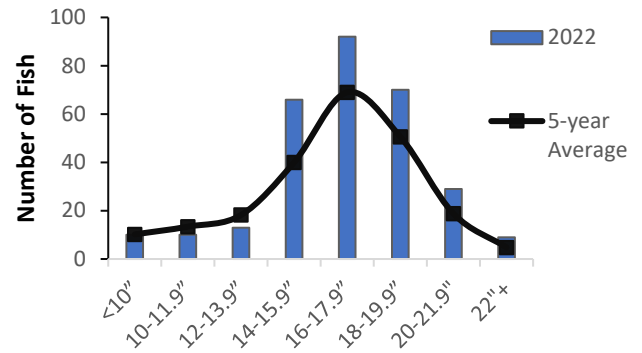
Tiger trout

In 2022 a total of 758 Tiger trout were stocked averaging 8.4 inches. Tiger trout represented 3% of the angler catch in 2022. The most common size class of tiger trout caught by anglers in 2022 was from 10-11.9 and some over 22".

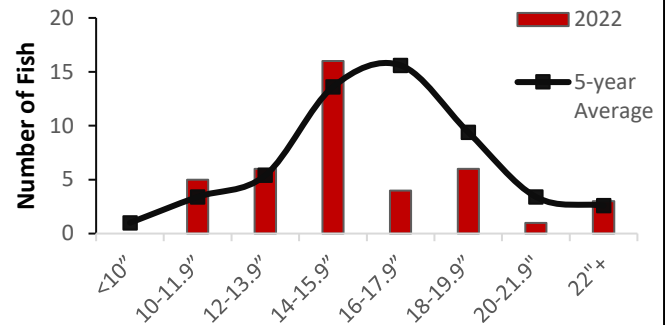
Brown Trout

Brown Trout were introduced into Knott Creek Reservoir in 2020 as an additional species for anglers. 507 Brown Trout were stocked in 2022 that averaged 9.1 inches. Brown Trout represented 6% of the catch in 2022. The most common size class of Brown Trout caught was 14-15.9"

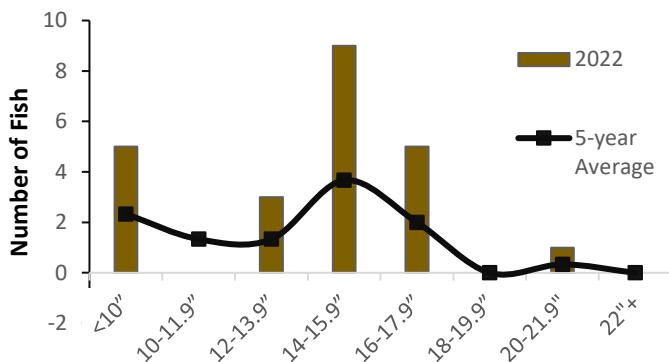
Rainbow Trout



Bowcutt Trout Length Frequency



Brown Trout Length Frequency



Tiger Trout

