

# Species Regulations and Descriptions

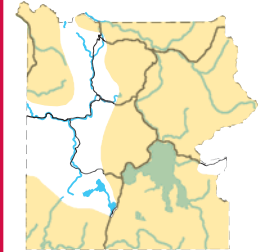
The map on the reverse side indicates known locations of fish species within the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park, using the two-letter abbreviations below. This map is provided as an aid to anglers fishing for particular species and does not imply a legal basis for species distribution.

*It is your responsibility to distinguish one fish species from another.*

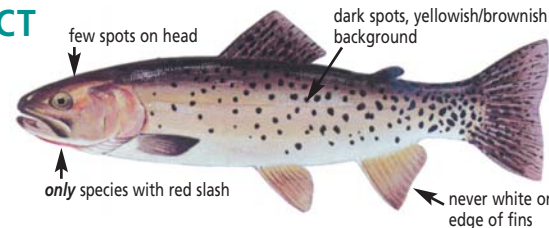
## NATIVES

### Cutthroat Trout—CT

**CATCH & RELEASE ONLY**



Widely distributed in many drainages

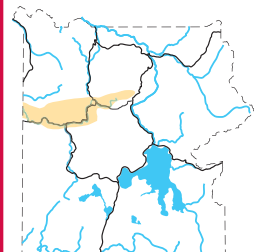


Three subspecies:  
Yellowstone, Westslope, Snake River finespotted  
All fish with red slash are considered cutthroat.

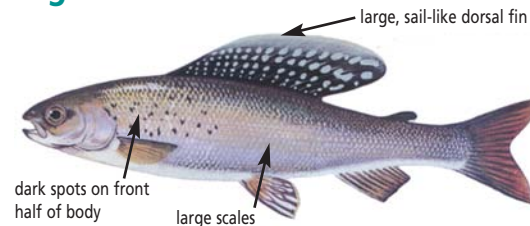
**If it has a red slash, put it back.**

### Fluvial Arctic Grayling—GY

**CATCH & RELEASE ONLY**

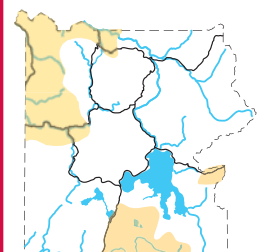


Distributed throughout Gibbon River, sometimes in Madison and Firehole rivers

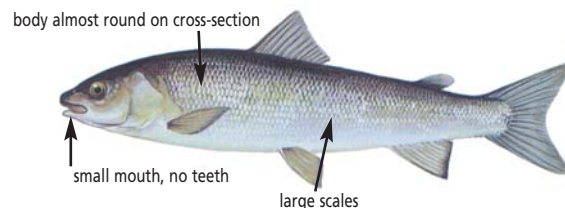


### Mountain Whitefish—MW

**CATCH & RELEASE ONLY**

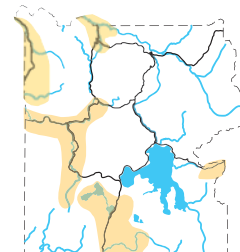


Distributed throughout Snake and Lewis rivers, other areas as noted in map

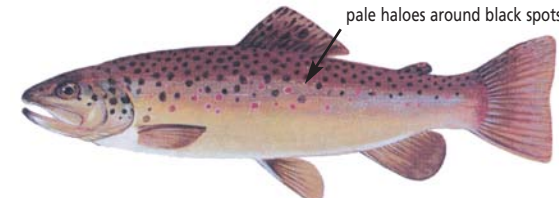


## NON-NATIVES

### Brown Trout—BN



Distributed in Gallatin, Gibbon, Firehole, Madison, Lewis, Snake, and Gardner rivers, and the Yellowstone River below Knowles Falls. Brown trout do not exist in Yellowstone Lake, Bechler or Falls rivers, and are not known to exist in the Yellowstone River system above Knowles Falls.



