



WESTERN NATIVE TROUT INITIATIVE



Western Native Trout Initiative



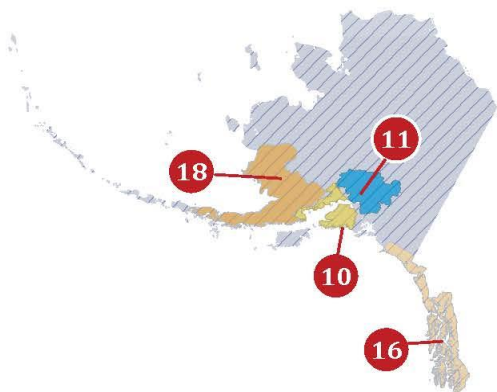
Mission: “To serve as a key catalyst for the implementation of conservation or management actions, through partnerships and cooperative efforts, resulting in improved species status, improved aquatic habitats, and improved recreational opportunities for native trout anglers across western states”.



Little Kern Golden trout



Regional Fish Habitat Partnerships

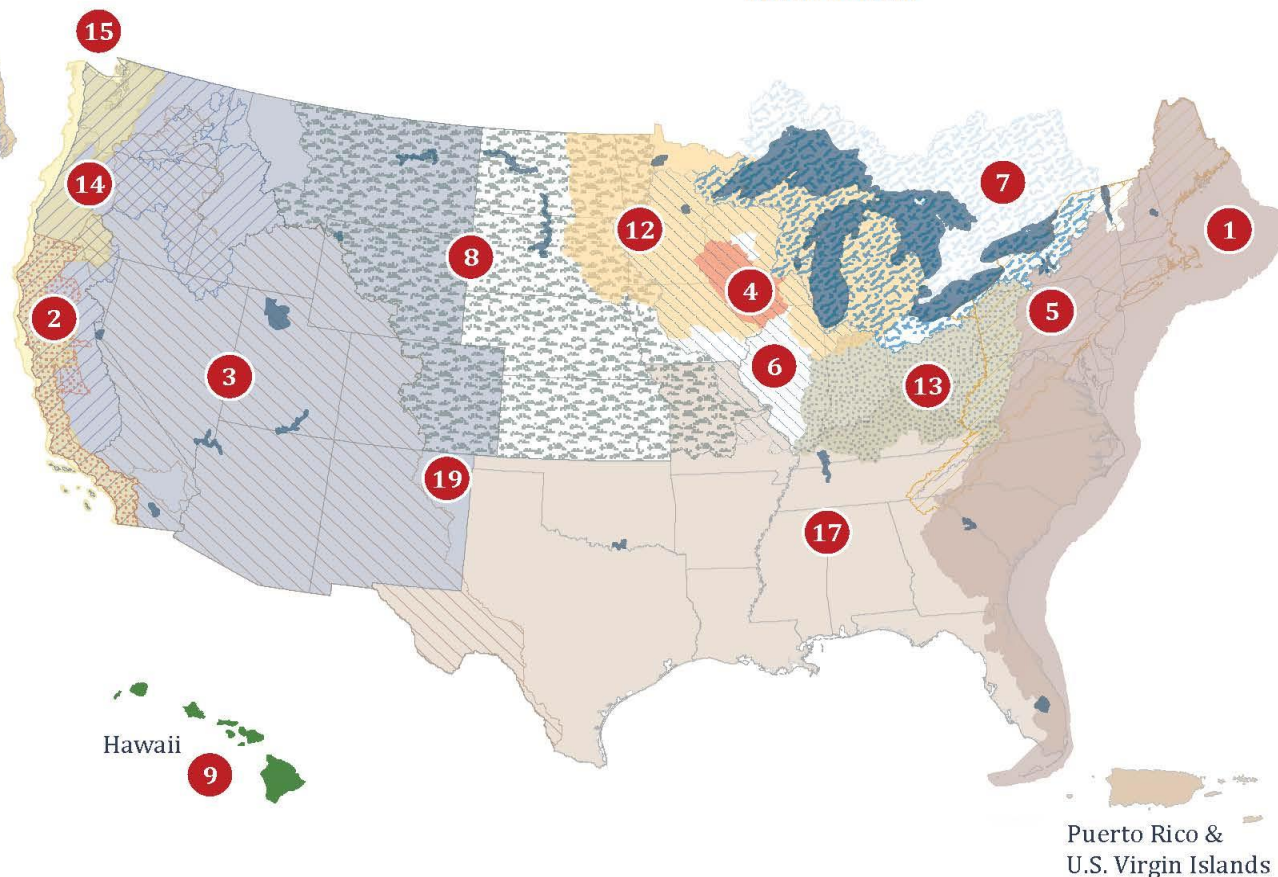


Geographic / Species Based Partnerships

- 1 Atlantic Coast FHP
- 2 California Fish Passage Forum
- 3 Desert FHP
- 4 Driftless Area Restoration Network
- 5 Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
- 6 Fishers and Farmers Partnership
- 7 Great Lakes Basin FHP
- 8 Great Plains FHP
- 9 Hawaii FHP
- 10 Kenai Peninsula FHP
- 11 Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership
- 12 Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership
- 13 Ohio River Basin FHP
- 14 Pacific Lamprey FHP
- 15 Pacific Marine and Estuarine FHP
- 16 Southeast Alaska FHP
- 17 Southeast Aquatic Resources FHP
- 18 Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership
- 19 Western Native Trout Initiative

System Based Partnership

- 20 Reservoir FHP⁺
- ⁺the Reservoir FHP is a system based partnership that covers reservoirs across the country



Note: Alaska and islands not to scale

Includes current fish habitat partnerships, approved by the NFHP Board, June 2016.

Western Native Trout Initiative



Focal species

- Alaskan Kokanee
- Alaskan Rainbow Trout
- Apache Trout
- Arctic Char
- Arctic Grayling
- Bonneville Cutthroat Trout
- Bull Trout
- California Golden Trout
- **Coastal Cutthroat Trout**
- Colorado River Cutthroat
- Dolly Varden
- Gila Trout
- Greenback Cutthroat Trout
- Lahontan Cutthroat Trout
- Little Kern Golden Trout
- Paiute Cutthroat Trout
- Redband Trout
- Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout
- Westslope Cutthroat Trout
- Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout

Western Native Trout Initiative



- **WNTI Steering Committee = 15 members**
 - 9 western state agencies
 - 3 federal agencies (USFWS, USFS, BLM)
 - 1 conservation organization (Trout Unlimited)
 - 1 tribal nation (vacant)
 - 1 Canadian provincial agency (vacant)
- **1 staff person = Coordinator**
- **Programs/activities**
 - Fall grant program = large habitat projects (federal NFHP funding)
 - Spring = Small Grants Program (other funds that we raise)
 - Science and Data
 - Campaign for Western Native Trout

Western Native Trout Initiative



From 2006-2017, WNTI has directed almost \$5.5 million in federal fish habitat partnership funds leveraged to \$25 million public and private matching dollars for 141 priority native trout conservation projects.

- 87 fish passage barriers removed
- 1,129 stream miles reconnected, restored or improved
- 30 barriers constructed to protect and conserve priority populations
- 671 watersheds or populations assessed
- Over 350 partnering organizations



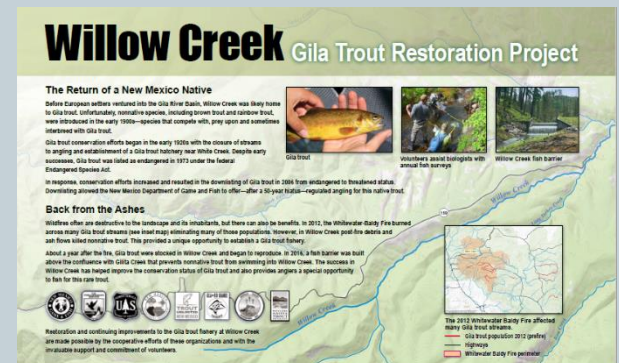
Western Native Trout Initiative



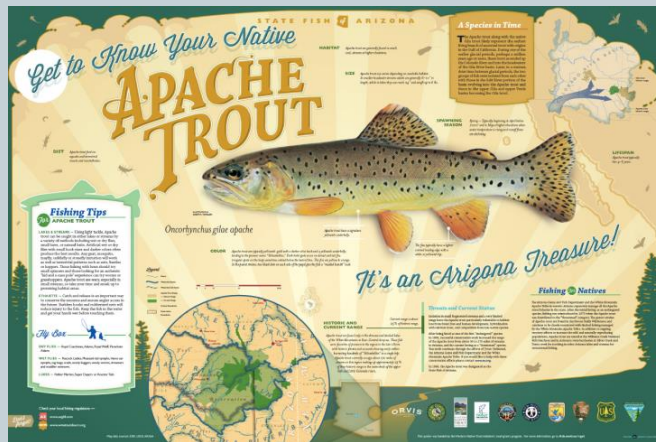
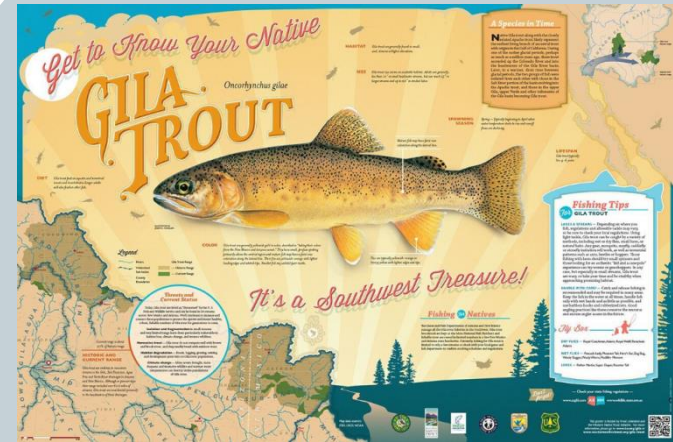
WNTI Small Grants Program

Since 2016:

26 small grants projects funded with \$73,970 in donations to WNTI and matched with \$1,080,953 in other funding.



Western Native Trout Initiative



Get To Know Your Native posters to date

Western Native Trout Initiative



Rio Grande cutthroat trout sign posted at the Middle Creek trailhead



Western Native Trout Initiative



Coastal Cutthroat Trout

- Between 2008 and 2017, WNTI has helped fund 14 projects for Coastal Cutthroat Trout.
- Habitat projects, assessments, outreach.
- \$361,000 in NFHP and small grants funds matched with \$1,905,862 in matching funds and in kind.



Western Native Trout Initiative



WNTI Strategic Prioritization

➤ Big Impact: Three Species in Three Years

Highest priority:

- ❑ Actions that provide long-term protection of intact and healthy aquatic ecosystems that support priority populations.
- ❑ Restoration projects. Priorities are (in this order):
 - 1.) Actions that protect or enhance multiple populations.
 - 2.) Actions that provide immediate benefits to enhancing the viability of priority populations.
 - 3.) Actions that support conservation of unique and rare functioning habitat, habitat diversity, life histories and genetic attributes.
 - 4.) Actions that provide critical information needed for assessing success and making adaptive management decisions.

Western Native Trout Initiative



WNTI Strategic Prioritization

WNTI's second highest priority is **projects that support our #1 priority** to benefit these species:

2017-2019: Bonneville Cutthroat Trout, Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout, Interior Redband Trout.

2020-2022: Colorado River Cutthroat Trout, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout, Westslope Cutthroat Trout.

- Up to 75% of WNTI's National Fish Habitat Partnership funding could go toward the priorities listed below.

Western Native Trout Initiative



WNTI Strategic Prioritization

- WNTI will work with team leaders of each of the prioritized species teams and facilitate a process to assist the interagency teams in reviewing existing strategic prioritization and identifying priority habitats and/or projects and/or unfunded needs and create a conservation portfolio where WNTI can focus efforts to make an impact by appealing to non federal funders.
- Focus outreach efforts, messaging, and products on these prioritized species.

