

North Coast (Derek Wiley, Assistant Project Leader):

EF Trask: Despite extremely low flows, 19 wild winter steelhead were captured this week at the adult trap. All fish were transported quickly by net to a deep hole upstream of the dam after processing, as water level is currently too low for fish to safely exit the trap and navigate through this section of river on their own. Spawning surveys upstream of the dam continue to show significant spawning activity, with 24 new redds observed in our mainstem surveys. The deep hole upstream of the dam also has had numerous steelhead holding in it on some days, with new fish pausing before moving upstream and kelts resting before continuing their journey downstream. Catch at the screw trap finally picked up this week, with peak daily catches consisting of 48 coho smolts, 39 steelhead smolts, and 34 cutthroat of various sizes. We will need coho smolt catch to remain strong for the remainder of this month to approach estimates observed over the last few years.

Juvenile out-migrant population estimates for the EF Trask River basin through 5/1/16. Numbers in parentheses indicate extrapolated catch due to insufficient recaptures.

	Species	Size Class	Caught	Marked	Recap	Estimate	95% CI	Efficiency		Fork Length		
								Weighted	Overall	Peak	Season	
EF Trask	Coho	Fry	990	776	40	25,153	11,995	4.82%	5.15%	40.12	39.55	
	Coho	Smolt	272	269	97	738	139	38.42%	36.06%	110.00	102.24	
	Chinook	Fry	2,445	1,441	58	70,664	17,667	3.95%	4.02%	42.72	43.58	
	Chinook	Fingerling	21	21	5	(21)			23.81%			62.62
	Steelhead	60-89mm	7	7	0	(9)			0.00%			79.29
	Steelhead	90-119mm	8	8	1	(10)			12.50%			104.38
	Steelhead	Smolt	185	184	12	2,421	1,401	8.01%	6.52%	185.80	184.21	
	Cutthroat	60-89mm	2	2	0	(2)			0.00%			82.00
	Cutthroat	90-119mm	32	31	3	(33)			9.68%			105.03
	Cutthroat	120-159mm	117	116	14	940	484	13.13%	12.07%	141.76	138.79	
	Cutthroat	160-249mm	25	25	2	(25)			8.00%			171.52
	Cutthroat	250mm				(3)						357.67

NF Nehalem: The NF Nehalem River is extremely low right now, with the gage at the Waterhouse Falls adult trap showing river height to be slightly lower than that observed last year at this same time period. Despite low flows, we trapped 12 wild winter steelhead at Waterhouse Falls and 2 winter steelhead at Fall Cr Falls for the week. Steelhead spawning activity dropped off this week, but redds were still marked and live fish observed in mainstem surveys. After a drop off in juvenile catch at the traps last week, we have seen a big spike in catch this week. Coho smolt catch increased significantly this week, with daily catches at the upper trap increasing to 450 smolts on Tuesday and nearly 750 smolts on Wednesday. We expect to see this wave a fish move down to the lower screw trap in the next day or two. Daily catches of coho smolts at the lower trap ranged between 250-300 fish over the last few days with moderate trap efficiency.

With the weather becoming nicer and summer nearing, we experienced our first dose of vandalism at the upper trapping location this week. Several buckets were taken and destroyed, a 2"x4" was broken off the bridge used to access the traps, our lock for the gate was picked, and then bolts securing the gate to the bridge were removed, all over a 3-day period last weekend and into this week. Astoria OSP was notified about the incident and informed about a suspect camped at this location over the weekend that may have been involved in the vandalism.

Juvenile out-migrant population estimates for the NF Nehalem River total basin (upstream of Waterhouse Falls) and upper basin (upstream of Fall Cr Falls) through 5/1/16. Numbers in parentheses indicate extrapolated catch due to insufficient recaptures.

	Species	Size Class	Caught	Marked	Recap	Estimate	95% CI	Efficiency		Fork Length	
								Weighted	Overall	Peak	Season
Total Basin	Coho	Fry	105	95	6	(144)			6.32%		42.09
	Coho	Smolt	4,759	1,014	381	12,402	1,282	39.20%	37.57%	104.24	102.77
	Chinook	Fry	2,047	1,211	163	68,638	121,365	3.92%	13.46%	42.40	45.77
	Chinook	Fingerling	951	406	117	2,904	455	32.97%	28.82%	64.52	63.45
	Steelhead	60-89mm	10	9	0	(14)			0.00%		76.60
	Steelhead	90-119mm	18	17	2	(18)			11.76%		100.67
	Steelhead	Smolt	340	326	44	2,450	666	14.08%	13.50%	173.68	172.81
	Cutthroat	60-89mm	2	1	0	(4)			0.00%		81.00
	Cutthroat	90-119mm	37	37	4	(39)			10.81%		107.51
	Cutthroat	120-159mm	160	159	18	1,466	904	12.08%	11.32%	138.08	137.21
	Cutthroat	160-249mm	47	47	7	(47)			14.89%		176.28
Cutthroat	250mm				(4)					306.75	

	Species	Size Class	Caught	Marked	Recap	Estimate	95% CI	Efficiency		Fork Length	
								Weighted	Overall	Peak	Season
Upper Basin	Coho	Fry	203	195	25	2,349	1,505	11.68%	12.82%	37.24	43.41
	Coho	Smolt	3,359	839	305	9,211	992	37.06%	36.35%	106.32	103.24
	Chinook	Fry	735	684	191	6,182	3,418	12.58%	27.92%	42.48	46.65
	Chinook	Fingerling	246	246	137	380	94	66.67%	55.69%	61.48	61.45
	Steelhead	60-89mm	2	2	0	(2)			0.00%		80.50
	Steelhead	90-119mm	29	29	2	(29)			6.90%		105.48
	Steelhead	Smolt	117	117	9	(120)			7.69%		162.97
	Cutthroat	60-89mm	1	1	0	(1)			0.00%		88.00
	Cutthroat	90-119mm	10	10	2	(10)			20.00%		110.90
	Cutthroat	120-159mm	71	71	10	481	302	15.61%	14.08%	137.96	139.98
	Cutthroat	160-249mm	10	10	1	(10)			10.00%		178.70
	Cutthroat	250mm				0					

