U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Arcata Fish & Wildlife Office Fisheries Program

Klamath River Carcass and Redd Surveys Summary, 2009

Synopsis: The 2009 fall-run Chinook salmon carcass and redd surveys on the mainstem Klamath River were conducted jointly by the USFWS Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office (AFWO), Karuk Tribe of California (KTOC), Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program (YTFP), and USGS Fort Collins Science Center. Both surveys began the week of October 12, 2009 and continued through the first week of December. Weekly tag-recovery carcass surveys were conducted by AFWO and YTFP crews from Iron Gate Dam to the Shasta River confluence. Weekly redd surveys were conducted by AFWO and KTOC crews from the Ash Creek confluence to the Indian Creek confluence at Happy Camp.

The data presented here are preliminary in nature and subject to revision:

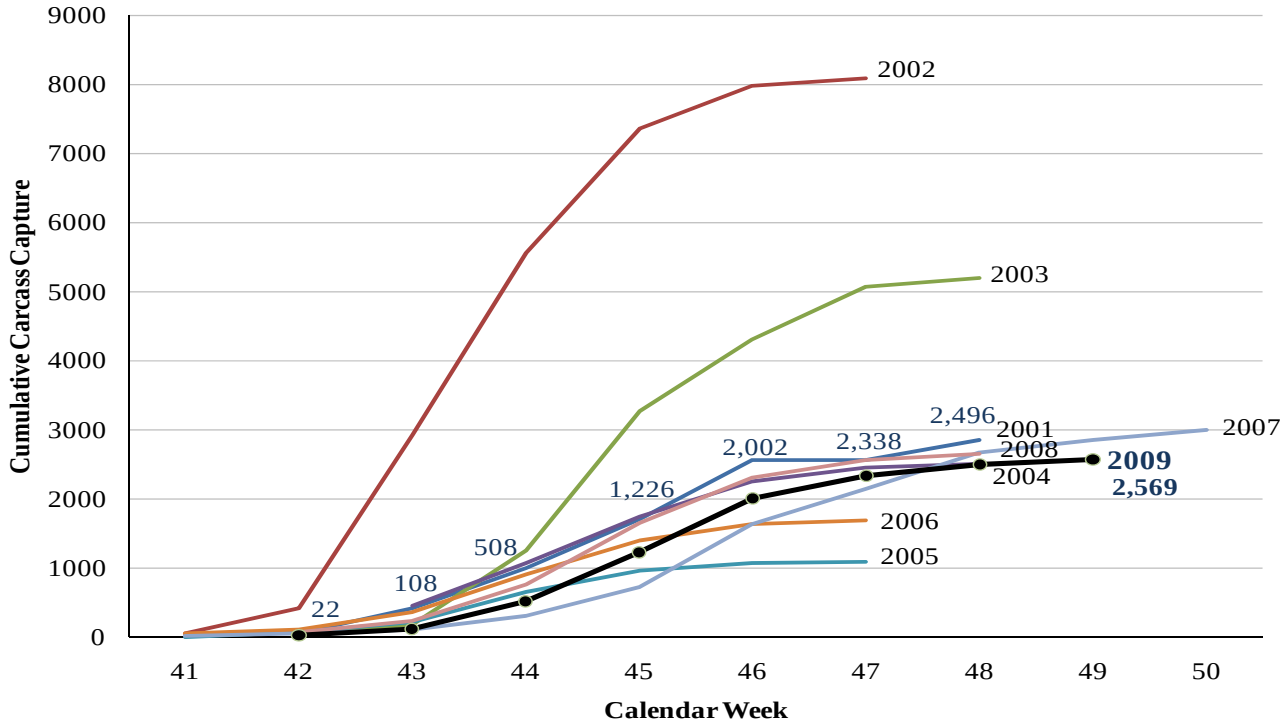
Approximately 2,570 Chinook salmon carcasses were observed in the survey area in 2009. Expanding this catch by our approximate overall tag recovery rate of 58% yields a rounded unstratified Petersen method escapement estimate of 4,400, adults and jacks combined. This number is comparable to the last few years; unstratified Petersen estimates have ranged from 3,587 to 5,523 between 2004 and 2008.

The 1,830 redds counted in 2009 is tied for second highest in the 17-year history of this project. Assuming a 1:1 male-to-female ratio, 3,660 Chinook salmon are estimated to have spawned in the study area.

Carcass captures and redd counts are compared to previous years' surveys in the following charts. Note that the numbers presented in the figures are actual cumulative counts that have not yet been expanded into escapement estimates.

If you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact Steve Gough at (707) 825-5197.

Cumulative Fall Chinook Salmon Carcass Capture on the Mainstem Klamath River from Iron Gate Dam to the Shasta River Confluence



Cumulative Fall Chinook Salmon Redd Counts on the Mainstem Klamath River from Ash Creek to Indian Creek