

**State of California
The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

**LOWER REDWOOD CREEK
JUVENILE SALMONID (SMOLT) DOWNSTREAM MIGRATION STUDY
2004 – 2008 Seasons
PROJECT 2a7**

Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (Project No. P0710511)

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Anadromous Fisheries Resource Assessment and Monitoring Program

October, 2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Page
LIST OF FIGURES	iii
LIST OF TABLES	v
LIST OF APPENDICES	vii
ABSTRACT	1
INTRODUCTION	2
Site Description	3
Purpose	9
METHODS AND MATERIALS	9
Trap Operations	9
Biometric Data Collection	10
Population Estimates	12
Additional Experiments	13
Physical Data Collection	15
Statistical Analyses	15
RESULTS	19
Species Captured	19
Trapping Efficiencies	31
Population Estimates	35
Age Composition of Juvenile Steelhead Trout	52
Fork Lengths and Weights	53
Developmental Stages	68
Additional Experiments	69
Trapping Mortality	77
Stream Temperatures	79
DISCUSSION	82
0+ Chinook Salmon	83
1+ Chinook Salmon	91
0+ Steelhead Trout	92
1+ Steelhead Trout	94
2+ Steelhead Trout	97
Cutthroat Trout	100
0+ Coho Salmon	102
1+ Coho Salmon	102
0+ Pink Salmon	103
CONCLUSIONS	104
RECOMMENDATIONS	106
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	107
LITERATURE CITED	108
PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS	117
APPENDICES	118

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Redwood Creek basin with rotary screw trap location (RM 4), Humboldt County, CA. (scale is slightly inaccurate due to reproduction process, Charlotte Peters pers. com. 2001).	4
Figure 2. Total juvenile salmonid trap catches (n = 126,210) from April 1 st through August 5 th , 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA. Numeric values above columns represent actual catches. 0+ KS = young-of-year Chinook salmon, 1+ KS = age 1 Chinook salmon, 0+ SH = young-of-year steelhead trout, 1+ SH = age 1 and older steelhead trout, 2+ SH = age 2 and older steelhead trout, CT = cutthroat trout, 0+ Pink = young-of-year pink salmon.	19
Figure 3. Comparison of 0+ Chinook salmon trap captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	24
Figure 4. Comparison of 0+ steelhead trout trap captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	25
Figure 5. Comparison of 1+ steelhead trout captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	26
Figure 6. Comparison of 2+ steelhead trout captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	27
Figure 7. Comparison of 0+ coho salmon captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	28
Figure 8. Comparison of 1+ coho salmon captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	29
Figure 9. Comparison of cutthroat trout captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	30
Figure 10. 0+ Chinook Salmon population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	35
Figure 11. Comparison of 0+ Chinook salmon weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average (YRS 2004 – 07), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	37
Figure 12. 0+ Chinook salmon fry (FL < 45 mm) and fingerling (FL > 44 mm) population emigration in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	39
Figure 13. 1+ steelhead trout population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	40
Figure 14. Comparison of 1+ steelhead trout weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	42

Figure 15. 2+ steelhead trout population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	43
Figure 16. Comparison of 2+ steelhead trout weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	45
Figure 17. 0+ coho salmon population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence intervals) in YRS 2006 - 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	46
Figure 18. 0+ coho salmon weekly population emigration in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	47
Figure 19. 1+ coho salmon population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	48
Figure 20. Comparison of 1+ coho salmon weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	50
Figure 21. Cutthroat trout population estimates in YRS 2006 - 2008 (error bars are 95% confidence intervals). Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	51
Figure 22. Cutthroat trout weekly population emigration in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	52
Figure 23. 0+ Chinook salmon average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	55
Figure 24. 0+ Chinook salmon average weekly weights (g) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	56
Figure 25. 0+ steelhead trout average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	58
Figure 26. 1+ steelhead trout average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	60
Figure 27. 1+ steelhead trout average weekly weights (g) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	60
Figure 28. 2+ steelhead trout average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	62
Figure 29. 2+ steelhead trout average weekly weights (g) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	62
Figure 30. 0+ coho salmon average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	64
Figure 31. 0+ coho salmon average weekly weights (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	64
Figure 32. 1+ coho salmon average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	66

Figure 33. 1+ coho salmon average weekly weights (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	67
Figure 34. Linear regression of transformed travel time (d) on transformed percent change in FL (mm) for pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon (n = 36) recaptured at the lower trap in Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA. 2008.	73
Figure 35. Linear regression of travel time (d) on percent change in FL (mm) for pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout (n = 8) recaptured at the lower trap in Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.	77
Figure 36. Average, minimum, and maximum stream temperatures (°C) in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.	81
Figure 37. Average daily stream temperature (°C) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	81

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Comparison of 22 year average monthly rainfall with average monthly rainfall in YRS 2004 - 2008 during the majority of the trapping period, lower Redwood Creek, Orick, California (USGS 2008).	6
Table 2. Comparison of 57 year average monthly discharge (historic) with average monthly discharge (Orick gaging station) during the majority of the trapping period in YRS 2004 – 08 (USGS 2009).	7
Table 3. Juvenile salmonid trap catches in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	20
Table 4. Miscellaneous species captured by the smolt trap in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	21
Table 5. The estimated catch and expansion (population level) of juvenile anadromous salmonids considered to have been missed due to trap not being deployed (n = 1 d) during the emigration period of April 1 st through August 5 th (as a percentage of total without missed days in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.	23
Table 6. 0+ Chinook salmon trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	31
Table 7. 1+ steelhead trout trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	32
Table 8. 2+ steelhead trout trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	32
Table 9. 0+ coho salmon trapping efficiency in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	33
Table 10. 1+ coho salmon trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	34
Table 11. Cutthroat trout trapping efficiency in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	34

Table 12. Estimated population of 0+ Chinook salmon per anadromous stream mile (93) and stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 - 2008.	36
Table 13. Date of peak weekly 0+ Chinook salmon population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	37
Table 14. Production of 0+ Chinook salmon partitioned into fry and fingerling categories (expressed as percentage in parentheses) each study year and for the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	38
Table 15. Estimated population of 1+ steelhead trout per anadromous stream mile (93), stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 – 2008.	41
Table 16. Date of peak weekly 1+ steelhead trout population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	42
Table 17. Estimated population of 2+ steelhead trout per anadromous stream mile (93) and stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 – 2008.	44
Table 18. Date of peak weekly 2+ steelhead trout population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	45
Table 19. Estimated population of 1+ coho salmon per anadromous stream mile (93), stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 – 2007.	49
Table 20. Date of peak weekly 1+ coho salmon population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	50
Table 21. Comparison of 0+ steelhead trout, 1+ steelhead trout, and 2+ steelhead trout percent composition of total juvenile steelhead trout downstream migration in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	53
Table 22. 0+ Chinook salmon average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	54
Table 23. 0+ steelhead trout average and median fork length in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	57
Table 24. 1+ steelhead trout average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	59
Table 25. 2+ steelhead trout average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	61
Table 26. 0+ coho salmon average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	63
Table 27. 1+ coho salmon average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	65
Table 28. Cutthroat trout average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	68
Table 29. Developmental stages of captured 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	69

Table 30. Data for testing re-migration of 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, and 2+ steelhead trout released from upper Redwood Creek to be recaptured in upper or lower Redwood Cr the following year, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.....	70
Table 31. Release groups, sample size, and percent recapture of pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon released from upper Redwood Creek, and recaptured in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.....	71
Table 32. Comparison of travel time (d), travel rate (mi/d), and various growth statistics in YRS 2005 - 2008 for pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon released in upper Redwood Cr and recaptured in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA.	72
Table 33. Growth statistics for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon that showed only positive growth in FL (n = 18) and Wt (n = 17) while traveling 29 mi downstream to lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.....	74
Table 34. Visibility of partial fin clips and surgery scars, percent change in FL, and absolute growth rate (per visibility category) for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.....	74
Table 35. Comparison of travel time (d), travel rate (mi/d), and various growth statistics in YRS 2005 - 2008 for pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout released in upper Redwood Cr and recaptured in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA.	76
Table 36. Trapping mortality for juvenile salmonids captured in YR 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.....	78
Table 37. Comparison of trapping mortality of juvenile salmonids in five consecutive study years, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.....	78
Table 38. Stream temperatures (°C) (standard error of mean in parentheses) at the trap site during the trapping periods in YRS 2004 – 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	79
Table 39. Average monthly stream temperature (°C) (°F in parentheses) at the trapping site in study years 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	80
Table 40. Maximum weekly average temperature (MWAT) and maximum weekly maximum temperature (MWMT) for stream temperatures °C (°F in parentheses) at the trap site in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., study years 2004 – 2008.....	80

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Comparison of 22 year average rainfall (cm) (Historic) with monthly rainfall in WYS 2004 – 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	119
Appendix 2. Comparison of 57 year average monthly discharge (historic) with average monthly discharge in WYS 2004 – 08 (Orick Gaging Station, USGS 2009), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.	120
Appendix 3. Reasons for collecting genetic samples from Chinook salmon, steelhead trout smolts, and coho salmon fry, parr, and smolts.	121

Appendix 4. Graphical representation of daily stream gage height (ft.) at trap site and average daily streamflow (cfs) measured at Orick gaging station (USGS 2009), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.....	122
Appendix 5. Descriptive statistics of size at time 1 (T1) and time 2 (T2), change in size (FL, Wt), percent change in size (FL, Wt), absolute growth rate (FL, Wt), relative growth rate (FL, Wt) and specific growth rate scaled (FL, Wt) for pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon recaptured (n = 36) at the lower trap in Redwood Creek in YR 2008, Humboldt County, CA.....	123
Appendix 6. Release groups, sample sizes, and recaptures of pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout released from upper Redwood Cr, and recaptured in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.....	124
Appendix 7. Descriptive statistics of size at time 1 (T1) and time 2 (T2), change in size (FL, Wt), percent change in size (FL, Wt), absolute growth rate (FL, Wt), relative growth rate (FL, Wt) and specific growth rate scaled (FL, Wt) for pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout recaptured (n = 8) at the lower trap in Redwood Creek in YR 2008, Humboldt County, CA.....	125

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ABSTRACT

Juvenile anadromous salmonid trapping was conducted for the fifth consecutive year in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, California during the spring/summer emigration period (April – August). The purpose of the study was to describe juvenile salmonid out-migration and estimate smolt population abundances for wild 0+ Chinook salmon, 0+ coho salmon, 1+ coho salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, and cutthroat trout using mark/recapture methods. The long term goal is to monitor the status and trends of out-migrating juvenile salmonid smolts in Redwood Creek in relation to watershed conditions and restoration activities in the basin. These data are also utilized for Viable Salmonid Population (VSP) Analysis.

A rotary screw trap and fyke net trap collectively operated 126 out of 127 days/nights possible, and captured 77,169 0+ Chinook salmon, 10 1+ Chinook salmon, 39,892 0+ steelhead trout, 7,255 1+ steelhead trout, 1,229 2+ steelhead trout, 22 cutthroat trout, zero 0+ pink salmon, 391 0+ coho salmon, and 242 1+ coho salmon to total 126,210 juvenile salmonids. Trap catches of most juvenile salmonids in YR 2008 were greater than previous study years, due in part to increased trapping efficiencies. Average weekly trapping efficiency in YR 2008 was 35% for 0+ Chinook salmon, 19% for 1+ steelhead trout, 17% for 2+ steelhead trout, 7% for cutthroat trout, 16% for 0+ coho salmon, and 30% for 1+ coho salmon. The total 0+ Chinook salmon population estimate with 95% confidence intervals in YR 2008 equaled 173,758 (166,279 – 181,236), and was 24% less than the previous four year average. Population estimates with 95% confidence intervals in YR 2008 equaled 42,068 (37,913 – 46,222) for 1+ steelhead trout; 9,021 (7,016 – 11,025) for 2+ steelhead trout; 1,886 (1,446 – 2,326) for 0+ coho salmon, 879 (630 – 1,127) for 1+ coho salmon, and 54 (25 – 82) for age-1 and older cutthroat trout. The population abundance of 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, and 2+ steelhead trout showed a (preliminary) non-significant negative trend over five study years; and for 1+ coho salmon showed a non-significant positive trend. Monthly peaks in population emigration in YR 2008 occurred in June for 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, cutthroat trout, and 0+ coho salmon, and May for 1+ coho salmon. In general, the pattern in population abundances by week for a given species at age closely reflected trap catches by week.

Twenty-seven percent of the pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon smolts and 4% of the pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout smolts released in upper Redwood Creek were recaptured 29 miles downstream by the smolt trap in lower Redwood Creek. Travel time averaged 12 d for 0+ Chinook salmon and 23 d for 1+ steelhead trout; and absolute growth rate averaged 0.13 mm/d for 0+ Chinook salmon and 0.34 mm/d for 1+ steelhead trout.

^{1/} This paper should be referenced as: Sparkman MD. 2009. Lower Redwood Creek juvenile salmonid (smolt) downstream migration study, study year 2008. CDFG AFRAMP, 2008 Annual Report 2a7: 133 p.

INTRODUCTION

This report presents results of the fifth consecutive year of juvenile salmonid downstream migrant trapping in lower Redwood Creek, Orick, California during the spring/summer emigration period. The study was conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game's Anadromous Fisheries Resource Assessment and Monitoring Program (CDFG AFRAMP) in YRS 2004 - 2008. Funding for YR 2004 was provided by the department's Steelhead Report Card Program and AFRAMP, and in YR 2005 funding was provided by the Steelhead Report Card Program, AFRAMP, and the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP). Funding was provided by CDFG AFRAMP and FRGP (Project No. P0510532) in YR 2006, CDFG AFRAMP and FRGP (Project No. P0610531) in YR 2007, and CDFG AFRAMP, CDFG Steelhead Trout Report-Restoration Card Program, Save the Redwoods League, and FRGP (Project No. P0710511) in YR 2008.

The initial impetus for this study was to determine how many wild salmon and steelhead smolts were emigrating from the majority of the Redwood Creek basin before entering the Redwood Creek estuary and Pacific Ocean. The 'majority' of the Redwood Creek basin includes all anadromous waters upstream of the first major tributary (Prairie Creek, river mile RM 3.7) to Redwood Creek. Areas downstream of Prairie Creek are generally not used for spawning by adult salmonids; thus, the only smolt production the trap will miss is from the Prairie Creek watershed. Prior to our trapping in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt State University (YR 2001) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (YR 2003) operated a rotary screw trap in lower Redwood Creek nearby the present trapping site. Their efforts did not produce smolt population estimates but did collect data on species presence/absence, temporal distribution of out-migration, and fork lengths and weights of captured fish. In YR 2004, CDFG AFRAMP successfully determined juvenile Chinook salmon and steelhead trout smolt population estimates from the majority of Redwood Creek for the first time in Redwood Creek's anadromous salmonid monitoring history. Additionally, AFRAMP and the Redwood Creek Landowners Association (RCLA) have successfully determined smolt population estimates for juvenile Chinook salmon and steelhead trout emigrating from upper Redwood Creek for the past nine consecutive years (Sparkman 2009). Prior to our studies on juvenile salmonid downstream migration and smolt abundance in Redwood Creek, scientific studies which quantified anadromous salmonids within the Redwood Creek watershed were primarily limited to the estuary (juveniles) and Prairie Creek (adults and juveniles).

Adult salmon and steelhead populations are difficult to monitor in Redwood Creek because the adult fish migrate upstream during fall or late fall (dependent upon streamflow and whether the mouth is open to the ocean or not), winter, and early spring. Thus, when the adults are present, the streamflow is often high and unpredictable, which limits the reliability and usefulness of any adult weir. Additionally, the streamflow during this time period often carries large amounts of suspended sediments, which render visual observations of adult fish and redds (e.g. spawning surveys) unreliable and unlikely for long term monitoring. Scientific studies which focus on salmonids in tributaries to Redwood Creek are less affected by these processes, however, the

tributaries are less likely to adequately represent or account for the majority of the salmonid populations in Redwood Creek because the majority of adult salmon and steelhead spawn in the mainstem. A possible exception is the Prairie Creek watershed which probably accounts for a considerable amount of the coho salmon production in Redwood Creek. Tributaries to Redwood Creek are often steep, with limited anadromy (RNP 1997, Brown 1988). Additionally, some of the tributaries can dry up prior to late summer, which cause the juvenile fish to migrate into the mainstem of Redwood Creek.

Determining and tracking smolt numbers over time is an acceptable, useful, and quantifiable measure of salmonid populations which many agencies (both state and federal), universities, consultants, tribal entities, and timber companies perform each year. Juvenile salmonid out-migration can be used to assess: 1) the number of parents that produced the cohort (Roper and Scarnecchia 1999, Ward 2000, Sharma and Hilborn 2001, Ward et al. 2002, Bill Chesney pers. comm. 2006), 2) redd gravel conditions (Cederholm et al. 1981, Holtby and Healey 1986, Hartman and Scrivener 1990), 3) in-stream habitat quality and watershed health (Tripp and Poulan 1986, Hartman and Scrivener 1990, Hicks et al. 1991, Bradford et al. 2000, Sharma and Hilborn 2001, Ward et al. 2002), 4) restoration activities (Everest et al. 1987 *in* Hicks et al. 1991, Slaney et al. 1986, Tripp 1986, McCubbing and Ward 1997, Solazzi et al. 2000, Cleary 2001, Ward et al. 2002, McCubbing 2002, Ward et al. 2003), 5) over-winter survival (Scrivener and Brown 1993 *in* McCubbing and Ward 1997, Quinn and Peterson 1996, Solazzi et al. 2000, McCubbing 2002, Ward et al. 2002, Giannico and Hinch 2003), and 6) future recruitment to adult populations (Holtby and Healey 1986, Nickelson 1986, Ward and Slaney 1988, Ward et al. 1989, Unwin 1997, Ward 2000).

Site Description

Redwood Creek lies within the Northern Coast Range of California, and flows 67 miles through Humboldt County before reaching the Pacific Ocean (Figure 1). Headwaters originate at an elevation of about 5,000 ft and converge to form the main channel at about 3,200 feet. Redwood Creek flows north to northwest to the Pacific Ocean, and bisects the town of Orick in Northern California. The basin of Redwood Creek is 179,151 acres, about 49.7 miles long, and 6.2 miles wide (Cashman et. al 1995). The study area upstream of the trap site encompasses approximately 151,922 acres of the Redwood Creek basin, with about 93 stream miles (150 km) of accessible salmon and steelhead habitat (Cannata et al. 2006).

Geology

The Redwood Creek watershed is situated in a tectonically active and geologically complex area, and is considered to have some of the highest uplift and seismic activity rates in North America (CDFG NCWAP 2004).

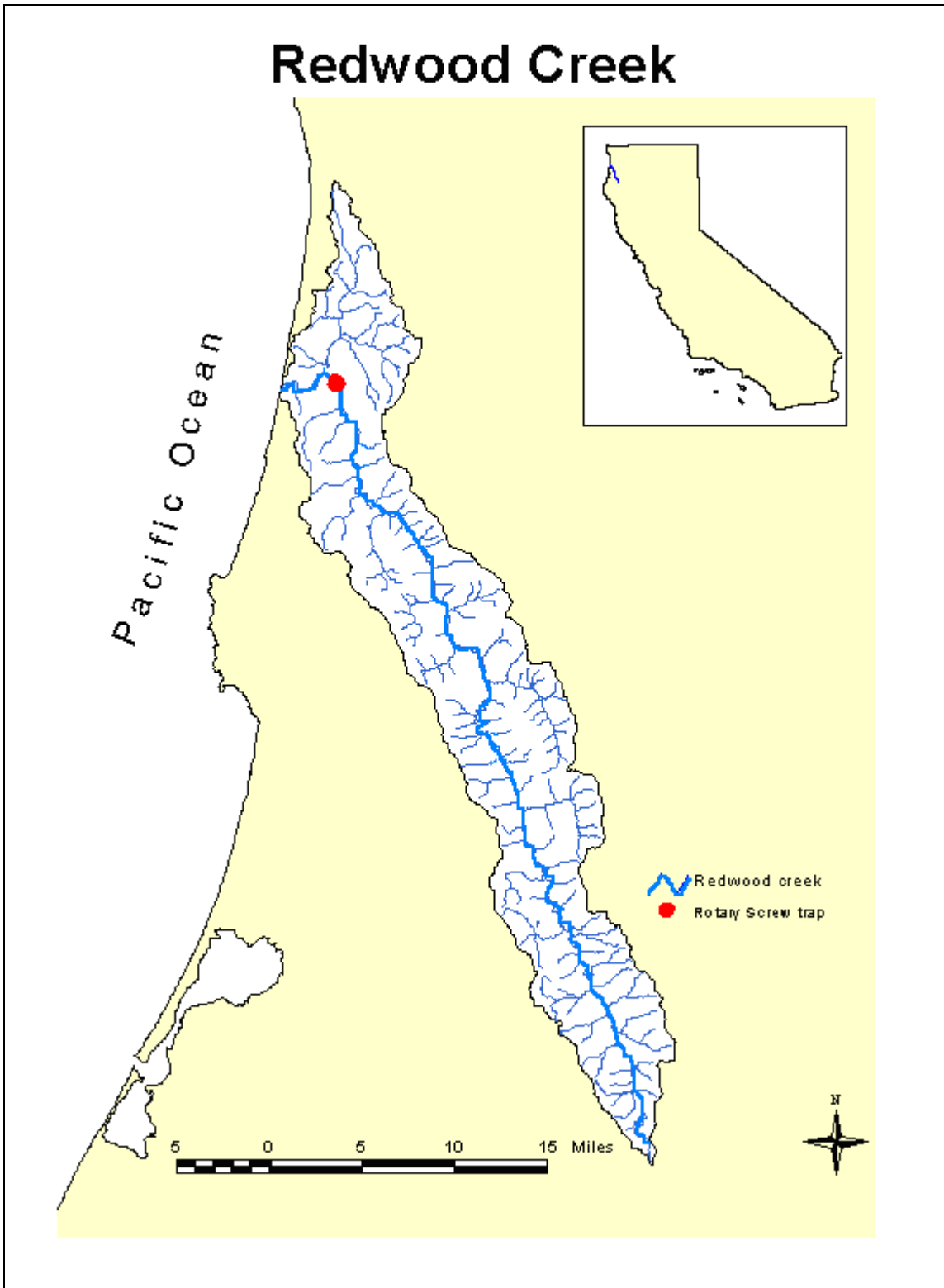


Figure 1. Redwood Creek basin with rotary screw trap location (RM 4), Humboldt County, CA. (scale is slightly inaccurate due to reproduction process, Charlotte Peters pers. com. 2001).

The geology of the Redwood Creek basin has been well-studied and mapped (Cashman et al. 1995).

“Redwood Creek drainage basin is underlain by metamorphic and sedimentary rocks of the Franciscan assemblage of Late Jurassic and Early Cretaceous age and by shallow marine and alluvial sedimentary deposits of late Tertiary and Quaternary age. These units are cut by a series of shallowly east-dipping to vertical north to northwest trending faults. The composition and distribution of bedrock units and the distribution of major faults have played a major part in the geomorphic development of the basin. Slope profiles, slope gradients, and drainage patterns within the basin reflect the properties of the underlying bedrock. The main channel of Redwood Creek generally follows the trace of the Grogan fault, and other linear topographic features are developed along major faults. The steep terrain and the lack of shear strength of bedrock units are major contributing factors to the high erosion rates in the basin” (Cashman et al. 1995).

Climate and Annual Precipitation

The climate of Redwood Creek basin varies dependent upon location within the watershed and season. Coastal areas have a moderate climate due to proximity to the ocean, and differ from inland areas (i.e. upper Redwood Creek) which experience higher and lower temperatures. Summers are typically cool and moist on the coast, and hot and dry inland. Snow fall is common during winter months in the upper basin and relatively rare in the lower basin.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) operates a rain gage in lower Redwood Creek, about 850 m downstream of the current trapping site. Rainfall records cover the periods of 1987 – 2008 to total 22 years (Redwood National Park, in house data, 2008; Vicki Ozaki pers. comm. 2008). Annual precipitation ranges from 77 cm (30 in.) to 204 cm (80 in.), and averages 137 cm (54 in.). Most (90%) of the rainfall in Redwood Creek occurs from November through May, with peak monthly rainfall occurring in December and January (Appendix 1). However, in some years relatively large amounts of rainfall may occur in November, February, March (as in YR 2005), April, and May as well. Rainfall in WY 2008 (117 cm or 46.1 in.) was 15% less than the historic average (137 cm or 54 in.), 11.7% less than the previous four year average (132 cm or 52 in.), and 1.6 – 31.7% less than rainfall in study years 2004 – 2007 (Appendix 1). Thus, rainfall in WY 2008 was below average.

The 22 year average monthly rainfall during the majority of the trapping season (April – July) totaled 23.0 cm (9.1 in.) (Table 1). Total monthly rainfall during this period of trapping in YR 2008 was 67% less than the historic average, and 66% less than the previous 4 year average (Table 1). For each comparison, the month of April experienced the highest amount of rainfall, and July the least amount (Table 1).

Table 1. Comparison of 22 year average monthly rainfall with average monthly rainfall in YRS 2004 - 2008 during the majority of the trapping period, lower Redwood Creek, Orick, California (USGS 2008).

Month	Monthly Precipitation (cm) during the Trapping Period*					
	Historic	YR 2004	YR 2005	YR 2006	YR 2007	YR 2008
April	12.2	7.1	17.6	11.9	11.2	5.0
May	7.2	2.4	15.3	7.0	2.0	0.3
June	3.2	0.5	7.0	2.2	2.5	2.2
July	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.7	0.0
Total:	23.0	10.2	39.9	21.2	17.5	7.5
Average:	5.7	2.5	10.0	5.3	4.4	1.9

* Data courtesy of Redwood National Park, Vicki Ozaki pers. comm. 2008.

Stream Discharge

A USGS gauging station (#11482500) is located about 850 m downstream of the trap site in lower Redwood Creek. The gauging station is downstream of the confluence of Prairie Creek with Redwood Creek, thus the station is influenced by Prairie Creek streamflow. Streamflow records for the Orick gage cover the periods of 1911 – 1913, 1953 – 2008, and total 57 years (USGS 2009). High streamflows usually occur from November through May, and typically peak in January; in YR 2008 streamflow peaked in January (Appendix 2). However, the months of December, February, March, and April can experience high flows as well. Using all years' data (historic), mean monthly discharge was 1,013 cfs, and ranged from 35 – 2,530 cfs (USGS 2009) (Appendix 2). Average monthly discharge in WY 2008 equaled 840 cfs, ranged from 7 – 2,754 cfs, and peaked in January (Appendix 2). Average streamflow in WY 2008 was about 17% below the historic average, 1% less than the average flow in YR 2004, 1.05 times the average flow in WY 2005, 47% less than the average flow in WY 2006, and 9.9% less than the average flow in YR 2007. Thus, average streamflow in WY 2008 was below average.

The 57 year average monthly flow during the majority of the trapping season (April – July) equaled 545 cfs, and ranged from 85 – 1,223 cfs (USGS 2009) (Table 2). Average monthly discharge from April – July, 2008 (322 cfs) was 41% less than the historic average, 1.3 times greater than the average for YR 2004, 70% less than the average for YR 2005, 50% less than the average for YR 2006, and 26% less than the average for YR 2007 (Table 2, data from USGS 2007).

The probability of the average flow during the trapping period in YR 2008 being greater than 322 cfs (based upon the 57 years of record) equaled 79%, and for being greater than 1,087 cfs (YR 2005) equaled 5.3% (USGS 2009).

Table 2. Comparison of 57 year average monthly discharge (historic) with average monthly discharge (Orick gaging station) during the majority of the trapping period in YRS 2004 – 08 (USGS 2009).

Month	Average Monthly Discharge (cfs) during the Trapping Period					
	Historic	YR 2004	YR 2005	YR 2006	YR 2007	YR 2008
April	1,223	602	2,138	1,741	1,094	758
May	625	271	1,400	472	449	357
June	249	109	613	184	138	125
July	85	41	195	61	65	47
Average:	545	256	1,087	615	437	322

Overstory

The overstory of Redwood Creek is predominately second and third growth Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) and Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), mixed with Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), California Bay Laurel (*Umbellularia californica*), Incense Cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*), Cottonwood (*Populus spp.*), Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos spp.*), Oak (*Quercus spp.*), Tan Oak (*Lithocarpus densiflorus*), Pacific Madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), and Red Alder (*Alnus rubra*). The lower portion of Redwood Creek (ie within Redwood National Park boundaries) contains old growth Redwood, mixed with second growth redwood and other tree species.

Understory

Common understory plants include: dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii*), willow (*Salix lucida*), California hazelnut (*Corylus rostrata*), lupine (*Lupinus spp.*), blackberry (*Rubus spp.*), plantain (*Plantago coronopus*), poison oak (*Toxicodendro diversilobum*), wood rose (*Rosa gymnocarpa*), false Solomon’s seal (*Smilacina amplexicaulis*), spreading dog bane (*Apocynum spp.*), wedgeleaf ceanothus (*Ceanothus spp.*), bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), blackcap raspberry (*Rubus spp.*), and elderberry (*Sambucus spp.*), among other species.

Redwood Creek History (Brief)

Redwood Creek watershed has experienced extensive logging of Redwood and other commercial tree species. By 1978, 81% of the original forest was logged, totaling 66% of the basin area (Kelsey et al. 1995). Most, if not all, remaining old growth Redwood is contained within Redwood National Park, which is about 200 m upstream of the trap site. In conjunction with clear-cut logging, log removal via tractors, associated road building, geology types and geomorphic processes (eg debris slides and earthflows), and flood events in 1955 and 1964, large amounts of sediments were delivered into the stream channel (Madej and Ozaki 1996) with a resultant loss of stream habitat complexity (filling in of pools and flattening out of the stream channel, Marlin Stover pers. comm. 2000). Additional high flows occurred in 1972, 1975, and 1995 as well, and have helped influence the current channel morphology of Redwood Creek. The downstream migrant trap in lower Redwood Creek is located in an area of gravel aggradation, and gravel extraction does occur in this area. Redwood Creek has been listed as sediment and temperature-impaired under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA 2002; SWRCB 2003; USEPA 2003).

Federal ESA Species Status

Chinook (King) salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), coho (Silver) salmon (*O. kisutch*), steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*), and cutthroat trout (*O. clarki clarki*) are known to inhabit Redwood Creek. This study and the study in upper Redwood Creek also show that pink salmon (*O. gorbuscha*) are present in Redwood Creek. Chinook salmon (KS) of Redwood Creek belong to the California Coastal Chinook Salmon Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU), and are listed as “threatened” under the Federal Endangered Species Act (Federal Register 1999a). The definition of threatened as used by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is “likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of their range” (NOAA 1999). Coho salmon (CO) belong to the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts ESU and were classified as “threatened” (Federal Register 1997) prior to the Chinook salmon listing. Steelhead trout (SH) fall within the Northern California Steelhead ESU, and are also listed as a “threatened” species (Federal Register 2000). Coastal cutthroat trout (CT) of Redwood Creek fall within the Southern Oregon/California Coasts Coastal Cutthroat Trout ESU, and were determined “not warranted” for ESA listing (Federal Register 1999b). Despite ESU listings of Redwood Creek anadromous salmonid populations, relatively little data exists concerning abundance and population sizes, particularly for juvenile (and adult) life history stages. Historically, the most prolific species was most likely the fall/early winter-run Chinook salmon.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to describe juvenile salmonid downstream migration from the majority of the Redwood Creek basin, and to determine emigrant population abundances for wild 0+ (young-of-year) Chinook salmon (Ocean type), 1+ (between 1 and 2 years old) steelhead trout, 2+ (2 years old and greater) steelhead trout, cutthroat trout (age 1 and older), 0+ coho salmon (fry, parr), and 1+ coho salmon smolts. The primary long term goal is to monitor the status and trends of out-migrating juvenile salmonid smolts in Redwood Creek in relation to watershed condition and restoration activities in the basin; and to provide data needed for Viable Salmonid Population Viability (VSP) analysis. An additional goal is to document the presence or absence of 1+ Chinook salmon (Stream type). Specific study objectives were as follows:

- 1) Determine the species composition and temporal pattern of downstream migrating juvenile salmonids.
- 2) Determine population estimates for downstream migrating 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, cutthroat trout, 0+ coho salmon, and 1+ coho salmon.
- 3) Record fork length (mm) and weight (g) of captured fish.
- 4) Investigate 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, and 2+ steelhead trout travel time and growth as they migrate from the upper trap to the lower trap (or estuary) using passive integrated transponder tags (Pit Tags).
- 5) Collect genetic samples from 0+ Chinook salmon, 0+ steelhead trout, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout and juvenile coho salmon (if present) for future analyses and comparisons (Appendix 3).
- 6) Collect and handle fish in a manner that minimizes mortality.
- 7) Statistically analyze data for significance and trends.
- 8) Compare data between study years.
- 9) Link data collected from the lower trap, upper trap, and estuary (Redwood National Park) to provide a more complete study on the life history and abundance of emigrating juvenile salmonids (smolts) in Redwood Creek.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Trap Operations

A modified E.G. Solutions (5 foot diameter cone) rotary screw trap was deployed in lower Redwood Creek (RM 4) on April 1, 2008 at the same general location as previous study years (YRS 2004 - 2007). The trap in YR 2008 was set in the same location as YRS 2006 and 2007, which was about 75 m downstream of the location in YRS 2004 and 2005. The trap was set in a fairly steep run that during lower flows resembled a riffle habitat type; the channel configuration was more confined and had a steeper gradient compared to YRS 2004 and 2005.

The rotary screw trap was modified by using the larger pontoons normally equipped with the 8 foot cone so that a larger livebox could be used. The debris wheel of the E.G. solutions livebox was cut out, and aluminum was added to the livebox to increase the length nearly two-fold (L 218.4 cm x W 121.9 cm x H 55.9 cm). A framed perforated steel plate (L x W x H) with 2 mm holes was then used to close the downstream end where the debris wheel was once located. Perforated plates with 2 mm holes were also placed in the sides (n = 2, 56 x 31 cm) and bottom (n = 1, 89 x 41 cm) of the livebox to dissipate livebox water velocities. A 50 cm L x 55 cm H plywood board was placed on the outside of the back screen (perforated plate) to reduce the number of captured fry and amount of debris (sticks, leaves, etc) from being impinged on the screen during very high stream flow and debris periods. The board was placed on the right corner (looking downstream) and by providing a resistance to flow, allowed some of the water outside of the trap to enter the livebox. The water entering the livebox would then push most of the debris (leaves, sticks, etc) towards the middle of the livebox, thus preventing debris loading on the rear screen. Modifications to the livebox decreased livebox water velocities, allowed for less fish crowding during peak catches, and enabled the trap to continue trapping under higher flows compared to the stock model. We operated the rotary screw trap continually (24 hrs/day, 7 days a week) from April 1st through August 5th, except for one partially missed day on April 12, 2008 when a large piece of tree bark jammed the trap's cone sometime in the early morning. Trapping methods were identical to previous years, and nearly identical to those used for the upper trap (RM 33) in YR 2008 (Sparkman 2009). Every attempt was made to maintain the trap's position in the thalweg.

During periods of lesser streamflows, weir panels were used with the rotary screw to: 1) keep the trap's cone revolutions relatively high, and 2) maintain good trap efficiencies by directing fish into the cone area. The weir panels were set to fall down under any unexpected peaks in streamflow. Weir panels were first installed on May 9, and positioned at an angle to each of the trap's pontoons. Additional weir panels were later added to increase the overall length, and by the end of July, the weir panels were about 100 ft long on the right bank side (includes rock weir), and 150 ft long on the left bank side. Rock weirs were built to join the weir panels to form a more complete weir configuration. Prior to the end of the study, plastic drop cloths were fastened to the weir panels to force more water into the cone area, which greatly increased the cone revolutions. The YR 2008 trapping season can be characterized with relatively few high flow events (n = 2; 4/22/08 and 4/23/08). On April 22nd and 23rd the stream rose two and 23 inches, respectively. The largest increase in average daily stream discharge was 832 cfs (4/22 to 4/23). Similar to past study years, we made frequent adjustments to the trap configuration to increase trapping efficiencies. Trapping in YR 2008 was much easier compared to most of the previous study years.

Biometric Data Collection

Fishery technicians frequently removed debris (e.g. alder cones, leaves, sticks, detritus, large amounts of filamentous green algae, etc) from within the livebox at night to reduce

trap mortalities the following morning. The trap's livebox was emptied at 09:00 every morning by 2 - 4 technicians. Young of year fish were removed first and processed before 1+ and 2+ fish to decrease predation or injury to the smaller fish. Captured fish (0+ fish first, then 1+ and older) were placed into 5 gal. buckets and carried to the processing station. At the station, fish were placed into a 23.5 gal. ice chest modified to safely hold juvenile fish. The ice chest was adapted to continually receive fresh water from the stream using a 3,700 gph submersible bilge pump. The bilge pump connected to a flexible line (ID 4 cm or 1.6 in.) that connected to a manifold with four ports. "Y" type hose adapters were connected to each port. Garden hoses connected to the hose adapters, with one line feeding the ice chest, and four lines feeding recovery buckets for processed fish. Additional garden hoses were connected to the hose adaptors to quickly fill buckets if needed, and to relieve any excess back pressure. Plumbing inside the ice chest consisted of two PVC pipes: one that served to dissipate the stream water into the ice chest, and the other to adjust water height in the ice chest and drain excess water. The water lines to the recovery buckets were elevated above the recovery buckets so that the fresh water would also provide increased aeration. The system worked very well, did not require additional battery operated aerators, and decreased total fish processing time.

Random samples of each species at age (eg 0+ KS, 0+ SH, etc.) were netted from the ice chest for examination, enumeration, and biometric data collection. Each individual fish was counted by species at age, and observed for trap efficiency trial marks. Marked fish from the upper trap were tallied separately from the marked fish used to determine trap efficiencies for the lower trap. All 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, and 0+ Chinook salmon captured were scanned (interrogated) for pit tags. Fish with partial, upper caudal fin clips (secondary mark for the pit tag) were observed and recorded for how visible the partial fin clip and scar (for pit tag insertion) were (visible, partially visible, not visible); these data provided detailed information on the longevity and visibility of surgical scars and partial fin clips.

Fork Lengths/Weights

Fish were anesthetized with MS-222 prior to data collection in 2 gal. dishpans. Biometric data collection included 30 measurements of fork length (mm) and wet weight (g) for random samples of 0+ Chinook salmon (0+ KS), 1+ Chinook salmon (1+ KS, if present), 1+ and greater cutthroat trout (CT), 1+ steelhead trout (1+ SH), 2+ and greater steelhead trout (2+ SH), 0+ coho salmon (0+ CO), 1+ coho salmon (1+ CO), and 0+ pink salmon (if present). Only fork lengths were taken from 0+ steelhead trout (0+ SH). A 160 and 350 mm measuring board (± 1 mm), and an Ohaus Scout II digital scale (± 0.1 g) were used in the study. Fork lengths were taken every day of trap operation, and fork length frequencies of 0+ and older steelhead trout, coho salmon, and Chinook salmon were used to determine age-length relationships at various times throughout the trapping period. Scales were occasionally read to verify age class cutoffs. 0+ Chinook salmon and 1+ steelhead trout weights were taken 2 - 7 times per week; and 0+ and 1+ coho salmon, and 2+ steelhead trout weights were taken nearly every day of trap operation and collection due to expected, low sample sizes. Individuals were weighed in a tared plastic pan (containing water) on the electronic scale. The scale was placed in a large plastic bin

when weighing fish to prevent any influences from wind, and was calibrated every day prior to data collection. After biometric data was collected, fish were placed into 5 gal. recovery buckets which received continuously pumped fresh stream water. Young of year fish were kept in separate recovery buckets from age 1+ and older fish to decrease predation or injury. When fully recovered from anesthesia, 0+ juvenile fish were transported 70 m downstream of the trap site and released in the margin of the stream; and aged 1 and older fish were transported 90 m downstream of the trap site and released near the middle of the stream.

