

## Curt Gowdy State Park

### Artist Statement

Knowing the importance that Mr. Gowdy placed on outdoor activities, and his love for fishing, I feel it is important to reflect fish and fishing as theme of this project. The waters through out the park teem with rainbow, brown, and brook trout, along with perch, grayling, splake, kokanee salmon, and non-game fish such as sculpin (bullheads). Using local fish species as the foundation for this project, the twelve interior and exterior works caste in iron and etched in tile, represent each fish species in a different cultural or symbolic style. Perch, kokanee salmon and brown trout are depicted in the Native American styles of the Haida, Mimbres, and Cheyenne peoples. There is also a Celtic rainbow trout, Polynesian grayling, carved leather brown trout, and an Aztec brook trout. To round out the series, there is a pinecone splake, and a boot print sculpin. The mash up of differing cultural art styles with the different fish species reflects the idea that Wyoming is made up of native and transplanted populations, whether it be people, or fish.

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