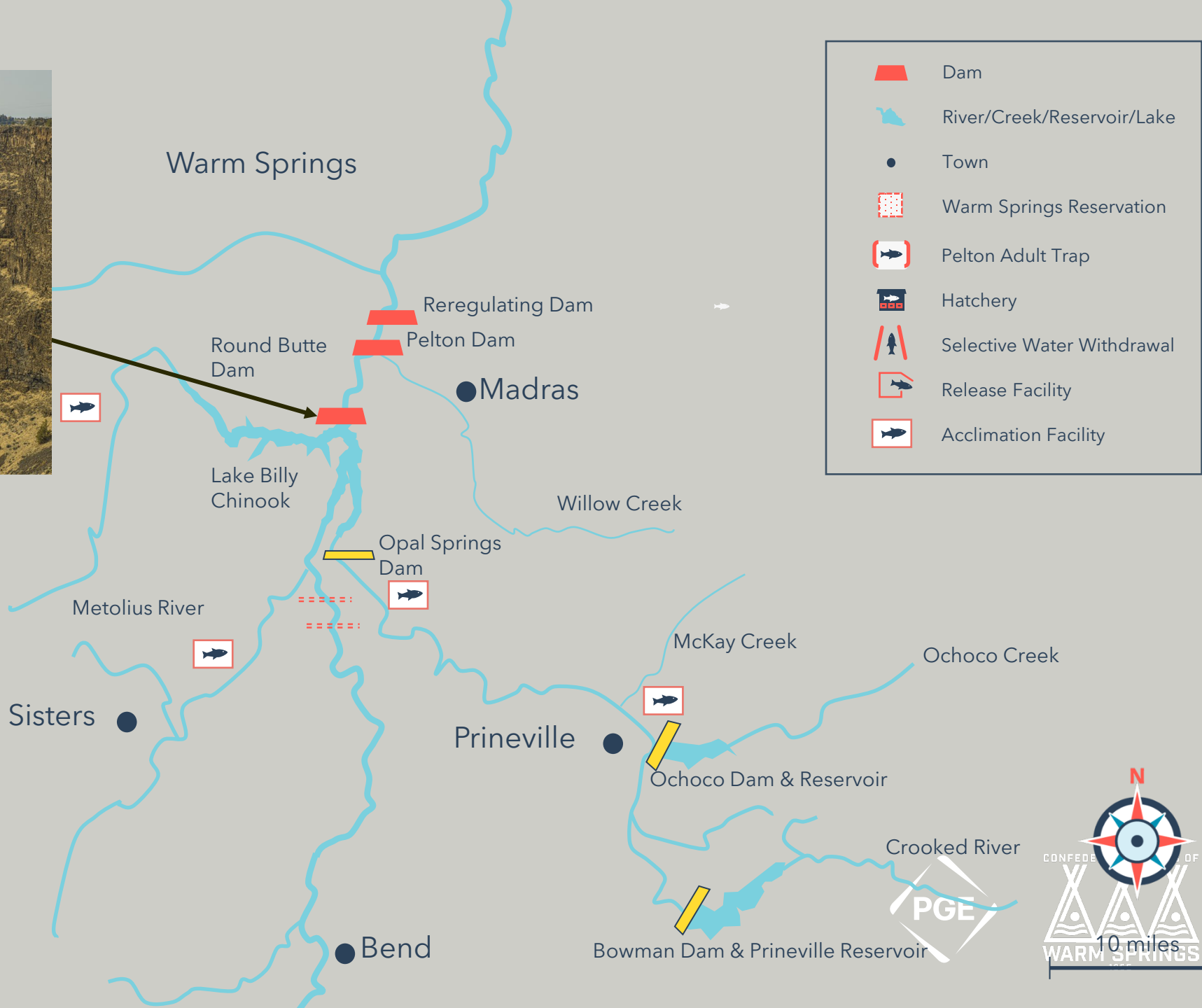


Small Fish, Big Picture: Smolt Passage at Pelton Round Butte

Rebekah Burchell, Aquatics Supervisor
July 2025 | PRB Fisheries Workshop

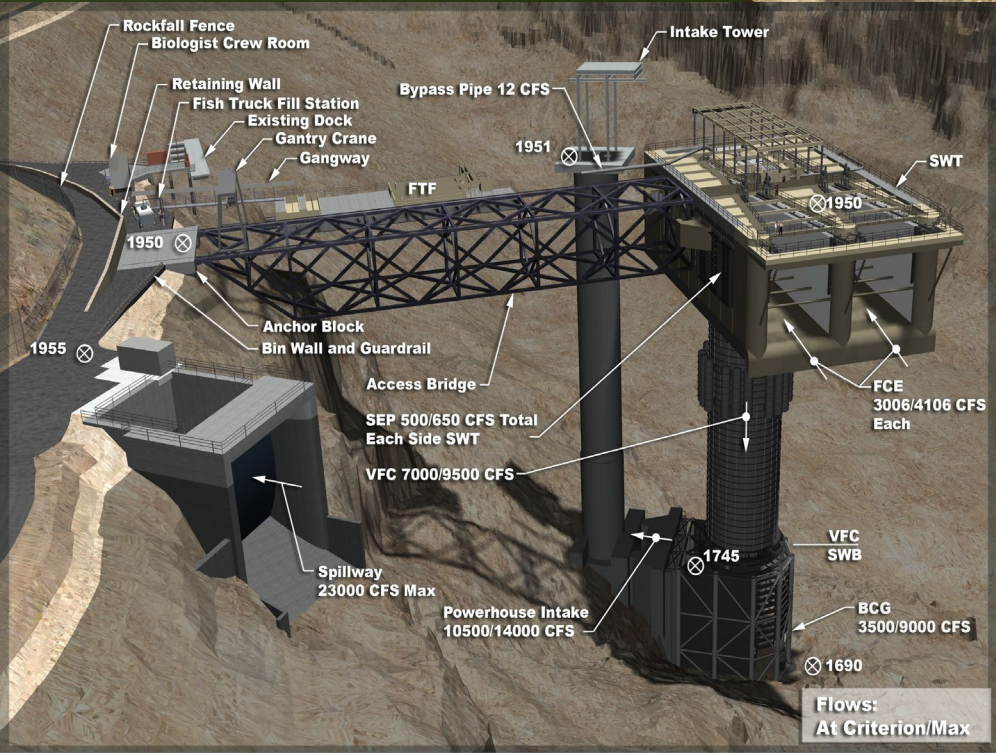