Developmental Stages

We visually determined developmental stages (e.g. parr, pre-smolt, smolt) for every 1+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, 1+ coho salmon, and 1+ (and greater) cutthroat trout captured using the following criteria:

- Parr designated fish that had obvious parr marks present and no silvering of scales.
- Pre-smolt designated individuals with less obvious parr marks, showed some blackening of the caudal fin, and were in the process of becoming silver colored smolts. Pre-smolt was considered in-between parr and smolt.
- Smolt designated fish that were very silver in coloration (i.e. smoltification), had little to no parr marks present, and had blackish colored caudal fins.

Discerning developmental stages is subjective; however, I attempted to minimize observer bias by individually training (and checking) each crew member and having crew members follow the same protocol. Only crew members who had worked in previous study years were allowed to identify the developmental stage in order to minimize learning curves. The most difficult stages to separate were for those fish which fell between smolt and pre-smolt. Negus (2003) reported that the level of ATPase activity (index of smoltification) increased when juvenile steelhead trout were more silvery in color, compared to the dark banded (parr) stage; and Haner et al. (1995) found that skin reflectance increased during smoltification, and correlated well with gill ATPase activity and skin guanine concentration.

Population Estimates

The number of fish captured by the trap represented only a portion of the total fish moving downstream in that time period. Total salmonid out-migration estimates (by age and species) were determined on a weekly basis for 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, cutthroat trout, and 1+ coho salmon using mark-recapture methodology described by Carlson et al. (1998). The approximately unbiased estimate equation for a 1-site study was used to determine total population size (U_h) in a given capture and trapping efficiency period (h). Variance was computed, and the value was

used to calculate 95% confidence intervals (CI) for each weekly population estimate. The weekly population estimate (U_h) does not include catches of marked releases in the “C” component (or ‘ u_h ’) of the equation, and any short term handling mortality was subtracted (Carlson et al. 1998). Trap efficiency trials were conducted one to six times a week, depending upon sample sizes, for 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, cutthroat trout, and 1+ coho salmon. Data was combined and run through the equation to determine the weekly estimate (for a complete description of estimation methods and model assumptions see Sparkman 2004a). The Carlson et al. (1998) model and my methods were (favorably) peer reviewed in YR 2003 by CDFG Biometrician Phil Law and Dr. Don Chapman.

Small, partial fin clips were used to identify trap efficiency trial fish by squaring the round edge (or tip) of a given fin (caudal, pectoral) with scissors. Fish used in efficiency trials were given partial fin clips while under anesthesia (MS-222), and recovered in 5 g buckets which received fresh stream water (via the plumbing system). Clip types for 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout and 2+ steelhead trout were different than those used at the upper trap. Clips for 1+ coho salmon and 2+ steelhead trout were stratified by week such that marked fish of one group (or week) would not be included in the following weekly calculation (a relatively rare event). I did not stratify clips for 0+ Chinook salmon and 1+ steelhead trout because four years of data (when I did stratify clips) at the upper trap showed that nearly all of the recaptures (99.4%) occurred in the correct strata. The few fish that were recaptured out of strata had little to no effect on the weekly and total population estimates (Phil Law, personal comm. 2003). 0+ Chinook salmon, 0+ coho salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, and cutthroat trout were given lower caudal partial fin clips. 1+ coho salmon were given an upper or lower caudal fin clip, and 2+ steelhead trout were given right or left pectoral partial fin clips. Once recovered from anesthesia, the fish were placed in mesh cages in the stream for at least 1 - 2 hrs to test for short term delayed mortality (Carlson et al. 1998). Many of the fin clipped fish were held for up to five hours prior to release at night. Fin clipped 0+ Chinook salmon were released in fry habitat 183 m upstream of the trap, and clipped 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout, cutthroat trout, and 1+ coho salmon were released into a pool (with woody debris) 152 m upstream of the trap site. Fin clipped fish were manually released upstream of the trap at night.

Additional Experiments

Re-Migration

In YR 2007 we pit tagged and released 48 2+ steelhead trout, 484 1+ steelhead trout, and 691 0+ Chinook salmon to investigate travel time between the upper trap (RM 33) and lower trap (RM 4) in Redwood Creek. These tags can also serve to show if any marked juveniles that migrated downstream in YR 2007 re-migrated back upstream of the upper or lower trap to be later caught in YR 2008 as one, two or three year old fish. We have investigated re-migration in previous study years as well (YRS 2001 - 02, and 2004 - 2006). Every 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout captured at the lower trap in YR 2008 was

scanned for pit tags, as were the largest juvenile Chinook salmon smolts (potential 1+ smolts).

Travel Time and Growth

We did not use plastic elastomer in YR 2008 to investigate travel time from the upper to the lower trap (this study) because individual fish cannot be uniquely identified when elastomer marks are used for batches of fish, and the mark is rather difficult to apply for fish under 85 mm (FL). Pit tags (passive integrated transponder tags) offer the ability of individual recognition by using numbers unique to each tag (and marked fish). In YR 2008 (and YRS 2005 - 2007) we used Pit Tags to investigate both travel time and growth of tagged fish as they migrated downstream from Redwood Valley to be later caught at the lower trap (this study) or estuary (David Anderson, pers. comm. 2008). We found pit tagging to be easier and faster than applying elastomer. Pit tags used in the study were 11.5 mm long x 2 mm wide, and weighed 0.09 g (ALLFLEX USA, Inc., PO BOX 612266, Dallas/Ft Worth Airport, Texas). Pit tags were applied to randomly selected 1+ steelhead trout (n = 203), 2+ steelhead trout (n = 28) and 0+ Chinook salmon smolts (FL \geq 66 mm, n = 133) using the same techniques as in previous study years. Fish were anesthetized with MS-222, and measured for FL (mm) and Wt (g) prior to tagging. A scalpel (sterilized with a 10:1 solution of water to Argentyne; Argent Chemical Laboratories, 8702 152nd Ave. N.E., Redmond, WA, 98052) was used to make a small incision (2 - 3 mm long) into the body cavity just posterior (about 3 - 5 mm) to a pectoral fin. The incision was dorsal to the ventral most region of the fish to help prevent the tag from exiting the incision. Tags were also sterilized with Argentyne, and then inserted by hand into the body cavity via the incision. Glue was not used to close the incision after tag placement because previous experience with tagging showed it was unnecessary, and in YR 2007 we found tag retention from 24 – 48 hrs post tagging to be 100%. In addition, Dare (2003) found pit tag retention to equal 99.9% for juvenile Chinook salmon held in raceways for a period of 28 d. Pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon, and 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout were also given a small partial upper caudal fin clip to later aid in recognizing a tagged fish. Nevertheless, all fish (except 0+ steelhead trout) captured at the lower trap were scanned (interrogated) for pit tags while being processed.

After initial tag application, fish were held in a livecar in the stream for a period of 10 - 60 hrs to test for delayed mortality; however, most pit tagged juveniles were held for a 34 hr period. 0+ Chinook salmon were kept separately from 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout. All pit tagged fish were either released at night or during the day downstream of the trap site at the normal downstream release site. Field crews at the upper trap, lower trap, and estuary had hand held pit tag readers (ALLFLEX USA, Inc., PO BOX 612266, Dallas/Ft Worth Airport, Texas) so that they could scan and identify pit tagged fish; and perform necessary fork length and weight measurements. I assumed pit tags did not affect feeding or migration based upon findings by Newby et al. (2007). In addition, this study shows that nearly 50% of the recaptured pit tagged salmon and 75% of recaptured steelhead trout showed growth; if the tag had a negative impact upon juveniles we would expect more fish to not grow, or lose weight when compared to those that did grow.

Physical Data Collection

A staff gage with increments in hundredths of a foot was used to measure the relative stream surface elevation (hydrograph) at the trap site from April 1 – August 5th, 2008. The gage was read every morning at 0900 to the nearest one-hundredth of a foot prior to biometric data collection. A graphical representation of the data, along with average daily stream discharge data from the O’Kane gaging station (USGS 2009), is given in Appendix 4.

Stream temperatures were recorded with an Optic StowAway® Temp data logger (Onset Computer Corporation, 470 MacArthur Blvd. Bourne, MA 02532) placed behind the rotary screw trap. A second probe was deployed at the same location for comparison. Both probes gave similar results (Avg. = 14.3 and 14.2 °C), therefore only data from one probe is reported. The probes were placed into a PVC cylinder with holes to ensure adequate ventilation and to prevent influences from direct sunlight. Probes were set to record stream temperatures (°C) every 30 minutes and recorded 6,096 measurements per probe over the course of the study. The shallowest stream depth during which measurements were taken (in August) was about 1.0 feet. The maximum weekly average temperature (MWAT) and maximum weekly maximum temperature (MWMT) for YRS 2004 - 2008 were determined following methods described by Madej et al. (2006). MWAT is defined as the maximum value of a 7-day moving average of daily average stream temperatures, and MWMT is the maximum value of a 7-day moving average of daily maximum stream temperatures (Madej et al. 2006).

Statistical Analyses

Numbers Cruncher Statistical System software (NCSS 97) (Hintze 1998) was used for linear correlation, regression/ANOVA output, single factor ANOVA, chi-square, and descriptive statistics.

Linear regression was used to estimate the catch for each species at age for days when the trap was not fishing by using data before and after the missed day(s) catch. The estimated catch (except for 0+ steelhead) was then added to the known catch in a given stratum and applied to the population model for that stratum (Roper and Scarnecchia 1999).

Linear correlation slope and equation line were used to determine if population abundance of a given species at age was increasing or decreasing over the five years of study. The tests are considered very preliminary, and more data will be required to detect the true trend in population abundances over years. With respect to 0+ Chinook salmon, peaks in stream flows were great enough to potentially mobilize redd gravels each study year. Flood type flows capable of gravel scour (and deposition) are generally thought to occur near 11,000 cfs (Randy Klein, Greg Bundros, Vicki Ozaki, Mary Ann Madej, pers. comm. 2003).

I partitioned the 0+ Chinook salmon population estimate into classes of fry (newly emerged and post-emergent fry, FL < 45 mm) and fingerlings (FL > 44 mm) each week of a given year using weekly FL data and weekly population estimates. The percentage of juvenile Chinook salmon per size class each week was multiplied by the corresponding weekly population estimate (which included marked recaptures of fry and fingerlings) to estimate the population of fry and fingerlings. The FL cutoff between fry and fingerlings was determined by examining FL histograms from nine years of downstream migrant trapping in upper Redwood Creek (FL nadir ranged from 42 – 45 mm, mean = 44 mm; nadir in YR 2008 was 44 mm), from five years of trapping in lower Redwood Creek (FL nadir was 43 mm in YR 2004, 45 mm in YR 2005, 42 mm in YR 2006, 43 mm in YR 2007, and 46 mm in YR 2008; Avg. = 44 mm), from trapping Chinook salmon redds in Prairie Creek (emergent fry fork length per redd ranged from 35 – 43, and averaged 39 mm, n = 4 redds; Sparkman 1997 and 2004b), and from information gathered in the literature (Allen and Hassler 1986, Healey 1991, Bendock 1995, Seiler et al. 2004). Allen and Hassler (1986) summarized that newly emerged Chinook salmon fry range from 35 – 44 mm FL, Healey (1991) reported that Chinook salmon fry FL's normally range from 30 – 45 mm, and Bendock (1995) and Seiler (2004) used a FL < 40 mm for fry. Therefore, the 45 mm FL cutoff for fry (FL < 45 mm) in Redwood Creek was similar to that used in other studies.

I determined a 'rough' estimate of growth rate in FL and Wt for 0+ Chinook salmon in YR 2008 generally following methods by Bendock (1995). I used the first weekly average in FL and Wt with a sample size ≥ 25 (week 4/02 – 4/08) and the last weekly average in the season (7/30 - 8/05) with a sample size ≥ 25 . The first average was subtracted from the last average, and divided by the number of days from the first day after the first weekly average to the last day of the last weekly average. For the example above, the number of days used in the growth calculation equaled 119. The resultant growth rate is not an individual growth rate, but more of a 'group' growth rate. The calculated values were then compared to values put forth by Healey (1991) and Bendock (1995) for juvenile Chinook salmon in other streams. The growth rates for 0+ steelhead and 0+ coho salmon were also determined using this method.

Descriptive statistics were used to characterize the mean and median FL (mm) and Wt (g) of each species at age on a study year and weekly basis. Linear correlation was also used to test if the average weekly FL and Wt of each species at age (excluding 0+ steelhead weight) in each study year increased over the study period. The lack of data in any given week was due to: 1) differences in trap deployment time among study years, 2) no catches occurred, or 3) sample size was too low to generate a reliable average. Single factor ANOVA (or non-parametric equivalent, Kruskal-Wallis One-Way ANOVA on Ranks) was used to test for significant variation among weekly FLs and Wts in YR 2008 with the previous four year average weekly FL and Wt (YRS 2004 – 07).

Chi-square was used to test for differences in the proportions of parr, pre-smolt and smolt designations for captured 1+ steelhead trout and 2+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average (YRS 2004 – 07). Parr stage was not included in the test for 2+ steelhead trout because none were classified as parr (NCSS 97). Chi-square

was also used to test if the percentages of 0+ Chinook salmon fry and fingerlings in YR 2008 were random by assuming that a random occurrence of the two designations would equal 50/50 or 1:1; and if fry and fingerling percentages in YR 2008 differed from the previous four year average.

Descriptive statistics were used to characterize FL, Wt, travel time (d), travel rate (mi per d), and various growth indices (Delta FL and Wt, Percent Change in Growth, Absolute Growth Rate, Specific Growth Rate, and Relative Growth Rate) for all pit tagged fish recaptured at the lower trap. The weight of the pit tag (0.09 g) was subtracted from the final recorded weight to obtain the true weight of the fish. Measurement uncertainties for FL and Wt were assumed to be ± 1 mm and ± 0.1 g, therefore final FL's and Wt's needed to be greater than the initial FL and Wt by this amount to constitute a real change in size.

Travel time is defined as the difference (in days) from the recapture date to initial release date, and equals the period of growth for recaptured individuals. Since most pit tagged fish were released at night (eg 2100) and recaptured at some date in the morning by the lower trap (when the crew checks the trap at 0900) the earliest recorded travel time could be 0.5 days (or 12 hours). However, some of the juveniles were released during the day and the earliest recorded travel time for these fish would equal 1 d. Travel rate is the travel time divided by 29 miles (the distance between the upper and lower traps).

Numerous growth indices (Percent Change in Growth, Absolute Growth Rate, Specific Growth Rate scaled, and Relative Growth Rate) were calculated to ensure comparisons of our data with data reported in the literature. Equations for growth indices are found in Busacker et al. (1990). Absolute growth rate is expressed as mm per day for FL or g per day for Wt. Specific growth rate (mm/d) is expressed as a scaled number (by multiplying specific growth rate by 100). Thus, if the specific growth rate scaled equaled 0.741% (mm per day), the un-scaled value would equal 0.00741 mm per day. Relative growth rate is a growth rate that is relative to the initial size of the fish, and units for FL are in mm/mm/d and for Wt, g/g/d. Therefore, if the relative growth rate equaled 0.003 mm/mm/d, then we would say that the fish grew 0.003 mm per mm of fish per day.

Travel time, travel rate, and growth for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon (n = 36) and 1+ steelhead trout (n = 8) smolts in YR 2008 were modeled using linear regression. Travel and growth parameters for 2+ steelhead trout could not be modeled due to a single recapture. Independent variables for travel time and travel rate (dependent variables in this case) included fish size at time 1 or time 2, water temperature during a specific migration period (average of data from both traps), lunar phase (averaged across a specific migration period), and stream discharge during a specific migration period (average of data from O'Kane and Orick gages, USGS 2009).

Independent variables for modeling growth (dependent variable) included travel time, travel rate, average water temperature, average stream discharge, and average lunar phase. Physical variables were once again averaged across a specific migration period; and stream temperature and stream discharge were not included together in any regression models because they were highly correlated ($p < 0.001$). During the travel

time and growth experiments (4/03 – 8/05), average daily stream temperatures at the upper trap site ranged from 6.4 – 21.9 °C (43.5 - 71.4 °F) and average daily stream discharge ranged from 6.3 - 329 cfs (O’Kane gage, USGS 2009). Average daily stream temperatures at the lower trap site ranged from 8.3 – 18.6 °C (46.9 – 65.5 °F) and average daily stream discharge ranged from 25 – 1,560 cfs (Orick gage, USGS 2009). Thus, the experiments were conducted over a fairly wide range of environmental variables.

Minimum, average, and maximum stream temperatures for each day during the trapping period were determined from data collected by temperature probes at the trapping site. Descriptive statistics were used to determine the average stream temperature during the course of the study. Single factor ANOVA was used to test for significant variation in monthly stream temperatures among study years. Correlation was used to test if the average daily (24 hour) stream temperature increased or decreased over the study period (April - August) in YR 2008; and regression was used to examine the relationships of the daily stream gage height and average daily stream discharge (cfs) on average daily stream temperature in YR 2008.

If data violated tests of statistical assumptions, data was transformed with Log (x+1) to approximate normality (Zar 1999). The term ‘transformed’ in this paper refers to the log (x+1) transformation. “X” could be the independent or dependent variable in linear regression, or the response variable for a given treatment using ANOVA. Power is defined as the probability of correctly rejecting the null hypothesis when it is false; and can also be thought of as the probability of detecting differences that truly exist (Zar 1999). The level of significance (Alpha) for tests with less than eight data points (eg. population trend analysis, modeling pit tag recaptures for 1+ steelhead trout) was set at 0.10, and for tests with more than eight data points, alpha was set at 0.05. When performing multiple comparison procedures, alpha was corrected by dividing the alpha value (eg 0.05) by the number of tests involved (NCSS 97; Zar 1999).

RESULTS

The rotary screw trap operated from 3/31/08 – 7/22/08 and trapped 112 days/nights out of a possible 113. The fyke net operated from 7/22/08 – 8/05/08, and trapped 14 days/nights out of a possible 14. The trapping rate in YR 2008 was 99%, compared to 96% for the previous four year average. The missed trapping day in YR 2008 occurred on April 12th.

Species Captured

Juvenile Salmonids

Species captured in YR 2008 included: juvenile Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), juvenile coho salmon (*O. kisutch*), juvenile steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*), and coastal cutthroat trout (*O. clarki clarki*). A total of 126,210 juvenile salmonids were captured in YR 2008 (Figure 2).

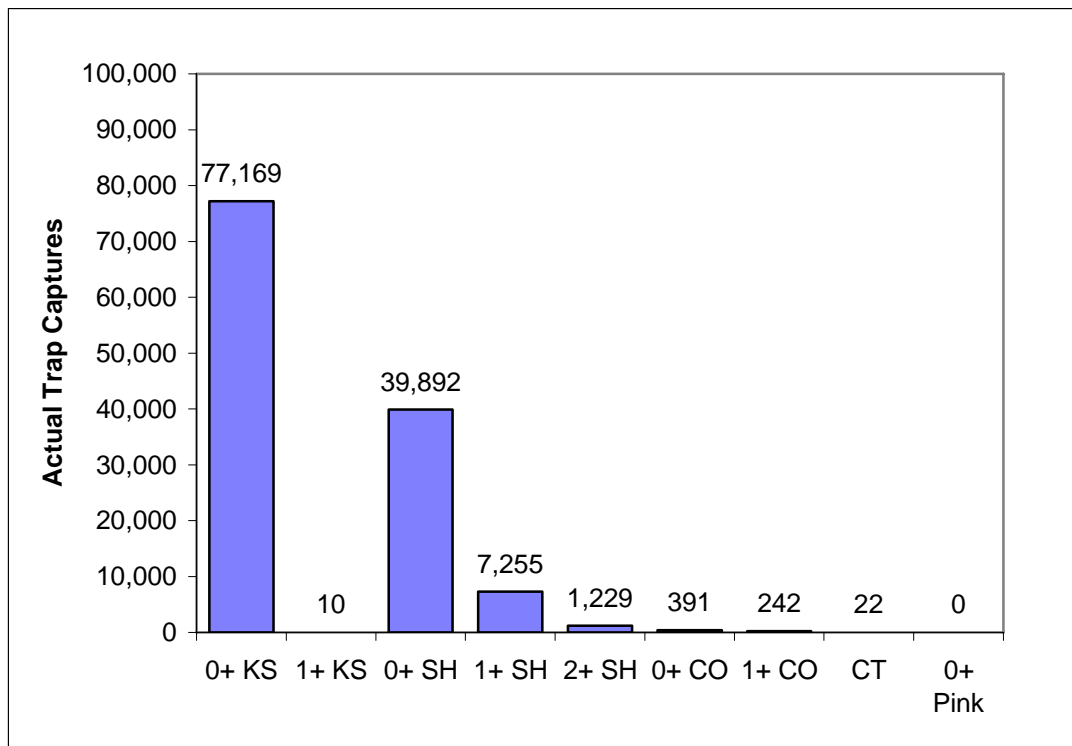


Figure 2. Total juvenile salmonid trap catches (n = 126,210) from April 1st through August 5th, 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA. Numeric values above columns represent actual catches. 0+ KS = young-of-year Chinook salmon, 1+ KS = age 1 Chinook salmon, 0+ SH = young-of-year steelhead trout, 1+ SH = age 1 and older steelhead trout, 2+ SH = age 2 and older steelhead trout, CT = cutthroat trout, 0+ Pink = young-of-year pink salmon.

The total trap catch of juvenile salmonids in YR 2008 was considerably higher than previous study years (Table 3). Young-of-year juvenile salmonids comprised the majority of the total catch each study year, and accounted for 91% of the total captures over five study years (Table 3). 0+ Chinook salmon accounted for 61% of the catch in YR 2008 (Table 3).

Table 3. Juvenile salmonid trap catches in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Age/spp.*	YR 2004	YR 2005	YR 2006	YR 2007	Prev. 4 Yr. Avg.	YR 2008
0+ KS	61,778	10,827	16,773	43,233	33,153	77,169
1+ KS	2	11	0	0	3	10
0+ SH**	18,642	1,345	29,957	42,827	23,193	39,892
1+ SH	6,371	2,033	7,660	6,679	5,686	7,255
2+ SH	907	417	1,111	1,198	908	1,229
0+ CO	202	53	108	293	164	391
1+ CO	69	39	72	34	54	242
CT	37	9	36	44	32	22
0+ Pink	NC***	2	0	0	1	0
Total:	88,088	14,736	55,717	94,308	63,194	126,210

* Age/species definitions are the same as in Figure 2.

** Includes a small, but unknown percentage of young-of-year cutthroat trout.

*** Denotes not counted.

Miscellaneous Species

The trap caught numerous species besides juvenile anadromous salmonids in YR 2008, including: prickly sculpin (*Cottus asper*), coast range sculpin (*Cottus aleuticus*), sucker (*Catostomidae* family), three-spined stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*), juvenile (ammocoete) lamprey and adult Pacific Lamprey (*Entosphenus tridentatus*) (Table 4).

Adult and juvenile captures occurred for Prickly Sculpin, Coast Range Sculpin, Sucker, 3-Spined Stickleback, and Pacific Lamprey. Numerous gravid sculpins (both species) were also captured.

Table 4. Miscellaneous species captured by the smolt trap in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Species Captured	YR 2004	YR 2005	YR 2006	YR 2007	YR 2008
Prickly Sculpin	68	140	209	76	234
Coast Range Sculpin	502	212	599	205	3,798
Sucker	156	89	194	193	121
3-Spined Stickleback	7,225	215	1,119	1,049	1,434
Adult Pac. Lamprey	13	3	4	16	16
Juvenile Lamprey*	154	84	50	112	67
Pac. Giant Salamander	4	8	15	12	8
Painted Salamander	0	0	0	0	0
Rough Skinned Newt	2	3	0	8	16
Red-Legged Frog	0	2	0	2	8
Yellow-Legged Frog	0	0	0	0	0
Tailed Frog	0	1	0	1	0

* Ammocoete stage.

Juvenile Salmonid Captures

Trap catches of juvenile salmonids in YR 2008 were variable over time, with apparent multi-modal catch distributions for 0+ steelhead trout, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, 0+ coho salmon, 1+ coho salmon, and 0+ Chinook salmon.

0+ Chinook salmon daily catches in YR 2008 (n = 77,169) ranged from 0 – 3,098 individuals, and averaged 608 fish per day. The previous four year daily catch ranged from 0 – 2,196, and averaged 270 per day. Daily 0+ Chinook salmon captures in YR 2008 expressed as a percentage of total 0+ Chinook salmon catch in YR 2008 (n = 77,169) ranged from 0.0 – 4.0%, and averaged 0.8%. The peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 6/28/08 (n = 3,098). The peak catch in YR 2007 occurred on 6/18/07, compared to 6/25/06 in YR 2006, 7/18/05 in YR 2005 and 6/17/04 in YR 2004.

0+ steelhead trout daily catches in YR 2008 (n = 39,892) ranged from 0 – 3,026 individuals, and averaged 314 per day. The previous four year daily catch ranged from 0 – 2,535 individuals and averaged 178 per day. Daily 0+ steelhead captures in YR 2008 expressed as a percentage of total 0+ steelhead catch in YR 2008 (n = 39,892) ranged from 0.0 – 8.0% and averaged 0.8%. The peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 7/03/08 (n = 3,026), compared to 6/22/07 in YR 2007, 6/28/06 in YR 2006, 5/08/05 in YR 2005, and 6/11/04 in YR 2004.

1+ steelhead trout daily catches in YR 2008 (n = 7,255) ranged from 0 – 206 individuals, and averaged 57 per day. The previous four year daily catch ranged from 0 – 512 individuals and averaged 45 per day. Daily 1+ steelhead captures in YR 2008 expressed as a percentage of total 1+ steelhead catch in YR 2008 (n = 7,255) ranged from 0.0 – 2.8% and averaged 0.8%. The peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 6/01/08 (n = 206), compared to 6/18/07 in YR 2007, 6/21/06 in YR 2006, 5/03/05 in YR 2005, and 5/29/04 in YR 2004.

2+ steelhead trout daily catches in YR 2008 (n = 1,229) ranged from 0 – 59 individuals, and averaged 10 per day. The previous four year daily catch ranged from 0 – 49 individuals, and averaged 7 per day. Daily 2+ steelhead captures in YR 2008 expressed as a percentage of total 2+ steelhead catch in YR 2008 (n = 1,229) ranged from 0.0 – 4.8% and averaged 0.8%. The peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 5/30/08 (n = 59), compared to 6/18/07 in YR 2007, 6/21/06 in YR 2006, 5/03/05 in YR 2005, and 5/16/04 in YR 2004.

0+ coho salmon daily catches in YR 2008 (Total = 391) ranged from 0 – 15, and averaged 3 fish per day. The previous four year daily catch ranged from 0 – 18 individuals, and averaged 1 per day. Daily 0+ coho salmon captures in YR 2008 expressed as a percentage of total 0+ coho catch in YR 2008 (n = 391) ranged from 0.0 – 3.8% and averaged 0.8%. The peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 5/23/08 (n = 15) and 7/03/08 (n = 15), compared to 7/30/07 in YR 2007, 6/21/06 in YR 2006, 6/24/05, 7/19/05 and 7/27/05 in YR 2005 and 7/18/04 in YR 2004.

1+ coho salmon daily catches in YR 2008 (Total = 242) ranged from 0 – 18, and averaged 2 fish per day. The previous four year daily catch ranged from 0 – 7 individuals, and averaged 0.4 fish per day. Daily 1+ coho salmon captures in YR 2008 expressed as a percentage of total 1+ coho catch in YR 2008 (n = 242) ranged from 0.0 – 7.4% and averaged 0.8%. The peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 5/16/08 (n = 18), compared to 5/11/07 in YR 2007, 5/20/06 in YR 2006, 5/06/05, and 4/16/04 in YR 2004.

Cutthroat trout daily catches in YR 2008 (Total = 22) ranged from 0 – 2, and averaged 0.2 fish per day. The previous four year daily catch ranged from 0 – 3 individuals, and averaged 0.3 fish per day. Daily cutthroat trout captures in YR 2008 expressed as a percentage of total cutthroat catch in YR 2008 (n = 22) ranged from 0.0 – 9.1% and averaged 0.8%. The peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 5/08/08 (n = 2) and 6/30/08 (n = 2), compared to 7/13/07 in YR 2007, 6/15/06 in YR 2006, and 5/01/04 and 7/11/04 in YR 2004. In YR 2005, the peak catch was only one individual, which occurred on nine separate days.

Days Missed Trapping

One day was not fully trapped (after trap deployment) in YR 2008 because a large piece of tree bark jammed the trap's cone sometime prior to 0900. The missed day of trapping did not appear to influence the total catch or population estimate of any juvenile salmonid to any large degree (Table 5). 0+ steelhead trout, 0+ coho, 1+ coho, cutthroat trout and 1+ Chinook salmon were not captured immediately before or after the missed day, thus no fish were considered to have been missed on April 12, 2008.

Table 5. The estimated catch and expansion (population level) of juvenile anadromous salmonids considered to have been missed due to trap not being deployed (n = 1 d) during the emigration period of April 1st through August 5th (as a percentage of total without missed days in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

Age/spp.*	Catch	Population Level
0+KS	2 (0.00%)	6 (0.00%)
1+KS	0 (0.00%)	-
0+ SH	0 (0.00%)	-
1+ SH	4 (0.06%)	10 (0.00%)
2+ SH	5 (0.41%)	8 (0.09%)
0+CO	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
1+CO	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
CT	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

* Age/species abbreviations are the same as in Figure 2.

Note: Regression methods were used to estimate the number of fish caught when the trap was not operating. The estimated catches were then added to the known catches for a given stratum (week) and used in the population estimate for that stratum (Roper and Scarnecchia 1999).

0+ Chinook Salmon

0+ Chinook salmon were captured in each week during the trapping period in YR 2008 (Figure 3). The peak in weekly catches (n = 16,289) in YR 2008 occurred one week after the peak for the previous four year average (6/18 – 6/24). The peak in YR 2008 was followed by high catches during 7/02 – 7/08 (Figure 3).

The pattern in emigration in YR 2008 was similar to the previous four year average, with exception to reduced fry migration during April and May in YR 2008 (Figure 3). Catches reached low values at the end of July and early August in YR 2008 and for the previous four year average (Figure 3).

On a monthly basis (not shown), the highest percentage of the total catch occurred in June (48%) in YR 2008 and for the previous four year average (58% of total). The two most important months were June and July (89%) in YR 2008, compared to May and June (77%) for the previous four year average.

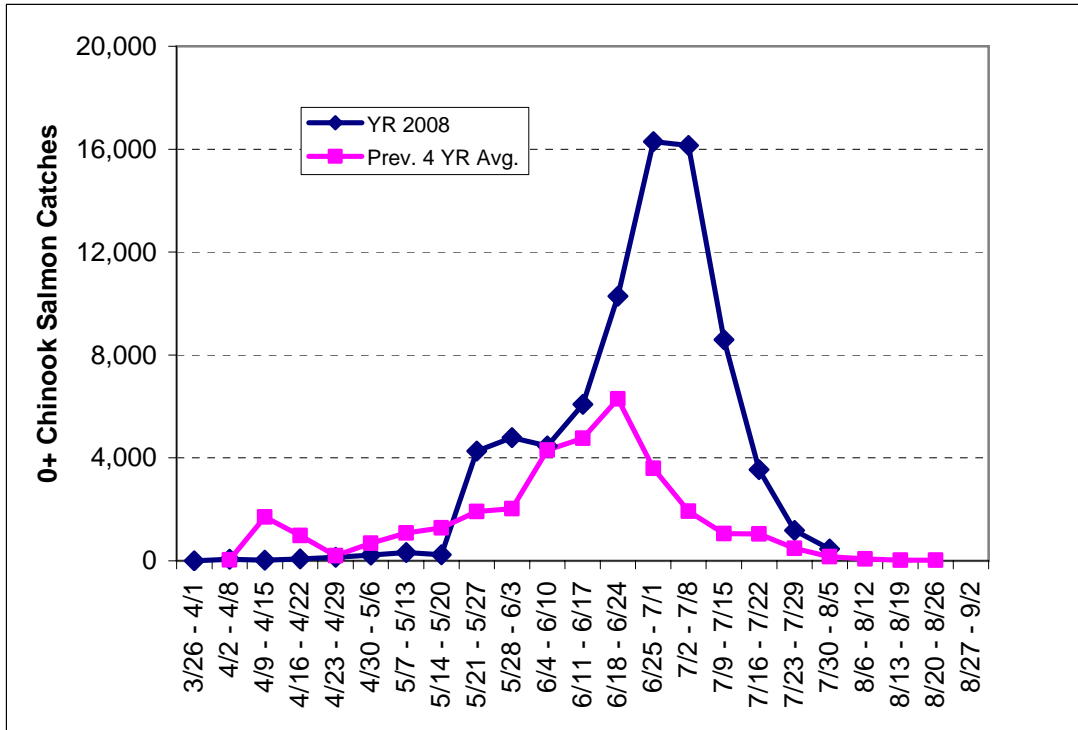


Figure 3. Comparison of 0+ Chinook salmon trap captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Chinook Salmon

Ten 1+ Chinook salmon were captured in YR 2008, zero in YR 2007 and YR 2006, 11 in YR 2005, and two in YR 2004. Catches occurred in April and May in YR 2008.

0+ Steelhead Trout

0+ steelhead trout were captured in 18 of 19 weeks during the trapping period in YR 2008 (Figure 4). Trap catches peaked during 7/02 – 7/08 (n = 11,124) in YR 2008, two weeks after the peak for the previous four year average (n = 4,309). Low catches occurred during the first seven to eight weeks each study year because fry had not yet emerged from spawning redds, or migrated downstream.

On a monthly basis, the greatest number of catches in occurred in June (n = 24,064 or 60% of total) in YR 2008, June (n = 22,692 or 53%) in YR 2007, June (n = 17,293 or 58% of total) in YR 2006, May (n = 515 or 38% of total) in YR 2005, and June (n = 9,947 or 53% of total) in YR 2004. The two most important months for capturing 0+ steelhead trout were June and July (95%) in YR 2008, compared to June and July (92%) in YR 2007, June and July (92%) in YR 2006, May and July (65%) in YR 2005, and June and July (80%) in YR 2004.

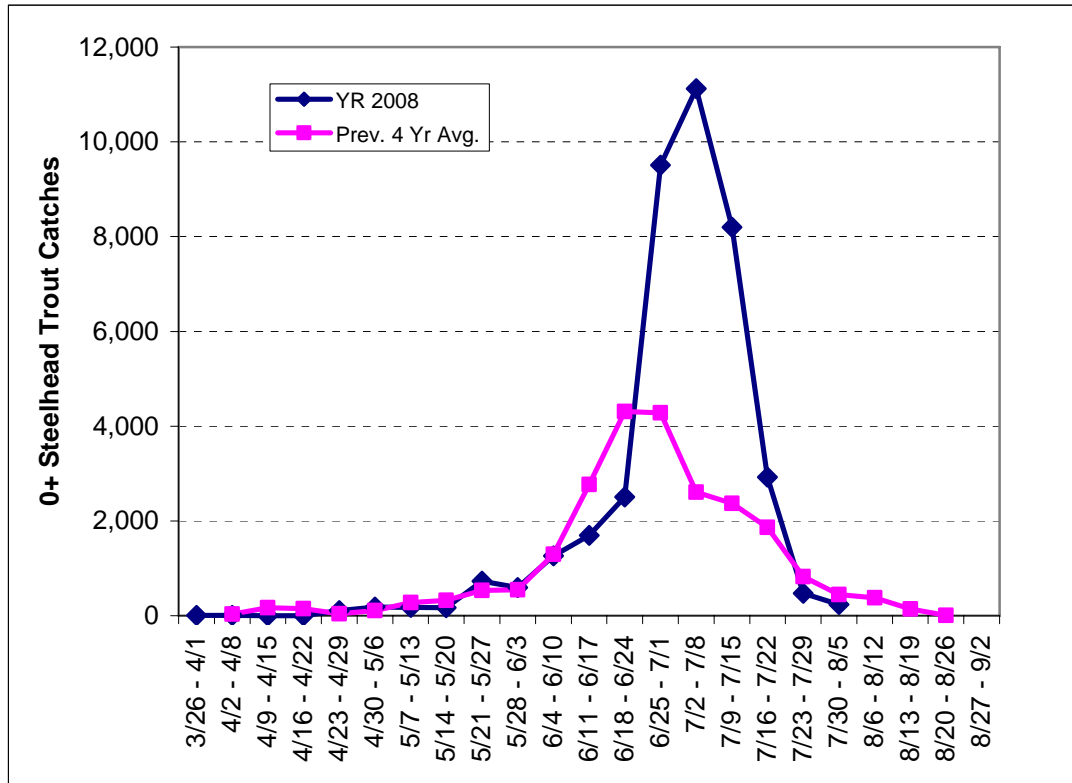


Figure 4. Comparison of 0+ steelhead trout trap captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Steelhead Trout

1+ steelhead trout were captured nearly each week during the trapping period in YR 2008 (Figure 5). The peak in weekly catches (n = 1,101) in YR 2008 occurred during the middle of the trapping period, and was three weeks earlier than the peak for the previous four year average (Figure 5).

On a monthly basis, the greatest number of catches in occurred in June (n = 3,343 or 46% of total) in YR 2008, June (n = 4,013 or 60% of total) in YR 2007, June (n = 4,601 or 60% of total) in YR 2006, April (n = 690 or 34% of total) in YR 2005, and May (n = 3,004 or 47% of total) in YR 2004. The two most important months for capturing 1+ steelhead trout were May and June (76%) in YR 2008, compared to June and July (78%) in YR 2007, June and July (87%) in YR 2006, April and May (63%) in YR 2005, and May and June (75%) in YR 2004.

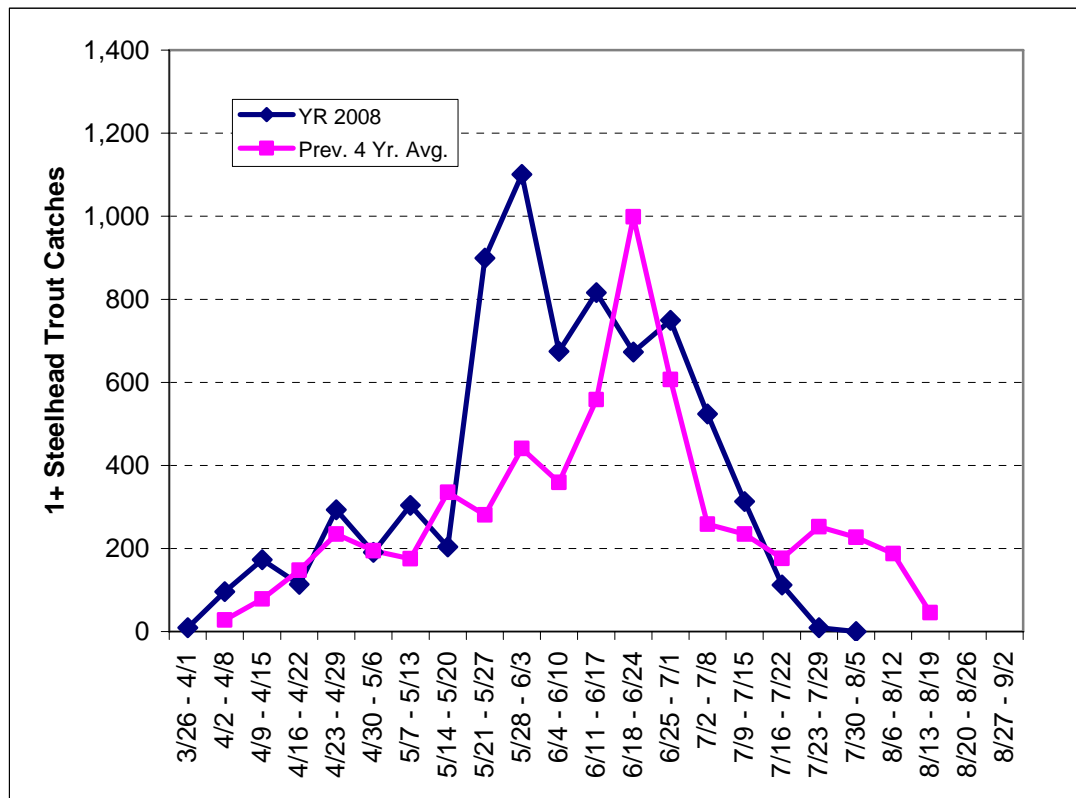


Figure 5. Comparison of 1+ steelhead trout captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

2+ Steelhead Trout

2+ steelhead trout were captured nearly each week during the trapping period in YR 2008; however, only one individual was captured during the last two weeks of trap operation (Figure 6). Trap catches peaked during 5/28 – 6/03 (n = 272) in YR 2008, with a second smaller peak occurring 4/09 – 4/15 (n = 72). The pattern of catches over time showed the majority of emigration in YR 2008 occurred during the middle of the trapping period (Figure 6).

