



Trinity River Mainstem Redd Survey Update December 3, 2021

The [Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office](#) along with the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#), [Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program](#), [Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries Department](#), and [Shasta-Trinity National Forest](#) 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 as of December 3 (Table 1). Figure 2 compares preliminary 2021 cumulative redd counts in Reaches 2–7 with the previous 19 years (2002–2020). 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.

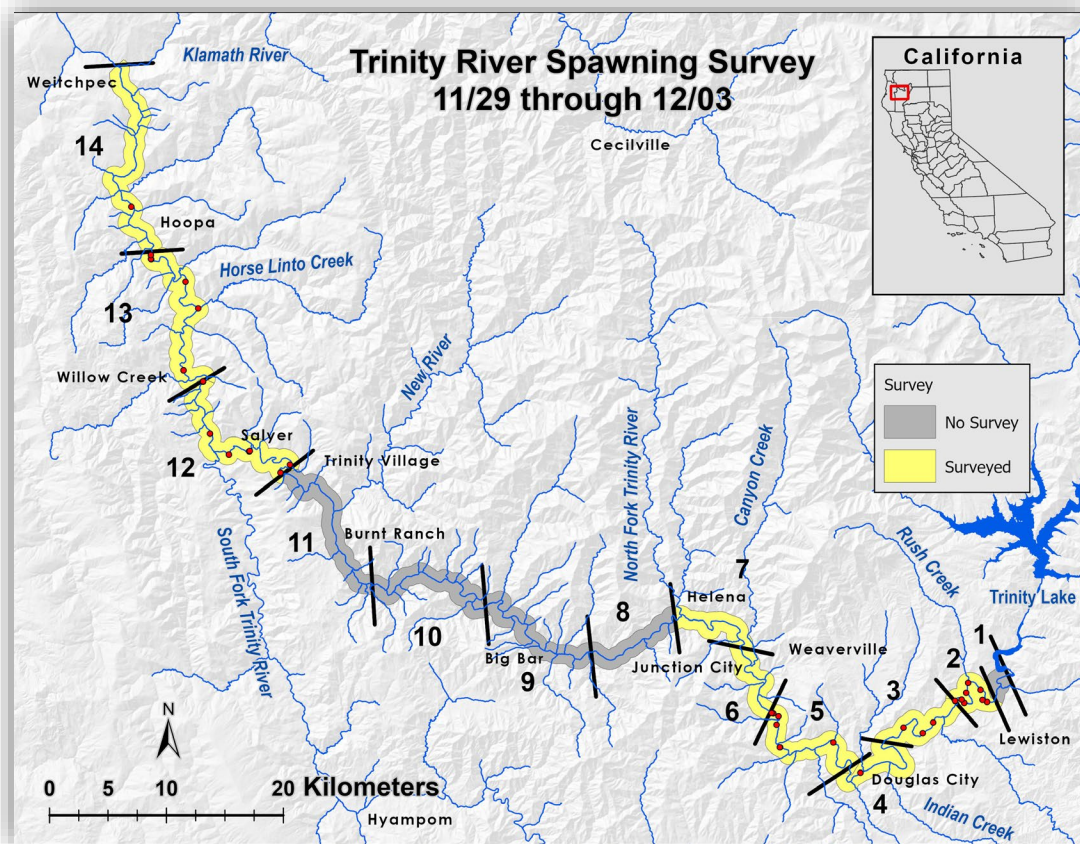


Figure 1. Mainstem Trinity River salmon spawn survey area for this week’s update.





Table 1. Preliminary count of redds by reach from the fall 2021 mainstem Trinity River redd survey as of December 3. Reach 8 (Pigeon Point Run) and Reach 11 (Burnt Ranch Gorge) are not surveyed due to abundant whitewater.

