

View online at: <https://nrimp.dfw.state.or.us/CRL/reports/SLCMP/LCMUpdate01152016.pdf>

N Scappoose (Ron Constable, Assistant Project Leader):

If you were to wager on the number of fish caught this week at Bonnie Falls, you would probably go with none, and you would be right. For the third week in a row now we have not seen any coho or Steelhead at the trap.

Some work was done to complete our safety rail and we made a visit to our smolt trapping site, in anticipation of the most wonderful time of the year; screw trapping season. There was plenty of wind damage in the Scappoose area this winter and lots of large firs were down around our smolt trap site, but none that should impact the operation of the trap. We will schedule some cleanup work around the site before the trap goes in.

Chum Reintroduction (Brian Alfonse, Assistant Project Leader):

Our second batch of eggs ($n = 32,200$ eyed-eggs) was outplanted into the Remote Site Incubator (RSI) at Perkins Creek on Monday. These eggs were soft and some of them had started to hatch, but they were in better condition than the eggs outplanted last week. The RSIs are now at full capacity ($n = 56,000$ eyed eggs) and crews will check on the RSIs daily to clean filters and monitor conditions.



Mid-South Coast (Pat Burns, Assistant Project Leader):

West Fork Smith:

The coho run is over for the West Fork Smith River. The last adult tagged was back on December 5th and the last live adult recorded was on December 31st. We have trapped our first winter steelhead of the season this week with 9 wild adult steelhead tagged and released (6 males and 3 females). We trapped an additional 3 hatchery males that were not tagged or released. The trap is fishing well and we expect good numbers to move through this weekend.

Winchester Creek:

We continue to fish the adult trap hoping for a late run of adult coho, unfortunately I don't think there will be a late run this year. We will continue to fish it through this series of rain events. If we do not capture any adult coho we will shut the trap down for the season. We did the spawning ground survey today and did see three live adult coho. We will survey the segment until we record two zero counts and call an end to the season.

Mid Coast (Adrian Gonzalez, Acting Assistant Project Leader):

The Mills (Siletz and Yaquina) started off like the last few weeks, with rain in the forecast and little to no fish activity. With heavy rain rolling in on Tuesday, we were able to get our surveys that are prone to blowing out, out of the way. Despite seeing new redds, no live fish were observed on the other Siletz-Mill surveys. The Siletz-Mill trap had a whopping three new Coho, the first of which since Dec 28th. The Yaquina-Mill trap hasn't seen any activity, aside from the occasional winter Steelhead.

Cascade creek was our gold star winner of the week with a big push of fish Wednesday. Taking advantage of the heavy rains 23 Coho, the majority of which female, found their way to the trap. In addition to three spirited cutthroat. The fish ranged in condition from hellish, to relatively ocean fresh. Even with the added water in the area, we only observed 1 live fish on our Lobster Creek surveys. Below is a breakdown of the fish caught at the three trap sites:

SiteName	Species	Age	Trap Catch
CASCADE	COHO	ADULT	167
CASCADE	COHO	JACK	67
SILETZ-MILL	COHO	ADULT	238
SILETZ-MILL	COHO	JACK	6
YAQUINA-MILL	COHO	ADULT	269
YAQUINA-MILL	COHO	JACK	109

North Coast (Derek Wiley, Assistant Project Leader):

NF Nehalem:

The return of wet weather ramped up activity at the adult traps this week. For the week we trapped 1 wild coho, 67 hatchery steelhead, and 9 wild steelhead at Waterhouse Falls and 2 wild steelhead at Fall Cr Falls. With the help of Nehalem Hatchery staff we recycled 55 hatchery steelhead to Aldervale this week. Recycling was conducted on Monday and Thursday and included both green (*i.e.* non-ripe) and stripped hatchery female steelhead captured at Waterhouse Falls. Steelhead redd surveys throughout the basin show modest steelhead spawning activity at this time.

Total season catch of steelhead and sea-run cutthroat trout captured at Waterhouse and Fall Cr Falls adult traps.

Waterhouse Falls	Steelhead					Total	Sea-run Cutthroat
	Wild	Hatchery			All		
	No Clip	Ad Only ^a	Left Max ^b	Right Max ^c	Total (hatch)		
Females	11	71	34	21	126	137	72
Males	9	49	19	24	92	101	
Jacks	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	20	120	53	45	218	238	72

Fall Cr Falls	Steelhead					Total	Sea-run Cutthroat
	Wild	Hatchery			All		
	No Clip	Ad Only ^a	Left Max ^b	Right Max ^c	Total (hatch)		
Females	2	2	1	0	3	5	24
Males	2	2	0	0	2	4	
Jacks	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	4	4	1	0	5	9	24

