

California Cooperative Fishery Research Unit
Humboldt State University

June 2, 2000

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6357
See Doc. 7606

David A. McLeod
Department of Fish and Game
Northern California North-Coast Region
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Mr. McLeod

Subject: **Prairie Creek Downstream Migration Study**

I apologize for failing to have sent a summary report for the month of April. The onset of class finals and field work kept me from entering trap data in a timely fashion. I am just now getting caught up and finally have some summary results regarding the downstream migrant trapping efforts in Prairie Creek.

To date we now have four fyke traps operating in Boyes, Streelow and Prairie Creek. The fyke trap in Browns Creek was removed on May 24, 2000. There are a couple of interesting items to note from the included catch summary table. There have been significant catches of age 0+ trout in the past two weeks, primarily at the lower Prairie and Boyes Creek fyke traps. In addition, it does not appear that adult Chinook salmon utilized Streelow and Boyes Creek for spawning habitat.

As you are aware, my primary interest in operating the fish traps is to determine over-winter survival of juvenile coho salmon in upper Prairie Creek using release-recapture analysis of PTF tagged coho. To date we have caught 415 tagged fish at the upper Prairie Creek trap site and 79 tagged fish at the lower site. Of the tagged fish caught at the lower trap site, 31 of the 79 tag recaptures were caught at both Prairie Creek traps. This leads me to conclude two things: 1) the lower Prairie Creek fyke trap is relatively efficient and 2) a large majority of the tagged fish captured at the upper trap have not yet migrated past the lower Prairie Creek trap. Given this, we are going to continue operating the mainstem Prairie Creek traps for another two weeks to assess potential lag migration of tagged coho salmon (see included bar graph). Streelow and Boyes Creek traps will be operated for one more week and then pulled for the summer.

If there are any questions or concerns please contact me at the above e-mail address or at 826-3516. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Kyle Brakensiek

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Total catch, mortality and percent mortality by species and trap site for the 1999-00 downstream migrant fish trapping efforts in Prairie Creek basin, northern California through May 31, 2000.

Ammocete	19	0	0.00	98	5	5.10	37	0	0.00	19	0	0.00	13	0	0.00
Tailed Frog	0	0	0.00	4	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	8	0	0.00
C. Range Sculpin	24	0	0.00	9	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	2	0	0.00
Prickly Sculpin	153	1	0.65	43	0	0.00	308	5	1.62	11	0	0.00	1	0	0.00
PGS	37	0	0.00	79	3	3.80	28	1	3.85	12	0	0.00	177	9	5.08
Pacific Lamprey	33	0	0.00	35	1	2.86	8	1	12.50	5	0	0.00	2	0	0.00
Brook Lamprey	5	0	0.00	50	0	0.00	4	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
1+ Cutthroat	429	4	0.83	605	6	0.99	238	1	0.42	89	0	0.00	11	0	0.00
0+ Coho	2828	22	0.78	2264	6	0.26	10687	29	0.27	225	0	0.00	1589	4	0.25
1+ Coho	719	7	0.97	1494	49	3.28	673	7	1.04	149	4	3.98	8	0	0.00
Steelhead	1	0	0.00	7	0	0.00	5	0	0.00	2	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
0+ Chinook	24627	155	0.83	11598	11	0.09	6	0	0.00	94	0	0.00	3	0	0.00
Red-Legged Frog	1	0	0.00	28	0	0.00	12	0	0.00	35	0	0.00	7	0	0.00
Sucker	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	8	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
0+ Trout	2680	14	0.52	399	2	0.50	8	0	0.00	1193	8	0.00	179	6	3.35
1+ Trout	503	7	1.39	180	5	2.83	111	1	0.90	123	1	0.00	15	0	0.00
Trap Info															
Start Date	3/12/00			10/13/99			10/13/99			10/13/99			31100		
End Date	5/31/00			5/31/00			5/31/00			5/31/00			5/24/00		
Days II Period	81			232			232			232			85		
Days Fished	77			190			175			181			85		
Days Not Fished	4			42			57			51			0		

Juvenile Coho Salmon Downstream Migrant Trap Catches, Prairie Creek, California, 1999-00.

