Please May I Get Upstream? Reintroducing Extirpated Salmon Runs Upstream of Dams



A Concurrent Session at the 40th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference held in Fortuna, California from April 25–28, 2023

Session Coordinators:

- Eric Ginney, Environmental Science Associates
- Randy Beckwith, Department of Water Resources



Climate change, aging water infrastructure, outdated water management schemes, successive years of drought, and increasing demand for water resources have precipitated strong declines in salmonid populations throughout California. Compounding this, longitudinal and lateral disconnections from historical spawning and rearing habitat has triggered a loss of salmonid life history diversity, making species less resilient to change. As a result, reintroductions of salmonids to historical habitat upstream of dams has occurred or is proposed as a recovery strategy. While dam removal may be a viable option in some watersheds, for the large, Central Valley "rim dams" such as Oroville and Shasta dams, removal is not presently contemplated. Rather, trap and haul projects and technologies are being considered and piloted upstream of these large dams and reservoirs. Novel methods are being proposed to enable key runs of salmonids to complete their life history and this session seeks abstracts that describe critical efforts now underway, as well as abstracts that examine the methods, science, and policy implications of salmonid reintroductions to historical habitat.

Presentations



- Slide 4, Yes, You May: Fighting Extinction in the Central Valley with Salmon Reintroductions at Rim Dams, Brian Ellrott, NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Region, California Central Valley Office
- Slide 42, **Considerations for Assisted and Non-assisted Passage at Large Dams,** Jon Mann, P.E., *California Department of Fish and Wildlife*
- Slide 61, Pilot Efforts Supporting Reintroduction: The Juvenile Salmonid Collection System, Randy Beckwith, DWR, and Matthew Silva, ESA
- Slide 92, Winter-Run Chinook Salmon Swim the McCloud River for First Time Since Construction of Shasta Dam: Drought Action Returns Endangered Salmon to Their Historical Habitat, Matthew R. Johnson, CDFW
- Slide 119, A Release Study Assessing the Survival of Juvenile Spring-Run Chinook Salmon in the Upper Klamath River Basin to Inform Reintroduction, Rachelle Tallman, University of California, Davis
- Slide 142, Klamath Basin Fisheries Collaborative: Data Integration for Monitoring Dam Removal, Project Effectiveness Monitoring, and Species Management, Betsy Stapleton, Scott River Watershed Council
- No slides, video available online: Winnemem Wintu Tribe Perspectives on Co-Stewardship of the McCloud River Nur, Honorable Chief Sisk, Winnemem Wintu Tribe



Yes, you may: Fighting Extinction in the Central Valley with Salmon Reintroductions at Rim Dams

Salmonid Restoration Federation April 28, 2023 Brian Ellrott, Stacie Smith, and Rachel Johnson

Winter-run back in the McCloud in 2022

Blocked for decades, Chinook salmon are once again swimming in Shasta County tribe's a<u>ncestral river</u>

Partners Return Winter-Run Chinook Salmon Eggs To McCloud River:

🕷 Drought Action Moves Endangered Salmon Back Into Their Historical

Habitat For First Time Since Construction Of Shasta Dam

Endangered salmon will swim in California river for first time in 80 years

Winter-Run Chinook Salmon's journey to the Pacific from McCloud River

ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

[®] Saving salmon: Chinook return to California's far north — with a lot of human help





Winter-run back in the McCloud in 2022

Exponential growth

Slide courtesy of Rachel Johnson, SWFSC



Central Valley Chinook Salmon



Historically

- Unmatched diversity
- Millions of wild salmon returned to spawn each year

Today

- Diminished diversity
- ~100,000-200,000 salmon/year
- ~90% are hatchery produced



Spawning habitat loss: 90% (Cummins et al. 2008)



Winter-run Chinook salmon (Threatened 1989-1994; Endangered since 1994)





- Historically: 4 populations
- Currently: 1 population that is supplemented with hatchery
 production

Central Valley Spring-run Chinook salmon (Threatened since 1999)



- Historically: ~18 populations
- Currently: 5 wild; 1 hatchery population; 1 experimental



Early 2000s Feather River, Oroville Dam FERC Relicensing



4 independent spring-run Chinook salmon populations extirpated

- West Branch
- North Fork
- Middle Fork
- South Fork

Outcome: No upstream passage



2007 Technical Recovery Team

ESTUARY&WATERSHED

Framework for Assessing Viability of Threatened and Endangered Chinook Salmon and Steelhead in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Basin

Steven T, Lindley*, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Robert S. Schick, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Ethan Mora, University of California, Santa Cruz

Peter B. Adams, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Jumes J. Anderson, University of Washington

Shella Greene, California Department of Water Resources

Charles Hanson, Hanson Environmental, Inc.