On a monthly basis, the greatest number of catches in occurred in May (n = 529 or 43% of total) in YR 2008, June (n = 617 or 51% of total) in YR 2007, June (n = 557 or 50% of total) in YR 2006, May (n = 169 or 41% of total) in YR 2005, and May (n = 515 or 57% of total) in YR 2004. The two most important months for capturing 2+ steelhead trout were May and June (79%) in YR 2008, May and June (75%) in YR 2007, compared to June and July (72%) in YR 2006, April and May (70%) in YR 2005, and May and June (78%) in YR 2004.

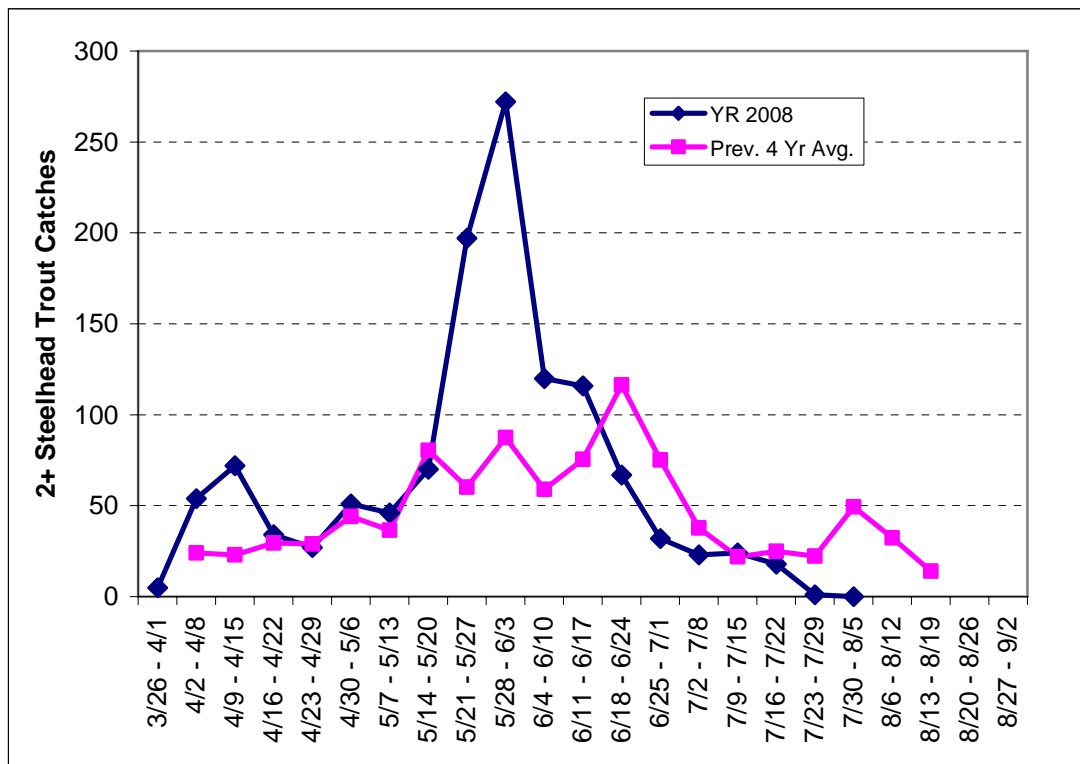


Figure 6. Comparison of 2+ steelhead trout captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

0+ Coho Salmon

0+ coho salmon were captured each week during the trapping period in YR 2008 (Figure 7). Trap catches peaked during 7/02 – 7/08 (n = 54) in YR 2008, with two smaller peaks occurring during the second and ninth week of trap operation. The peak during 4/2/08 – 4/8/08 was unlike other study years, when during the first five weeks low catches occurred because the fry had not yet emerged from spawning redds, or did not migrate downstream (Figure 7).

On a monthly basis, the greatest number of catches in YR 2008 occurred in July (n = 114 or 29% of total), compared to June in YR 2007 (n = 137 or 47% of total), June (n = 36 or 33% of total) in YR 2006, July (n = 20 or 38% of total) in YR 2005, and July (n = 71 or 35% of total) in YR 2004. The two most important months for capturing 0+ coho salmon were June and July (56%) in YR 2008, June and July (83%) in YR 2007, June and July (66%) in YR 2006, June and July (58%) in YR 2005, and May and July (67%) in YR 2004.

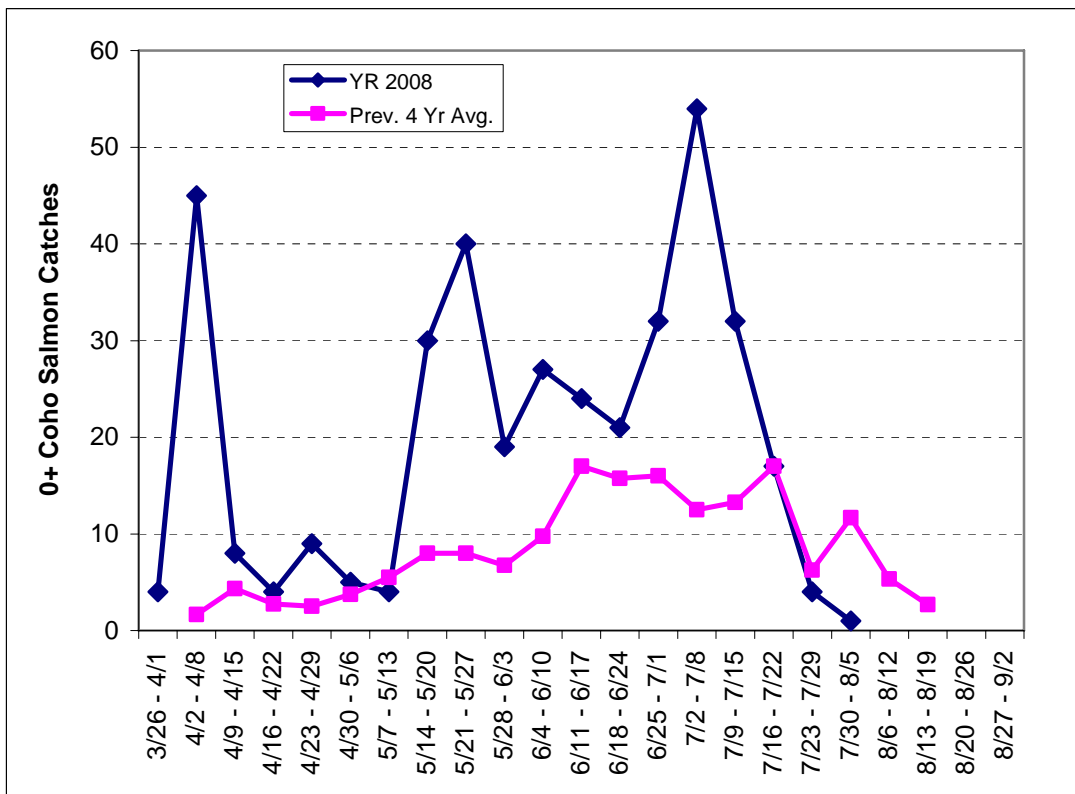


Figure 7. Comparison of 0+ coho salmon captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Coho Salmon

1+ coho salmon were captured in 13 out of 19 weeks of trapping in YR 2008, and the last capture occurred on 6/25/08 (Figure 8). No 1+ coho salmon were captured in any given study year during July. Trap catches peaked during 5/14 – 5/20 in YR 2008 (n = 80), and the daily catch distribution over time exhibited a normal distribution (Figure 8).

On a monthly basis, the greatest number of 1+ coho salmon catches for all study years occurred in May (n = 210 or 87% of total for YR 2008; n = 25 or 74% of total for YR 2007; n = 40 or 56% of total for YR 2006; n = 21 or 54% for YR 2005; n = 43 or 62% for YR 2004). The months of May and June accounted for 95% of the total catch in YR 2008, compared to the months of April and May which accounted for 88% of the total catch in YR 2007, 79% of the total catch in YR 2006, 100% for YR 2005, and 97% for YR 2004. Catches in June accounted for 0.0 – 21% of the total catch per study year.

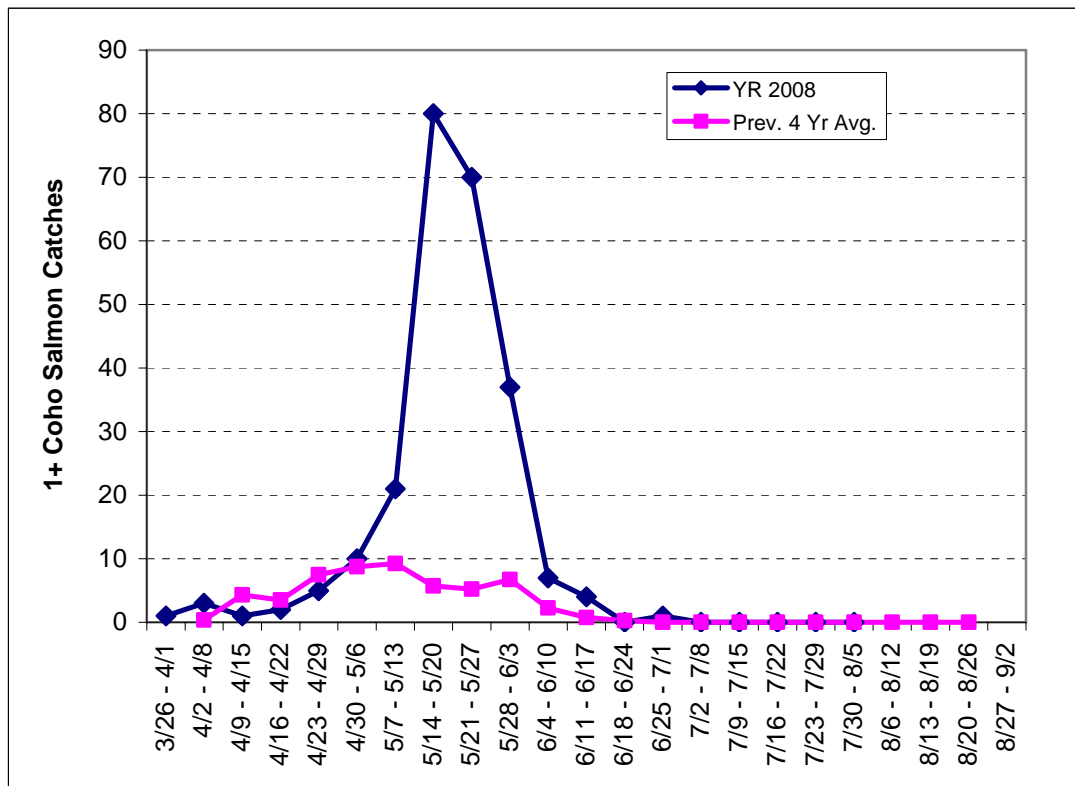


Figure 8. Comparison of 1+ coho salmon captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Cutthroat Trout

Cutthroat trout were captured in 12 of 19 weeks of trapping in YR 2008 (Figure 9). Cutthroat trout were captured in 13 out of 20 weeks in YR 2007, 10 out of 19 weeks in YR 2006, 6 out of 19 weeks in YR 2005, and 13 out of 17 weeks in YR 2004. The weekly peak catch in YR 2008 occurred 6/25 – 7/1 (n = 5), with two smaller peaks occurring 4/2 – 4/8 and 5/07 – 5/13 (Figure 9).

On a monthly basis, the greatest number of catches in YR 2008 occurred in June (n = 8 or 30%), compared to July (21 or 48% of total) in YR 2007, July (n = 18 or 50% of total) in YR 2006, and May (n = 18 or 49%) in YR 2004. In YR 2005, the months of April – July each accounted for 22.2% of the total catch. The months of June and July accounted for 68% of the total catch in YR 2008, compared to 86% for June and July in YR 2007, 81% for June and July in YR 2006, and 70% for May and July in YR 2004.

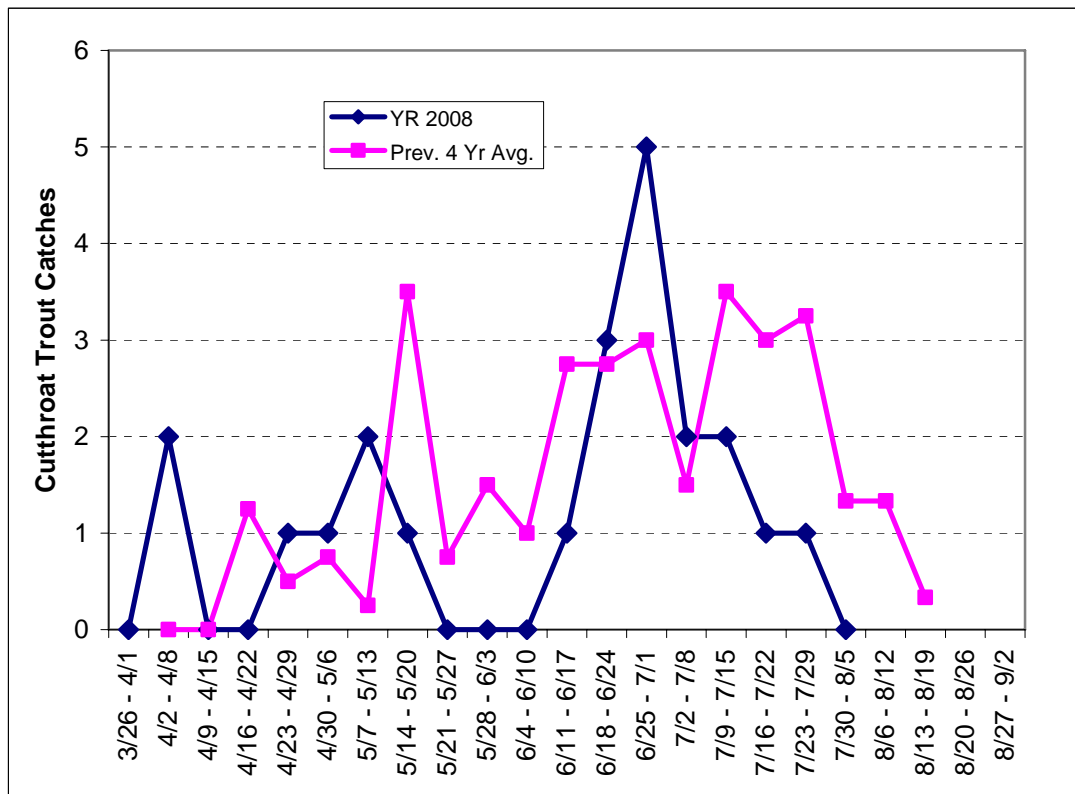


Figure 9. Comparison of cutthroat trout captures by week in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Trapping Efficiencies

0+ Chinook Salmon

We fin clipped and released 4,001 young-of-year Chinook salmon upstream of the trap site during 62 efficiency trials over the course of trapping in YR 2008. The average number used in our weekly trials (includes 2 - 5 efficiency trials) was 235, and ranged from 5 – 400 per week. Weekly trapping efficiencies in YR 2008 ranged from 14.1 – 74.0%, averaged 35.2%, and were considerably higher than efficiencies in YRS 2004 and 2005 (Table 6).

Table 6. 0+ Chinook salmon trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	0+ Chinook salmon trap efficiency (percentage)		
	Weekly trapping efficiency		Seasonal
	Range	Average	
2004	7.3 - 20.7	11.9	11.9
2005	5.0 - 31.4	11.7	9.6
2006*	0.0 - 84.0	33.0	31.4
2007*	3.6 - 73.0	29.9	34.7
2008*	14.1 - 74.0	35.2	41.9

* Trap moved 75 m downstream of location in YRS 2004 and 2005.

1+ Steelhead Trout

We fin clipped and released 2,274 one-year-old steelhead trout upstream of the trap site during 61 efficiency trials over the course of trapping in YR 2008. The average number used in our weekly trials (includes 2 - 5 efficiency trials) was 142, and ranged from 20 – 200 individuals per week. Weekly trapping efficiencies in YR 2008 ranged from 13.5 – 40.0%, and averaged 19.3% (Table 7). The average weekly trapping efficiency in YR 2008 was higher than averages for YRS 2004 - 2007 (Table 7).

Table 7. 1+ steelhead trout trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	1+ steelhead trout trap efficiency (percentage)		
	Weekly trapping efficiency		Seasonal
	Range	Average	
2004	4.8 - 37.5	9.4	7.9
2005	0.0 - 7.7	4.4	4.6
2006*	2.8 - 26.1	13.5	17.3
2007*	4.1 - 27.3	13.8	10.9
2008*	13.5 - 40.0	19.3	16.8

* Trap moved 75 m downstream of location in YRS 2004 and 2005.

2+ Steelhead Trout

We fin clipped and released 616 two-year-old steelhead trout upstream of the trap site during 60 efficiency trials over the course of trapping in YR 2008. The average number used in our weekly trials (includes 2 - 5 efficiency trials) was 39, and ranged from 9 – 110 individuals per week. Weekly trapping efficiencies in YR 2008 ranged from 0.0 – 55.6%, and averaged 15.5% (Table 8). The average weekly trapping efficiency in YR 2008 was greater than averages for YRS 2004 - 2007 (Table 8).

Table 8. 2+ steelhead trout trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	2+ steelhead trout trap efficiency (percentage)		
	Weekly trapping efficiency		Seasonal
	Range	Average	
2004	0.0 – 25.0	5.8	3.6
2005	0.0 – 33.3	4.3	2.3
2006*	0.0 – 12.7	6.1	7.9
2007*	0.0 – 17.6	9.9	8.7
2008*	0.0 – 55.6	17.4	12.6

* Trap moved 75 m downstream of location in YRS 2004 and 2005.

0+ Coho Salmon

We fin clipped and released 335 0+ coho salmon upstream of the trap site during 72 efficiency trials over the course of trapping in YR 2008. The average number used in our weekly trials (includes 1 - 7 efficiency trials) was 21 and ranged from 4 – 51 individuals per week. Weekly trapping efficiencies in YR 2008 ranged from 0.0 – 27.8%, and averaged 15.5% (Table 9).

Table 9. 0+ coho salmon trapping efficiency in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	0+ coho salmon trap efficiency (percentage)		
	Weekly trapping efficiency		Seasonal
Range	Average		
2006*	0.0 – 75.0	23.5	20.5
2007*	0.0 – 50.0	23.1	24.7
2008*	0.0 – 27.8	15.5	17.5

* Trap moved 75 m downstream of location in YRS 2004 and 2005.

1+ Coho Salmon

We fin clipped and released 185 one plus-year-old coho salmon upstream of the trap site during 40 efficiency trials over the course of trapping in YR 2008. The average number used in our weekly trials (includes 1 - 7 efficiency trials) was 12, and ranged from 1 – 73 individuals per week. Weekly trapping efficiencies in YR 2008 ranged from 0.0 – 100.0%, and averaged 30.0% (Table 10). The average weekly trapping efficiency in YR 2008 was greater than averages for previous study years (Table 10).

Table 10. 1+ coho salmon trapping efficiency in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	1+ coho salmon trap efficiency (percentage)		
	Weekly trapping efficiency		Seasonal
	Range	Average	
2004	0.0 – 25.0	3.7	3.6
2005	0.0 – 20.0	5.2	9.1
2006*	0.0 – 50.0	11.0	8.9
2007*	0.0 – 25.0	9.8	13.9
2008*	0.0 – 100.0	30.0	27.6

* Trap moved 75 m downstream of location in YRS 2004 and 2005.

Cutthroat Trout

We fin clipped and released 17 cutthroat trout upstream of the trap site during 15 efficiency trials over the course of trapping in YR 2008. The average number used in our weekly trials (includes 1 - 4 efficiency trials) was two, and ranged from 1 – 5 individuals per week. Weekly trapping efficiencies in YR 2008 ranged from 0.0 – 50.0%, and averaged 6.9% (Table 11).

Table 11. Cutthroat trout trapping efficiency in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Cutthroat trout trap efficiency (percentage)		
	Weekly trapping efficiency		Seasonal
	Range	Average	
2006*	0.0 – 100.0	26.9	20.0
2007*	0.0 – 60.0	34.4	38.9
2008*	0.0 – 50.0	6.9	9.8

* Trap moved 75 m downstream of location in YRS 2004 and 2005.

Population Estimates

0+ Chinook Salmon

The population estimate (or production) of 0+ Chinook salmon emigrating past the trap in lower Redwood Creek in YR 2008 equaled 173,758 individuals with a 95% CI of 166,279 – 181,236 (Figure 10). Population estimate error (or uncertainty) equaled \pm 4.3%, the lowest of five study years. Population emigration in YR 2008 was greater than YRS 2005 - 2007, much less than YR 2004 (Figure 10), and 24% less than the previous four year average ($N_{\text{avg } 4\text{yr}} = 228,066$).

Correlation of time (study year) on yearly population estimates indicated a non-significant negative relationship ($p = 0.26$, $r = 0.62$, power = 0.17) (Figure 10). Peaks in streamflows (11,000 cfs) capable of redd scour occurred each study year.

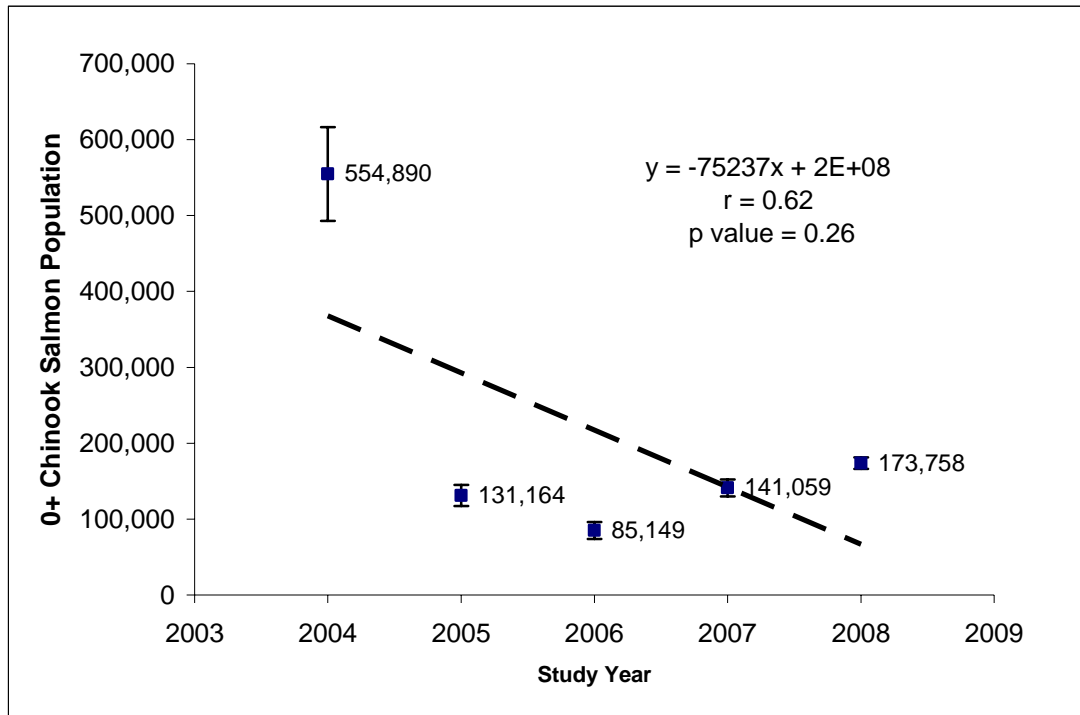


Figure 10. 0+ Chinook Salmon population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

The number of 0+ Chinook salmon (at population level) per mile, kilometer, and watershed acreage upstream of the trap site in YR 2008 was about 24% less than values for the previous four year average (YRS 2004 – 07) (Table 12).

Table 12. Estimated population of 0+ Chinook salmon per anadromous stream mile (93) and stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 - 2008.

Study Year	0+KS/mi	0+KS/km	0+KS/acre
2004	5,967	3,699	3.7
2005	1,410	874	0.9
2006	916	568	0.6
2007	1,517	940	0.9
Average:	2,452	1,520	1.5
2008	1,868	1,158	1.1

Monthly population emigration peaked in June (N = 95,159 or 55% of total) in YR 2008, compared to June (N = 108,504 or 77% of total) in YR 2007, June (N = 72,925 or 86% of total) in YR 2006, July in YR 2005 (N = 77,386 or 59% of total), and June (N = 292,155 or 53% of total) in YR 2004.

The two most important months for 0+ Chinook salmon population emigration were June and July (85%) in YR 2008, compared to May and June (91%) in YR 2007, June and July (96%) in YR 2006, June and July (83%) in YR 2005, and May and June (78%) in YR 2004.

The pattern in population emigration on a weekly basis in YR 2008 was skewed to the right compared to the previous four year average (Figure 11). Migration during 4/01 – 5/20 in YR 2008 was much less than for the previous four year average, and lacked the relatively large number of fry. Population emigration in YR 2008 was generally confined to a nine week period (5/21 – 7/22), which accounted for 96% of the total emigration (Figure 11).

The greatest peak in weekly migration in YR 2008 occurred 6/25 – 7/01 (N = 37,976), one week later than the peak in YR 2007 (Table 13). For the five study years, four peaks occurred in June, and one in July (Table 13).

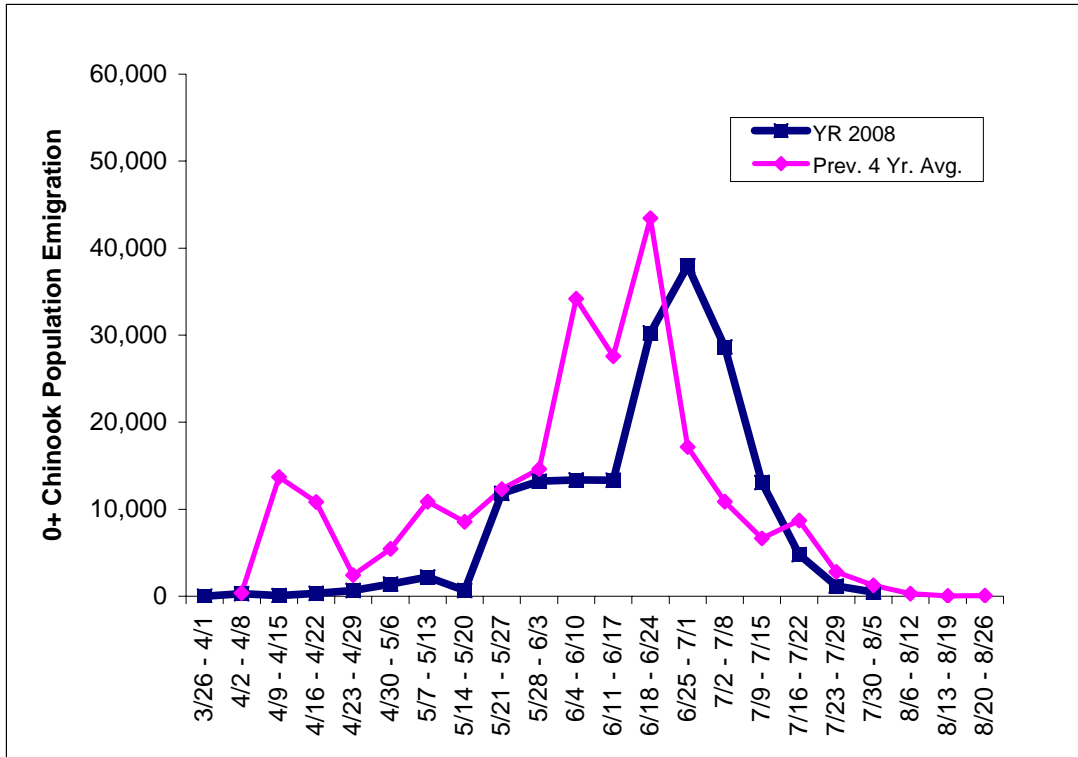


Figure 11. Comparison of 0+ Chinook salmon weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average (YRS 2004 – 07), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Table 13. Date of peak weekly 0+ Chinook salmon population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Date of peak in weekly emigration (number in parentheses)
2004	6/18 – 6/24 (110,980)
2005	7/16 – 7/22 (29,766)
2006	6/11 – 6/17 (27,889)
2007	6/18 – 6/24 (38,315)
2008	6/25 – 7/01 (37,976)

0+ Chinook salmon down stream migrants consisted of fry and fingerlings, and the number and percentage of 0+ Chinook salmon migrants grouped into fry or fingerling categories varied among study years (Table 14). In YR 2008, fry comprised 1.5% and

fingerlings comprised 98.5% of the total Chinook salmon population abundance (Table 14). There was a significant, non-random distribution in the percentage of fry and fingerlings in YR 2008 (Chi-square, $p < 0.00001$), such that more fingerlings than expected were present in the population. There were also more fingerlings and less fry than expected in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average (Chi-square, $p < 0.00001$). The number of fry in a given study year was positively related to total population abundance each study year (Regression, $p = 0.001$, $R^2 = 0.98$, power = 1.0); and the percentage of fry in a given year was also positively related to total population abundance each study year (Regression, $p = 0.001$, $R^2 = 0.98$, power = 1.0). Opposite relations were found with the number and percentage of fingerlings as well (Regression, $p < 0.01$ for each test).

Table 14. Production of 0+ Chinook salmon partitioned into fry and fingerling categories (expressed as percentage in parentheses) each study year and for the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	0+ Chinook salmon production as:	
	Fry (FL < 45mm)	Fingerling (FL > 44 mm)
2004	82,584	472,306
2005	2,052	129,113
2006	71	85,078
2007	3,772	137,287
Avg.	22,120 (10.0)	205,946 (90.0)
2008	2,589 (1.5)	171,169 (98.5)

0+ Chinook salmon fry and fingerling migrants showed differences in abundance and migration timing in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average (Figure 12). Fry (Avg. FL = 40.0 mm) migration in YR 2008 generally occurred near the onset of trapping, peaked during late April/early May (three weeks later than for the previous four year average), diminished to low values by the end of May, and from June onward no fry were present (Figure 12). Fingerling (Avg. FL = 68.0 mm) migration in YR 2008 began in early April (very low numbers), peaked during late June (one week after the average peak for four years), and gradually decreased to low values by late July (Figure 12). The pattern of migration between YR 2008 and the previous four year average was similar.

The two noticeable modes to the abundance distribution for the previous four year average and YR 2008 (although not visible due to Y scale axis, Figure 12) do not

necessarily indicate two different runs of adult Chinook salmon entered Redwood Creek to spawn because of great differences in FL or Wt. For example, in YR 2008 average FL for migrants during 4/30/08 – 5/06/08 (peak in migration) was 44 mm, compared to the average fingerling FL of 72 mm during 6/25/08 – 7/01/08 (Figure 12). Average FL for the first peak (smaller) for the previous four year average (4/09 – 4/15) equaled 39 mm, and for the peak on 6/18 – 6/24 averaged 75 mm (FL). Had there been two runs of adults at different times, we would expect the average FL's among peaks in abundance to be nearly the same.

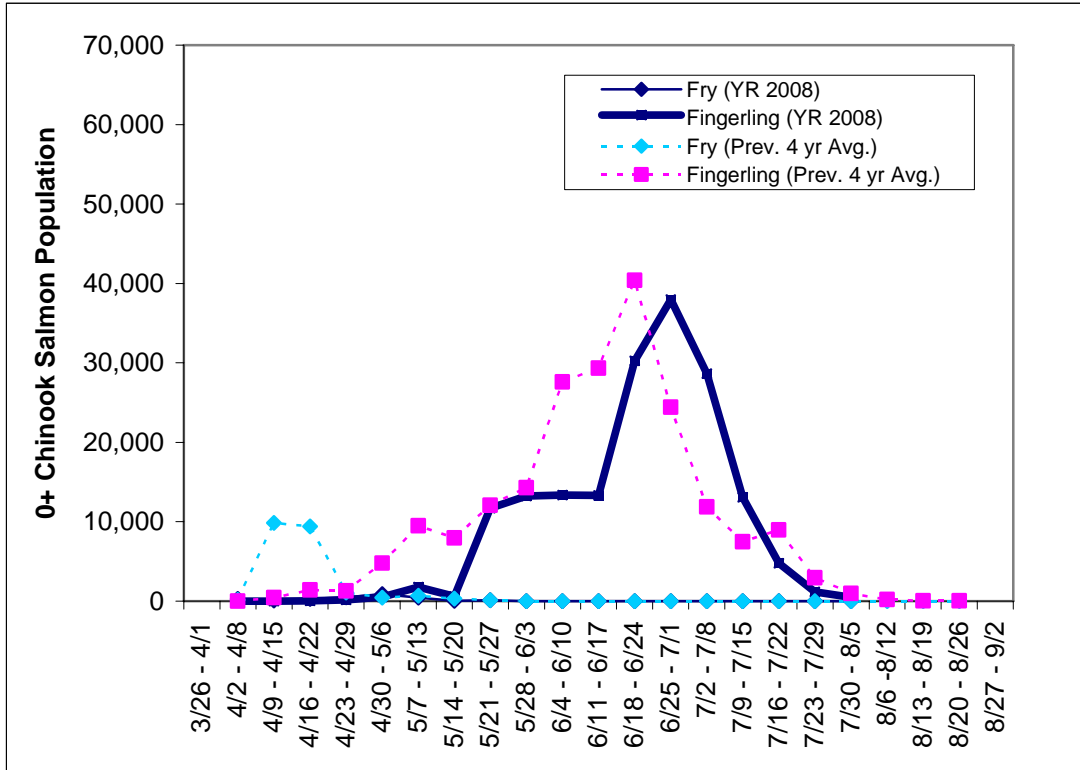


Figure 12. 0+ Chinook salmon fry (FL < 45 mm) and fingerling (FL > 44 mm) population emigration in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Steelhead trout

The population estimate (or production) of 1+ steelhead trout emigrating past the trap site in lower Redwood Creek in YR 2008 equaled 42,068 individuals with a 95% CI of 37,913 – 46,222 (Figure 13). Population estimate error (or uncertainty) equaled $\pm 9.9\%$. Population emigration in YR 2008 was greater emigration in YRS 2005 and 2007, less than emigration in YRS 2004 and 2006 (Figure 13), and 13% less than the previous four year average ($N_{\text{avg 4yr}} = 48,185$).

Correlation of time (study year) on yearly population estimates indicated a non-significant negative relationship ($p = 0.29$, $r = 0.59$, power = 0.15) (Figure 13).

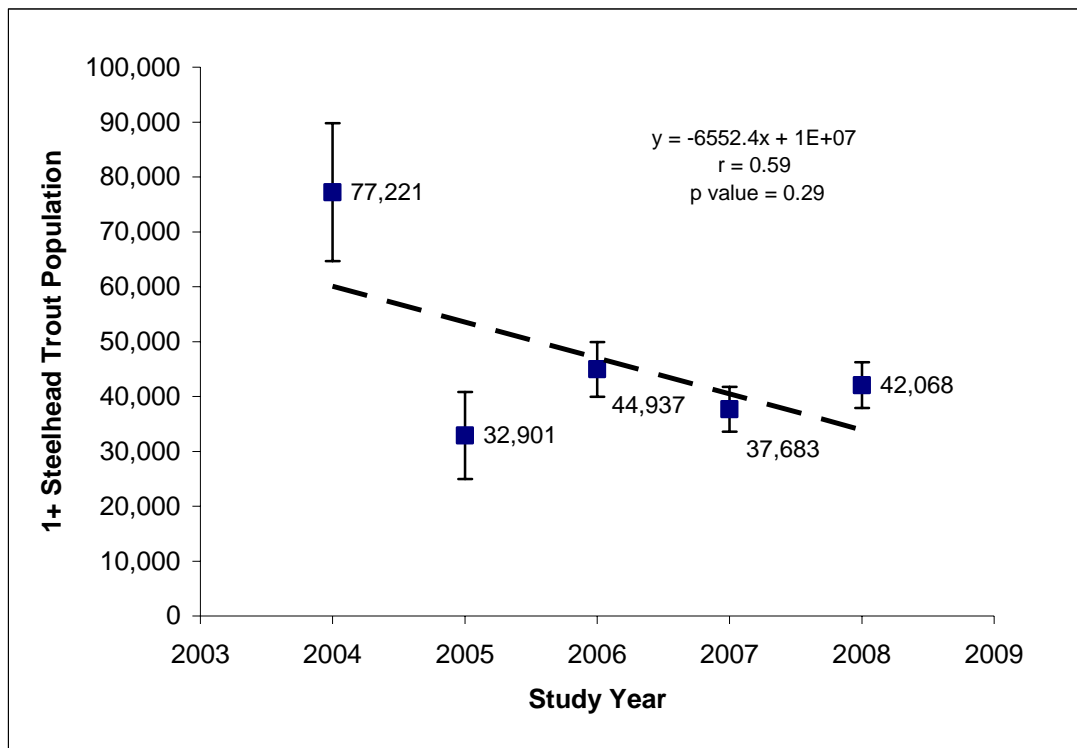


Figure 13. 1+ steelhead trout population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

The number of 1+ steelhead trout (at population level) per mile, kilometer, and watershed acreage upstream of the trap site in YR 2008 was about 13% less than values for the previous four year average (YRS 2004 – 2007) (Table 15).

Table 15. Estimated population of 1+ steelhead trout per anadromous stream mile (93), stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 – 2008.

Study Year	1+SH/mi	1+SH/km	1+SH/acre
2004	830	515	0.51
2005	354	219	0.22
2006	483	300	0.30
2007	405	251	0.25
Average:	518	321	0.32
YR 2008	452	280	0.28

Monthly population emigration peaked in June (N = 21,038 or 50% of total) in YR 2008, June (N = 17,777 or 47% of total) in YR 2007, June (N = 27,317 or 61% of total) in YR 2006, April in YR 2005 (N = 11,192 or 34% of total), and May (N = 32,906 or 43% of total) in YR 2004.

The two most important months for 1+ steelhead trout population emigration were May and June (79%) in YR 2008, May and June (71%) in YR 2007, June and July (61%) in YR 2006, April and May (68%) in YR 2005, and May and June (76%) in YR 2004.

The pattern in population emigration on a weekly basis in YR 2008 showed similarities and differences between the previous four year average (Figure 14). Emigration in YR 2008 was more confined, and the peak in emigration in YR 2008 occurred three weeks before the four year average (Figure 14).

The greatest peak in weekly migration in YR 2008 occurred 5/28 – 6/03 (N = 5,533) (Table 16). For the five study years, two peaks occurred in June, one during late April/early May, one in May, and one in late May/early June (Table 16).

