

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COLORADO FIELD OFFICE 730 SIMMS STREET ROOM 292 GOLDEN, COLORADO 80401

IN REPLY REFER TO:

6 July 1989

To: Greenback Cutthroat Trout Recovery Team

Subject: Stocking of 9,221 greenbacks at 6.35 inches in length (1,020 lbs) into Rocky Mountain National Park waters, 30 June 1989.

Dear Team Members:

1,

The long awaited transfer of the 1988 hatchery year class of greenbacks started their journey out of the Bluewater Hatchery the afternoon of 29 June 1989. The greenbacks were transported to Sheridan Wyoming by the Montana Game and Fish Department, and transferred to a CDOW truck by early evening of the same day. Unfortunately, the CDOW truck lost its two-speed axle, and required the use of the Leadville NFH truck that was on standby at Ft. Collins for just such an emergency.

The greenbacks were transferred to the Leadville NFH truck near Kaycee Wy at 0500 30 June, and arrived at Rocky Mountain National Park seven hours later. By using a helicopter, eighty percent of the greenbacks were stocked out of the Leadville NFH truck at Wild Basin by 1330. The remaining greenbacks were transferred to a small FWS truck, for additional helicopter stocking out of Beaver Meadows, and roadside plants. All greenback were stocked by 1730.

The 1,020 pounds of greenbacks were stocked into RMNP lakes using a helicopter fire bucket equipped with an "R" size bottle of oxygen and a ceramic stone, with up to 200 pounds of fish carried per load (2 lbs of fish/gallon water at 2 lpm flow of oxygen). The operation was extremely efficient since the pilot could stock the fish, refill with water at the lake, and arrive at the fish truck ready for fish. Despite the fact that the fish were on trucks for over 24 hours, and transferred up to five times, less than 1% of the fish were lost in transit. Needless to say, the Bluewater hatchery did a super job of rearing the fish, with the greenbacks shipped in excellent condition.

Special recognition should be given to Mr. Gary Shaver, Manager Bluewater State Hatchery for the excellent quality of greenbacks reared by his staff, and the all night trucker award goes to Kaymeirer, Thomas and Alcorn for getting the greenbacks to Colorado. Helicopter time for this operation was paid for by Rocky Mountain National Park, and FWE Colorado State Office.

This operation was memorable in the fact that several times more numbers and pounds of greenbacks were stocked by helicopter on 30 June 1989, than were known to remain within Colorado in 1973. Although memorable, the back country stocking of over 9,000 greenbacks exceeding six inches in length should not be considered on an annual basis.

Sincerely Bruce D. Rosenlund

CC: Fisheries FWE, Endangered Species Bluewater SFH Leadville NFH CDOW RMNP

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# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COLORADO FIELD OFFICE 730 SIMMS STREET ROOM 292 GOLDEN, COLORADO 80401

IN REPLY REFER TO:

17 July 1989

Dr. Robert Behnke Colorado State University Ft. Collins, Colorado

Subject: Rocky Mountain National Park Cutthroat Trout Identification, 1988.

Dear Dr. Behnke:

Thank you for your report and letter on the cutthroats we collected during 1988. I sent your bill in for payment the day I received your bill (I'm better at paying bills than writing letters), and you should have your money by the end of July.

**Poudre Pass Creek.** This fish marked Poudre Pass Creek was taken from the Grand Ditch by the Ranger Station. I'm not sure where the six YOY came from, except from the stomach of the fish, since George Fischer only recorded "1 fish collected".

Haynack Lake, Onahu Creek and Columbine Creek. Too bad that the Haynack Lake and Onahu Creek fish did not prove to be pure. Some of these fish look very good in the wild. The Columbine Creek fish were a pleasant surprise, although I'm not sure what can be done with them right now.

Estes Park Hatchery. My wife found the Leadville records for the years in the early 1900's. I only saw one letter from the Estes Park Hatchery. The letter was complaining about the Leadville hatchery shipping short on a egg shipment, but the letter does not indicate the species. The letter has a nice picture of the Estes Park Hatchery, and I'm not sure if they saved the letter for the letterhead, or for the bitching about the short egg shipment. It may be possible to trace the eggs shipment to species in one of the Leadville reports. **History of Stocking.** As you have discussed previously, there is a need to get someone to research the old Leadville records that has a background and interest in the subject. Mr. Douglas Alcord, the current Asst. Manager at Leadville is interested in obtaining a M.S. degree, and may be interested in working with the Leadville records. Mr. Alcorn is doing a great job at Leadville, and will probably contact you about doing using the stocking history as a possible Masters program.

Eagle Lake and Experimental Stockings. Stocking Eagle Lake would be difficult, since it has been fishless so long, and is not adjacent to any current restoration projects. However, we currently have two experimental programs (Big Crystal and Odessa Lakes) that follow your suggestion. These lakes are just upstream of current restoration projects, but were unable to maintain reproducing populations with "other" cutthroats. So far we have not seen any reproduction, but it is early in the process. Please see the 1988 RMNP Report for more details. These lakes may take additional stocking of our current hatchery line, since the Hunters and Poudre line is just starting to produce fish for stocking purposes.

South Fork Poudre River. We are currently collecting eggs from wild fish for a new Colorado based greenback broodstock. We collected about 800 eggs from Como Creek and over 3,600 eggs from Hunters Creek. Hunters Creek is very impressive for a high elevation stream, with one section having over 80 pounds of fish per acre. We started collecting eggs from the Poudre last week, but the greenbacks were just starting to run eggs (1/6 females ripe > 180 mm) on 12 July. We plan to collect more eggs on 20 July.

