

Stanislaus River Juvenile Outmigration Summary # 17

May 12th - May 18th, 2003

Note: Data is preliminary and subject to revision.

Oakdale:

The trap resumed sampling the evening of May 12th and continued to sample through May 16th. A total of 455 Chinook were captured during the week increasing the season total to 90,946. Although the trap sampled fewer days than the previous week total catch was greater than the total catch from the previous week. Daily catch ranged between 85 and 151 Chinook. Mean forklength for the week was 80.6 mm (range: 58 mm to 99 mm), which was a 3.0 mm increase over the previous week. Mean weight was similar to the previous week at 5.6 g. A 64 mm (SI 3) trout was captured on May 13th increasing the season total to 34 at Oakdale.

This week we did not observe any significant discrepancies between the Orange Blossom Bridge (OBB) and Goodwin (GDW) gauges (<20 cfs difference). Flow at OBB gradually increased throughout the week from 633 cfs to 976 cfs due to increases in discharge from GDW. Turbidity fluctuated between 0.8 NTU and 2.3 NTU, and water temperature ranged from 54 to 56 degrees Fahrenheit.

Two CWT fish were captured in the Oakdale trap on May 14th and 16th increasing the total captured to 136.

One trap efficiency release was conducted during this sampling period using the traditional method (check livebox ~ 1 hour after release). A total of 55 natural Chinook marked caudal fin yellow (CFY) were released on May 14th. Flow at release was 752 cfs at OBB and turbidity was 2.3 NTU at Oakdale. The estimated trap efficiency was 3.6%, which is similar to previous releases conducted this year during similar flows using fish of similar size. Mean length was 78.8 mm at release and 77.5 mm at recapture.

Caswell:

The traps resumed sampling on the evening of May 12th and sampled through May 15th. A total of 165 Chinook were captured increasing the season total to 13,856. Daily catch ranged between 26 and 80 Chinook. Mean forklength for the week was similar to the previous week at 83.2 mm (range: 71 mm to 107 mm). Mean weight was also similar to the previous week at 5.9 g. A 192 mm (SI 5) trout was captured on May 15th increasing the season total to 13 at Caswell. On May 15th a large piece of lumber entered the trap and knocked one of the cone doors off, which may have allowed fish to escape. The cones were raised on May 15th due to low catches and to repair the trap door.