



Trout in the Classroom



Lahontan cutthroat trout can live 5-14 years, feeding on insects, zooplankton, and other fish.

Program Description



- TIC is a conservation-oriented, environmental education program that connects students to their local watershed.
- Throughout the spring students monitor and care for Lahontan Cutthroat Trout eggs, raising them from egg to fry, and eventually release them into an approved nearby stream or lake.
- Through this project students learn about native species, life cycles, habitats, water quality and develop a conservation ethic.

History

- Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs have been in place all across the country for more than 25 years.
- Most TIC programs are offered through numerous collaborations between teachers, volunteers, government agencies, and local organizations.
- The programs were designed specifically for teachers who wanted to incorporate more environmental education into their curriculum.



TIC Goals



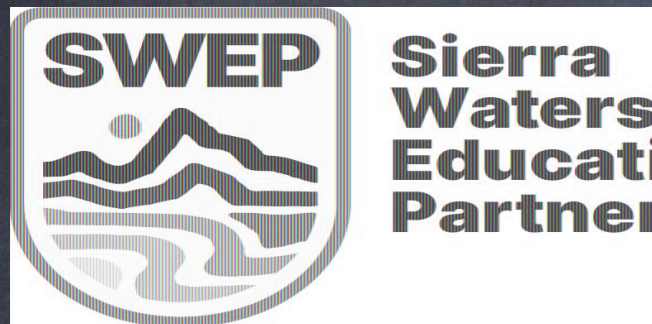
Connect students to their local watershed

Teach about water quality and watershed health

Develop conservation ethic among students and community

TIC in the Tahoe-Truckee Region

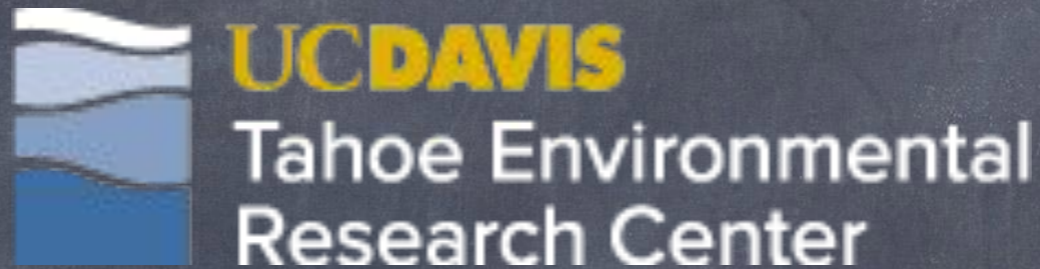
"Sponsor Organizations"



SWEP



supports CA
teachers in North
Tahoe-Truckee
Region



TERC



supports NV
teachers in North
Tahoe Region



STPUD



supports CA
teachers in South
Shore of Lake
Tahoe

TIC in the Tahoe-Truckee Region

Sponsor Organization Supports TIC teachers by

- Providing required TIC training workshop
- Generating required state fish & wildlife permit applications
- Coordinating LCT egg pick-up with Lahontan National Fish Hatchery
- Delivering LCT eggs to classrooms
- Compiling and sharing classroom resources
- Problem solving and support throughout TIC project
- Assisting with LCT release day when possible

