

Kitty Griswold Poster titles and abstracts

Poster 1

Coastal Cutthroat Trout Outreach and Communication Poster Project

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Coastal Cutthroat Trout (CCT) are an important subspecies of North American trout that occur in coastal watersheds from Northern California to South Central Alaska. They are important ecologically and are a popular sport fish. The primary goal of this project is to elevate public awareness of the habitat needs, life history, and threats and opportunities to better manage and conserve CCT across their range. This project resulted in the creation and distribution (ongoing) of 2,000 CCT posters that are part of the “Get to Know your Native Trout” series sponsored by the Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI). Agency biologists with the Coastal Cutthroat Trout Interagency Committee provided content and review. A secondary goal was to establish partnerships and relationships among NGO’s and agencies that have a shared interest in CCT including (but not limited to) WNTI, Trout Unlimited, the CCT Interagency Commission, the USFS Tongass and Chugach National Forests, the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership, the Coastal Cutthroat Trout Coalition, and the Copper River Watershed Project. Funding was provided by the 2022 WNTI small grants program and matching funds from PSMFC and TU state councils.

Poster 2

Summary Results of Coastal Cutthroat Trout (CCT) Range-Wide Assessment

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A range-wide assessment of Coastal Cutthroat Trout was conducted in 2015-2018 led by the Coastal Cutthroat Interagency Commission (a working group of agency biologist and managers

funded by PSMFC). Results and summaries of the assessment are presented. Fourteen in-person workshops were held attracting 204 participants. Fish observation data were gathered from 90 state and federal agencies, Tribal nations, municipalities, universities, individuals, and non-governmental organizations throughout the US portion of the sub-species geographic distribution (northern California to south central Alaska). Observation data were compiled into a single database and aligned with stream hydrography or, if documentation occurred upstream of the existing hydrography, the stream line was extended manually. As such the database includes associated records to trace the provenance of the collection. These data are available at <http://doi.org/10.7923/Z5ZN-7219>. These efforts have led to an updated species distribution range map for CCT. In addition, the results of watershed scale questions that summarize concerns about non-native fish, knowledge of potential natural hybridization or hybridization with hatchery *O. mykiss*, habitat health (using a repeatable set of indices), population health (using a repeatable set of indices), monitoring efforts, and a ranking of estuaries as a potential limiting factor to expression of the marine form of CCT are presented. These data were developed to support and improve our understanding of the challenges and opportunities for conserving and managing CCT.