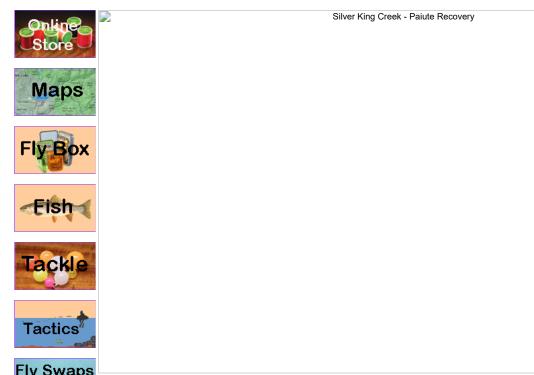
Online Store Guides & Fly Shops Home Flybox Fly Tying Fly Swaps Hatches Tactics Camping

Tackle



Silver King Creek (Paiute Recovery)



Dry Flies: Small Western Green Drake #14-16

BWO #16-18 Parachute Adams #12 Suggested Flies for Silver King Creek area:

Eastern Sierra Hatch Selection Other Local Favorites:

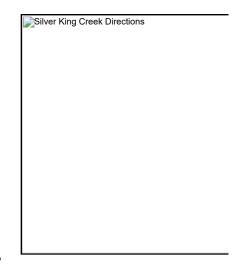
Nymph Flies:

Pheasant Tail Nymph #16-20 Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear #14-16 Bird's Nest #14-16

Stillwater Flies: Woolly Bugger, Brown and Olive #6-8 Mohair Leech #8-10

Silver King Creek. At junction of Highway 89 and 4, Turn East and continue on Hwy 89 toward Monitor Pass. Go 4 miles up steep hill and turn right onto a dirt south of Heenan Lake. This road will take you into Bagley Valley and reach Grays Crossing in 5.2 miles. Continuing southeast another 1.6 miles you reach Vac and the trailhead starts from there.

Upper East Fork Carson. From Grays Crossing, at 1 mile take the left spur road and continue another 0.6 miles to the trailhead at the Upper East Fork Carso Snodgrass Creek. From Hwy 395, take Mill Canyon Road turnoff which is 1.7 miles north of the community of Walker. Proceed 3.5 miles to Golden Gate Mine another 6.5 miles to the Little Antelope trailhead.



Silver King Creek

Notes:

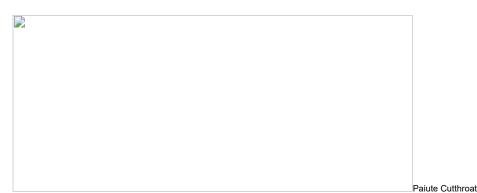
For thousands of years, the Paiute cutthroat occupied an 11 mile stretch of Silver King Creek and the lower sections of Coyote Valley Creek and Corral Valley Creek. These fish were related to the Lahontan cutthroats but developed within a entirely separate basin drainage. A natural barrier, Llewellyn Falls, kept these fish confined to a small canyon downstream. However, in 1912, a Basque Sheepherder transplanted some of these trout above the falls and a new separate population was able to get established. The same was true for Corral Valley and Coyote Valley Creek but it is unknown when those transplanted above it's barrier falls were made.

Rainbows were introduced into the Paiute's native range below Llewellyn Falls during the late 1800's and through the 1930's. By 1933, there were no longer any pure strain Paiute Cutthroats with this historical habitat. The fish that were transplanted above Llewellyn Falls were assumed to be native, as the 1912 transplant was unrecorded, and care was taken to ensure that Rainbows would not be planted in those waters. However, a pack train carrying Rainbow fingerlings took a "wrong turn" in 1949 and dumped Rainbow fingerlings into the upper reached of Silver King, Corral Valley, and Coyote Valley creeks. Hybridization took hold. By 1964, all of the Paiutes within the creeks both above and below Llewellyn Falls were hybridized.

