



South Platte River At The Dream Stream

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Tyler Swarr - Aquatic Biologist (Upper South Platte Basin)

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General Information: The Dream Stream is the section of the South Platte River between Spinney Mountain Reservoir and Elevenmile Reservoir. The Dream Stream is famed for its runs of Rainbow Trout and cutbows in the spring, and Brown Trout and Kokanee Salmon in the fall out of Elevenmile Reservoir.

Location: Park County, South of US Hwy 24 about 13 miles southeast of Hartsel, CO.

Size: Approximately 6 miles in length

Recreational Management: Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Denver Water, City of Aurora

Fishery Management: Coldwater angling for trout species

Purchase a Fishing License: <https://www.cpwshop.com/purchaseprivilege.page>

Amenities and General Info.

- The upper portion of the Dream Stream is operated by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. To access this portion of river by vehicle you need to enter at Spinney Mountain Reservoir. A State Park Pass is required. You can walk into the upper section of the river from the Charlie Meyers State Wildlife Area in which a State Park Pass is not required.
- Parking lots/access points (4)

Regulations

- From the outlet of Spinney Mountain Reservoir downstream to the inlet of Elevenmile Reservoir: fishing by artificial flies and lures only. All fish must be returned to the water immediately upon catch.

Previous Stocking

2019

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2018

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2017

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2016

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2015

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2014

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2013

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2012

Cutthroat x Rainbow “cutbow”

2011

Rainbow Trout

2010

Rainbow Trout

Sportfishing Notes

This section of the South Platte River is called the Dream Stream because of the large fish that migrate upstream from Elevenmile Reservoir. Although an ample number of resident fish are available all year, the best fishing occurs in March through early May and late September through November.

Spring Run

- When the lake-dwelling “cutbows” are in the river, fish deep pools and runs with eggs patterns, streamers, RS2s, copper Johns, blue winged olives, and bead-head pheasant tail nymphs.

Fall Run

- When the lake-dwelling Brown Trout and Kokanee Salmon are in the river, fish deep pools and runs with egg patterns, pheasant tails, copper Johns, and midge patterns.



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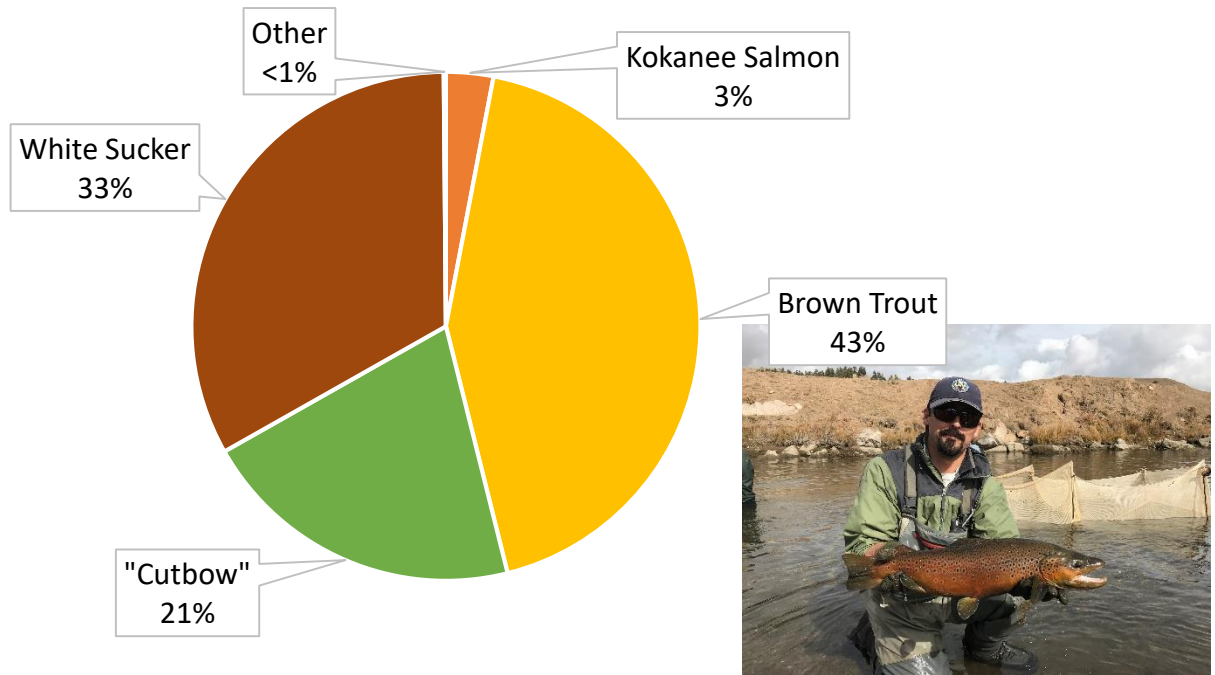
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Upper Dream Stream Survey Information