N Scappoose (Ron Constable, Assistant Project Leader):

Low flows have slowed our screw trap down this week, but we are still fishing well. We captured and marked 40 coho and 4 steelhead smolts for the week, bringing our yearly totals to 156 coho caught and 45 steelhead caught. Our trap efficiency remains high; close to 50% for coho and over 30% for both steelhead and cutthroat. We have also caught 9 adult lamprey this year, which seems high relative to past years.

The smolt migration on N Scappoose Creek may have had an early peak this year during the 3rd week of April when nearly 100 coho smolts were caught. The migration timing tends to be earlier when we have low smolt abundance.

Low flows are starting to become an issue and may require some additional work around the trap to keep it spinning.

The adult trap was very quiet again, and is likely to be decommissioned for the summer next week.

Chum Reintroduction (Brian Alfonse, Assistant Project Leader):

It was another good week for smolts at our trap sites as catch of Coho, steelhead, and cutthroat trout smolts increased for the third consecutive week. Trap operations were consistent throughout the week as mild dry weather prevailed. With no measurable precipitation over the past five days, most of our streams are now approaching base flow levels.

Clatskanie River: Average daily catch for Coho smolts is now up to 100 smolts with a trap efficiency (TE) of 17%. This week we released Coho smolts at two different upstream release locations to determine if our low trap efficiency was due to fish being released too close to the trap site and subsequently passing our trap during the day instead of at night. These two release sites were: our original site 100 m upstream of the trap and a new location 300 m upstream of the trap. Equal numbers of fish were released at each site (25 coho smolts/day) and fish were given either an upper or lower caudal depending on where they were released. After one week, our trap efficiency at the two release sites was fairly similar, 15.4% from the upper release site and 17.7% from the lower release site. Due to these similar trap efficiencies, we decide to go back to releasing fish from our original, lower, release site. Steelhead and cutthroat trout catch was up this week but TE remains low (7% and 4.5%, respectively). Additional work will be done on the trap this week to help increase the efficiency.

Beaver Creek: Average daily catch of Coho smolts this week was up to 21 with a TE of 28%. Steelhead smolt numbers were slightly up from last week with a daily average of 2.4 (TE=21%). We are also still seeing good numbers of adult pacific lamprey and our total for the season is now up to 248.

Conyers Creek: Coho smolt numbers increased again this week (12/day), despite having some more issues with our trap motor, which lead to lower trap efficiency (19%). Steelhead and cutthroat numbers were also up thanks to a big day on Tuesday.

	Chum	Coho		Chinook	Steelhead			Cutthroat					Trout
	Fry	Fry	Smolt	Fry	<90	90-119	≥120	<90	90-119	120-159	160-249	≥250	Fry
Weekly Catch as of : May 4, 2016													
Clatskanie River (screw trap)			720			1	89			4	53		13
Conyers Creek (screw trap)			87	1		3	33		2	3	11		
Stewart Creek (fry trap)													
Beaver Creek (screw trap)		1	150				17			1	1		1
Season Catch Totals													
Clatskanie River (screw trap)		38	1366			2	181	2	2	17	104	9	110
Conyers Creek (screw trap)		238	219	1		13	71	3	30	33	33	2	6
Stewart Creek (fry trap)	122	1,954	15			1	1	1	12	3			
Beaver Creek (screw trap)		6	388	7			53			2	10	2	11

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

West Fork Smith: Another week with no adult steelhead at the trap site. There were a few spawned out adults above the head dam waiting to exit the system. We will do a partial decommission of the weir next week allowing easier access out of the basin for spawned out adults. Spawning ground surveys continue in the basin with very low steelhead activity observed. We have seen an increase in Pacific lamprey redds on several of the mainstem sites.

It was a good week at the smolt trap with solid numbers of coho smolts captured each day (~250/day) with a trap efficiency of 33%.

Winchester Creek: We had a malfunction with a gear reducer earlier this week when the reducer separated from the flange that holds it together. This caused us to lift the drum for a few days until repairs were made. The catch prior to this was very low for both coho smolts and cutthroat trout. A backup reducer was attached and the trap is again fishing.

Mid Coast (Adrian Gonzalez, Crew Leader):

Siletz-Mill has had a solid week of fishing. Wes and I installed the ramp on Monday and it has really increased the efficiency. The numbers have stayed in the high 100's and the trap has been recapping around 65%. Yaquina-Mill has seen an increase in smolt migration, as we are starting to get double digit days of Coho. The recaps have increased as well. We are starting to see an increase 50 mm steelhead smolts, which is always a treat.

Cascade Creek is still spinning on its own, thanks to Bill's ingenuity, at a strong 3 revs. Although with no rain in the forecast, we will need to motorize the trap on Monday. The numbers are still staying around 80 fish, with a near 95% recap rate. Tenmile creek had a strong showing of Coho and Steelhead smolts early in the week, and has since come down to around 90 and 100 respectively. The recap rate is right around 50%. We are also seeing more adult Steelhead in the trap as they migrate back to the ocean.

The Lobster Creek traps have seen a drop in Coho smolt numbers. Upper Main is seeing less than 20/day and East Fork is getting less than 10/day. The fry numbers have also dropped to below 200/day. The season is definitely on the down turn out there. The traps have been catching a good number of cutts, but that too has slowed.