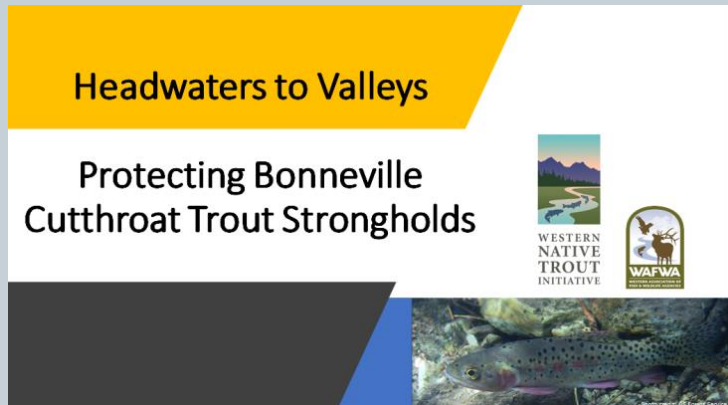
Western Native Trout Initiative



Progress to date

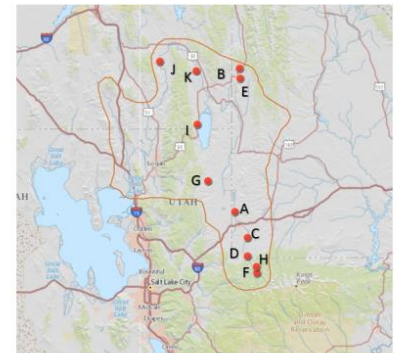
Bonneville Cutthroat Trout:

- Portfolio of 12 projects in Upper Bear River Basin (WY, UT, ID).
- The Open Rivers fund of the Resource Legacy Fund granted WNTI a two year, 578K grant to fund 8 of the 12 projects.
- One additional project from the portfolio was approved for NFHP funding in 2018, so we have now funded 9 of the 12 projects in the portfolio.



Our Portfolio of Projects

- A - Upper Bear River Fish Passage Barriers (WY) and Bear River Restoration - Phase I (WY)
- B - Salt Creek Fish Passage and Restoration (WY)
- C - Booth Diversion Restoration Project (WY)
- D - Danielson Diversion Rebuild and Fish Screen (WY)
- E - Coal Creek Bank Stabilization and Sediment Reduction (WY)
- F - East Fork Hilliard Canal Fish Passage (UT)
- G - Big Creek Cutthroat Trout Restoration and Fencing (UT)
- H - Deadman Creek Native Aquatic Species Restoration (UT)
- I - St. Charles Creek Lower South Diversion and Fish Screen (ID)
- J - Cove-Kackley Spring BCT Connection Project (ID)
- K - Stauffer Fish Passage, Riparian, and Stream Habitat Improvement Project (ID)



Western Native Trout Initiative



WNTI as catalyst

Interior Redband Trout Range-wide Assessment

Coastal Cutthroat Trout Range-wide Assessment

Western Native Trout Initiative

Campaign for Western Native Trout



WESTERN
NATIVE
TROUT
INITIATIVE

THE CAMPAIGN FOR
WESTERN NATIVE
TROUT

—SUSTAINING OUR WESTERN HERITAGE THROUGH NATIVE TROUT CONSERVATION—

Our fish, our future

RESTORING OUR WATERS, PROTECTING OUR HERITAGE

Wild, native trout evolved over millennia alongside bunnies, lynx, grizzly and grouse. They flourished and thrived across untamed landscapes that continue to define the American West—from high mountain lakes and dry desert plateaus to grassy, expansive plains and lush coastal estuaries. But with the advent of modern technologies and widespread development we have altered native ecosystems faster than we have repaired, creating a cascade of consequences our forefathers could not have imagined. We have changed forever a once balanced and biologically rich landscape, sending native trout and other keystone species into decline.

The Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI) seeks to reverse centuries of habitat degradation and native trout declines by bringing together private and public sector leaders to collaboratively restore, rebuild, and permanently protect the last remaining rivers, lakes, streams, and wetlands that provide cold, clean water to cities, suburbs, farms and ranches, and of course, support

wild, native trout. By combining, focusing, and leveraging our collective resources and passion for the West, we can measurably improve the health of western watersheds and ensure a future where fish, wildlife, and people continue to thrive.

SUPPORTING AND SUSTAINING WESTERN ECONOMIES

In addition to providing water for ranches, farms, families, and fish, healthy, free-flowing native trout streams also draw hunters, anglers, kayakers and campers to rural areas, generating valuable revenue to local communities across the West. Lured by the promise of a once-in-a-lifetime catch, a trophy buck, or epic rapids, recreationists spend money on equipment, lodging, restaurants, and professional guide and outfitting services. Money injected into local economies via recreation and tourism is shared with every corner of western communities, propping up banks, family-owned shops and restaurants. Compared to other forms of revenue generated by natural resources, recreation has the longevity and predictability to sustain communities

over the long haul. As the profitability of agriculture, oil and gas fluctuates according to world markets, many communities are turning to recreation to make ends meet.

By supporting native trout restoration projects in these places, we improve habitat and recreation opportunities, drawing more resources to communities working to diversify their economies.

PROVIDING THE BEST CONSERVATION VALUE

The best long-term conservation strategies involve investing in the protection and restoration of relatively intact, pristine habitats because such investments are less expensive and more reliable than restoring those places that are severely degraded and disconnected. The western U.S. is home to more varieties of living native cutthroat trout than anywhere else in the nation. Projects funded by Western Native Trout Initiative are located in these last, best places, creating lasting benefits not only for western native trout, but also for other associated fish, wildlife, and surrounding communities.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

The future of native trout conservation depends directly on the generosity of individuals like you who care about sustaining healthy western watersheds. When you give to WNTI, 100% of your donation is tax deductible and leveraged to support on-the-ground, locally-led projects. Please consider one or more of the giving options below.

DONATE DIRECTLY TO OUR CAUSE: To donate to WNTI online, please visit westernnativetroust.org or send a check to 154 Union Blvd., Ste. 405, Lakewood, CO 80224. Please make checks payable to Foundation for Western Fish and Wildlife, our 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor.

LEAVE A LEGACY: Gift planning options range from simple will bequests to more complicated trust and annuity arrangements, but they all share the same basic benefit: they enable you to help secure the future for the people, places, fish, and wildlife that matter to you most. You can discuss planned giving with your financial advisor or call us at (303) 618-1975.

BECOME A CORPORATE PARTNER: From fly shops to forestry, your business, large or small, can serve as a steward in the local community where you operate. Please contact us to discuss projects needing funding in the watersheds where you operate.