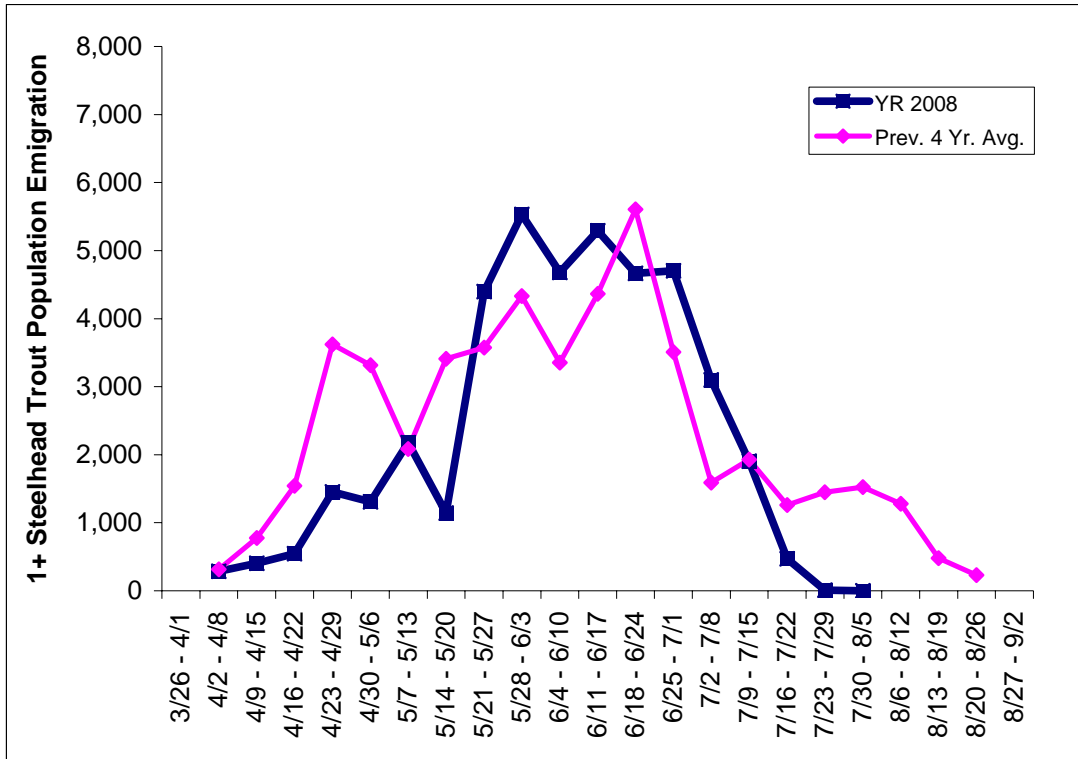


Figure 14. Comparison of 1+ steelhead trout weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Table 16. Date of peak weekly 1+ steelhead trout population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Date of peak in weekly out-migration (number in parentheses)
2004	5/14 - 5/20 (9,985)
2005	4/30 - 5/06 (7,494)
2006	6/18 - 6/24 (10,440)
2007	6/18 - 6/24 (5,483)
2008	5/28 - 6/03 (5,533)

2+ Steelhead trout

The population estimate (or production) of 2+ steelhead trout emigrating past the trap site in lower Redwood Creek in YR 2008 equaled 9,021 individuals with a 95% CI of 7,016 – 11,025 (Figure 15). Population estimate error (or uncertainty) equaled $\pm 22.2\%$.

Population emigration in YR 2008 was slightly higher than emigration in YR 2005, and 25 – 53% less than emigration in YRS 2004, 2006, and 2007. Emigration in YR 2008 was 32% less than emigration for the previous four year average ($N_{\text{avg } 4\text{yr}} = 13,201$).

Correlation of time (study year) on yearly population estimates indicated a non-significant negative relationship ($p = 0.26$, $r = 0.62$, power = 0.17) (Figure 15).

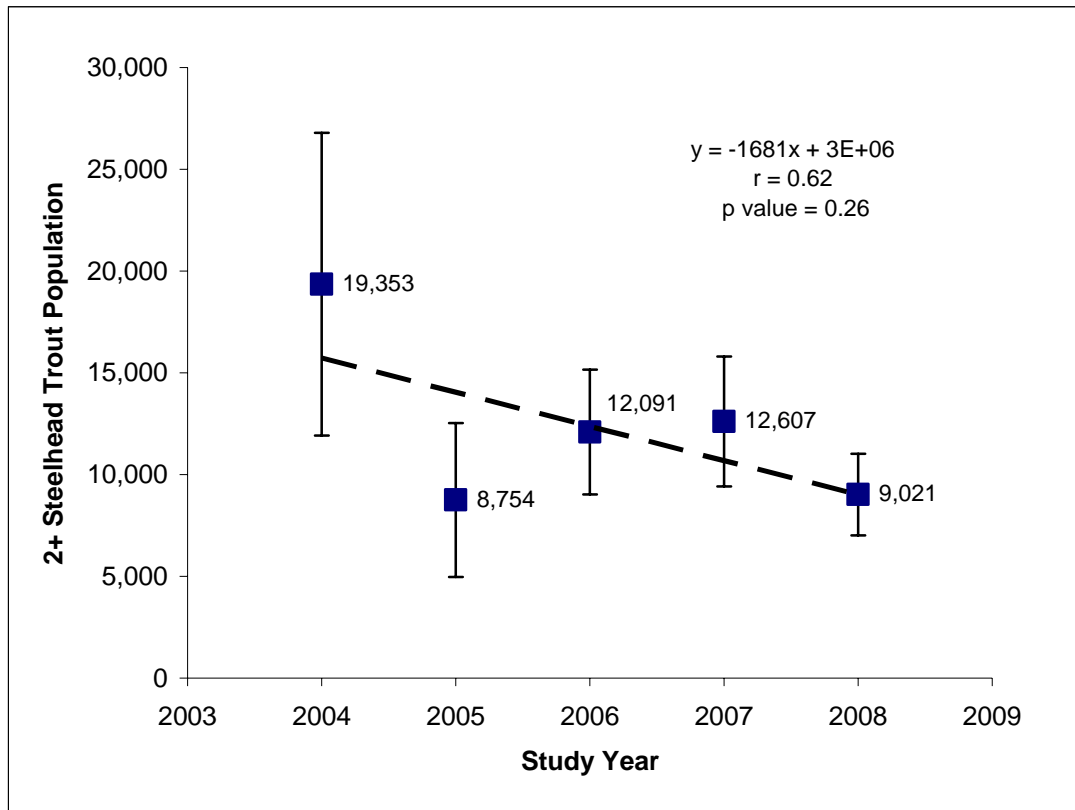


Figure 15. 2+ steelhead trout population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

The number of 2+ steelhead trout (at population level) per stream mile, stream kilometer, and watershed acreage upstream of the trap site in YR 2008 was close to values in YR 2005, much less than YRS 2004, 2006, and 2007, and about 32% less than values for the previous four year average (Table 17).

Table 17. Estimated population of 2+ steelhead trout per anadromous stream mile (93) and stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 – 2008.

Study Year	2+SH/mi	2+SH/km	2+SH/acre
2004	208	129	0.13
2005	94	58	0.06
2006	130	80	0.08
2007	136	84	0.08
Average:	142	88	0.09
YR 2008	97	60	0.06

Monthly population emigration peaked in June (N = 4,251 or 47% of total) in YR 2008, June (N = 7,733 or 61% of total) in YR 2007, June (N = 6,766 or 56% of total) in YR 2006, May in YR 2005 (N = 3,738 or 43% of total), and May (N = 11,956 or 62% of total) in YR 2004.

The two most important months for 2+ steelhead trout population emigration were May and June (90%) in YR 2008, May and June (83%) in YR 2007, June and July (75%) in YR 2006, April and May (73%) in YR 2005, and May and June (81%) in YR 2004.

The pattern in population emigration on a weekly basis in YR 2008 was much more confined than emigration for the previous four year average; the majority of emigration in YR 2008 occurred during April – June (Figure 16). The peak in emigration in YR 2008 occurred near the middle of the trapping period, and was four weeks later than the peak for the previous four year average (Figure 16).

The greatest peak in weekly migration in YR 2008 occurred 5/28 – 6/03 (N = 2,322), unlike other study years (Table 18). For the five study years, two peaks occurred during late April/early May, two in June, and one in late May/early June (Table 18).

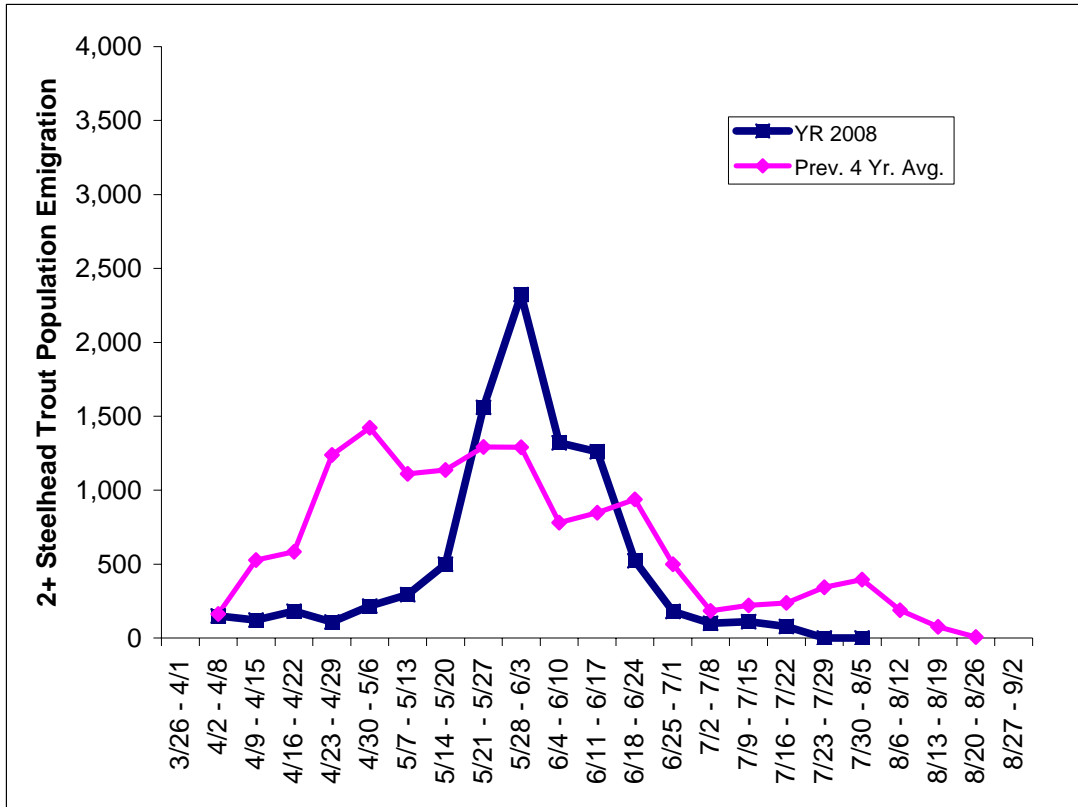


Figure 16. Comparison of 2+ steelhead trout weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Table 18. Date of peak weekly 2+ steelhead trout population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Date of peak in weekly out-migration (number in parentheses)
2004	4/30 - 5/06 (3,604)
2005	4/30 - 5/06 (2,232)
2006	6/18 - 6/24 (2,883)
2007	6/18 - 6/24 (3,066)
2008	5/28 - 6/03 (2,322)

0+ Coho Salmon

The population estimate of 0+ coho salmon emigrating past the trap site in lower Redwood Creek in YR 2008 equaled 1,886 individuals with a 95% CI of 1,446 – 2,326 (Figure 17). Population estimate error (or uncertainty) equaled $\pm 23\%$. Population emigration in YR 2008 was greater than previous study years, and a positive, significant trend over time was detected (Correlation, $p = 0.07$, $r = 0.99$, power = 0.50).

In YR 2008, there were 20 coho salmon per anadromous stream mile, 12 per anadromous stream kilometer, and 0.012 per watershed acreage upstream of the trap site; in YR 2007, there were 11 coho salmon per anadromous stream mile, 7 per anadromous stream kilometer, and 0.007 per watershed acreage upstream of the trap site; in YR 2006, there were five coho salmon per anadromous stream mile, three per anadromous stream kilometer, and 0.003 per watershed acreage upstream of the trap site.

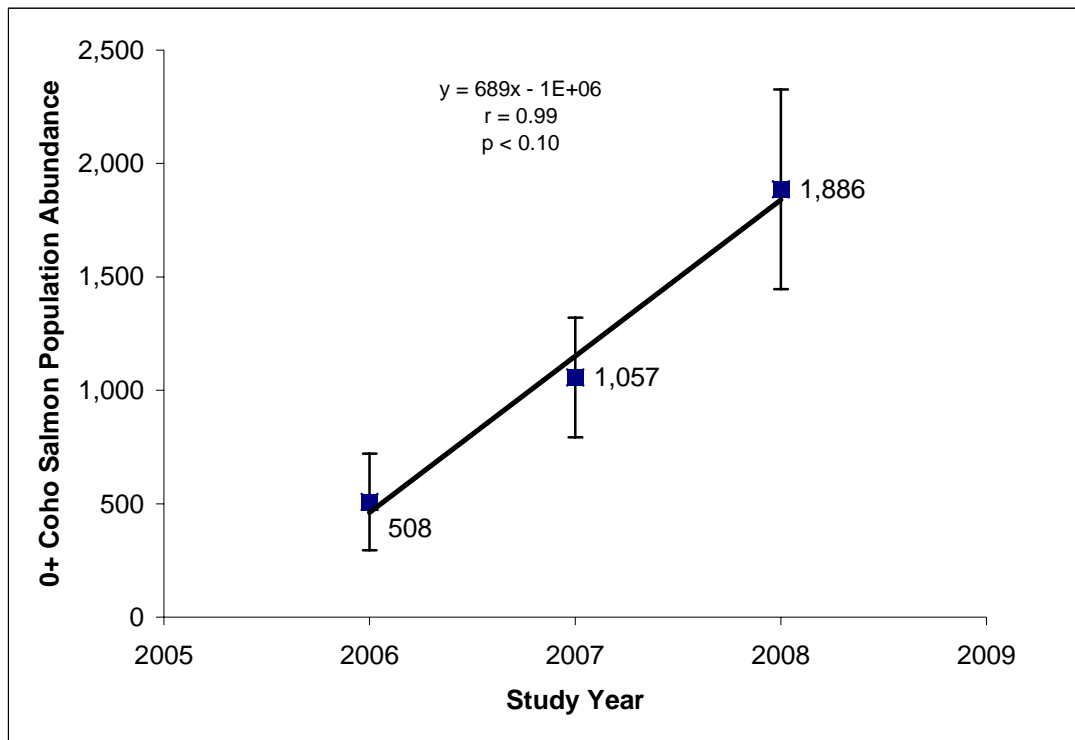


Figure 17. 0+ coho salmon population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence intervals) in YRS 2006 - 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Monthly population emigration peaked in June ($N = 522$ or 28%) in YR 2008, June ($N = 569$ or 54%) in YR 2007, and June ($N = 230$ or 45% of total) in YR 2006. The two most important months for emigration were June and July in YRS 2006 – 2008, which

accounted for 54% of total emigration in YR 2008, 84% in YR 2007, and 78% in YR 2006.

Weekly emigration in YR 2008 peaked during 4/2 – 4/8, 5/21 – 5/27, and 7/2 – 7/8 (Figure 18). The first peak in YR 2008 was much earlier than previous years, and consisted of newly emergent fry (Avg FL = 35.9 mm, FL ranged from 33 – 39 mm).

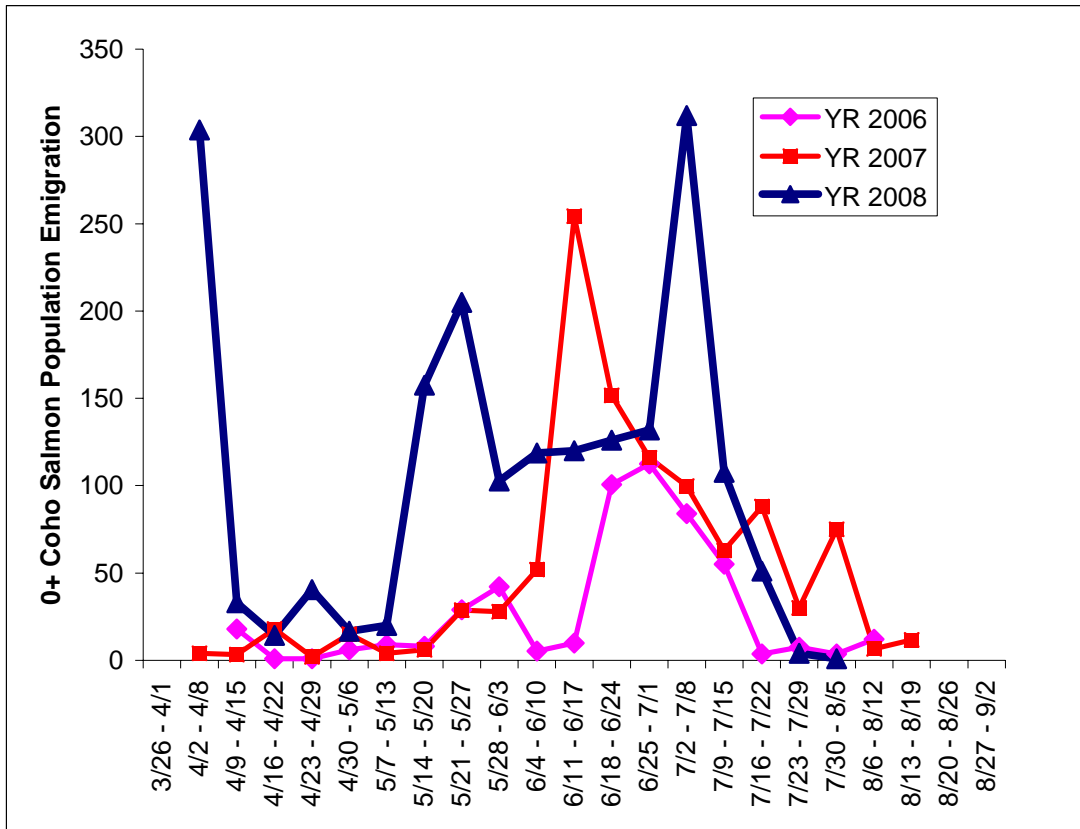


Figure 18. 0+ coho salmon weekly population emigration in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Coho Salmon

The population estimate (or production) of 1+ coho salmon emigrating past the trap site in lower Redwood Creek in YR 2008 equaled 879 individuals with a 95% CI of 630 – 1,127 (Figure 19). Population estimate error (or uncertainty) equaled $\pm 28\%$.

Population emigration in YR 2008 was greater than previous study years by a factor of 1.6 – 8.6, and 2.8 times larger than the previous four year average ($N_{\text{avg 4yr}} = 311$).

Correlation of time (study year) on yearly population estimates indicated a non-significant positive relationship ($p = 0.61$, $r = 0.31$, power = 0.07) (Figure 19).

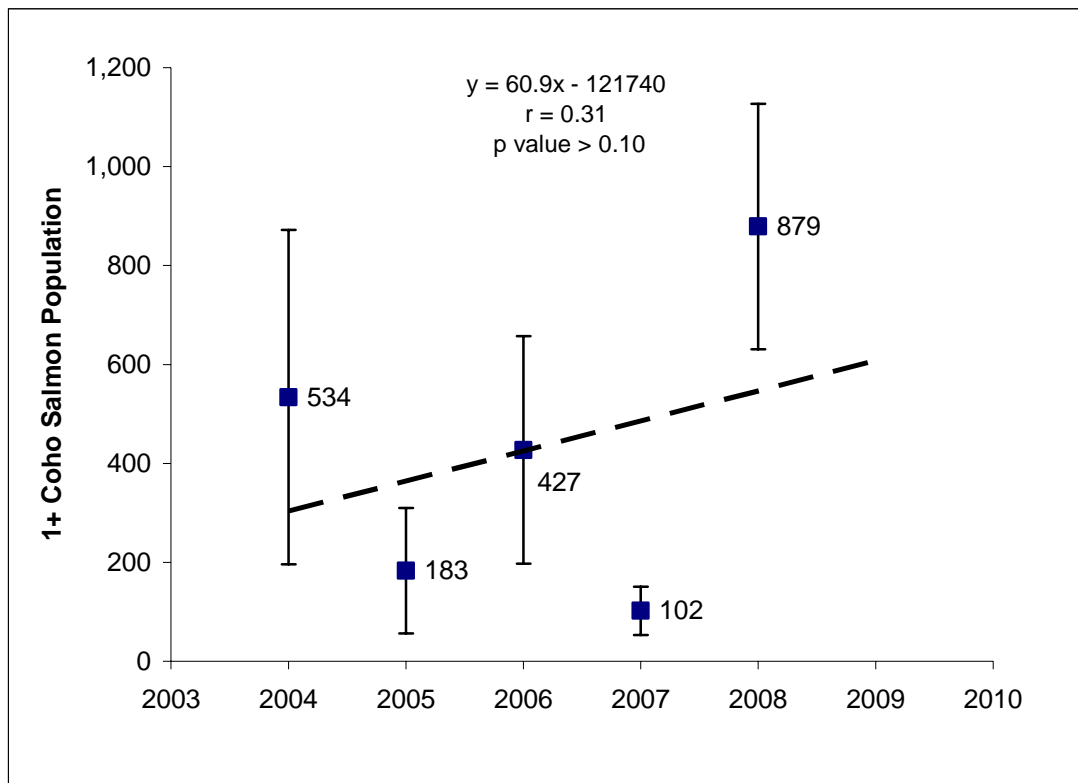


Figure 19. 1+ coho salmon population estimates (error bars are 95% confidence interval) in YRS 2004 – 2008. Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

The number of 1+ coho salmon (at population level) per stream mile, stream kilometer, and watershed acreage upstream of the trap site in YR 2008 was about three times greater than values for the previous four year average (Table 19).

Table 19. Estimated population of 1+ coho salmon per anadromous stream mile (93), stream kilometer (150), and watershed acreage (151,922) upstream of the trap site, YRS 2004 – 2007.

Study Year	1+CO/mi	1+CO/km	1+CO/acre
2004	6	4	0.004
2005	2	1	0.001
2006	5	3	0.003
2007	1	0.7	0.001
Average:	3	2	0.002
2008	9	6	0.006

Monthly population emigration peaked in May (N = 789 or 89.8% of total) in YR 2008, May (N = 81 or 79% of total) in YR 2007, May (N = 241 or 56% of total) in YR 2006, May in YR 2005 (N = 126 or 69% of total), and May (N = 374 or 70% of total) in YR 2004. May and June accounted for 96% of the total population abundance in YR 2008 and 93% of the total in YR 2007; April and May accounted for 81% of the total population emigration in YR 2006, 99% of the total in YR 2005, and 98% of the total in YR 2004.

Population emigration on a weekly basis showed the difference in the migration pattern in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average (Figure 20). The pattern of emigration in YR 2008 was more confined and also reached a much larger peak.

Weekly emigration peaked in May in YR 2008, May in YR 2007, June in YR 2006, May in YR 2005, and late April/early May in YR 2004 (Table 20). Population emigration ended during the week of 6/25 – 7/1 in YR 2008, 6/11 – 6/17 in YR 2007, 6/25 – 7/01 in YR 2006, 5/28 – 6/3 in YR 2005, and 6/4 – 6/10 in YR 2004. Study years with higher population abundance experienced a higher weekly peak in emigration (Table 20).

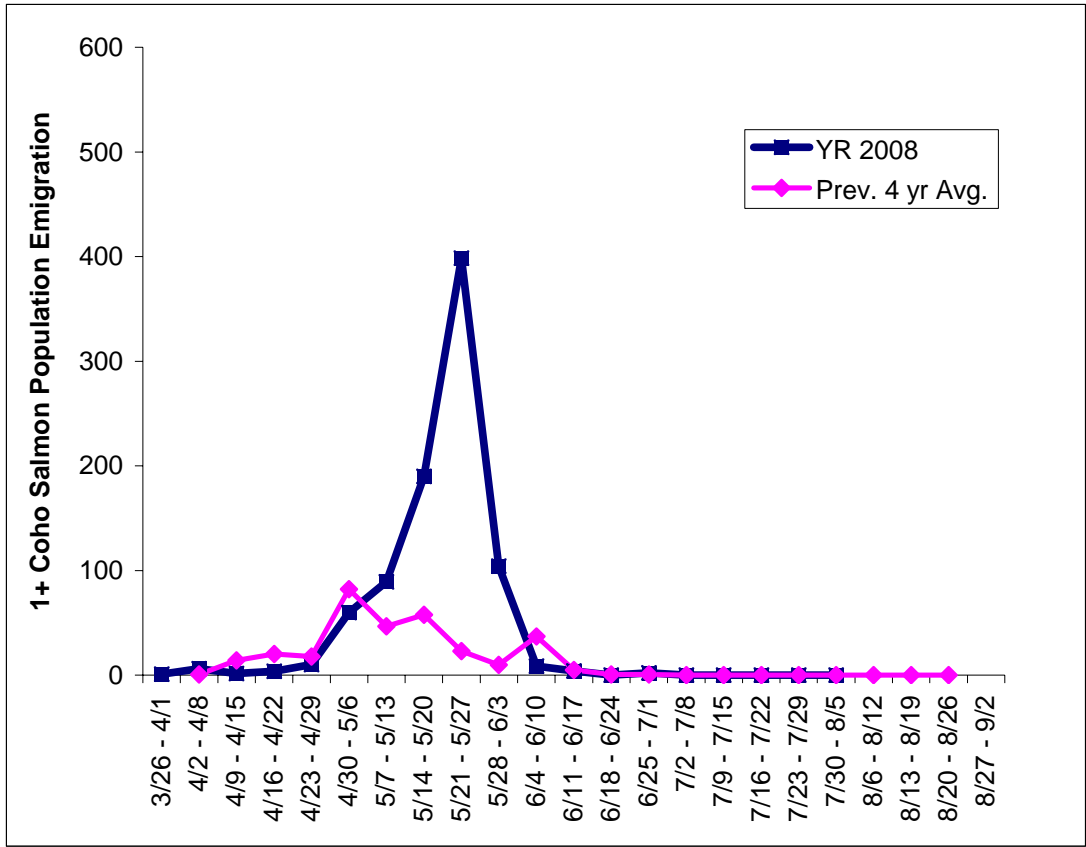


Figure 20. Comparison of 1+ coho salmon weekly population emigration in YR 2008 with the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Table 20. Date of peak weekly 1+ coho salmon population emigration by study year (number of individuals in parentheses), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Date of peak in weekly out-migration (number in parentheses)
2004	4/30 - 5/06 (182)
2005	5/07 - 5/13 (80)
2006	6/04 - 6/10 (135)
2007	5/21 - 5/27 (32)
2008	5/21 - 5/27 (398)

Cutthroat Trout

The population estimate (or production) of cutthroat trout (age 1 and older) emigrating past the trap site in lower Redwood Creek in YR 2008 equaled 54 individuals with a 95% CI of 25 – 82 (Figure 21). Population estimate error (or uncertainty) equaled $\pm 53\%$. Population estimates were not determined in YRS 2004 and 2005.

In YR 2008, there was 0.6 cutthroat trout per anadromous stream mile, 0.4 per anadromous stream kilometer, and 0.0004 per watershed acreage upstream of the trap site. In YRS 2006 - 2007, there was one cutthroat trout per anadromous stream mile, 0.6 per anadromous stream kilometer, and 0.001 per watershed acreage upstream of the trap site.

Monthly population emigration peaked in June (N = 24 or 44% of total) in YR 2008, July (N = 43 or 51% of total) in YR 2007, and July (N = 51 or 53% of total) in YR 2006; June and July accounted for 72% of the total in YR 2008, 92% of the total in YR 2007, and 88% of the total in YR 2006. Weekly emigration peaked during 6/25 – 7/01 in YR 2008, 7/09 – 7/15 in YR 2007, and 7/23 – 7/29 in YR 2006 (Figure 22).

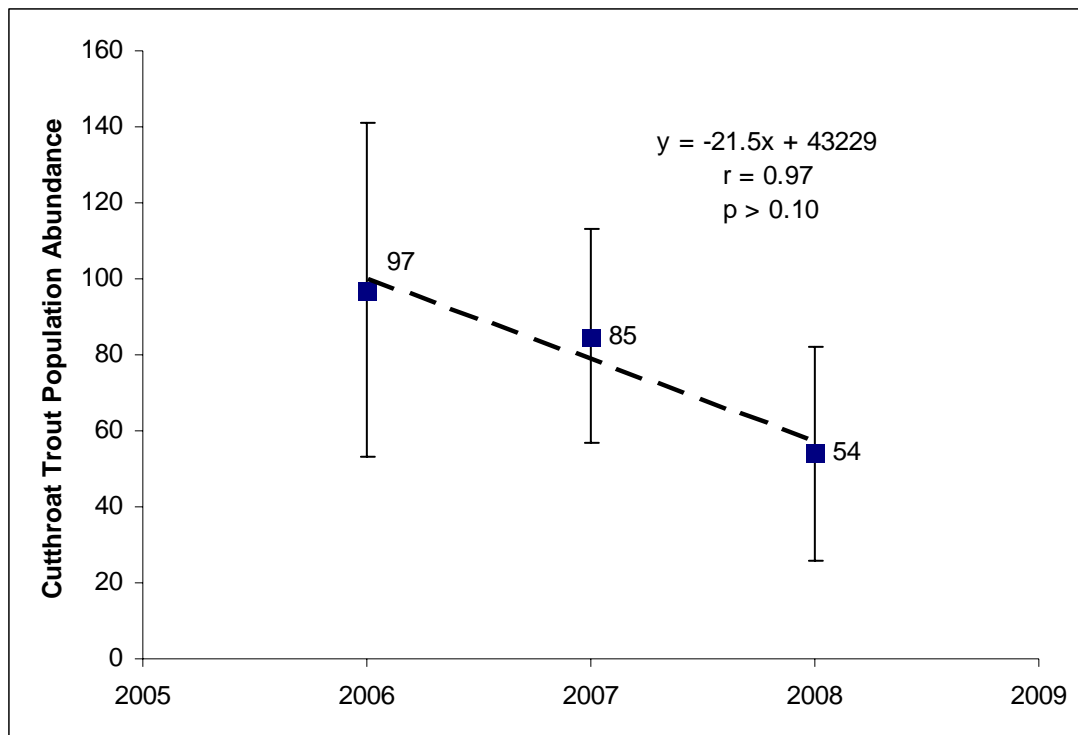


Figure 21. Cutthroat trout population estimates in YRS 2006 - 2008 (error bars are 95% confidence intervals). Numeric values next to box represent number of individuals. Line of best fit is a regression line, with corresponding equation, correlation value (r), and p value. Lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

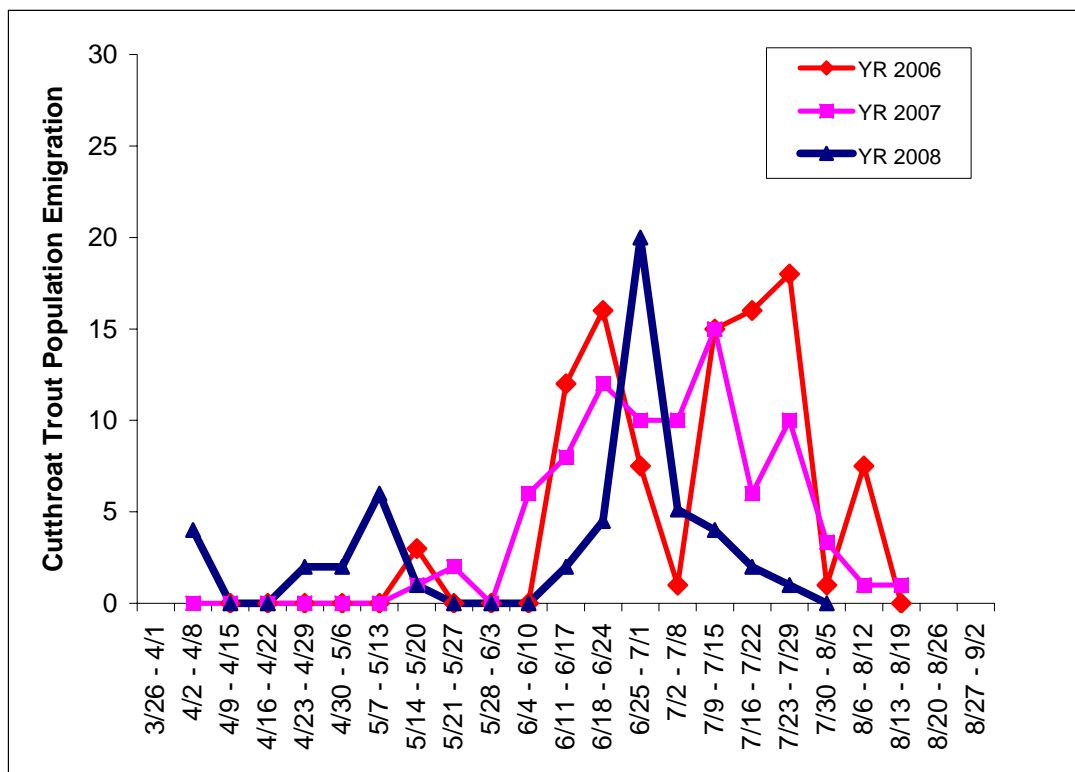


Figure 22. Cutthroat trout weekly population emigration in YRS 2006 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Age Composition of Juvenile Steelhead Trout

The following percentages represent maximum values for 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout because their population estimates were compared to catches of 0+ steelhead trout (i.e. the actual catches of 0+ steelhead trout are less than expected 0+ steelhead trout population migration). Far more 1+ steelhead trout migrated downstream than either 0+ or 2+ steelhead trout each study year, except for YR 2007 when slightly more 0+ steelhead trout migrated downstream than 1+ steelhead trout (Table 21). Using catch and population data, the ratio of 0+ steelhead trout to 1+ steelhead trout to 2+ steelhead trout equaled 4.4:4.7:1 in YR 2008, 3.4:3.0:1 in YR 2007, 2.5:3.7:1.0 in YR 2006, 0.2:3.8:1 in YR 2005, and 1:4:1 in YR 2004. The ratio of 1+ steelhead trout to 2+ steelhead trout was 4.7:1 in YR 2008, 3:1 in YR 2007, and close to 4:1 in YRS 2004 - 2006.

Table 21. Comparison of 0+ steelhead trout, 1+ steelhead trout, and 2+ steelhead trout percent composition of total juvenile steelhead trout downstream migration in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Percent composition of total juvenile steelhead trout emigration		
	0+ steelhead*	1+ steelhead	2+ steelhead
2004	16.2	67.0	16.8
2005	3.1	76.5	20.4
2006	34.4	51.7	13.9
2007	46.0	40.5	13.5
Combined:	27.4	57.0	15.6
Averaged:	24.9	58.9	16.2
2008	43.8	46.2	10.0

* Uses actual catches instead of population estimate.

Fork Lengths and Weights

0+ Chinook Salmon

We measured (FL mm) 3,113 and weighed (g) 2,099 0+ Chinook salmon in YR 2008 (Table 22). Average FL (64.5 mm) and Wt (3.04 g) in YR 2008 was the second lowest of record (Table 22). Standard error of the mean each study year was less than 0.4 mm for FL, and less than 0.10 g for Wt. The mode in fork length (mm) was 70 on YR 2008, 75 mm in YR 2007, 80 mm in YR 2006, 90 mm in YR 2005, and 70 mm in YR 2004; the mode in weight (g) was 0.5 in YR 2008, 0.5 g in YR 2007, 5.4 g in YR 2006, 1.1 g in YR 2005, and 0.5 g in YR 2004.

The average size of fry (FL < 45 mm) was 40.0 in YR 2008, 40.0 mm in YR 2007, 38.5 mm in YR 2006, 40.6 mm in YR 2005, and 39.9 mm in YR 2004; average size of fingerlings (FL > 44 mm) was 68.0 in YR 2008, 69.6 mm in YR 2007, 76.5 mm in YR 2006, 76.4 mm in YR 2005, and 63.5 mm in YR 2004.

The seasonal average FL and Wt were not related to the percentage, or number of fry in a given year (Regression, $p > 0.10$, power = 0.24 and 0.29); nor were the averages related to population size (Regression, $p > 0.10$, power = 0.34 and 0.21).

Table 22. 0+ Chinook salmon average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

YR	(N)	0+ Chinook Salmon					
		Fork Length (mm)			Weight (g)		
		n	Avg.	Median	n	Avg.	Median
2004	554,890	3,192	59.8	61.0	1,429	2.55	2.40
2005	131,164	2,723	74.3	80.0	1,284	5.17	5.60
2006	85,149	2,058	76.2	78.0	1,715	4.96	5.10
2007	141,059	2,666	66.6	70.0	2,031	3.28	3.20
2008	173,758	3,113	64.5	67.0	2,099	3.04	3.10
Avg.			68.3			3.80	

Average weekly FL (mm) significantly increased over time (weeks) in YR 2008, and for the previous four year average (Correlation, $p = 0.000001$, r ranged from 0.95 - 0.99, power = 1.0 for each test) (Figure 23). The first two to three weeks of measurements were representative of emergent fry (Figure 23). The increases in average FL over time show growth was taking place, and from 4/09/08 – 8/05/08 0+ Chinook salmon grew 0.30 mm/d. Growth equaled 0.36 mm/d in YR 2007, 0.30 mm/d in YR 2006, 0.37 mm/d in YR 2005, and 0.30 mm/d in YR 2004.

Average weekly FLs (mm) in each study year were positively related to the percentage of fingerlings each week (Regression, YR 2008, $R^2 = 0.86$, $p = 0.000001$, power = 1.0; YR 2007, $R^2 = 0.76$, $p = 0.000001$, power = 1.0; YR 2006, $R^2 = 0.62$, $p = 0.0002$, power = 1.0; YR 2004, $R^2 = 0.77$, $p = 0.000003$, power = 1.0; YR 2005, $R^2 = 0.55$, $p = 0.0003$, power = 0.99).

The median weekly fork length in YR 2008 (65.0 mm) was not significantly different than the previous four year median weekly fork length (70.1 mm) (Kruskal-Wallis One-Way Anova On Ranks, $p = 0.20$).

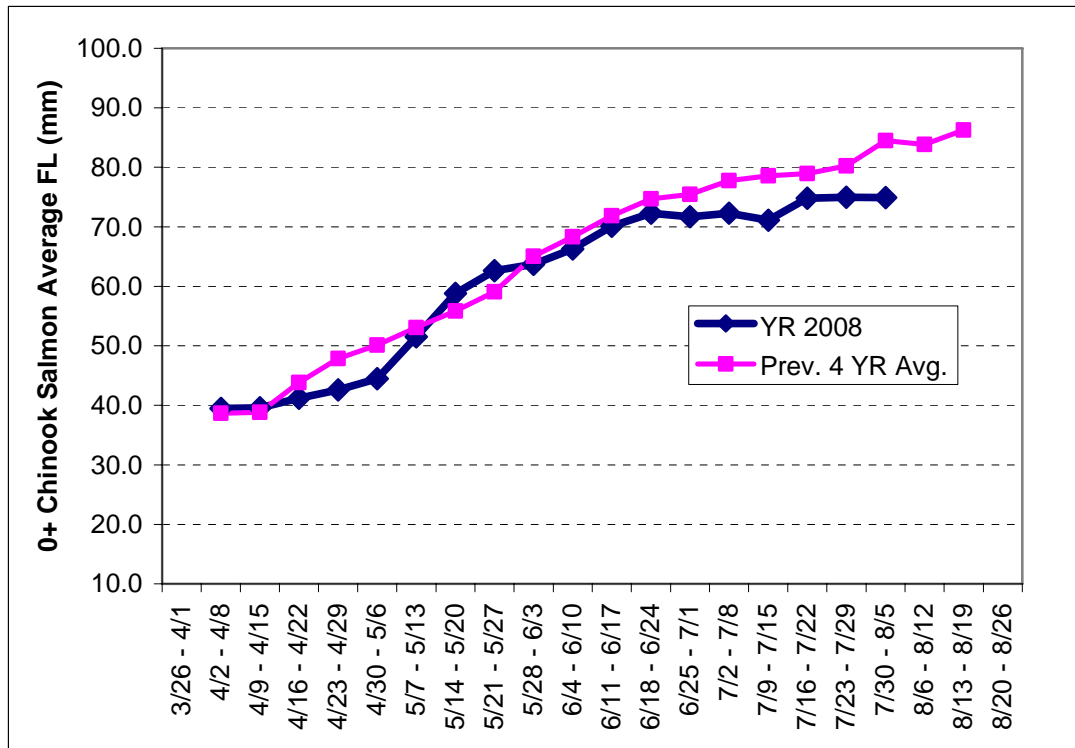


Figure 23. 0+ Chinook salmon average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Average weekly Wt (g) significantly increased over time (weeks) in YR 2008, and for the previous four year average (Correlation, $p = 0.000001$, r ranged from $= 0.97 - 0.99$, power = 1.0) (Figure 24). The pattern of average weekly Wt's was similar to the pattern for average weekly FL's, except for a larger spread among lines from the middle to end of the trapping periods.

