

Arctic Snow Trout "Oncorhynchus Snoiss"



The Arctic Snow Trout is native to Great Bear Lake located at the Arctic Circle in the Northwest Territory of Canada. In the early 70's the Michigan DNR working with the Canadian DNR attempted to transplant the species in the upper counties of the Lower Peninsula. After netting the fish they were placed in large aerated tanks on a plane and while flying back to Michigan electrical problems developed forcing it to land at the Gogebic County Airport. After conferring with Lansing it was determined to release the fish in Lake Superior. Being close to their natural habitat they have thrived. The fur is visible only when water temperatures are below 42 degrees, which is why winter and early spring are the only times the fish are caught with fur. As temperatures climb above 42 degrees the fish molts and resembles the Brook Trout, a close cousin. One unexpected twist was the Arctic Trout seems to have crossbred with the Small Mouth Bass in Lake Superior and on a very rare occasion Snow Bass have been caught which is a totally new species.