

L.40. Large “enhanced” waterbody, or something to reflect the fact that it is not a natural lake.

L.46. Reach trophy size in Kootenay Lake? Please insert if correct.

L.47. What about the anthropogenic influence of dams; how did this contribute to productivity changes. Do we know anything about Kokanee local life-history; were they resident before the dams? Were Bull and Rainbows as dependent on them historically, or is this a recent phenomenon? How about the dike system at the southern end; how has this contributed to productivity changes?

L. 72-73. Only one year of angler data (i.e., creel surveys)? Can you derive an accurate estimate of catchability and density for both populations with a single year of data?

L.77-83. Again here, specific mention should be made about the man-made lake system. Dike system and dam (s) should be included on Figure 1.

L.104. How many, or what proportion of transmitters were returned from fish harvested? “Anglers sometimes...” is far too vague.

L.119. How did you account for differences in catchability between areas of the Lake?; these clearly are not equal. Some sites will offer increased chance of capture due to lake morphology.

L.164. “more than section...”, do you mean “more than one section...”?

L. 181. What are the probabilities of a fish being re-caught but not reported? Has this uncertainty been accounted for?

L. 182. “being recaptured by an angler...” should be “being recaptured (and reported) by an angler...”

L.206. Can you explain why all plotted estimates are for a 650mm non-spawner, and include this text here.

L.218. Are these assumptions truly met? Are males more often caught than females? Likely. And what is the sex ratio of these trout in Kootenay Lake? What are the effects of tagging? Might it delay spawning by a year? Might it increase a fish’s need to forage more because of drag and energy expenditures...and hence be more susceptible to re-capture? Might it increase natural mortality rates because of infection or other? These and others should be discussed.

L.321. Is there any indication whether angler effort has remained constant during the study period? That is your assumption.

L.491. Has Kokanee abundance similarly declined, and what evidence is there for this?

L.497-498. Why do you think this is?

L.498-500. How so – can you elaborate further? Perhaps they were mostly smaller fish escaping but not spawning. As you state in lines 509-510, “the probability of spawning is low for Kootenay Lake Rainbow Trout smaller than approximately 650 mm in length”.

L.515-516. Where is your evidence that Kokanee numbers in Kootenay Lake have similarly declined? Until you show relevant data, it is a speculation and should be identified as such. If Kokanee are a driver, and resident populations have declined, could it be that Rainbow condition has declined to a point either that spawning success has been reduced or that spawning mortality has increased. If yes, I think this needs to be clarified.

L.532-534. I feel that this “Implication” is over stated considering that no data are provided that show Kokanee numbers in Kootenay Lake have declined. And no mention is made of the fact that Kokanee numbers were relatively flat during the 1990s and 2000s, yet Rainbow Trout numbers fluctuated. Why is this if as the authors suggest, that Kokanee are the primary driver of Trout populations?