Currently the eggs from Como Creek, Bear lake, Hunters Creek and the Poudre River are being held at the Bellvue Hatchery. It will be interesting to see if the Poudre fish hatch early at Bellvue.

Thanks again for your report.

Sincerely, Bur huch

Lily L. - greenbrekin

personally determined Blanca's elevation as 14,475 feet, by far the highest in Colorado.

When the whole affair was over, the U.S. Geological Survey failed to give Blanca any better than fourth place among Colorado's peaks, and Bennett abandoned his efforts once and for all. Interestingly enough, however, on the latest 7½ ' guadrangle of Blanca Peak, published in 1967, Blanca's elevation of 14,345 feet is printed as an unchecked elevation, the only such occurrence for any Colorado Fourteener mapped by the U.S. Geological Survey — just one more confusing detail in the saga of Blanca Peak's much-disputed elevation.

## THE ROUTES

Lake Como Climbers who climb in the Sierra Blanca via the traditional routes usually have one of two basic photos among their records of the climb — either a "this-is-where-we-had-towalk-from-in-the-middle-of-a-desert" photo or a "this-is-wherethe-jeep-broke-down" photo. The Lake Como road is undoubtedly one of the roughest in the state. Its large boulders and sharp ledges have claimed the tires, U-joints, and transmissions of countless jeeps and would-be jeeps driven by even those worthy of a C. W. McCall recounting of their exploits. On Colorado 150, either three miles north of U.S. 160 or 14 miles south of Great Sand Dunes National Monument, turn east on a dirt road running almost directly northeast toward Blanca's summit. After two miles, the decision is usually made as to which type of picture the group will cherish, and the road switchbacks the remaining four and one-half miles up first Chokecherry and then Holbrook Canyons to Lake Como (11,740 feet). The lake has some private cabins around it, and camping is best done about a half-mile farther east up the valley amid some pines at timberline beneath the awesome hunk of Little Bear.

For Blanca and Ellingwood, continue northeast on a pack trail past Crater Lake for two miles and then angle east up the imposing but relatively easy west face of Blanca. For the traverse to Ellingwood, those who are willing to forego the scenic ridge route, which drops sharply off the peaks' north faces, find it easier to descend several hundred feet below the connecting saddle and then scramble up Ellingwood's southeast slopes. Both climbs are relatively easy while affording impressive views, particularly of Little Bear.

Lake Como to Blanca, Ellingwood traverse and return: 5 miles; 3,200 feet.

For Little Bear, climb directly south up the prominent couloir, tricky in late spring snow, to Little Bear's west ridge. Follow the ridge east until a sharp cut interrupts, dropping a steep couloir north into Como Basin. At the cut, leave the ridge and contour south, maintaining elevation and following a hit-and-miss assortment of cairns about a quarter of a mile to a narrow couloir which climbs directly to Little Bear's summit, 600 feet above. The couloir is extremely steep, filled with much loose rock, and is almost certain to have snow and ice in it, even late in the season. Use extreme caution. Once on top, the Little Bear-Blanca ridge is one of the classics, but should be attempted only by experienced parties when weather permits at least three hours on the tightrope.

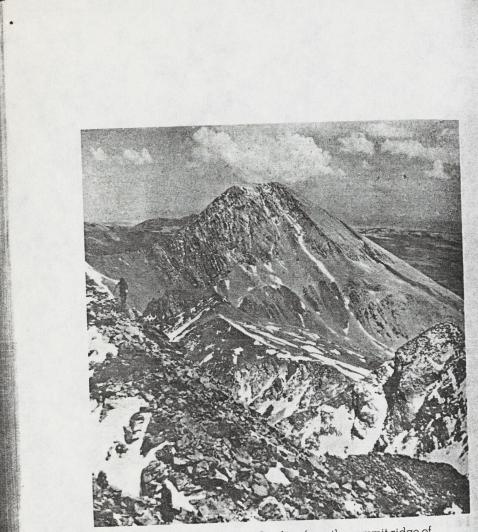
Lake Como to Little Bear: 1 mile, 2,300 feet, but *tough* climbing!

Little Bear may also be climbed from Lake Como by a couloir and series of ledges leading to the Blanca ridge just north of the summit. Ellingwood and Blanca offer technical north-face routes, while Blanca's southeast face from the Winchell Lakes offers high adventure. These routes must contend with the uncertainty of access through the private lands north of Fort Garland.

# **Mount Lindsey**

## 14,042 feet (42nd Highest)

Rising only two miles east of well-known Blanca Peak, Mount Lindsey nonetheless retains an individuality in form and history guite apart from the Blanca Massif. While Blanca and its nearer satellites are angular and have some outstanding rock faces, Mount Lindsey is a comparatively smooth, massive cone, rising from the high mountain valleys in a single summit with few intervening foothills. In addition, while Blanca, Little Bear, and Ellingwood Peaks have histories associated with many great climbers, Mount Lindsey was most familiar to primarily one man



Looking east to Mount Lindsey from the summit ridge of Ellingwood—Gary Koontz photo.