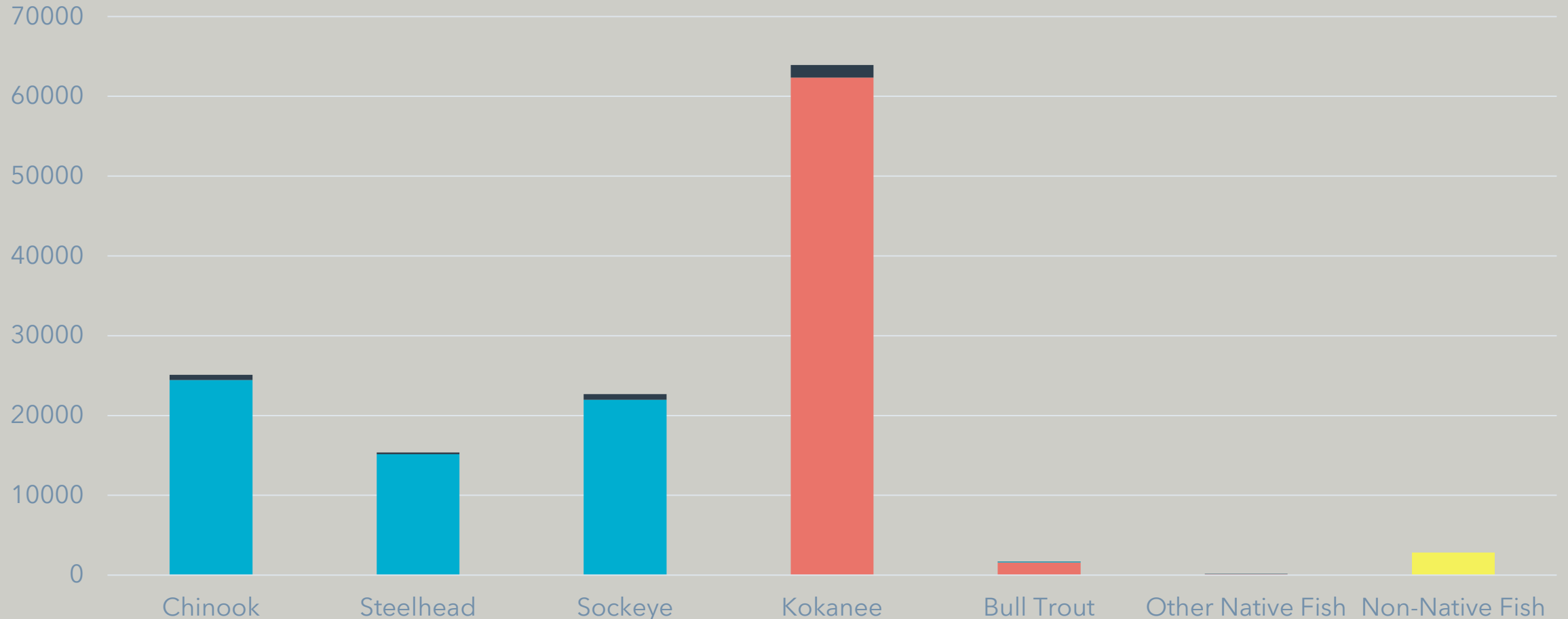


Outline

- SWW Collection Numbers
- Timing/Travel Time into SWW
- Reservoir Collection Efficiency
- Smolt Collection Breakdown
- SWW Improvements for Survival



