



Trinity River Mainstem Redd Survey Update December 19, 2025

The [Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office](#) along with the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#), [Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program](#), and [Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries Department](#) survey the mainstem Trinity River to recover salmonid carcasses and count and map Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) redds. The distribution of Chinook Salmon spawning is expected to change in response to rehabilitation efforts of the [Trinity River Restoration Program](#) and to the relative run sizes of natural- and [Trinity River Hatchery](#)-origin fish. Spawning surveys are attempted weekly between [Lewiston Dam](#) and the North Fork Trinity River (Reaches 1–7) and every other week on the survey reaches downstream of the North Fork Trinity River (Figure 1, Table 1).

This update provides preliminary data on this season's redd observations (Table 1). Figure 2 compares preliminary 2025 cumulative redd counts in Reaches 1–10 with the previous 23 years (2002–2024). Redds constructed by Chinook and Coho salmon are not differentiated until the end of the season when they are apportioned by species (Chinook or Coho salmon) and origin (hatchery or natural) using carcass data.

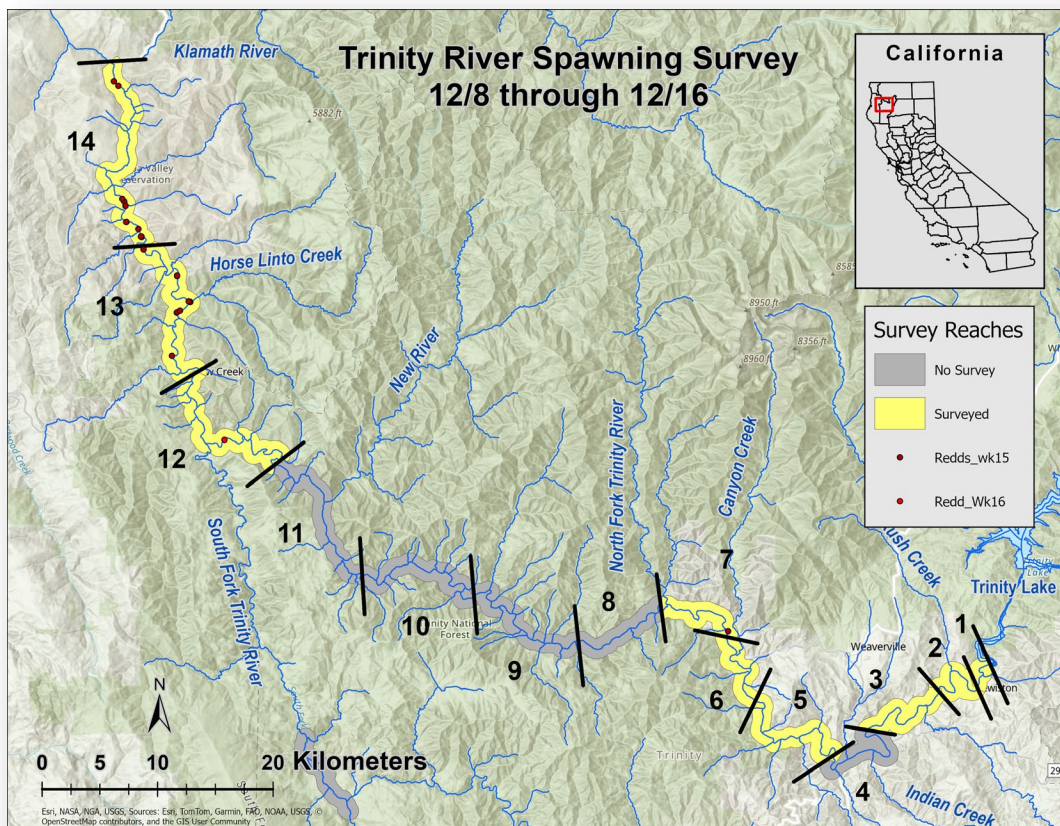


Figure 1. Mainstem Trinity River salmon redds mapped during the final two survey weeks, December 8-16.



Table 1. Preliminary count of redds by reach from the fall 2025 mainstem Trinity River redd survey. Reach 8 (Pigeon Point Run) and Reach 11 (Burnt Ranch Gorge) are not surveyed due to abundant whitewater.