The increases in average Wt over time show growth was taking place, and from 4/09/08 – 8/05/08 0+ Chinook salmon grew 0.03 g/d. Growth equaled 0.04 g/d in YR 2007, 0.05 g/d in YR 2006, 0.07 g/d in YR 2005, and 0.03 g/d in YR 2004.

Average weekly Wts (g) in each study year were positively related to the percentage of fingerlings each week (Regression, YR 2008, $R^2 = 0.78$, $p = 0.000001$, power = 1.0; YR 2007, $R^2 = 0.65$, $p = 0.000002$, power = 1.0; YR 2006, $R^2 = 0.47$, $p = 0.002$, power = 0.93; YR 2005, $R^2 = 0.55$, $p = 0.0003$, power = 0.99; YR 2004, $R^2 = 0.63$, $p = 0.0001$, power = 1.0).

Similar to weekly FL data, median weekly Wt (g) in YR 2008 was not significantly different than the previous four year median weekly weight (Kruskal-Wallis One-Way Anova On Ranks, $p = > 0.10$).

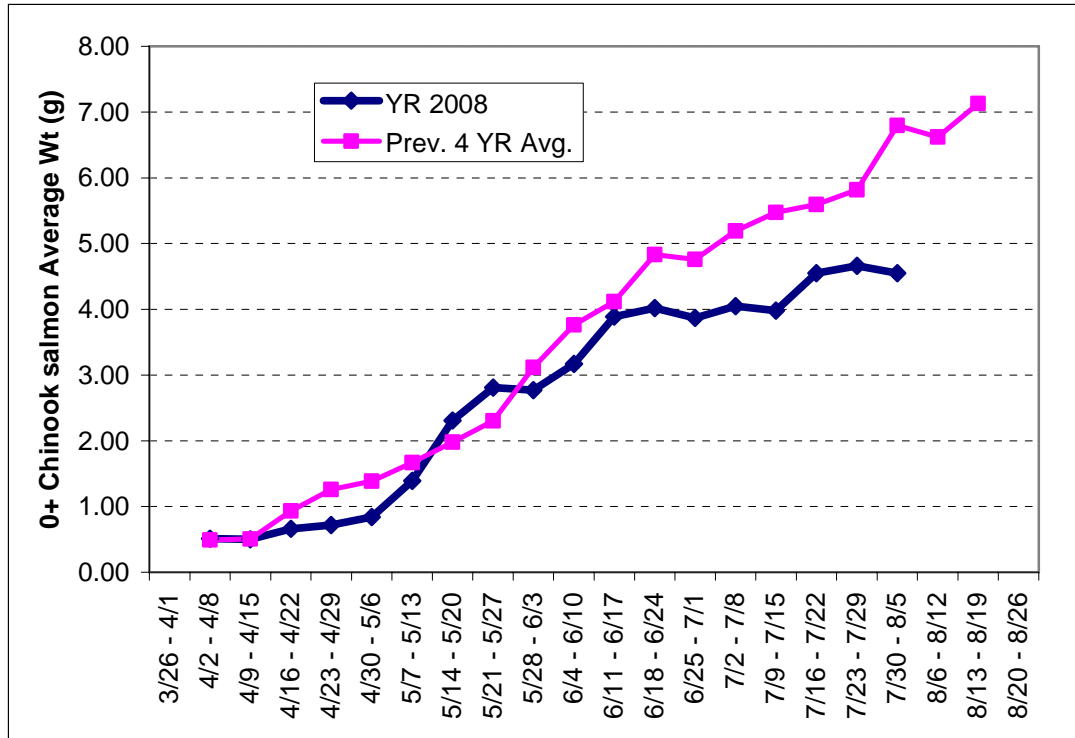


Figure 24. 0+ Chinook salmon average weekly weights (g) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Chinook Salmon

Ten yearling Chinook salmon were captured in YR 2008, and average FL equaled 113 mm and average weight equaled 15.8 g. No yearling Chinook salmon juveniles were captured in YR 2007 or YR 2006, however, average fork length in YR 2005 equaled 109 mm (n = 11), and in YR 2004 equaled 101 mm (n = 2).

0+ Steelhead Trout

We measured (FL mm) 2,787 0+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 (Table 23). Average FL (52.9 mm) in YR 2008 was greater than the averages for YRS 2004 and 2005, and less than the average for YRS 2006 and 2007 (Table 23). Standard error of the mean for fork lengths each study year was less than 0.7 mm for YRS 2004 – 07, and 1.1 mm in YR 2008. The mode in fork length (mm) was 28 mm in YR 2008, 30 mm in YR 2007, 58 mm in YR 2006, 30 mm in YR 2005, and 29 mm in YR 2004.

Average fork lengths (mm) were not related to the total number of 0+ steelhead trout captured in a given study year (Regression, p = 0.30, power = 0.15).

Average weekly FL (mm) significantly increased over time (weeks) in YR 2008, and for the previous four year average (Correlation, $p = 0.000001$, r ranged from 0.93 - 0.99, power = 1.0 for each test) (Figure 25). The increases in average FL over time show growth was taking place, and from 4/30/08 – 8/05/08 0+ steelhead trout grew 0.34 mm/d. Growth equaled 0.32 mm/d in YR 2007, 0.36 mm/d in YR 2006, 0.34 mm/d in YR 2005, and 0.34 mm/d in YR 2004.

Median weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 were not significantly different than the previous four year median weekly fork lengths (Kruskal-Wallis One-Way ANOVA on Ranks, $p > 0.05$).

Table 23. 0+ steelhead trout average and median fork length in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

YR	(N)	0+ Steelhead Trout*					
		Fork Length (mm)			Weight (g)		
		n	Avg.	Median	n	Avg.	Median
2004	> 18,642	2,939	49.6	52.0	-	-	-
2005	> 1,345	1,099	51.1	53.5	-	-	-
2006	> 29,957	2,757	55.8	58.0	-	-	-
2007	> 42,827	3,355	53.8	56.0	-	-	-
2008	> 39,892	2,787	52.9	56.0	-	-	-
Avg.			52.6		-	-	-

* Includes a small, but unknown number of cutthroat trout.

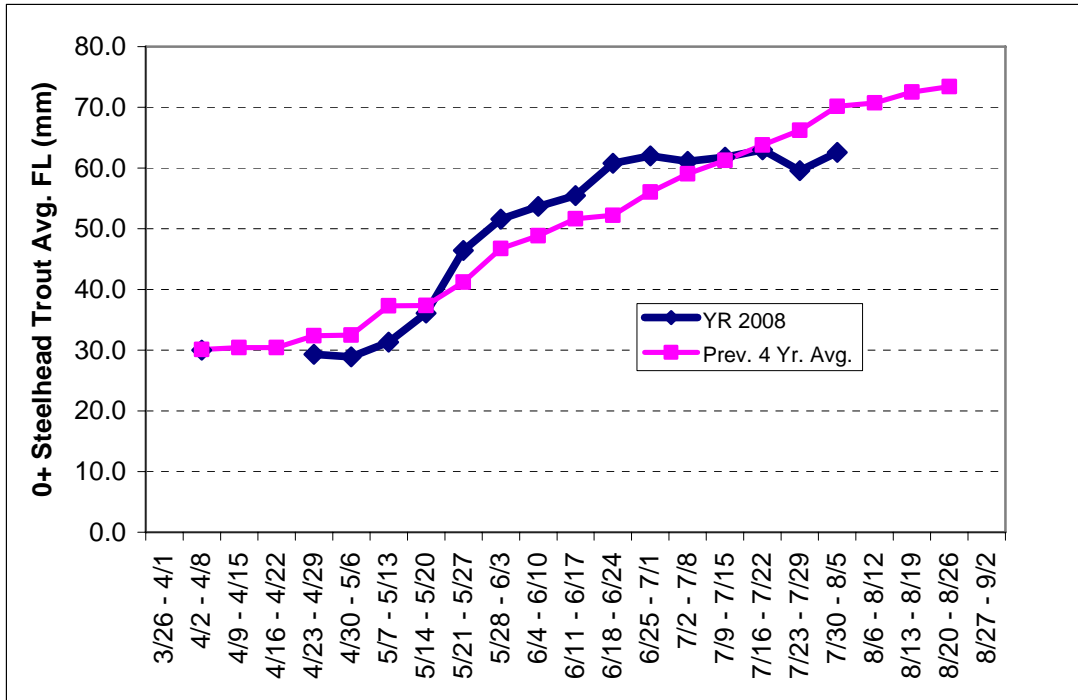


Figure 25. 0+ steelhead trout average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Steelhead Trout

We measured (FL mm) 2,875 and weighed (g) 2,025 1+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 (Table 24). Average FL and Wt among study years showed little variation, the greatest difference between years was 6.4 mm and 1.3 g, respectively (Table 24). Standard error of the mean for fork lengths was less than 0.4 mm each study year; and for Wt was less than 0.12 g each study year.

The mode in fork length (mm) was 78 mm in YR 2008, 85 mm in YR 2007, 80 mm in YR 2006, 82 mm in YR 2005, and 70 mm in YR 2004; the mode in weight (g) was 5.1 g in YR 2008, 5.8 g in YR 2007, 4.8 g in YR 2006, 6.6 g in YR 2005, and 3.8 g in YR 2004.

Average FL (mm) by study year was negatively related to population size (Regression, $R^2 = 0.79$, $p = 0.04$, power = 0.63), and average weight was also negatively related to population size (Regression, $R^2 = 0.78$, $p = 0.046$, power = 0.60).

Table 24. 1+ steelhead trout average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

		1+ Steelhead Trout					
YR	(N)	Fork Length (mm)			Weight (g)		
		n	Avg.	Median	n	Avg.	Median
2004	77,221	2,713	84.4	81.0	1,201	7.04	5.80
2005	32,901	1,442	90.8	89.0	919	8.31	7.40
2006	44,937	2,449	87.0	84.0	2,150	7.73	6.50
2007	37,683	2,761	88.6	87.0	2,146	7.88	7.00
2008	42,068	2,875	87.0	85.0	2,025	7.48	6.60
Avg.			87.6			7.69	

Average weekly FL (mm) in YR 2008 and the previous four year average weekly FL (mm) did not significantly change over time (Correlation, $p > 0.05$, $r = 0.34 - 0.50$, power = 0.27 – 0.59) (Figure 26). Median weekly FL (86.6 mm) in YR 2008 was not significantly different than the median weekly FL (88.1 mm) for the previous four year average (Kruskal-Wallis One-Way ANOVA on Ranks, $p = 0.76$).

Similar to FL data, average weekly Wt (g) in YR 2008 and the previous four year average weekly Wt (g) did not significantly change over time (Correlation, $p > 0.05$, $r = 0.34 - 0.50$, power = 0.27 – 0.59) (Figure 27). Average weekly Wt (7.58 g) in YR 2008 was not significantly different than the average weekly wt (7.70 g) for the previous four year average (ANOVA, $p = 0.72$, power = 0.06).

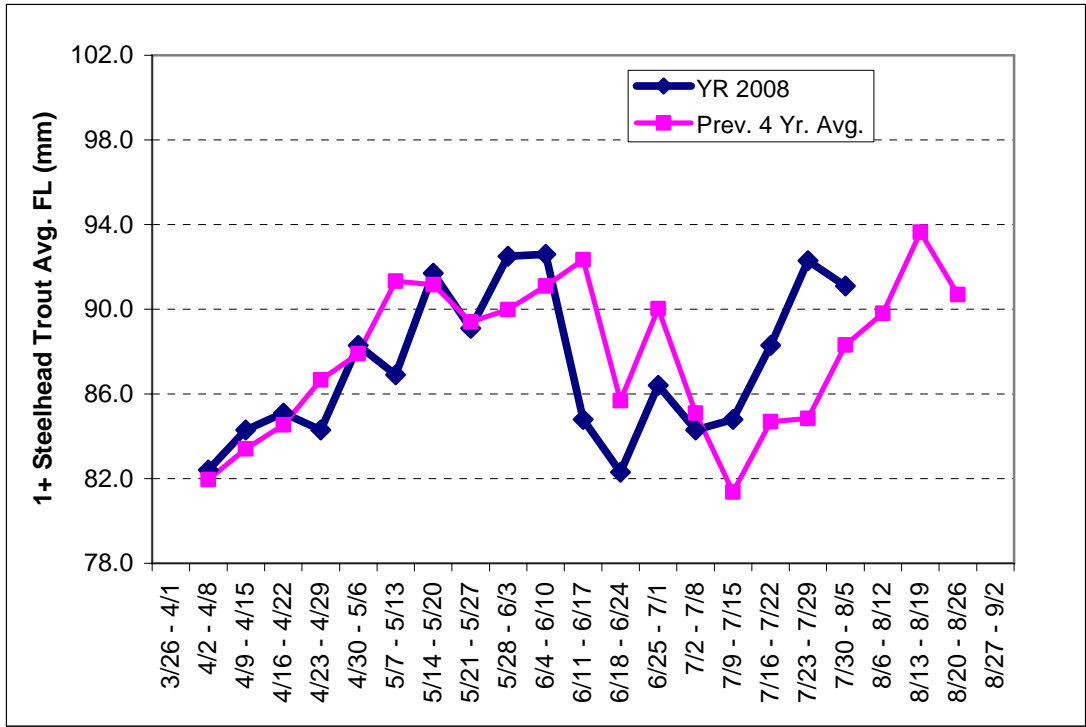


Figure 26. 1+ steelhead trout average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

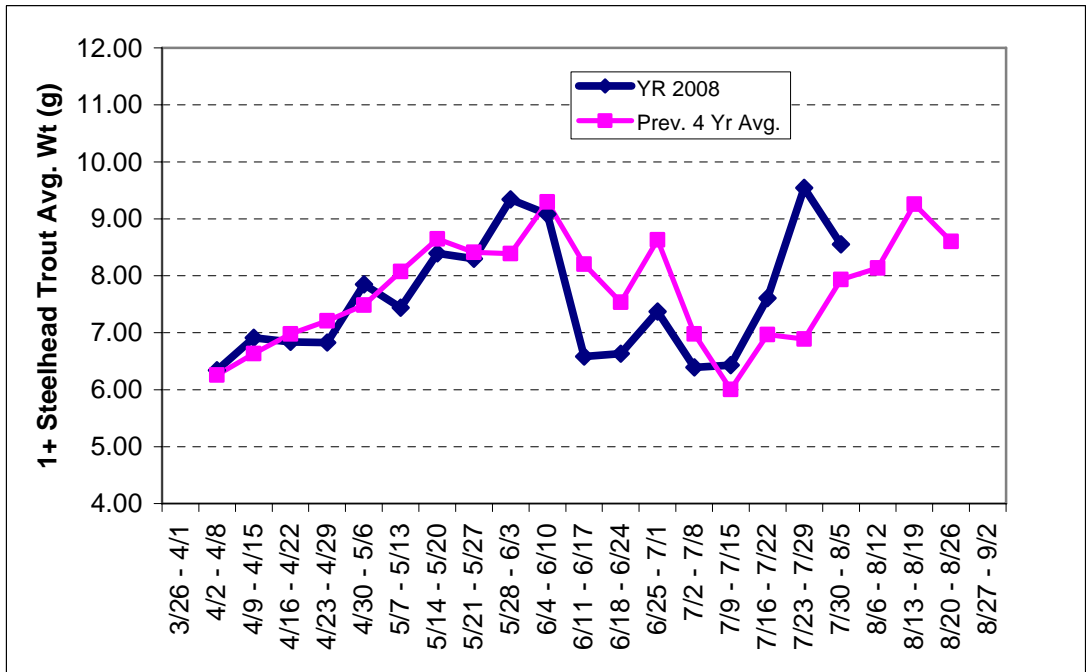


Figure 27. 1+ steelhead trout average weekly weights (g) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

2+ Steelhead Trout

We measured (FL mm) 1,134 and weighed (g) 1,099 2+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 (Table 25). Average FL (142.6 mm) in YR 2008 was the second highest of record, and average weight in YR 2008 was the highest of record (Table 25). Standard error of the mean for fork lengths was less than 1.1 mm each study year; and for weights was less than 0.66 g each study year. The mode in fork length (mm) was 120 mm in YR 2008, 121 mm in YR 2007, 122 mm in YR 2006, 120 mm in YR 2005, and 125 mm in YR 2004; the mode in weight (g) was 19.8 g in YR 2008, 18.7 g, 19.9 g, and 20.7 g in YR 2007, 19.8 g in YR 2006, 18.5 g in YR 2005, and 18.8 g in YR 2004.

Average fork length (mm) and weight (g) were not significantly related to population size (Regression, $p > 0.05$ for each test).

Table 25. 2+ steelhead trout average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

YR	(N)	2+ Steelhead Trout					
		Fork Length (mm)			Weight (g)		
		n	Avg.	Median	n	Avg.	Median
2004	19,353	886	141.9	135.0	864	30.69	26.00
2005	8,754	413	143.2	139.0	412	31.25	27.05
2006	12,091	1,056	139.1	133.0	1,020	28.49	24.70
2007	12,607	1,148	141.7	134.0	1,098	31.15	25.60
2008	9,021	1,134	142.6	132.0	1,099	31.27	24.30
Avg.			141.7			30.57	

Average weekly FL (mm) in YR 2008 and for the previous four year average significantly decreased over time (Correlation, $p < 0.001$, $r = 0.59 - 0.88$, power = 0.83 – 1.00) (Figure 28). Median weekly FL (136.2 mm) in YR 2008 was not significantly different than the median weekly FL (144.3 mm) for the previous four year average (Kruskal-Wallis One-Way ANOVA on Ranks, $p = 0.82$). Average weekly Wt (g) in YR 2008 and for the previous four year average significantly decreased over time (Correlation, $p < 0.05$, $r = 0.49 - 0.88$, power = 0.62 – 1.00) (Figure 29). Median weekly Wt (27.2 g) in YR 2008 was not significantly different than the median weekly Wt (33.0)

for the previous four year average (Kruskal-Wallis One-Way ANOVA on Ranks, $p = 0.85$).

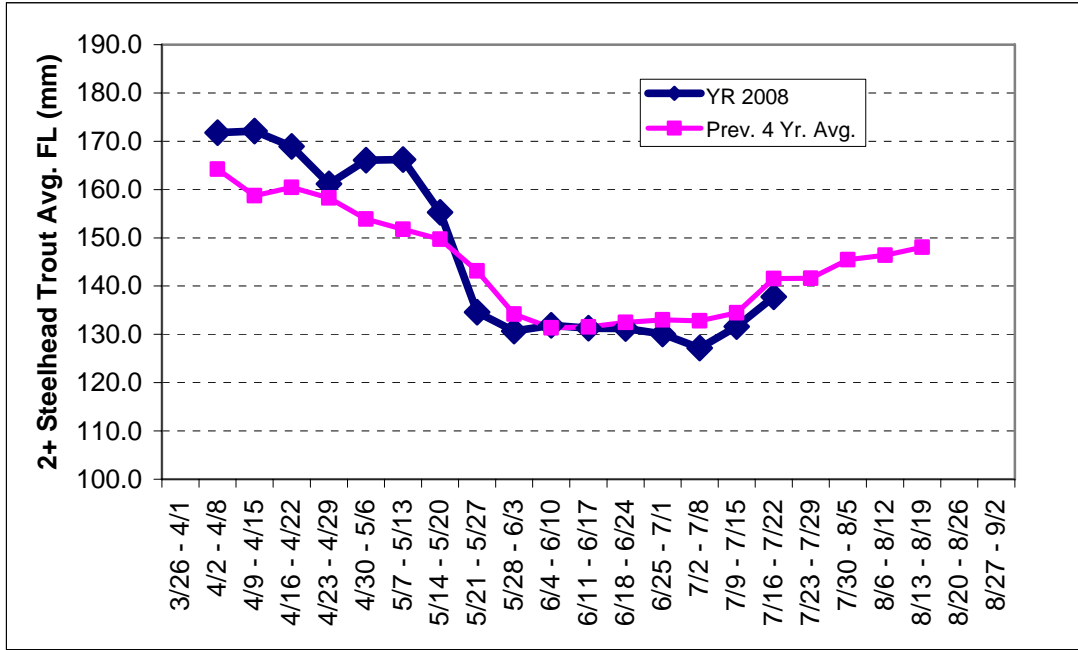


Figure 28. 2+ steelhead trout average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

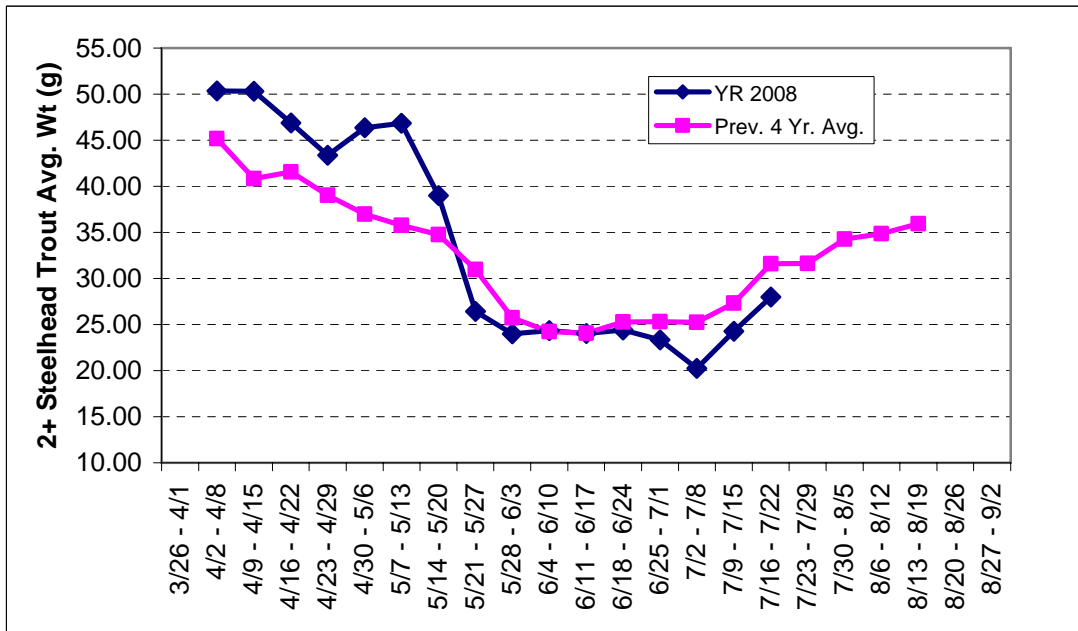


Figure 29. 2+ steelhead trout average weekly weights (g) in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

0+ Coho Salmon

We measured (FL mm) 391 and weighed (g) 383 0+ coho salmon in YR 2008 (Table 26). Average FL and Wt in YR 2008 was the lowest of record, although the greatest difference among years was 6.3 mm and 0.79 g. Standard error of the mean was less than 2.0 mm each study year for FL, and less than 0.30 g for Wt.

The mode(s) in fork length (mm) was 65 mm in YR 2008, 67 and 76 mm in YR 2007, 60, 71, 72, 73, 74, and 78 mm (all sizes had n = 6) in YR 2006, 38 mm in YR 2005, and 60 and 65 mm in YR 2004; the mode in weight (g) was 0.3 and 0.4 g in YR 2008, 2.4 g in YR 2007, 3.0 and 4.6 g in YR 2006, 2.7 g in YR 2005, and 3.2 g in YR 2004.

Table 26. 0+ coho salmon average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

YR	(N)	0+ Coho Salmon					
		Fork Length (mm)			Weight (g)		
		n	Avg.	Median	n	Avg.	Median
2004	> 202	202	66.2	66.0	198	3.76	3.50
2005	> 53	53	61.8	63.0	50	3.38	3.15
2006*	508	106	64.6	67.0	106	3.40	3.50
2007	1,057	290	67.4	67.0	276	3.83	3.60
2008	1,886	391	61.1	64.0	383	3.04	3.00
Avg.			64.2			3.48	

* First year population estimate was determined.

Average weekly FL's in YRS 2008 and for the previous four year average significantly increased over time (Correlation; $p < 0.000001$, $r = 0.93 - 0.95$, power = 1.0) (Figure 30). The increases in average FL over time show growth was taking place, and from 4/09/08 – 7/15/08 0+ coho salmon grew 0.36 mm/d. Average weekly fork length (59.4 mm) in YR 2008 was not significantly different than the previous four year average (60.7 mm) (ANOVA, $p > 0.05$, power = 0.06). Average weekly Wt's in YRS 2008 and for the previous four year average significantly increased over time (Correlation; $p < 0.000001$, $r = 0.97 - 0.98$, power = 1.0) (Figure 31). The increases in average Wt over time show growth was taking place, and from 4/09/08 – 7/15/08 0+ coho salmon grew 0.04 g/d. Median weekly Wt (g) in YR 2008 (2.98 g) was not significantly different than the

median weekly Wt (g) (3.05 g) for the previous four year average (Kruskal-Wallis One Way ANOVA on Ranks, $p > 0.05$).

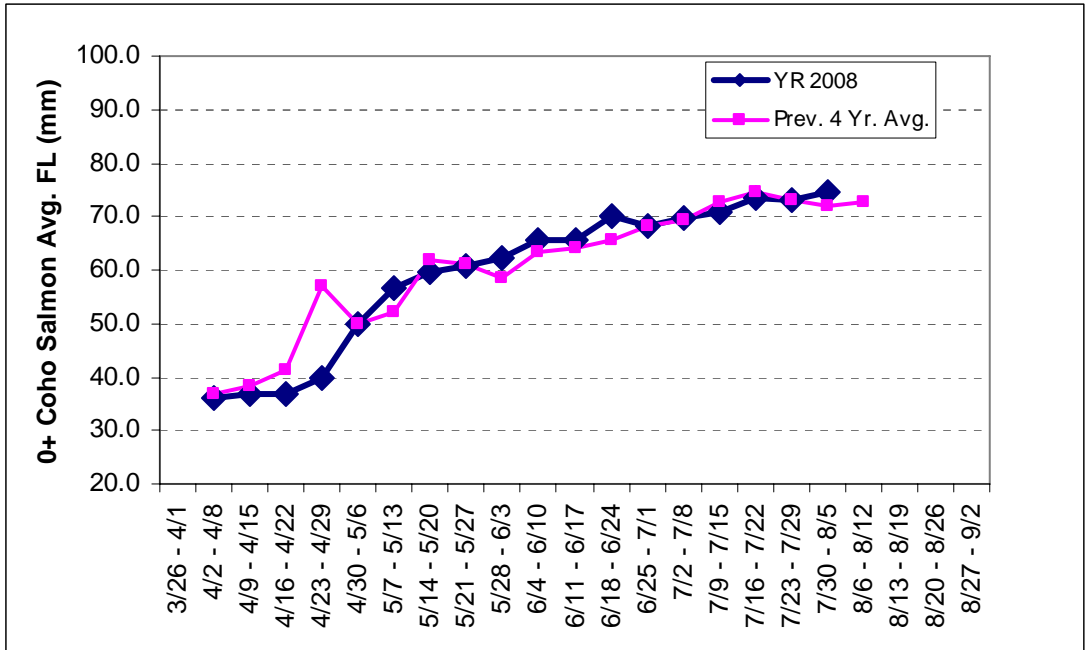


Figure 30. 0+ coho salmon average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

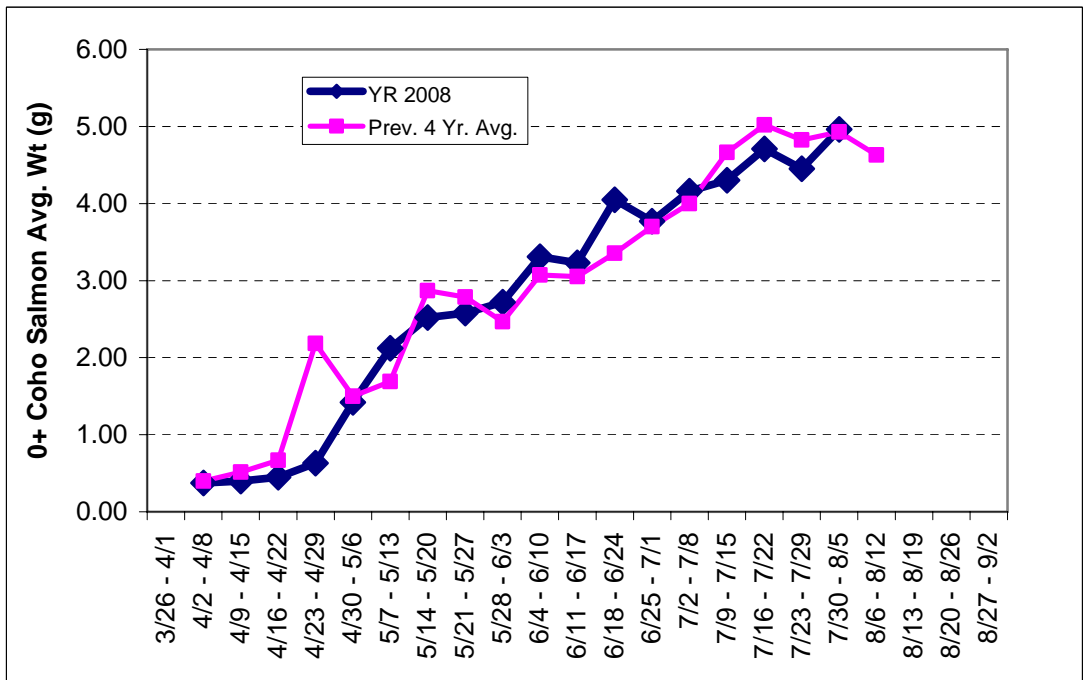


Figure 31. 0+ coho salmon average weekly weights (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

1+ Coho Salmon

We measured (FL mm) 242 and weighed (g) 229 1+ coho salmon in YR 2008 (Table 27). Average FL and Wt among study years showed little variation, the greatest difference between years was 4.5 mm and 1.4 g, respectively (Table 27). Standard error of the mean for FL was less than 2.0 mm for each study year; and for Wt was less than 0.65 g each study year.

The mode in FL (mm) was 110 mm in YR 2008, 98, 107, 110, 111, and 112 mm (n = 2 for each size) in YR 2007, 111 mm in YR 2006, 112 mm in YR 2005, and 105 mm in YR 2004. The mode in Wt (g) was 12.2 g in YR 2008, 10.1, 11.2, and 14.9 g in YR 2007, 12.5 g in YR 2005, and 16.1 g in YR 2004; in YR 2006, 11 values had the same frequency (n = 2).

Average FL (mm) and Wt (g) were not related to population size (Regression, $p > 0.05$, power = 0.07 – 0.11).

Table 27. 1+ coho salmon average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

YR	(N)	1+ Coho Salmon					
		Fork Length (mm)			Weight (g)		
		n	Avg.	Median	n	Avg.	Median
2004	535	69	105.3	105.0	67	13.09	12.09
2005	183	39	109.4	110.0	39	13.71	13.40
2006	427	69	105.7	105.0	69	12.77	12.50
2007	102	34	104.9	107.0	34	12.36	12.30
2008	879	242	109.1	110.0	229	13.73	13.70
Avg.			106.9			13.13	

Average weekly FL (mm) in YR 2008 did not significantly change over time (Correlation, $p > 0.05$, $r = 0.26$, power = 0.11), although the previous four year average FL (mm) positively changed over time (Correlation, $p < 0.01$, $r = 0.84$, power = 0.94) (Figure 32). Average weekly FL (mm) in YR 2008 (105.9 mm) was not significantly different than average weekly FL (mm) for the previous four year average (105.7 mm) (ANOVA, $p > 0.05$, power = 0.05).

Average weekly Wt (g) in YR 2008 did not significantly change over time (Correlation, $p > 0.05$, $r = 0.21$, power = 0.08), although the previous four year average Wt (g) positively changed over time (Correlation, $p < 0.01$, $r = 0.81$, power = 0.89) (Figure 33). Average weekly Wt (g) in YR 2008 (12.76 g) was not significantly different than average weekly Wt (g) for the previous four year average (12.89 g) (ANOVA, $p > 0.05$, power = 0.05).

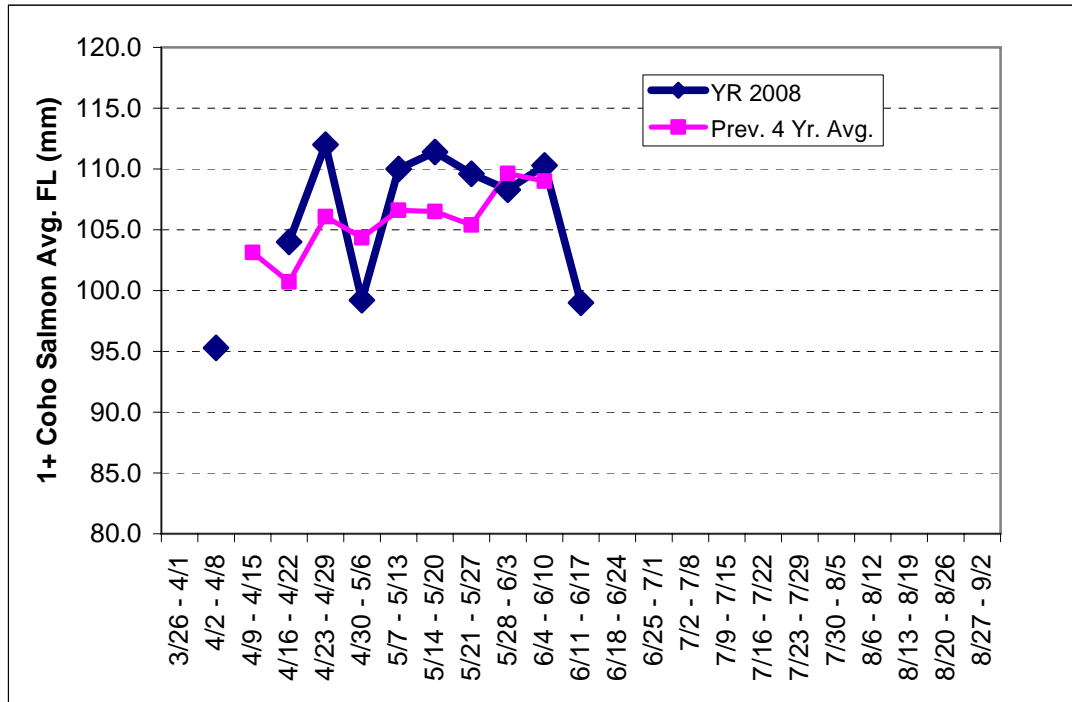


Figure 32. 1+ coho salmon average weekly fork lengths (mm) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

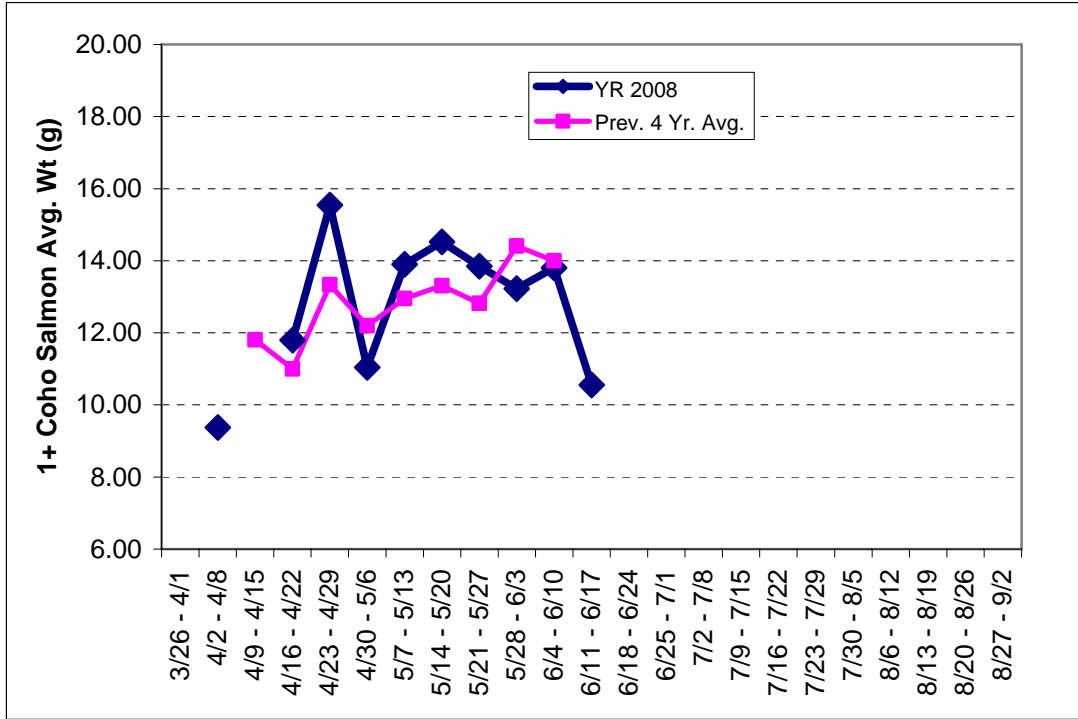


Figure 33. 1+ coho salmon average weekly weights (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008 lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Cutthroat Trout

We measured 22 (FL mm) and weighed (g) 21 cutthroat trout in YR 2007 (Table 28). Average FL and Wt in YR 2008 was the second lowest of record. Standard error of the mean for fork length was less than 34 mm each study year; and for Wt was less than 18 g each study year.

There were no modes in FL (mm) in YRS 2005 and 2008, however, there were six modes in FL (mm) in YR 2007 (frequency = 2), YR 2006 (frequency = 2) and in YR 2004 (frequency = 2). The mode in Wt (g) was 17.8 g in YR 2008, 36.7 g in YR 2007, 66.1 g in YR 2006, and 41.9 g in YR 2004. There was not a mode in Wt (g) in YR 2005.

Table 28. Cutthroat trout average and median fork length (mm) and weight (g) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

YR	(N)	Cutthroat Trout					
		Fork Length (mm)			Weight (g)		
		n	Avg.	Median	n	Avg.	Median
2004	> 37	36	171.0	161.5	36	61.28	43.15
2005	> 9	9	228.7	185.0	7	70.14	64.80
2006	97	36	193.4	182.0	35	89.80	65.60
2007	85	44	201.7	199.0	44	97.09	84.55
2008	54	22	178.9	163.5	21	65.87	45.10
Avg.			194.7			76.84	

Developmental Stages

1+ and 2+ Steelhead Trout

There was an obvious non-random distribution of parr, pre-smolt, and smolt designations (developmental stages) for 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout captured each study year (Table 29). A totally random distribution would equal 33.3% for each designation (parr, pre-smolt, smolt).

In YR 2008 there were statistically more 1+ steelhead trout parr designations compared to the parr designation for the previous four year average (Chi-square, $p < 0.000001$). There were also less pre-smolt designations in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average (Chi-square, $p < 0.000001$), and more smolt designations in YR 2008 compared to the previous four year average (Chi-square, $p < 0.000001$).

The proportions of 2+ steelhead trout pre-smolt and smolt designations were significantly different than previous four year average, such that there were less pre-smolts (Chi-square, $p < 0.00001$) and more smolt designations in YR 2008 (Chi-square, $p < 0.00001$).

The combined percentage of pre-smolts and smolts for 1+ steelhead trout was nearly 100%, and for 2+ steelhead trout, equaled 100% (Table 29).

