

# Brown trout

## *Salmo trutta*

Introduced

Sportsfish

*Photo: Bruno David*

Like the rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), brown trout require well oxygenated water, small gravels and stable flows in order to spawn. The trout fry hatch from the redd (nest) and live in the side channels and backwaters of streams where the flows are more gentle.

Brown trout feed on a wide variety aquatic arthropods including the native koura (*Paranephrops planifrons*), as well as small fish, and even frogs and mice. Adults can spawn annually and may live for up to ten years. In New Zealand, both the brown and rainbow trout fishery is managed by Fish and Game (DoC in the Taupo region). Trout are highly valued as sports fish with anglers occasionally catching brown trout around the 800mm mark, weighing approximately 5kg.