LEVERAGE YOUR GIFT: Employer matching gifts programs are an easy way to increase the impact of your donation. Simply contact your employer (or former employer, if you're retired), request a matching gift form, and send it to the address listed on the back of this document.

HONOR A LOVED ONE: To celebrate a special occasion like a birthday, or to honor the life of a loved one, consider giving a timeless and meaningful gift—the gift of native trout conservation. You can make a donation in the name of a friend or relative on our website westernnativetroust.org.

Ready to give or have questions about giving? Please contact Theresa Thompson, Director of Strategic Partnerships, at (303) 618-1975 or thompson@westernnativetroust.org.

A strategy for success

The Western Native Trout Initiative is 4.75 million square miles of public and privately managed lands, and crosses the borders of 12 western states. We work cooperatively to restore and recover the last remaining western native trout species across their historic range by funding efforts to raise public awareness, and by investing limited private and public resources toward completing the highest-impact, on-the-ground projects led by local communities and resource agencies across the western United States. The following are the strategies and values that guide our organization's success.

SUPPORT SCIENCE-BASED, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN ACTION

Western native trout face challenges and opportunities unique to their geographic range and life history. Projects funded by the Western Native Trout Initiative are proposed by local communities and agencies, and result from ongoing collaboration between private landowners, businesses, regional and state fishery managers, tribes, and community groups with local knowledge, expertise and interest in conserving the rivers and trout in their home waters. Projects are selected by our Steering Committee of highly respected resource managers and conservation groups according to the prioritized needs of each trout species. Projects must address the real and unique threats to each western native trout population according to the best available science.

MAXIMIZE OUR COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT

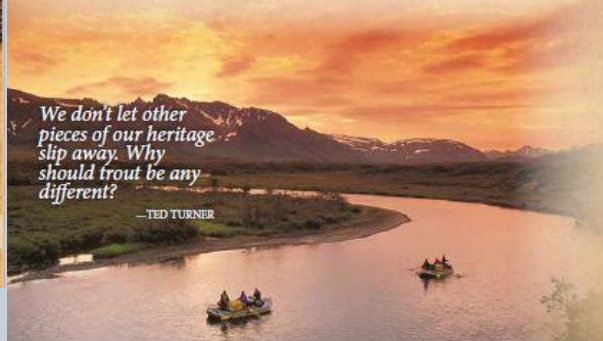
Donors get the most bang for their buck by investing in Western Native Trout Initiative projects because each dollar is leveraged with state, local, and federal funds dedicated to native trout restoration. For every dollar invested by private donors, an average of \$3 in matching funds are provided by the public sector entities. Thus, a \$20,000 contribution has an \$80,000 impact. Our administrative expenses are also kept to a minimum and supported by federal sources, so every dollar goes to fund on-the-ground projects that benefit western native trout.

ACHIEVE REAL MEASURABLE RESULTS

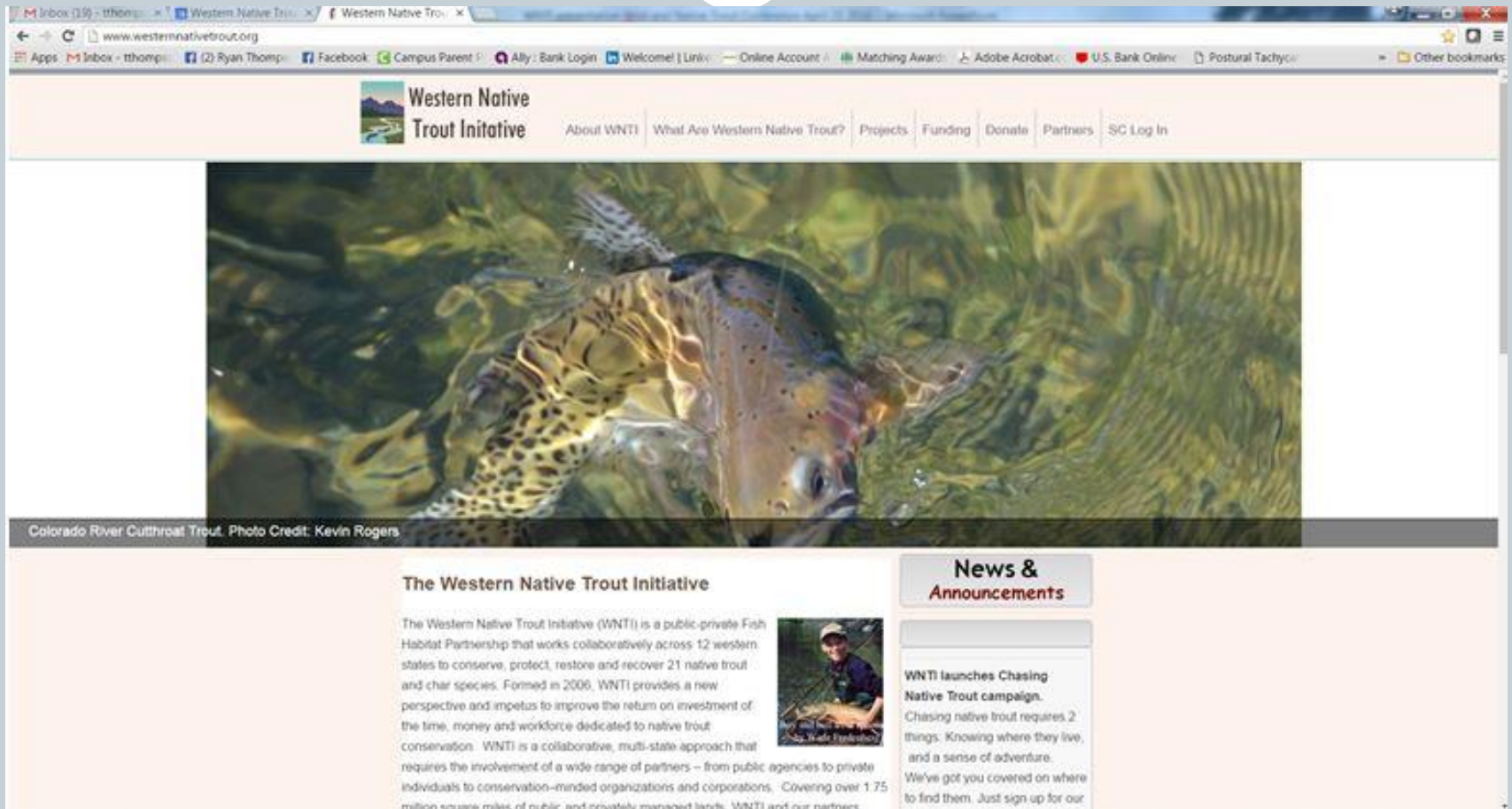
Since 2006, the Western Native Trout Initiative and our partners have directed investments of over \$14 million in private and public funding toward 110 on-the-ground, community-based priority conservation projects that have reconnected, restored and enhanced over 466 stream miles of habitat for western native trout. Additionally, we have helped complete over 600 native trout population assessments to guide collaborative watershed planning, prioritization, and management. We utilize our relationships with teams of volunteers and agency biologists to continuously monitor the watersheds where we work, ensuring that projects we fund are improving the status of native trout and water quality in the most important rivers across the west.