Week start	Reach														Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Sep 1	6	1	-	-	-	-	-								7
Sep 8	15	2	5	2	2	1	0		0	0					27
Sep 15	8	4	2	3	1	1	1					0	0	NS	20
Sep 22	24	17	22	17	16	1	0		1	0					98
Sep 29	43	31	34	39	22	10	31					0	NS	0	210
Oct 6	63	48	62	54	42	18	29		80	NS					396
Oct 13	23	22	50	18	18	37	65			90		30	14	NS	367
Oct 20	55	44	83	NS	76	43	71		156	109				20	657
Oct 27	25	52	56	82	11	28	35					86	76	NS	451
Nov 3	15	7	12	NS	22	37	59		NS	NS					152
Nov 10	32	35	NS	27	NS	NS	NS		48	2		NS	NS	NS	144
Nov 17	140	92	13	NS	29	1	3		NS	NS		31			309
Nov 24	4	27	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS					NS	30	41	102
Dec 1	9	3	5	0	NS	1	15		15	21		56			107
Dec 8	0	0	0	-	0	0	2					NS	10	15	27
Dec 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		NS	NS		1	-	-	1
Total	462	385	344	242	239	178	311		300	222		204	130	76	3,093

'NS' = no survey

These data are preliminary and subject to revision.

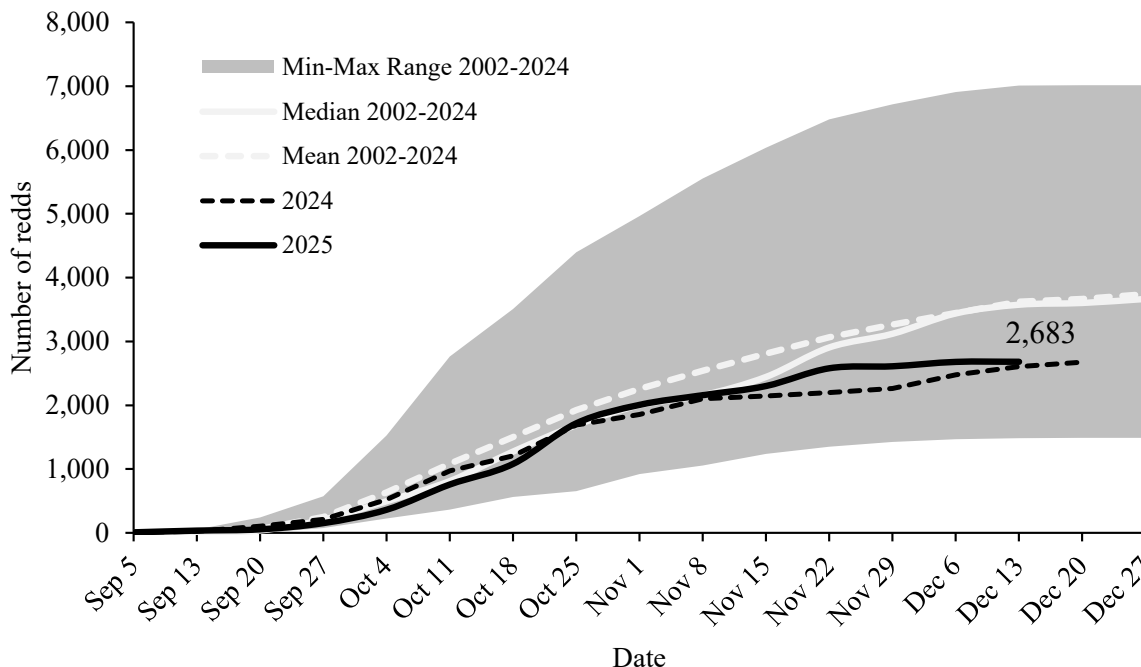


Figure 2. Cumulative redd counts in Reaches 1–10 of the mainstem Trinity River in 2025 compared to the range of counts from 2002 to 2024.

The spawning success (i.e., pre-spawn mortality versus partially and fully spawned) of female salmon in the Trinity River are tracked during the spawn surveys. Only ‘fresh’ carcasses, those that exhibit minimal decay, are used for assessing pre-spawn mortality because carcasses with extensive decay may not retain unspawned eggs. This season, 695 fresh female Chinook Salmon carcasses were observed, 5 (0.7%) of which were unspawned.

For more information regarding mainstem Trinity River redd surveys, please contact Steve Gough (steve_gough@fws.gov).



Photo by M. Bradford, CDFW