Table 29. Developmental stages of captured 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Year	Developmental Stage (as percentage of total catch)					
	1+ Steelhead Trout			2+ Steelhead Trout		
	Parr	Pre-smolt	Smolt	Parr	Pre-smolt	Smolt
2004	0.2	31.5	68.3	0.0	5.7	94.3
2005	0.2	13.6	86.2	0.0	1.7	98.3
2006	0.1	25.1	74.8	0.0	2.1	97.9
2007	0.5	22.4	77.1	0.0	6.1	93.9
Avg.	0.2	23.2	76.6	0.0	3.9	96.1
2008	0.6	15.3	84.1	0.0	1.5	98.5

Additional Experiments

Re-Migration

In YR 2008, we did not recapture any of the pit tagged fish released from upper Redwood Creek in YR 2007 (Table 30). In YR 2007 we did not recapture any of the pit tagged fish released from upper Redwood Creek in YR 2006 (Table 30), and in YR 2006 we did not recapture any of the 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout marked and released with elastomer (n = 146 for 1+SH, 37 for 2+SH) in YR 2005. We also did not recapture any pit tagged fish released in YR 2005 (0+ Chinook, n = 555; 1+ steelhead, n = 147; 2+ steelhead, n = 46) in YR 2006 (Table 30).

Table 30. Data for testing re-migration of 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, and 2+ steelhead trout released from upper Redwood Creek to be recaptured in upper or lower Redwood Cr the following year, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

YR	Species at Age*	Re-Migration Experiments	
		Number Marked and Released	Percent Recapture the Following Year
2005	0+ KS	555	0.00
2006	0+ KS	121	0.00
2007	0+ KS	691	0.00
2004	1+ SH	577	0.00
2005	1+ SH	293	0.00
2006	1+ SH	246	0.00
2007	1+ SH	484	0.00
2004	2+ SH	223	0.00
2005	2+ SH	83	0.00
2006	2+ SH	38	0.00
2007	2+ SH	48	0.00

* Age/species designations are the same as in Figure 2.

Travel Time, Travel Rate, and Growth

0+ Chinook Salmon

We recaptured 27% of the pit tagged Chinook salmon smolts (released at the upper trap) with the smolt trap in lower Redwood Creek (Table 31). Percent recapture per release group ranged from 0.0 – 47% (Table 31).

Initial fork lengths of recaptured juveniles ranged from 67 – 83 mm, and averaged 73.0 mm (Appendix 5). Time to travel the 29 miles between traps ranged from 3.5 – 28.0 d, and averaged 11.6 d (median = 9.3 d, mode = 3.5 and 5.0 d) (Table 32). Average travel time in YR 2008 was greater than average travel time in YRS 2005 – 2007, however the greatest difference among years was 4.1 d (Table 32).

Travel time (transformed) in YR 2008 was not related to smolt size at time 2, stream discharge, or stream temperature (Regression, $p > 0.05$ for all tests). The regression of travel time on size at time 1 failed assumption tests, and results were not valid (NCSS 97). Travel time was positively related to lunar phase (Regression, $p = 0.0002$, $R^2 = 0.35$,

power = 0.98); and negatively related to day of release (day number when groups were released) (Regression, $p = 0.005$, $R^2 = 0.21$, power = 0.83).

Table 31. Release groups, sample size, and percent recapture of pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon released from upper Redwood Creek, and recaptured in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

Pit Tagged 0+ Chinook Salmon			
Release Group	Sample Size	No. of Recaptures	Percent Recapture
5/14/2008	1	0	0.0
6/03/2008	16	2	12.5
6/07/2008	25	7	28.0
6/10/2008	22	3	13.6
6/24/2008	24	9	37.5
6/27/2008	15	7	46.7
7/01/2008	23	8	34.8
7/05/2008	4	0	0.0
7/07/2008	3	0	0.0
Sum:	133	36	

Travel rate (mi/d) ranged from 1.0 – 8.3 mi/d, and averaged 3.9 mi/d (median = 3.2 mi/d, mode = 5.8 and 8.3 mi/d) (Table 32). Travel rate was positively related to FL at time 1 (Regression, $p < 0.05$, $R^2 = 0.11$, power = 0.52), negatively related to lunar phase (Regression, $p < 0.001$, $R^2 = 0.33$, power = 0.98), and positively related to time (day number when groups were released) of migration (Regression, $p = 0.003$, $R^2 = 0.24$, power = 0.88). The regressions of stream discharge and stream temperature on travel rate each failed regression assumption tests (even with transformations), and results were not valid (NCSS 97).

Similar to experiments in YRS 2005 – 07, multiple fish released from the same release group ($n = 3$ groups) in YR 2008 were frequently recaptured at the lower trap on the same day. For example, the group released on 6/27/2008 ($n = 15$), had three individuals recaptured on 7/02/2008. Fifty percent of the release groups (which had recaptures in lower Redwood Creek) had fish recaptured on the same day as other fish in that release group. Of the 36 total recaptures, 33% ($n = 12$) occurred on days when other pit tag fish were also recaptured; however none of the release groups had all of the recaptures occur on the same day. In contrast, some fish that were released at the same time (as a group)

were recaptured on varying dates. For example, travel time for recaptured individuals (n = 7) from the 6/07/08 release group ranged from 5.0 – 28.0 days, and averaged 15.9 d.

The final average size (FL) of recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook ranged from 68 – 83 mm, and averaged 75.4 mm; final Wt ranged from 3.01 – 5.91 g, and averaged 4.43 g (Appendix 5). Similar to previous study years (with exception to YR 2007), the final size of pit tagged fish was positively related to size at release (Regression: FL, $R^2 = 0.51$, $p < 0.00001$, power 1.0; Wt, $R^2 = 0.44$, $p < 0.0001$, power = 1.0).

Fifty percent (n = 18) of the 36 recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon showed positive growth in FL and 50% (n = 18) showed no increase in FL. For the 36 recaptures where Wt was recorded, 47% (n = 17) showed an increase in Wt, 31% (n = 11) showed no change, and 22% (n = 8) lost Wt.

On average, the 0+ Chinook salmon gained 2.4 mm in length, and experienced a positive percent change in FL of 3.4% in YR 2008 (Table 32, Appendix 5). 0+ Chinook salmon showed, on average, positive growth in FL for absolute growth rate (Avg. = 0.13 mm/d), relative growth rate (Avg. = 0.002 mm/mm/d), and specific growth rate scaled [Avg. = 0.175 % (mm/d)] (Table 32, Appendix 5). Growth values in YR 2008 were less than values in YRS 2005 - 2007 (Table 32).

Table 32. Comparison of travel time (d), travel rate (mi/d), and various growth statistics in YRS 2005 - 2008 for pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon released in upper Redwood Cr and recaptured in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA.

Variable	Pit Tagged 0+ Chinook Salmon Recaptures			
	Average Values (median in parentheses)			
	YR 2005 (n = 27)	YR 2006 (n = 28)	YR 2007 (n = 245)	YR 2008 (n = 36)
<i>Emigrational</i>				
Travel Time (d)	7.5 (5.5)	8.0 (6.5)	10.7 (8.5)	11.6 (9.3)
Travel Rate (mi/d)	8.2 (5.3)	5.5 (4.5)	4.0 (3.4)	3.9 (3.2)
<i>Growth Index(FL)</i>				
Δ in FL*	2.8 (2.0)	2.8 (2.0)	3.9 (3.0)	2.4 (1.0)
% Change in FL	3.65 (2.47)	3.87 (2.82)	5.48 (4.23)	3.35 (1.3)
AGR*	0.22 (0.19)	0.24 (0.30)	0.29 (0.33)	0.13 (0.06)
RGR*	0.003 (0.002)	0.003 (0.004)	0.004 (0.004)	0.002 (0.001)
SGRsc*	0.279 (0.232)	0.323 (0.395)	0.397 (0.430)	0.175 (0.080)

* Δ in FL = change in FL (mm), AGR = absolute growth rate (FL mm/d), RGR = relative growth rate (FL mm/mm/d), SGRsc = specific growth rate scaled, [FL % (mm/d)].

The relationship of travel time on various FL and Wt growth indices was significant and positive. Travel time (transformed) explained more of the variation (86%) in percent change in FL (transformed) than any other variable tested (Figure 34). Travel rate (mi/d) was inversely related to various growth indices. Travel rate (mi/d) was negatively related to change in FL (transformed) (Regression, $p < 0.00001$, $R^2 = 0.73$, power = 1.0).

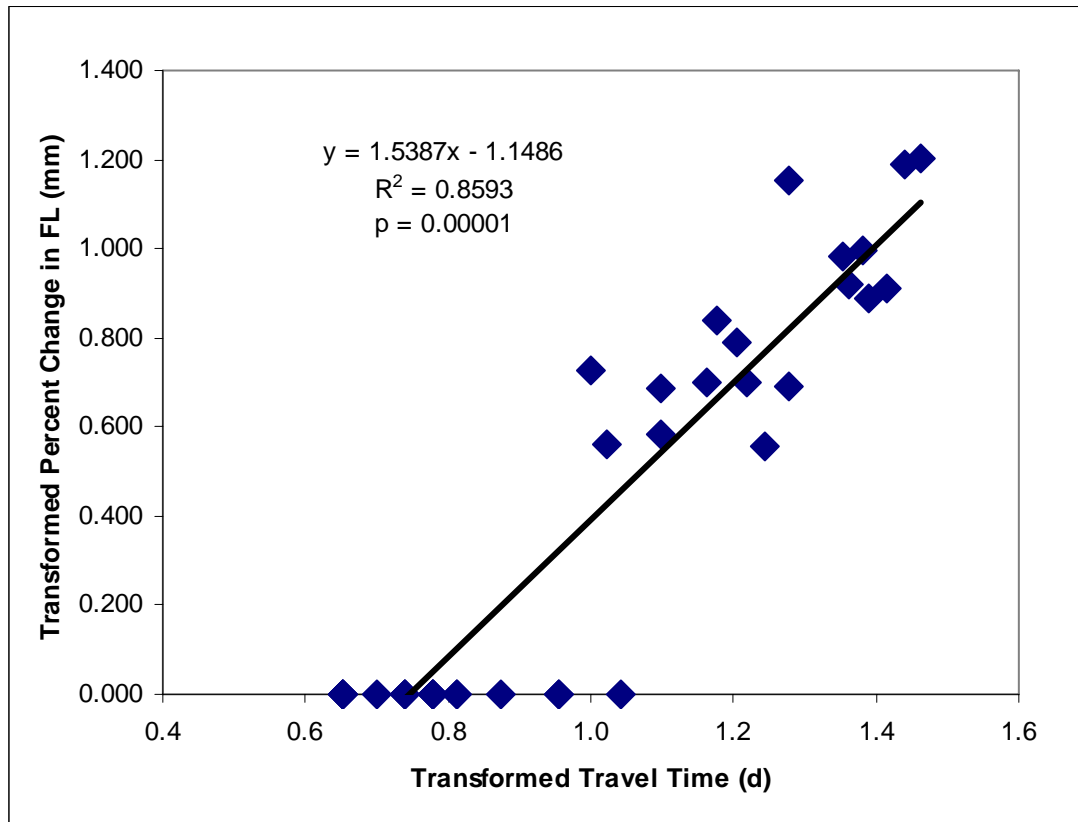


Figure 34. Linear regression of transformed travel time (d) on transformed percent change in FL (mm) for pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon (n = 36) recaptured at the lower trap in Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA. 2008.

Separate growth statistics were determined for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon individuals showing only positive growth (Table 33). On average, pit tagged Chinook salmon absolute growth rate equaled 0.258 mm per day for FL, and 0.039 g per day for Wt (Table 33).

Table 33. Growth statistics for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon that showed only positive growth in FL (n = 18) and Wt (n = 17) while traveling 29 mi downstream to lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

	Positive Growth							
	% Change in		AGR*		SGRsc*		RGR*	
	FL	Wt	FL	Wt	FL	Wt	FL	Wt
Min.	2.6	4.1	0.121	0.016	0.155	0.346	0.002	0.003
Max.	14.9	57.0	0.500	0.073	0.691	1.857	0.007	0.022
Avg.	6.7	20.4	0.258	0.039	0.350	0.920	0.004	0.010
SEM**	0.9	3.7	0.021	0.004	0.030	0.107	0.0003	0.0014

* Abbreviations are the same as in Table 32. ** Standard error of the mean.

We took detailed notes on whether the partial, upper caudal fin clips (secondary mark for pit tagged fish) and scars from pit tag surgery (scalpel) were visible to the observer (naked eye). Fish that fell within the not visible category spent a longer time traveling downstream, and exhibited higher growth than individuals in the two other categories (Table 34).

Table 34. Visibility of partial fin clips and surgery scars, percent change in FL, and absolute growth rate (per visibility category) for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

Visibility	Average values for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook Salmon				
	n*	Travel Time (d)	Travel Rate (mi/d)	% Change in FL (mm)	AGR** FL (mm/d)
Partial Fin Clip					
Visible	28	8.2	4.7	1.7	0.092
Barely Visible	4	21.3	1.4	6.6	0.221
Not Visible	4	25.6	1.1	11.4	0.299
Surgery Scar					
Visible	22	6.3	5.4	0.7	0.050
Barely Visible	6	15.5	1.9	5.6	0.250
Not Visible	8	23.1	1.3	9.0	0.260

* Designates sample size. ** AGR FL = absolute growth rate in FL, mm/d.

1+ Steelhead Trout

We recaptured eight pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout at the lower trap in YR 2008 (Appendix 6). Percent recapture per release group ranged from 0.0 – 25.0%, and averaged 4.8% (Appendix 6).

Initial fork lengths of recaptured juveniles ($n = 8$) ranged from 70 – 112 mm, and averaged 87.3 mm (Appendix 7). The final size of recaptured pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 ranged from 87 – 114 mm, and averaged 97.4 mm (Appendix 7). The final size (FL, Wt) was positively related to initial size at release (Regression, FL: $p < 0.01$, $R^2 = 0.75$, positive slope, power = 0.94; WT: $p < 0.01$, $R^2 = 0.75$, positive slope, power = 0.94).

Time to travel the 29 miles between traps in YR 2008 ranged from 2.5 – 44.0 d, and averaged 22.8 (median = 26.5 d) (Table 35). Travel time was significantly related to the size at time 1 (Regression, FL: $p < 0.05$, $R^2 = 0.68$, negative slope, power = 0.84; Wt: $p < 0.05$, $R^2 = 0.60$, negative slope, power = 0.71). Unlike previous study years, travel time was not related to lunar phase, stream discharge, or stream temperature (Regression, $p > 0.10$ for each test).

Travel rate (mi/d) in YR 2008 ranged from 0.7 – 11.6 mi/d, and averaged 4.0 mi/d (median = 1.1 mi/d) (Table 35). Travel rate (mi/d) was positively related to FL at time 1 (Regression, $p < 0.10$, $R^2 = 0.39$, power = 0.38), stream discharge in upper Redwood Creek (Regression, $p < 0.10$, $R^2 = 0.39$, positive slope, power = 0.38), stream discharge in lower Redwood Creek (Regression, $p < 0.10$, $R^2 = 0.44$, positive slope, power = 0.45), and average stream discharge in upper and lower Redwood Creek (Regression, $p < 0.10$, $R^2 = 0.44$, positive slope, power = 0.44). The best model describing travel rate (mi/d) included FL at time 1 and transformed average stream discharge (Regression, $p = 0.02$, Adj. $R^2 = 0.73$, positive relationship for both variables, power = 0.55).

Seventy five percent ($n = 6$) of the 8 recaptured pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout showed positive growth in FL and 25% ($n = 2$) showed no change in FL; 75% ($n = 6$) showed an increase in Wt and 25% ($n = 2$) showed a decrease in Wt.

On average, the 1+ steelhead trout gained 10 mm in length, and experienced a positive percent change in FL of 13% in YR 2008 (Table 35). 1+ steelhead trout showed, on average, positive growth in FL for absolute growth rate (Avg. = 0.34 mm/d), relative growth rate (Avg. = 0.004 mm/mm/d), and specific growth rate scaled [Avg. = 0.376 %/(mm/d)] (Table 35). Growth in YR 2008 was slightly greater than growth in YR 2006, and less than growth in YR 2007 (Table 35).

Table 35. Comparison of travel time (d), travel rate (mi/d), and various growth statistics in YRS 2005 - 2008 for pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout released in upper Redwood Cr and recaptured in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA.

Variable	Pit Tagged 1+ Steelhead Trout Recaptures			
	Average Values (Median in parentheses)			
	YR 2005 (n = 5)**	YR 2006 (n = 6)	YR 2007 (n = 18)	YR 2008 (n = 8)
<i>Emigrational</i>				
Travel Time (d)	12.4 (10.0)	20.8 (15.5)	29.5 (29.0)	22.8 (26.5)
Travel Rate (mi/d)	5.8 (2.9)	4.0 (2.1)	1.59 (1.0)	4.0 (1.1)
<i>Growth Index(FL)</i>				
Δ in FL*	-	10.0 (6.5)	15.2 (15.0)	9.9 (12.0)
% Change in FL	-	12.60 (9.19)	18.74 (19.74)	12.63 (14.13)
AGR*	-	0.31 (0.32)	0.47 (0.49)	0.34 (0.44)
RGR*	-	0.004 (0.004)	0.006 (0.006)	0.004 (0.006)
SGRsc*	-	0.350 (0.398)	0.521 (0.571)	0.376 (0.462)

* Abbreviations are the same as in Table 32.

** Includes 3 elastomer marked fish and 2 pit tagged fish.

The relationship of travel time on various growth indices was significantly positive for each test (Regression, $p < 0.05$) except for a non-significant relationship with AGR Wt; and travel rate on growth was significantly negative for each test (Regression, $p < 0.05$) with exception to non-significant relationships with AGR Wt, RGR Wt, and SGR Wt.

Travel time (d) explained more of the variation in delta FL and Wt, and percent change in FL and Wt than other variables; and travel rate explained more of the variation in AGR FL, SGRsc FL, and RGR FL than other variables. The variation in travel time (d) explained 97% of the variation in percent change in FL (Figure 35).

Several growth indices (delta FL, Wt; Percent change in FL, Wt; AGR Wt, SGR Wt; RGR Wt) were negatively related to size at time 1. The tests showed that smaller smolts grew more, and at a higher rate, than larger smolts.

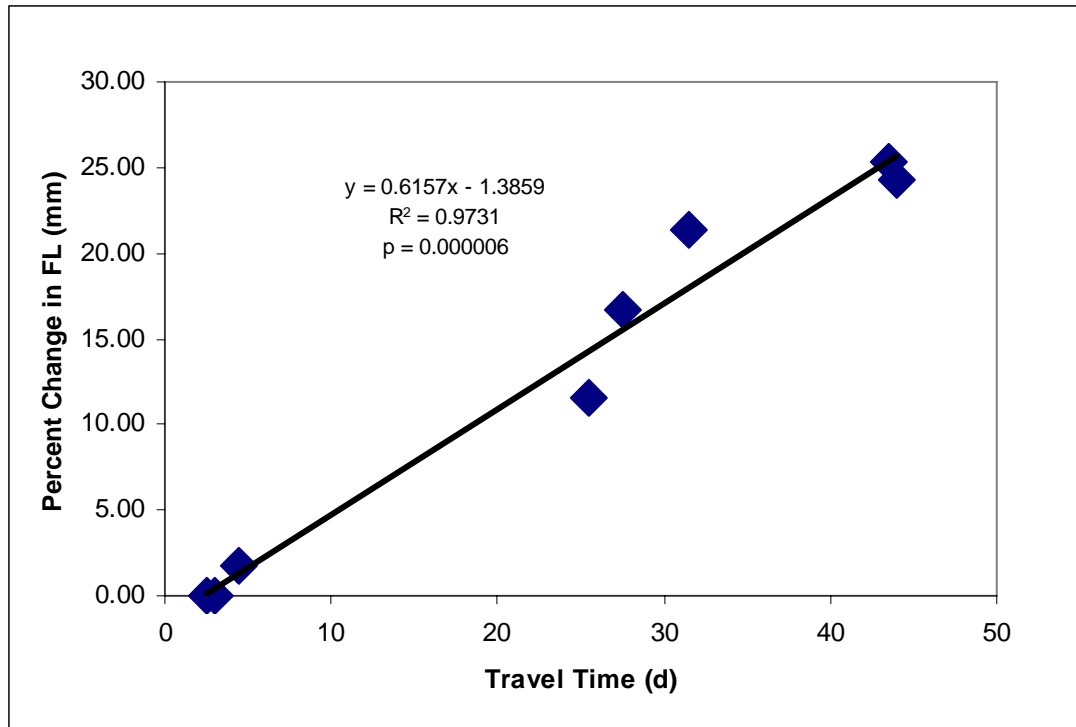


Figure 35. Linear regression of travel time (d) on percent change in FL (mm) for pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout (n = 8) recaptured at the lower trap in Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

2+ Steelhead Trout

We recaptured one pit tagged 2+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 that took five days to reach the lower trap.

Trapping Mortality

The mortality of fish that were captured in the trap and subsequently handled was closely monitored over the course of each trapping period. The trap mortality (includes handling mortality) for a given species at age in YR 2008 ranged from 0.00 – 0.21%, and using all data (pooling) was 0.11% of the total captured and handled (Table 36).

Table 36. Trapping mortality for juvenile salmonids captured in YR 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Age/spp.	Trap Mortality in YR 2008		
	No. captured	No. of mortalities	Percent mortality
0+ Chinook	77,169	70	0.09
1+ Chinook	10	0	0.00
0+ Steelhead	39,892	53	0.13
1+ Steelhead	7,255	15	0.21
2+ Steelhead	1,229	2	0.16
Cutthroat trout	22	0	0.00
0+ Coho	391	0	0.00
1+ Coho	242	0	0.00
Overall:	126,210	140	0.11

Table 37. Comparison of trapping mortality of juvenile salmonids in five consecutive study years, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Trap Mortality		
	No. captured	No. of mortalities	Percent mortality
2004	88,088	167	0.19
2005	14,734	146	1.00
2006	55,717	93	0.17
2007	94,308	58	0.06
2008	126,210	140	0.11
Avg.	75,811	121	0.31

Stream Temperatures

The average daily (24 hr period) stream temperature from 4/01/08 – 8/04/08 was 14.21 °C (or 57.6 °F) (95% CI = 13.7 – 14.8 °C), with daily averages ranging from 7.98 – 18.58 °C (46.4 – 65.4 °F). Median daily temperature equaled 14.99 °C (or 59.0 °F). Average stream temperatures during the trapping periods in YRS 2004 – 2008 were similar, with the largest difference among years equaling 1.4 °C (Table 38). Similar to past data, the average stream temperature during the trapping period in YR 2008 was inversely related to the average daily stream discharge (transformed) during the trapping period (Regression, $p < 0.000001$, $R^2 = 0.83$, slope is negative, power = 1.0). The minimum stream temperature in YR 2008 was 6.9 °C (44.4 °F) and occurred on 4/01/08; the maximum stream temperature was 21.8 °C (71.2 °F) (Table 38) and occurred on 7/08/08.

Table 38. Stream temperatures (°C) (standard error of mean in parentheses) at the trap site during the trapping periods in YRS 2004 – 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Stream Temperature					
	Celsius			Fahrenheit		
	Avg.	Min.	Max.	Avg.	Min.	Max.
2004	15.5 (0.2)	9.3	22.6	60.0 (0.8)	48.7	72.3
2005	15.6 (0.3)	9.0	22.6	60.1 (0.5)	48.2	72.3
2006	15.5 (0.3)	7.1	23.1	60.0 (0.5)	44.8	73.6
2007	15.3 (0.3)	8.1	24.2	59.5 (0.6)	46.6	75.6
2008	14.2 (0.3)	6.9	21.8	57.6 (0.5)	44.4	71.2
Avg.	15.2 (0.3)			59.4 (0.5)		

Average monthly stream temperatures during the majority of the trapping season (April – July) in YR 2008 ranged from 9.8 – 17.4 °C (49.6 – 63.3 °F) (Table 39). Highest stream temperatures occurred in the later part of the trapping season (June and July) each study year. Average monthly stream temperature (°C) among study years was not significantly different (ANOVA, $p = 0.98$, power = 0.07).

The MWAT during the trapping period in YR 2008 at the trap site was 18.2 °C (64.8 °F); and occurred on 7/07/08 (Table 40). MWMT in YR 2008 was 21.1 °C (69.8 °F) and also occurred on 7/07/08 (Table 40). MWAT and MWMT in YR 2008 were the lowest of record (Table 40).

Table 39. Average monthly stream temperature (°C) (°F in parentheses) at the trapping site in study years 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Study Year	Average stream temperature in Celsius (°F in parentheses)				Avg.
	April	May	June	July	
2004	11.9 (53.4)	14.7 (58.5)	16.8 (62.2)	18.6 (65.5)	15.5 (59.9)
2005	11.5 (52.7)	12.8 (55.0)	14.6 (58.3)	18.5 (65.3)	14.3 (57.7)
2006	10.4 (50.7)	13.9 (57.0)	16.7 (62.1)	18.2 (64.8)	14.8 (58.6)
2007	10.7 (51.3)	13.4 (56.1)	16.4 (61.5)	18.5 (65.3)	14.8 (58.6)
2008	9.8 (49.6)	13.5 (56.3)	15.6 (60.1)	17.4 (63.3)	14.1 (57.4)
Avg.	10.9 (51.6)	13.7 (56.7)	16.0 (60.8)	18.2 (64.8)	

Table 40. Maximum weekly average temperature (MWAT) and maximum weekly maximum temperature (MWMT) for stream temperatures °C (°F in parentheses) at the trap site in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., study years 2004 - 2008.

Study Year	MWAT		MWMT	
	Date of occurrence	°C (°F)	Date of occurrence	°C (°F)
2004	7/22/04	19.3 (66.7)	7/18/04	22.2 (72.0)
2005	7/17/05	19.2 (66.6)	7/17/05	22.1 (71.8)
2006	7/25/06	19.2 (66.6)	7/25/06	22.7 (72.9)
2007	7/21/07	19.2 (66.6)	7/31/07	22.4 (72.3)
2008	7/07/08	18.2 (64.8)	7/07/08	21.1 (69.8)

The average stream temperature increased over the study period in YR 2008 (Correlation, $p < 0.0001$, $r = 0.94$, slope is positive, power = 1.0) (Figure 36), as well as in past study years (Figure 37). Similar to past study years, average daily stream temperature (transformed) in YR 2008 was significantly related to the stream gage height (transformed) at the trapping site (Regression, $p < 0.05$, $R^2 = 0.77$, slope is negative, power = 1.0).

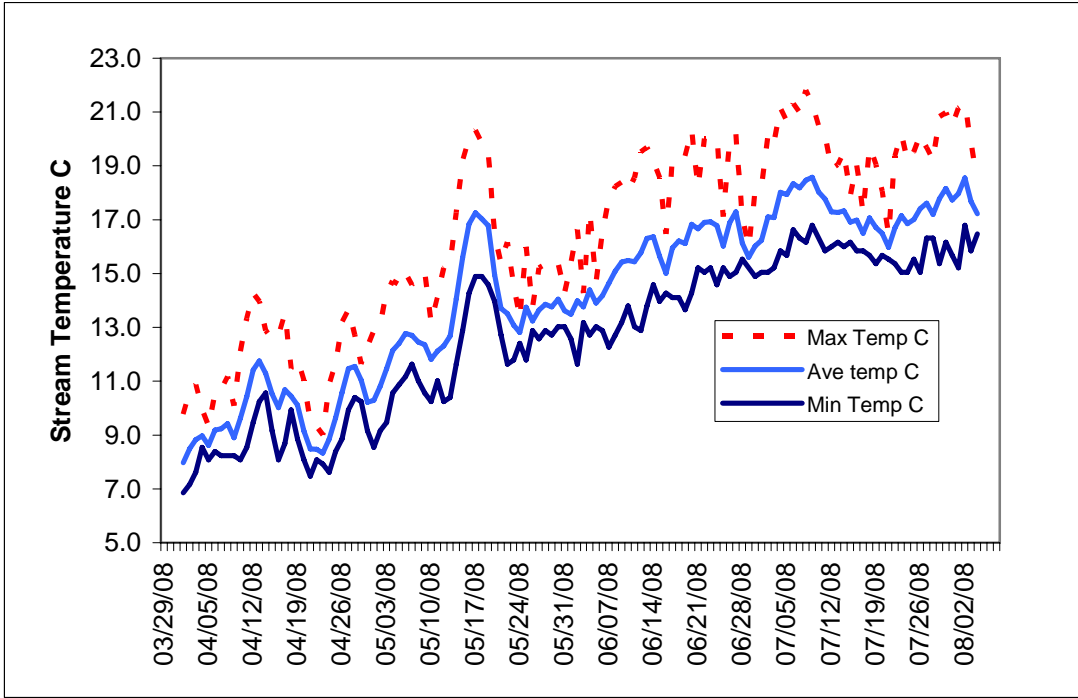


Figure 36. Average, minimum, and maximum stream temperatures ($^{\circ}$ C) in lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

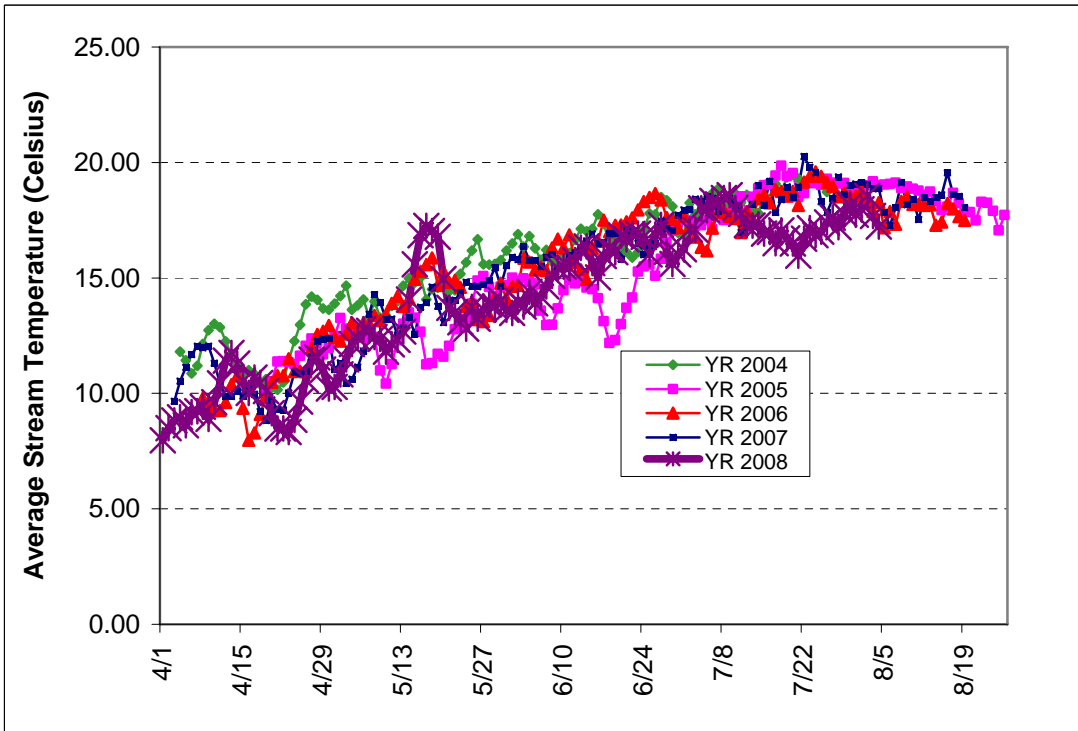


Figure 37. Average daily stream temperature ($^{\circ}$ C) in YRS 2004 - 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

DISCUSSION

The main goal of our downstream migration study in lower Redwood Creek is to estimate and monitor the production of Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, coho salmon, and cutthroat trout from the majority of the Redwood Creek watershed in a reliable, long-term manner. The long term goal is to monitor trends in smolt abundance and smolt size, and to detect positive or negative changes due to watershed conditions and restoration activities in the basin. Redwood Creek is a difficult, if not impossible stream to monitor for adult salmon and steelhead populations on a long term basis using traditional techniques (weirs and spawning ground surveys) due to adult salmon and steelhead run timing, water depth, precipitation, hydrology, and stream turbidity. However, “quantifying juvenile anadromous salmonid populations as they migrate seaward is the most direct assessment of stock performance in freshwater” (Seiler et al. 2004). In addition, studies in various streams have found that smolt numbers can relate to stream habitat quality, watershed condition, restoration activities, the number of parents that produced the cohort, and future adult populations.

The fifth consecutive year of trapping in lower Redwood Creek occurred during a (slightly) below average water year with respect to rainfall amounts and average stream discharge measured at Orick, California. Rainfall in WY 2008 was 15% less than the historic average, and 2 – 36% less than rainfall in previous study years. In response to below average rainfall amounts in WY 2008, average stream discharge was 17% less than the historic average. Rainfall during the majority of the trapping period in YR 2008 was 67% less than the historic average, and thus average stream discharge was about 41% less than average. The month of April accounted for most of the rainfall during the trapping periods, and was also the month with the highest average stream discharge. The lowest values in rainfall and stream discharge during the majority of the trapping periods occurred in July each study year.

The environmental conditions for downstream migrant trapping in YR 2008 were not as harsh or as difficult to operate the trap compared to previous study years. One day of trapping was missed due to a large piece of tree bark that jammed the trap’s cone on April 12, 2008. The estimates for catch and subsequent expansions to the population level, based on the missed trapping day, were negligible for each species at age; the greatest impact on a population estimate was estimated at 0.09%, and the adjusted point value easily fell within the 95% confidence interval of the un-adjusted point estimate. The number of fish missed when the trap was inoperable would not have greatly impacted population estimates. We were able to greatly increase trapping efficiencies for most species at age in YR 2006 by moving the trap 75 m downstream of the previous year’s location; in YR 2008, the trap was located at the same place as YRS 2006 and 2007. The new location had a higher gradient, and a more confined stream channel compared to the location in YRS 2004 and 2005. Thus, this season’s trapping resulted in very good (precise) estimates of wild Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and coho salmon abundances from areas upstream of the trapping site. The abundance estimate for cutthroat trout (+ or – 53%) was not as good, yet sample sizes for marking these fish were much smaller (n = 17 marked and released) than for other species at age.

0+ Chinook Salmon

0+ Chinook salmon (ocean-type) were the most numerous migrant captured in four of five consecutive study years. 0+ Chinook salmon trap catches in YRS 2006, 2007, and 2008 were higher than catches in YRS 2004 and 2005, primarily due to increased trapping efficiencies by moving the smolt trap to a more favorable location. 0+ Chinook salmon were the most numerous migrant in Redwood Creek compared to other species. On a population basis, 0+ Chinook were 1.5 – 5.7 times more abundant than 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout combined. The population abundance of 0+ Chinook salmon in YR 2008 was greater than Chinook abundances in YRS 2005 – 2007, and much less (by 69%) than the highest abundance measured in YR 2004 (N = 554,890). The overall trend in abundance over five consecutive study years was negative; however, statistical significance was not detected, most likely due to the observed variation in population point estimates and low sample size (n = 5 years).

The overall reduction in population abundance we observed from YRS 2004 – 2008 could be due to: 1) decrease in the total number of spawners upstream of the trap site, 2) high bedload mobilizing flows during and after reproduction which scoured or jostled redd gravels, or 3) some combination of factors 1 and 2. Changes in spawner distributions are not likely responsible for the large decrease because Chinook salmon do not generally spawn in mainstem areas below the trap site, and the number of spawners in Prairie Creek was less than average.

Currently, we cannot separate effects of lower adult population size during years with high, bedload mobilizing flows on the subsequent production of juveniles because: 1) adult counts are not conducted, and 2) peak flows capable of redd scour occurred each study year (YRS 2004 – 08). Several investigators have shown that the scour of redds due to high streamflows or floods can often cause severe decreases in the production of juvenile salmonids (Gangmark and Bakkala 1960, McNeil 1966, Holtby and Healey 1986, Montgomery et al. 1996, Devries 1997, Schuett-Hames et al. 2000, Seiler et al. 2003, Don Chapman pers. comm. 2003, Greene et al. 2005); and that estimates of mortality attributable to high flows and redd scour can reach 90% (Schuett-Hames et al. 2000). Greene et al. (2005) were able to show that the flood recurrence interval (and magnitude of floods) during Chinook salmon intragravel development was the second most important variable in their models used to predict the return rate of adult Chinook salmon. They further report that “large flow events may be a key factor in regulating Chinook salmon populations in the Skagit River basin, Washington” (Greene et al. 2005). High flows (11,000⁺ cfs) measured at the Orick Gaging Station each study year could have mobilized (or jostled) redd gravels (Mary Ann Madej pers. comm. 2008) which would then cause high egg mortality in the redd. Flood type flows in YR 2008 peaked at 15,600 cfs in lower Redwood Creek on December 29, and in upper Redwood Creek no flood type flows occurred (cfs < 6,000). Unfortunately, the timing of Chinook salmon spawning and redd incubation in Redwood Creek occurs during winter when high rainfall amounts and flood type flows occur. Perhaps the juveniles that survived bedload mobilizing flows in Redwood Creek were progeny of adults that: 1) buried their eggs deeper into the gravels than others, 2) chose redd sites that were less susceptible to scour,

3) spawned in the middle to upper portion of the basin, or 4) spawned after the peak flows.

Subsequent to winter flood type flows and emergence from redds, 0+ Chinook salmon migrated downstream nearly each day during the trapping period in YR 2008. However, population emigration was generally confined to a nine week period (5/21 – 7/22) which accounted for 96% of the migration. The peak month for emigration was June in YRS 2004, 2006, 2007, and 2008, and July in YR 2005. Weekly population abundance in YR 2008 was skewed to the right compared to the previous four year average, and abundance in YR 2008 lacked a relatively large number of fry emigrating in April compared to the four year average. Weekly peaks in abundance during a given study year were relatively large, ranging from 28,000 – 111,000 individuals. Study years with larger population estimates also had a larger peak in weekly emigration. Weekly population emigration in a given study year closely resembled the catch distribution for that year. Population emigration reached low values by late July for YR 2004 (N = 793 individuals), mid August for YR 2005 (N = 83), mid August for YRS 2006 (N = 5) and 2007 (N = 10), and early August for YR 2008 (N = 464).

Each study year 0+ Chinook salmon (ocean-type) emigrating from Redwood Creek exhibit two different juvenile life histories (fry and fingerling) based on size and time of downstream migration. The fry (Avg. FL = 40 mm in YR 2008) are migrating shortly after emergence from spawning redds, and therefore are much smaller than the fingerlings (Avg. FL = 68 mm in YR 2008) which have reared in the stream for a longer period of time prior to passing the trap site. Although there is overlap in downstream migration, temporal differences are evident by two peaks in migration when data for fry abundance and fingerling abundance are plotted using two 'x' axes. For example, the first weekly peak (albeit very small, N = 1,408) in population emigration in YR 2008 occurred during 4/30 – 5/06 and accounted for 34% of the total number of fry and 0.3% of the total number of fingerlings. The average size of fry during this time period equaled 40 mm, and for fingerlings equaled 51 mm. The largest peak in abundance (6/25 – 7/01) consisted solely of fingerlings with an average FL of 72 mm.

The two noticeable weekly peaks or modes to the distribution (both YR 2008 and previous four year average) do not necessarily indicate two different runs of adult Chinook salmon entered Redwood Creek because of great differences in FL or Wt. If the modes represented two different runs of adults, we would expect the FL's during each peak to be nearly the same. In other words, if the second mode represented a different group of adult fish, then their progeny should be smaller than what was observed due to differences in redd emergence timing [later emergence than the progeny for the first group of adults, assuming (reasonably) differences in intragravel water temperatures have a negligible affect on emergence timing], and the amount of time available to gain FL or Wt in the stream [less time for growth if emerge from redds much later than the first group, assuming (reasonably) differences in water temperatures could not account for the difference in size or growth]. A more likely explanation is that the fingerlings were born near the same time as the fry but further upstream, and grew in size as they remained in the stream and as they migrated downstream to be later captured. Some of the fingerlings

could also have been fry born just upstream of the trap site that temporarily resided (upstream of the trap site) prior to downstream migration.

The emigration of 0+ Chinook salmon fry in YR 2008 began near the onset of trapping, reached a small peak in late April/early May, and gradually diminished to low values by mid May. Fingerling migration through lower Redwood Creek in YR 2007 began in early to mid April, peaked in late June, and decreased to low values by late July. Factors that can influence the temporal component to fry and fingerling migration are: 1) time of adult spawning, 2) how far upstream of the trap the adults spawned, 3) time from egg deposition to fry emergence from redds, and 4) travel rate, among other factors.

