

Battle Creek Watershed: September 2009 Update

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Activities

RED BLUFF FISH & WILDLIFE OFFICE

JIM SMITH, PROJECT LEADER, 527-3043

Hatchery Evaluation

Kevin Niemela

Fish Marking and Tagging

Fall Chinook: The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission completed the third year of the Constant Fractional Marking program, whereby 25% of the production releases of fall-run Chinook salmon from Central Valley hatcheries will be marked with an adipose fin clip and coded-wire tagged.

Late-fall Chinook: Marking and tagging all juvenile late-fall Chinook at the Coleman NFH was completed in July. This work was conducted using the automated marking and tagging trailers.

Steelhead: Marking (adipose fin-clip) of all juvenile steelhead at the Coleman NFH was completed in July. This work was conducted using the automated marking and tagging trailers.

Battle Creek Video Monitoring

Monitoring of fall Chinook in lower Battle Creek at the video weir fish counting station (stream mile 2) began on August 19, 2009. This project is a cooperative effort of DFG and the FWS. Data generated from this project are used to estimate escapement to Battle Creek and to guide hatchery broodstock collection activities.

Sacramento River Winter Chinook Carcass Survey

DFG and FWS have completed the 2009 winter Chinook carcass survey. The survey was conducted daily from May 4 to August 28. The cooperating agencies are currently using information gathered on this project to estimate the abundance of winter Chinook spawners.

Anadromous Fish Restoration Program Projects

Tricia Parker

Exclusion Fencing:

Funding provided to BLM in 2008 was used to fence _____ lineal feet of riparian area near lower Battle Creek.

Headgate on Irrigation Diversion:

Funds have been provided to the DFG screenshop to complete this project on the Orwick Diversion. Construction and installation of the new headgate occurred in June 2008. Monitoring of flows and diversion rates at the site has been performed by DFG.

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Battle Creek Monitoring

Jess Newton

Preliminary data

Adult fish: upstream passage	unclipped			clipped		
	'09	'08	'07	'09	'08	'07
Chinook (potential spring-run)		101	291		5	
steelhead/rainbow trout		128	217		2	

Juvenile Production Estimates (upstream of CNFH)	
BY 08 Spring Chinook	16,000
BY09 late fall Chinook	1,000
BY09 steelhead/rainbow trout	2,100

Annual monitoring reports can be downloaded at <http://www.fws.gov/redbluff/cvpia.html>

COLEMAN NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY COMPLEX

SCOTT HAMELBERG, PROJECT LEADER 365-8622

Barrier Weir & Upstream Ladder Improvements at Coleman NFH: USBR & FWS

Construction was completed in February 2009. The new ladder is effective. The egg collection target of 16 million eggs was met for 2008.

Livingston Stone NFH (winter Chinook)

John Rueth, Assistant Hatchery Manager

For the 2009 season, adult fish were trapped at Keswick Dam between March and June. A total of 120 adults were retained for the production program. Prespawn mortality was very low at 3.33 % (i.e. 4 fish). A total of 324,000 eggs were taken with an eye-up of 93.29%. The fry were put into tanks in early August. During the 2008 season, 101 adult winter run were retained which produced approx 150,000 juveniles. The juveniles were tagged in mid December, then released as pre-smolts into the mainstem Sacramento River in late January.

CNFH Intake Improvements

Co-lead: Hank Harrington, USBR

Phase I: Construction to screen intake #3, expand intake #1 and install new pipeline between intake #1 and #3 **began in spring 2009**. All permits were obtained and vegetation was cleared in January 2008. Phase II, the screening/modification of Intake #2, is not funded at this time.