

2013 Strawberry Creek Minnow Trapping Field Note

Prepared by Bob Pagliuco

These are the results from minnow trap sampling efforts on Strawberry Creek in 2013. NOAA has been coordinating with Redwood National Park (RNP) to sample this reach every other month and we changed our sampling locations to match RNP's design to remain consistent. Figure 1 shows the sampling locations that we will be visiting for future monitoring efforts.

The minnow traps were baited with frozen salmon roe and placed in the water at the 8 sampling locations indicated on the map. The minnow traps fished between 45 and 100 minutes as per Mike Wallace's minnow trapping protocol. The traps were retrieved and fish were identified, counted, and fork length measured to the nearest millimeter.



Figure 1 – Sampling locations

Results

February 21, 2013

1. Old SOC Culvert: Hundreds of scuds
2. Barlow Pasture wooden bridge: 20 stickleback
3. Hiltons Road Culvert: No Fish
4. Highway 101 Bridge: 10 fish! Coho – 112mm, 111mm, 115mm, 118mm, 108mm, 98mm, 118mm, 115mm. Steelhead – 135mm and 136mm.
5. County Waste Transfer Station Box Culvert: No Fish
6. 400 ft downstream of Transfer Station Box Culvert: No Fish
7. Upstream side of old beaver dam: Steelhead – 126mm
8. Downstream side of old beaver dam: No Fish

Notes: Field conditions: sunny, >3' visibility. Time: 1:15 PM – 3:30 PM. Salmonids were observed breaking the surface in the pool at site 2, but no fish were in the trap. The Water Quality meter was malfunctioning so no DO or temperature data was collected.

Photos 2/21/2013





April 26, 2013

1. Old SOC Culvert: Hundreds of scuds
2. Barlow Pasture wooden bridge: Coho Smolt- 105 mm (this is the highest I have seen coho since I began sampling in 2010)
3. Hiltons Road Culvert: coho pre-smolt – 132mm, 113mm, 108mm, 104mm,
4. Highway 101 Bridge: No fish
5. County Waste Transfer Station Box Culvert: 3 stickleback
6. 400 ft downstream of Transfer Station Box Culvert: No Fish
7. Upstream side of old beaver dam: Coho pre-smolt – 108mm, 3 stickleback
8. Downstream side of old beaver dam: 1 stickleback

Notes: Field conditions: sunny, >3' visibility. Time: 10:45 PM – 1:30 PM. The Water Quality meter was malfunctioning so no DO or temperature data was collected. The reed canary grass was growing vigorously from the 101 bridge up to the Park property, but the native vegetation was occupying a significant portion of the bank near the Barlow bridge. I was asked by Mike Sparkman to scan all captured fish for PIT tags that could be coming out of Prairie Creek. No PIT tags were detected. This was the first time I observed coho above the Hilton Road culvert.

Photos 4/26/2013



132 mm coho at the Hilton Rd culvert



105 mm coho at the Barlow bridge



4ft x 4ft weedmat preventing RCG from encroaching a tree



Native vegetation crowding out the Reed Canary Grass



Native vegetation crowding out the Reed Canary Grass

June 21, 2013 -DO meter was not functioning

1. Old SOC culvert : No fish
2. Barlow Pasture wooden bridge: 3 stickleback
3. Hiltons Road Culvert : - No Fish
4. Highway 101 Bridge: No Fish
5. County Waste Transfer Station Box Culvert : No fish
6. 400 ft downstream of Transfer Station Box Culvert: 6 stickleback
7. Upstream side of old Beaver Dam: No fish.
8. Downstrem side of old beaver dam: No Fish

August 27, 2013

1. Old SOC culvert : Temp 13.6 C. DO 3.1 mg/L. No Fish

2. Barlow Pasture wooden bridge: Temp 14.5 C. DO 0.2 mg/L. No fish – very turbid water and pond weed and algae growing in the water.
3. Hiltons Road Culvert : - Temp 49.5 C. DO 2.7 mg/L. 52 stickleback. Turbid water and RCG choked channel.
4. Highway 101 Bridge: Temp 17.1 C. DO 2.0 mg/L. No Fish. All RCG cleared from channel due to restoration efforts.
5. County Waste Transfer Station Box Culvert : Temp 17.2 C. DO 1.7 mg/L. No fish. Culvert has a 7” jump on the downstream end.
6. 400 ft downstream of Transfer Station Box Culvert: Temp 16 C. DO 2.09 mg/L. 6 stickleback.
7. Upstream side of old Beaver Dam: Temp 15.3 C. DO 1.98 mg/L. No fish.
8. Downstream side of old beaver dam: Temp 15 C. DO 2.1 mg/L. 12 stickleback. There is a film of what appears to be pollen on the water surface.

October 25, 2013

1. Old SOC culvert : Temp 11.0 C. DO 5.0 mg/L. No Fish
2. Barlow Pasture wooden bridge: Temp 11.5 C. DO 6.5 mg/L. 5 stickleback –pond weed and algae growing in the water.
3. Hiltons Road Culvert : - Temp 12.2.5 C. DO 4.7 mg/L. 7 stickleback.
4. Highway 101 Bridge: Temp 12.1 C. DO 4.6 mg/L. 6 stickleback. Water still murky.
5. County Waste Transfer Station Box Culvert : Temp 11.1 C. DO 3.7 mg/L. No fish. Culvert has a 7” jump on the downstream end.
6. 400 ft downstream of Transfer Station Box Culvert: Temp 11.2 C. DO 4.3 mg/L. 14 stickleback.
7. Upstream side of old Beaver Dam: Temp 11.1 C. DO 3.4 mg/L. Coho pre-smolt – 84 mm, 12 stickleback.
8. Downstream side of old beaver dam: Temp 11.1 C. DO 3.4 mg/L. 13 stickleback.