*We don't let other
pieces of our heritage
slip away. Why
should trout be any
different?*

—TED TURNER



Western Native Trout Initiative



www.westernnativetrout.org

Western Native Trout Initiative



Westernnativetrout.org

Rio Grande Cutthroat



Rio Grande Cutthroat

Historically, Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout occupied all cool waters in the Rio Grande drainage, including the Chama, Jemez, and Rio San Juan drainages, along with suitable waters of the Texas and Canadian drainages. They currently live in only about 100 headwater streams, occupying 10 percent of their former range. They have a yellowish-green body in gray body with occasional black spots, and a densely spotted tail. Adults grow up to 12-15 inches long. The Rio Grande Cutthroat has officially been designated as the New Mexico State Fish.

Rio Grande Cutthroat Assessment (.pdf)

For more than 20 years, agency biologists have been searching for Rio Grande cutthroat trout populations, studying their habitat, and restoring the species to streams. Historically, the Rio Grande cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki virgatus*) occupied all cool waters in the Rio Grande drainage including the Chama, Jemez, and Rio San Juan drainages, along with suitable waters of the Texas and Canadian drainages. The historic range of Rio Grande cutthroat trout has been reduced over the last 150 years due to many landscape changes, including drought, water infrastructure, habitat changes, hybridization with native trout and other species of cutthroat trout, and competition from brown trout and brook trout. As a result of these changes, Rio Grande cutthroat trout populations are restricted primarily to headwater streams.

A conservation team established in 2003, composed of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the Santa Apache Nation, the Navajo-Apache Nation, and the San Juan tribe and conservation organizations such as the Western Native Trout Initiative and Trout Unlimited has collaborated to work on manageable protection plans and completed conservation projects for the species. An updated conservation agreement and 10-year plan to protect the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout was signed in 2013 with the goal of ensuring long-term viability of Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout throughout its historic range and setting a conservation strategy for the near future.

Since 2007, the Western Native Trout Initiative has provided \$510,000 in funding for 12 projects to benefit Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. Projects have ranged from barrier construction/restoration to keep non-native trout out of conservation waters, habitat restoration, genetic analysis, and public outreach and education.

READ MORE about Colorado Parks and Wildlife efforts to conserve Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout.
READ MORE about New Mexico Game and Fish Department's efforts to conserve Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout.
[Link to 2013 Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Conservation Agreement](#)



Download PDF

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Determines ESA Protection for the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout is Not Warranted

After review of the best available scientific and commercial information, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) found that listing the Rio Grande cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki virgatus*) under the Endangered Species Act is not warranted at this time. Therefore, the Service will remove this subspecies from the candidate list.

The Service found that the Rio Grande cutthroat trout is not in danger of extinction throughout its range or in a significant portion of its range now or in the foreseeable future. However, the Service is asking the public to submit any new information that becomes available concerning the status of the Rio Grande cutthroat trout at any time.

This finding is available on the Internet at: <http://www.regulations.gov> at Document Number FWS-IG-2014-0142. View the press release here.

Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout photo gallery

The top photos below are Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. Click photos to Photograph.



Both of the photos below are of Lake Fork Canyon Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. Photo credit: Frank Webbath.



Apache Trout



Apache Trout

The Apache Trout is one of only two trout native to Arizona. Designated as Arizona's state fish, the Apache trout was historically found only in the headwaters of the White, Black and Little Colorado rivers above 5,900 feet. Once nearing extinction, Apache Trout have been restored to much of their historic range in the White Mountains after decades of cooperative protection and recovery efforts. Apache Trout have an olive-yellow body, with a yellow or golden belly. They can grow up to 20 inches long, but most grow only to 9 inches because of the smaller streams in which they live.

Apache Trout Assessment (.pdf)

The Apache Trout was first listed as an Endangered Species on March 11, 1967 (32 FR 4001). It was down-listed to threatened in July 1975 (40 FR 29863, Final Special Rule, 17.44(a)) based on recovery actions and a reanalysis of data. The down-listing allowed state, tribal, and federal agencies and partners to conduct management actions under the Recovery Plan, regulate take of the species, and establish sport fishing opportunities. The Recovery Plan was completed in 1979, revised in 1983 and again in 2009.

Historically, Apache Trout occupied streams and rivers in the upper White, Black, and Little Colorado River drainages in the White Mountains of east-central Arizona. Currently, 27 pure (non-hybridized) Apache Trout populations exist within their historical range in Gila, Apache, and Greenlee counties of Arizona, on lands of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (FAIR) and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest (ASNF).

Since 2007, the Western Native Trout Initiative has provided \$312,700 in funding to 5 projects to benefit Apache Trout. Projects have ranged from barrier construction/restoration to keep non-native trout out of conservation waters, habitat assessment after catastrophic wildfires, and public outreach and education.

Read the 2009 Apache Trout Recovery Plan.

Read the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Apache Trout Business plan.

Click here to read about Arizona Game and Fish Department's Apache Trout conservation work.

Read about the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Apache Trout conservation work.

