

# ***AMERICAN SCIENTIST***

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## THE COVER

*Yellowstone cutthroat trout (Oncorhynchus clarkia bouvieri), native to the northern and eastern Yellowstone Plateau, swim in Slough Creek, a tributary of Yellowstone Lake. The trout spawn in streams and are a food source for grizzly bears, river otters, ospreys and other birds and mammals. They are threatened by lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush), native to the Great Lakes, which were discovered in Yellowstone Lake in 1994. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that these fish, which are avid piscivores, have been present in the lake since at least 1989. Lake trout do not spawn in streams, so they are harder for land animals —and wildlife managers— to catch. In March 2012, the Yellowstone Park Foundation made a \$1 million grant to help reduce lake trout numbers in Yellowstone Lake. Perhaps ironically, lake trout in their original habitat are threatened by the parasitic sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus). (Photograph by Pat Clayton.)*