

2022 OUT-MIGRATION REPORT, FAUNTLEROY CREEK

Volunteers: Dennis Hinton, Pete Draughon, Tom Trulin,
Mark Sears, Joe Adolph, Gordon Thomas, Steev Ward, Phil Sweetland

SUMMARY

Monitors documented 11 coho smolts that survived their year in Fauntleroy Creek to migrate to nearshore habitat in Fauntleroy Cove in central Puget Sound. Monitoring documented salmonids' making use of the entire creek system. Smolt size appeared typical. Monitors also documented 407 small fry in the lower trap - 173 from home hatch before school releases began in May and 234 after releases began; this was the highest number of fry caught leaving the system prematurely since 2013.

Year	Monitoring Period	Live Smolts Upper	Live Smolts Lower	Dead Smolts	Smolts to Salt	Smolt Size (mm)	Live Fry Upper	Live Fry Lower	Dead Fry	Eggs to Schools ¹	Released Fry
2022	3/15 - 5/26	2	9	0	11	Typical	407		0	2,000 ²	1,624
2021	3/17 - 5/22	15	34	1	49	Typical	71	17	0	1,500 ²	1,061
2020	2/29 - 5/26	22	55	1	77	Typical	87	85	0	2,400	2,069
2019	3/15 - 5/26	4	18	0	22	Typical	23	5	0	2,400	2,006
2018	3/10 - 5/31	26	19	0	45	Typical	98	4	0	2,400	1,955
2017	3/15 - 5/28	18	14	1	32	Typical	237		0	2,400	1,806
2016	3/10 - 5/27	14	5	1	19	Typical	60	0	20	2,900	1,795
2015	3/27 - 5/31	2	33	0	35	Typical	100		20	2,700	1,700
2014	3/15 - 5/31	8	11	0	19	Typical	84	0	1	3,450	2,409
2013	3/15 - 5/31	65	76	12	141	Typical		534	0	2,800	1,987
2012	3/17 - 6/7	145	85	2	230 ³	90 -105		924	56	3,100	2,615
2011	3/25 - 5/30	147	36	0	183 ³	---		a few	0	2,900	2,027
2010	4/1 - 5/22	No Trap	24	0	24	110 - 140		81	2	2,500	2,298
2009	4/1 - 5/31	No Trap	18	1	18	97 -110		1	0		1,936
2008	4/2 - 5/31	No Trap	17	0	17	100 -135		85	0		1,790
2007	4/7 - 5/19	No Trap	24	0	24	115 -128		20	0		2,276
2006	4/9 - 5/18	No Trap	22	1	22	105 -155		121	0		2,033
2005	3/16 - 5/27	No Trap	10	0	10	100 -135		34	3		1,138
2004	3/3 - 6/10	No Trap	11	0	11	97 -123		569	3		1,534
2003	4/2 - 6/16	No Trap	37	0	37			637	84		1,254

¹Does not include eggs left by spawners ²Participation reduced by pandemic ³Corrected 2018

METHODOLOGY

The two traps have a wooden frame fitted with netting, anchored below a weir so all water flowed through, softly trapping everything headed downstream. Netting over each trap protected trapped fish from birds and raccoons. One trap was located as the creek flows out of Fauntleroy Park and the other was due upstream of the fish ladder, about a half block upstream of the creek mouth. Monitoring began the day traps were installation and continued into mid May (11 days after seeing the last smolt). Because we had 244 spawners in the lower creek in fall 2021, the fry caught in our traps during March and April could have been home hatch; some caught during release season could have been as well.

Volunteers checked both traps twice daily. As in past years, we had state permission to transport smolts from the upper trap to below the lower trap to ensure their safe out-migration. We released all smolts and fry to continue their downstream journey. To avoid trauma, we did not handle the smolts to get exact measurements. Monitors documented each day's activity on a central white board, which Phil Sweetland transcribed at the end (attached tables).

COMMENTS

The first entrapment was April 6 (about two weeks later than last year) and the last was May 18 - a 6-week span compared with 9 1/2 weeks last year. The heaviest activity was in early May (later than last year). Heavy spring rains clogged the traps about a half-dozen times but monitors were able to clear and repair them within a day.

Having additional monitors this year spread the load, improved our knowledge base, and increased our capacity to continue this important study.

DAILY DETAILS

Date	Smolt						Total	To Salt	Fry		Comment
	Upper		Lower		Dead				Upper	Lower	
	No.	Sum	No.	Sum	Upper	Lower					
15-Mar		0		0		0	0			Traps installed 3/15/2022	
16-Mar		0		0		0	0				
17-Mar		0		0		0	0				
18-Mar		0		0		0	0				
19-Mar		0		0		0	0				
20-Mar		0		0		0	0				
21-Mar		0		0		0	0				
22-Mar		0		0		0	0				
23-Mar		0		0		0	0				
24-Mar		0		0		0	0				
25-Mar		0		0		0	0				
26-Mar		0		0		0	0				
27-Mar		0		0		0	0				
28-Mar		0		0		0	0				
29-Mar		0		0		0	0				
30-Mar		0		0		0	0				
31-Mar		0		0		0	0				
1-Apr		0		0		0	0				
2-Apr		0		0		0	0				
3-Apr		0		0		0	0				
4-Apr		0		0		0	0				
5-Apr		0		0		0	0				
6-Apr		0	1	1		1	1				
7-Apr		0		1		1	1				
8-Apr		0		1		1	1				
9-Apr		0		1		1	1				
10-Apr		0		1		1	1				
11-Apr		0		1		1	1				
12-Apr		0		1		1	1				
13-Apr	1	1		1		2	2				
14-Apr		1		1		2	2				
15-Apr		1		1		2	2				
16-Apr		1		1		2	2				
17-Apr		1		1		2	2				
18-Apr		1	1	2		3	3				
19-Apr	1	2		2		4	4				
20-Apr		2		2		4	4				
21-Apr		2		2		4	4				
22-Apr		2		2		4	4				
23-Apr		2		2		4	4				
24-Apr		2		2		4	4				
25-Apr		2		2		4	4				
26-Apr		2		2		4	4				
27-Apr		2	1	3		5	5				
28-Apr		2		3		5	5				
29-Apr		2		3		5	5				
30-Apr		2		3		5	5				
1-May		2		3		5	5				
2-May		2	1	4		6	6				
3-May		2		4		6	6				
4-May		2		4		6	6				
5-May		2	2	6		8	8				
6-May		2	2	8		10	10				
7-May		2		8		10	10				
8-May		2	1	9		11	11				
9-May		2		9		11	11				
10-May		2		9		11	11				
11-May		2		9		11	11				
12-May		2		9		11	11				
13-May		2		9		11	11				
14-May		2		9		11	11				
15-May		2		9		11	11				
16-May		2		9		11	11				
17-May		2		9		11	11				
18-May		2		9		11	11				

TOTAL FRY TRAPPED

March - 20/20/10/10/2/10/10/10/15/10/10/5/ = 132
 April - 3/2/6/1/3/3/4/1/1/1/1/5/8/2/= 41
 May - 2/9/17/7/5/18/10/10/3/8/8/8/15/8/9/16/15/6/15/21/15/9/= 234
TOTAL 407

TOTAL SMOLTS TO SALTWATER BY DAY

	0	1	2	3
15-Mar				
16-Mar				
17-Mar				
18-Mar				
19-Mar				
20-Mar				
21-Mar				
22-Mar				
23-Mar				
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31-Mar				
1-Apr				
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