Apache Trout Photo Gallery

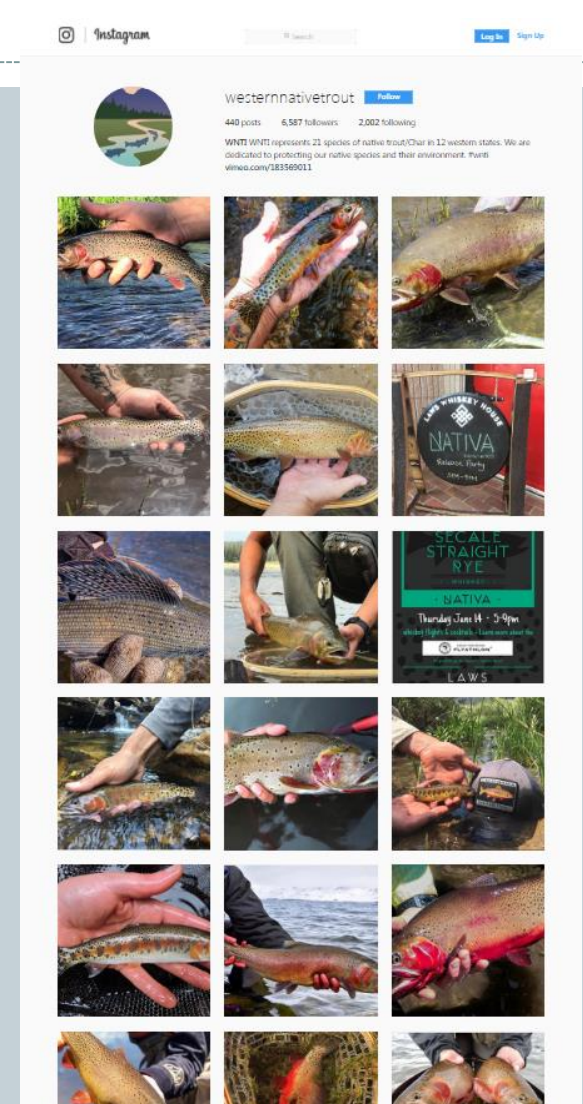
The Apache Trout photo below is courtesy of D. Kenney.



Western Native Trout Initiative

2015 -2018 Highlights

- Active outreach
 - social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)
 - Quarterly e-newsletter
 - Events
- Chasing Native Trout campaign
- WNTI StoryMap “For the Fish, For Us All”
- “Blueheads and Bonneville’s” film
- Collaboration with RepYourWater.com





Western Native Trout Initiative shared USFWS Fisheries's photo.

September 24 at 1:46 PM · 🌐

Thanks for your hard work, Mora National Fish Hatchery!
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Southwest Region
#CampaignForWesternNativeTrout #GilaTrout #WNTI



USFWS Fisheries

September 5 · 🌐

Mora National Fish Hatchery in New Mexico is using recirculating aquaculture system (RAS) technology to restore threatened Gila trout populations in Arizona and New Mexico. This hatchery also provide refugia for wild Gila trout. <http://bit.ly/21tEFn>

Photo Credit USFWS Craig Springer

209

People Reached

35

Engagements

52

Clicks

Boost Unavailable

👍❤️ Tony Dahl, Brent Nobles and 31 others

1 Comment 2 Shares



Like



Comment



Share



Oldest ▾



USFWS Fisheries · Many thanks for sharing our photo! 👍

Like · Reply · Message · 2w



Western Native Trout Initiative Absolutely! 😊

Like · Reply · 2w



Write a comment...



Western Native Trout Initiative

Published by Sage Lion Media [?] · September 11 · 🌐

Thank you to Taos Pueblo Game and Fish for your work conserving Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout! #CampaignForWesternNativeTrout #RioGrandeCutthroat #WNTI #TroutTuesday



760

People Reached

68

Engagements



Richard Lander, David J Tall and 49 others



Like



Comment



Western Native Trout Initiative

Published by Sage Lion Media [?] · July 27 · 🌐

25

Clicks

Thanks to our partners at Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and several other organizations, native Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout populations are expanding in the Upper Yellowstone River System! #CampaignForWesternNativeTrout #WNTI #YellowstoneCutthroatTrout <http://www.kpax.com/.../efforts-helping-to-preserve-yellowsto...>



KPAX.COM

Efforts helping to preserve Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout population

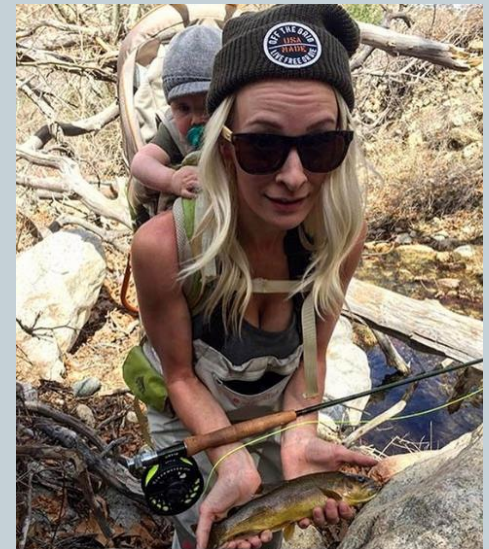
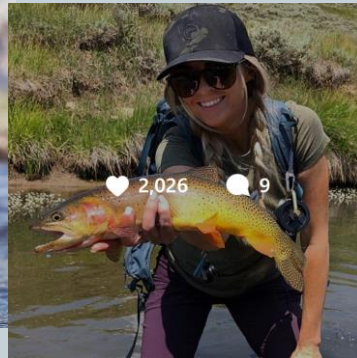
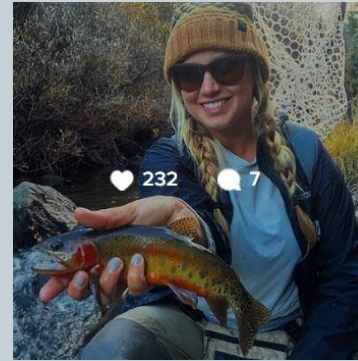
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Western Native Trout Initiative



Instagram

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Western Native Trout Initiative



Western Native Trout Initiative

Chasing Native Trout Campaign



Are you looking for a truly unique experience?

GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON TWELVE AMAZING WESTERN NATIVE TROUT

Native trout live in some of the last wild places in North America. Getting there can be an adventure in and of itself.

We've assembled a series of four part courses full of tips and tricks for chasing these beautiful fish. As part of each course you will receive one email per week chock full of information for planning your next great adventure.