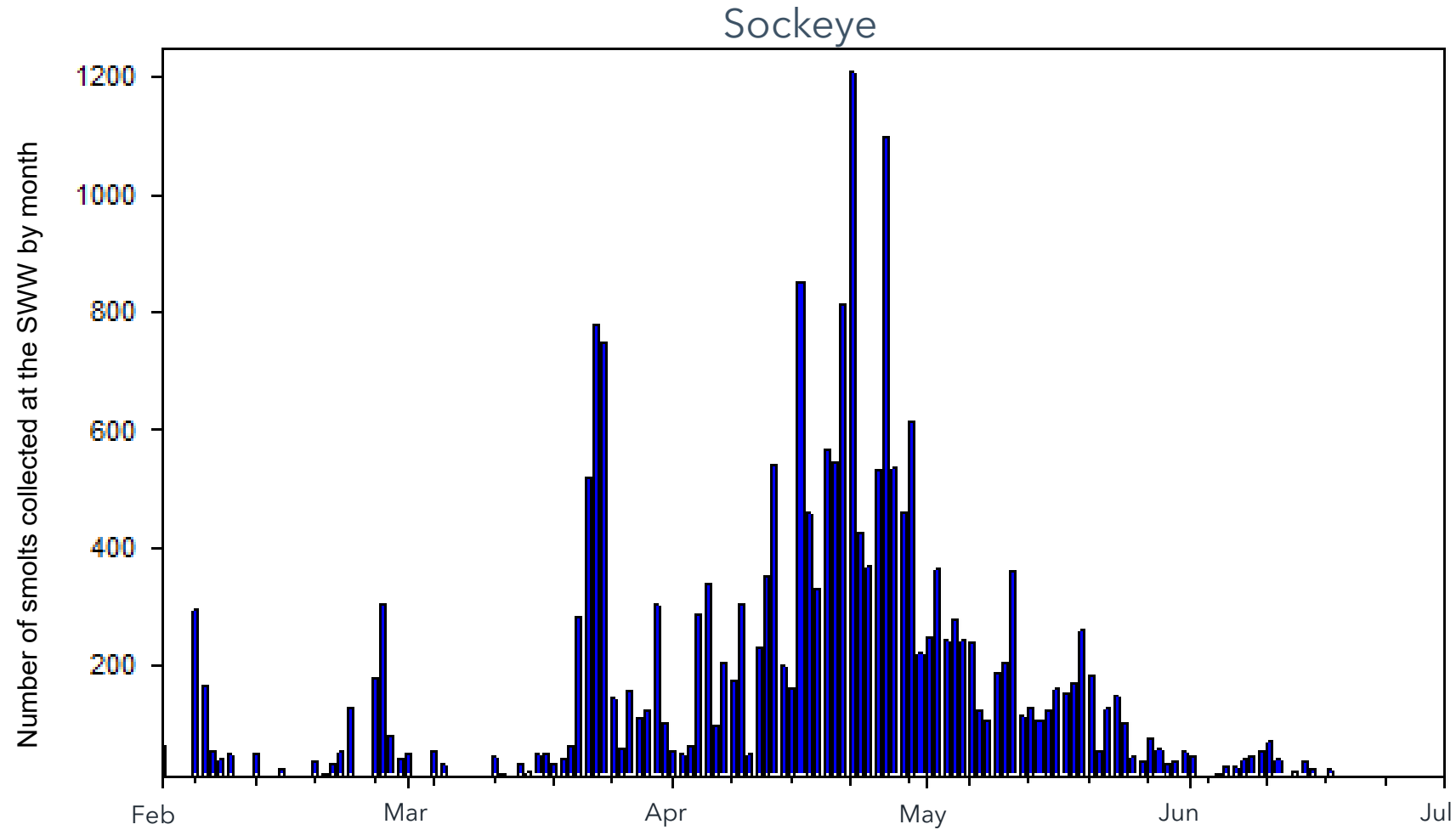
2024 SWW Collection Numbers



■ RB Dam Forebay ■ Lower Deschutes River ■ Mortalities ■ Euthanized

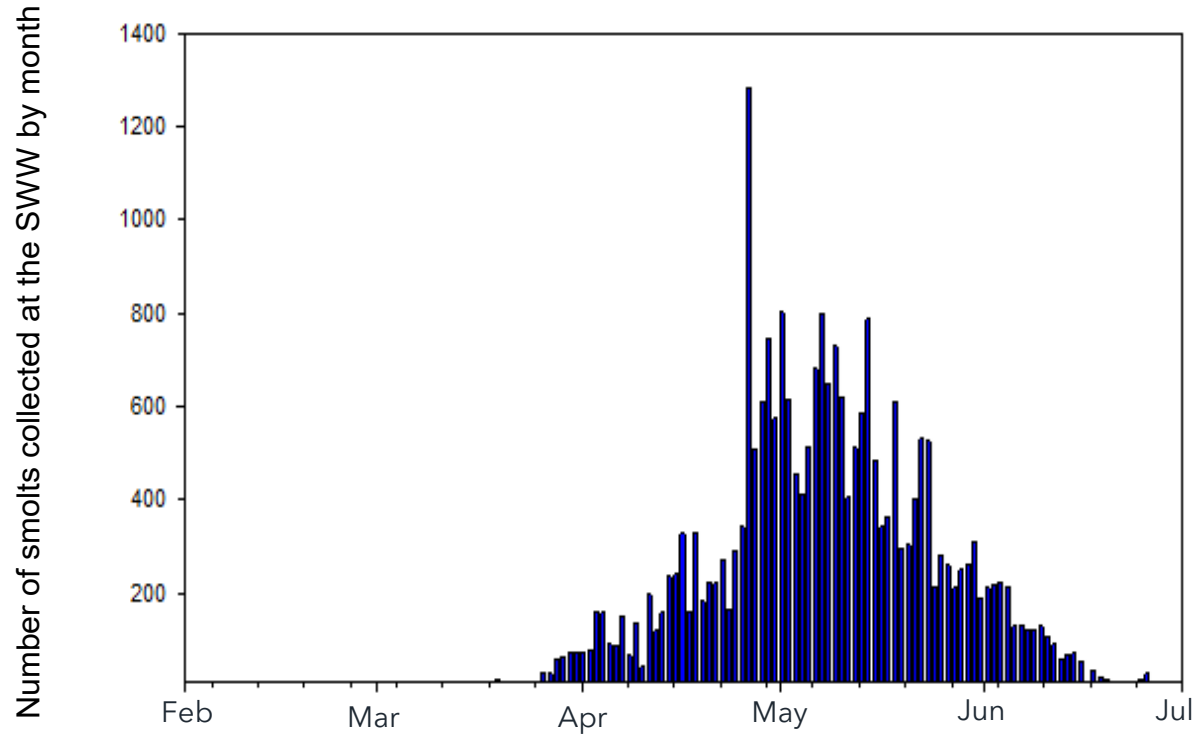


