

Stanislaus River Juvenile Outmigration Summary # 13

April 7th - April 13th, 2003

Note: Data is preliminary and subject to revision.

Oakdale:

The trap resumed sampling the evening of April 7th and sampled through April 11th. The trap was raised on April 11th due to consistently low catch; however, it resumed sampling again the evening of April 12th due to a scheduled reduction in discharge at Goodwin Dam (GDW) from 800 cfs to 650 cfs. A total of 621 Chinook were captured between April 8th and April 13th increasing the season total to 88,838. Total Chinook catch last week was similar to the total number captured the previous week. Daily catch ranged from 59 to 184 Chinook. Mean forklength for the week was 66.8 mm (range: 46 mm to 95 mm), which was an increase of 3.7 mm over the previous week. Mean weight was similar to the previous week at 3.1 g. A 49 mm (SI 3) and 238 mm (SI 5) trout were captured on April 9th and April 10th, respectively, increasing the season total to 24 at Oakdale.

As reported in the past, we are again observing obvious discrepancies between the readings at the GDW and OBB gages (OBB reading up to 125 cfs less than GDW). Between April 7th and April 13th flow at GDW ranged between 732 cfs and 808 cfs. Turbidity remained fairly stable throughout the sampling period (range: 1.5 NTU to 2.9 NTU) as did water temperature (range: 52 to 54 degrees Fahrenheit).

No trap efficiency releases or livebox efficiency tests were performed during this sampling period.

Caswell:

The trap resumed sampling the evening of April 7th and sampled through April 11th. The trap was raised on April 11th due to consistently low catch; however, it resumed sampling again on April 13th due to a scheduled reduction in discharge at Goodwin Dam (GDW) from 800 cfs to 650 cfs. A total of 331 Chinook were captured between April 8th and April 13th increasing the season total to 10,901. Total Chinook catch for the week was similar to the total catch from the previous week. Daily catch gradually decreased from 90 to 33 Chinook during the sampling period. Mean forklength and weight were similar to the previous sampling period at 79.3 mm (range: 55 mm to 101 mm) and 5.3 g. No trout were captured during this sampling period.

Between April 7th and April 13th flow at Ripon (RIP) gradually increased from 665 cfs to 766 cfs due to increases in discharge from Goodwin Dam (GDW). Turbidity fluctuated between 1.5 NTU and 4.4 NTU, and temperature ranged between 57 degrees and 59 degrees Fahrenheit.

Two trap efficiency releases were conducted on two consecutive nights using the traditional method (check livebox ~ 1 hour after release). A total of 168 natural Chinook marked caudal fin pink (CFP) were released on April 9th and April 10th. Flow at release ranged between 726 cfs and 730 cfs at RIP and turbidity ranged between 3.5 NTU and 4.4 NTU at Caswell. The pooled estimate of trap efficiency was 10.1%, which is similar to previous estimates of trap efficiency this year. Mean length was 79.6 mm at release and 75.2 mm at recapture. The discrepancy between mean length at release and recapture was observed during the previous releases with fish of similar size. Data suggests fish size plays an important role in capture efficiency during the parr lifestage. No livebox efficiency tests were conducted during this sampling period.