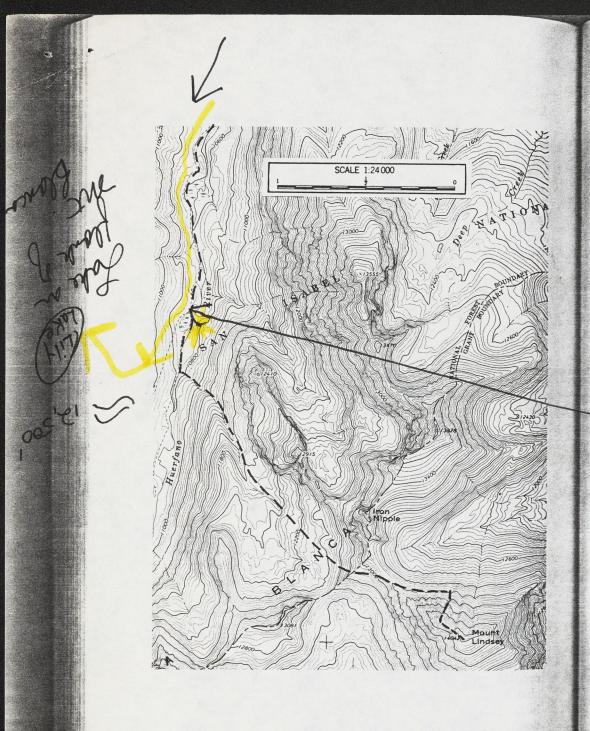
who held a deep love for the peak — that man was Malcolm Lindsey.

Mount Lindsey is highly visible from nearby valleys, and it was therefore natural that the peak would become a landmark for early settlers. Showing a remarkable lack of imagination, some observant pioneer noted the absence of trees on much of the peak and christened it "Old Baldy." When members of the Hayden Survey noted Old Baldy on their June 19, 1875, ascent of Blanca, they made no suggestions for changing the name, nor did they decide that an ascent of Old Baldy was necessary for their purposes. However, the peak was climbed by Wheeler men later in the year — the first official ascent. Missing a golden opportunity, the Wheeler Survey also failed to suggest a substitute name for Old Baldy, and the name remained for 78 more years.

In the years that followed, Old Baldy was one of the least climbed of all Colorado's Fourteeners, and it slumbered in relative obscurity until the arrival of Malcolm Lindsey. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1880 but grew up in Trinidad. There he became acquainted with the slopes of the peak that would one day bear his name, and he developed a genuine love for Old Baldy. In 1906, he was admitted to the Colorado Bar and subsequently practiced law in a number of the state's communities. He became legal counsel to the City of Denver in 1925 and then served as City Attorney from 1937 to 1947. Lindsey took an active part in community affairs, and he was a member of the Sons of The American Revolution and a lay leader in the Episcopal Church for 48 years.

Malcolm Lindsey joined the Colorado Mountain Club in 1922 and became a vital force in that organization's junior activities; he led many groups of teenagers to the summit of Old Baldy. Lindsey served very ably on the State Board of Directors of the Colorado Mountain Club for many years, and was President from 1943–1946. It was with great sadness that members of the Colorado Mountain Club and the citizens of Denver noted his death on November 12, 1951.

In remembrance of Lindsey's years of service to the Colorado Mountain Club, members of that organization submitted a proposal to the United States Board of Geographic Names to change the name of Old Baldy to "Mount Malcolm Lindsey." On July 30, 1953, the name change was approved, and the designation of "Old Baldy" became the superbly appropriate "Mount Lindsey." Formal dedication ceremonies were held on July 4,



1954, when 64 climbers reached the summit and 40 others participated in the ceremonies at a marker on Highway 160, all in commemoration of a great Fourteener, and more importantly, a great Coloradoan.

## THE ROUTES

Huerfano River Because private land surrounds most of Mount Lindsey, only one approach is available, unless one possesses the daring to follow the long and difficult Blanca ridge to the peak. From Gardner, drive southwest on Colorado 69 for eight miles to Redwing. Redwing may also be reached from U.S. 160 atop La Veta Pass via the Pass Creek road. When approaching Redwing, take care to continue on the main road southwest and DO NOT turn left and take the fork which leads directly past the Redwing Post Office. Continue beyond Redwing for nine miles to the Singing River Ranch and the end of the road for most passenger cars driven by sane drivers. Pickups and four-wheel drives can continue through four miles of the ranch, taking care to close gates and not to camp on private land, to the National Forest boundary and two miles beyond to the end of the road (10,640 feet). A number of the campsites dot the valley.

From the trailhead, hike south one mile on the trail to just beyond (less than a quarter of a mile) the Lily Lake turnoff. Here **Side** a cairn-marked trail (hard to find on the valley floor) leaves the main trail and climbs southeast (left) along the southern edge of a prominent talus field. The trail climbs up a narrow valley and **Trail** emerges onto broad flats at the valley's head. Gain the ridge running northeast from the saddle at the valley's head at any point between the saddle and where Mount Lindsey rises behind the ridge. Lindsey is connected to this ridge by a ridge running northwest-southeast. This northwest ridge of Lindsey offers some tricky rock work; the standard cairned route climbs southeast up a scree couloir before turning south up rock slabs to gain the summit ridge just northwest of the summit.

Trailhead to summit: 3 miles; 3,400 feet.

The Huerfano River Valley also offers access to Blanca's superb north face and to climbs of Ellingwood Peak, Iron Nipple, and California Peak.