2024 Timing of Smolts into SWW

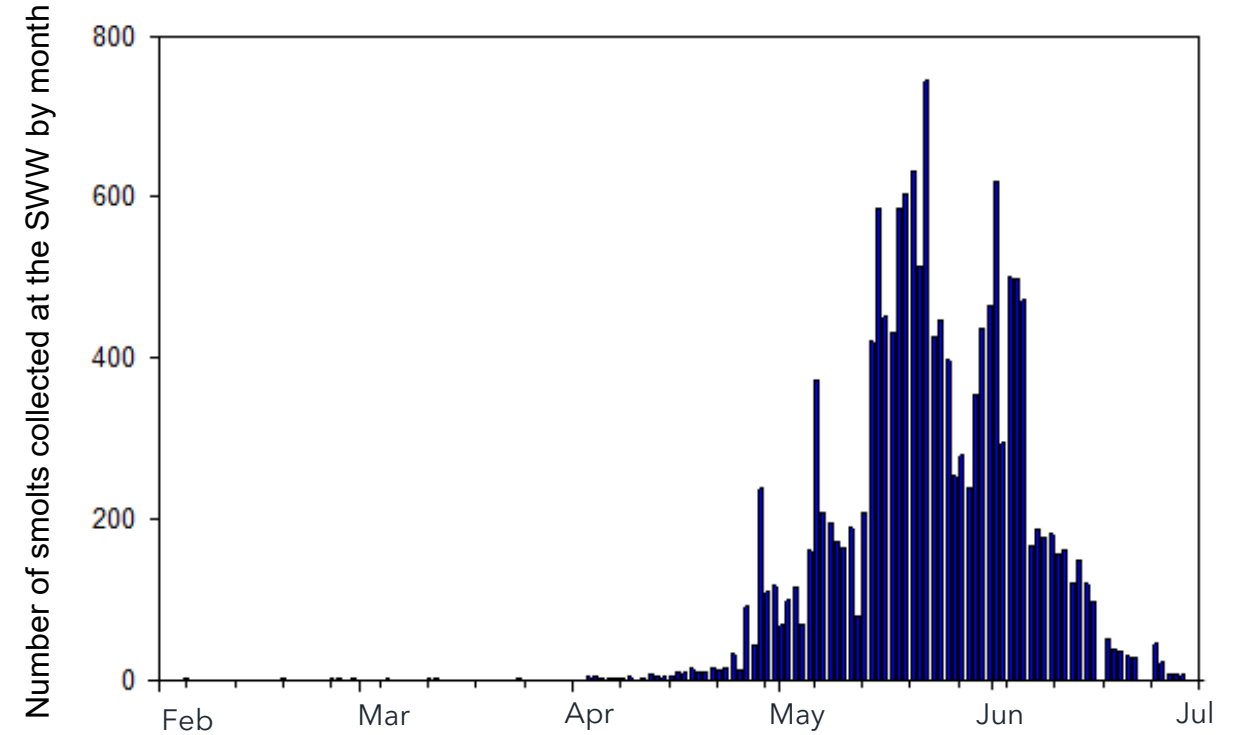


2024 Timing of Smolts into SWW

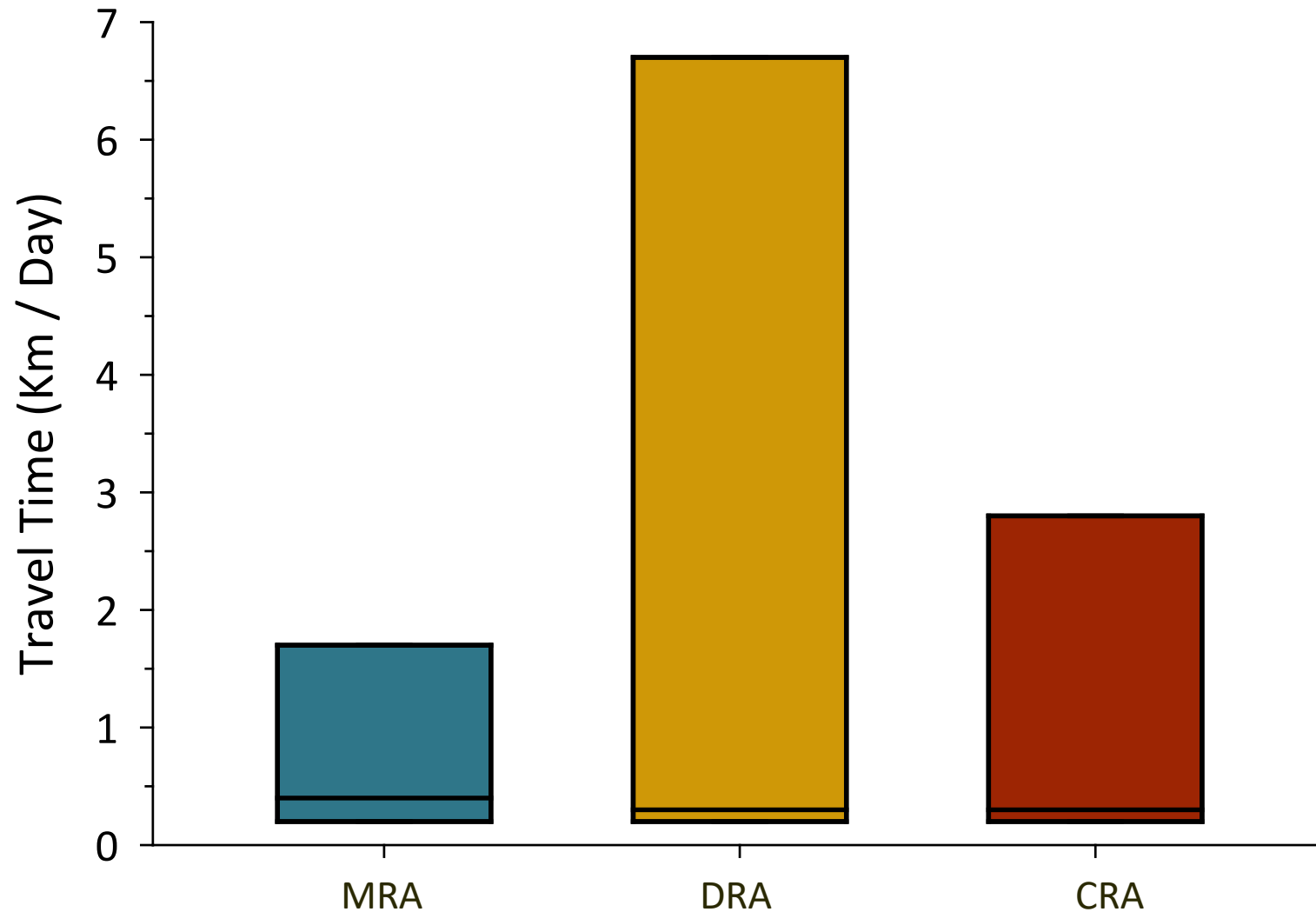
Chinook



Steelhead



