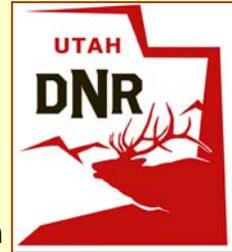


Kolob Reservoir

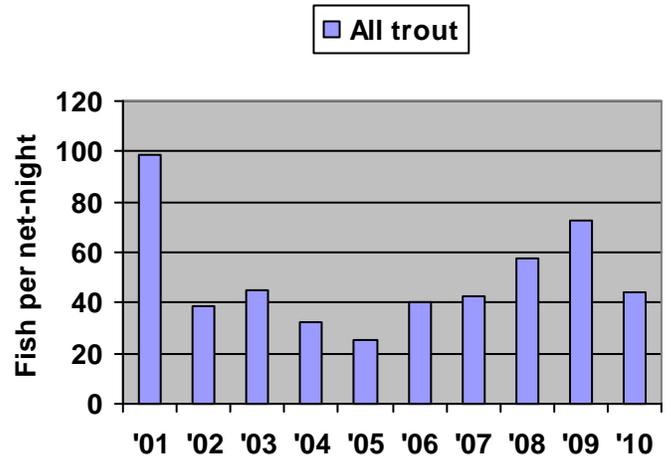
Summary of the 2010 Survey



Mike Ottenbacher, Regional Aquatics Manager, Southern Region

Trend gill netting has been conducted annually at Kolob Reservoir for many years to monitor the trout population. Nets are set at standard locations and catches are compared with previous years to evaluate changes in stocking and regulations. In recent years, samples have also been collected for disease testing in conjunction with the development of a brood stock of Colorado River cutthroat trout at the Reservoir. The annual monitoring is also a part of a new management plan recently initiated at Kolob

Objectives of the sport fish management plans in effect at Kolob Reservoir since the late 1990's have included maintaining quality-sized trout, and utilizing natural reproduction of wild trout in Kolob Creek. Natural recruitment, limited stocking of fingerling fish, and regulations which limit angler harvest have maintained relatively high densities of trout, as measured by trend netting. In fact, there may have been years where fish were too numerous, possibly affecting growth and average size. The netting catch of trout remained relatively high (44 trout per net net-night) in 2010 which suggests that anglers should continue to see good fishing at Kolob for the foreseeable future.



Based on past stocking and sampling, it appears that cutthroat trout have been more successful than rainbow trout in spawning and providing a source of wild fish to Kolob Reservoir. The relatively high numbers of rainbow trout in the 2010 netting catch at Kolob were likely the result of stocking 5,000 rainbow fingerlings in 2007. Colorado River cutthroat trout have also been stocked in recent years in order to establish a wild brood stock of that subspecies at the reservoir. Rainbow trout will remain an important part of the Kolob Reservoir sport fishery.

