

## Aquatic Species

Lake County's high desert, closed basin system is the home to the unique:

- Warner Sucker
- Lahontan cutthroat trout
- Hutton tui chub
- Fosskett speckled dace
- Warner Valley redband trout
- Modoc Sucker
- Goose Lake redband trout, Goose Lake lamprey, Goose Lake sucker, Goose Lake tui chub
- Pit roach
- Pit-Klamath brook lamprey
- Speckled dace
- Pit sculpin
- Chewaucan redband trout
- Silver Lake redband trout

These species are not found in every stream within Lake County, but specifically located within one of the five primary watersheds found in the county. These fish thrive in aquatic habitats that are highly diverse. The lakes and streams in this area are fed by precipitation and mountain snowpack. Flows are extreme, ranging from very high flows in the spring to low flows in the summer and fall. Desert basin fish have to be tolerant because of these circumstances. Their life histories and swimming abilities vary dramatically depending on where they dwell, lake, stream or migration between the two locations.

The extent of biodiversity in an aquatic habitat is a reflection of the native fish, plants, and other aquatic species present there. All require water, and high-quality aquatic systems provide essential habitat to many at-risk species, including important spawning and rearing habitat for salmonids and other native fishes.

Our goal as a watershed council is to restore watershed connectivity and habitat by addressing in stream barriers, road crossings, stream channel conditions, and riparian area health. Quality restoration techniques lead to fish passage and access to improved habitats.

