

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), Cuttbow or Bowcutt (rainbow x cutthroat hybrid), and Brown Trout 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
- Portable toilets
- No boat ramps
- Trailers not recommended
- Float tube and pontoon boats recommended

Fishing/Boating Regulations

- Season is open year round
- Limit is 1 trout
- Artificial flies and lures only
- Single barbless hook
- Vessels must be operated at speeds that leave a flat wake

Previous stocking

2024

Rainbow	924	9.3 inches
Rainbow	323	9.9 inches
Brown	492	10.1 inches
Tiger trout	747	7.0 inches

2023

Cuttbow	700	9.4 inches
Tiger Trout	774	11.5 inches

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

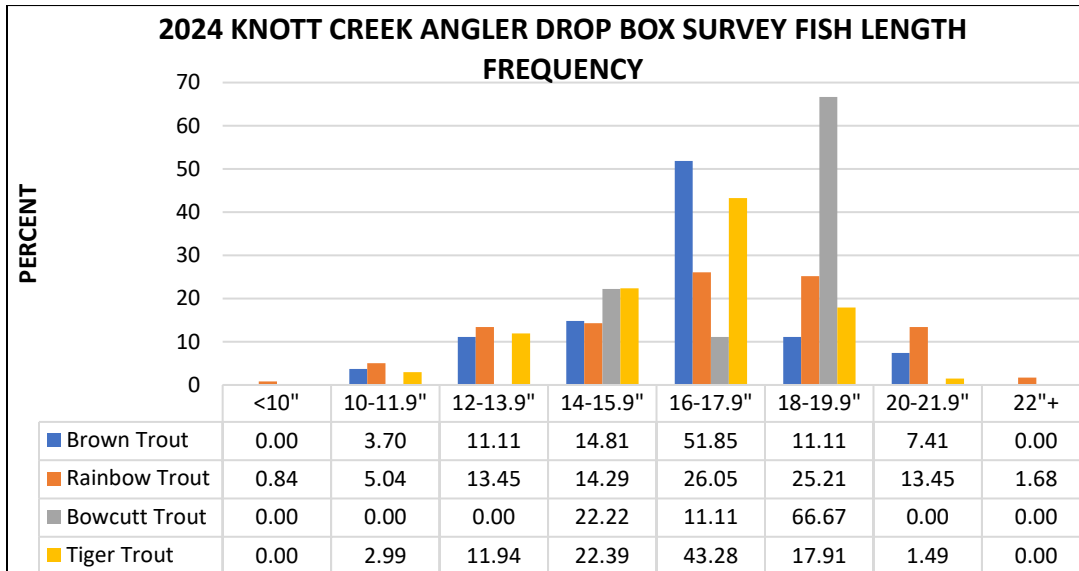
Fishing notes

- Best fishing typically occurs in May, June, September, October.
- Striping wholly 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.
- Trolling flatfish, spoons, rapalas, spinners, is a productive way to fish from a small boat. These lures can also be casted from shore with success.

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FISHERY SURVEY DATA - 2024
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5-YEAR ANGLER CATCH RATES KNOTT CREEK RESERVOIR		
	fish/hour	fish/angler
2024	1.21	8.54
2023	1.34	9.32
2022	1.96	13.43
2021	1.25	7.70
2020	0.94	8.14
2019	2.03	14.95
Average	1.46	10.35

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2024 Fishing Forecast Brad Bauman – Fisheries Biologist Winnemucca Field Office

2025 Fishing Forecast- Snow pack conditions in recent years have benefitted Knott Creek Reservoir. Knott Creek Reservoir to have fair to good water levels. Catch rates should be near 1.5-2 fish/hour and 10 fish per day. In 2023 79% of the fish caught were over 18 inches and 54% were over 20 inches. Anglers can expect to enjoy catching fish over 18 inches. Fishing is expected to be good to excellent at Knott Creek in 2024.

Rainbow trout

1,247 Rainbow Trout were stocked in 2024. Rainbow Trout are the most abundant species in the reservoir and representing 61% of the angler catch in 2022. The most common size classes of rainbow caught by anglers in 2024 were from 16"-17.9". Overall, the Rainbow Trout population numbers are stable with multiple size classes present.

Cuttbow or Bowcutt trout

No Cuttbow trout were stocked in 2024 in Knott Creek Reservoir. Cuttbow trout represented 4.6% of the angler catch in 2024. The most common size class of Cuttbow trout caught by anglers in 2024 was from 18"-19.9".

Tiger trout

In 2024 a total of 747 Tiger trout were stocked in Knott Creek Reservoir that averaged 7.0 inches. Tiger trout represented 34% of the angler catch in 2024, which is a 20 % increase. The most common size class of tiger trout caught by anglers in 2023 was from 16-17.9". The tiger trout population is doing well in Knott Creek Reservoir.

Brown Trout

Brown Trout were introduced into Knott Creek Reservoir in 2020 as an additional species for anglers. 492 Brown Trout were stocked in 2024. Brown Trout represented 14% of the catch in 2024. The most common size class of Brown Trout caught was 16-17.9", but a strong size class of Brown Trout over 18" were reported by anglers. Brown Trout are doing well in Knott Creek Reservoir

