

GYCC Fish Subcommittee

Chair: Dave Fogle

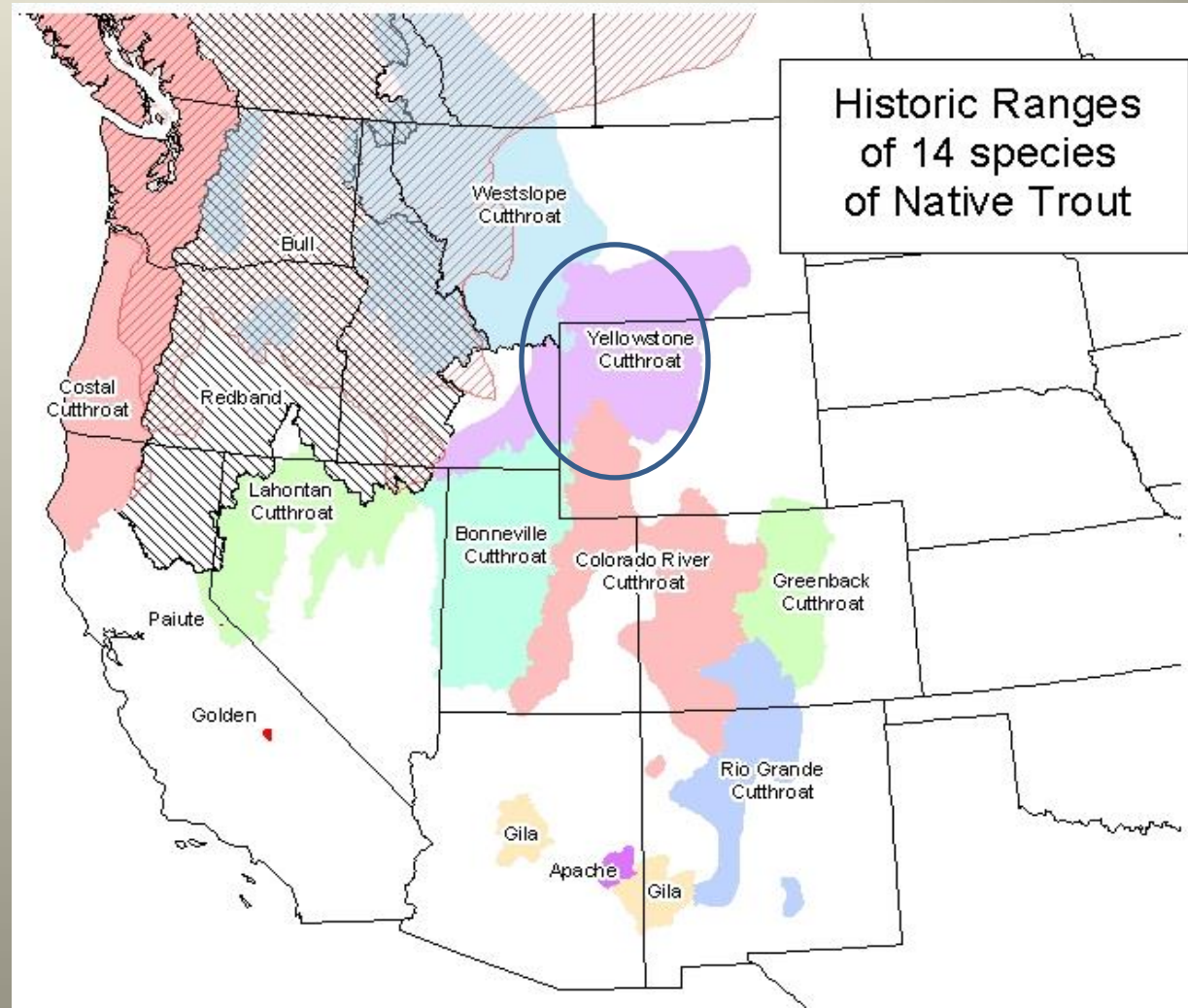


Mission: is to work cooperatively to protect, monitor, and restore native fishes throughout the greater Yellowstone Area (GYA)

