



West Tenmile Creek

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT DATA

Jon Ewert - Aquatic Biologist (Hot Sulphur Springs)

General Information: West Tenmile Creek through the Copper Mountain resort area is an underutilized small-stream wild brown trout fishery in a convenient location.

Location: The creek runs through the base area of Copper Mountain Resort.

Recreational Management: The creek is on private property owned by Copper Mountain Resort, although the resort manages access to the stream as if it were on public land, and encourages visitors to make use of it.

Amenities and General Info.

A wide variety of amenities and services are available within walking distance of the stream in the resort area, including restaurants, retail shopping and other recreational opportunities associated with the resort. For safety reasons, fishing is prohibited in the section of stream adjacent to the golf course.

Regulations

- Standard harvest regulations for trout (4 fish daily bag/8 fish in possession).
- Although no special regulations are in effect on this stream, Copper Mountain Resort strongly encourages catch-and-release angling in order to maintain a healthy fishery for all visitors to enjoy.

Previous Stocking

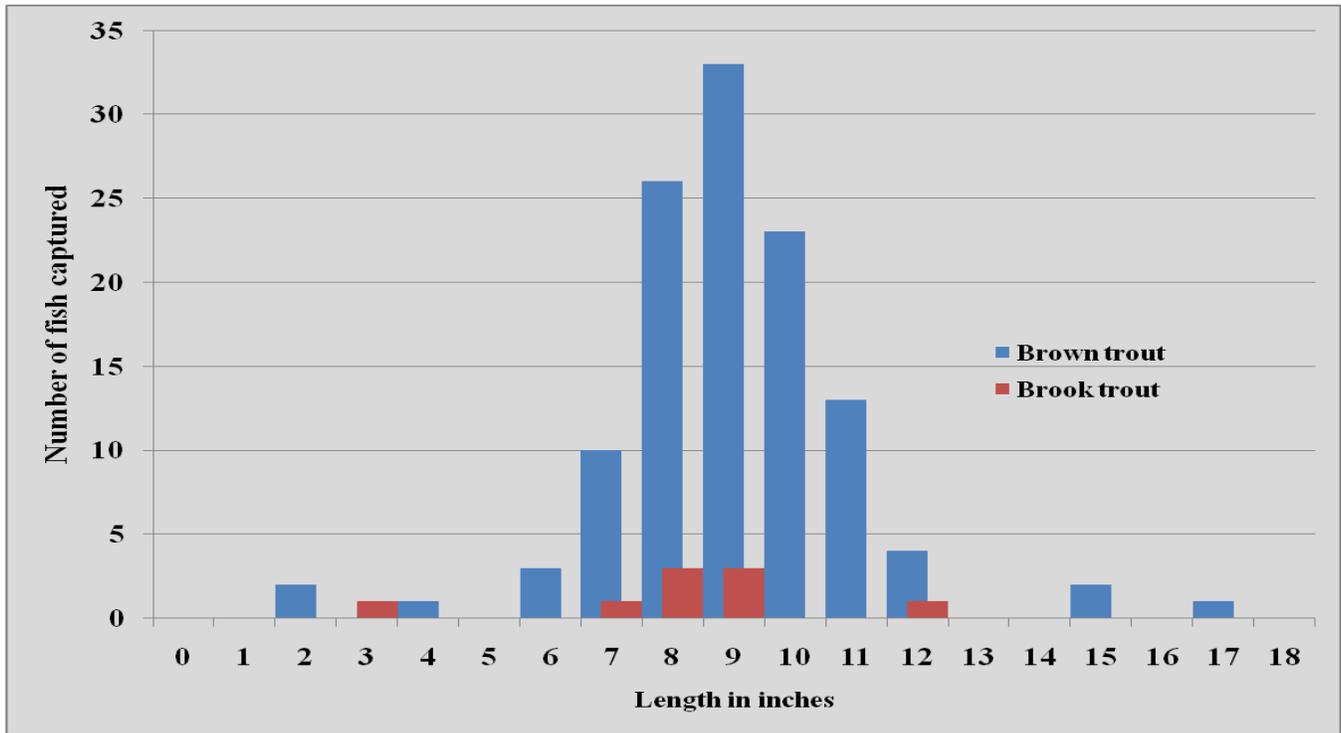
The Division of Wildlife does not stock any fish in West Tenmile Creek. It is a wild, fully self-sustaining fishery of brown and brook trout.

Sportfishing Notes

Copper Mountain Resort constructed stream habitat improvements in West Tenmile Creek in 2000 and 2001. This has resulted in a quality small-stream fishery. This creek is an ideal location for the novice fly angler to test his or her skills against a wild brown trout population while the family has ample opportunities to entertain themselves otherwise. These fish prove to be warier than typical hatchery-raised rainbow trout. However, due to relatively light fishing pressure, standard attractor patterns (Elkhair caddis, royal wulff, parachute adams, etc.) should suffice, especially during summer mornings and evenings. Try dredging the depths of the constructed plunge pools with a weighted Prince Nymph or Woolly Bugger for a chance at the occasional lunker.

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Fish population data
Jon Ewert, Aquatic Biologist



The figure above illustrates fish captured in a 445-foot long electrofishing survey conducted on August 6, 2010. The reach of stream, located in the midst of the resort area, was chosen because it contained a good representation of the habitat improvement work that has been constructed through the resort. The bulk of the population of trout is in the 8- to 11-inch range, although occasional “lunkers” of 15 inches or larger are present.



	Brown trout	Brook trout
Number of fish > 6” per mile	1,462	101
Number of fish >14” per mile	36	—