Bernard P. May, University of California, Bavis

Dennis R. McEwan, California Department of Fish and Game

R. Bruce MacFarlane, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Christina Swanson, The Bay Institute

John G. Williams, Independent consultant

*Corresponding author: steve.lindley@noaa.gov

ABSTRACT

Protected evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) of salmonids require objective and measurable criteria for golding their recovery. In this report, we develop a method for assessing population viability and two ways to integrate these population-level assessments into an assessment of ESU viability. Fopulation viability is assessed with quantitative extinction models or criteria relating to population size, population growth rate, the occurrence of catastrophic declines, and the degree of hatchery influence. ESU viability is assessed by examining the number and distribution of viable populations across the landscape and their proximity to sources of catastrophic disturbance.

Central Valley spring-run and winter-run Chinook salmon ESUs are not currently viable, according to the criteria-based assessment. In both ESUs, extant populations may be at low risk of extinction, but these populations represent a small portion of the historical ESUs, and are vulnerable to catastrophic disturbance. The winter-run Chinook salmon ESU, in the extreme case, is represented by a single population that spawns outside of its historical spawning range. We are unable to assess the starts of the Central Valley "To recover Central Valley salmon and steelhead ESUs, some populations will need to be established in areas now blocked by dams or insufficient flows. Assuming that most of these dams will remain in place for the foreseeable future, it will be necessary to move fish around the dams." Lindley et al. 2007



2008

Salmon, Steelhead, and Trout in California

Status of an Emblematic Fauna

A report commissioned by California Trout, 2008

PETER B. MOYLE, JOSHUA A. ISRAEL, AND SABRA E. PURDY CENTER FOR WATERSHED SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

DAVIS, CA 95616



Beyond Conservation: New knowledge for a new era of river restoration and management.

"Barrier removal or some kind of trap and truck operation will thus likely be a major part of spring Chinook conservation in the next century." Moyle et al. 2008



2008



"It seems unlikely that these populations can be restored without providing access to at least some of that unutilized habitat."

"...they [USBR&USFWS] will need to investigate the feasibility, benefits, costs and risks of investing in passage to spawning and rearing habitat upstream of the dams." Cummins et al. 2008



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2009-CVP/SWP biological opinion salmon reintroduction program



Required Reclamation to reintroduce winter-run, spring-run, and steelhead to the McCloud River

Ultimately Reclamation pulled the funding; DWR steps up

Trump administration threatens jail time for California officials over river project

BY DALE KASLER AND RYAN SABALOW UPDATED SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 10:31 AM

Outcome: Habitat assessment, no upstream passage; 2019 biological opinion does not include passage.



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2010-Yuba Salmon Forum, Yuba Salmon Partnership, term sheets



Collaborative initiatives to return spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead to the Upper Yuba River

Outcome: no upstream passage, yet



2010 Recovery Planning Workshops Discussions begin with the Winnemem Wintu Tribe



2011 Tribe welcomes Federal government to their salmon ceremony and to their village

Different goals: Tribe (New Zealand Nur) NMFS (winter-run Chinook salmon)

Outcome: No fish passage



2014 NOAA Fisheries Recovery Plan



RECOVERY PLAN

FOR THE EVOLUTIONARILY SIGNIFICANT UNITS OF

SACRAMENTO RIVER WINTER-RUN CHINOOE SALMON AND CENTRAL VALLEY SPRING-RUN CHINOOE SALMON

AND

THE DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT OF

CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY STEELHEAD

- Secure existing populations
- Reintroduce fish to historical habitats



FISH

2015/2016 NOAA Fisheries Species in the Spotlight



Initiated at the highest levels of NOAA Fisheries to take action to prevent the extinction of the most at risk species

Staffing support: 2015 - Jon Ambrose started working as the NOAA Fisheries Reintroduction Coordinator; 2019 - Stacie Smith, FERC branch



2020-2022: Drought

"Never let a good crisis go to waste" –Winston Churchill





Winter-run temperature-dependent egg mortality



Egg to fry mortality

88 percent in 2020 97 percent in 2021 Projected to be >90 percent in 2022

NOAA FISHERIES

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2022 Urgent Salmon Actions





2022 Winter-run eggs to the McCloud

•Objective: Spread risk to winter-run by incubating hatchery eggs on-site at the McCloud River and gain knowledge on fish behavior in historical habitat

- •Number of eggs: 40,000
- •Number of juveniles transported: 1,600







McCloud River stays cold during drought





Reintroductions or extinctions

Winter-run Chinook salmon endangered for 33 years

Spring-run Chinook salmon threatened for 23 years

Extinction risk is increasing as climate change impacts continue

Access to historical, high elevation, cold water habitat is necessary to prevent winter-run Chinook salmon and spring-run Chinook salmon extinction



Dam Displaces Winnemem Wintu Tribe and their *Nur* (salmon)



Dancing Salmon Home



Dam Displaces Winnemem Wintu Tribe and their *Nur* (salmon)