Western Native Fish

14 Native Western Trout

Artic Grayling



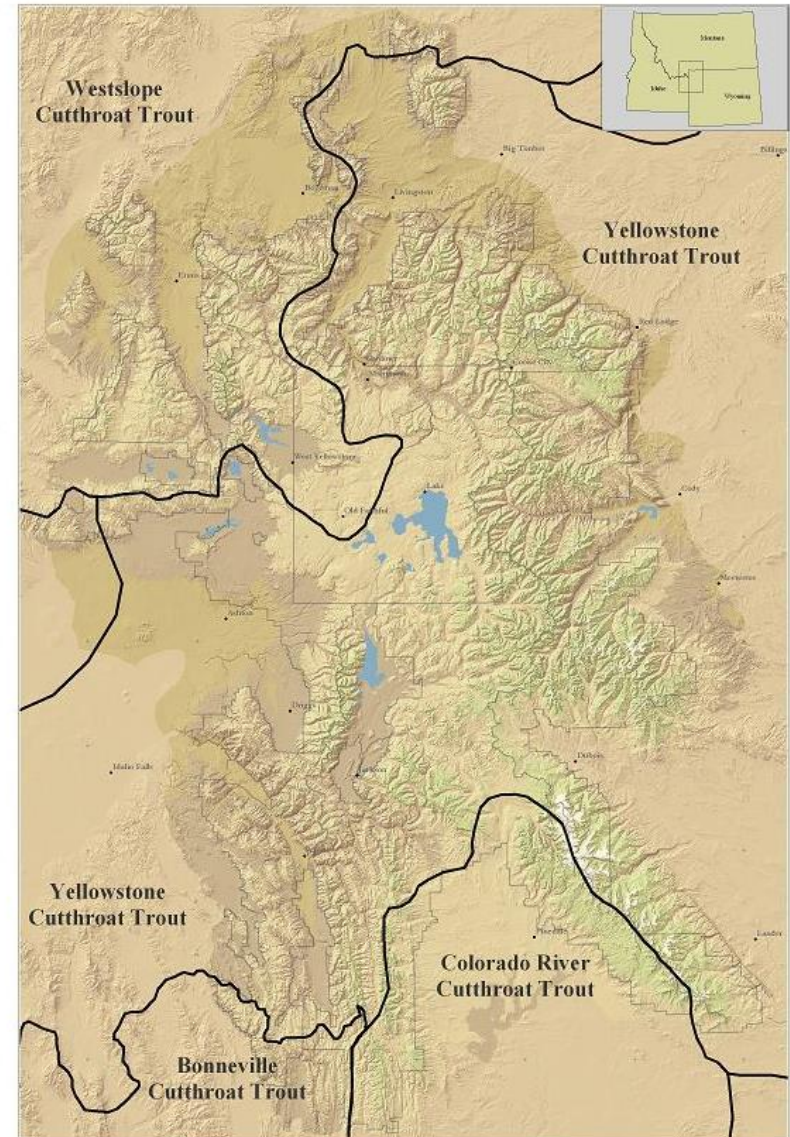
Greater Yellowstone Native Fish

Four Distinct Cutthroat Trout

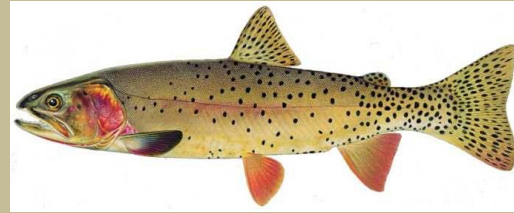
- Yellowstone
- Westslope
- Colorado
- Bonneville

