Yakima Basin Steelhead Check-In : Habitat Restoration (~15 yrs) + Kelt Reconditioning (~10 yrs) = Population Response?

Yakama Nation Fisheries Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

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Summer Steelhead Distribution - Yakima Subbasin



<u>Outline</u>

Habitat Restoration
'Traditional' Col. R.
Steelhead Production programs
Kelt Reconditioning
Population Response

Universe of Columbia River Steelhead Diversity

Age-2 migrant

Summer Run

Age-4 migrant

Repeat Spawner

Age-1 migrant

Resident Rainbow

Age-5 migrant

Age-3 migrant

Winter Run

'Designer' Steelhead : e.g., Mackey et al. 2001

"In Washington State, the approach to management of wild and hatchery steelhead trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss* has been to separate the timing of return and spawning by the two groups through selective breeding for early timing in hatchery fish."

How general is low hatchery fitness?



Universe of Columbia River Steelhead Diversity



Summer Run

Age-1 migrant

Resident Rainbow

Age-3 migrant

Age-4 migrant



Age-5 migrant

Winter Run

Summer Steelhead Passage Timing at Bonneville Dam



Average Upstream Passage Timing at Prosser Dam



Month

Downstream Kelt (post-spawner) steelhead passage and capture at Prosser Hatchery







Chandler Kelt Collection, 2001-10



Upstream Kelt

Reconditioning Program

- Most (>90%) are females
- Held and fed for 6-8 months

 Released in mid-late October (beginning of upstream migration peak)

 Select own mates, where to spawn, when to spawn



Survival of Reconditioned Kelts to Release





What happens to reconditioned kelts after release?

	2008	2009	2010
Release	246	140	425
PRO Detect	91	46	145
Detect Proportion	37.0%	32.9%	34.1%

2001-2005 radio telemetry studies found 70% of recaptured tags at mouths of Satus and Toppenish Creeks



Progeny & Gamete comparison





Summary: Reconditioning vs In-River Migration Average 4-Fold Increase in Repeat Spawners



Population Response: Abundance Trends

Prosser Adult Abundance



Roza Adult Abundance



Population Response: Adult-Adult Productivity Trend ('gross' estimate of age-4 wild recruits to Prosser per spawner)



Population Response: Yakima Proportion of Bonneville Aggregate Wild Steelhead



THANKS!!!











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