Dancing Salmon Home



Starting a journey with the Winnemem Wintu Tribe and CDFW to bring salmon home to the McCloud River



@winnememwintu



Winnemem Wintu Tribe, CDFW and NOAA Fisheries to Sign Salmon Agreement May 1

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), NOAA Fisheries and the Winnemem Wintu Tribe will formally sign a Co-Management Agreement for Chinook salmon in the mountains north of Redding, Calif., on May 1, 2023. The agreement supports a joint effort to return Chinook salmon to their original spawning areas in the cold mountain rivers now blocked by the Shasta Dam Reservoir in northern California. The unprecedented and historic agreement gives the Tribe a seat at the table for decisions affecting salmon that have great value for all Californians.



Art by Blane Bellerud (NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region) based on a story from Chief Sisk of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe



Thank You!







Historical spawning, rearing, and holding habitat = 347 miles. Four Independent populations

Current spawning, rearing, and holding habitat ≈ 10-25 miles (100% outside of historical range). One Independent population



Central Valley Chinook Salmon

"I have never seen anything like it anywhere, not even on the tributaries of the Columbia. On the afternoon of the 15th of August there was a space in the river below the rack about 50 foot wide and 80 feet long where, if a person could have balanced himself, he could actually have walked anywhere on the backs of the salmon, they were so thick. I have often heard travelers make this remark about salmon in small streams, so I know that it is not an uncommon thing in streams below a certain size, but to see salmon as thick as this in a river of so great volume as the McCloud must, I think, be a rare sight."

-Livingston Stone, U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries 1878



Outline

Central Valley salmon status then and now

Recovery Plan

NMFS reintroduction priorities

Focus on winter-run Chinook salmon and the McCloud River

Recap



Cannot recover winter-run and spring-run without reintroductions

ework for Assessing Viability of Threatened ndangered Chinook Salmon and Steelhead in acramento-San Joaquin Basin ley". National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration lek, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration hiversity of California, Santa Cruz is. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration erson, University of Versitington	
Cannot lose any more	
populations	
Habitat must be	
expanded to restore	
populations in key	com xoit
watersheds	g to pop
	work for Assessing Viability of Threatened in dangered Chinook Salmon and Steelhead in cramento-San Joaquin Basin. w?* Ndoral Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration threatened in cramento and Atmospheric Administration threatened to restore populations in key and to restore populations in key

by examining the number and distribution of viable

RECOVERY PLAN

FOR THE EVOLUTIONARILY SIGNIFICANT UNITS OF

SACRAMENTO RIVER WINTER-RUN CHINOOK SALMON AND CENTRAL VALLEY SPRING-RUN CHINOOK SALMON

AND

THE DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT OF

CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY STEELHEAD



Winter-run

Spring-run



Steelhead

National Marine Fisheries Service

West Coast Region

Sacramento, California

July 2014





g to the

popuing a storical sance.

are unable to assess the status of the Central Valley

Recovery Strategy

-Secure existing populations -Reintroduce fish to historical habitats

• Reintroduction priorities:

- McCloud River (winter-run, spring-run, steelhead
- Battle Creek (winter-run)
- Upper Yuba River (spring-run and steelhead)
- San Joaquin River (spring-run)
- Tuolumne and/or Merced (spring-run)



Over time, salmon and steelhead evolved to their unique geographic surroundings Whether it be low elevation rivers fed by rainfall or high elevation streams sustained by snow-melt, the populations adapted genetically to the flow, water temperature, and habitat conditions of particular regions. Diversity groups represent the varied landscapes and subsequent genetic identity of the salmon and steelhead populations. Recovering the species requires the protection and restoration of populations in each of the diversity groups shown on this map.

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Winter-run Chinook salmon rely on cold water releases from Shasta Dam











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Extinction Risk

Winter-run



Winter-run	2010	2015	2020
	Review	Review	Review
Extinction Risk	Low	Moderate	High



	2010	2015	2020
Mill Creek	High	Moderate	High
Deer Creek	High	Moderate	High
Butte Creek	Low	Low	Low
Battle Creek	High	Moderate	High
Clear Creek	High	Moderate	High
Feather River H	High	High	High

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table from Rachel Johnson (NMFS)

CONSIDERATIONS FOR ASSISTED AND NON-ASSISTED PASSAGE AT LARGE DAMS PRESENTED BY:

CALIEO

Jon Mann, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

What is assisted migration?



Assisted population migration

- Assisted range expansion
- Assisted species migration







Assisted Population Migration

Assisted Range Expansion

Assisted Species Migration

Assisted migration for animals



CONNECTIVITY & CLIMATE CHANGE TOOLKIT • "some species may need help more immediately through assisted migration or other approaches"



What is non-assisted migration?



