



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

TO: Western Native Trout Initiative

FROM: Bryan Engelbert
Regional Aquatics Biologist
Northeast Region
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

DATE: 15 November 2019

SUBJECT: grant 2018-SG33 – Sheep Creek Fish Trap outreach

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (Division) received a Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI) small grant of \$3,000 for use in calendar year 2019 to develop, procure, and construct a kiosk complete with educational signing at the Sheep Creek Lake fish trap.

The Division was successful in completing all tasks by utilizing this funding source and matching it with a Utah Cut Slam grant of \$2,500, and covering a remaining value of approximately \$1,000 with internal funding.

During the course of the project, two signs were developed internally by the Division, printed by the Utah Correctional Industries sign shop, and an additional sign was utilized for the kiosk to create a three-panel effect. The first sign was dedicated to educating the public about the Sheep Creek Lake fish trap by discussing why the Division spawns Colorado River Cutthroat trout, how the fish trap works, how fish are stocked in Utah, and the current distribution of Colorado River Cutthroat trout in the State of Utah. The second developed sign was modeled after WNTI posters that have recently been published by other partner agencies, and was dedicated to educating the public about Colorado River Cutthroat trout. The second sign discusses in greater detail: fish adaptations, conservation status and regulations, where to find Colorado River Cutthroat trout, fishing tips, fish species identification tips, and proper angling and catch and release methods. We intend to utilize this sign template in other areas for public awareness and education regarding Colorado River Cutthroat trout. The third sign was incorporated to educate the public about the specific angling regulations that exist at Sheep Creek Lake.

The kiosk was contracted out for design and construction, and built adjacent to the fish trap. We elected to go with a heavy duty log constructed structure over a cheaper plastic structure due to the intensive weather patterns on site, as well as much better public appreciation for a more intricate structure.

Old and fading signs were removed and replaced elsewhere on the premises; fading signs included an old Aquatic Invasive Species sign, an old Sheep Creek Lake angling regulations sign, and a whirling disease educational sign.



The sign kiosk was completed September 2019. Angling and public presence at the Sheep Creek Lake fish trap is highest in June and July and September. We have received tremendous amounts of positive public feedback regarding the structure despite limited public presence at the time of this report. We are excited to have the signs on display during next year's spawning operation to better assist us in outreach and informing the public about the care, management, and use of these resources. This sign will represent a positive outlook for native trout management across the west.