Arctic Grayling

The Greater Yellowstone Area: Cutthroat Trout Distribution



Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout

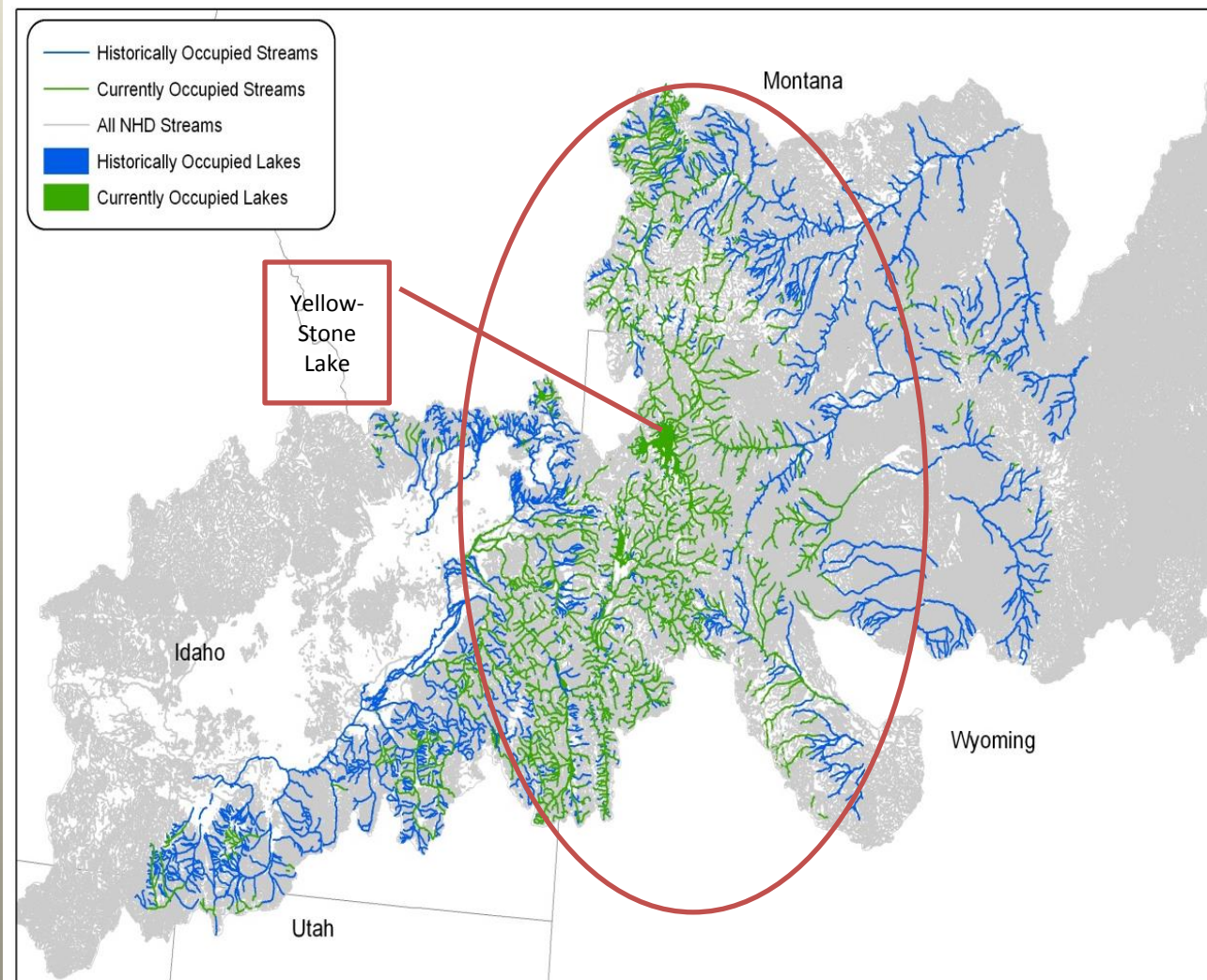


Largest GYA Range of the 4 Cutthroat Trout

Threats:

- Non-native Trout
- Habitat Loss
- Habitat Degradation
- Disease

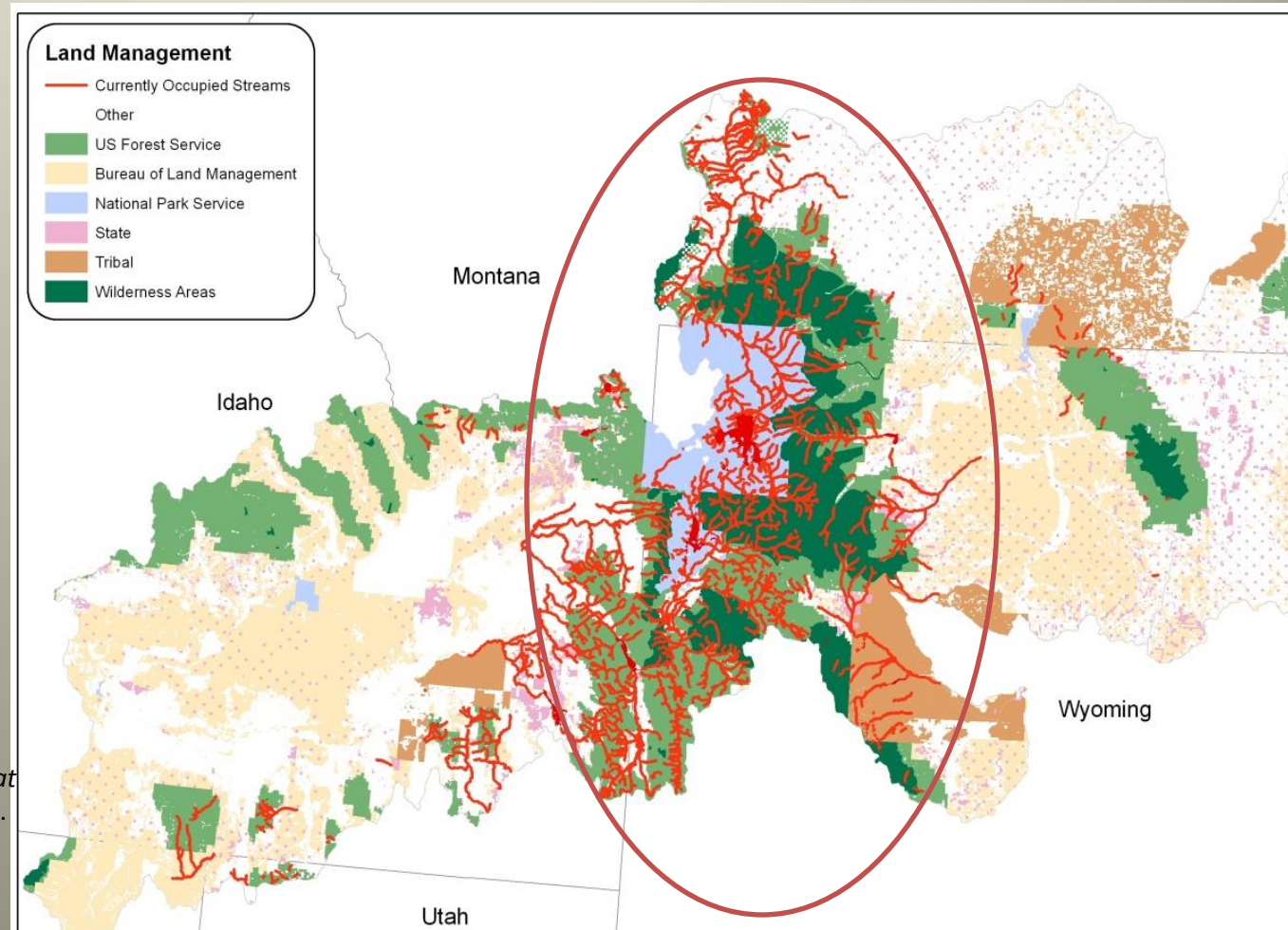
About 42% of historic habitat currently occupied.



Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout

GYA a stronghold for remaining populations

**Most
Conservation
Populations
are in GYA and
are on public
lands.**

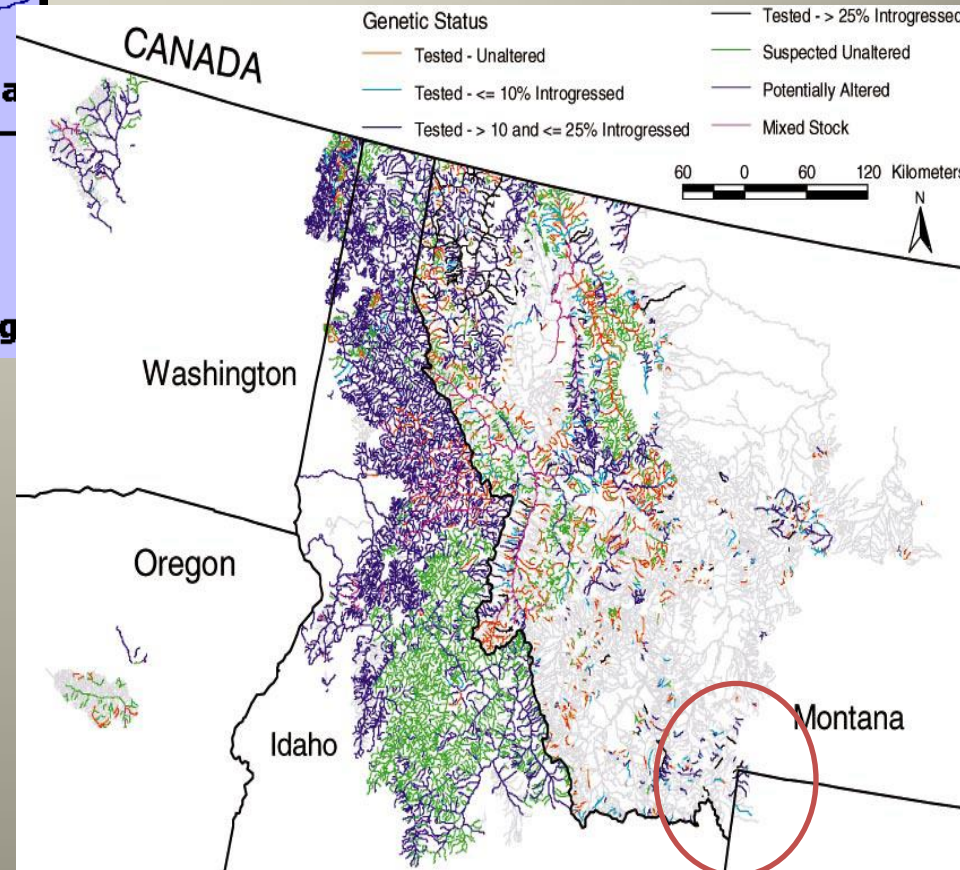
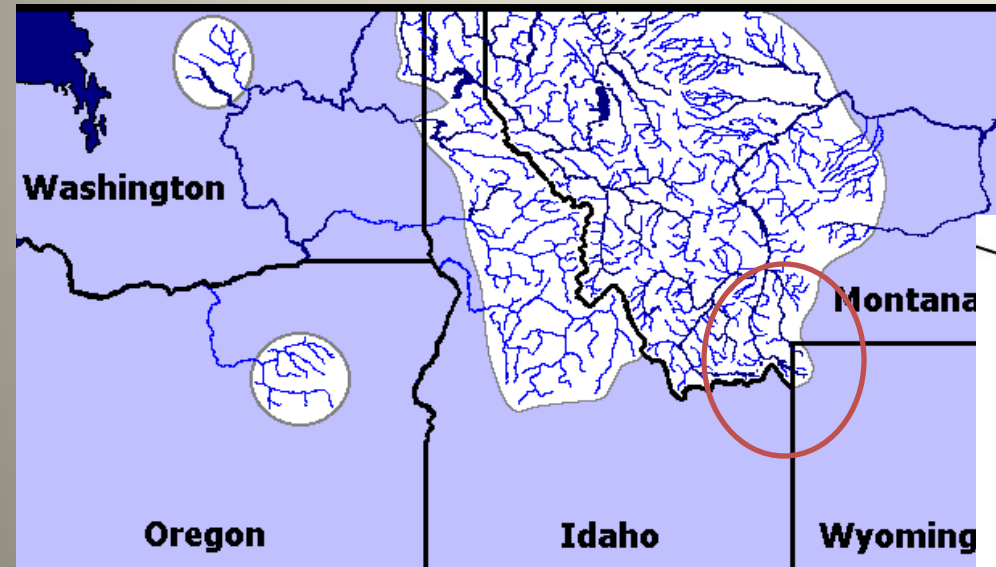


Source: May, Bruce and Shannon E Albeke
*Range-Wide Status of Yellowstone Cutthroat
Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii bouvieri*): 2006.*

Westslope Cutthroat Trout



Upper Missouri Drainages in GYA



Historic Westslope Occurrence per USFWS

About 58% of historic habitat currently occupied (colored streams).