- Volitional fish passage: the concept of giving fish the choice of moving upstream or downstream based on their own motivation
- A concrete fish ladder with an open-ended inlet and outlet can provide volitional fish passage, usually designed for adult salmonids
- Partially volitional/semi-volitional

Shasta Dam



- Completed in 1945
- Structural height = 602 ft
- Hydraulic height = 525.5 ft
- Full reservoir elevation = 1067 ft
- Tailrace/tailwater elevation ~588 ft
- Lowest reservoir elevation = 882 ft in October 2021 (previous low was 890 ft in November 2014)

Keswick Dam



- Completed in 1950
- Structural height = 157 ft
- Hydraulic height = 118 ft
- Tailrace/tailwater elevation ~475 ft
- 12 step fish ladder (pool and weir) leads to trap with hopper for lifting fish to transport truck

Shasta-Keswick complex



- 9.5 "river" miles between the dams
- 23 mostly reservoir miles from Shasta Dam to McCloud Bridge



Volitional Passage Feasibility - Keswick



- Ice Harbor example (and other Columbia River/Snake River dams – 12 total with big fish ladders)
- Approximately 100 feet of water surface difference (headwater – tailwater)
- Two "Ice Harbor" style fish ladders ~1400 ft long each

Volitional Passage Feasibility - Keswick



- Approximately 90 to 95 feet of water surface difference
- Feasible?:
 - Engineering yes
 - Biological maybe
- Collection, sorting, holding, transfer facility for fish management

Volitional Passage Feasibility - Shasta



- Up to 490 feet of water surface difference
- Large reservoir fluctuation range during time of adult salmon migration

Reservoir considerations



- Reservoir February-May elevation range
- 2014 dry year el. 936 to 979
- 2021 dry year el. 959 to 979
- 2017 wet year el. 1024 to 1062
- 2019 wet year el. 1004 to 1065
- Dry year range ~ 40 feet
- Wet year range ~ 60 feet
- All years range ~ 130 feet

Volitional Passage Feasibility - Shasta



 Requires hydraulic connectivity – equalized water surface elevation for the range of headwater (reservoir) elevations within the fish passage period

Volitional Passage Feasibility - Shasta



- Feasible?:
 - Engineering sure
 - Biological uncertain effectiveness
- Semi-volitional option? – still uncertain effectiveness

Fish Passage Feasibility



 If volitional passage is determined to be infeasible, then the study shall consider nonvolitional passage



Shasta Dam? Bridge Bay Hirz Bay? McCloud Bridge?

Truck transport



• Road distance

From	То	Miles
Keswick	Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery	11
Keswick	Centimudi (boat ramp nearest Shasta Dam)	9.5
Keswick	Bridge Bay Marina	14
Keswick	Hirz Bay	31*
Keswick	McCloud Bridge	38**
LSNFH	Centimudi	2.7
LSNFH	Bridge Bay Marina	13
LSNFH	Hirz Bay	30*
LSNFH	McCloud Bridge	37**

*- tortuous

** - more tortuous

Possible fish passage program – phase 1



- Continue fish collection at Keswick with sorting
 and holding at LSNFH
- Transfer selected fish to McCloud River
- Evaluate reservoir passage adult and juvenile life stages
- Evaluate juvenile fish passage through dams
- Evaluate biological effectiveness of volitional passage options including tributary bypass alternatives
- Design and implement improvements at Keswick

Possible fish passage program – phase 2



- Design and implement most biologically effective fish passage alternative
- Design and implement second most biologically effective fish passage alternative
- Adaptive improvement
- Create a problem of having too many fish!

Assist or not assist?



This is the way

CDFW Mission

To manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and their use and enjoyment by the public.



Juvenile Salmonid Collection System for Shasta Dam Fish Passage

Randy Beckwith JSCS Project Engineering Lead

Riverine Stewardship Program





Presentation Overview

- Background/History
- The Juvenile Salmonid Collection System (JSCS)
- Site selection and installation
- Testing and results
- Changes for 2023





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Shasta Juvenile Salmonid Collection System History

- 2009 NMFS Biological Opinion Reclamation leads Fish Passage Program
- 2015 Juvenile Collection Design Workshop
- 2017 DWR contract with Reclamation to lead juvenile collection effort
- 2018 JSCS Design Team formed led by DWR
 - Included USBR, NMFS, DFW, Environmental Science Associates
 - Pacific Netting Products, Winnemem Wintu, Trout Unlimited added later



- 2019 JSCS fabricated. New BiOp. Reclamation decides not to lead Fish Passage Program.
- 2020 and 2021 Funding sought. Partnership with Winnemem Wintu began. USFS Special Use Permit and CEQA.
- 2022 CDFW funds project. JSCS installed and tested.



