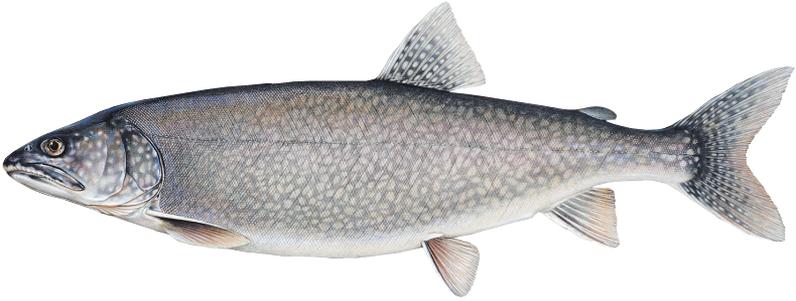


Lake trout

Salvelinus namaycush



Similar Species: Splake, brook trout

Identification: Dark green body with light markings, deeply forked tail. (Brook trout tail not deeply forked.)

The lake trout is native to northern North America, including the Great Lakes and much of Canada. Along with chinook salmon, this fish was introduced into Lake Oahe to create a cold-water fishery. Some lake trout are also in Pactola Reservoir in the Black Hills, along with the hybrid splake which is also found in Deerfield Reservoir. During summer, lake trout inhabit the deep, cold bottom waters of Lake Oahe. Adult lake trout spawn in the fall and primarily feed on other fishes. They probably eat rainbow smelt in Lake Oahe. Lake trout are slow growing but can reach weights approaching 100 pounds. They rarely exceed 15 pounds in South Dakota.

