

Memorandum

To: Patrick O'Brien
Senior Fishery Biologist

Date: December 11, 1997

From: Department of Fish and Game - Region 2

Subject: Union Valley Reservoir, El Dorado County Gill Net Data

Warden Dave Bezone contacted me and inquired as to whether I could obtain a large Lake Trout (LT) for a case he was working on. Reports from Union Valley Reservoir indicated large LT (> 10 pounds) showing up in the creel on a regular basis. Therefore, I decided to set two gill nets in attempt to secure some large fish for him.

John Hanson and myself set two nets overnight on July 30, 1997. We found large fish on the sonar between 75 and 90 feet deep, off of the Sunrise Boat Launch. Two variable mesh mono filament gill nets were set at 19:15 and 19:45. The nets were 120 X 6 feet with mesh sizes of 0.5, 0.75, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, and 2.5 inches stretched mesh. The nets were set on the bottom at a depth of approximately 85 feet. The nets were collected on July 31, 1997 at 09:05 and 09:30.

A total of five (5) LT were caught and two (2) kokanee (KOK) were caught (Figure 1). An angler caught a 12.5 lbs, 32 inch LT while we were collecting the nets.

The catch per unit effort was 0.3 fish per hour for a total of 27.5 hours fished. The mean lengths of the LT were 321 mm (TL) and 288 mm (FL). The KOK mean lengths were 370.5 mm (TL) and 346 mm (FL). No weights were taken.

Union Valley Reservoir is consistently producing large fish in excellent condition. All of the reports from kokanee fisherman indicate large fish fairly consistently. LT fisherman do well when they know the techniques. The small gill net sample seems to confirm this to some degree. I will sample again next spring in a couple of different locations to try and monitor the numbers of LT's with respect to our stocking of fingerlings.



Stafford Lehr
District Fishery Biologist

Figure 1

UNION VALLEY RESERVOIR GILL NET LENGTH FREQUENCIES

SPECIES	LENGTH TL/FL (mm)	
LT	248/225	
LT	251/232	
LT	350/320	
LT	353/317	
LT	405/369	
LT	813/737	12.5 Lbs. ANGLER CAUGHT
KOK	365/343	
KOK	376/349	