Small numbers of fry relative to the number of fingerlings migrated downstream through lower Redwood Creek each study year. The percentage of fry in the 0+ Chinook salmon population over five years ranged from 0.1 – 15%, and averaged 4.1%. The greatest number of fry migrating downstream towards the estuary and ocean occurred in YR 2004 (N = 82,584). 0+ Chinook salmon fingerlings comprised the majority of the population each year, with percentages ranging from 85 – 99.9% of the total abundance; the greatest number of fingerlings (N = 472,306) migrating downstream occurred in YR 2004 as well. In YR 2008, 1.5% of 0+ Chinook salmon were fry, and 98.5% were classified as fingerlings. In contrast, the 0+ Chinook salmon population emigrating from upper Redwood Creek consisted of nearly equal numbers of fry (44%) and fingerlings (56%) when averaged over a eight year period (YRS 2000 – 07), and in YR 2008, 40% of the 0+ Chinook salmon emigrant population passing through upper Redwood Creek consisted of fry (Sparkman In progress). Clearly areas upstream of the trap site in upper Redwood Creek are important for adult Chinook salmon spawning.

Other streams besides Redwood Creek experience large migrations of Chinook salmon fry as well (Allen and Hassler 1986, Healey 1991, Taylor and Bradford 1993, Thedinga et al. 1994, Bendock 1995, Roelofs and Klatte 1996, Seiler et al. 2004, Greene et al. 2005, among others). Healey (1991) reported that it is common for Chinook salmon fry to migrate downstream soon after emergence from redds, and cited at least five studies which documented this dispersal. Bendock (1995) reported ‘large’ numbers of post emergent fry were captured from the beginning of trapping in Deep Creek, Alaska, and Seiler et al. (2004) stated that about 53% (or 386,315 individuals) of the total juvenile Chinook salmon production (upstream of the trap site) migrated as fry in the Green River, WA. Unwin (1985) reported that 91 - 98% of the juvenile Chinook salmon emigrants were newly emerged fry in the Glenariffe stream, New Zealand; and Solazzi et al. (2003) show that Chinook salmon fry emigration in various Oregon streams can be substantial, numbering near one million individuals in the North Fork Nehalem River in YR 2002. Dalton (1999) determined that 93 - 98% of emigrating juvenile Chinook salmon migrated as fry in the Little North Fork Wilson River, Oregon, and similar percentages were found in the Little South Fork Kilchis River, Oregon. In contrast, Roper and Scarnecchia (1999) found only 10% of the juvenile Chinook salmon production emigrated at lengths < 50 mm FL in the South Umpqua River basin, Oregon.

Healey (1991) commented that fry are not surplus or lost production that will never augment future adult populations; therefore, fry should be part of a juvenile Chinook salmon emigrant population estimate. Chinook salmon fry in both upper and lower Redwood Creek often appear smolt-like (very silvery, parr marks nearly absent or obscured to some degree by silver colored scales) and can undergo smoltification while migrating downstream from upstream spawning or rearing areas (Allen and Hassler 1986, Quinn 2005). In addition, Myers et al. (1998) summarize that ocean-type Chinook salmon fry can migrate immediately to the ocean in sizes ranging from 30 – 45 mm FL. Healey (1980), Carl and Healey (1984), Allen and Hassler (1986), and Healey (1991) also report that Chinook salmon fry can immediately migrate downstream to the estuary and ocean. Although fry to adult survival is likely less than that of fingerlings, some of the fry do survive to adulthood (Unwin 1997) and thus make a contribution to the adult population (Healey 1991). Supportive evidence of fry to adult survival is hard to find in the literature probably because most long lasting marks or tags are too big for fry, with the exception of coded wire tags (1/2 tags) and otolith marking during egg incubation. The exact reasons (environmental, genetic, or some combination thereof) why Chinook salmon fry migrate downstream so early is worthy of additional study.

Although preliminary, I found that for the five current study years the percentages of fry (and numbers of fry) were positively related to population abundances. This suggests a density-dependant relationship, such that as the population abundance increases, more of the juveniles are migrating downstream as fry. This in turn may indicate that rearing areas for Chinook salmon fry are limited during years with higher population abundances. Given adequate stream restoration, we may see habitat conditions improve and more fry rear prior to downstream migration. However, utilizing nine years of data collected by the trap in upper Redwood Creek, I found no relationship between average streamflow (surrogate for habitat space), average stream temperature, and seasonal 0+ Chinook population estimate on the percentage of emigrating fry each year in upper Redwood Creek (Sparkman In progress). None of the regression models were significant ($p > 0.10$); therefore, no relationships between measured habitat variables or juvenile Chinook salmon population size on the percentage of fry migrating downstream in any given year were detected (ie no density-dependent relationship was detected). The mechanism for fry dispersal in upper Redwood Creek, based upon our data, appears to be genetic. With respect to space or habitat availability and fry movement, downstream migrant trapping in Prairie Creek offers additional support. Prairie Creek is known as a relatively pristine stream, with old growth Redwood forests, cool stream temperatures, and high degrees of habitat complexity; yet, each year, regardless of the number of adults (and egg deposition) and subsequent juvenile production, Chinook salmon fry are captured in traps as they migrate downstream (Roelofs and Klatte 1996; Roelofs and Sparkman 1999, Walter Duffy, pers. com. 2008). It is quite possible that migrating fry in Redwood Creek will increase in size when residing in the estuary, and that this increase would benefit survival to adulthood.

The average size (FL) of 0+ Chinook salmon emigrants in YR 2008 was the second lowest of record; 2.1 mm less than YR 2007, 9.6 mm less than YR 2006, 7.7 mm less than YR 2005, and 6.8 mm greater than YR 2004. There was no statistical relationship of

population abundance and average size over the five current years of study. Whether the larger size of emigrants during years of low abundance (e.g. YR 2006, Avg. FL = 76 mm) will compensate for (potentially) reduced recruitment to adults remains unknown. Size discrepancies among study years could be negligible if the Chinook salmon smolts gained additional length and weight in the estuary prior to ocean entry.

Regardless of the average size of emigrants per study year, the average size by week increased over the study period each study year. The increases in average weekly FL and Wt during the trapping periods were influenced by the increasing percentage of fingerlings in the catch over time each year. Unwin (1985) reported a similar finding in his trapping studies in New Zealand. The increases in weekly FL's and Wt's indicate growth was taking place within the study periods. The rough or group estimate of growth rate in YR 2008 equaled 0.30 mm/d, and was identical to growth in YRS 2004 and 2006. Growth in YR 2008 was 0.06 mm/d less than growth in YR 2007, and 0.07 mm/d less than growth in YR 2005. Whether the observed variation in growth among study years is attributable to various physical (water temperature, stream discharge) and biological (population abundance) parameters of Redwood Creek remains to be tested given more study years. Variations in prey availability and the caloric content of prey items among years could also influence growth. The growth rates (FL) observed in Redwood Creek fall within the range of juvenile Chinook salmon growth rates (range = 0.21 – 0.64 mm/d) measured in other streams (Healey 1991, Bendock 1995). Healey (1991) reported that growth of juvenile Chinook salmon migrants in the Sacramento River, CA equaled 0.33 mm/d during a particular study, and Bendock (1995) determined growth to equal 0.64 mm/d in Deep Creek, Alaska. In accord with Healey (1991), these group growth estimates should be viewed cautiously because we do not know exactly how long fry and fingerlings have been residing in the stream after emerging from redds. Although these growth rate estimates are for groups of fish and do not necessarily represent individual growth rates (which pit tags do), they do take into account a variety of fish sizes and environmental conditions, and should be meaningful.

The estimates of travel time (in days) for recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon smolts (n = 36) should be viewed as a maximum because the lower trap captured these fish sometime prior to when the crew checks and empties the livebox at 0900. For example, if a pit tagged fish was captured at 0200 and the crew emptied the trap's livebox at 0900, then travel time would be off by 7 hours. Travel time may also be positively biased if the juveniles resided in the stream during daylight hours and primarily migrated downstream at night (likely scenario). In contrast to travel time, travel rate should be viewed as a minimum for similar reasons; the individual's rate would be higher than what was observed if they were captured prior to checking the trap's livebox, and higher if they primarily migrated at night. Nevertheless, our experiments gave insight into individual juvenile Chinook salmon migration and growth between the two trap sites, which in turn may reflect environmental conditions, stream habitat conditions, the salmon stock in Redwood Creek, variable cohort behavior, or some combination thereof.

The lower trap in Redwood Cr (RM 4) captured 27% of the pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon released at the upper trap (RM 33). The recapture of pit tagged 0+ Chinook

salmon per release group in YR 2008 (as well as YRS 2005 - 2007) was variable. For one release group (6/27/08, n = 15 released), three individuals were recaptured on the same day at the lower trap (7/02/08), which suggests these fish traveled together as a group. Of the six release groups where recaptures occurred, 50% showed some schooling behavior; however, no release group showed complete or 100% schooling behavior. In contrast to multiple recaptures that occurred on the same day, three separate release groups had multiple recaptures (from the same release group) that occurred on different days at the lower trap. For example, seven individuals from the 6/07/08 release group (n = 25) were recaptured at the lower trap anywhere from 5 – 28 d after release from the upper trap; these fish did not travel as a group.

Travel time for 0+ Chinook salmon smolts in YR 2008 to migrate the 29 miles downstream ranged from 3.5 – 28.0 d, and averaged 11.6 d. Travel time in YR 2008 was greater than previous study years, and the greatest difference among years was 4.1 d. On average, 0+ Chinook salmon in YRS 2005 - 2008 moved downstream to the lower trap in fewer days than 2+ steelhead trout (n = 7, range = 2 to 35 d, Avg. = 13 d) and 1+ steelhead trout (n = 9, range = 2 to 32 d, Avg. = 15 d) in YR 2004, and fewer days than 1+ steelhead trout in YR 2005 (n = 5, Avg. travel time = 12 d), YR 2006 (n = 6, Avg. = 21 d), YR 2007 (n = 18, Avg. = 29.5 d), and YR 2008 (n = 8, Avg. = 22.8 d). Thus, for the past four years 0+ Chinook salmon traveled the 29 miles downstream in less days than juvenile steelhead trout. Travel time for 0+ Chinook salmon smolts to reach the lower trap in YR 2008 was positively related to the average lunar phase during the migratory period, and the variation in lunar phase accounted for 35% of the variation in travel time. Travel time was also inversely related to date of release, which indicates that earlier migrants took longer to migrate than later migrants. Travel time in YR 2008 was not related to fish size, stream discharge, or stream temperatures in Redwood Creek. Tiffan et al. (2000) found that early migrants (subyearling Chinook salmon) traveled faster than later migrants, and that travel time was also inversely related to minimum flow and FL. Tiffan et al. (2000) also found that gill ATPase activity (index of smoltification) did not help explain the variation in travel time. Smith et al. (2003) found that travel time decreased with increasing discharge for wild sub-yearling Chinook salmon in the Salmon River; however, they also state that the longest travel time occurred during the highest stream discharge. Monzyk et al. (2009) found that travel time for wild spring Chinook salmon smolts had seasonal and spatial trends: earlier migrants took longer, and migration through the upper reaches took longer than migration through lower reaches. Monzyk (2009) also found that smaller smolts took longer to migrate downstream than larger smolts.

Travel rate for 0+ Chinook salmon in YR 2008 ranged from 1.0 – 8.3 mi/d (1.6 – 13.4 km/d), and averaged 3.9 mi/d (6.3 km/d). Travel rate in YR 2008 was nearly the same as in YR 2007 (4.0 mi/d), and was less than travel rate in YR 2005 (8.2 mi/d) and YR 2006 (5.5 mi/d). The upper range in travel rate in YR 2008 (13.4 km/d) for Chinook salmon fingerlings in Redwood Creek was lower than that observed in the upper Rogue River (24.0 km/d) (Healey 1991); however, the average travel rate (6.3 km/d) from upper Redwood Creek in YR 2008 was much higher than the average (1.6 km/d) put forward by Allen and Hassler (1986). Raymond (1968) found that the average travel rate for

yearling Chinook salmon smolts (Stream-Type) in a free flowing section of the Columbia River was 24 km/d during lower river discharges and 40 km/d during moderate river discharges. Monzyk et al. (2009) report that travel rate for juvenile Chinook salmon migrating through the Grande Ronde Valley was 2.0 km/d. The rate of travel for 0+ Chinook salmon smolts in Redwood Creek in YR 2008 was positively related to FL at time 1 ($R^2 = 0.11$), negatively related to lunar phase ($R^2 = 0.33$), and positively related to date of release ($R^2 = 0.24$). Thus, fish that traveled at a higher rate were generally larger, migrated during darker phases of the moon, and were tagged and released later than previous marked groups. I was not able to model travel rate with stream flow or stream temperatures because data for each regression failed assumption tests, even with transformations (NCSS 97).

Healey (1991) reported results from a study in the Rogue River, Oregon in which the travel rate of spring Chinook salmon fingerlings was positively related to fish size and stream discharge in one year, and negatively related to stream discharge in the following year. Quinn (2005) reported that the rate at which 0+ Chinook salmon traveled downstream in the Columbia River was positively related to size. Achord et al. (2007) were able to determine that the variability in stream-type juvenile Chinook salmon (Age-1) travel rate among study years in the Columbia River was related to stream temperatures during Autumn and Spring, and stream discharge during March. They found that even small increases in temperature (0.325 °C for Autumn and 0.29 °C for Spring), or flow (625 cfs) would decrease the median passage date by 1 d (Achord et al. 2007). Unfortunately, there appears to be a lack of data in the literature to compare individual travel time and travel rate with our data collected on juvenile Chinook salmon (ocean-type) in Redwood Creek. Many of the studies using pit tags with juvenile Chinook salmon are within the Columbia River system, which for the most part is not comparable to Redwood Creek; Redwood Creek is much smaller in size, does not have impoundments, and the stream flow is unregulated, among other differences.

Individual growth in this study was expressed using a variety of indices and equations to facilitate comparisons with information found in the literature. The majority of studies appear to report growth using one index or another which makes comparisons difficult if that growth index is not used in a given study. Compounding the problem of comparing data is the difficulty in finding studies that determined individual growth rates for 0+ Chinook salmon ocean-type smolts (FL > 66 mm), and in un-regulated river systems (upstream of estuaries).

In YR 2008, 50% of the 36 recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon showed positive growth in FL, 50% showed no change in FL, 47% showed positive growth in Wt, 31% showed no change in Wt, and 22% lost Wt. On a percentage basis, less fish showed growth in YR 2008 than previous study years. Fish that gained weight in YR 2008 had an average travel time of 18 d, fish that didn't grow or lose weight had an average travel time of 6 d, and fish that lost weight had an average travel time of 5 d.

Absolute growth rate (FL) in YR 2008 ranged from 0.00 to 0.50 mm/d, and averaged 0.13 mm/d. The average value in YR 2008 was 0.09 – 0.16 mm/d less than average

values during YRS 2005 – 2007. Average absolute growth rate (FL) in YRS 2005 - 2007 were comparable to the group growth rate for Chinook salmon fingerlings in the Nitinat River (0.21 mm/d) and about 2/3 less than the group growth rate determined in the Cowichan River (0.62 mm/d), British Columbia (Healey 1991). Koehler et al. (2006) determined that ocean-type juvenile Chinook salmon grew 0.50 – 0.67 mm/d in the littoral areas of Lake Washington, WA during March – June. Kjelson et al. (1982) *in* Koehler et al. (2006) determined the growth rate of juvenile Chinook salmon (Fall Race) in the Sacramento River equaled 0.33 mm/d. Connor and Burge (2003) reported a growth rate of 1.3 mm/d for Chinook salmon smolts in the Snake River. Weber and Fausch (2005) placed wild ocean-type Chinook salmon juveniles into enclosures along the margin of the Sacramento River and determined the average specific growth rate (Wt) over three years ranged from about 0.03 – 0.045 g/d, which was much higher than the average specific growth rate (un-scaled) we determined for Redwood Creek Chinook salmon in YR 2008 (0.002 g/d). The average absolute growth rate (FL) for recaptured pit tagged fingerlings (0.13 mm/d) in Redwood Creek was about 57% less than the group growth rate (0.30 mm/d) calculated for fry and fingerlings in YR 2008 using the average weekly FL data. However, the latter estimate includes fry (which may have a higher absolute growth rate than fingerlings) and probably is not influenced by zero growth like the average for the individual growth rates were. For example, the absolute growth rate for pit tagged Chinook salmon juveniles in Redwood Creek showing only positive growth ranged from 0.12 - 0.50 mm/d and averaged 0.26 mm/d, which was close in value to the group estimate previously calculated (0.30 mm/d), by 0.04 mm/d.

The growth (Percent Change in FL and Wt) of the 36 recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon was successfully modeled using linear regression. Models with migration variables (travel time, travel rate) explained more of the variation in growth than other variables tested, similar to data collected in YRS 2005 - 2007. Percent change in FL was positively related to travel time, and travel time explained 86% of the variation in growth; change in Wt (delta Wt) was negatively related to travel rate, and travel rate explained 50% of the variation in delta Wt. Thus, fish that took longer to reach the lower trap gained more length or weight than fish that traveled the distance in a shorter amount of time; and fish that traveled at a faster rate to the lower trap did not gain as much weight as those fish which traveled at a slower rate. This in turn suggests fish that took a longer amount of time to migrate downstream had more time to forage for food, feed, and convert the food to growth. The energy required for foraging was offset by the amount or quality of food eaten. Conversely, fish that traveled at a higher rate spent more time traveling downstream (expending energy) than foraging for food. Beamer et al. (2004) found that the growth of juvenile ocean-type Chinook salmon (in Skagit Bay) was positively related to the amount of time juveniles spent in the delta; and Achord et al. (2007) found that the growth of juvenile Chinook salmon in the Snake River was positively related to travel time. Several growth indices (Delta FL, Wt; Percent Change in FL, Wt; AGR FL, Wt; SGRsc FL, Wt; and RGR FL, Wt) for juvenile Chinook salmon in Redwood Creek in YR 2008 were also positively related to average lunar phase during the migratory period. For example, 42% of the variation in SGRsc FL and 38% of the variation in delta FL was explained by lunar phase.

Since travel time is positively related to lunar phase, our working hypothesis (similar to past years) concerning growth for 0+ Chinook salmon is that these fish delay migration during higher moon illuminations in order to prey upon food items, which increases their growth and growth rates.

1+ Chinook Salmon

1+ juvenile Chinook salmon (Stream-Type) in Redwood Creek represent the third juvenile Chinook salmon life history, and appear to be in very low abundance as evidenced by trap catches totaling less than 14 individuals in five years of trapping. No 1+ Chinook salmon were captured in YRS 2006 – 2007. Stream-type juvenile Chinook salmon are easily differentiated from ocean-type by size at time of downstream migration. The average size (FL mm) in April and May 2008, for example, was 113 mm for 1+ Chinook salmon and 52 mm for 0+ Chinook salmon.

When present, 1+ Chinook salmon in Redwood Creek are more likely to be progeny of fall/winter-run Chinook salmon adults than from spring-run adults because few if any spring-run Chinook salmon are observed during spring and summer snorkel surveys in Redwood Creek (Dave Anderson, pers. comm. 2008). For example, in 22⁺ years of adult summer steelhead snorkel dives, adult spring Chinook salmon were only observed in one year (1988) and in very low numbers (< 7 individuals) (Dave Anderson, pers. comm. 2008). Additionally, streamflows during late spring/summer months can become so low that adult upstream passage into upper Redwood Creek can become problematic. High average stream temperatures (eg > 20 °C) may also prevent any adult spring-run Chinook salmon migration into upper Redwood Creek, or inhibit their ability to over-summer in pools. The sedimentation in Redwood Creek and subsequent decrease in pool depths and areas may also limit the ability to over-summer as well.

Thus, a spring run of Chinook salmon adults was probably not responsible for the production of yearling Chinook salmon juveniles in Redwood Creek. Bendock (1995) also found both stream-type and ocean-type juvenile Chinook salmon in an Alaskan stream which only has one adult Chinook salmon race; and Conner et al. (2005) reported that fall Chinook salmon in the Snake River produced juveniles exhibiting an ocean-type or stream-type juvenile life history. Teel et al. (2000) found that for some populations of coastal Chinook salmon, ocean-type and stream-type juveniles were genetically undifferentiated, and probably arose from a common ancestor. They further report that the stream-type life history probably evolved after the ocean-type colonized (post glacial period) the rivers in study. An important question which may be unanswerable, is whether the one year old life history for juvenile Chinook salmon in Redwood Cr was more prevalent prior to the changes in the watershed associated with land use activities and flood events.

The 1+ Chinook salmon life history pattern may be important for increased ocean survival of Chinook salmon juveniles, and general species diversity (author, Don Chapman pers. comm. 2003).

0+ Steelhead Trout

The number of 0+ steelhead trout that can remain upstream of the trap site is considered to be some function of a fish's disposition to out-migrate (or not out-migrate) and habitat carrying capacity. Meehan and Bjornn (1991) comment that juvenile steelhead trout have a variety of migration patterns that can vary with local conditions, and that the trigger for out-migration can be genetic or environmental. They further state that some steelhead populations normally out-migrate soon after emergence from redds to occupy other rearing areas (we observe this as well in both upper and lower Redwood Creek). Habitat carrying capacity is generally thought to be related to environmental (hydrology, geomorphology, stream depth and discharge, stream temperatures, cover, sedimentation, etc) and biological variables (food availability, predation, salmonid behavior), and any interactions between the two (Murphy and Meehan 1991). The general idea is that when habitat carrying capacity is exceeded (over-seeding), the juvenile fish emigrate to find other areas to rear. A problem with the view of habitat carrying capacity's affect on migration is that it fails to explain why juvenile salmonids emigrate at low densities or low population levels.

Trap catches of 0+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 were greater than older steelhead trout age classes (1+, 2+); and at the population level, most likely greater than older age classes as well. Relatively high catches of young-of-year steelhead trout by downstream migrant traps in small and large streams is not uncommon (USFWS 2001, Rowe 2003, Johnson 2004, Don Chapman pers. comm. 2004, Sparkman In progress). Young-of-year steelhead trout downstream migration in Redwood Creek is considered to be stream redistribution (passive and active) because juvenile steelhead in California normally smolt and enter the ocean at one to two years old, with lesser numbers out-migrating at an age of 3+ years (Busby et al. 1996, Sparkman In progress). Perhaps the most important finding with respect to 0+ steelhead trout in YR 2007 (and YR 2006) was the lower trap's recapture of 15 out of 200 individuals (FL 40 mm – 55 mm) marked and released from the upper trap site. To the best of my knowledge, these were the first experiments to show 0+ steelhead trout may cover considerable distances while moving downstream, in this case 29 mi, in search of rearing areas.

Trap catches in YR 2006 - 2008 were considerably higher than catches in YRS 2004 and 2005, and may in part reflect an increase in the total number of adult spawners upstream of the trap site. Another likely, positive influence on trap captures was setting and operating the trap in the same favorable location as in YRS 2006 and 2007 (75 m downstream of the location in YRS 2004 and 2005), which greatly increased the measured trapping efficiencies of other juvenile salmonids. Thus there is a high probability that the new trap position also helped catch more of the 0+ steelhead trout downstream migration compared to previous study years. We do not perform mark/recapture experiments with 0+ steelhead trout because many are too small (FL < 35 mm) to effectively mark without harm, and therefore the population estimate would not represent the total number moving downstream, just those that are large enough to be marked. Depending upon the study year and specific months within a given study year, smaller 0+ steelhead trout can constitute a sizable fraction of the 0+ steelhead trout

downstream migration and trap catch. Differences in 0+ steelhead trout trap catches among years could also be attributable to a simple change in the percentage of the total 0+ steelhead trout population (each year) that migrated downstream. For example, Johnson's data (2004) showed that the percentage of young-of-year steelhead trout fry that out-migrated compared to total post emergent fry production (out-migrants and over-summer fry and parr) over a 12 year period in the upper mainstem of Lobster Creek, Oregon varied considerably from year to year, and ranged from 20 to 85%; a similar relationship was found in East Fork Lobster Creek utilizing 13 years of data. Thus, it is possible that we had good production of young-of-year steelhead trout upstream of the trap site, and the fry and parr did not migrate downstream in any great percentage of the total production. The new trap location would not change the amount of upstream river miles (eventually passing by the trap) to any large degree because the trap was only relocated 75 m downstream of the trap's location in YRS 2004 and 2005.

The pattern of 0+ steelhead trout migration in YR 2008 showed similarities between emigration in previous study years. Trap catches were low in the beginning of each study year because fry had not yet emerged from redds, or initiated downstream migration. Trap catches did not increase in any given year until late May and early June, and excluding YRS 2005 and 2008, weekly peaks occurred in mid to late June. In YR 2008 catches peaked in early July. Weekly peaks in catches ranged from a low of 294 in YR 2005 to a high of 11,124 in YR 2008. The most important month for downstream migration, based upon trap catches, was June for four of five study years; June accounted for up to 60% of total catches by study year. The two most important months for capturing 0+ steelhead trout were June and July for YRS 2004, 2006, 2007, and 2008, and May and July for YR 2005.

The average FL in YR 2008 (Avg. = 53 mm FL) was greater than YRS 2004 and 2005, and less than averages in YRS 2006 and 2007. However, FL differences among study years were slight to moderate (2.0 – 6.2 mm), and may not be biologically meaningful. Average weekly FL increased over time each study year and indicated growth was taking place, which in turn suggests habitat conditions and the availability of prey items were sufficient for growth. Average FL for the first two to five weeks each study years were representative of post emergent fry (FL < 35 mm), and thereafter, average FL's were more representative of the parr form which are typically larger than fry (due to growth). The estimated growth rate in YR 2008 (0.34 mm/d) was similar to previous study years (range = 0.32 – 0.36 mm/d). The relationship of various physical variables (water temperature, stream discharge) on 0+ steelhead growth will be tested given more study years.

The 0+ steelhead trout captured by the lower trap indicated these fish are going to rear for some time period in lower Redwood Creek, including the estuary. Dave Anderson (pers. comm. 2008), for example, routinely captures young-of-year steelhead trout (and coho salmon) in the estuary during summer and early fall sampling; thus, the condition of lower Redwood Creek and the estuary can impact 0+ steelhead trout, which in turn could influence the number of older, juvenile steelhead trout in following years.

1+ Steelhead Trout

One-year-old steelhead trout were the most numerous juvenile steelhead trout migrating downstream through lower Redwood Creek in at least three of five consecutive study years. In YRS 2007 and 2008, the ratio of 1+ to 0+ steelhead trout were numerically close, and if population data was available for 0+ steelhead for these years, then they would out-number 1+ steelhead trout. The ratio of 1+ steelhead trout to 0+ steelhead trout to 2+ steelhead trout was 4.7:4.4:1 in YR 2008, and pooling data for five years, equaled 4:2:1. On a percentage basis, 1+ steelhead trout comprised 40 – 77% of the total juvenile steelhead downstream migration each study year, and averaged 56% over the five year period.

Population emigration in YR 2008 ($42,068 \pm 10\%$) was 1.1 times greater than abundance in YR 2007 ($37,683 \pm 11\%$), 6% less than YR 2006, 1.3 times greater than YR 2005, and 46% less than YR 2004. The preliminary, short term trend over years was negative, yet non-significant. The 1+ steelhead population emigrating from upper Redwood Creek over the past nine years are showing a significant negative trend (Sparkman In progress). Whether the smolt populations of 1+ steelhead trout passing through lower Redwood Creek are also showing a true negative trend will take more study years to statistically determine.

In addition to differences in population abundance among study years, there were temporal differences in monthly and weekly emigration. In YR 2008 most of the 1+ steelhead trout emigrated during June (50% of total), compared to June (47% of total) in YR 2007, June (61% of total) in YR 2006, April (34%) in YR 2005 and May (43%) in YR 2004. Depending upon study year, April-May, May-June, or June-July were the two most important months for emigration. The peak in weekly emigration in YR 2008 occurred three weeks before the peak in YRS 2006 and 2007, four weeks after the peak in YR 2005, and two weeks after the peak in YR 2004. Although I did not present such data, weekly population emigration in a given study year closely resembled the weekly catch distribution for that year.

The average size of 1+ steelhead trout migrants in YR 2008 (87.0, 7.48 g) fell between averages for YRS 2004 – 2007, and was about 3.8 mm smaller than the largest average observed in YR 2005. Median FL and Wt in YR 2008 were not significantly different than the previous four year average; and average weekly FL (and Wt) in YR 2008 did not significantly change over time.

Information in the literature indicates steelhead smolting at age 1 is not uncommon, particularly in streams that are south of British Columbia (Quinn 2005, Busby et al. 1996). The percentage of 1+ steelhead trout showing parr characteristics in Redwood Creek was very low each study year (0.1 - 0.6%), and indicated that few 1+ steelhead trout migrated downstream in a stream-residence form (parr). In contrast, the majority of 1+ steelhead trout (68 – 86%) in a given study year were emigrating in a smolt stage. The percentage of 1+ steelhead trout showing smolt characteristics (84%) in YR 2008 was greater (by 8 percentage points) than for the previous four year average; and

statistical significance was detected. Given more data years, we may find relationships between developmental stages and physical variables measured in the stream. For example, I found that the percentages of 1+ steelhead trout showing smolt characteristics each year in upper Redwood Creek were positively related to stream discharge ($n = 7$, $p < 0.05$), and negatively related to water temperatures ($n = 7$, $p < 0.05$) (Sparkman 2008). Quinn (2005) reported both photo period and stream temperature play important roles in smoltification by providing an external stimulus for the endocrine system, which in turn drives the internal physiological changes necessary for smoltification.

1+ steelhead trout are actively migrating from the upper basin to the lower basin as evidenced by trap catches in lower Redwood Creek of efficiency trial fish and pit tagged fish released from the upper trap site. The marked 1+ steelhead trout emigrating from upper Redwood Creek and through lower Redwood Creek have also been captured in the estuary (Dave Anderson, pers. comm. 2008) since the beginning of our smolt trapping studies. 1+ steelhead trout marked and released at the lower trap (for trap efficiencies) have also been captured in the estuary each study year (Dave Anderson, pers. comm. 2008). We have not observed re-migration of 1+ steelhead trout into lower or upper Redwood Creek based upon elastomer marked releases in YR 2001 ($n = 374$), YR 2004 ($n = 577$), and YR 2005 ($n = 146$); and pit tagged releases in YRS 2005 ($n = 46$), 2006 ($n = 246$), and 2007 ($n = 484$). All 2+ steelhead trout captured by the traps were inspected for marks and scanned for pit tags, which would have been applied at age-1. These tests confirmed that the elastomer marked and pit tagged fish did not migrate back upstream to rear for another year and emigrate as age-2 steelhead trout smolts. Elastomer mark retention was assumed to be adequate for the studies because Fitzgerald et al. (2004) assessed elastomer mark retention in Atlantic salmon smolts and found that tag retention in the lower jaw was greater than 90% for the first 16 months. Pit tag retention was also assumed to be sufficient based upon a study by Newby et al. (2007).

The lower trap in Redwood Creek captured 4% of the pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout released at the upper trap in Redwood Valley. The time required to travel 29 miles downstream in YR 2008 ranged from 2.5 – 44.0 d, and averaged 22.8 d. Average travel time in YR 2008 was 6.7 d less than YR 2007, 1.7 d greater than YR 2006, and 10.4 d greater than YR 2005. Unlike previous years, travel time in YR 2008 was statistically related to size at time 1 and not related to lunar phase (+), stream discharge (+), and stream temperature (-). The size at time 1 accounted for 68% of the variation in travel time, with smaller smolts taking longer to travel than larger smolts.

Travel rate (mi/d) in YR 2008 ranged from 0.7 – 11.6 mi/d, and averaged 4.0 mi/d. Travel rate was positively related to size at time 1, and positively related to stream discharge. The best model describing travel rate included size at time 1 (+) and transformed average stream discharge of upper and lower Redwood Creek (+). The model was able to account for 73% of the variation in travel rate. Thus, bigger smolts traveled at a higher rate, and smolts migrating during higher discharges traveled at a higher rate.

Similar to past years, most (75%) of the 1+ smolts in YR 2008 showed positive growth, and on average gained 10 mm and 2.0 g. Travel time was positively related to growth, and explained more of the variation in individual growth (delta FL, Wt; percent change in FL, Wt) than other variables tested. Fish that took longer to travel downstream grew more than fish that traveled in less time. Travel time was able to account for 97% of the variation in percent change in FL.

However, travel rate explained more of the variation in AGR FL, SGRsc FL, and RGR FL than other variables. For each relationship, travel rate was inversely related, such that fish that traveled faster downstream experienced less growth over time. Travel rate was able to explain 92% of the variation in RGR FL. Unlike YR 2007, growth indices in YR 2008 were not related to stream discharge, stream temperatures, or lunar phase. Small sample size of recaptures in YR 2008 may have limited statistical inferences. In YR 2007 we found that 1+ smolts decreased growth when traveling at a higher rate, and when traveling during periods of increased stream temperatures. The negative relationship of growth and increasing stream temperatures was an important discovery because of supporting the USEPA decision to list Redwood Creek as temperature impaired: at the time we had direct evidence that high stream temperatures were negatively influencing 1+ steelhead trout growth rates. Whether this type of relationship will occur again remains to be tested.

As previously mentioned, far more 1+ steelhead trout emigrated past the lower trap than older, juvenile steelhead trout age-classes (2+). 1+ steelhead trout downstream migration is not unique to Redwood Creek, and other downstream migration studies have routinely documented 1+ steelhead trout emigration (USFWF 2001, Ward et al. 2002, Johnson 2004; B. Chesney pers. comm. 2006, among many others). However, the ratio of 1+ steelhead trout to 2+ steelhead trout (near 4:1 each study year) passing through lower Redwood Creek was much different than that determined in a nearby river (Mad River), which equaled 1:6 in YR 2001 and 1:3 in YR 2002 (Sparkman 2002). Whether these differences are indicative of stream conditions or attributable to the different stock in each stream is unknown. In the Keogh River, about 20% of the total steelhead trout smolt yield consisted of 1+ steelhead trout parr (McCubbing and Ward 2003).

Based upon studies in other streams, the number of returning adult steelhead trout that migrated to the ocean as one-year-old smolts is relatively low, and usually less than 29% (Pautzke and Meigs 1941, Maher and Larkin 1955, Busby et al. 1996, McCubbing 2002, McCubbing and Ward 2003). Based upon a limited number of scale samples from adult steelhead trout (n = 10) collected in Redwood Creek, 30% of the adults entered the ocean as one-year-old juveniles; the most successful juvenile steelhead migrants to reach adulthood were 2+ steelhead trout. CDFG AFRAMP is currently collecting scale samples from adult steelhead in Redwood Creek to increase sample size (author, in progress). For example, data collected in Redwood Creek during the 2007/08 season showed that 50% of the adults had spent only one year in freshwater prior to ocean entry.

The percentage of adult steelhead trout that smolt and enter the ocean at age-1, and the reason(s) for the relative large number of 1+ steelhead trout emigrating from the basin of

Redwood Creek warrants further investigation. Our pit tagging experiments with 1+ steelhead smolts should provide useful insights when conducted over multiple consecutive years because if most of the 1+ steelhead trout are not actually entering the ocean, we should then be able to recapture a given percentage of those fish the following year with the rotary screw trap in lower Redwood Creek and seine nets in the estuary; if we fail to recapture any of the marked 1+ steelhead trout the following year, then a logical conclusion would be that the fish either stayed in the stream and suffered severe mortality during winter, actually entered the ocean, or some combination of the two factors. To date, we have not recaptured any 2+ steelhead trout that were marked as 1+ steelhead trout the previous year; thus, our data is showing that 1+ smolts are entering the ocean at age-1.

I hypothesize that 1+ (and 0+) steelhead trout have changed their life history in Redwood Creek to limit the time spent in freshwater in order to avoid high, and at times, lethal stream temperatures. In YR 2006 we observed and documented lethal stream temperatures in upper Redwood Creek, and every summer in late July we observe temperatures above 27 °C (81 °F) (Sparkman In progress). Harsh, over-summer conditions in upper Redwood Creek could be limiting the production of older age-class production (2+ steelhead trout).

2+ Steelhead Trout

In several studies investigating steelhead trout life histories, the majority of the returning adult steelhead spent two or more years as juveniles in freshwater prior to ocean entry (Pautzke and Meigs 1941, Maher and Larkin 1955, Busby et al. 1996, Smith and Ward 2000, McCubbing 2002, McCubbing and Ward 2003). Pautzke and Meigs (1941), for example, reported that 84% of returning adult steelhead in the Green River had spent two or more years as juveniles in freshwater. Maher and Larkin (1955) found that 98% of the adult steelhead they examined had spent two or more years in freshwater prior to entering the ocean, McCubbing (2002) reported 92% of steelhead adults in a British Columbia stream had spent two or more years as juveniles in freshwater, and McCubbing and Ward (2003) reported that 71% of the adult returns in YR 2003 had entered the ocean as 2 or 3 year old smolts. If this applies to steelhead trout in Redwood Creek, then 2+ steelhead trout are the most important (and most direct) group of juvenile steelhead trout that contribute to future adult steelhead trout populations. The paradox for the 2+ steelhead trout smolt in Redwood Creek is that they were far less abundant (by about 67 - 79%) than 1+ steelhead trout smolts in any given study year. With respect to the combined population of 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout emigrants each year, 2+ steelhead trout comprised 18 – 25% of the population.

The population abundance of 2+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 was the second lowest of record, and about 3,600 individuals less than abundance in YR 2007. The preliminary short term trend over years was negative, yet non-significant ($p > 0.10$). The 2+ steelhead trout population emigrating from upper Redwood Creek over the past nine years are showing a significant negative trend (Sparkman In progress). Whether the

populations of 2+ steelhead trout smolts passing through lower Redwood Creek are also showing a true negative trend will take more study years to statistically determine.

Confidence intervals (and percent error) for the population of 2+ steelhead trout passing through lower Redwood Creek each year were larger than the 95% confidence intervals for 1+ steelhead trout because: 1) 2+ steelhead trout are typically harder to catch than younger age-classes of steelhead trout, and 2) sample sizes for marking and subsequent recapture were lower. During the trapping period we routinely adjust trap configuration and install weir panels to increase the capture efficiency of 2+ steelhead trout.

Additionally, we perform numerous mark/recapture trials, and when combined with altering trap configuration and paneling, are then able to produce a reliable population estimate with a relatively, low error term (e.g. $\pm 22\%$ observed in YR 2008).

In addition to differences in population abundance among study years, there were temporal differences in monthly and weekly emigration. In YR 2008, most of the 2+ steelhead trout smolts emigrated during June (47% of total), compared to June (61% of total) in YR 2007, June (56% of total) in YR 2006, May (43% of total) in YR 2005 and May (62% of total) in YR 2004. Depending upon study year, April-May, May-June, or June-July were the two most important months for emigration. Patterns in emigration in YRS 2006 - 2008 were unlike YRS 2004 and 2005 because more of the population emigrated during the middle of the trapping periods. For example, peak emigration in YRS 2006 - 2008 occurred in June, compared to late April/early May in YRS 2004 and 2005. Although I did not present such data, weekly population emigration in a given study year closely resembled the weekly catch distribution for that year. The pattern of 2+ steelhead trout migration by week in each study year, excluding YR 2004, was markedly similar to the pattern for 1+ steelhead trout population emigration, and may indicate these two age classes traveled downstream together in schools. For example, in YR 2008 both 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout experienced peaks in migration during 5/28 – 6/3. Data collected at the upper trap also show that the two age classes appear to have very similar weekly migration patterns as well (Sparkman In progress).

Average FL (142 mm) and Wt (30.6 g) of 2+ steelhead smolts showed little variation each study year; the greatest difference between any two years was 4.1 mm and 2.8 g. Such small differences are unlikely to have biological meaning unless they affect survival to adulthood, which seems doubtful. The patterns in average weekly FL and Wt were surprisingly similar among study years. For each year, the average size was highest (except for YR 2005) in the beginning of the study, then decreased to the middle of the study period, and then increased until the end of the study. 2+ steelhead trout from upper Redwood Creek also exhibited this weekly pattern in size over a nine year study period (Sparkman In progress). The decrease in average FL and Wt by week during study year 2008 is typical of 2+ smolts in lower and upper Redwood Creek, and is not unusual because larger smolts frequently migrate earlier in the emigration period compared to smaller smolts (Quinn 2005). 2+ steelhead trout smolts in the nearby Mad River, Humboldt County, California also emigrated at a larger size in the beginning of the migration period (Sparkman 2002).