Bradley B Shepard, May BE, Urie W. *Status and Conservation of Westslope Cutthroat Trout within the Western United States*

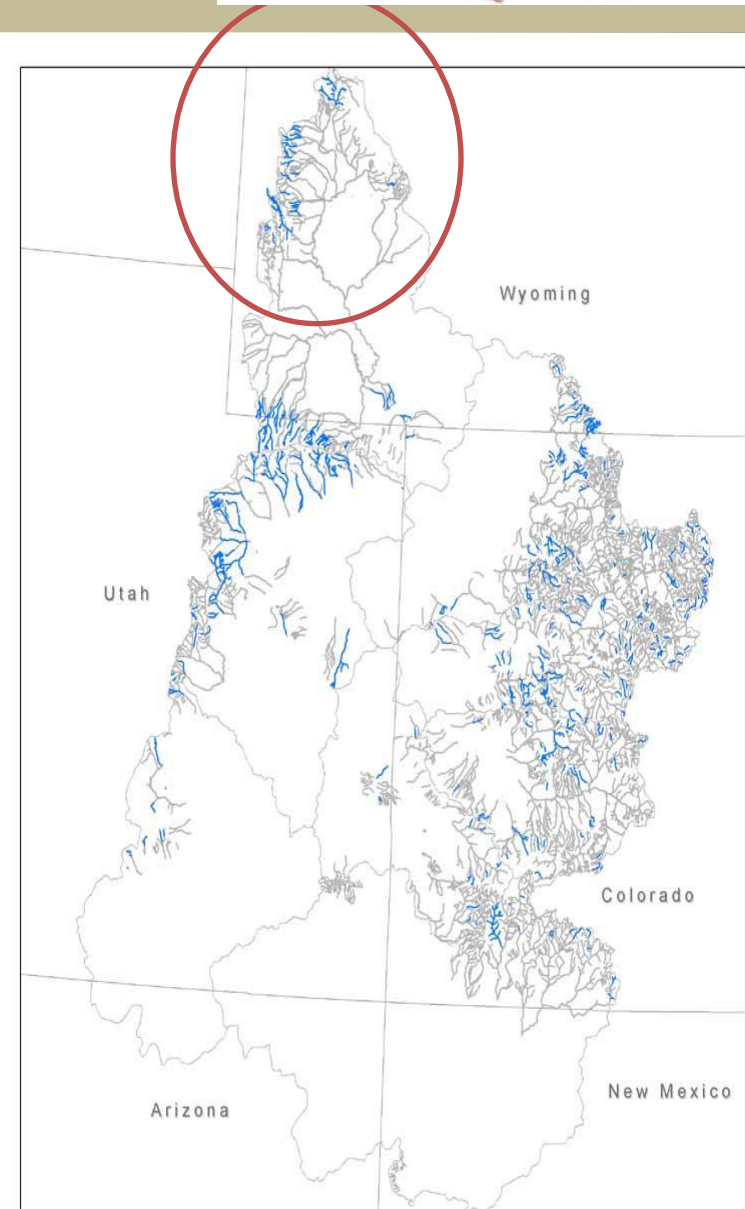
Colorado Cutthroat Trout



Upper Green River Drainage in GYA

About 14% of historic
habitat is currently
occupied.

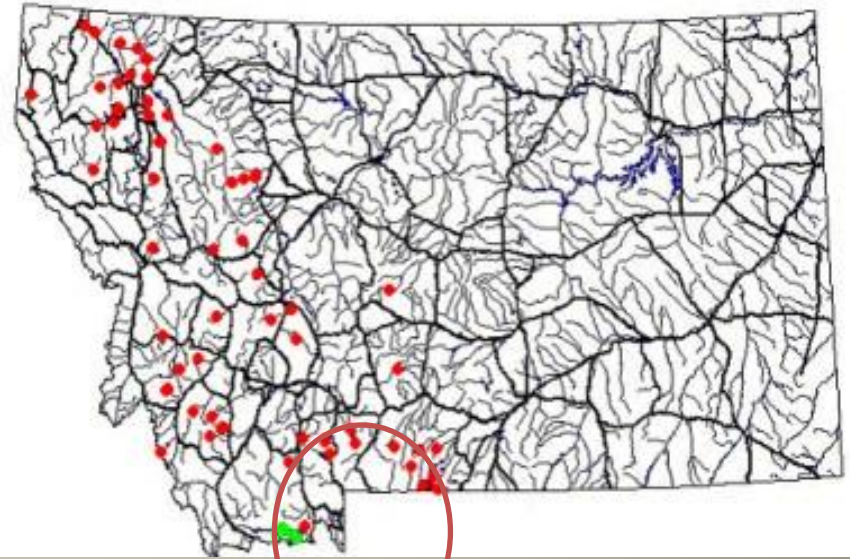
Map: Current (blue) and
historical (gray) range of
Colorado River cutthroat trout