2019 Annual Survey Species Composition



Upper Dream Stream Electrofishing Data For All Trout

Year	# Per Mile	Biomass (lbs per acre)	Density (# per acre)	# ≥ 14"
1998	655	169	108	48
1999	943	188	156	46
2000	1248	186	206	37
2001	2687	403	444	80
2004	1230	143	203	42
2005	1741	190	288	42
2006	1489	254	245	64
2007	2114	254	349	61
2008	897	165	148	46
2010	613	110	102	22
2012	1528	211	252	38
2014	1899	252	314	66
2015	2732	275	451	67
2016	1542	316	255	67
2018	2935	338	483	76
2019	1841	255	262	59



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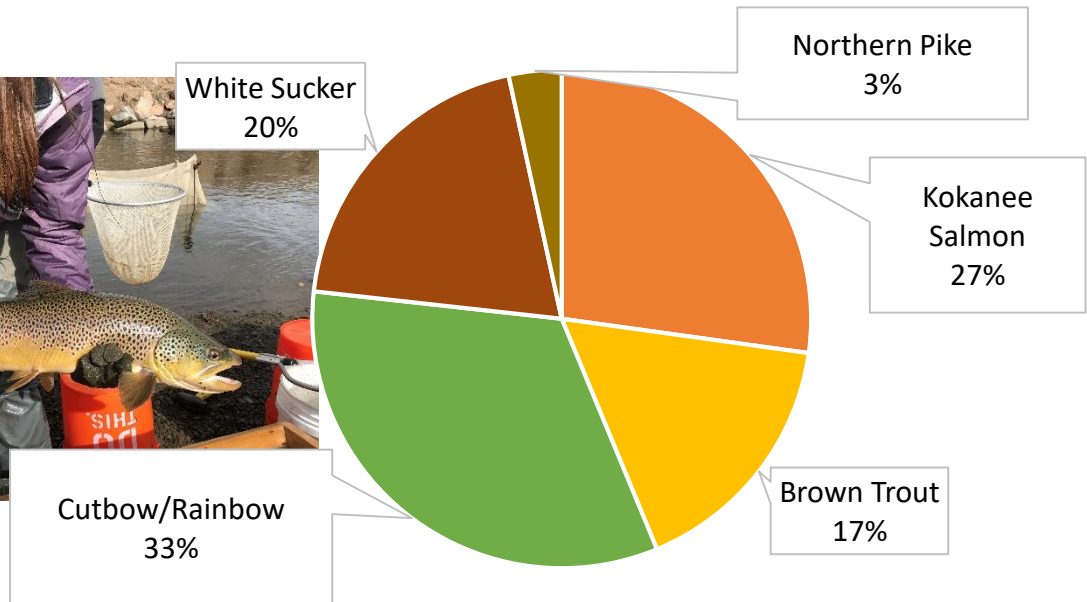
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Lower Dream Stream Survey Information

2018 Annual Survey Species Composition



Lower Dream Stream Electrofishing Data for All Trout

Year	# Per Mile	Biomass (lbs per acre)	Density (# per acre)	# ≥ 14"
1998	368	109	76	26
1999	356	53	73	10
2001	1180	179	243	31
2004	2502	259	516	32
2005	1446	235	299	55
2006	1531	181	315	33
2007	2087	186	431	27
2008	2561	184	528	30
2010	458	91	94	32
2014	1089	168	224	41
2016	743	172	154	46
2018	891	111	274	28