The percentage of 2+ steelhead trout showing parr characteristics was zero each study year, and indicated 2+ steelhead trout do not emigrate through lower Redwood Creek in a parr stage (stream resident form). Rather, most of the 2+ steelhead trout are emigrating in a smolt form. The percentage of 2+ steelhead trout emigrants showing smolt characteristics in YR 2008 (98.5%) was greater than previous years, however the greatest differences among study years was less than 5.5 percentage points. In YR 2008, 1.5% of the smolts were classified as pre-smolts, compared to 3.9% for the previous four year average. Although the percentages of smolt and pre-smolts in YR 2008 were significantly different than for the previous four year average (more smolts and less pre-smolts in YR 2008), such differences are unlikely to be biologically meaningful because the 2+ pre-smolts could easily change to smolts when entering or residing in the estuary.

My latest analysis of trapping data (n = 8 years) in upper Redwood Creek showed that smolt percentages in a given year were negatively related to 2+ steelhead trout population abundances, and negatively related to stream temperatures (Sparkman 2008). Thus, there were less smolt designations for higher population abundances and during study periods with higher stream temperatures. Quinn (2005) reported that stream temperatures play an important role in smoltification, and our data from the upper basin shows that 62% of the variation in smolt percentages over eight study years can be attributed to the variation in stream temperatures (Sparkman 2008). Whether this will be true for 2+ steelhead trout populations emigrating through lower Redwood Creek remains to be tested.

2+ steelhead trout are actively emigrating from upper Redwood Creek through lower Redwood Creek because the lower trap in Redwood Creek (RM 4) has consistently captured efficiency trial fish each study year. Additionally, 2+ steelhead trout from upper Redwood Creek have been observed in the estuary of Redwood Creek every year since the beginning of our smolt trapping studies (Dave Anderson, pers. comm. 2008). Elastomer marked 2+ steelhead trout released at the upper trap in YRS 2004 and 2005 were also captured by the lower trap in those years. The time required for one 2+ steelhead trout released from upper Redwood Creek to travel to the trap in lower Redwood Creek equaled 7 d in YR 2005; in YR 2004, the time required to travel from the upper trap to the lower trap ranged from 2 – 35 d, and averaged 13 d (n = 7). Travel time in YR 2007 equaled 18.5 d (n = 1), and in YR 2008 equaled 5 d (n = 1). The tagged 2+ steelhead trout smolt in YR 2007 grew 12 mm (9.6% change) and 5.1 g (23.4% change). In YR 2008, no growth in FL occurred, however the 2+ smolt lost 1.3 g, most likely do to a higher travel rate compared to previous years. Future trapping efforts will try to increase the sample size of recaptured 2+ steelhead trout for travel time experiments by increasing the sample size of releases from upper Redwood Creek.

Although there seems to be few studies that specifically look at steelhead smolt to adult survival, steelhead life history studies in a British Columbia stream (Keogh River) show there is a positive linear relationship between out-migrating 2+ smolts and returning adult steelhead (Ward and Slaney 1988, Ward 2000, Ward et al. 2002). Ward (2000) cites other authors who report similar positive linear relationships between smolts and adults along the British Columbia coast as well (eg Smith and Ward 2000). Survival from smolt to adult can be variable, and may range from an average of 15% (during 1976-1989) to an

average of 3.5% (during 1990-1995) (Ward 2000). Ward and Slaney (1988), reporting on data from the Keogh River for 1978 – 1982 cohorts, determined survival from smolt to adult ranged from 7% to 26%, and averaged 16%. Meehan and Bjornn (1991) reported steelhead smolt to returning adult survival can be a relative high ranging from 10 – 20% in streams that are coastal to a low survival of 2% in streams where steelhead must overcome dams and travel long distances to reach spawning grounds. It is difficult to make specific inferences about 2+ steelhead trout smolt to adult survival for Redwood Creek steelhead based upon successful studies in the literature because of differences in latitude/longitude, geography, ocean conditions (physical and biological), estuaries, and trap locations in the watershed. However, the belief that the number of 2+ smolts relate to future adults (and watershed conditions) is hard to dismiss or invalidate.

With respect to younger juvenile stages (0+ and 1+), the 2+ steelhead smolt is the best candidate for assessing steelhead status, trends, and abundance when information on adult steelhead is unavailable or un-attainable. 2+ steelhead trout have overcome the numerous components of stream survival that younger steelhead (0+ and 1+) have not yet completely faced (over-summer, over-winter, etc), and 2+ steelhead smolts are the most direct juvenile recruit to adult steelhead populations. The 2+ steelhead trout are also an excellent indicator of watershed and stream conditions because they spend the longest amount of time in freshwater habitat prior to ocean entry. Along these same lines, Ward et al. (2003) reported that the 2+ steelhead smolt was a more reliable response variable with respect to stream restoration than late summer juvenile densities because of being less variable.

Cutthroat Trout

A very low number of cutthroat trout were captured in each study year relative to other juvenile salmonids. Catches in YR 2008, for example, equaled 22 (second lowest value in five consecutive years); catches in YR 2007 equaled 44, in YR 2006 equaled 36, in YR 2005 equaled 9, and in YR 2004 equaled 37. Cutthroat trout catches over five years (148 individuals) were about 99.9% less than total juvenile steelhead trout catches (167,523 individuals).

A higher percentage of the catch in YR 2008 occurred in June (30%) compared to July in YR 2007 (48% of total), and July in YR 2006 (50% of total). In YR 2004 the most important month was May (49% of total), and in YR 2005 there was no discernable peak month because the months of April – May each accounted for 22% of the total catch. For the third time in our monitoring program in Redwood Creek, we performed mark/recapture trials with cutthroat trout to determine the population size of emigrating cutthroat trout aged-1 and older. We found that a very low number (N = 54) of cutthroat trout (at the population level) migrated downstream in YR 2008. Uncertainty to the point estimate was estimated at 53%, which is most likely due to small sample sizes for capture and subsequent mark/recapture experiments. The low trap catch and population estimate was in part due to poor trapping efficiencies because the average weekly trapping efficiency was 7%, much less than what we determined in YR 2007 (34%). An obvious

obstacle to determining population estimates with lower error terms occurs when any given species at age are in low numbers. In these cases, it may be more useful to think of the estimate in terms of the upper confidence interval; such that we are 95% sure that the estimate is below this value (UCL = 85 individuals for cutthroat trout in YR 2008).

Whether the estimate is 54 or 85 isn't as important, in this case, as knowing that very low numbers are emigrating from the majority of the Redwood Creek basin, upstream of the confluence with Prairie Creek. Similar to juvenile coho salmon, the Prairie Creek basin is probably the biggest contributor to cutthroat trout populations in Redwood Creek based upon this study, and various studies in Prairie Creek (Walter Duffy, pers. comm. 2008).

Most of the cutthroat trout passing through lower Redwood Creek emigrated during June and July, which accounted for 72% of total population abundance in YR 2008. June and July accounted for 92% of the abundance in YR 2007, and 88% in YR 2006.

All cutthroat trout that were captured were in a smolt stage. An unknown number or percentage of cutthroat trout will residualize in the stream for varying years, and not out-migrate to the estuary and ocean; thus the low trap catches (and population estimate) may not necessarily reflect a very low population size in Redwood Creek. However, if there were large numbers present, we would probably catch much more than we do, as they redistribute or migrate downstream. For example, juvenile salmonid trapping efforts in Prairie Creek consistently capture hundreds of cutthroat trout during spring/early summer as they migrate downstream (Roelofs and Klatte 1996, Roelofs and Sparkman 1999, Walter Duffy, pers. comm. 2008).

We did not consider any of the young-of-year steelhead trout to be progeny of cutthroat trout because few age-1 and older cutthroat trout were captured in any given year. Far more older juvenile steelhead trout (1+ and 2+) migrated through lower Redwood Creek than cutthroat trout as evidenced by trap catches. In the five study years, for example, the ratio of 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout combined catches to cutthroat trout catches each year ranged from 179:1 to 386:1, and averaged 255:1. In other words there was, on average, 255 times more 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout (combined) captured than cutthroat trout. Ratios would be even higher if juvenile steelhead trout population (1+ SH, 2+SH) data were used instead of catch data (YR 2006, 588 1+ and 2+SH:1 cutthroat trout; YR 2007, 592 1+ and 2+ SH: 1 cutthroat trout; YR 2008, 954:1); thus it seems very unlikely that low numbers of cutthroat trout could produce a significant portion of the juvenile trout captures. Therefore, we considered the percentage of 0+ cutthroat trout included in the 0+ steelhead trout catch to be low and negligible.

We used three characteristics to identify coastal cutthroat trout: upper maxillary that extends past the posterior portion of the eye, slash marks on the lower jaws, and hyoid teeth; spotting is also usually more abundant on coastal cutthroat trout. Hybrid juveniles, the product of mating between steelhead trout and cutthroat trout, are commonly noted to be missing one or two of these characters. We have observed two potential hybrids in the five years of study, and based upon visual identification, the number of (potential) hybrids (age-1 and greater) is extremely rare in Redwood Creek. Similar findings occurred in upper Redwood Creek (Sparkman In progress).

0+ Coho Salmon

Similar to 0+ steelhead trout, trap catches of 0+ coho salmon are not all inclusive because only a given percentage of the total number present (upstream of the trapping site) will migrate downstream, this also pertains to the population point estimate. Thus, catches and population estimates are for those fish that were migrating past the trapping site.

Few 0+ coho salmon were captured by the trap in lower Redwood Creek in five consecutive study years (total catch = 1,047 individuals). Unlike previous study years, 45 were captured in early April (2008), a time when catches are usually less than 10 individuals. These 'early' migrants averaged 36 mm FL, and were probably from adults that migrated into Redwood Creek to spawn much earlier than other adults. 0+ coho salmon were captured in every month of each study year; the most important month for trap catches was July in YR 2008 (29% of total), June in YR 2007 (47% of total), June (33% of total) in YR 2006, July in YR 2005 (38%), and July (35%) for YR 2004. The low catches of 0+ coho salmon in lower Redwood Creek is contrasted by often high catches in Prairie Creek. For example, trap catches of 0+ coho salmon in Prairie Creek from 1996 – 1998 ranged from a low of 372 to a high of 25,492, and averaged 9,659 per trapping season (Roelofs and Sparkman 1999).

In YR 2008 we successfully determined the population abundance of emigrating 0+ coho salmon for the third time during our monitoring studies. The population estimate equaled 1,886 in YR 2008, 1,057 individuals in YR 2007, and 508 in YR 2006. The preliminary trend was significantly positive, however, the trend line is very susceptible to change due low sample size ($n = 3$). Monthly population emigration peaked in June in YRS 2006 – 2008 (28 – 54% of total). The total population estimates were very low, and indicated that relatively few young-of-year coho salmon were emigrating through lower Redwood Creek, upstream of the confluence with Prairie Creek.

The average size (61.1 mm) of 0+ Coho migrants in YR 2008 was the lowest in five study years; however, the greatest difference among years was 6.3 mm, and 0.60 g. Whether these differences are biologically meaningful is unknown. Growth in YR 2008 equaled 0.36 mm/d, which was 0.06 mm/d greater than 0+ Chinook salmon and 0.04 mm/d greater than 0+ steelhead trout. 0+ coho salmon average weekly FL and Wt significantly increased over each study period, and showed growth was taking place.

0+ coho salmon migrating through lower Redwood Creek indicate that these fish were moving downstream to rear. If the young-of-year coho do not move into Prairie Creek, then they must be moving downstream to the estuary. Thus, lower Redwood Creek and the estuary may serve as an important place for young-of-year coho salmon to rear.

1+ Coho Salmon

Low numbers of one plus-year-old coho salmon were caught at the lower trap each study year, with the total catch over five years equaling less than 460 individuals. The highest

catch occurred in YR 2008 (n = 242). Similar to 0+ coho salmon, the low catches of 1+ coho salmon in lower Redwood Creek are contrasted by much higher catches in Prairie Creek. For example, trap catches of 1+ coho salmon in Prairie Creek from 1996 – 1999 ranged from 1,475 – 2,302, and averaged 1,965 per trapping season (Roelofs and Sparkman 1999).

The population abundance of 1+ coho salmon in Redwood Creek in YR 2008 was the highest of five consecutive years, and changed the regression slope from negative to positive, albeit non-significantly. Population estimates for 1+ coho salmon should be viewed cautiously (due to relatively large error terms for some estimates, 48 - 69%), and the proper context could be that we are 95% sure that the population during either study year was less than 1,127 individuals (upper 95% CI for YR 2008 estimate). Population abundances of less than 1,127 individuals can be considered very low (alarmingly so), particularly for a stream the size of Redwood Creek.

1+ coho salmon in Redwood Creek had the most restricted temporal pattern to migration compared to other juvenile salmonids, such that few migrated downstream after June 3. The majority of catches occurred in May for any given study year, with weekly peaks occurring in late April/early May, May, or late May/early June. Similar to catch data, monthly population emigration peaked in May each study year, and May also accounted for the majority of emigration (ranged from 56 – 79% of total) each year. Weekly population estimates peaked 5/21 – 5/27 in YRS 2007 and 2008, 6/4 – 6/10 in YR 2006, 5/7 – 5/13 in YR 2005, and 4/30 – 5/6 in YR 2004. Weekly population emigration in YRS 2004 - 2008 closely resembled the catch distribution each year.

The average size of 1+ coho salmon in five study years showed little variation, the greatest difference among years was 4.5 mm and 1.3 g. Potential growth in the estuary could make up for any difference in size.

The reason(s) for the lack of sufficient numbers of 1+ coho salmon emigrating from Redwood Creek warrants further study, as does their current distribution within the Redwood Creek basin.

0+ Pink Salmon

Pink salmon in California are recognized as a “Species of Special Concern”, and California is recognized as the most southern border for the species (CDFG 1995). Although not in large numbers, pink salmon have been historically observed in the San Lorenzo River, Sacramento River and tributaries, Klamath River, Garcia River, Ten Mile River, Lagunitas River, Russian River, American River, Mad River, and once in Prairie Creek, which is tributary to Redwood Creek at RM 3.7. Pink salmon were observed spawning in the Garcia River in 1937 and the Russian River in 1955 (CDFG 1995). More recently, adult pink salmon were seen spawning in the Garcia River in 2003 (Scott Monday pers. comm. 2004) and in Lost Man Creek (tributary to Prairie Creek) in 2004 (Baker Holden, pers. comm. 2005).

I know of no historic records or anecdotal information documenting pink salmon presence in the mainstem of Redwood Creek prior to our downstream migration trapping efforts. The pink salmon in Redwood Creek are in very low numbers, and were only observed in lower Redwood Creek in YR 2005. In upper Redwood Creek we captured four 0+ pink salmon in YR 2008 (Sparkman In progress). It is hard to say if the parents of the pink salmon were stays or remnants of a historic run because so little information exists about adult salmon in Redwood Creek. According to the Habitat Conservation Planning Branch (HCPB) of CDFG, pink salmon are considered to be “probably extinct” in California (CDFG 1995). However, the HCPB does state that “more efforts need to be conducted to prove (or disprove) that reproducing populations exist anywhere in California” (CDFG 1995). Based upon our trapping data in upper and lower Redwood Creek, it appears that pink salmon are present in Redwood Creek and reproducing, albeit in low numbers.

CONCLUSIONS

The migration of juvenile salmonids through lower Redwood Creek consisted of juvenile Chinook salmon (Ocean-Type and to a much lesser degree Stream-Type), steelhead trout (at least three age classes), coho salmon (two age classes), and cutthroat trout (one year old and older). The abundance of 0+ Chinook salmon in YR 2008 was greater than YRS 2005 – 2007, however abundance in YR 2008 was 68% less than our highest estimate (YR 2004), and 24% less than the previous four year average. The abundance of 1+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 was greater than YRS 2005 and 2007, slightly below abundance in YR 2006, and much less (46%) than abundance in YR 2004. The abundance of 2+ steelhead trout in YR 2008 was the second lowest of record, 32% lower than the previous four year average, and 53% less than abundance in YR 2004. In contrast, the abundance of both 0+ and 1+ coho salmon in YR 2008 was greater than previous study years. The abundance of cutthroat trout in YR 2008 was lower than previous study years. The preliminary population trends in abundance for 0+ Chinook salmon, 1+ steelhead trout, 2+ steelhead trout, and cutthroat trout were non-significantly negative for each species at age. The trend in population abundance for 0+ coho salmon over the past three years was significant and positive, and the trend for 1+ coho salmon was positive, yet non-significant.

0+ steelhead trout catches in YRS 2006 - 2008 were much higher than previous study years, which could be attributable to: 1) an increase in adult numbers upstream of the trap site, 2) higher trapping efficiencies, 3) difference in the percentage of total 0+ steelhead trout population emigrating downstream each year, or 4) some combination of factors 1 – 3. Marked 0+ steelhead trout released at the upper trap in Redwood Valley in YRS 2006 and 2007 were recaptured at the lower trap, and indicate 0+ steelhead trout can migrate considerable distances in search of rearing areas. These experiment could be the first to document long range dispersal (29 mi.) of young of year steelhead trout from spawning to rearing areas. The 0+ steelhead trout and 0+ coho salmon that passed by the trap in lower Redwood Creek are probably rearing in reaches below RM 4 and in the estuary,

thus lower Redwood Cr and the estuary are also important for young-of-year fish, in addition to older, juvenile salmonid age classes.

Far more 1+ steelhead trout emigrated from Redwood Creek than 2+ steelhead trout each year, and may indicate stream habitat conditions are limiting the abundance of the older age class (2 years); or favoring a change in life history to a younger smolt age (1 year old). The number of 1+ coho salmon emigrating from areas upstream of the trap site was alarmingly low each study year (< 900 individuals).

Most of the 0+ Chinook salmon migrated downstream in June and July in YR 2008, and most of the 1+ steelhead trout, and 2+ steelhead trout migrated downstream during May and June. Currently 1+ and 2+ steelhead trout appear to migrate downstream together, based upon weekly catch and population distributions. Most of the 0+ coho salmon migrated downstream during June and July in YR 2008, which contrasted the migration of 1+ coho salmon. 1+ coho salmon migrated downstream in larger numbers during May and June in YR 2008, and by early June emigration ceased. Cutthroat trout migrated downstream in greater numbers in June and July in YR 2008.

The population of 0+ Chinook salmon emigrants in YR 2008 (as well as previous years) consisted of both fry and fingerlings, with far more fingerlings emigrating than fry. The first smaller peak, and the second and third larger peaks (one for fry, the other two for fingerlings) in 0+ Chinook salmon migration in YR 2008 do not indicate two distinct runs of adult Chinook salmon spawned in Redwood Creek because of vast differences in the average size of migrants in each peak. The larger migrants associated with the second and third peak were likely to have been fry born at the same time as the fry that made up the first peak that reared for a longer time in the stream prior to capture.

Pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon and 1+ steelhead trout released from upper Redwood Creek were recaptured 29 miles downstream at the second trap in lower Redwood Creek for the fourth, consecutive study year. Travel time for 0+ Chinook salmon in YR 2008 (n = 36 recaptures) ranged from 3.5 – 28 d, averaged 11.6 d, and was greater on average than travel times in YRS 2005 - 2007. Travel time in YR 2008 was moderately related to lunar phase, such that migration took longer during higher moon illuminations. No other relationships were detected. 0+ Chinook salmon travel rate in YR 2008 ranged from 1.0 – 8.3 mi/d, and averaged 3.9 mi/d. Travel rate was positively related to FL at time 1, negatively related to lunar phase, and positively related to day of release. Thus, fish that were larger, fish that migrated during lower moon illuminations, and fish released later in the experiments had a higher travel rate. The recapture of pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon per release group was variable. Individuals from the same release group were recaptured on the same day and in contrast, multiple recaptures from the same release group could be on differing days. The greatest range in travel time for multiple recaptures from a single release group was 22 days.

Travel time for 1+ steelhead trout (n = 8 recaptures) in YR 2008 ranged from 2.5 – 44.0 d, averaged 22.8 d, and was less than the average in YR 2007 by 6.7 d. Travel time in YR 2008 was only significantly related to size at time 1, such that smaller smolts took

longer to migrate to lower Redwood Creek than larger smolts. Travel rate ranged from 0.7 – 11/6 mi/d and averaged 4/0 mi/d. Travel rate was best modeled using size at time 1 (FL) and average stream discharge, such that fish that were larger and fish that migrated during higher stream flows had a higher travel rate.

Half (50%) of the recaptured pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon showed positive growth in FL, and 47% showed positive growth in Wt. Fifty percent showed no change in FL, 31% showed no change in Wt, and about 22% lost Wt. Growth was positively related to travel time and lunar phase, and negatively related to travel rate. Based upon four years of consecutive data, the working hypothesis concerning 0+ Chinook salmon smolts and growth in Redwood Creek is that they experience greater growth when they take more time to migrate, and also when migrating during higher moon illuminations. By taking more time to migrate downstream, the fish have more time to forage for food and convert the food to growth; and when migrating during higher illuminations, they slow migration in order to feed more because it is probably easier to find food during higher illuminations.

Most (75%) of the recaptured pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout smolts showed positive growth in FL, and Wt and 25% showed no change in FL or Wt. None of the smolts lost weight. Growth in YR 2008 was nearly the same as growth in YR 2006, and less than growth in YR 2007. All years data showed significant relationships of most growth indices with travel time (+) and travel rate (-). Travel time in YR 2008 explained 97% of the variation in growth. In YR 2008, growth was also negatively related to size at release, such that smaller smolts grew more than larger smolts. Unlike YR 2007, growth in YR 2008 was not related to stream discharge or stream temperatures.

The overall study objectives in YR 2008 were successfully completed, and demonstrate that the smolts passing through lower Redwood Creek can be monitored. Redwood Creek is currently classified as temperature and sediment impaired, and many scientists resource managers, and members of the public also realize that the estuary is in need of restoration. Future fisheries work in Redwood Creek should be able to show any response to current and future watershed and stream conditions by combining data from this study, smolt trapping in upper Redwood Creek, adult and juvenile studies in Prairie Creek, and juvenile monitoring in the estuary (author, Walter Duffy pers. comm. 2008, and David Anderson, pers. comm. 2008). In addition, there are also plans for monitoring adult salmon and steelhead populations in Redwood Creek; if possible, such information would greatly compliment our studies on smolt populations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This study is one of the few studies that is designed to document smolt abundance and population trends of the California Coastal Chinook salmon ESU, Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts Coho salmon ESU, Northern California Steelhead Trout ESU, and Southern Oregon/California Coasts Coastal Cutthroat Trout ESU over a relatively long time period. With respect to the Chinook salmon ESU and steelhead trout

ESU, this study might be the only one that provides population data for a relatively large stream. The most important recommendation to make is to continue this study over multiple consecutive years (10+) in order to:

1. Encompass as much environmental and biological variation as possible.
2. Cover multiple cohort life cycles over time.
3. Collect baseline data for future comparisons.
4. Collect data on juvenile salmonid life histories in Redwood Creek, which will increase our understanding of juvenile salmonids (smolts).
5. Detect changes in population abundance which can be used to assess the status and trends of Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, coho salmon, and (possibly) cutthroat trout in Redwood Creek.
6. Detect any fish response (population, fish size, age class composition, etc) to stream and watershed conditions and restoration activities in Redwood Creek.
7. Help focus habitat restoration efforts and needs in the basin.

This study, when combined with juvenile salmonid monitoring in the upper basin (RM 33, and estuary (Redwood National Park), will also help determine bottlenecks to anadromous salmonid production in Redwood Creek.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank the California Department of Fish and Game AFRAMP, the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (Project No. P0710511), and Save the Redwoods League for funding this study. I would also like to thank the California Cooperative Fishery Research Unit, Humboldt State University Foundation, and CDFG for their assistance in managing the grant contract. I am particularly thankful to Joe Hufford for access to his property, and for his continued interest in salmon and steelhead in Redwood Creek. I thank Don Chapman for his interest in the study and for his helpful comments. I would also like to thank Catherine Stone for her constructive review. Lastly, and by no means in the least, I thank the dedicated field crew (Becky Dutra, Bret Diehl, Rod Park, Nick Campise, Zane Ruddy, Jason Coburn, and Sam Price) who counted and examined every fish we captured and marked, for removing debris from the livebox in the evenings and nights, for releasing marked fish upstream of the trap site at night, for helping me monitor the trap during high flow events, and for their positive attitudes.

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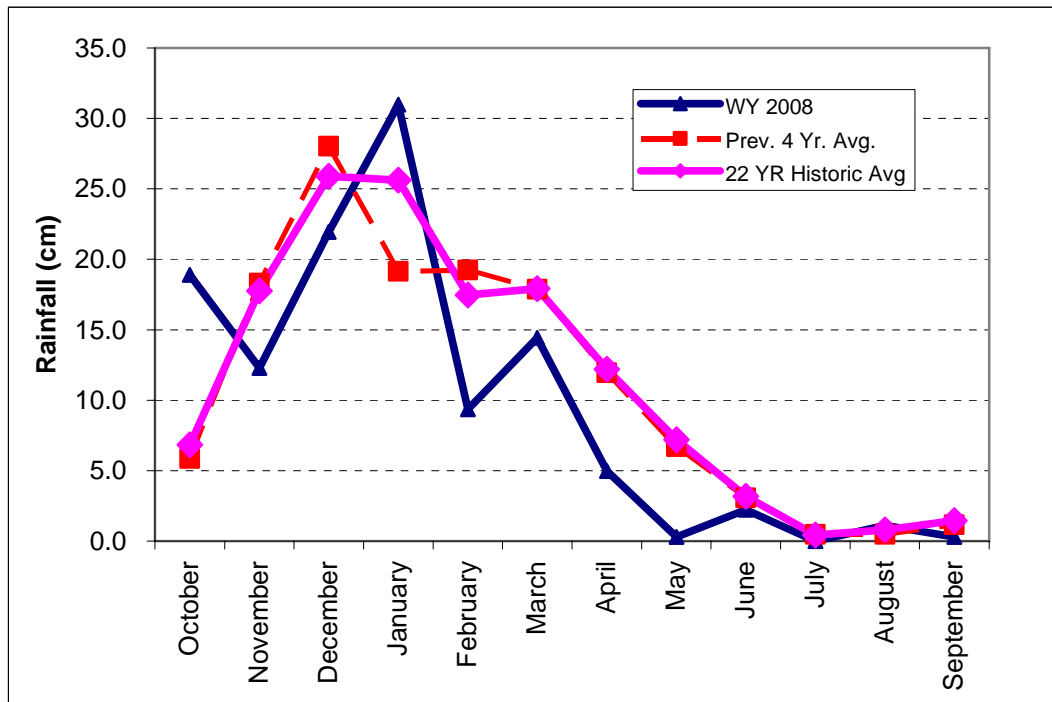
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APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Comparison of 22 year average rainfall (cm) (Historic) with monthly rainfall in WYS 2004 – 2008, lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

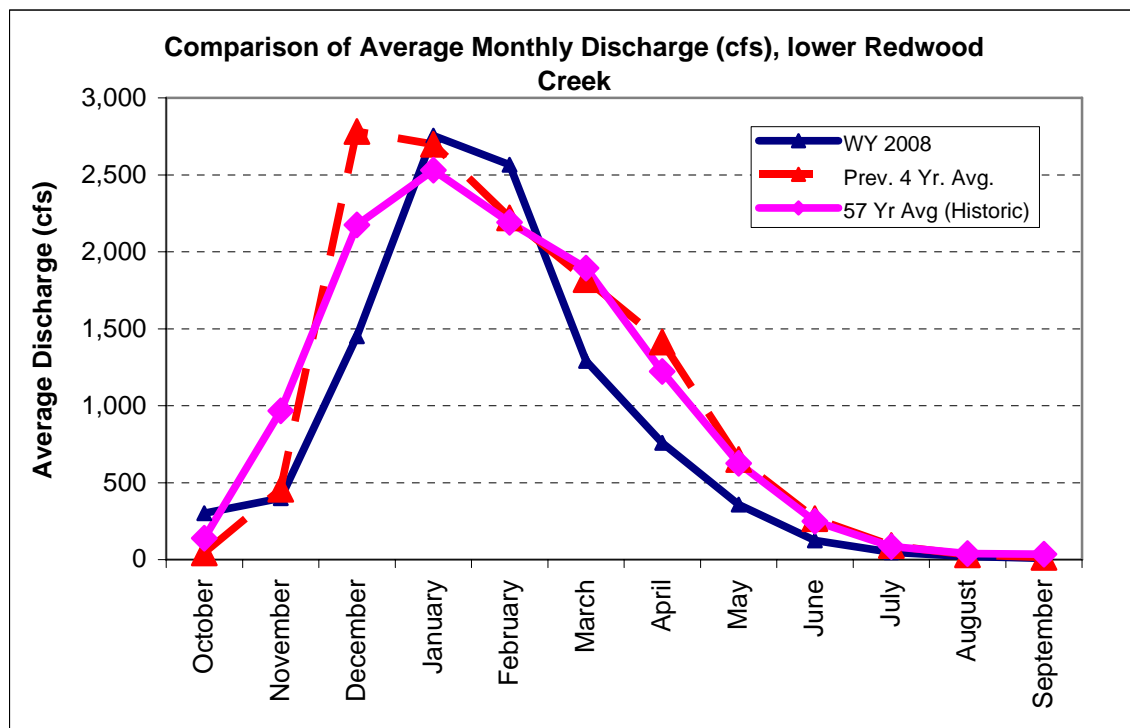
Average and Monthly Rainfall* (cm) Lower Redwood Creek						
Month	Historic	WY 2004	WY 2005	WY 2006	WY 2007	WY 2008
October	6.2	0.8	14.4	6.8	1.4	18.9
November	18.0	16.5	5.1	27.5	24.2	12.3
December	26.1	35.8	19.2	30.0	27.1	21.9
January	25.4	21.0	15.5	31.8	8.2	31.0
February	17.8	26.3	4.1	16.3	30.3	9.3
March	18.1	5.9	20.3	36.6	8.7	14.4
April	12.5	7.1	17.6	11.9	11.2	5.0
May	7.5	2.4	15.3	7.0	2.0	0.3
June	3.2	0.5	7.0	2.2	2.5	2.2
July	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.7	0.0
August	0.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.1
September	1.5	0.7	0.2	0.8	2.9	0.3
Total:	137.7	119.0	118.8	171.0	120.5	116.8
Average:	11.5	9.9	9.9	14.2	10.0	9.7
SEM**	2.7	3.5	2.3	4.0	3.2	2.9

* Data courtesy of V. Ozaki (RNP, pers. comm. 2008). ** Standard Error of Mean



Appendix 2. Comparison of 57 year average monthly discharge (historic) with average monthly discharge in WYS 2004 – 08 (Orick Gaging Station, USGS 2009), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.

Month	Average Monthly Discharge (cfs)					
	Historic	WY 2004	WY 2005	WY 2006	WY 2007	WY 2008
October	137	8	111	44	13	302
November	977	90	74	919	745	399
December	2,187	2,526	1,223	4,788	2,588	1,452
January	2,526	2,356	1,749	5,119	1,567	2,754
February	2,185	3,113	638	2,666	2,407	2,566
March	1,904	1,050	1,379	2,762	2,086	1,291
April	1,232	602	2,138	1,741	1,094	758
May	630	271	1,400	472	449	357
June	251	109	613	184	138	125
July	86	41	195	61	65	47
August	40	19	56	20	26	21
September	36	9	25	12	13	7
Average:	1,016	850	800	1,566	933	840



Appendix 3. Reasons for collecting genetic samples from Chinook salmon, steelhead trout smolts, and coho salmon fry, parr, and smolts.

Chinook Salmon:

1. To test for possible genetic differences between 0+ Chinook (Ocean-Type) and 1+ Chinook (Stream-Type).
2. To test for possible genetic differences between 0+ Chinook salmon fry and 0+ Chinook salmon fingerlings.

Steelhead Trout:

1. To test for any hatchery introgression into the wild steelhead stock in Redwood Cr.
2. To test for possible genetic differences between age-1 and age-2 smolts.
3. To test for possible genetic differences between emigrating 0+ steelhead trout and 1+ steelhead trout the following year.

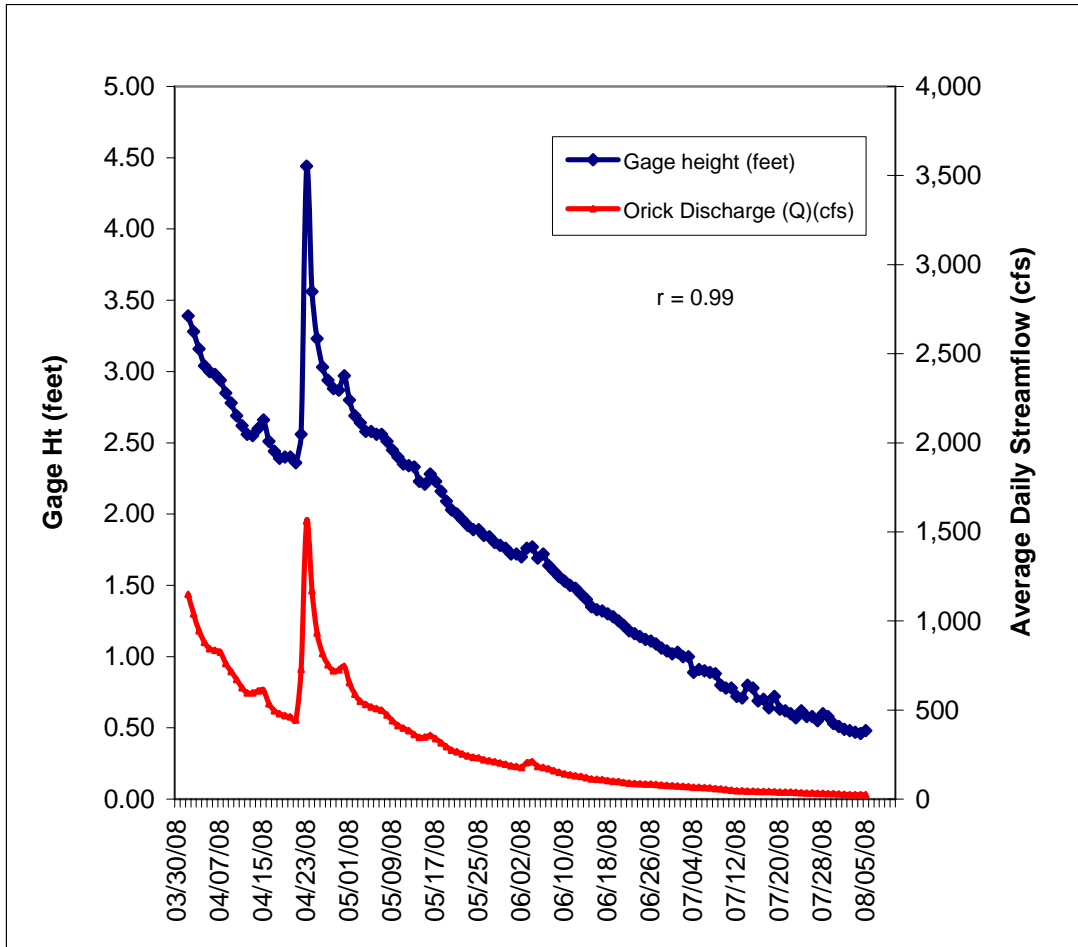
Coho Salmon

1. To determine the number of parents responsible for the juveniles captured in the fish trap.

All Species:

1. To test for possible genetic differences between fish captured in the lower basin and upper basin.
2. To construct a genetic data base for future comparisons and analyses.

Appendix 4. Graphical representation of daily stream gage height (ft.) at trap site and average daily streamflow (cfs) measured at Orick gaging station (USGS 2009), lower Redwood Creek, Humboldt County, CA.



Appendix 5. Descriptive statistics of size at time 1 (T1) and time 2 (T2), change in size (FL, Wt), percent change in size (FL, Wt), absolute growth rate (FL, Wt), relative growth rate (FL, Wt) and specific growth rate scaled (FL, Wt) for pit tagged 0+ Chinook salmon recaptured (n = 36) at the lower trap in Redwood Creek in YR 2008, Humboldt County, CA.

Variable	Descriptive Statistics			
	Min.	Max.	Avg. (median)	SEM**
<u>Size at T1</u>				
FL mm	67	83	73.0 (73.0)	0.68
Wt g	3.0	6.4	4.19 (4.4)	0.12
<u>Size at T2</u>				
FL mm	68	83	75.4 (76.0)	0.62
Wt g	3.0	5.9	4.43 (4.41)	0.11
<u>Change in</u>				
FL mm	0	10	2.4 (1.0)	0.50
Wt g	-0.69	1.71	0.27 (0.00)	0.10
<u>% change in</u>				
FL mm	0.00	14.93	3.35 (1.3)	0.73
Wt g	-15.33	57.00	7.87 (0.00)	2.71
<u>AGR*</u>				
FL mm	0.00	0.50	0.13 (0.06)	0.02
Wt g	-0.13	0.07	0.023 (0.00)	0.008
<u>RGR*</u>				
FL mm	0.000	0.007	0.002 (0.001)	0.0003
Wt g	-0.027	0.022	0.002 (0.000)	0.002
<u>SGR*</u>				
FL mm	0.00	0.69	0.175 (0.080)	0.033
Wt g	-2.89	1.86	0.081 (0.000)	0.120

* Abbreviations are the same as in Table 32.

** SEM = standard error of mean.

Appendix 6. Release groups, sample sizes, and recaptures of pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout released from upper Redwood Cr, and recaptured in lower Redwood Cr, Humboldt County, CA., 2008.

Pit Tagged 1+ Steelhead Trout			
Release Group	Sample Size	No. of Recaptures	Percent Recapture
4/03/08	4	1	25.00
4/10/08	12	0	0.00
4/17/08	18	1	5.56
4/22/08	10	1	10.00
4/24/08	3	0	0.00
4/26/08	30	3	10.00
4/29/08	20	0	0.00
5/01/08	11	0	0.00
5/02/08	23	0	0.00
5/06/08	18	0	0.00
5/09/08	20	1	5.00
5/14/08	20	0	0.00
5/27/08	14	1	7.14
Sum:	203	8	

Appendix 7. Descriptive statistics of size at time 1 (T1) and time 2 (T2), change in size (FL, Wt), percent change in size (FL, Wt), absolute growth rate (FL, Wt), relative growth rate (FL, Wt) and specific growth rate scaled (FL, Wt) for pit tagged 1+ steelhead trout recaptured (n = 8) at the lower trap in Redwood Creek in YR 2008, Humboldt County, CA.

Variable	Descriptive Statistics			
	Min.	Max.	Avg. (median)	SEM**
<u>Size at T1</u>				
FL mm	70	112	87.3 (86.0)	5.00
Wt g	3.4	15.0	7.63 (6.65)	1.43
<u>Size at T2</u>				
FL mm	87	114	97.4 (95.5)	3.14
Wt g	7.2	13.9	6.66 (9.26)	0.89
<u>Change in</u>				
FL mm	0.0	20.0	9.9 (12.0)	2.86
Wt g	-1.09	5.41	2.04 (2.46)	0.80
<u>% change in</u>				
FL mm	0.00	25.32	12.63 (14.13)	3.84
Wt g	-7.27	115.00	46.45 (38.63)	17.54
<u>AGR*</u>				
FL mm	0.00	0.51	0.338 (0.435)	0.075
Wt g	-0.24	0.16	0.033 (0.093)	0.053
<u>RGR*</u>				
FL mm	0.000	0.007	0.004 (0.006)	0.0010
Wt g	-0.016	0.026	0.012 (0.020)	0.0063
<u>SGRsc*</u>				
FL mm	0.000	0.614	0.377 (0.462)	0.086
Wt g	-1.676	1.952	0.791 (1.621)	0.545

* Abbreviations are the same as in Table 32.

** SEM = standard error of the mean.