Arctic Grayling



Historic distribution (gold line) and current distribution (blue line) of fluvial Arctic grayling in Montana.



Distribution of adfluvial grayling population in Montana (red) and Red Rock Lakes population (green)

The grayling of Red Rock Lakes are the only known native lacustrine population in the lower 48 states.

Native Fish Working Groups

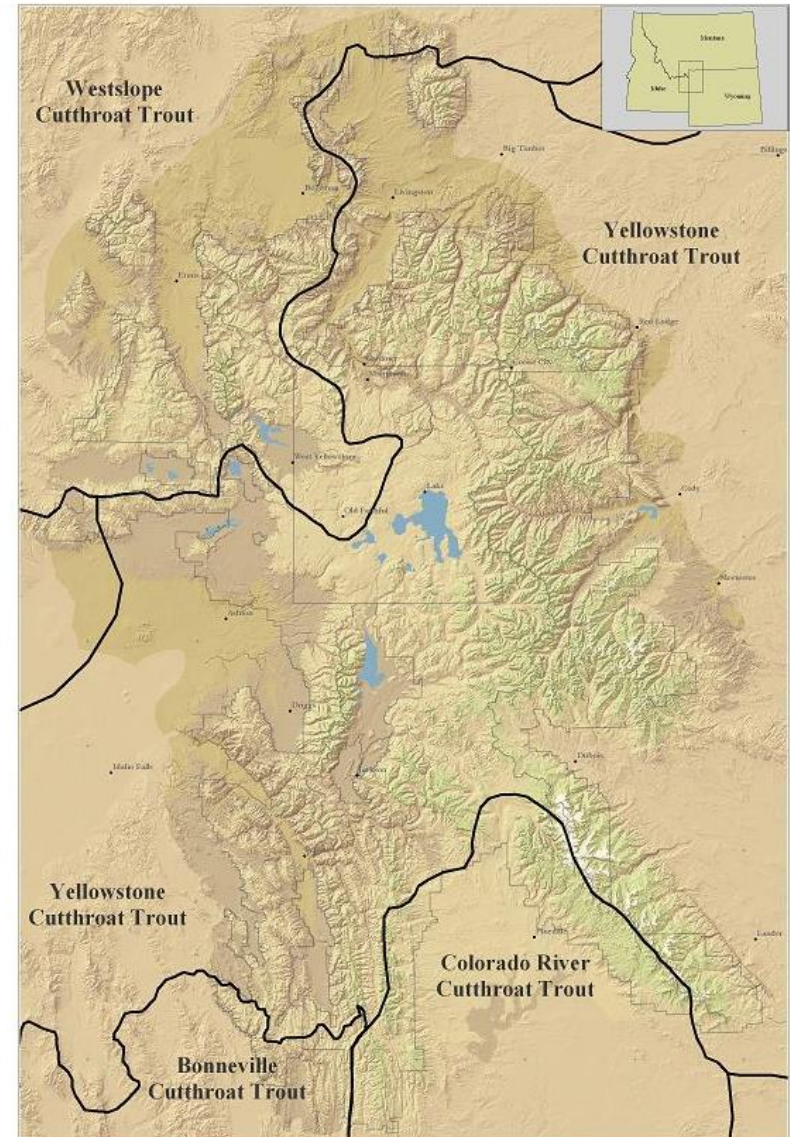
**Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout
Interstate Working Group**

