

N Scappoose (Ron Constable, Assistant Project Leader):

This week much joy and relief were felt on N Scappoose Creek when the coho finally arrived. They first hit our trap at Bonnie Falls over the weekend and our best day was on Thursday, when 7 coho were captured. The total for the week was 11 males, 6 females, and 4 jacks for a total of 21 coho.

Crews report that the release pen is functioning well and is much less stress on the fish. We will be keeping a sharp eye out for fallbacks.

Chum Reintroduction

The rains brought enough chum salmon into Big Creek hatchery to complete our egg take goals for both the broodstock and egg out-planting in remote stream incubators.

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

West Fork Smith:

After many false alarms about rain and rising stream levels we were finally greeted with a giant punch in the nose from a series of storms this week. At the time of this writing I am sure the entire adult trap, live box included, is under water. It is my hope that once the flows recede we still have an intact weir. The first submersion happened sometime early Wednesday morning. The crew was able to clean the weir and have it fishing later that day and it did catch a few adult coho by the end of the day. The trap was cleaned for the evening but huge amounts of rain fell in the early morning hours of Thursday causing basin wide chaos. We should have the trap back fishing by Saturday. As for the numbers at the trap, we have tagged a total of 126 coho (58 females, 61 males, and 7 jacks). Spawning ground surveys prior to this event show a trapping efficiency of 38%. We will have a better gage on what got by us when we conduct the next round of tributary surveys.

Winchester Creek:

We did not receive nearly the same amount of precipitation as mentioned above, but the basin should be primed for the arrival of adult coho. We will conduct another spawning ground survey to see if any coho have bypassed the trap.

Mid Coast (Chris Lorion, Assistant Project Leader):

Wet weather and the first high flows of the season made for a busy week at the mid-coast traps. At Siletz-Mill Creek, we caught 75 adult coho and 3 coho jacks, bringing the season total to 170 spawners passed at the trap. Conditions were prime for fish to avoid the trap by jumping the falls and we watched a couple fish do just that, so the number of spawners in the basin could be considerably higher. We also caught 4 Chinook salmon and 9 hatchery summer steelhead at the Siletz-Mill Creek trap this week. At Yaquina-Mill Creek, we had 99 wild adult coho, 25 coho

jacks, and an impressive 74 Chinook salmon. Season totals now stand at 182 adult coho, 73 coho jacks, and 91 Chinook salmon. It's still looking to be a relatively modest coho return at Yaquina-Mill Creek, but the Chinook return is going to be the largest we've seen at this site. This week at Yaquina-Mill Creek we also caught the first hatchery coho we've seen this season. At Cascade Creek, we passed 23 adult coho, 16 coho jacks, 4 Chinook salmon and 8 sea-run cutthroat trout. For the season, we've passed 29 adult coho and 17 coho jacks at Cascade Creek.

North Coast (Derek Wiley, Assistant Project Leader):

EF Trask:

A lot can change in a week, especially on the coast when over 15" of rain falls in that period. After our update last week, the mainstem Trask rose from 7.6' to nearly 19' (flood stage) as we were battered by several storms. The high water forced us to shut the trap for part of last weekend and most of this week, as debris loads and water velocities in the trap precluded safe trapping. For the week we captured 110 wild coho, 1 hatchery coho, 21 wild Chinook, 1 hatchery Chinook, 1 wild summer steelhead, and 9 sea-run cutthroat trout. With the trap fishing again today, we are hoping for another good push as fish wanting to move upstream are likely to be congregated below the dam. No LCM or OASIS spawning surveys were conducted this past week due to the high water, so we will be scrambling to get surveys back on rotation in the coming week before the holiday. It will be interesting to see how many Chinook still remain on the spawning grounds and how many redds are still detectable, as spawning activity unfortunately appeared to be peaking prior to the flood.

Total season catch of all species trapped at the EF Trask adult trap is shown below:

EF Trask	Coho		Steelhead				Fall Chinook		Sea-run
	Wild	Hatchery	Wild STS	Wild STW	Hatch STS	Hatch STW	Wild	Hatchery	Cutthroat
Females	132	2	2	0	5	0	32	1	61
Males	174	2	2	0	7	0	93	5	
Jacks	32	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	
TOTAL	338	4	4	0	12	0	130	7	61

NF Nehalem:

Balance oftentimes seems hard to achieve on the coast, as Mother Nature this week tried to make up for months of dry weather by dumping nearly 21" of rain since our last update. The NF Nehalem rose to its highest level since 2006, with water topping the Waterhouse Falls adult trap and reaching several steps up on the stairs leading to the trap. Unfortunately, we did lose gear and suffer some minor damage due to the flooding, including a lost water level monitor and standing platform to be used for juvenile fish processing at the upper screw trap location, both installed in recent weeks. We also had some anchor bolts that were glued in the bedrock at our screw trap locations bend out and had a screw trap warning sign for kayakers ripped off a tree upstream of our lower screw trapping location. With the high water this week, both traps were

shut for an extended period of time but were able to be re-opened yesterday. For the week we captured 66 wild coho, 15 hatchery coho, 9 wild Chinook, 1 hatchery Chinook, and 8 sea-run cutthroat trout at Waterhouse Falls and 20 wild coho and 4 sea-run cutthroat trout at Fall Cr Falls. The number of wild coho jacks (based on size, <510mm) captured at Waterhouse Falls this year continues to be a surprise, with 4 more wild coho jacks captured this past week making it 72 total fish for the season. This easily tops our previous highest catch year (2014, 56 wild coho jacks) and the average yearly catch over the duration of the project (21 wild coho jacks) but does not factor in trap efficiency. The water level is now just dropping low enough for us to get back into our smallest spawning surveys, and over the next week we will be doing a lot of catch up to get surveys back into rotation. We anticipate our lower float between adult traps to look much different than it did last Thursday, as some large mainstem wood jams that have been present for at least a few years were blown out in recent days.

Total season catch of all species trapped at the Waterhouse Falls and Fall Cr Falls adult traps is shown below:

Waterhouse Falls	Coho		Steelhead		Fall Chinook		Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Sea-run
	Wild	Hatchery	Wild	Hatchery	Wild	Hatchery	Wild	Wild	Wild	Cutthroat
Females	184	126	0	0	64	1	2	0	1	63
Males	253	215	1	0	103	9	3	1	0	
Jacks	72	19	0	0	8	1	0	1	0	
TOTAL	509	360	1	0	175	11	5	2	1	63

Fall Cr Falls	Coho		Steelhead		Fall Chinook		Chum	Sockeye	Pink	Sea-run
	Wild	Hatchery	Wild	Hatchery	Wild	Hatchery	Wild	Wild	Wild	Cutthroat
Females	84	1	1	0	12	0	0	0	0	16
Males	157	7	0	0	33	1	0	0	0	
Jacks	26	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	267	9	1	0	47	1	0	0	0	16