# HELP KEEP NONNATIVE FISH OUT OF LAKE TAHOE: DO NOT MOVE ANY LIVE FISH - IT IS ILLEGAL

### **Nonnative Fish Currently Present:**



#### <u>Largemouth Bass (Micropterus salmoides)</u>

Identification: Very large mouth, upper jaw extends beyond eye. Broad black stripe along the lateral line and onto snout. To 38 in (97 cm). Preferred Habitat: Clear, vegetated, shallow and warm area.

Photo Credit: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region



### Black Crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*)

**Identification:** Long predorsal region arched with sharp dip over eye. Wavy black blotches, green flecks on silver blue side. To 19 in (49 cm).

Preferred Habitat: Clear, vegetated area over mud and sand.

Photo Credit: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region



#### Bluegill (Lepomis macrochirus)

**Identification:** Red belly in mature fish. Large black spot at rear of dorsal fin. Ear flap black at the edge. To 16 in (41 cm).

Preferred Habitat: Adaptable to almost any habitat, but prominent in clear streams and lakes with increased vegetation.



### Brown Bullhead (Ameiurus nebulosus)

**Identification:** Scaleless, smooth skin. Brown or black mottling on body. 5-8 large sawlike teeth on rear of pectoral spine. To 21 in (50 cm). **Preferred Habitat:** Typically found at bottoms and in productive areas over soft substrates.



#### Goldfish (Carassius auratus)

**Identification:** Large scales. Long dorsal fin (15-21 rays). Stout, saw toothed spine at front of dorsal and anal fins. To 16 in (41 cm). Preferred Habitat: Common in warm turbid or vegetated water; more

tolerant than most fishes of some forms of pollution.

Photo Credit: Department of Natural Resources, Cornell University, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

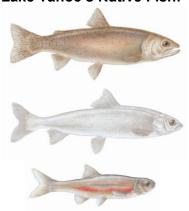
Invasive species cause serious economic and ecological damage to aquatic ecosystems.

#### How you can help?

- REMOVE ALL aquatic plants and animals from boats and transported gear.
- DO NOT RELEASE aquarium pets, plants or live bait into aquatic ecosystems. 0
- DO NOT MOVE live fish and other aquatic organisms from one water body to another. IT IS ILLEGAL!
- REPORT a nonnative species, call the Aquative Nuisance Species hotline: 1-888-TAHO-ANS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unless otherwise cited, all pictures are credited to Sarah Adler, UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center <sup>2</sup>Reference: Page, LM and BM Burr (1991) A Field Guide to Freshwater Fishes of North America North of Mexico. The Peterson Field Guide Series, Houghton Mifflin Company,

### Lake Tahoe's Native Fish:



#### Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (Onchorynchus clarki henshawi)

Identification: Red colored fins and opercula. Dark spots on body, dorsal and caudal fins. To 39 in (99 cm).

Preferred Habitat: Lakes and rivers. Can be found at depths up to 1000ft/

\*No longer found in Lake Tahoe naturally because of introduction of Lake trout, overharvest,

#### Mountain Whitefish (Proposium williamsoni)

**Identification:** Uniformly silver in color with adipose fin. To 22 in (57 cm).

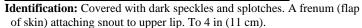
Preferred Habitat: Lakes (to depth of at least 30 ft/10 m).

#### Lahontan Redside (Rhinichthys egregious)

**Identification:** Distinctive streak along side; red in breeding males; rosy colored in females. To 6 in (17 cm).

Preferred Habitat: Nearshore habitats in mountain lakes and rivers.

### Lahontan Speckled Dace (Rhinichthys osculus robustus)



Preferred Habitat: Rocky shoreline.

#### Tahoe Sucker (Catostomus tahoensis)

**Identification:** Native to the Lahontan Basin. Deep medium lower lip notch. Breeding males have bright red stripe along side. To 24 in (61 cm).

Preferred Habitat: Variable but commonly in large lakes .

#### Paiute Sculpin (Cottus beldingi)

Identification: Drab coloration with a brindled pattern. Dorsal fins

separate to base. To 5 in (13 cm).

**Preferred Habitat:** Rock riffle streams where flowing water is ample.

### Tui Chub (Gila bicolor)

Identification: Small round fins. Small terminal/slightly subterminal

mouth. To 17 in (45 cm).

Preferred Habitat: Quiet, vegetated area.

### Naturalized Fish\*:

\* Nonnative species established outside of their native range that reproduce without human assistance.



### Kokanee Salmon

#### (Onchorynchus nerka)

Bright red body and green head when spawning

### Lake Trout/ Mackinaw

## (Salvelinus namaycush)

Cream spots on dark green to grey head, body, dorsal and caudal fin



#### **Rainbow Trout**

#### (Onchorynchus mykiss)

Pink to red stripe on side

#### **Brook Trout** (Salvelinus fontinalis)

Blue halos around pink or red spots on side



#### Brown Trout (Salmo trutta)

Red and black spots on head and body

#### For more information about invasive species at Lake Tahoe, please contact:

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