

Bull Trout Coloring Contest

All are welcomed and encouraged to submit entries, but only students currently in 1st grade through 3rd grade will be considered by the judges for prizes.

RULES:

1. Print out this document with information regarding bull trout and the line drawing of two bull trout swimming upstream to spawn.
2. Either read the included information about bull trout or have someone read it to you.
3. Completely color in the image with crayon, pencil, marker, paint, or whatever media you prefer. Be sure to try and use colors explained in the informational packet. We want folks to be able to identify your bull trout. Adults are not allowed to color the images for the students but are welcome to submit their own work!
4. Answer the 3 questions on the submission form and fill out the artist's information to get credit for their submission.
5. Have the form and art scanned and sent to BullTroutWarden@gmail.com. If you do not have access to a scanner, take separate photos of the form and the art and submit the photos as an attachment in an email. If submitting a photo of the art, make sure the art fills the photo completely or crop out the edges of the image so that only the artwork is visible.
6. The contest will close on May 1st. Judges will choose the best submission from each grade the same week. Winners will be contacted via telephone and have their art posted on the Fish and Game website and Facebook page.
7. Entries will be judged on neatness, originality, and their bull trouty-ness. Submissions will be separated by grade. One winner will be selected from each grade. Each of the winners will receive a winner's certificate, some bull trout stickers, and a prize.

SUBMISSION FORM

SUBMISSION INFORMATION: Submitted artwork, scans, and or photographs of the artwork will be used, posted, or distributed by Idaho Fish and Game. By submitting an entry, contestants and their guardians acknowledge that the work can be posted on any media platform Idaho Fish and Game wishes to share on. First names will be used on media posts unless specifically requested otherwise.

NAME: _____

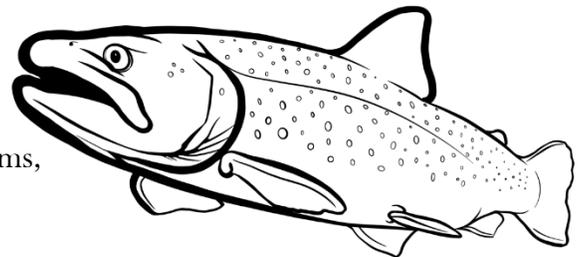
SCHOOL (Homeschool Accepted): _____

CURRENT GRADE: _____

PHONE NUMBER (To Notify if Chosen as a Winner): _____

BULL TROUT QUESTIONS:

When bull trout are young and still live high up in mountain streams, what do they eat?



Do bull trout have any **BLACK** markings on their back or top fin? Yes or No?

What color spots do bull trout have on their sides?

What's A Bull Trout?

A bull trout is a very big fish that lives in Lake Pend Oreille. They are born from eggs laid by their parents all the way up in high mountain streams. After hatching out of their eggs, they live in the rivers for a few years eating small bugs and insects found in the river. When they get big enough, most of them start swimming downstream until they get to Lake Pend Oreille.

Once they get to Lake Pend Oreille, they start growing really fast! They don't bother eating bugs much anymore and start eating other fish instead. When in the lake, bull trout are silver-gray with very faint spots that are light pink on their sides.

After a few more years, the once little bull trout are big and ready to head back up the mountain streams to lay eggs of their own. This is called "spawning." As bull trout get ready to head up the rivers to spawn, they become more colorful to impress the other bull trout and have a better chance of spawning. When it's time, they darken to a deep grey-green with brighter pink spots on their sides. Their bellies turn a yellowy shade of orange - especially on the boys. The front edge of their fins stay a bright white. They never have any black markings on their back or top fin.

After swimming miles and miles up into the mountains, they find a good spot and dig a nest, called a redd, with their tails. This is where they lay their eggs to hatch and start the process all over again! After spawning, the parents swim back down to Lake Pend Oreille and begin to change back to their silver-gray color. Bull trout can spawn many times in their lives.



Photo Courtesy of USFWS