



News



Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks • USDA Forest Service

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FISH WEIR INSTALLED ON MADISON RIVER

BOZEMAN—Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and Gallatin National Forest personnel, with funding from PPL Montana, are operating a resistance panel (floating) fish weir this fall on the Madison River between Baker's Hole campground and the U.S. 191 Bridge.

The weir is being used to trap and collect data from wild trout during their fall spawning migration. Each trapped fish is measured, weighed, examined for signs of disease, and released. Rainbow trout are also tagged with a uniquely numbered tag.

“Combined with information from data gathered from the Duck Creek and South Fork Madison River tributaries, as well as the reservoir itself, these data will allow fisheries biologists to better manage the Hebgen Reservoir fishery,” said Travis Lohrenz, FWP fisheries technician. “Working together, we are trying to determine how robust the wild trout population in the Hebgen Basin truly is.”

The fish trap is checked daily to minimize delaying fish on their upstream migration to spawning grounds and downstream post-spawning migration to Hebgen Reservoir. However, anglers are asked to refrain from targeting fish that may be concentrated immediately upstream and downstream of the weir. Boaters should use caution and portage vessels around the east side of the weir. Any anglers who catch tagged rainbow trout should report the tag color, number, date captured, and location of capture to the Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks (406) 682-7807. For more information please contact the Hebgen Lake Ranger District at (406) 823-6961 or Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at (406) 682-7807.

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