Yet again, the pure species was protected by another transplant in 1947 of Paiute Cutthroats to Fly Valley creek and Four Mile Canyon creek. These were the last pure strains available.

Starting in 1964, Rotenone treatments were used above Llewellyn Falls to eliminate the hydrids and reestablish the Paiute natives. This had mixed results as hybrids seem to always appear years later. In 2013 to 2015, a concerted effort was made to chemically treat all of Silver King Creek and it's tributaries

2013 to 2015, a concerted effort was made to chemically treat all of Silver King Creek and it's tributaries down to Silver King Canyon, where a series of waterfalls created a natural barrier. A three year moniter of the streams found no further fish and CDFW began of the Paiutes from the pure strains that resided in Fly Valley and Four Mile Canyon creek. So, that's why it is closed and you can't fish there....yet.



Mill Creek: Treated with Rotenone in 1988 and 1989 to eradicate non-native Brook Trout. Lahontan Cutthroats were transplanted from By-Day creek in 1992, endemic population within the Walker Basin. Now, open to fishing with barbless flies, catch & release only.

EF Carson: The EF Carson from Hangmans Bridge to Carson Falls is open to fishing from last Satruday in April to Nov 15th. The stretch from Carson Falls to of Wolf Creek is designated as Wild Trout water. Downstream of the confluence with, Wolf Creek CDFW will plant rainbow trout periodically. A fish survey was 2008 be CGFW in which they found that above Carson Falls they only observed Lahontan Cutthroats which were mostly under 6 inches in length. The fish der estimated at 230 fish per mile and the water was classified as mostly flatwater with some pools and riffles. The avg depth was 1.1 feet and the avg width about stretch below Carson Falls has a mixture os Rainbows, Lahontans, Brook Trout, and Brown Trout. Most of the fish are small, less than 6 inches. Mostly flatwat feet average depth and an avg width of 22 feet. The density of fish was determined to be about 578 fish per mile.

Fishing Regulations (Effective March 1st, 2021)

Mill Creek (Mono Co. tributary to West Walker River) and tributaries upstream from confluence with Lost Cannon Creek:

Open all year, Artificial flies with barbless hooks, 0 trout.

West Walker River (Mono Co.) from the confluence with the Little Walker River (Hwy. 395 bridge at mile marker 96) downstream (north) to the inlet o

From the last Saturday in April through November 15, 5 trout daily bag limit, 10 trout in possession; and, from November 16 through the Friday preceding the la April, 0 trout bag limit, artificial lures with barbless hooks only and trout must be released unharmed and not removed from the water.

Coyote Valley Creek and tributaries (Alpine Co.): Closed to all fishing all year.

Silver King Creek and tributaries (Alpine Co.) upstream of the confluence with Snodgrass Creek: Closed to all fishing all year.

Corral Valley Creek and tributaries. (Alpine Co.): Closed to all fishing all year.

Coyote Valley Creek and tributaries (Alpine Co.).: Closed to all fishing all year.

Murray Canyon Creek and tributaries (Alpine Co.) upstream from the falls located about 1/4 mile above the confluence with the East Fork Carson Ri all fishing all year.

All other Lakes and Reservoirs:

Open all year. No restrictions. 5 trout per day. 10 trout in possession.

All other creeks and tributaries:

From the last Saturday in April through November 15, 5 trout daily bag limit, 10 trout in possession; and, from November 16 through the Friday preceding the la April, 0 trout bag limit, artificial lures with barbless hooks only and trout must be released unharmed and not removed from the water.

Carson Drainage

Fishing Map Available

Covers the watershed areas of the Carson River within the Sierra. Shows topographic relief, GPS Long./Lat., camping areas, road access, and Trailheads. Special Features are Suggested Flies, Nymphing Rigs, Fishing Season and Regulations, Fish Identification, Catch & Release Procedures, and Stream Etiquette guidelines. Printed on Rite-in-the-Rain Paper that will allow you to write those special notes. Waterproof and Durable.



© 2021 Steve Schalla

This page is not to be copied without my explicit permission.