



Spinney Reservoir

FISH SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

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General Information: Spinney Reservoir provides quality fishing for rainbow trout and northern pike. Occasionally brown trout can be caught here as well. Spinney's primary management goal is to produce quality rainbow trout fishing. Anglers are encouraged to harvest all northern pike caught at Spinney Reservoir.

Visit State Park's website at: <http://parks.state.co.us/Parks/SpinneyMountain/>

Location: Park County. South of US Hwy 24 east of Hartsel.

Size: 2,450 surface acres, 46 feet max depth

Management: City of Aurora (owner), State Parks (recreation manager)

Purchase A Fishing License: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/ShopDOW/AppsAndLicenses/>

Amenities

- Boat Ramps (2)
- Picnic Areas
- Outhouses
- Handicap accessible facilities
- Information Kiosks
- All trailered boats must go through an Aquatic Nuisance Species inspection prior to launching

Regulations

- Fishing by artificial flies and lures only.
- Bag and possession and minimum size for trout is 1, 20 inches long.
- Bag and possession limit for northern pike is unlimited. No minimum size restriction.
- Fishing prohibited 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise.
- The Homestake Canal is closed to fishing at all times.
- Park closes for winter once ice starts to form on the reservoir. Park reopens around April 15 each year depending on ice cover.

Previous Stocking

2010

Rainbow trout

2009

Rainbow trout

2008

Rainbow trout

2007

Rainbow trout

2006

Rainbow trout

2005

Rainbow trout

Sport fishing Notes

Trout

- The annual opening day at Spinney can be the best fishing of the season. Trolling with spinners and spoons or fly fishing with egg or scud patterns typically work the best. As summer progresses turn to callibaetis, damselfly, and tube jigs. Fall can also be a productive time for catching trout at Spinney Reservoir. Fish tend to move into shallow water as temperatures fall. Spinners and wooley buggers are a good bet during this time of year.

Pike

- The best times to fish for pike at Spinney are spring and fall. After the pike spawn and before they retreat into deeper, cooler water rainbow pattern stick baits and bunny flies can be productive. In the fall try trolling weed edges with stick baits or large spinners.



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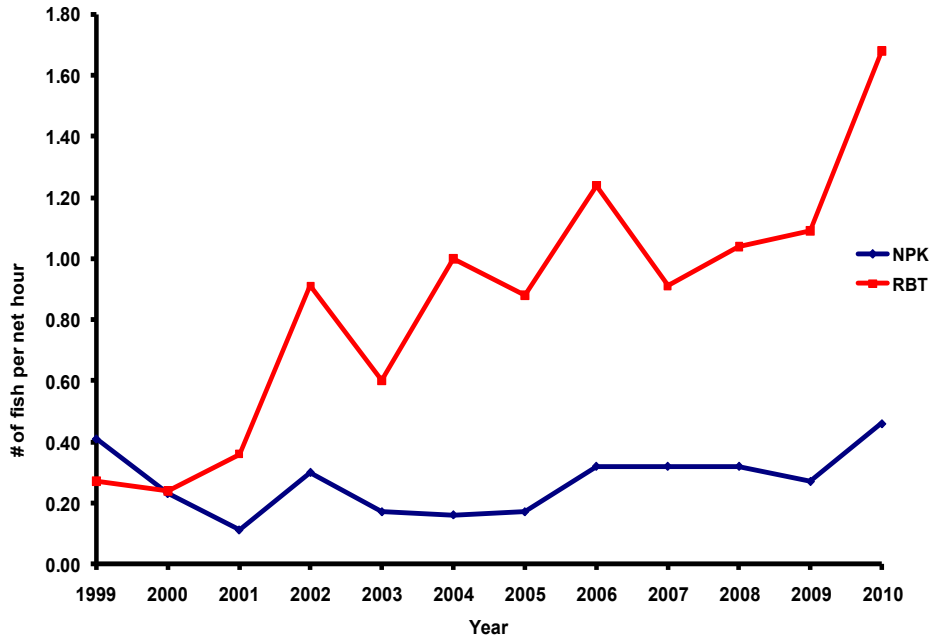
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Historic rainbow trout and northern pike gill net catch rates



Left: This graph shows the number of rainbow trout and northern pike caught per hour that our gill nets were fishing. As you can see prior to 2001 the rainbow trout population was low. This was due to pike predation on smaller sized stocked rainbow trout. In 2001 the Colorado Division of Wildlife implemented a 12" rainbow trout stocking strategy to minimize pike predation. As you can see this strategy is working.

Below: Length-frequency is the number of fish by species at a certain length. As you can see there are a quite a few rainbow trout at or near the 20" minimum length limit.

2010 rainbow trout, brown trout, and northern pike length-frequency information

