



Fryingpan River

Fish Management and Survey Information

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General Information: The Fryingpan River below Ruedi Reservoir consists of 14 miles of Gold Medal Fishing for trout. It is one section of the longest reach of Gold Medal Fishing opportunity in the state. Bank and wade fishing is available on public / government property and state leased sections of private property.

Location: Eagle and Pitkin counties. The Fryingpan River Gold Medal waters extend from the confluence with the Roaring Fork River at the town of Basalt and extend upstream along Fryingpan Road to Ruedi Dam. See page 2.

Fishery Management: Cold water fish species

Annual Survey Data: See page 3.

AMENITIES

- Approximately 8 miles of public fishing access for shore and wade fishing at eight access locations.
- Year-round restrooms located at USFS Rocky Fork day use area near Ruedi Dam.
- Hiking trails.
- Camping located at Ruedi Reservoir.
- Guided wade fishing available from several local guide services.
- For additional info about local amenities and services, visit the town of Basalt web site at: www.basalt.com

REGULATIONS

- Artificial Flies and lures only.
- All trout, except brown trout, must be returned to the water immediately.
- Bag and possession limit and maximum size for brown trout is 2 fish, 14 inches long.

STOCKING HISTORY

2009

Hofer Rainbow Trout

2008

CO River Rainbow Trout

2007

CO River Rainbow Trout

2006

CO River Rainbow Trout

EQUIPMENT CARE

- Whirling Disease persists in the Fryingpan River and is responsible for the crash of wild rainbow trout throughout Colorado.
- Help control the spread of whirling disease by disinfecting your waders and fishing equipment by doing one of the following:
 - Rinse with 10% bleach solution (1 part bleach : 10 parts water).
 - Freeze overnight.
 - Sparquat™ (available at commercial cleaning product distributors) is the best method of equipment disinfection—soak equipment for 10 minutes in 4oz/gallon of water.

SPORTFISHING NOTES

Rainbow Trout

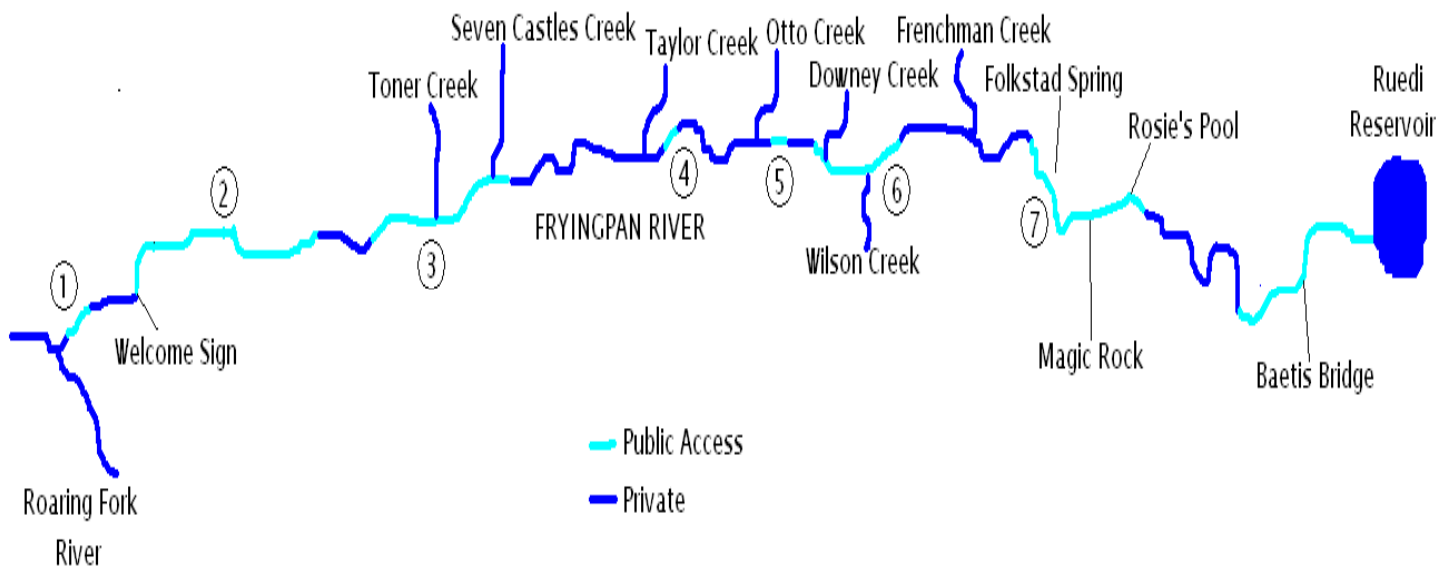
- Hofer rainbows have been stocked recently because of their increased resistance to whirling disease, which is present in the Fryingpan.
- Spawn in April through mid-May.
- Fishing for hofer rainbow trout is best below the dam.

