

Cole Rivers Hatchery Collection Pond Data

13,020 Hatchery Adults Required Annually to return Per Final EIS

Steve Beyertlin
1-6-21 @ 9:39

Brood Year	Year End Total	Unmarked ***6.5%	Jacks Sub-Jacks **** = 15%	Hatchery Adults	Shortage	% required
2000**	22848*	1,485	3,427	17,936	4916	39.00%
2001	22645*	1,472	3,397	17,776	4756	36.50%
2002	22224*	1,445	3,334	17,445	4425	34.00%
2003	15750*	1,024	2,363	12,363	-657	-5.00%
2004	16552*	1,076	2,483	12,993	-27	-0.24%
2005	8875*	577	1,332	6,966	-6054	-46.00%
2006	5238*	340	786	4,112	-8908	-69.00%
2007	5271*	343	790	4,138	-8882	-68.00%
2008	5703*	570	855	4,278	-8742	-67.00%
2009	5526*	359	829	4,338	-8682	-67.00%
2010	8243*	549	1,236	6,458	-6562	-50.00%
2011	6752*	439	1,012	5,301	-7719	-59.00%
2012	10995*	715	1,649	8,631	-4389	-34.00%
2013	9763*	635	1,464	7,664	-5356	-41.00%
2014	8609*	560	1,291	6,758	-6262	-49.00%
2015	8301*	540	1,245	6,516	-6504	-50.00%
2016	2698*	182 = 7%	574 = 21%	1,942	-11078	-85.00%
2017	4059*	338 = 7.9%	908 = 21%	3,034	-9986	-76.00%
2018	5029*	233 = 4.5%	391 = 7.8%	4,403	-8617	-66.00%
2019	3794*	204 = 5.5%	367 = 9.7%	3,223	9797	-75.00%
2020	1462*	46 = 3%	10% = 146	1,270	11,754	-90.50%

*includes wild swim in and Jacks

**data from hatchery report

*** Wild or Unmarked Estimated at 7.75%

****Jack - Over 16" but under 24" Estimated at 15%

Sub-Jack under 16"

COLE RIVERS HATCHERY ADULT COLLECTION & INVENTORY

Steve Beyerslin
1-8-21

DATE: 11/6/2019

Final Collection

SPECIES: **Rogue Spring Chinook Brood Year 2019**

LOT # **52.19**

COLLECTED TODAY

SEASON

	Day						Season						10 year Average to date	10 year Avg % of Run to date
	M	F	J	Jen	SJ	Total	M	F	J	Jen	SJ	Total		
Unmarked	0	0	0	0	0	0	103	76	6	0	19	204	7015	100.00%
Marked*	0	0	0	0	0	0	1408	1815	160	3	204	3590		
Recaptures**	0	0	0	0	0	0	123	69	24	0	2	218		
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	1511	1891	166	3	223	3794		

3923

Note: Numbers not final; collection pond tally only

*Marked fish are hatchery fish with a clipped adipose fin. CRH strives to mark 100% of its smolt production annually.

**Recaptured fish not included in daily or season totals. Recaptured fish are fish that have been recycled downstream and returned to the hatchery.

Angler Enhancement (Fish Recycling Program)

LAST DATE RECYCLED 7/3/2019 TODAY'S SITE: Touvelle

	M	F	J	Jen	SJ	TOTAL
AS OF DATE SHOWN	113	28	7	0	0	148
SEASON TOTAL	174	199	10	0	0	383

These fish are given an operculum (gill plate) hole punch mark when they first arrive to hatchery, then they are recycled downstream. Recycled fish are trucked from the hatchery downstream to a boat ramp for anglers to have another chance at catching these hatchery fish. Location chosen is typically based on river temperature to reduce stress on the fish.

Steve

1-6-21

FOR WEBSITE

Beyerlin

PETITION TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

Draft of January xx, 2021

Petition to Develop a Course of Action Designed to Mitigate Negative Impacts on Spring Chinook Salmon that Resulted From the Construction and Operation of William Jess Dam. Submitted...

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The primary reason.....