Week start	Reach														Total	
	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14		
08/30	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS									-
09/06	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS									-
09/13	NS	9	2	9	2	0	1		0	NS						23
09/20	14	39	29	11	11	1	3					0	0	NS		108
09/27	61	73	38	35	26	4	4		12	NS						253
10/4	29	54	29	21	32	14	26					2	1	NS		208
10/11	18	26	49	39	42	47	55		NS	NS						276
10/18	44	33	17	0	31	39	19					38	NS	NS		221
10/25	52	67	47	28	NS	22	26		NS	NS						242
11/01	134	132	28	0	22	4	9					NS	NS	NS		329
11/08	NS	78	19	NS	NS	14	13		NS	NS						124
11/15	NS	21	9	5	13	3	9					51	22	0		133
11/22	NS	21	NS	NS	NS	4	11		NS	NS						36
11/29	NS	8	4	1	7	0	0					11	6	1		38
12/06	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-						-
12/13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-		-
Total	352	561	271	149	186	152	176		12	-		102	29	1		1,991

‘NS’ = no survey

These data are preliminary and subject to revision.

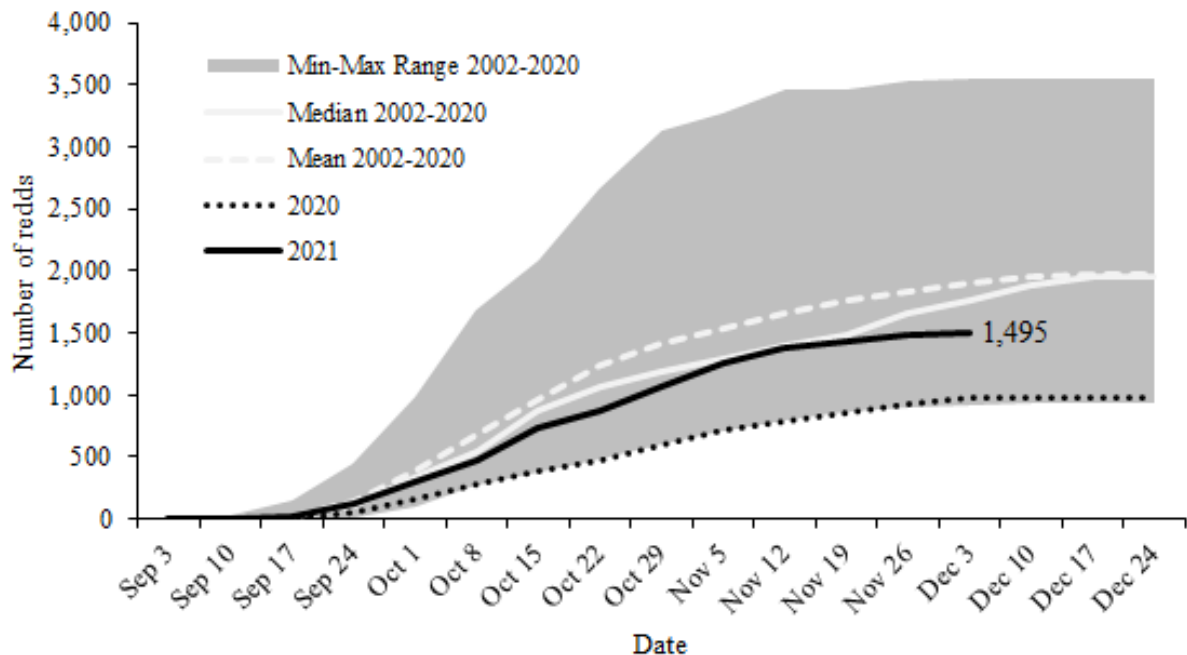


Figure 2. Cumulative redd counts in Reaches 2–7 of the mainstem Trinity River in 2021 as of December 3 compared to 2020 and the range of counts from 2002 to 2020.

To access the latest version of this report on-line, see http://www.fws.gov/arcata/fisheries/project_updates_new.html and click on ‘Trinity River Spawning Surveys Update <date>’

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. As of December 3, 612 fresh female Chinook Salmon carcasses have been inspected, 19 (3.1%) of which were pre-spawn mortalities.

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



Photo of the Week: Time to break out the Christmas sweaters.