Learn everything you need to know about catching these fish in just a few weeks.



NEW SEASON, NEW SPECIES

We've added 2 new seasons to our collection of western native trout. You can now pick one series or all of them and get tips and tricks about native trout from New Mexico to Alaska and everything in between. Each adventure is as varied as the trout themselves.

SEASON 1SEASON 2SEASON 3

SELECT A TROUT

GILA TROUT

The Gila Trout is one of the most beautiful species in the United States. The result of the historical introduction of the Gila Trout to the Southwest, it is known for its higher resistance to disease and its ability to thrive in high-altitude streams. In the Southwest, the Gila Trout is found in the mountains of New Mexico, Arizona, and Nevada. It is a highly sought-after species by anglers and conservationists alike. The Gila Trout was listed as a threatened species in 1987, and its recovery is a priority for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Gila Trout is a highly adaptable species, and it is found in a variety of habitats, including high-altitude streams, low-altitude streams, and lakes. The Gila Trout is a highly sought-after species by anglers and conservationists alike. The Gila Trout was listed as a threatened species in 1987, and its recovery is a priority for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Gila Trout is a highly adaptable species, and it is found in a variety of habitats, including high-altitude streams, low-altitude streams, and lakes.

[View our full catalog](#)



More than 500,000 years ago, Pacific salmon migrated from the Gulf Coast of California into the mountains of the Southwest. As the climate and landscape of the region transformed, they found their habitat reduced to the high-altitude streams of the Gila River Basin, where they evolved to survive harsh conditions and to what we now know as Gila Trout. At one point, Gila Trout, along with their close relative Apache Trout, occupied up to 600 mountain stream miles, but adverse environmental conditions and the introduction of non-native species have drastically reduced their range. While listed endangered in 1987, the Gila Trout status has been downgraded to threatened through ongoing, dedicated conservation efforts in both Arizona and New Mexico.



Since 2007, the Western Native Trout Initiative has provided \$243,725 in funding to 8 projects in Arizona and New Mexico to benefit Gila Trout conservation. Projects have ranged from better conservation practices to help non-native trout out of conservation waters, habitat assessment after catastrophic wildfire, and public outreach and education.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Today, Gila Trout conservation is guided by the Gila Trout Recovery Plan (2013) and the Gila Trout Recovery Team, which is composed of professionals from New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the University of New Mexico, the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The agreement continues a program of stream restoration – removing nonnative species, constructing barriers to prevent nonnatives from reintroduction, and returning Gila Trout – and pure Gila Trout, currently inhabit southwestern streams in New Mexico.

A relative of the rainbow trout, Gila Trout has an iridescent golden to olive colored body blending into a dark coppery color on their gill covers. Small, profuse spots cover the upper half of their bodies and they sometimes have a faint, subventral band. Their tiny spots can assist in distinguishing the Gila Trout from its close relative, the Apache Trout, which possesses larger, more noticeable spots on its body. Despite a variety of obstacles threatening its existence, the native New Mexican trout has adapted and persevered to survive harsh conditions, allowing anglers an opportunity to add catch in photos of this rare trout. There are seven streams open to angling for Gila Trout in New Mexico. Anglers can also choose these stunning trout in select streams located in western Arizona.

WHERE



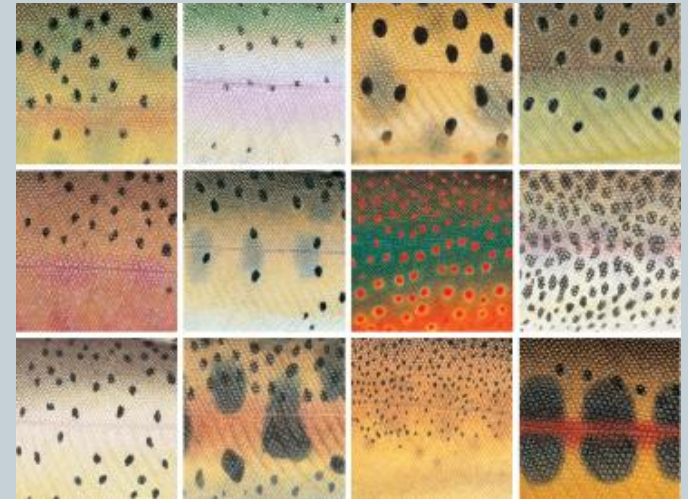
chasing.westernnativetrout.org

Western Native Trout Initiative



Chasing Native Trout Campaign

Westslope Cutthroat – Washington
Bonneville Cutthroat – Utah
Lahontan Cutthroat – Nevada
Rio Grande Cutthroat – Colorado
Yellowstone Cutthroat – Idaho
Redband Trout – Idaho
California Golden Trout - California
Coastal Cutthroat – Oregon
Gila Trout – New Mexico
Apache Trout – Arizona
Colorado River Cutthroat – Wyoming
Dolly Varden - Alaska

