

REF 90437

Summary Report By Jack Williamson and Gretchen Oliver September, 1999

Summer Steelhead Snorkel Surveys

Background

Since 1978 summer steelhead have been counted on the North Fork Trinity River and Canyon Creek. These surveys were conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game from 1978 through 1989. In 1990 the Forest Service took the lead on these surveys and has conducted them in late August with the help and cooperation of local resource agencies and volunteers.

Survey Method

The North Fork is divided in to six sections (reaches) each between 2.4 and 5.2 miles long while Canyon Creek is divided into six sections between 1.6 and 3.6 miles long. Two or three divers start at the top of each section and swim downstream counting adult fish as they go. Deeper pools require surveyors to dive to the bottom of pools to search for fish hiding under bedrock ledges, boulders, and logs. Some sections require surveyors to hike in and/or out up to eight miles.

The 1999 Surveys

The North Fork Trinity River was surveyed on August 24th. Seventeen divers counted steelhead and salmon in nearly 30 miles of river. This included 6.8 miles on the East Fork of the North Fork Trinity River, which has not been surveyed in the recent past.

Reach	From	To	Steelhead	Half-pounder	Chinook	Jacks
1	Grizzly Cr.	Rattlesnake Cr.	29	1	0	0
2	Rattlesnake Cr.	China Creek	46	6	0	0
3	China Creek	Hobo Gulch	5	3	0	0
4	Hobo Gulch	Raymond Flat	53	4	0	0
5	Raymond Flat	Waldorf xing	27	5	0	0
6	Waldorf Xing	Bridge	0	2	8	0
EF1	End of road on	Bridge	0	0	0	0
	East Fork					
EF2	Bridge	Confluence w/ NF	0	6	0	0
		Total (NFonly)	160	21	8	0
		Total	160	27	8	0

* Halfpounders are steelhead between 14 and 18 inches long.

The California Department of Fish and Game, Hoopa Valley Tribe, Trinity County Resource Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and several individuals assisted on the North Fork Survey.