

FIELD Wildlife Journal

BRIAN KING

Wild Fish Spawning Coordinator

The hatchery system in Wyoming is unique. Not only do hatcheries raise fish to stock for anglers, but they also do native fish restoration. This means our native fish will always be in our waters. Also, in order to keep healthy populations of fish, we need to continually add wild fish into our captive fish populations. We have a crew that does both those important jobs.

Brian King, the wild fish spawning coordinator, travels all over the state to spawn wild fish.



This means he captures live wild fish in lakes and streams, collects and fertilizes the eggs, and then releases

the fish unharmed. He and his crew then take the eggs to a Wyoming Game and Fish hatchery to be raised. There are many species of fish in the wild that are important to Wyoming—for example, our cutthroat trout. They are Wyoming's only native trout.

Wild Fish Spawning Coordinator King has known since sixth grade that he wanted to work with fish. "We took a class

fish hatchery, and the work they were doing really piqued my interest. From that point on I was sure I wanted to work with fish," says Wild Fish Spawning Coordinator King. "I also come from a family who loves to be outdoors, especially fishing, so I knew I wanted a job where I could work outside."



Wild Fish Spawning Coordinator King and his crew really make a difference in Wyoming's fisheries. Maybe there is a job in your future with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