-all introduced - last year - gives RMNP hanging basit 3 Columbine Crt. Colo. R. Nannits L. 7 11 excellent pop - formerly stocked, ho Dresm L: 11 8 fish found 1978 mon fish 1987 Coumpine look lik greenbouten 148, 171, 178, 186, 203 mm budly foded - blesched teeth 4 5 2 5 .9 spots - pleurities size, 7/2+ 8/2 7/2 8/2 7/2 19 20 19 20 19 unniform over sider body (locostrine type + post roked)-Spotting uniform 20.00 5 specific suggestion hererozyg-bypoid 47, 44, 46, 43, 42 178 186 188 183. 179 - rotten inside Dream 2 -> 11 000 (now have i) others typical greatback 256, 255, 256, 154, 233, 235, 290, 162 8 16 8 16 6 4 10 7 8 16 8 16 6 4 10 7 22 18 20 20 23 22 21 19 45 48 42, 45 43 47 206 187 185 190 177 173 186 199 Hutchiney NANNITA 289, 297, 206, 211, 225, 230, 147. mixture greenback ~ Coli R. Fording. 1 1 10 1 8 2 73+ 8/1+ 8/14+ 7/3 7/3 12 20 20 22 20 20 10 10 Osll st 3MArch 3 2.2tonger !! Followed 50, 48 48 eqqu 193 449 47 44 172 184 full 33. 35, 34, 43, 25 35 1. 1 Orange Eggs in gun Zirplics

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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COLORADO FIELD OFFICE 730 SIMMS STREET ROOM 292 GOLDEN, COLORADO 80401

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Dr. Behnke Colorado State University

Subject: Fish Samples from Rocky Mountain National Park

Dr. Dr. Behnke:

Could you please analyze the following samples

Area

- Columbine Cr
- Haynack Lake
- Onahu Cr, below Julian Lake
- ~ The Loch (lake)
- Glass Lake
- Fall River above Cascade Falls
- La Poudre Pass Creek below the bridge at La Poudre Pass Ranger Station

Drainage

- Colorado R.
- Colorado R.

Colorado R.

- S. Platte
- S. Platte
- S. Platte
- S. Platte

No hurry on these, but could use results by May. Please let me know how much this will cost.

Dr Brunke: Sovir I missel you. Sovir I found much more Haven't found much more Haven't found but haven't but Velleev fils, but haven't had much time Break.

Sincerely,

Bruce D. Rosenlund

male

- all introduced mast = many intral it-p. why + RB (JIDMills) Hervitres por beausen: )- -La Paudre Pars Cot - native? - fill- prob. pleaniticus N=1 Grand Ditch - 1968. all - who city -4.5 willow Cric - spot --N=2 Onaho Gel Julia L - not uniform 238 - 273 - RB - on head colopation post-raken = = N=27all R. - sew post rok greenback x pleurit and NEYLoch - 3 greenbod - 1; le ons 1 (10 mgeot) - 317 ma - REacott potta highert scale, limit caece but not most with line 211 valeer 21 rskor po well deury! 1号 媛 大 学 晋

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18 19 20/21

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20	7	32
2/12(3)	12	33
21	3	
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19	4.4.3	

·7(3) 13(5) 20 6(2) 20 6(2) 20 (M) 3)

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443 44 F7/1786 45 46/178 43 45 46/178 167 48/182 42 168

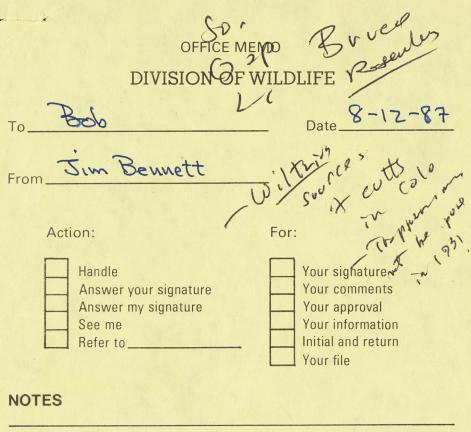
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Carbonste Weekly Chronicle (Lesdville) Jone 17, 1901.

- Trout stocked in Big & Little Laramie Nivers by Dr. Finfrock in early 1870's from Dole Crks (greenbook) - spread throughout drainages by 1880's

Mth. whitefish, Prosopium willismsoni - Native only to white x yompo river drainages (Green R. Tributories) - introduced into Poudre & Rosning Fork-Ŧ Somplete Stere Raymond - Ramboops jet WincherLeps





the data Here's a summory of anita generated on t lales cuttheats DOW-A-F-12-80

Meristics used in purity analysis of Colorado River cutthroat trout collected from Williamson Lake #3, Inyo National Forest, California, July 22, 1987

TL	Sex	Scales <sup>a</sup>	Pyloric	Basibranchial
<u>(mm)</u>			caeca	teeth
246	F	167+	37	2
222	М	183	36	17
237	F	181	37	19
267	М	189	34	16
240	F	196	42	12
229	М	172	40	16
173	F	188	31	14
257	F	229	46	28
225		207		20
158	М	167	39	17
250	F	188	46	. 22
278	F	201	34	16
276	F	192	36	32
262	F	219	42	20
269	M	195	40	31
251	М		38	3
273	М	196	36	34
255	F	209	38	23
281	F	195	42	11
Range		167-229	31-46	2-34
Mean		193	38.6	18.6

a counted two rows above the lateral line

-origins - wiltzius Feel lyst St Creede - Haypman - Vellowstone -

- stocked ?? - Nat. Report, - but su pt-- density low - food - Ants - midgs - may-ocodis X

