

Elk Creek Palisades Reservoir, Idaho, Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Passage Project

State(s): Idaho

Managing Agency/Organization: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Type of Organization: Federal Government

Project Status: Completed

Project type: WNTI Project

Project action(s): Fish passage, In-stream and riparian habitat, Genetic diversity

Trout species benefitted: Yellowstone Cutthroat

Passage and restoration of connectivity is a priority to restoring Yellowstone cutthroat trout (YCT) in the Snake River system. The Interagency Yellowstone MOA identifies the need to secure and enhance conservation populations. Restoring access for the migratory life history pattern of YCT will diversify the Elk Creek population, increasing their resiliency.

The FS Road 058 crossing of Elk Creek is a barrier to upstream-migrating fish from Palisades Reservoir and Bear Creek because it is perched and undersized. Eight miles of habitat are blocked. Perched culvert and replace with a bottomless arch culvert.

Objectives:

- Restore access for migratory Yellowstone cutthroat trout to approximately 8 miles of habitat and further ensure the long term viability of this population.

Partners:

- Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game

Project cost: \$50,000.00

Start Date: 01/01/2008 **Completion Date:** 12/31/2009