Reintroduction at Shasta Dam





Main JSCS Design Challenges

- Big, long reservoir with unknown flow patterns
- High water temperatures and stratification
- Predation
- Large fluctuations in lake elevation
- High potential debris loads
- High/low flows in the McCloud River
- Recreation and resident fish impacts
- Multiple culturally significant sites
- Private fishing clubs
- No power





Juvenile Collection Solutions

- Agency experts were assembled in 2015 (CA, OR, WA)
- Brainstormed design concepts
- Due to our challenges, they recommended we look at both In-River and Head-of-Reservoir locations





Downstream Passage Collection Location



WATER RESOURCES

From AECOM 2010

JSCS Design Objectives

- Pilot effort so keep it simple
- Passive use fish behavior instead of pumps
- Efficient at collecting fish
- Low predation
- Safe for operators and public
- Low impact

- Easy to operate and maintain
- Movable and removable
- Flexible, versatile, and adaptable to varying conditions (wet – drought)
- Cost effective











Guidance Net










JSCS Site Selection

Storages

- USBR reservoir estimates
- Computer exercise
- On the ground vetting



regeral End of	the mouth St	orage/Ere	vation (1)	Ar/reeq									
A-0250	3.5 (29/2:21)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Trinity	807	756	693	646	589	505	423	394	372	356	360	393	459
	Elev:	2225	2216	2209	2200	2186	2170	2164	2159	2155	2156	2164	2177
Whiskeytown	213	238	238	238	238	238	238	206	206	206	206	206	206
	Elev.	1209	1205	1205	1209	1205	1209	1159	1159	1159	1199	1199	1195
Shasta	1735	1746	1646	1523	1382	1238	1135	1132	1117	1106	1229	1432	1755
	Elev.	942	935	927	.917	906	897	897	896	895	905	921	943
Folsom	584	670	669	556	366	302	298	274	254	243	272	345	293
	Elev.	436	435	423	398	388	387	382	379	377	382	395	386
New Melones	935	908	831	753	690	638	611	569	572	574	580	578	574
	Elev.	929	918	905	894	885	880	872	872	873	874	873	873
San Luis	333	332	300	231	142	110	87	31	73	130	332	328	311
	Elev.	445	438	422	403	391	383	369	379	399	436	432	430
Total	10000	4651	4376	3947	3407	3031	2792	2506	2594	2614	2980	3281	3602







JSCS Site for 2022

Juvenile Salmonid Collection System Potential Installation Reach

JSCS Installation Schedule

- Delivery to Hirz Bay Boat Ramp: September 6
- Deployment, assembly installation of JSCS: September 6 – September 15
- Testing of JSCS: September 16

 November 11
- Removal of JSCS: November 14 - November 21







WATERWAY





Anchoring





Testing Focus 2022

- Operations
- Temperature control
- Hydraulics and flow manipulation
- Resident fish passage and assemblage
- Weather
- Debris



Temperature Data Collection Summary

Water Temperature Sensors (Continuous)

- 21 locations along McCloud River Arm
- 59 Individual sensors
 - Stratified by depth
- Hourly readings from 9/6/2022 11/15/2022
 - Pre-deployment through several configurations

Vertical Water Quality profiles (Discrete)

- Over 100 vertical water quality profiles
- Upstream (US) and downstream (DS) of JSCS structural elements





Water Temperature Sensor Locations



*St25000C was relocated DS on 9/27/22

Hydraulics

- Flow 257 850 cfs
- Panel lowering
- Notch flow and loading



Predatory Fish

- 210 Predatory fish captured
 - 79% Spotted Bass
 - 11% Rainbow Trout
 - Other 10% Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass, Brown Trout, Sacramento Pikeminnow, Brown Bullhead Catfish

*Data not fully analyzed. **Snorkel data not processed to date.





General Observations and Challenges

- Guidance net not on the bottom even with extra weight
- Cold water passing under guidance net even with impermeable panels down, no flow through notch
- Temperature curtain worked, just not to the level needed
- Reservoir water temperatures became more uniform in November
- Guidance net billowed downstream under the docks
- Resident fish passage observations difficult
- Lots of spotted bass under the docks
- Debris loading was low

2023 Goal - Move Closer to the River

- Shallower water Install 15' of depth instead of 30'
- Colder water mixed
- Narrower channel
- "V" shape steeper angle
- Have to move it more often
- Catch released WR Chinook





2023 Testing Location







Juvenile Salmonid Collection System Potential Installation Reach

Miles





Thank you!

Randy Beckwith JSCS Project Engineering Lead Randy.Beckwith@water.ca.gov

DWR Riverine Stewardship Program





The McCloud River Pilot Project, 2022 (Winnemem Wintu Tribe, NMFS, and CDFW)

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Matt Johnson California Department of Fish and Wildlife SRF April 28, 2023



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An unlikely project, a river, a people, and a hope and a prayer for California salmon...