Brown Trout

- The most common fish caught by anglers.
- Spawn in late October through November.
- Check local angling websites for local hatch information and fly pattern suggestions.

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Map and Access Information



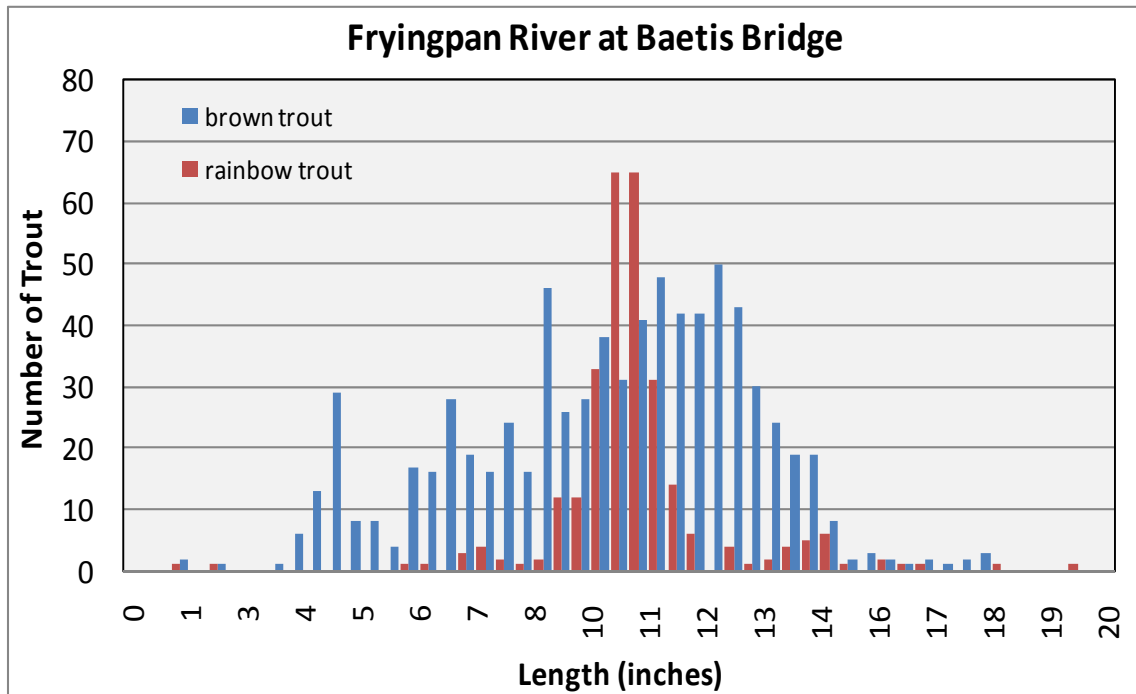
¹Map not to scale, access areas approximated

Bank or Wading Access

- **1 — Town Access:** private property allowing public access.
- **2 — Strawberry Rock Access:** starting near mile maker 2, continues to boundary sign.
- **3 — Canyon Access:** at Fryingpan Valley Welcome Sign.
- **4 — Big Hat Access:** private property leased for public, marked with public access sign.
- **5 — Forest Service Access:** USFS pool area.
- **6 — Downey Creek Access:** begins at Peachbow Road and extends to the Cap K Ranch boundary.
- **7 — Folkstad Spring Access:** from state fishing regulation sign, continuing upstream 0.7 mile.
- **8 — Forest Service Access:** starting at approximately 11.8 miles up river below Baetis Bridge, extending to Ruedi Dam.

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Fish Survey Information



Population Estimate Summary at Baetis Bridge

Density

- Brown Trout: 6,658 per mile (1,114 per acre)
 - 525 per mile, greater than 14 inches
- Rainbow Trout: 2,542 per mile (425 per acre)
 - 134 per mile, greater than 14 inches

Biomass

- Brown Trout: 2,108 pounds per mile
 - 353 pounds per acre
- Rainbow Trout: 1,000 pounds per mile
 - 167 pounds per acre

Definition of Gold Medal Waters: must have a minimum of 60 pounds of trout per acre and 12 “quality trout” (trout greater than 14 inches) per acre.

Management Notes — Although rainbow populations in the Fryingpan crashed when whirling disease entered the river, hofer rainbow trout are providing new opportunities to catch rainbows (the large number of rainbows between 10 and 11 inches in the Baetis Bridge Survey are Hofers). Hofer rainbows are now stocked in attempt to introduce whirling disease resistance into the local rainbow population, increasing wild reproduction and recruitment. Hofer rainbow trout are aggressive fish that fight hard when caught on a fly.

Wild brown trout have experienced good survival and growth in the Fryingpan. Angler harvest of brown trout helps keep the population brown trout population from becoming overpopulated and stunted.