



September 2015 activities assisting the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes on the Wind River Reservation, WY- US FWS Lander Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office

To meet our trust responsibilities of assisting the Tribes with sensible fish and wildlife conservation, we performed the following activities:

Conducted 2nd round of netting at Lake 17 in the Bobs Creek drainage to remove non-native lake trout for eventual re-establishment of native Yellowstone cutthroat trout. This is the second year of this effort.

In cooperation with Tribal F&G, set remote cameras and searched for wolves in the Washakie Park and St. Lawrence area in hopes of conducting a capture effort to radio-collar. Not sufficient sign of wolves in these areas to conduct trapping.

As part of the continuing international effort to restore native lake trout to the Great Lakes, FWS personnel from Lander, Colorado, Wisconsin and Michigan teamed up to spawn lake trout at Lewis Lake, Yellowstone National Park. Lewis Lake was originally stocked with a shallow water spawning strain of lake trout which have subsequently been lost from Lake Michigan. The spawned lake trout eggs will be used to replace the retiring brood stock housed at Saratoga National Fish Hatchery. The lake trout brood stock program at Saratoga NFH supplies the Great Lakes with 2.2 million lake trout eggs annually for their restoration efforts.

Provided environmental review at BIA's request for 1 new homesite, 2 septic and waterline replacements, and 4 road resurfacing projects totaling 1 mile of road.



Night capture of lake trout at Lewis Lake, Yellowstone NP.



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Acknowledgements: The Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office located in Lander, Wyoming, has assisted the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes with fisheries conservation since 1941 and wildlife conservation since 1975. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to assist the Tribes with conserving and enhancing their 2.2 million acres of beautiful lands, and the abundant fish and wildlife that reside there. Our special thanks go to the Tribal Fish and Game Department: Ben Snyder, Western Thayer, Art Lawson, Sherilyn Heba, Lynette Ferris and Darsyl Posey without whose cooperation we could not accomplish our mission.

October 5, 2015

October 2015 proposed activities:

In cooperation with Tribal F&G and Wyoming G&F, conduct sauger population survey on Little Wind River. This has been done annually for nearly the last 10 years.

In cooperation with Tribal F&G and Wyoming G&F, conduct trout survey of Popo Agie River from Wypo Bridge to Ruby's Ranch.

In cooperation with Trout Unlimited, conduct a fish movement project near Diversion Dam on the Big Wind River. Fish will have tracking transmitters implanted. Riverton and Ft. Washakie Middle Schoolers will Adopt-a-Fish and be involved in fish capture and tracking.

Conduct 3-day netting survey of native burbot at Bull Lake to assess abundance.

Stock Bull Lake (rainbow trout) and Dinwoody lakes (rainbow and Snake River cutthroat trout) to support recreational fishery. Fish are from the Jones Hole and Jackson National Fish Hatcheries.

Clip range cages near Dry Lakes, and on the north and south rims of Bull Lake to assess forage production and thus the amount available for wintering big game.

Remove entrained native fish within Dinwoody Canal during water shutdown.

Survey pronghorn antelope to assess the numbers of fawns produced and bucks available to hunters.

In cooperation with Tribal F&G, analyzed harvest of game reported by tribal hunters and summarized into 2014 Annual Harvest Report.

November 2015 proposed activities:

Attend the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team meeting (11/3) and Yellowstone Subcommittee meeting of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (11/3 1pm-5pm & 11/4 8a-12pm) at Teton Village, WY.

Track wolves using radio-collar signals for their locations.

Develop potential fish passage projects across western Wyoming for funding in FY2016.

In cooperation with the Tribal F&G and Wyoming G&F, install remote camera traps and bait sites for detection of wolverines in the Wind River and Owl Creek mountains.