

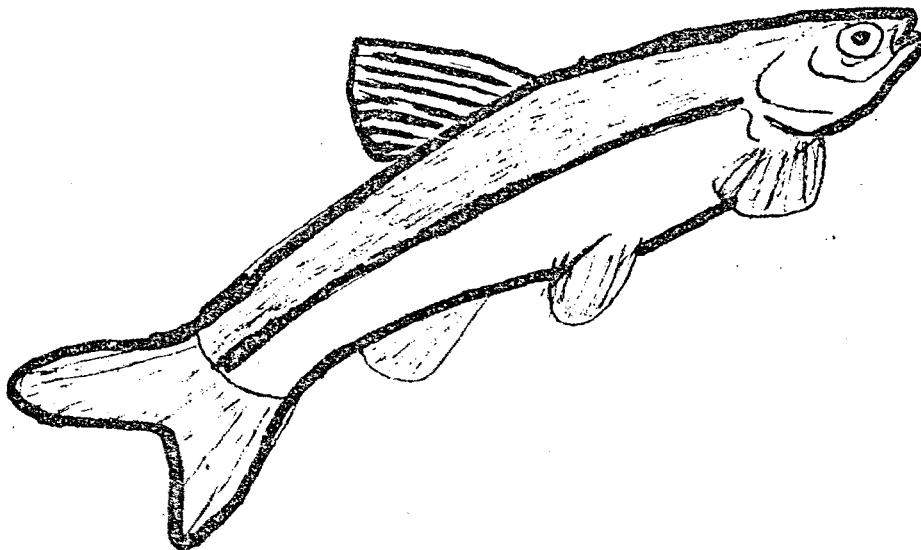
FISH-WATCHING IN YELLOWSTONE PARK

by David L. Hall, Lohman, Mo.

Last summer I spent some time in Yellowstone National Park. Aside from the expected sights--geysers, hot springs, mud pots, buffalo, moose, elk, etc.--there is an interesting array of native fish. For the sports-minded, fishing is free within the park boundaries, but the collector can only watch. This isn't all bad, because it is part of efforts to keep fish from being transplanted from one area of the park to another. These measures represent a change in earlier policies which resulted in the introduction of five non-native (to the park) species throughout the park, including previously uninhabited waters.

Fish-watching in Yellowstone is best during May, June, and July, when Cutthroat Trout (Salmo clarki) and Longnose Suckers (Catostomus catostomus griseus) move upstream to spawn. The best place to observe these runs is known as the Fishing Bridge.

Yellowstone Lake provides opportunities to observe the schooling activities of the Redside Shiner (Richardsonius balteus hydrophlox). One wonders how they all seem to know when to change directions at once.



lake chub
Coxesius plumbeus

The park is home to the Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (Salmo clarki bouvieri), Fine-spotted Snake River Cutthroat Trout (S. c. ssp.), Westslope Cutthroat Trout (S. c. lewisi), Montana Grayling (Thymallus arcticus montanus), Mountain Whitefish (Prosopeium williamsoni), Mountain Sucker (Catostomus platyrhynchus), Longnose Sucker (Catostomus catostomus griseus), Utah Sucker (Catostomus ardens), Mottled Sculpin (Cottus bairdi), Redside Shiner (Richardsonius balteus hydrophlox), Utah Chub (Gila atraria), Longnose Dace (Rhinichthys cataractae), Speckled Dace (Rhinichthys osculus), Brown Trout (Salmo trutta), Rainbow Trout (Salmo gairdneri), Eastern Brook Trout (Salvelinus fontinalis), Lake Trout (Salvelinus namaycush), and Lake Chub (Couesius plumbeus). There are plenty of species and places to enjoy fish-watching in Yellowstone.

--David L. Hall
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YELLOWSTONE TROUT

California member Brian McNealy sent AC a review from TROUT Magazine of a book called Freshwater Wilderness: Yellowstone Fishes & Their World. Authors are John D. Varley and Paul Schullery. Publisher is the Yellowstone Library and Museum Association, Y. Park, Wyoming. 82190. 132 pp., \$19.95. High cost per page, isn't it? The review approves a lot of unconventional views, and a lot of "funny remarks." Members interested in trout culture and trout fishing might want to inquire about this one.