

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

West Fork Smith:

The smolt trap has been motorized for the last couple of weeks and has been turning well. Our catch of coho smolts this week has been solid averaging 200 smolts/ night. Unfortunately our overnight recapture rates have been falling steadily to 8-12%. More work has been done to direct as much flow and as many juveniles into the cone area as possible. The next several weeks will be interesting with flow and our ability to catch out-migrants.

We are continuing spawning ground surveys in the basin. With the low flows most of our effort has been on the mainstem reaches. Spawning activity for the week has been very low with a handful of steelhead redds observed. We will continue with the smolt trap, spawning surveys, and the dismantling of the adult weir over the next couple of weeks.

Chum Reintroduction (Brian Alfonse, Crew Leader):

Substantial numbers of smolt migrants made for a busy week of trapping in the Lower Columbia tributaries. At the Clatskanie River, we had five days with coho smolt catch that was >500 smolts, which surpassed our previous daily high catch of 438 smolts. In addition to these high coho numbers, we also caught substantial numbers of steelhead smolts (85 smolts/ day) and cutthroat trout smolts (55 smolts/ day). Trap efficiencies for all three of these species have increased from last week and are now at 29% for coho smolts, 27% for steelhead smolts, and 24% for cutthroat trout smolts (160-250mm FL). Catch of coho smolts at Big Creek also increased this week with an average daily catch of 25 smolts and a trap efficiency of 26%. Total catch for coho smolts has been very low at Stewart Creek with a total of 26 smolts for the season, but trap efficiency is at 41%. No chum were captured at any of our traps this week.

	Chum Fry	Coho		Chinook Fry	Steelhead			Cutthroat					Trout Fry
		Fry	Smolt		<90	90-119	≥120	<90	90-119	120-159	160-249	≥250	
Weekly Catch as of : May 13, 2015													
Clatskanie River (screw trap)		12	3,798	2		5	601		3	18	391	6	
Stewart Creek (fry trap)			7				1		2	1			2
Big Creek (screw trap)		3	175			1	61			1	16		8
Season Catch Totals													
Clatskanie River (screw trap)		30,915	6,858	417	1	18	1305		5	52	792	35	8
Stewart Creek (fry trap)	3,107	8,014	26			2	2	4	24	5	2		51
Big Creek (screw trap)	2,591	2,554	353			2	127	2	7	27	57		11

North Coast (Derek Wiley, Assistant Project Leader):

Adult steelhead catch slowed this week despite the bump in river flows the last two days, so it appears the winter run is nearing an end. However, a few of the fish caught in the last week were chrome bright and we do expect to catch a few more fish before we stop adult trapping at the end of the month. Our last round of mainstem spawning surveys still showed significant steelhead spawning activity, but we do expect activity to have decreased when we get back into these surveys this weekend as we passed less fish at the adult traps over the last week. Catch at the screw traps remains solid, as coho smolt numbers have dramatically increased in recent days. At the EF Trask screw trap we had our peak catch day on Wednesday (5/13) with well over 100 smolts captured. That same day on the NF Nehalem we caught nearly 700 coho smolts at the upper trap and over 400 coho smolts at the lower trap. The smolt catch at the upper trap on Wednesday was our highest single-day catch at that trap that I can remember in my time on the project. Ironically, I also said that about a single-day catch of coho smolts at the lower trap earlier this year too! Steelhead smolt catch on the NF Nehalem has slowed, with only a few remaining smolts caught each day. However, steelhead smolt catch at the EF Trask is still going strong, with 15-25 fish/day caught this week and a preliminary estimate through last Sunday (5/8) of nearly 8,000 smolts. Chinook fingerling and coho fry catch has also increased in the last week with combined catches of nearly 200 fish observed on the NF Nehalem at each trap and 50-75 fish on the EF Trask. See below for more detailed information on juvenile catch at the north coast screw traps.

Estimates & Interpolated Catch (in Parentheses) through 5/10/15 at the Lower (Total Basin) and Upper (Upper Basin) Screw Traps