Time Line

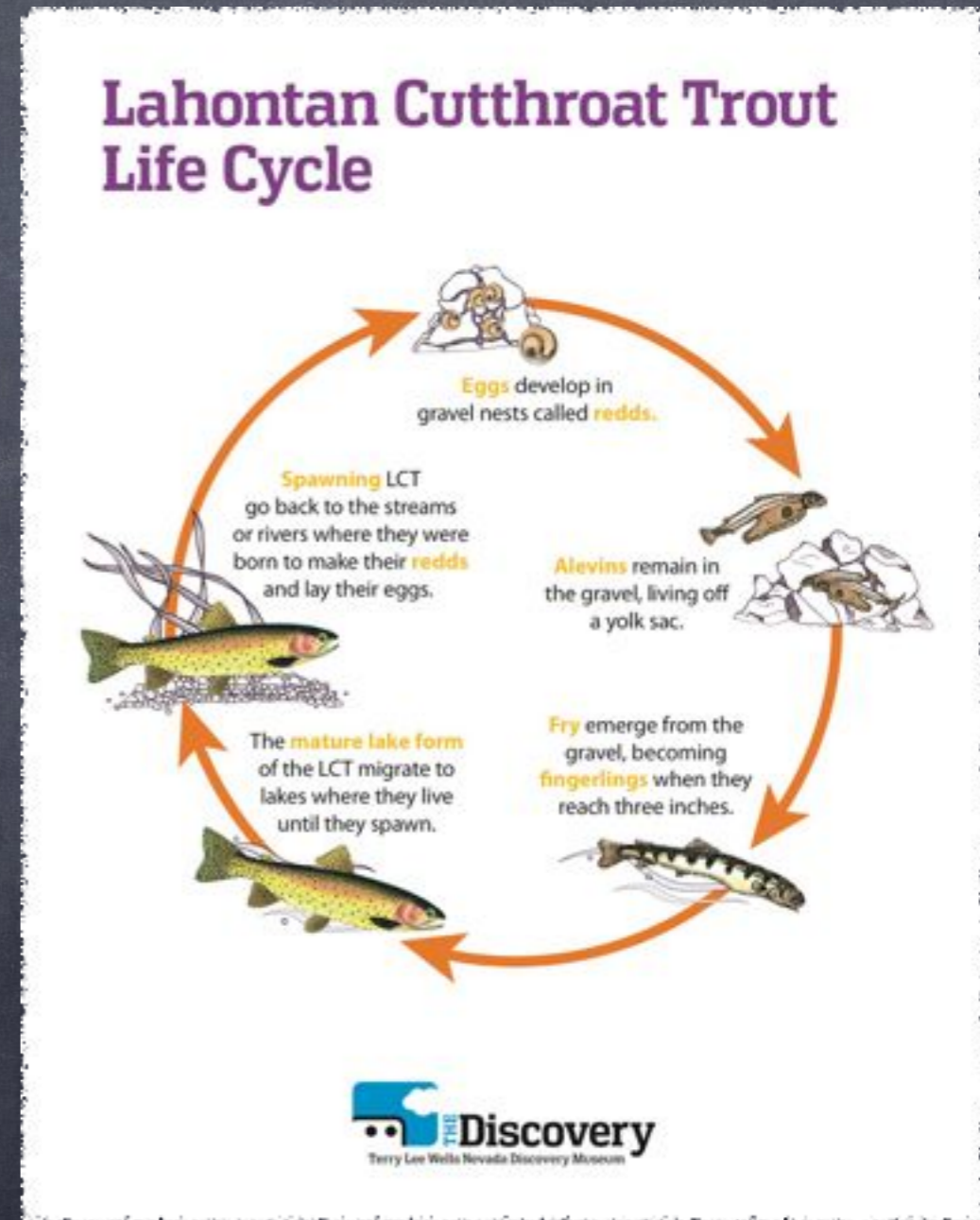


- **NOW**: Inventory all aquarium equipment & find out what you need. Let sponsor organization know if you will need additional supplies.
- **NOW**: Set-up aquarium and chiller. Once you have determined chiller is working you can turn off chiller until 1-3 days prior to egg delivery.
- **April 24th**: Turn chiller on 1-3 days prior to egg delivery.
- **Monday, April 28th**: LCT Egg Delivery Day
- **Over 4-6 week** period LCT will develop from egg to fry.
- **Release Date**: Dependent on LCT development and school calendar.

What to Expect...

when you are expecting LCT

- Egg development rates depend on water temperature. Ideal water temperature is about 52-56 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Colder water = slower development
- Warmer water = faster development



Egg Stage



- LCT eggs will hatch 1-3 weeks after fertilization depending on temperature (or thermal units)
- When will they hatch?
 - [\(worksheet & cheatsheet\)](#)
- TIPS:
 - Keep tank covered during this stage to protect eggs from UV light.
 - Watch for white or fuzzy eggs and remove immediately.

Sac Fry (Alevin) Stage

- 1-2 weeks
- Newly hatched trout have a yolk sac that nourishes the young fish until it is mature enough to feed itself.
- Sac fry remain in the gravel until their yolk sack is absorbed, and they swim up.



Fry Stage

- Once it is “buttoned-up” the fry will work their way up from gravel to the top of the tank.
- Free swimming fish begin to feed. (Hatchery will provide fish food.)
- Feeding Tips:
 - Don't over-feed
 - other....
- LCT fry are released into approved waterways at this stage.



Release Day

**Fish can only be released into streams and waterways approved by government agencies.

[List of approved waterways.](#)

Tips for success:

- visit site prior to release day
- transport fry in large bucket with water from tank
- set bucket in stream to allow temperature to equalize
- bring small cups for students to release fish individually



Classroom Resources:

Links to websites, lesson plans,
journal pages, videos, and more...

[TERC website](#)

[Trout in the Classroom
Facebook Page](#)

[SWEP website](#)

Alevin



Tank Set Up



<https://www.youtubeeducation.com/watch?v=GJbuUS1VVi0>

California Fish & Wildlife Guidelines

BREAK OUT GROUPS: Meet with
your sponsor

Quiz & Permit
Applications

Trout in the Classroom: Contact Information

Host Organization	Contact	Email	Phone
Sierra Watershed Education Partnership	Ashley Phillips	ashley@4swep.org	530 208 6154
	Heather Segale	hmsegale@ucdavis.edu	775 881 7562
Tahoe Environmental Research Center	Mahren Hudson	mudson@ucdavis.edu	
South Tahoe Public Utility District: Americorps	Ella Thomsen Thea Ragsdale		
Lake Tahoe Unified School District	Alissa Zertuche	azertuche@ltusd.org	
Other Supporting Organizations	Contact	Email	Phone
US Fish & Wildlife: Lahontan National Fish Hatchery	Amanda George	amanda_george@fws.gov	775 861 6357
CA Fish & Wildlife	Genelle Treaster	Genelle.treaster@wildlife.ca.gov	

Thank you to our Partners:

