2014 OUT-MIGRATION REPORT, FAUNTLEROY CREEK

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SUMMARY

This year, just 19 coho smolts survived their time in Fauntleroy Creek to reach saltwater habitat in Fauntleroy Cove. The number of smolts from the upper creek (released fry) was very low, as was the number of smolts from the lower creek (likely a combination of home-hatch fish and released fry that had drifted downstream). Only 85 release fry washed prematurely downstream and the surviving 84 were sent on their way.

Year	Monitoring Period	Live Smolts Upper	Live Smolts Lower	Dead Smolts	Smolts to Salt	Smolt Size Range (mm)	Live Fry Upper	Live Fry Lower	Dead Fry	Eggs to Schools*	Released Fry
2014	3/15 - 5/31	8	11	0	19		84	0	1	3,450	2,409
2013	3/15 - 5/31	65	76	12	141			534	0	2,800	1,987
2012	3/17 - 6/7	145	85	2	157	90 -105		924	56	3,100	2,615
2011	3/25 - 5/30	147	36	0	36			a few	0	2,900	2,027
2010	4/1 - 5/22		24	0	24	110 - 140		81	2	2,500	2,298
2009	4/1 - 5/31		18	1	18	97 -110		1	0		1,936
2008	4/2 - 5/31		17	0	17	100 -135		85	0		1,790
2007	4/7 - 5/19		24	0	24	115 -128		20	0		2,276
2006	4/9 - 5/18		22	1	22	105 -155		121	0		2,033
2005	3/16 - 5/27		10	0	10	100 -135		34	3		1,138
2004	3/3 - 6/10		11	0	11	97 -123		569	3		1,534
2003	4/2 - 6/16		37	0	37			637	84		1,254

^{*}Does not include eggs left by spawners

METHODOLOGY

The two traps are similar: a wooden box fitted with netting and anchored below a weir such that all water flows through, softly trapping everything headed downstream. One is positioned as the creek flows out of Fauntleroy Park (where schoolchildren release their fry) and the other is positioned just upstream of the fish ladder, about a half block before the creek empties into Puget Sound. We installed the lower trap first, then added the upper trap when we began to see smolts. We checked the traps daily, mended any holes, transported smolts (with state permission) from the upper trap downstream to ensure their safety, and released all live smolts and fry to continue their journey.

COMMENTS

The number of smolts has not been this low since 2008 – before we began using the upper trap. We consulted with specialists at Seattle Public Utilities and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife but could not identify any adverse event or condition that would have caused it. We also dissected the one dead fry we caught but could not see evidence of disease.

RELATED EDUCATION

We were able to show some students coming for salmon releases a smolt in an aerated bucket to demonstrate growth over one year in the creek

Attachments: Daily records of data

MONITORING RECORD BY DATE

Date			Smolt		To Salt	Comment		
	Upp		Lower					
	No.	Sum	No.	Sum	Dead			
1-Apr	0	0	0	0		0		
2-Apr	0	0	0	0		0		
3-Apr	0	0	0	0		0		
4-Apr	0	0	0	0		0		
5-Apr	0	0	0	0		0		
6-Apr	0	0	0	0		0	Saw 1st smolt in 1st pool above trap	
7-Apr	0	0	0	0		0		
8-Apr	0	0	2	2		2		
9-Apr	0	0	0	2		2		
10-Apr	0	0	0	2		2		
11-Apr	0	0	1	3		3		
12-Apr	0	0	0	3		3		
13-Apr	0	0	1	4		4		
14-Apr	0	0	0	4		4	One in trap, but escaped upstream	
15-Apr 16-Apr	0	0	0	5		4	3-4" - skinny	
	0	0	1			5	3-4 - Skiriny	
17-Apr 18-Apr	0	0	0	6		6	Hole in net from cloudburst	
19-Apr	0	0	0	6			Lots of gravel in net	
19-Арг 20-Apr	0	0	0	6		6	Lots of graver in flet	
20-Apr 21-Apr	0	0	0	6		6	Fenton Glen Trap in - Started Transfer	
21-Apr 22-Apr	0	0	0	6		6	r enton Gien Trap in - Started Transier	
23-Apr	0	0	0	6		6		
24-Apr	0	0	0	6		6	upper trap overflowed - hole in lower	
25-Apr	0	0	0	6		6	apportiap everificated files in lewer	
26-Apr	0	0	0	6		6		
27-Apr	0	0	0	6		6		
28-Apr	0	0	0	6		6		
29-Apr	0	0	0	6		6		
30-Apr	0	0	0	6		6		
1-May	0	0	1	7		7	Saw 2 upstream from 1st bridge	
2-May	0	0	1	8		8		
3-May	0	0	0	8		8		
4-May	0	0	0	8		8	hole in lower trap	
5-May	0	0	0	8		8	Both traps full of gravel and silt	
6-May	0	0	0	8		8	2 fry in upper trap	
7-May	0	0	0	8		8		
8-May	0	0	0	8		8		
9-May	0	0	0	8		8		
10-May	0	0	0	8		8		
11-May	0	0	0	8		8	-	
12-May	0	0	0	8		8		
13-May	1	1	0	8		9		
14-May	2	3	1	9		12		
15-May	1	4	0	9		13		
16-May	0	4	1	10		14		
17-May	0	4	0	10			Saw 1 above lower trap	
18-May	1	5	0	10			Hole in upper trap	
19-May	0	5	0	10		15		
20-May	1	6	0	10		16		
21-May	1	7	0	10		17		

22-May	1	8	0	10	18	3 1 fry upper trap
23-May	0	8	1	11	19)
24-May	0	8	0	11	19	9
25-May	0	8	0	11	19	9
26-May	0	8	0	11	19	2 fry in upper trap
27-May	0	8	0	11	19	15 fry in upper trap
28-May	0	8	0	11	19	20 fry in upper trap
29-May	0	8	0	11	19	4 fry in upper trap, 1 dead lower trap
30-May	0	8	0	11	19	20 fry in upper trap
31-May	0	8	0	11	19	20 fry in upper trap

TOTAL NUMBER OF SMOLTS TO SALTWATER BY DATE