Drought gives life to a project:

(emergency drought actions in 2022)

- 1. Increase production of winter-run Chinook salmon production at LSNFH
- Relocate a portion of adult winterrun trapped at CNFH and LSNFH to Battle Creek, upstream of Eagle Canyon Dam.
- Relocate spring-run collected incidentally at the Keswick Trap to Clear Creek.
- 4. Initiate a secondary captive broodstock of winter-run Chinook salmon.
- 5. Incubate a portion of winter-run
 Chinook salmon eggs from Livingston
 Stone National Fish Hatchery along
 the McCloud River.





A people. The Winnemem Wintu









The McCloud "Pilot Project"

- We brought fertilized eggs of endangered winter-run Chinook Salmon to the McCloud River.
- Incubated them at a campground, released the hatched fry into the river, and tried to catch them 20 miles downstream before they entered Lake Shasta.
- And we didn't exactly know what we were doing or if it would work...?



Remote Site Incubation??



Success!!



Eyed Winter-Run Chinook Eggs Sourced from LSNFH





4 genetic crosses per female 22 total females x 8 males

Two groups of 20K eyed-eggs brought over, representing two separate spawn groups. Group #1 on July 11 and #2 on August 8



Trouble ahead! Mud Creek turbidity event starting approx. July 14:







Too much goo...



Rapid Transition to Heath Tray System





We got the egg situation squared away, but developmental issues apparent with first egg group:



- Overall hatch-rate with first batch quite good
- However, developmental issues began to show
- "Curly-q's" and coagulated yolk disease...
- Egg to fry survival 80% Group 1 vs 96% group 2

Group #1 ready for release in early September!

- The Winnemem Wintu built temporary rock holding pools along a downstream beach
- Fry "ready to go" removed from health trays and bucketed to release site
- This activity started approx.
 8-9:30 pm on Sept 4, 2022




In total, 35,313 juvenile winter-run released at Ah-Di-Na. Chinook were swimming in the McCloud again. It had been almost 80 years...

Meanwhile, downstream at McCloud Bridge...



McCloud Bridge September 7, 2022:

- Trapping site completed on Friday, September 3rd
- With staff spread between watching eggs at Ah-Di-Na and other projects we did not set traps until afternoon of September 6...
- At 1:30 pm on September 7, <u>88</u> Chinook fry were in our traps!



Capture and transport to the Sacramento River:

- A total of 1,634 juvenile winterrun captured, 27 of those were mortalities
- Fry transported in a simple 5gallon cooler with air stone
- Only 7 fish perished during transport
- Fry released at or near the Redding Rodeo Grounds boat ramp to continue their journey to the ocean



In total, 1,600 juvenile winter-run successfully released into the lower Sacramento River

an blankright

McCloud Chinook trapping wrap-up:

- We operated traps at McCloud Bridge September 6 thru December 12.
- Gear changes made throughout season based on experimentation and environmental conditions
- Five capture-efficiency trials conducted. Trapping site up to 38% capture efficient based on these trials
- Based on efficiency trials an estimated 4, 400 juvenile Chinook migrated to site during trapping period



Onward:

- We successfully reared and released Chinook in a remote wilderness setting and successfully captured and translocated non-trivial numbers of fish.
- A Co-Management agreement between Fish Agencies and WWT will be signed on May 1st, setting the stage for returning all runs of Chinook to the McCloud, including returning wild salmon from New Zealand and creating volitional passage around Shasta Dam



McCloud "2.0" set to begin in June, 2023.
We hope to do even better

And a hope and a prayer answered for winter-run Chinook...

> ... a first step to get them off the valley floor and back home to the McCloud River



Estimating survival of spring-run Chinook salmon released in the Upper Klamath River Basin

> Rachelle Tallman Graduate Student Researcher UC Davis



Klamath Basin Timeline







Map by: Mark Hereford, ODFW



Photo by: 122 Jeff Barnard Photo by: Leah Mellinger



Photo by: Brittany Hosea-Small









2021

Implementation Plan

What is the out-migration survival of released spring-run Chinook in the Upper Klamath River Basin?



Study Area



Using Acoustic Telemetry to Assess Survival

- Mark-recapture method that has high detection efficiency
- Not affected by salinity
- Stationary units and be deployed across large spatial areas