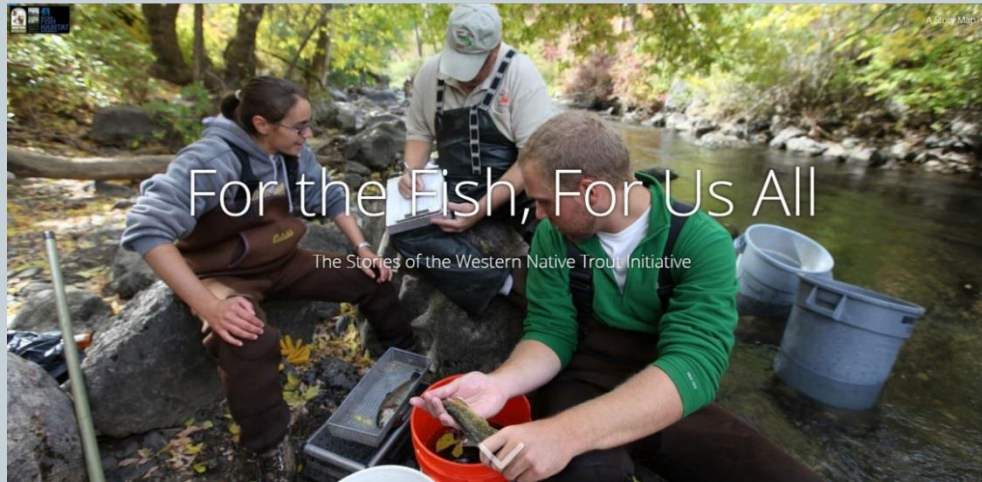


chasing.westernnativetrout.org

Western Native Trout Initiative



WNTI StoryMap

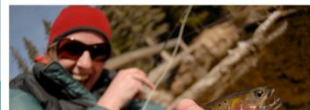


Tall Tales. The American West is perhaps more legend than truth. Folklore dominates its history, from rushes of gold to proclamations of manifest destiny. Its scale must be credited for much of this mystique. The vastness and harshness of the region plays to the storyteller's advantage. Combining equal parts aridity, altitude, and awe, it is not difficult to conjure a story worthy of some acclaim. Perhaps because of its close association with all three of these ingredients, the western native trout has found its way into a fair share of the famous tales. Pecos Bill lassoed a salmonid the size of a bison. Hot springs in the Yellowstone allowed for fishing and cooking cutthroats in single motion. Settlers on Utah Lake pulled in yard-long Bonneville cutthroats by the ton.

www.westernnativetrout.org
then look under “What are
Western Native Trout” OR
go to bit.ly/WNTIStoryMap



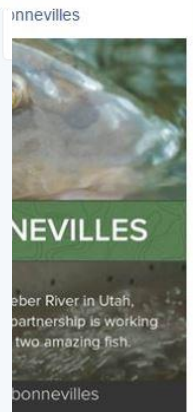
Essence. In this way, the native trout has become the embodiment of the Western character—its eternal struggle and triumph of adaptation to a life of water in a dry land. The wild rivers, the alpine lakes, and the trickling arroyos — the fiber of Western geography — are the habitat for the redband, the cutthroat, and the Gila. The landscape and lore of the West is that of the trout.



Western Native Trout Initiative



Blueheads and Bonneville



www.westernnativetrout.org/blueheads-and-bonnevilles

Western Native Trout Initiative

RepYourWater.com

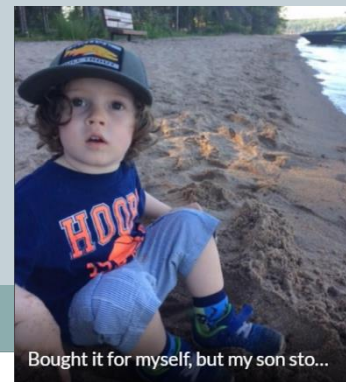


RepYourWater/Native Trout Initiative Hats

Available 05/01

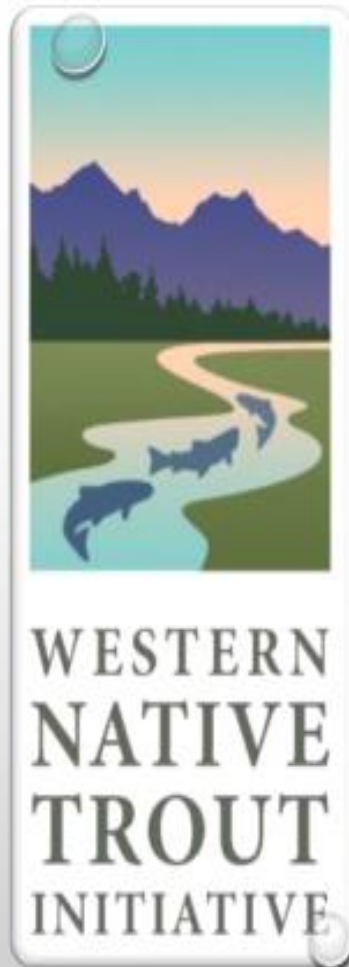


Western Native Trout Initiative



#matchthehat

Bought it for myself, but my son sto...

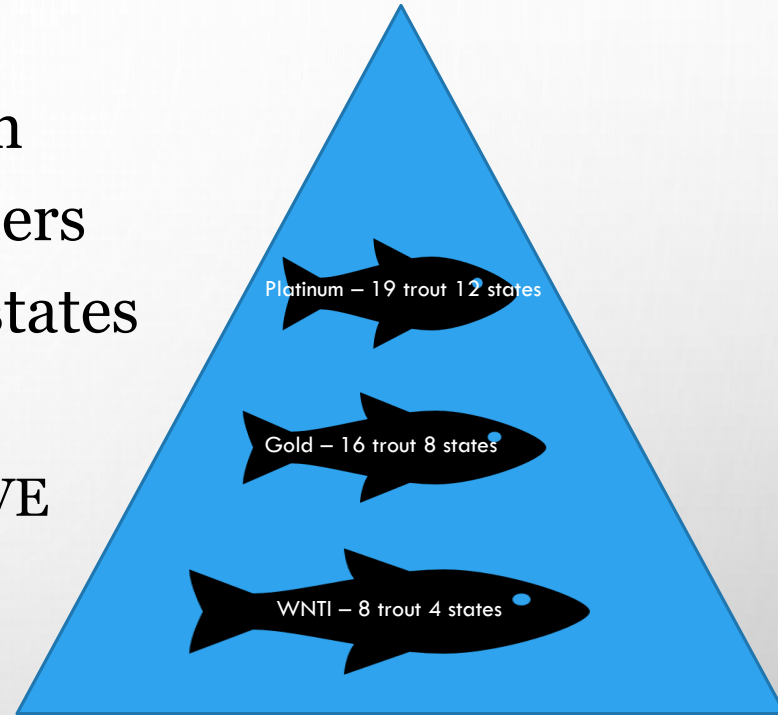


WESTERN NATIVE TROUT CHALLENGE

Challenge will be tiered

Anglers to pick from species/state spreadsheet matrix and choose which species to catch in which states. Anglers cannot duplicate any species across states (to encourage broad participation)

- WNTI CHALLENGE LEVEL – 8 NATIVE TROUT SPECIES ACROSS 4 STATES.
- GOLD LEVEL – 16 NATIVE TROUT SPECIES ACROSS 8 STATES.
- PLATINUM MASTER LEVEL – 19 NATIVE TROUT SPECIES ACROSS 12 STATES.



Western Native Trout Initiative



Questions??

