

Memorandum

To : Files

Date : November 13, 1985

From : Department of Fish and Game - Region 2

Subject: Taylor Creek, El Dorado County

Acting upon concerns of Steve Widowski, USFS Wildlife Biologist for Tahoe Basin Management Unit, John Modin from Fish Pathology Laboratory and I examined the kokanee/brown trout spawning run on Taylor Creek on November 1, 1985.

Steve and Cal Fish and Game's instream flow group both reported a significant fungus attack on the Taylor Creek salmonid population.

We electroshocked a 100-yard section upstream from the Highway 89 bridge. A good sample was collected and will be analyzed at the Disease Lab for Whirling Disease, PKD and the fungus attack.

I have seen this section of the river at this time of the season every year since 1970 while enumerating the fall kokanee spawning run. I felt the fungus occurrence was no greater than past years. Although the number of dead browns was significantly higher than any of the past years. Of 15 dead brown females, 13 had not spawned. What caused these fish to die prior to spawning is uncertain although the few remaining live browns did not seem to have a significant fungus infection.

I conducted a further study of salmonids in Upper Truckee River from the mouth through Christmas Valley, south of the most upstream Highway 50 crossing. No trout or salmon diseased, dead or healthy were seen in the miles of stream examined.

Possibly the low water flow, less than 4 cfs, in Taylor Creek and the warm summer air temperatures might have caused a slightly higher fungus infection.

John related seeing the complete loss of fall-run brood fish fungusing and dying following the 1976 drought year. These unexplained attacks occur on brood fish in hatcheries, again, because of unknown reasons.

John felt that removing the brown trout from the Taylor Creek system would have no affect on brown trout recovery. There is basically nothing that can be done for these fish weakened by the rigors of spawning and the secondary fungus attack.

J. H. Ryan
for
Russell Wickwire
Fishery Biologist

RW:ds

Memorandum

To : Files

Date : November 19, 1985

From : **Department of Fish and Game**

Subject: Taylor Creek, El Dorado County

This creek was electrofished June 25, 1985 for the Whirling Disease Study in a 200-yard section upstream from the Highway 89 bridge. The flow was estimated at 38 cfs. The following fish were collected:

9 BN 4.3, 4.8, 5.0, 5.0, 5.2, 6.8, 7.0, 7.7, 9.0
9 RT 4.0, 4.0, 4.7, 4.7, 4.8, 5.0, 5.0, 5.5, 5.7

The fish were in good condition. On all the riffles there were many redbreast minnows and a few suckers.

Jim Richard(ds)

Jim Richard
Fishery Biologist

cc: R. Wickwire

JBR:ds