

Title: Invasive fish: control methods and impacts to native species in the Northern Rocky Mountains.

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The Northern Rocky Mountains are considered a stronghold for native inland salmonids, including the threatened bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, and Yellowstone cutthroat trout. However, populations have dramatically declined over the past 100 years due to habitat loss and introduction and invasion of nonnative salmonids such as lake trout and rainbow trout. Consequently, many remaining native populations are restricted to small, fragmented headwater habitats in protected areas, where their long-term sustainability is uncertain due to risk of invasion by nonnative salmonids from downstream sources. Research at NOROCK plays an important role in efforts to combat aquatic invasive species throughout the western United States through early detection and assessment of newly established invaders; monitoring of invading populations; improving understanding of the ecology of invaders and factors in the resistance of habitats to invasion; and development and testing of prevention, management, and control methods. This presentation will highlight NOROCK's research efforts currently underway in Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks to conserve and recover native inland salmonids of the Northern Rocky Mountains.

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