

Battle Creek Watershed: August 2004 Update U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Activities

Coleman National Fish Hatchery Complex Anderson, CA (530) 365-8622		Scott Hamelberg Project Leader
Spawning/Passage: Winter-run Fall Late fall-run Steelhead Trout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By July 26, 37 natural origin females were spawned; by August 13, 45 captive origin females were spawned. ➤ Expected to begin October 1, 2004. ➤ Expected to begin late December 2004. ➤ Expected to begin mid December 2004. 	
Production: Winter Chinook Fall Chinook Late-fall Chinook Steelhead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Broodyear 2004: A total of 245,000 eggs are on station. ➤ Broodyear 2003: 12,900,000 fingerlings were released in April. ➤ Broodyear 2004: 900,000 fingerlings are in raceways. ➤ Broodyear 2004: 600,000 fingerlings are in raceways. 	
Screens for Hatchery Water Intakes	Funding is being sought. The need to screen the intakes is supported by the four agencies (DFG, USBR, USFWS & NOAA).	Sandy Osborn
Barrier Weir & Upstream Ladder Improvements	<p>The USFWS, with assistance from Reclamation, will submit a proposal to CALFED in attempt to secure 3.5 million in supplemental funding to cover an increase in construction costs. CALFED will conduct a Technical Review of the proposed project prior to making a funding decision. The USFWS intends to submit the proposal in early November and CALFED anticipates a funding decision in April 2005.</p>	
CA/NV Fish Health Center (530) 365-4271		Scott Foott, Ph.D. Project Leader
Disease Studies	Preliminary data indicates that Chinook sac-fry are markedly less sensitive to Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus (IHNV) infection, than 50 mm fingerlings. This is true for both standard bath and flow through IHNV challenges.	

Update continued on next page.

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Red Bluff Fish & Wildlife Office (530) 527-3043		Jim Smith Project Leader
Battle Creek Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Six snorkel surveys for spring and winter Chinook have been completed with a total of 29 live Chinook observed. No redds or carcasses have been observed. ➤ Sampling with rotary screw traps at the upper and lower sites (stream mile 6 and 2) continues for juvenile salmonids seven days a week. Zero juvenile winter Chinook have been captured. ➤ A fish rescue in the Coleman Powerhouse Tailrace was conducted by RBFWO, DFG, CNFH, and PG&E during a hydropower outage to construct a fish barrier on the tailrace. Three adult Chinook were observed immediately below the powerhouse. ➤ Flows were increased from 30 to 77 cfs in the South Fork during the Coleman Powerhouse Tailrace barrier weir construction. There was no increase in adult Chinook numbers as a result of the flow increase. ➤ A new rotary screw trap will be installed on Battle Creek above the confluence with the Coleman Powerhouse Tailrace (approx stream mile 8) on October 15th. We will compare juvenile salmonid production at this new site with the current upper trap (approx stream mile 6) for one to two years. 	Matt Brown
Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy Federal Grant	On Aug 23, Mike Ward sent a .pdf file of the Watershed Assessment to the Working Group for review before the meeting on August 25.	Sharon Paquin-Gilmore
Monitoring the abundance of fall Chinook	The USFWS and CDFG cooperated on a new strategy to estimate escapement of fall Chinook salmon in lower Battle Creek using video-monitoring. A report to estimate escapement and evaluate this methodology has been completed by Doug Killam, DFG.	Kevin Niemela
Bio-sampling, coded-wire tagging & tag recovery	Coded-wire tag extractions have been completed for BY 2003 fall Chinook and BY 2004 late-fall Chinook salmon and steelhead. The decoding of tags is currently underway.	Kevin Niemela

Please refer to the complete reports prior to using this preliminary information in literature citations. A revised version of the status of these activities is distributed at each Battle Creek Work Group meeting. Updates are shown in **bold**.