RMNP Rosenlund - July 22, 57 "Ten Later Park" Varley 1980 - A history of fish stocking activities in . Yellowstone National Park between 1881 and 1950. - " 1979. Record of egg chipments from yellowstone fishes, 1914-1855. 1890 - D.C. Booth Spourfish hateling - explose took eggs - 1901 - station on Little Through Col 189 9-1911 - West Thumb streams trapped - 1912, hatday at Lake. 1940 - 43,455,900 eggs Jfm. 14 streams \*Berides yellowstron L., Troot L. + Buck L. = Sods Botte station . begin 1910 - Then sunusly 1929-50 - mixed of Xellowstrue equ x shipped for. Lake - 1934 - Tout L. to be rainbow lake - & 1937-50 shipments for . That L. = hybride B.C. Hosseker - <u>Coloi</u> - Uis. hatch. (<u>Creede</u> - (1912, 13) - 1931 - 1953 co. 1/2 mil. 14r private individuals, cluber (wisman) - St. hatchenies - Del Nurte 1930, Denver - 1912-15, 1938-53 -Estes Park 9:17 iThom son - 1912 - 400,000 es I mil. T/Yr, RMNP - 194 0 : 1.5 mil, 1942: 700,000 Yellowstow data Leadville Biz Thompon 1912-17 -> 1mil. 1922-23 1921, 29, 32, 1934-36, 1938-43, 1945, 1947-53 Wiltzius

Emerald L. 1390 hybrin. 13077-07 Outdeer Libs plots -rsinbaui

R.R. transpersion

RMNP intern project - vecores - dotos, source or 122

Ten Laker Park - 'July 22,87 - spotting - variable, some Bear a- oto4-110 1 typical hybrid colorsta veriche - most wio color 306,309 317 N=9 295, 303,312,,320, 331,338 teeth 5=0, 1, 2, 3,4 plouniti long well developed 3. 5912 distinct for, 3th lake Scales 40, 43, 44, 45 40-45 (42,3) 4041,42, 45 -4 41 = 6 91<del>60</del> 44 9 136 1 Coecz 30 - 38 (34) no ants Pikes Peak (7 laker) chironomids Dophuis Clepneman used fish culture since 1913 (purbury witten - 1912 - to Lesdville Bezer Cole. Arlc. R. prot barren hat 19th cent. stags could hatel - stall greanback brilliout colory Yellowstone stocking 1909-1970 sangle - LKIAS rakers caeca 5 color 42-48 162-205 - 01122 W/ Teath (7-21 32-5) 19,4 41,6 44.2 181.2

Mid Hutcleson Nº 3 262, 329, 336 mm -L repred. ? - prob. not 18,20,22 nokons - Look good -4.8,50,55 196 209 214 scalor 4,6,9 teets Trifth L. RMNP Suly 21, 87 N = 8 212, 237, 274, 282, 294, 304, 356, 383 mm TC Spots - some lite theteloin L. most legge - blotter- clob - like on pedard - sut, an all over showe abeliev rakers 19/10, 19/8, 19/6, 21/10, 21/6, 22/11, 21/10, 21/10 19-27(20.4) + 6-11(9) 5/5 5/3teeth 0, 134, 4, 5, 7, 14 - most microscopic, imbedded. scoles 45,54,48 47,44,53,48 187 197 198 190 182 194 205-44-54 (48.4) 182-205 (193) ( ) e c 2 - 3\$, 39, 38, 38, 37, 42, 37, 237 34-42(37.5) -> ants. - dipters × great fat around race - 3 & ports post spanning - & immotive eggs - specied? -no unspend eggs - eway other year - such far! - d-leis pt.

2 Henret Trace sources of mossie pop. -- Estor Ple, sportsmen el-b - Improv Are. - Hatch 1907 - Years stocked - Source? Ester Park Hetch? Outside St. baunteri - Yellowstonel -- 1912-13 Crecke to B. C. Herroleus - (Wiltzm) Rie Graye cotto ,? hybride recaynized both colon V wich teeth 22 Svand Mers. 1 spiti n com Heypress Lk. Trappers - mainly pleuriticus Seven L. Piker Per - RAANP -intern lib Vorleyrole - + Ester Horch ABJTKACT - Three specific Mich totals jue grenbail prof grip due Two sion wastron " " The lake prof out me and the prof out me Fifth L. may be pure within, but of more our row, Turk I." ful also mixed cott ancert hybrid my raindow Tr. - Trappors - Williamen c.

IDCKS Pork 9-28(4) 0 320mm - plup- greenback-site could be sici 2312 - enacistal (postspanny?) 2312 - more pleuritius 39-295 - more pl. . but spots darge 7 317 Bear 8 309 R. 9 306 D-338-s(im) P:-variable 3-303 plump ) P:-variable 0-331 - hybrid-1110

- fly stock - Piley Prels - Trapper - Heypvers

rakers longer better developed teeth for, chiromonic, Presider? 30 (2) <u>6</u> 13 <u>42</u> 12/1 178 Q Dephnie 34-3 12/1 45 12/1 180 O Spouried of :31 G 4-13 4-16

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1.75

114.00

## DEPARTMENT OF FISHERY AND WILDLIFE BIOLOGY

MEMORANDUM 3 - 8:12 TRETH 47 13/4 14 190 73/4 14 190 713/4 14 190 of spent tester 37 onts-pocked - no "/ Isnual 2 adul P 216 Dipterz - midos  $\left(\begin{array}{c} 6 \\ 7 \\ 13 \\ 6 \\ 13 \\ 6 \\ 4 \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} 447 \\ 182 \\$ -msyfri - cedding Z 2 cenci. larvae DE 14 14 194 351 Sutu, chivevenid, 13 6 imbedded 194 351 Sutu, chivevenid, 2 green bockswimme 2 green bockswimmer. P extreme fat around (D) 3 1 4 0 ( 48 1 37 csecs - spined? - immeture roe -F greet moss 21 10 chivonomids - larve Zog my soult 4 mm. 1 enoral 11ben

Mid Hitcheson - Ang \$7. 50/214 7/13 - 200 - 336 mm - biggind, even detrik. -329 m mout could red i - siprove suit, +262 m eren - 7/11 (not not deveon IF - anly 3 in outs no reprod, 2, 2.