	Species	Size Class	Caught	Marked	Recap	Estimate	95% CI	Efficiency		Fork Length (mm)	
								Weighted	Overall	Peak	Season
Total Basin	Coho	Fry	18,765	1,375	77	462,486	226,897	4.89%	5.60%	38.56	40.93
	Coho	Smolt	8,665	1,420	575	20,293	1,460	43.24%	40.49%	103.44	100.47
	Chinook	Fry	19,680	1,521	87	334,270	93,088	6.97%	5.72%	41.72	45.17
	Chinook	Fingerling	526	302	82	1,781	323	29.81%	27.15%	68.68	66.07
	Chinook	All	20,206	1,823	169	328,275	90,789	7.25%	9.27%		
	Steelhead	60-89mm	16	16	2	(18)			12.50%		80.81
	Steelhead	90-119mm	85	84	16	470	221	19.07%	19.05%	104.14	104.20
	Steelhead	Smolt	866	735	121	5,480	1,045	16.20%	16.46%	181.32	171.58
	Cutthroat	60-89mm	17	16	4	(19)			25.00%		79.50
	Cutthroat	90-119mm	61	61	14	354	241	20.33%	22.95%	113.00	107.00
	Cutthroat	120-159mm	528	501	81	3,273	745	16.49%	16.17%	141.88	140.81
	Cutthroat	160-249mm	285	282	32	2,693	951	11.12%	11.35%	180.12	185.93
								Efficiency		Fork Length (mm)	

Upper Basin	Species	Size Class	Caught	Marked	Recap	Estimate	95% CI	Weighted	Overall	Peak	Season
	Coho	Fry	20,307	1,344	67	433,988	119,290	5.40%	4.99%	36.60	38.42
	Coho	Smolt	6,619	1,365	612	13,137	811	50.95%	44.84%	102.16	95.73
	Chinook	Fry	3,810	1,129	110	43,461	9,910	10.01%	9.74%	39.84	46.10
	Chinook	Fingerling	218	183	103	340	49	64.59%	56.28%	66.80	65.02
	Chinook	All	4,028	1,312	213	44,928	10,794	10.19%	16.23%		
	Steelhead	60-89mm	9	9	1	(9)			11.11%		82.00
	Steelhead	90-119mm	42	42	3	(43)			7.14%		103.10
	Steelhead	Smolt	308	305	32	3,071	1,058	10.38%	10.49%	161.84	160.52
	Cutthroat	60-89mm	7	5	0	(8)			0.00%		83.43
	Cutthroat	90-119mm	33	33	7	(34)			21.21%		112.30
	Cutthroat	120-159mm	257	255	41	1,919	696	13.91%	16.08%	136.88	140.71
Cutthroat	160-249mm	80	80	11	677	445	12.85%	13.75%	174.88	176.75	

Estimates & Interpolated Catch (in Parentheses) through 5/10/15 at the EF Trask Screw trap

EF Trask	Species	Size Class	Caught	Marked	Recap	Estimate	95% CI	Efficiency		Fork Length (mm)	
								Weighted	Overall	Peak	Season
	Coho	Fry	7,280	1,892	105	142,230	27,969	5.53%	5.55%	39.44	40.30
	Coho	Smolt	719	551	222	1,745	202	42.14%	40.29%	115.20	104.58
	Chinook	Fry	3,231	1,649	78	73,868	17,405	4.77%	4.73%	42.96	44.94
	Chinook	Fingerling	30	28	5	(30)			17.86%		63.59
	Chinook	All	3,261	1,677	83	73,065	17,673	4.93%	4.95%		
	Steelhead	60-89mm	6	5	1	(6)			20.00%		85.00
	Steelhead	90-119mm	30	30	5	(31)			16.67%		103.00
	Steelhead	Smolt	815	697	83	7,773	2,113	10.98%	11.91%	176.08	174.13
	Cutthroat	60-89mm	4	4	1	(4)			25.00%		85.50
	Cutthroat	90-119mm	64	60	6	(66)			10.00%		108.73
Cutthroat	120-159mm	345	325	48	2,417	800	15.07%	14.77%	141.48	137.57	
Cutthroat	160-249mm	126	126	15	1,049	482	12.73%	11.90%	168.25	181.96	

Mid Coast (Chris Lorion, Assistant Project Leader):

A very welcome rain earlier this week picked up the revs at our screw traps, and even had Cascade Creek back on stream power for a couple of days. Coho smolt numbers continue to rise at the Mill Creek sites, and we have been catching 60-100 smolts per day at Yaquina-Mill Creek and over 100 smolts per day at Siletz-Mill Creek. It has taken all season, but we finally have Siletz-Mill dialed in and trap efficiency has been over 60% this week. Coho smolt numbers are also on the rise at Tenmile Creek, with catches in the 80-100 range in recent days. Steelhead smolt numbers at Tenmile likely peaked last week, when we caught 274 smolts with a trap efficiency around 11%. We are starting to see good numbers of Chinook fingerlings at Tenmile, with a size range from 60-85 mm. At Cascade Creek, we are now clearly past the peak in coho smolt outmigration, but are still catching 30-50 smolts per day (which translates to 35-55 outmigrants). Coho fry numbers remain strong at the Lobster Creek sites, but have moderated in recent days, dropping down to around 600 per day at each site. We are still catching 10-25 coho smolts per day at each Lobster Creek site, along with more large cutthroat trout than we typically see at these sites.