

FISHERY RESEARCH



Job Performance Report

July 1, 2000 to June 31, 2001

Annual Performance Report

F-88-C

Project 1 Anadromous Fish Management

By:

Sharon W. Kiefer, Anadromous Fishery Coordinator

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ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

State of: Idaho Grant: F-88-C, Anadromous Fish Management
Project No. 1 Title: Anadromous Fish Management
Contract Period: July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide management direction and oversight to research and hatchery programs designed to enhance sport-fishing opportunities for salmon and steelhead.
2. Provide technical and policy input into intergovernmental river management forums designed to enhance the survival of spawning, rearing and migrating salmon and steelhead.
3. Conduct salmon and steelhead sport fisheries that maximize angling opportunities within the constraints of wild fish conservation and recovery.
4. Coordinate activities among state, tribal and federal management entities.
5. Educate the public and policy makers regarding the importance of salmon and steelhead sport fishing and the best options to secure sustainable fisheries and recover ESA listed wild fish runs.

ABSTRACT

The Anadromous Fish Manager (Manager) and the Anadromous Fish Coordinator (Coordinator) provided management, direction, and oversight to implementation of a selective fishery for spring chinook in Idaho in 2000 and 2001. A summer chinook fishery was implemented in 2000 during the contract period. Substantial instate regional coordination was required to develop and implement fisheries and monitoring for harvest share and wild fish impacts. Fishery implementation also required significant coordination and communication with National Marine Fisheries Service for fishery authorization and inseason modification and reporting. Hatchery oversight directed fish recycling into fisheries, broodstock programs, and outplants of surplus adults. Tribal coordination occurred to share harvest information and develop options for surplus hatchery adults in 2000. In 2001, the Manager participated in a regional process to develop options for substantial surplus hatchery chinook, supported by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. This process was initiated during the grant period. Public education about aspects of the 2000 chinook fisheries and the 2001 spring chinook fishery was provided via agency website, press releases and news media.

Similar activity took place for 2000-2001 steelhead fishery.

The Manager and Coordinator, with the assistance of the Harvest Research Biologist, participated in negotiation with the Region's States, Tribes, USFWS and NMFS, to develop a 2000 Fall Management Agreement pursuant to U.S. v Oregon to effect Columbia River fall fisheries and related fall chinook, coho, and steelhead production agreements in Idaho. Staff also participated in development of the 2001 3-Year Spring Management Agreement. Negotiation to develop a long-term, new, Columbia River Fish Management Plan continued.

The Migration Staff Biologist and the Manager participated in several forums to provide technical comment and policy support to enhance survival of Idaho spring and summer juvenile migrants and returning adults. Participation in key governmental forums included Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC), Technical Management Team (TMT), and various Corps of Engineer committees (such as System Configuration Team [SCT]). Technical and policy support was provided to the State Implementation Team (IT) member. Substantial coordination occurred with the Region's states, tribes, and the USFWS to develop common strategies for inseason migration survival. Options were limited in 2001 by poor water supply and the Bonneville Power Administration enacting a power emergency.

Anadromous Management staff reviewed, analyzed, and developed comments, in conjunction with State of Idaho, to several key documents affecting survival and recovery of Idaho salmon and steelhead including: Federal Columbia River Power System draft Biological Opinion, Federal "4H" paper, Biological Opinion Implementation Plan, and the Northwest Power Planning Council (NWPPC) Mainstem Amendment Review. Development of comments required substantial coordination with state policy personnel. In addition, staff assisted with development of subbasin summaries under the auspices of the NWPPC Provincial Review and developed proposals for the rolling review process.

The Natural Production Staff Biologist collaborated with other scientists to develop several publications for peer-reviewed journals and a presentation at the 2001 AFS meeting. A key theme was evidence of hydrosystem mortality and upriver/downriver survival comparison. Work continued on primary spawner-recruit analyses to judge effectiveness of recovery management actions and to educate public and policy makers about effectiveness of recovery strategies.

During this reporting period, Sharon W. Kiefer replaced Ed Bowles as Anadromous Fishery Manager and William (Bill) Horton replaced Sharon W. Kiefer as Anadromous Fishery Coordinator.

Author

Sharon W. Kiefer
Anadromous Fishery Manager