4,6,9 teeth

### GREENBACK CUTTHROAT TROUT FROM UPPER HUTCHESON LAKE, RMNP Robert Behnke October, 1986

#### ABSTRACT

Based on 27 specimens, the cutthroat trout population found in Upper Hutcheson Lake is identified as a pure greenback cutthroat trout, <u>Salmo</u> <u>clarki</u> <u>stomias</u>. I assume this population is derived from an early transplant from the St. Vrain River drainage. This sample is more "extreme" in their taxonomic characters than the 1985 sample from Hunter's Creek. This may be due to the "founder effect' as no evidence of a hybrid influence was detected.

#### IDENTIFICATION

The sample of 27 specimens from 196 to 298 mm TK from Upper Hutcheson Lake was collected July 24, 1986 by Bruce Rosenlund, Colo. Field Office, USFWS. The specimens exhibit an "exaggerated" greenback trout appearance with very large spots distributed over the body, by which they sharply differ from all other subspecies of cutthroat trout. Table 1 lists the key diagnostic characters of the sample with previous data from other pure populations of the South Platte basin.

Table 1. Character analysis.

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	Gillrakers	Pyloric caeca	Scales above 1.1. and in lat. ser.	Basibranchial teeth
U. Hutcheson L.	₿ - 25	29-48	48-57 (52.8)	3-18
N=27	(21.3)	(36.6)	194-214(206.2)	(9.4)
Hunter's Crk.	18-22	27-35	48-57(51.6)	7-12
N=7	(19.9)	(31.6)	187-212(195.7)	(8.9)
Como Crk.	17-21	24-42	46-53(48.4)	1/18 no teeth
N=18	(19.0)	(29.4)	174-205(189.3)	17w/3-12(6.0)
Little So. Poudre	e 19-23	27-50	53-60(56.7)	2-17
N=18	(21.3)	(35.2)	205-236(216.5)	(11.1)

Compared with Hunter's Creek fish, the Upper Hutcheson Lake sample has more gillrakers, caeca, and scales. These differences are probably due to the "founder effect", whereby a new population initiated from a few transplanted founders, carry a skewed representation of the parental genotype. As discussed by Hickman and Behnke (1979), based on comparisons of known parental and transplanted populations of cutthroat trout, differences up to about 10% may be found in mean values of meristic characters. The Upper Hutcheson Lake sample has about 15% more pyloric caeca (36.6 vs. 31.6), but the Hunter's Creek sample is small (N=7) and it is not likely that the Hunter's Creek population and the Upper Hutcheson Lake Population were derived from precisely the same parental population in the St. Vrain Drainage.

The higher scale counts in the Upper Hutcheson Lake trout may be due, in part, to colder waters and slower development during early life (elevation 11,200ft.) • The high scale counts of 194-214(206) in the lateral series and 48-57(53) above the lateral line are exaggerated in the "greenback direction"; no other subspecies averages more than 50 scales above the lateral line or more than 200 in the lateral series.

Stocking records indicate that Upper Hutcheson Lake was stocked with 1200, 1-2 inch cutthroat trout in 1952 and 3000, 1-2 inch cutthroat trout in 1964. The orgin of the cutthroat trout used for stocking park waters in 1952 and 1964 is not known. The 1952 stocking may have been with Yellowstone Lake cutthroat, S. c. bouvieri, and the 1964 stocking with Colorado River cutthroat, S. c. pleuriticus based on propagation history. The higher numbers of gillrakers and pyloric caeca in the

Upper Hutcheson Lake trout might be attributable to a Yellowstone cutthroat influence except for the fact that the spotting pattern and scale counts show no sign of intermediacy between greenback and Yellowstone trout, but are exaggerated in the green back direction. Also, the bright spawning coloration of the Upper Hutcheson fish is typical of greenback and basibranchial teeth number is similar to Hunter's Creek greenback (Yellowstone cutthroat  $\bar{X}=22$ ). A Colorado River cutthroat trout influence would result in smaller spots with concentrated or caudal peduncle. The spotting pattern of the spots Hutcheson Lake fish might be termed "super" greenback. A Hybrid influence from no other subspecies of cutthroat trout (or rainbow trout) can reasonably explain the characteristics possessed by the Upper Hutcheson Lake population. Thus, I assume that the 1952 and 1964 stockings did not survive to hybridize with the established population of greenback trout, or the hybrid influence was so minimal that it is undetectable (it is possible that the 1952 and 1964 stockings were made in Lower or Middle Hutcheson lakes and not Upper Hutcheson).

As with the Hunter's Creek population, I assume that Upper Hutcheson Lake was stocked long ago with fish transplanted from the St. Vrain River (both drainages are tributary to the North Fork St. Vrain), at a time when the St. Vrain had pure greenback trout.

A USFWS survey of Hutcheson Lakes was made in August, 1963. A flourishing trout population was found at that time. The 1963 report mentions the examination of 8 specimens from 8-12 inches in good condition with "fat surrounding the visceral organs". The 1986 sample also represents trout from about 8-12 inches (196 to 298mm TL), and the specimens are in good condition with considerable fat around the pyloric caeca. There are 8 specimens from 196 to 230mm (perhaps II +), 16 specimens from 238 to 273mm (III + ?), and 3 specimens of 281, 294, and 298mm (IV + ?).

In contrast to the typical monotonous forage base in most high elevation lakes (very low invertebrate diversity), Upper Hutcheson Lake, probably due to an extensive littoral area, has a diverse insect fauna (based on stomach content examination and also mentioned in 1963 USFWS report).