ATS SS 300 Tag



How acoustic telemetry work



- Intra-		TIT	(tite in]	Contra percentente can Ca 🔚 met per en can Ca 🖯 Download, 200219.cov 🛛
1.1	44657.7468750,	0.65915,	4733,	6
12	16657/7668750y.	0.06227,	45322;	.0
- 78	44657.7469213,	0.61120,	26622,	0
- 14	44657.7469329,	0.59169,	2697,	2
1.5	45657.75693297	0.58740.	¢2703,	0
- 6	44657.7469329,	0.64715,	16839,	0
10	44607.7469329/	0.67900,	36686,	5
10	44652.7469444,	0:69732.	17499;	3
1.2	44657.7469560,	0.72386,	61439,	G -
10	44657.7469676,	0.51420,	40326,	1
1.1	44657.7469907,	0.99620.	40980;	0
3.2	44657.7470023,	0.06300,	65532,	0
13	46657.7670023,	0.79073,	37371,	0
34	44657.9472605;	0.94170.	53380,	0
3.5	44657.7532176,	0.09038,	1,	6
18	46657.7592699;	0.47961,	65453,	6
1.9	44657,7534954,	0507214,	65450,	6
16	44657.7537153,	0.66343,	65453,	6
3.9	46657.0599668,	0,256374	\$5453.	6
3/0	44687.7541667,	0.64063,	\$5453.	é
- 22	44637.7547569,	0.52168,	1,	7
22	10057.15070372	0,54316,	32511,	9
2.3	44657.3594907,	0.71637,	1023,	7
24	44657.7601389,	0:06523,	1023,	7
25	10057.0050250,	0.52975,	1.	1
26	44657,7697917,	0.52399,	i,	7
- 22	44657.7709954,	0.23390,	1.	7
20	44657.0712500,	0.19070.	36437	. 9
3.5	44657.7762037,	0.47397,	١,	7
30	44657.7860648,	0.58221,	16383,	8
31	44657,7095949;	0,99055,	1,	0
22	44657.7915046,	0.31711,	1023,	8
33	44657.8038426,	0.79545,	496,	e .
3.6	44657,80040367	0,59009,	1023,	1
35	44657.8099190,	0.63460,	1,	8
36	10057.0103356,	0.96827,	1,	- E
3.2	44657.1120949,	0.93618,	I.	1
38	44637.8199884;	0,15540,	8196,	8
35	14657.8329970.	0.25123,	1.	8
4.11	44657.8332292,	0.42480,	1023,	8
41	44657.8359722,	0.63040,	1023,	8
-62	10057.000000,	0.55454,	20475	U
長吉	44657.8401042,	0.38121,	1623,	A
6.4	44657.8443287,	0.66499,	1,	8



Study Area





Acoustic tagging from 03/28-04/01

















Fish Release 04/04

- Released **513** in Williamson River at Collier State Park
- Released **513** In Wood River at USFS Day Use Area
- First Receiver Download 04/27-04/29

Preliminary Acoustic Results

April 4th

- Williamson: **513**
- Wood: **513**
 - Downloaded receivers: April 27th – 29th
- Results are based on having at least 4 detections within 120 second interval
- PRI = 5







Upcoming Work









April 12, 2023

- Williamson: 350
- Wood: 352
- Tag Effects fish: 31







Special Thanks





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT







































Klamath Basin Fisheries Collaborative: Data Integration for Monitoring Dam Removal, Project Effectiveness Monitoring, and Species Management.

Betsy Stapleton^{*}, Alta C. Harris, Nancy L_{gonard} PhD, and Summer M. Burdick *Presenter

Klamath River Basin







ENT HEPE Garmin FAO LISGS EPA NPE (Source LISDA NRCS For



Pointered by Esri

"The Klamath dam removal will be the largest salmon restoration project in history." Jared Huffman, California Rep. (D), April 17, 2022


Meet the Klamath Basin Fish



Figure 1-2. IFRMP focal fish species. Photos credited to (1) BLM, (2) Oregon State University, (3) ODFW, (4) Jason Ching, (5) USFWS, (5) Sam Beebe, all images public domain or licensed under CC by 2.0.



















Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) Tags

Diverse Monitoring Entities, Locations and Objectives



Build a Cooperative Database



Share PIT tagging data among data producers and researchers in the Klamath Basin

Leadership Team Members:

- Karuk Tribe
- Klamath Tribe
- Yurok Tribe
- Pacific States Marine Fisheries
 Council
- USGS
- Scott River Watershed Council

Priorities for a Successful Shared Database

- Store Data for the Long Term
- Compile Klamath Basin PIT Tagging Data
 - Secure and reliable format
 - Easily accessible
 - Return accurate near real time results
- Locate and remediate inconsistencies
- Facilitate communication between participants
- Provide technical support



Communication And Collaboration



- Database Leadership Group
- Data Sharing Agreement
- Meetings
 - Policy/Governance
 - Feature Request
 - Science
 - Experience
- Data Management
- Technical Support
- Collaborative Side Projects

Structure

Interfaces

And Methods





- USGS and PSMFC
- SQL Server database
 - Schema 0
 - Views \bigcirc
- Standardization
- Web Application
 - Administrator Interface Ο
 - **User Interface** \bigcirc
 - Query Tools
 - Maps
 - Interactive