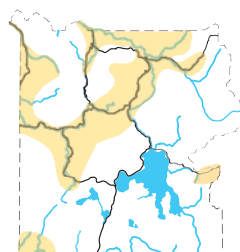
**Native Trout Conservation Area:**

5 fish any size in combination

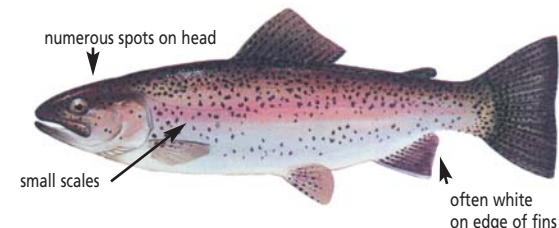
**Wild Trout Enhancement Area: CATCH AND RELEASE**

**EXCEPT** Lewis River System (Lewis Lake, Lewis Channel, and Shoshone Lake and tributaries) **TWO FISH** (only one fish of any species over 20"; all fish in possession must remain whole)

### Rainbow Trout—RT



Widely distributed due to historic stocking, however, rainbow trout do not exist in Yellowstone Lake, Yellowstone River above the Upper Falls, or the Snake River.



**Native Trout Conservation Area:**

5 fish any size in combination

**Wild Trout Enhancement Area: CATCH AND RELEASE**

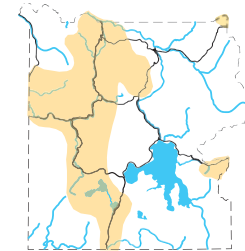
### A Note about Hybridized (genetically impure) Cutthroat Trout

In cutthroat trout waters where rainbow trout have been introduced, either by intentional, historic stocking or by invasion from a downstream source, the result has been a serious degradation of the cutthroat trout population through interbreeding of the two species. Presently, hybridized cutthroat trout exist throughout the Bechler, Falls, Gallatin, Gardner, and Lamar rivers, and the Yellowstone River below the Upper Falls.

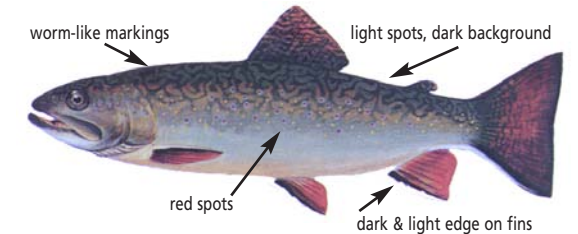
Cutthroat/rainbow trout hybrids will have characteristics (coloration and spotting patterns) that are consistent with the two species, making identification often difficult. In all cases, hybridized cutthroat trout that have any indication of a red/orange jaw slash are fully protected by catch-and-release regulation. **"If it has a red slash, put it back."**

## NON-NATIVES

### Brook Trout—BK



Widely distributed due to historic stocking, however, brook trout do not exist in Yellowstone Lake, Yellowstone River above the Upper Falls, or the Gallatin River.

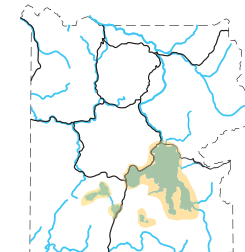


**Native Trout Conservation Area:**

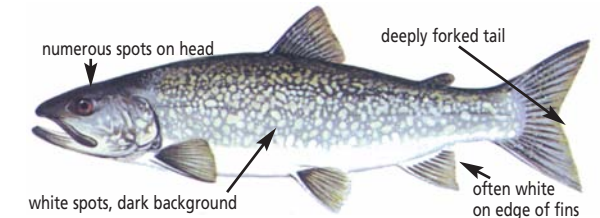
5 fish any size in combination

**Wild Trout Enhancement Area: 5 fish any size in combination**

### Lake Trout—LT



Distributed in Heart, Lewis, Shoshone, and Yellowstone Lakes.



**1. Yellowstone Lake, its tributaries, and the Yellowstone River:** All lake trout caught must be killed. If you do not want to keep the fish, puncture the air bladder and drop it into water as deep as possible.

**2. Heart Lake:** No size or possession limit. Do not discard lake trout carcasses along lake shore as they will attract bears.

**3. Lewis Lake, Lewis Channel, and Shoshone Lake and their tributaries:** FIVE FISH in combination (only one fish of any species over 20"; all fish in possession must remain whole).

You are allowed to use special gear to fish for lake trout, such as lead-core line and heavy (> 4 lb.) downrigger weights to allow targeting lake trout deep within the lake. **If you accidentally hook a cutthroat trout at great depths and bring it to the surface, handle it quickly and release it carefully, so it won't die.**