BACKGROUND

General

Federal law authorized USACE construction and operation of three dams in the Rogue River Basin (United States Congress 1962). The largest to be constructed was Lost Creek Dam (now named William Jess Dam) located on the mainstem of the Rogue River. Fishery enhancement in downstream areas was identified as one primary project benefits of the multi-dam project (United States Congress 1962). Downstream fishery benefits were projected to evolve as a result of augmented flow (during periods of low natural flow) and decreased water temperatures (during summer). Blockage of spawning areas was to be mitigated by the release of hatchery fish. The USACE completed construction of Lost Creek Dam. and the reservoir first reached full pool in 1978.

Impacted Fishery Resources

Important fishery resources in areas downstream of Lost Creek Dam include summer steelhead, winter steelhead, coho salmon, fall Chinook salmon and spring Chinook salmon. Collectively, these runs of fish are recognized as a valuable local, regional, and national resource (USACE 1972).

Uncertainty about how to manage the reservoir, in order to optimize downstream fishery benefits, was identified as a primary concern associated with legislative authorization of the project: "It should also be noted that project operation plans must be sufficiently flexible to permit desirable modifications in scheduled fishery releases, within the limits of storage provided therefore, if experience and further study indicates such action to be desirable for overall project benefits" (United States Congress 1962). This management uncertainty led the USACE to fund the Lost Creek Dam Fisheries Evaluation Project, completed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

ODFW produced a series of project completion reports, which were submitted to the USACE. Primary conclusions, as related to reservoir construction and operational impact, included no detectable effects on (1) wild summer steelhead abundance (ODFW 1994), (2) wild winter steelhead abundance (ODFW 1990), and (3) wild coho salmon abundance (ODFW 1991).

Impact on the abundance of wild fall Chinook salmon was uncertain because of extensive in-river disease mortality during the initial years of reservoir operation (ODFW 1992). In contrast, there was a major decrease in the abundance of wild spring Chinook salmon.

Wild Spring Chinook Salmon

Average abundance at age 2 decreased from 240,000 to 96,000 after reservoir construction and operation; a 60% decrease (ODFW 2000). Harvest in the ocean and river fisheries thus decreased as a result. Life history changes, associated with reservoir operation resulted in further reductions in harvest because wild fish matured at younger ages and migrated later in freshwater (ODFW 2000).

Blocked spawning habitat accounted for some of decrease in abundance. Lost Creek Dam blocked about 33% of the spawning habitat (USACE 1967). Application for this factor indicated that wild fish production decreased by 40% (33% of 60% = 40%) in the remaining spawning area downstream of Lost Creek Dam.

Within ten years of reservoir operation, ODFW identified the decrease in CHS production (Satterthwaite 1987) and worked cooperatively with the USACE in an attempt to restore production. These efforts were unsuccessful, so ODFW with assistance from stakeholders (including the USACE) developed a conservation plan. The completed conservation plan called for two primary efforts (ODFW 2007) designed to partially restore wild fish production: (1) continued modifications to reservoir operation and (2) termination of harvest in the freshwater fishery (ODFW 2007). However, CHS abundance downstream of Lost Creek Dam still remains less than 10,000 wild fish (ODFW 2016) and the river fishery remains mostly closed to the harvest of wild spring Chinook salmon.

Hatchery Spring Chinook Salmon

Hatchery returns have consistently failed to meet mitigation intent since 2007. The Final Environmental Impact statement (USACE 1972) states, on page 3-10: *"It is estimated that the stretch of river from the dam upstream provides spawning area for 13,020 spring chinook and 500 summer steelhead. Production at Cole M. Rivers Hatchery will be sufficient to cover those losses."*

Almost all mature hatchery fish return to Cole M. Rivers Hatchery (ODFW 2016). The hatchery is located just downstream of William Jess Dam. During 2007-2019, annual returns to Cole M. Rivers Hatchery ranged between 2,614 and 10,970 spring Chinook salmon of hatchery origin (ODFW, dfw.state.or.us/fish/hatchery). Simply stated, none of those returns met the mitigation intent conveyed in the Final Environmental Impact statement. During the last 13 years, hatchery returns averaged 6,385 spring Chinook salmon of hatchery origin. This average return represents only 49% of the mitigation intent. As a result, angler harvest decreased, causing a significant negative impact to the recreational fishery in the Rogue River.

