WESTERN NATIVE TROUT CHALLENGE

DECEMBER 2020

Fun Trout Challenge Facts

A total of 639 people have registered for the Challenge

California leads the states in registrants, followed by Utah, Arizona, and Oregon

Of the 639 registrants, 13% are female and 87% are male

A total of 77 individuals have completed one or more levels of the Challenge

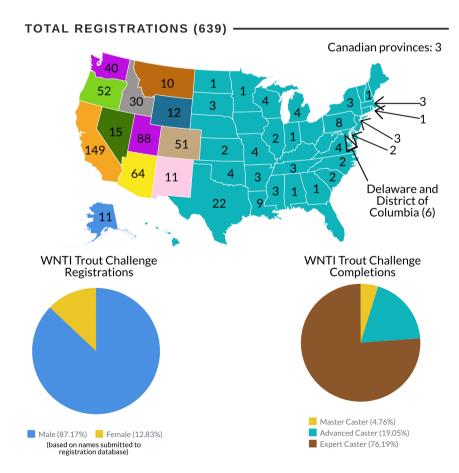
Of Challenge completions, 5% are Master Casters, 19% are Advanced Casters, and 76% are Expert Casters

Everyone is having fun!





WNTI TROUT CHALLENGE REGISTRATION AND COMPLETIONS



WNTI Trout Challenge Registrations Fund Cottonwood Creek Fish Passage Barrier

WNTI Trout Challenge registrations and donations from 2019 supported an on-the-ground project in Montana for native fish security. The goal was to increase an aboriginal Westslope Cutthroat Trout (WCT) population in high-value habitat and increase the availability of genetically pure WCT for reintroductions across the Upper Missouri River Basin by constructing a woodendrop fish passage barrier to prevent rainbow-cutthroat hybrid and brown trout from interacting with the native WCT.



Thanks to Challenge registrants for your support, and to our partners at Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Montana Trout Unlimited that made this project a success!



WESTERN NATIVE TROUT STEERING COMMITTEE

The Western Native Trout Challenge is a program of the Western Native Trout Initiative. Operating under the guidance of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Western Native Trout Initiative is governed by a Steering Committee that represents 12 western states, 5 federal resource management agencies, tribes, and nonprofit fisheries conservation organizations.

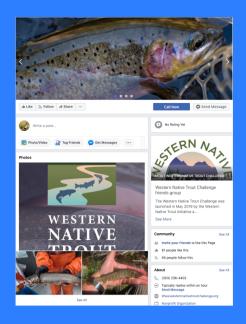
Julie Meka Carter, Chair, Arizona Game and Fish Department Jon Sjöberg, Vice Chair, Nevada Department of Wildlife Drew Cushing, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Thomas Stahl, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Gillian O'Doherty, Alaska Department of Fish and Game Kirk Patten, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Martin Koenig, Idaho Department of Fish and Game Craig Burley, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Kelly Hepler, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies **Chris Cantrell**, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Paul Dey, Wyoming Game and Fish Department Roger Bloom, California Department of Fish and Wildlife Pat Saffel, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Matt Nicholl, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Melissa Dickard, U.S. Bureau of Land Management Yvette Paroz, U.S. Forest Service

Robert Clarke, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service **Warren Colyer**, Trout Unlimited

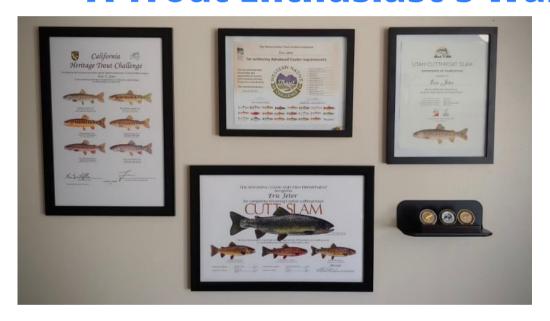
STAFF Therese Thompson, Coordinator www.westernnativetrout.org



Share information on the Challenge on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/westernnativetroutchallenge

A Trout Enthusiast's Wall of Pride



Eric Jeter of Broomfield,
Colorado displays his
awards for completing the
California Heritage Trout
Challenge, the Utah
Cutthroat Slam, the
Wyoming Cutt Slam, and the
WNTI Trout Challenge.
Congratulations, Eric!

Other Cool Challenge Participant Factoids . . .

- The first person to complete the Master Caster,
 Stephen MacMillan, has now caught all 20 species current included in the program!
- D. Mark Hutchings completed the Master Caster, and then completed the Advanced Caster twice!The <u>first</u> father/son team (Oliver and Ben Sheridan) completed
- the first two levels of the Challenge; a second father/son team (Crew and Sheldon Clouse) completed the first Challenge level.

The <u>first husband/wife team (Laurie Banks and Ken</u> Davis) completed the Master level!