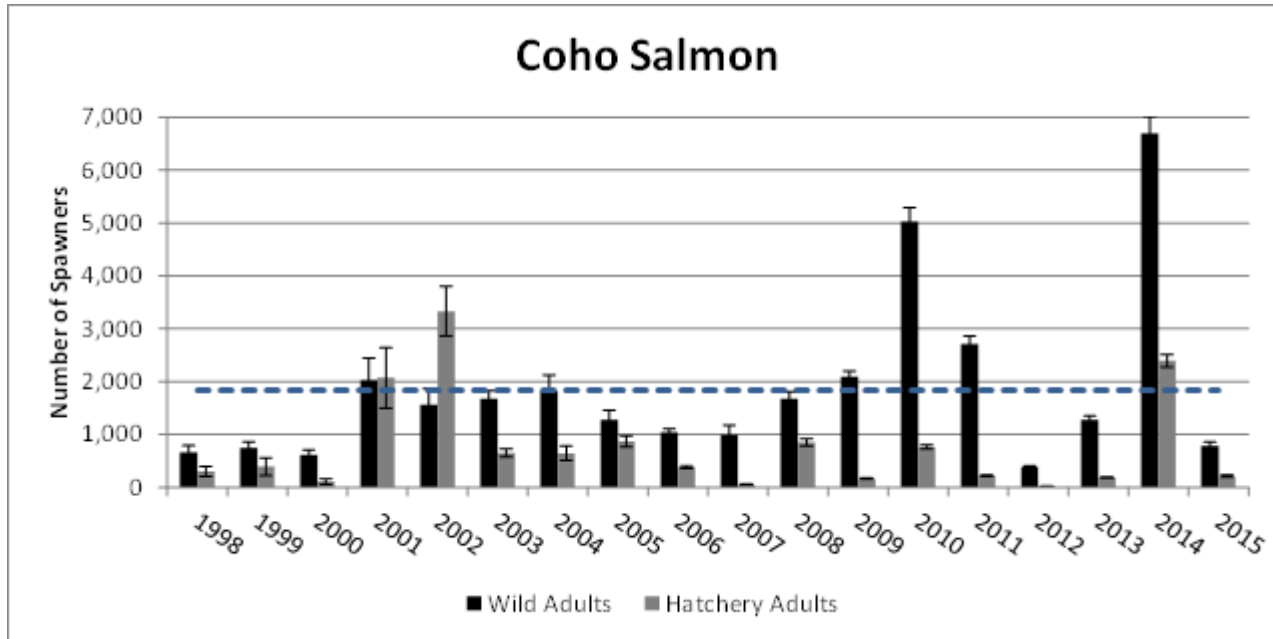
*Trap catch is not additive as fish captured at Fall Cr Falls may have been previously captured at Waterhouse Falls

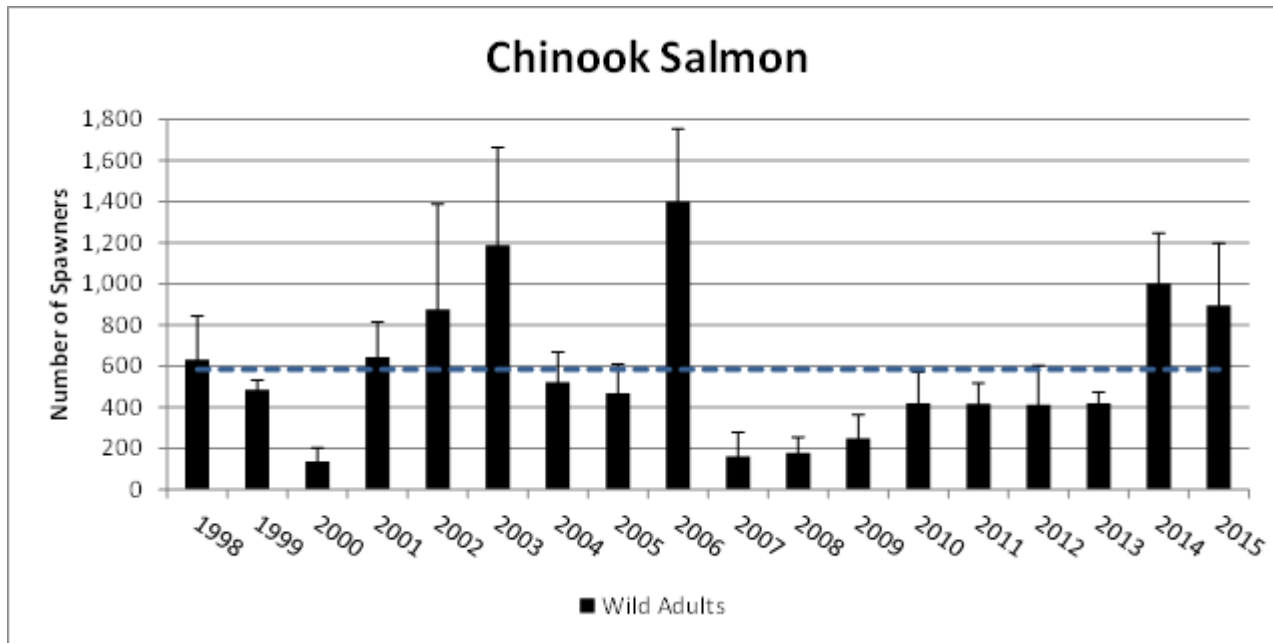
^a Released as smolts from Nehalem Hatchery

^b Released as smolts from County Line bridge

^c Released as smolts from Aldervale

Coho and fall Chinook population estimates for the 2015 return year were finalized this week and are shown in the graphs below. Our wild coho spawner estimate (783 ± 72 spawners) is our fifth lowest since trapping began in 1998. Our wild fall Chinook spawner estimate (895 ± 301 spawners) is our fourth highest estimate since trapping began in 1998. The dashed blue line in each graph shows the project average spawner estimate for each species (wild fish only).





EF Trask:

Rain over the last few days enticed a few fish into the adult trap, including a handful of wild coho in pretty decent shape for this late in the season. For the week we trapped 7 wild coho, 5 hatchery steelhead, 8 wild steelhead, and 2 sea-run cutthroat trout. LCM tributary surveys below the adult trap will be completed today (1/15) and it will be interesting to see if new coho show up on those surveys as well. OASIS surveys in the Trask basin showed modest activity this week, with a few coho and steelhead observed. The highlight of the week was LNF Wilson which had a few fall Chinook still actively spawning and some holding in deeper holes in the survey reach. Double-digit Chinook carcasses were processed with most indicating recent spawning activity. Unfortunately, we also processed two bright females that were pre-spawn mortalities.