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Native Arctic grayling and cutthroat trout management in South-west Montana: balancing conservation within the constraints of what is biologically possible and socially and politically acceptable.



Jim Olsen

Fisheries Biologist, Big Hole River

Fisheries Division: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Thursday, 17 January 2019 | CBB 102 4-5 pm

Jim Olsen grew up in the small town of Moab Utah. He received his bachelor's degree from Utah State University and his Masters from the University of Vermont, both in Fish and Wildlife Management. He began his fisheries career with Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks 17 years ago in Absarokee, Montana. In 2008 Jim moved to Butte to accept the management fisheries biologist position on the Big Hole River.

Jim has been involved in native fish management throughout his career with FWP beginning with Yellowstone cutthroat conservation in the Absarokee area. He has helped to restore native cutthroat species to over 100 miles of stream. Native fish management is only a small portion of fisheries management but is one issue that has been at the forefront fish management over the past 10 year because of declining native fish numbers and potential listing of species under the Endangered Species Act.