The discovery of an "extreme" or "exaggerated" form of greenback trout in Upper Hutcheson Lake is a significant positive event toward the goal of preservation and expansion of genetic diversity in <u>S. c. stomias</u>. As such, this population should be used to extablish new populations in Middle and Lower Hutcheson lakes after these waters are treated to eliminate present hybrid populations.

LITERATURE CITED

Hickman, T. J., and R. J. Behnke. 1979. Discovery of the original Pyramid Lake cutthroat trout Prog. Fish Cult. 41(3) : 135-137.

Carbonste Chronicle (Leadville). July 8, 1901 Grand Merz 2/cr - mont fill of trout - long wed by uter, but longert lake - Grand Island L. was fishless -lauts 1882 - Eggleston, 2 trapper, stocked it. ( from whom i?) - Lesdville 1859-Nor. - remp bldgr. set up \*- first eggs for. "pune eastern brook Ment"-Made agreement of Dr Lows - get his fish - (yellow pris) E.M. Hr-Robinson first supti of Lecadinilla Expects long Justity ypeur the "> The thet. - Laws for cliced



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE COLORADO FIELD OFFICE 730 SIMMS STREET ROOM 292 GOLDEN, COLORADO 80401

IN REPLY REFER TO:

January 10, 1989

MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Stevens, Research Biologist Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, CO

From: Colorado Fish and Wildlife Assistance Project Leader, Golden, CO

Subject: Stocking in Rocky Mountain National Park

While working on the Leadville Centennial, I found some interesting items pertaining to RMNP.

- 1. Memorandum by Superintendent Toll, 20 Sept. 1923. Good description of park fisheries and request for additional stocking.
- 2. Report of fish stocking, 1925. Good account of stocking Nakoni and east inlet.
- 3. Fish stocking, Estes Park G&F Ass. 1922-23. Shows stocking of several sites within RMNP, including upper Big Thompson.
- 4. Fish stocking date unknown but in with 1920's material. Shows stocking of brook trout from the Leadville NFH into several park waters (very difficult to read).

Also talks about 200,000 "native" trout stocked into Forest Canyon above Gage Lakes.

5. Letter from Leadville NFH Superintendent to Superintendent RMNP. Interesting to note that by 1923 all "native" eggs are shipped in from Yellowstone Park".

Do you have any 1988 creel census data? See you at the Greenback Team meeting.

June

cc: Behnke

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF FISHERIES

### Leadville, Colo.

November 17, 1923

Superintendent, Lat'l. Fark Service, Denver, Colo.

Dear ir. Toll:

223

In reply to your of the 15th I would say that you have taken the matter of secureing rainbow trout eggs up in the proper manner.

So far I have been unable to secure any field station in Colorado for collecting rainbow eggs, last year we had 100,000 shipped in from Oregon, which did not even make a dent in the number of applications we had for rainbows.

We will collect about 6,000,000 brook eggs this fall, our native eggs are all shipped in from Yellowstone mark.

I may be in Denver in a hort time and if possible will call on you and get better acquainted.

..espectfully,

O H Van Atta C. H. Van Atta

Supt.

JEFFCO FIELD OFFICE 730 SIMMS STREET, ROOM 150A GOLDEN, CO 80401

January 3, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ALL TENANTS 730 SIMMS STREET

FROM:

THOMAS J. DIBERNARDO GSA Buildings Manager

Than Miked

SUBJECT: CAR LICENSE PLATES

As a courtesy to the building tenants, this office keeps a listing of car license plates for all employees located at the Lakewood Office Plaza, 730 Simms Street, Golden, Colorado. Since we are the Government management office for this building, tenants will usually come to our office to report car headlights left on, cars that may have slid into other cars on ice in the parking lot, etc. Therefore, this listing may save some unwanted car problems when finishing work.

We are therefore asking each office to consolidate a listing of employee's car license plates and submit this listing to us so we may contact tentants in case of emergency.

This is strictly for helping you, the tenants, and will be kept confidential.

Thank you for your cooperation.



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REPORT OF ESTES PARE FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

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Bept. 29, 1922.

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The Director, Matisnal Park Service, Eashington, D. C.

Dear Sirs

Heretefere, the efforts to keep the lakes and streams of the Rocky Meuniain Matienal Fark stocked with trout have been conducted to a very large extent by individuals and agencies other than the Matienal Park Service. This matter was brought to Mr. Mather's attention, when he was here last April, and he said at that time that he believed the Matienal Park Service should use every practicable method to assist in obtaining an adequate supply of fish.

There is located four miles from Estas Park village a fish hatchery, operated by the State of Colorade. This hatchery has a capasity of approximately one million eggs. Fish from this hatchery are distributed to Fish and Game Associations located in Estas Parky and in near-by texns, such as Leveland and Longment. The Estes Park Fish and Game Association is usually assigned the largest number of fish, and this Association has the decision as to the lakes and streams to be stocked. The Estes Park Game and Fish Association usually place from two thirds to three fourths of their fish in the Recky Houstain National Park, and the remainder in lakes and streams to the east of the Park.

The Estes Fark Game and Fish Association is semposed of about sixty residents of Estes Park, who take the konnest interest in the betterment of fishing and the protection of game. The dues of the Association are five dellars per year. This gives the Association about \$300 income. This meney is spent either in providing equipment for the transportation of fish, or in the construction of smail mursing pends, in which the fish may be kept, until they are more mature, or for other beneficial objects, in line with the Association's work.

Various individuals of the Association have filed with the 50. 5. Bureau of Fisheries, applications for trout, within the past two syears. In 1921, about 20,000 fish were received from this source, and during the present year, something less than 200,000 fish have been received from Federal hatcheries.