Visualizations

REST Services Ο

Home Summary Data My Fish Remote Time Series Download My Data Submit Data

	Process Remote Da	ta .	Ec	lit Site Data	Submit New Si
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-	24	20	2019-05-01 12:27:49:000000	M_85H_WeirA_03-02-2019.bxt	10900	3DD.0038C323CA	989001002644426	Weir	Remote MUX	BRD	26	1
-	25	20	2019-05-01 12 12 34 000000	M_85H_WeirA_03-02-2019.bd	10908	3D9.1C2DE30597	963121028937111	Weir	Remote MUX	BRD	27	
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2	26	20	2019-05-01 13:06:47:000000	M_BSH_WeirA_05-02-2019.txt	10908	3DD.003C08E807	969001007217415	Weir	Remote MUX	BRD	29	
,0	26	20	2019-05-01 13:14:52:000000	M_BSH_WeirA_03-02-2019.txt	10908	3D9.1C2DC3F210	965121026900496	Weir	Remote MUX	ERD	30	
	26	20	2019-05-01 13:22:53:000000	M_BSH_WeVA_05-02-2019.bit	10906	3D9.1C2DE2D497	965121028924567	Weir	Remote MUK	BRD	31	
1	25	20	2019-05-01 13:25:51.000000	M_BSH_WeirA_05-02-2019.bit	10906	3D9.1C2DE2D497	965121028924567	Weir	Remote MUX	BRD	32	
413												-

Submit Data from Table







Looking To the Future - Technical

- Live Application
- Improve Administrator Interface
- Build an Interface to Describe Transceiver Outages
- Improve Mapping Tools
- Continued Support and Maintenance
 - Database Administrators
 - Participant Outreach
 - Electronic Data Collection







Bottom-up collaborative effort driven by field researchers

- Funding- USFWS BIL Year 1 Received, Year 2 Submitted
- Formal Governance Structure- soon to be released
 - PSMFC- to be lead
 - Paid Coordinator
 - Decision Making Structure
 - Collaborative Governs the Database and Joint Decisions, members' decisions are subject only to the originating entity.
- Decisions to be made
 - Site prioritization
 - Collaborative Projects and Funding Distribution
 - Additional species/techniques/data parameters/partners (acoustic telemetry, water quality)
- On Going Education, Collaboration, Research
 - New locations- Bogus Creek
 - New species and study plans- Tagging Chinook at RST
 - Arrays in dam removal reach
 - Annual Meetings
 - Field Tours





Data Project *and* a People Project





How can PIT tags help us learn about the aquatic species in the Scott Watershed?

Two-Summer Coho

- Traditional life history: 18 months in freshwater and 18 months in marine
- Tagging and recapturing shows that some are staying in freshwater for longer periods



Tag No	Date	Species	Stream	FL(mm)	Weight (g)	Recapture Date	FL (mm)	Weight (g)
989001041193863	1/21/2022	Cohsal	French Creek	71	3.6	8/10/2022	97	10.5
989001041194084	3/15/2022	Cohsal	French Creek	70	3.4	8/2/2022	96	10
989001041194110	3/15/2022	Cohsal	French Creek	159 70	3.2	8/10/2022	87	7.7

Mid French Creek - PIT Array Network 2022 - 2023



Fall Juvenile Redistribution

French Creek downstream array:

- 12/6-12/21 (red): 1 unique detection
- 12/21-1/4 (green): 58 unique detections



How can a tributary network contribute to a basin wide understanding?

Tag No. 989001028154351

- Emerged in Shasta River (likely Big Springs Creek) in late-winter 2020
- Migrated to cold water refugia on the mainstem Klamath River near the mouth of Independence Creek (~108 miles) in spring 2020
- On September 22, 2020 this fish was weighed, measured and PIT tagged by the Karuk Tribe Fisheries Program. 83 mm and 6.3 grams
- Likely left Independence Creek and headed to the estuary/ocean (~95 miles) in spring 2021
- Re-entered the Klamath River in fall 2022 and arrived at the Shasta River (~175 miles) weir on December 12, 2022







Tag No. 98900103996587

- Tagged in Miners Creek BDA habitat in February 2021
- Detected moving downstream on French Creek arrays on April 4th, 2021
- Detected on at the Scott River weir on December 14th, 2022
- Detected entering French Creek on December 25th, 2022



Tag No. 989001028582746

- Tagged in Salt Creek by the Yurok Tribe on January 24th, 2023. 117 mm and 17.8 g.
- Also detected leaving Salt Creek on January 24th.
- Detected by NOAA and HSU in Prairie Creek (a tributary to Redwood Creek) on February 15th.
- This is a journey of ~24 miles, ~18 of which are in the ocean.



"If you want to go fast, go alone; If you want to go far, go together"



Save the Date

Klamath Basin Fisheries Collaborative Spring 2023 Meeting June, 13-14. Yreka, Ca.





KBFishc.net

Betsy Stapleton, Scott River Watershed Council Betsy@Scottriver.org