

How to Identify the Four Native Cutthroat Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*) Subspecies of Idaho

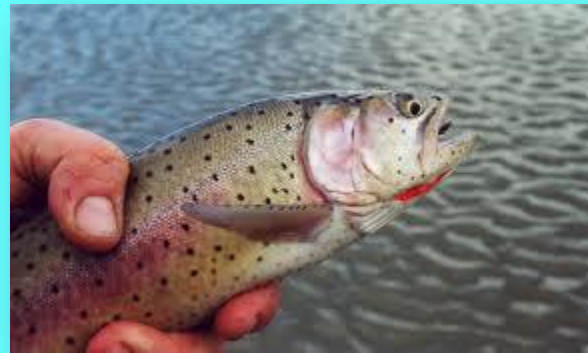


Snake River Fine-Spotted Cutthroat Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki behnkei*)

- Body is brownish yellow with dull silvery, green or bronze tints
- Spotting profuse and of very fine spots covering the body except the belly, which is white
- Distinguished from other subspecies by its profuse fine spotting
- Distinguished from rainbow trout by its lack of white tips on its paired fins

Lahontan Cutthroat (*Oncorhynchus clarki henshawi*)

- Body is steel gray to olive green above, with yellow-brown sides and red or pink along the belly
- Round black spots scattered over fish, but more closely grouped towards the tail
- Fins are uniform in color, lacking the white tips that identify similar fish [rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)]



Yellowstone Cutthroat (*Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri*)

- Distinguished from other cutthroat trout subspecies by its medium-large, black spots that tend to be concentrated posteriorly
- Drab brownish, yellowish, or silvery coloration, with brighter colors generally absent even in mature fish
- Ventral side is white

West Slope Cutthroat (*Oncorhynchus clarki lewisii*)

- Exhibit bright yellow, orange and red colors
- Pattern of irregularly shaped spots on the body that has few spots below the lateral line, except near the tail
- No spots by the pectoral fin



**All cutthroat trout species have red slashes under their lower jaw*