In view of the fact that the Matlanal Park severs 397 square miles, and that some 200,000 visitors came to the Park yearly, it is believed that a considerablo increase should be made in the number of fish placed in the streams. At the present time, smething less than one million fish are being placed in the lakes and streams in the Park each year. It is believed that this number should be increased to two or three million fish, per year, is order to extend the area, as well as improve the fishing.

I would appreciate it, if you would take this matter up with the U. S. Bursau of Fisheries, and let me know the desired method of procedure, for obtaining additional fish. My suggestion would be that the work of the Extes Park Game and Fish Association be continued without change, but that an additional supply oftrout be shipped to the Recky Keuntain National Park. I shall be glad to file any applications that they may wish, if they will send the sense blank forms. The lakes and streams of the Park vary in elevation from 7,500 to timberline, at 11,500 feet, and there are a number of lakes at 12,000 feet or mere which de er could produce a good supply of fish. At present, the varicties of fish in the lakes and streams of the Park are spetted mative trout, rainbow trout, and Eastern break trout. Good use can be and a of these varieties of trout that may be available, or of such additional varieties as the Bureau of Fisheries may recommend for conditions in this Park.

There are maky streams and lakes in the higher elevations of the Fark, which have never been steeked, and are without troat, since many cascades and water-fails prevent the fish from reaching these higher levels. A few such lakes have been stocked, and have produced excellent results. It would be greatly to the benefit of the Park, and add greatly to the enjoynent of its visitore, if additional lakes could be stocked, and thus add to the area in which good fishing may be obtained. By enlarging the area, the fishermen may be distributed more evenly throughout the Park, instead of being congested in a few streams in the vicinity of Estes Park willage.

Any suggestions which you may have, regarding the part which the Matisnal Park Service should take in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

VORY BRELY YOURS.

Reger W. Toll. Superintentent.

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# Memorandum

To : Everyone concerned

Date : August 25, 1987

From : Department of Fish and Game - Phil Pister

Subject: Successful Reintroduction of Colorado River Cuthroat Trout into Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado.

During the week of August 17-21, 1987, personnel representing Sequoia and Kings Canyon and Rocky Mountain National Parks, the fish and wildlife agencies of Colorado and California, the Inyo National Forest, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from Sacramento and Golden, Colorado, joined forces in effecting a transfer of Colorado River cutthroat trout, <u>Salmo clarki pleuriticus</u>, from the Williamson Lakes of California's High Sierra back to a barren drainage in Rocky Mountain N.P. The Williamson Lakes Colorado River cutthroat were planted there from a special shipment of eggs made to Mt. Whitney State Fish Hatchery in 1931 and have remained free of contamination from other trout groups since that time. They have therefore brought back to Colorado perhaps the purest existing group of its native trout. The Williamson Lakes lie within the Inyo National Forest's Bighorn Sheep Zoological Area, a part of the John Muir Wilderness. The area is closed to public access.

Working in a carefully coordinated project involving horses, mules, helicopters, hatchery trucks, and fixed wing aircraft, the specially selected interagency team hiked in over 12,000 foot Shepherd Pass to a camp at 11,760 foot elevation Williamson Lake No. 3 on August 17 and, during the next two days, collected and prepared for shipment approximately 300 trout. On August 20 these fish were flown by National Park Service helicopter to Independence, where they were placed aboard a specially equipped Mt. Whitney Hatchery truck and driven to Bishop Airport.

At Bishop, the trout were loaded aboard the California Department of Fish and Game Beechcraft King Air, which had been equipped with special tanks for the trip to Colorado. The trout left the Williamson Lakes by 0730 and not long thereafter were placed aboard the Beechcraft for the 3-hour flight to Kremmling Airport located high in the Rockies adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park. At this point they were trucked to a waiting N.P.S. Llama helicopter which took them to their new home. Accompanying the trout aboard the various flights was Bruce Rosenlund, a member of the interagency team and a fish culturist and biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Golden. Colorado. Coordinating activities from the California end was Phil Pister, DFG fishery biologist at Bishop. Elapsed time between the Williamson Lakes and "the old country" in Rocky Mountain National Park was less than eight hours, including an unexpected hour-long road construction delay enroute to Rocky Mountain N.P.

Because each of you played a special and vital role in this highly important venture, I want you to know how grateful I am for your efforts. Even after spending 35 years in this business, I never cease to be impressed by the extreme versatility and competence of those in the field of natural resource conservation. We are bound together by a great common cause!

I am in the process of preparing an article covering this project, possibly for publication in Fisheries, a bulletin of the American Fisheries Society. Another possibility would be one of the publications of the National Park Service. Any suggestions you might have would be welcome. The article will be rather lengthy, because I feel it should begin with an episode which occurred in 1953 when as a newly-hired biologist with California, I was taken aside by Lee Talbot, one of the old-timers at Mt. Whitney Hatchery and one of two surviving members of the 1931 planting team. His words to me were prophetic, and are verified by a tape I made in 1974, shortly before his death: "There's something I want you to know about a special bunch of fish from Colorado that we planted in the Williamson Lakes back in 1931. I have a hunch them little fellers may be valuable to somebody someday." And the story goes on from there.

Thanks again.

E. P. Pister Associate Fishery Biologist

Bob: This had to be one of the most traumatic experiences of my Career '





Department of Fish and Game 407 West Line Street Bishop, California 93514

Willizmson Lakes

Dr. Robert Behnke Dept. of Fishery & Wildlife Biology Colorado State Univ. Ft. Collins, CO 80523