

Willow Creek Downstream Migrant Trap Site
2008 In-Season Trapping Update –May 29, 2008

Synopsis: The 2008 Downstream Migrant trapping season at the Willow Creek Trap Site (river kilometer 34) is being conducted jointly by the USFWS Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office (AFWO) and the Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program (YTFP) on the mainstem Trinity River near Willow Creek, California. The season began March 13, 2008 with the installation of one trap. A second trap was installed March 15, 2008, and a third trap was installed March 27, 2008. See attached catch summary for details of this narrative.

This summary includes data from March 13th, 2008 through May 22nd, 2008 and is presented as raw catch. No expansions have been calculated at this time. Data entry is not complete for Julian Week 19-21, May 7th to May 27th. Heavy debris load from floating algae have occasionally resulted in null sets, causing less than 21 trap days (3 traps x 7 days) in some weeks, and has necessitated repair of traps in the field. This accumulation of algae in the rotary screw traps is a relatively new phenomenon for the Trinity River, and has necessitated increased trap checks at night as well as during the day.

Raw daily catches of Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) have been captured each day sampling has occurred and most have been young-of-the-year (YOY), with a few age 1+ natural Chinook salmon. Weekly mean Fulton's K values of YOY Chinook salmon began the season lower than 1.0 with an increase in condition to greater than 1.0 in Julian Week 16 which has continued through Julian Week 21.

Raw daily catches of steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) smolts (age 1+) have been increasing as the season progresses. Steelhead smolts captured JW 11-17 had weekly mean Fulton's K values slightly higher than 1.0, with a steady drop over time (indicating that the smolting process is underway). Steelhead YOY have begun to show up in the catches, but still at low levels. Normal peaks in YOY steelhead catch occur in mid-June to early July.

Raw daily catches of coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) are low compared to the past 5 years, especially for natural smolts. Weekly mean Fulton's K value of natural coho salmon smolts were higher than 1.0 at the beginning of the season and have steadily dropped over time, again indicating that the smolting process is underway.

If you have any questions regarding this summary, don't hesitate to contact Bill Pinnix at (707) 822-7201.

USFWS RST Juvenile Salmonid Catch Summary for TRWC1 and TRWC2 and TRWCY

DayMin: 3/13/2008

DayMax: 5/22/2008

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Preliminary, all data subject to revision.

| JW /Year | Week Range | *Flows (cfs) | | **Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L) | | **Water Temp (C) | | Trap Days Sampled | CHINOOK (<i>O. tshawytscha</i>) | | | | | STEELHEAD (<i>O. mykiss</i>) | | | | COHO (<i>O. kisutch</i>) | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|-----|---------------------------|-------|------------------|------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-------|---|---|--------------------------------|---------|-------|-----|----------------------------|-------|-----|----|-----|---------|-------|-----|
| | | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | | YOY | | | | | No Clip | Ad-Clip | Total | 1+ | 1+/AD | Total | YOY | 1+ | 2+ | Ad-Clip | Total | YOY |
| 11/2008 | Mar 12-Mar 18 | | | 11.9 | 12.86 | 7.15 | 9.06 | 10 | 19 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 | | |
| 12/2008 | Mar 19-Mar 25 | | | 11.52 | 12.18 | 7.7 | 9.71 | 14 | 27 | 0 | 27 | 2 | 0 | 29 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 22 | | |
| 13/2008 | Mar 26-Apr 01 | | | 11.52 | 12.27 | 7.05 | 9.13 | 18 | 130 | 0 | 130 | 1 | 0 | 131 | 0 | 42 | 11 | 227 | 280 | 20 | 19 | 13 | 52 | | |
| 14/2008 | Apr 02-Apr 08 | | | 11.6 | 102.1 | 8.19 | 9.65 | 21 | 523 | 0 | 523 | 2 | 0 | 525 | 0 | 162 | 10 | 166 | 338 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 19 | | |
| 15/2008 | Apr 09-Apr 15 | | | 11.62 | 13.1 | 9.1 | 11.6 | 15 | 595 | 0 | 595 | 0 | 0 | 595 | 0 | 184 | 12 | 112 | 308 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 13 | | |
| 16/2008 | Apr 16-Apr 22 | | | 11.05 | 13.2 | 7.65 | 11.5 | 21 | 1,066 | 0 | 1,066 | 0 | 0 | 1,066 | 0 | 240 | 21 | 321 | 582 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 13 | | |
| 17/2008 | Apr 23-Apr 29 | | | 11.06 | 12.16 | 8.06 | 11.7 | 15 | 548 | 0 | 548 | 0 | 0 | 548 | 0 | 32 | 25 | 398 | 455 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 10 | | |
| 18/2008 | Apr 30-May 06 | | | 11.02 | 16.2 | 10.9 | 13 | 11 | 232 | 0 | 232 | 0 | 0 | 232 | 3 | 17 | 13 | 133 | 166 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 18 | | |
| 19/2008 | May 07-May 13 | | | 10.89 | 10.91 | 10.6 | 10.9 | 14 | 169 | 0 | 169 | 0 | 0 | 169 | 5 | 16 | 16 | 125 | 162 | 11 | 1 | 90 | 102 | | |
| 20/2008 | May 14-May 20 | | | 10.86 | 21.28 | 11.9 | 13.6 | 15 | 426 | 0 | 426 | 0 | 0 | 426 | 3 | 19 | 35 | 249 | 306 | 9 | 18 | 98 | 125 | | |
| 21/2008 | May 21-May 27 | | | 10.47 | 10.6 | 11.8 | 12.7 | 4 | 270 | 0 | 270 | 0 | 0 | 270 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 14 | 24 | 3 | 2 | 14 | 19 | | |
| Totals | | | | | | | | 158 | 4,005 | 0 | 4,005 | 5 | 0 | 4,010 | 13 | 736 | 148 | 1,748 | 2,646 | 68 | 73 | 257 | 398 | | |

Actual catch reported (not expanded for non-sample days).

*Flows reported by USGS, may be subject to revision **Water temperature recorded with Min-Max thermometer. Dissolved oxygen recorded in river at time of daily trap check
 YOY=Young of Year (less than 1 yr); Y+=greater than 1 yr; Ad-Clip=Adipose Fin Clipped; M-Clip= Maxillary Clip

Summarized on: 5/29/2008