2024 Travel Time into SWW (Chinook)

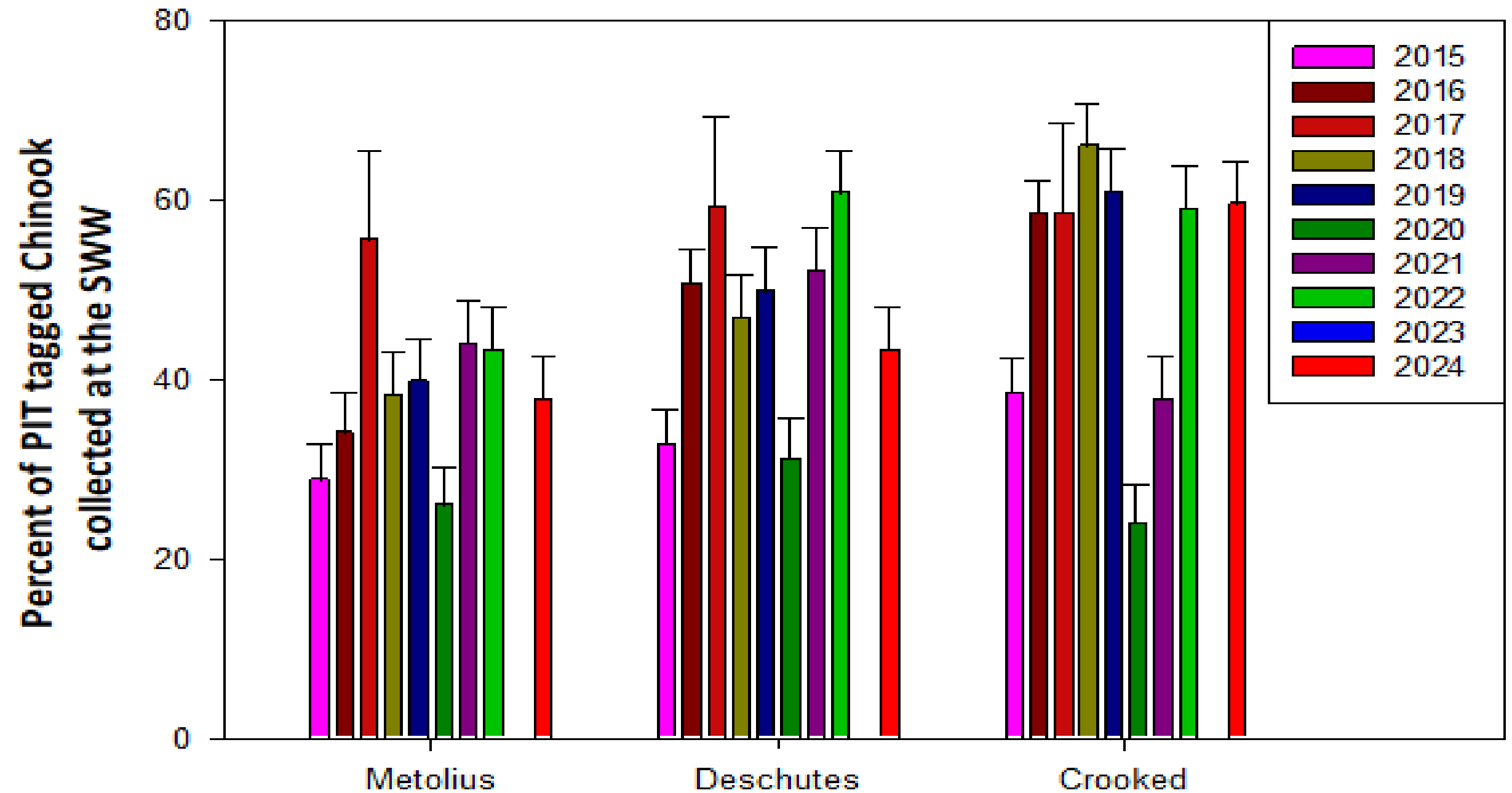


2024 Reservoir Capture Efficiency (Chinook)

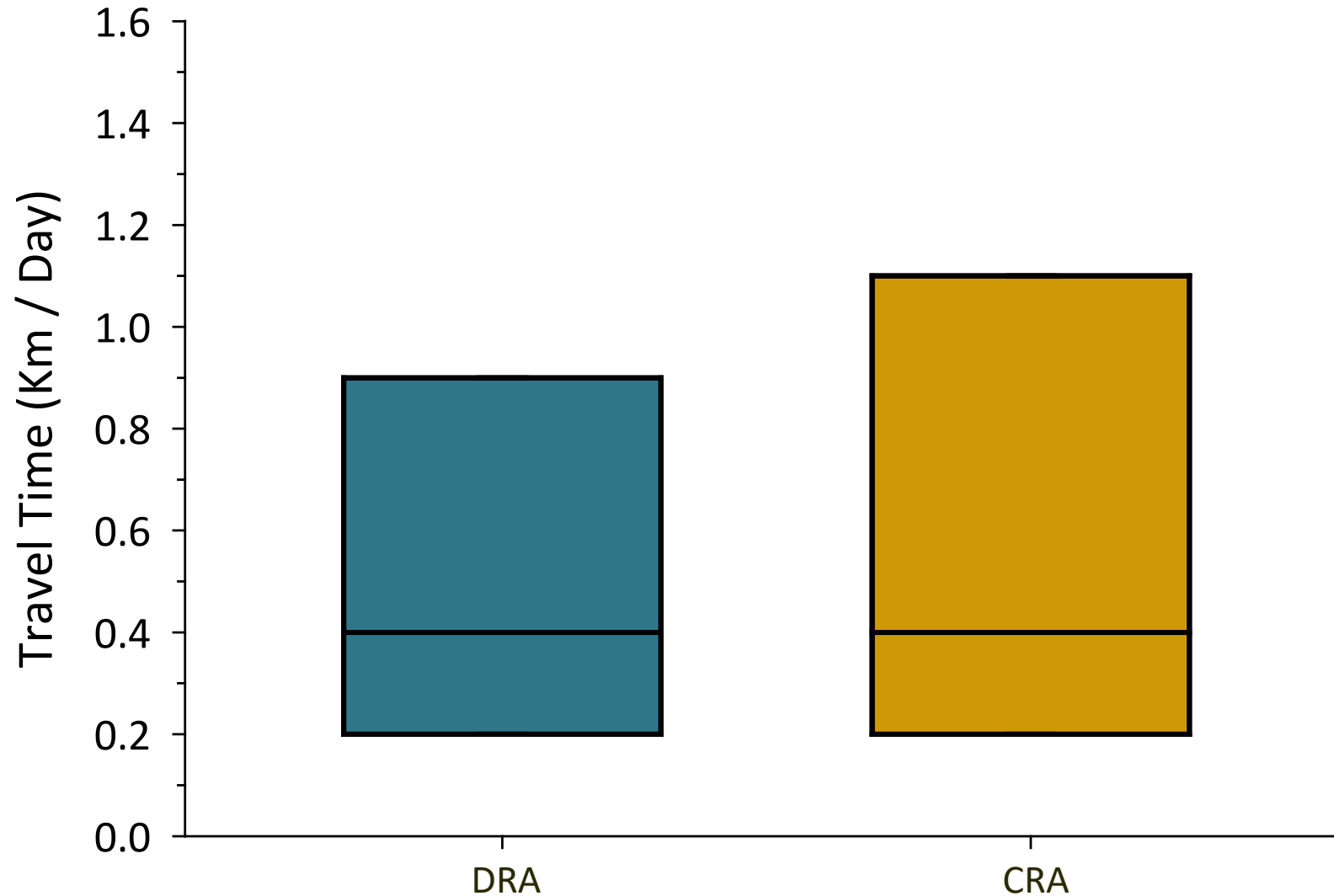
Release Site	Number PIT tagged	Number PIT tags collected (SWW)	Distance to SWW (Km)	Percent Collected
MRA	400	151	18.7	37.8%
DRA	400	173	13.4	43.3%
CRA	400	238	13.7	59.5%



Reservoir Capture Efficiency (Chinook)