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Bio for Steve Beyerlin

Steve is from a pioneer family his grandfather on his moms side was born in 1886 and homesteaded near Langlois. Grandfather Edward Leekley owned 5 mills in Coos and Curry County. One was on Floras Lake, another was the old Cedar Mill on Euchre Creek. He had the largest Port Orford Cedar deck ever assembled at Arizona Beach. Also at Arizona Beach was the Arizona Inn that he ran with his family until it burned down, Arizona Inn was named one of the top 50 Inns in the United States and hosted a few Presidents. Steve's mom Barbara graduated from Ophir High School and his aunt Wanda Volk was the teacher at Langlois school for over 50 years.

On his dad side the Beyerlin's his great grandfather homesteaded on the McKenzie River near Vida. His grandfather fought in WWI and attended seminary school. His dad fought at Iwo Jima in WWII, Steve joined the Navy in 1968 as a reservist and never saw action.

In 1970 Steve with wife and son moved to Medford from the Eugene area when Eugene was under 50,000 in population and Medford was in the 20,000 area. In 1967 while fishing the Upper Rogue he watched as ground was cleared for the new state of the art Cole Rivers Fish Hatchery today a crumbling relic after 48 years operation.

Steve started his 51 years of Rogue River fisheries conservation with the Rogue Fly-fishers doing in stream projects of all sorts culminating with a 25 year effort to remove Savage Rapids Dam. Steve served 24 years on many boards, committees and stakeholder groups for ODFW. He served on the Oregon Fish Screening and Passage Task Force for 13 years, he was selected by the Oregon Guides and Packers to lead all their legislative issues in 1992, for nearly 20 years he was prominent around the state capitol working hand in hand with Sen. Ken Messerle (one of the best ever) and Sen. Veral Tarno also a great leader from Southern Oregon. Steve was the Governor's choice to fill a vacant Fish & Wildlife Commission seat but did not get approved by the State Senate because of his activism to remove Savage Rapids Dam. He received numerous awards from ODFW of the years as well.

Steve served as President of the Oregon Guides and Packers and was one of the founders of Curry Guides Association that at one time boosted a membership of over 200 and began the first of all the Oregon Salmon Fishing derbies that funded the largest fisheries based legislative movement ever in Oregon. He served as of Curry Guides Assoc. president for almost 15 years.

After 30 years as a river guide in Oregon he sold his business because of sever lower back pain which was later found to be cancer which he defeated. When he sold his guiding business he was able to concentrate on his Internet Marketing business and his passion for betterment of fisheries in Oregon.

Steve and his wife Eva of 47 years were involved in defeating an Endangered Species Petition in the early 1990's to list Illinois River Steelhead. Steve and Eva's 300 page argument was the only comment received against the listing. Steve is proud to have their document placed in the Library of Congress. At the time this document was written there were no home computers or internet searches as we know them today, text document research and hand typing (Eva) was how it was done. In fact Steve's research found that ODFW and NMFS did,t know that the Illinois River was 7 miles longer that they thought.

Today Steve is still very active in Rogue River and Southern Oregon fisheries with a large knowledge base spanning 51 years of fisheries management. He his currently is working to pull a collision of counties

and interested fisheries groups together to address mitigation of impacts of William Jess Dam (Lost Creek Dam) including the failed Cole Rivers Fish Hatchery on the Rogue River.

Steve has never advocated and never will advocate for removal of Lost Creek Dam but he does seek fulfillment of promised mitigation from the USACE. The failed mitigation requirements are crippling Rogue River fisheries and ocean harvest of Chinook in Southern Oregon waters.

He was once told by ODFW staff that his passion for building fish stocks mostly Wild Spring Chinook would burnout and ODFW would still be there. After 51 years none of ODFW's Staff is still there but new faces appear.

