

EFFECTS OF LAKE TROUT PRESENCE AND LAKE MORPHOMETRY ON THE RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF ADFLUVIAL BULL TROUT IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK, MONTANA

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The relative abundance of adfluvial bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) was compared between lakes invaded by and not invaded by nonnative lake trout (*S. namaycush*). Bull trout catch per unit effort (C/f) and lake trout presence were determined by experimental gill nets set overnight in 14 lakes in Glacier National Park, Montana. Bull trout C/f was greater and more variable in lakes not invaded by lake trout (2.5 ± 3.1 bull trout per net night; mean $\pm$ one standard deviation) than in lakes invaded by lake trout (0.6 ± 0.7). Bull trout C/f was related to lake trout presence and lake surface area. Bull trout C/f remained relatively low and consistent among lakes invaded by lake trout; however, bull trout C/f increased with increasing lake surface area among lakes not invaded by lake trout. These data indicate that invasion by nonnative lake trout may result in maintenance of bull trout populations at numbers below that which may be possible in lakes not invaded by lake trout.