**Bonneville Cutthroat Trout
Interstate Working Group**

**Colorado Cutthroat Trout
Interstate Working Group**

Arctic Grayling Working Group

The Greater Yellowstone Area: Cutthroat Trout Distribution



YCT Prioritization Process

Purpose: Prioritize YCT Conservation Efforts for Funding

1. Prioritize River Basins
2. Prioritize Populations (Tiers 1-3 based on representation, resilience, redundancy, and opportunity)
3. Prioritize Threats
4. Prioritize Projects



GYCC Native Fish Committee

Formed to address fisheries GYA wide

Primarily Coordinate GYCC Projects

**More detailed fisheries coordination
continues in the individual Working Groups**

Membership: GYCC Agency Staff

Chair: Dave Fogle, Bridger-Teton NF

Membership Accomplishments

- Inventory and Monitoring
- Mechanical and Chemical Nonnative Fish Removal
- Fish Barrier Construction
- Aquatic Organism Passage





Harris Creek Westslope cutthroat trout (WCT)

- Investigation of WCT distribution and genetic status to avoid potential WCT listing under ESA



Electrofishing Harris Creek for WCT fin clips for genetic analysis

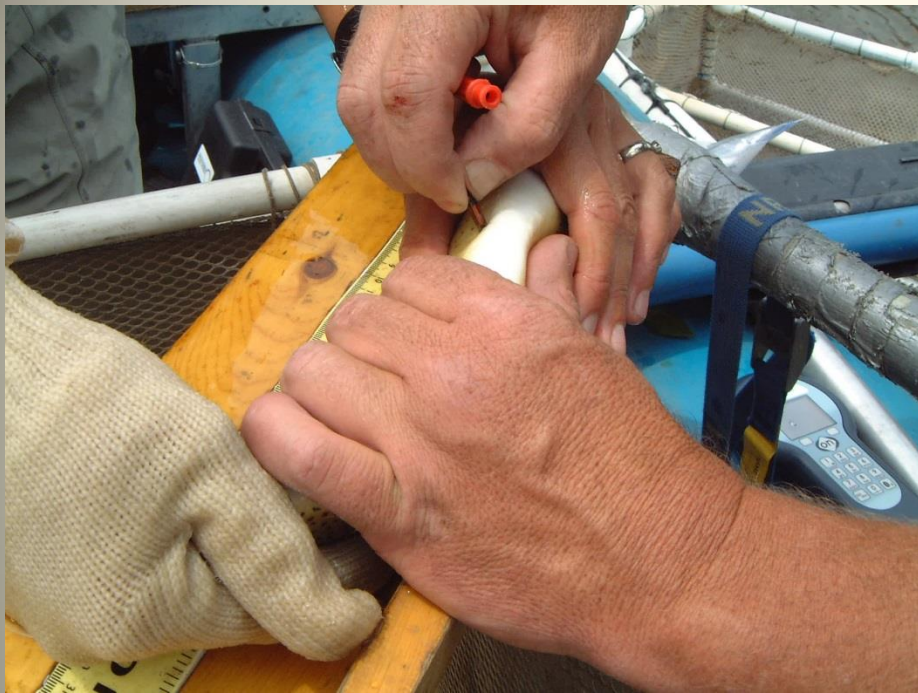
Over 50 fin clips (total) from Ramshorn and Harris creeks were sent to the Wild Trout and Salmon Genetics Lab at the University of Montana in Missoula in December 2013. Results of this analysis are expected by late spring early summer 2015. GYA dollars were utilized to fund technicians.

Greenhorn Creek fish barrier, constructed 2012



GYCC funded technicians on Madison District:

- Ruby Creek Nonnative Fish Removal
- Greenhorn Creek drainage piscicide treatment, tributary to the Ruby River.



Salt River Snake River cutthroat trout (SRC)

- Monitoring cutthroat trout populations is a priority on the Bridger-Teton National Forest:
 - The Greys River Ranger District seasonal employee assists the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) in conducting population estimates using pit tags on the Salt River.

Current Initiatives

- Upper Boulder River Population Restoration (Gallatin NF)
- Stream Temperature Monitoring to assess the potential influence of climate change on native salmonids

