

Lahontan Cutthroat Trout



Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Salmo clarkii henshawi* Gill and Jordan). The cutthroat trout is a beautiful fish, heavily spotted over the entire body. In the spring spawning season the males turn a brilliant rosy color. Its name was derived from the red slash marks on the membrane between the jawbones. It interbreeds readily with rainbow. Although this species was at one time abundant in the Bishop Creek drainage, it has been replaced by brown, rainbow, and eastern brook trout. The cutthroat seems to do best in waters where it is not forced to compete with other species. Cutthroats are scarce in Inyo County, but may be found in a few lakes in the headwaters of Pine, Bishop, and Williamson creeks.

Text excerpt from the *Deepest Valley* by the Sierra Club.