2024 Travel Time into SWW (Steelhead)

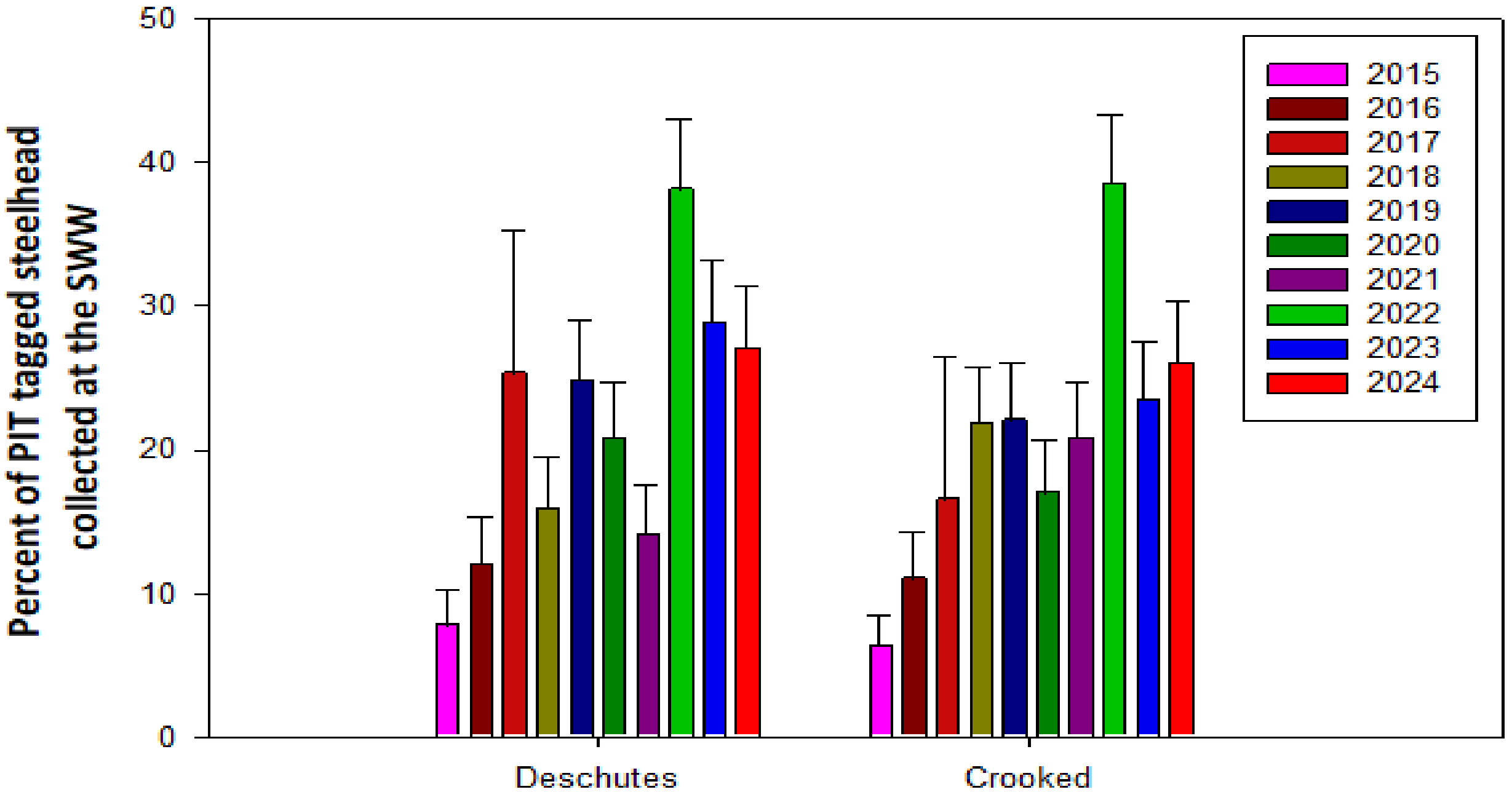


2024 Reservoir Capture Efficiency (Steelhead)

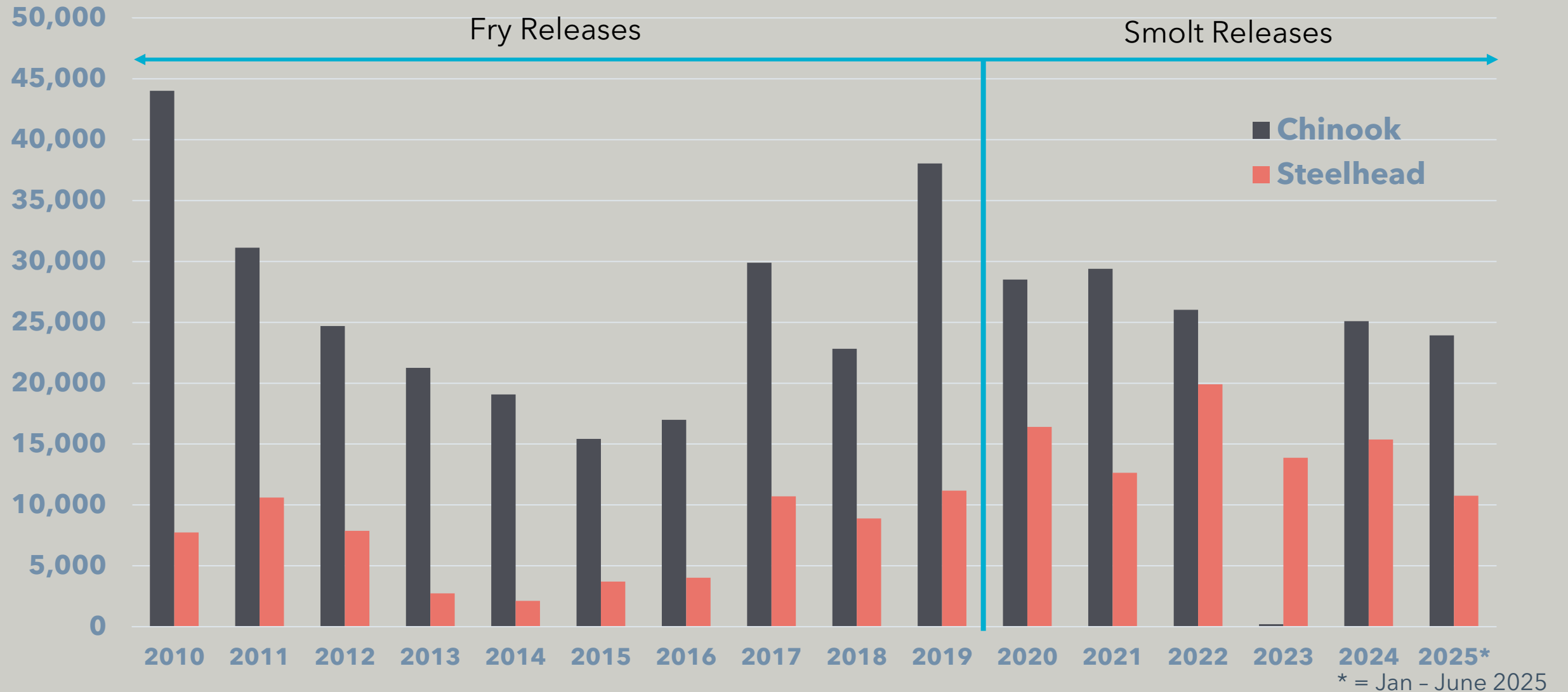
Release Site	Number PIT tagged	Number PIT tags collected (SWW)	Distance to SWW (Km)	Percent Collected
DRA	400	108	13.4	27.0%
CRA	400	104	13.7	26.0%



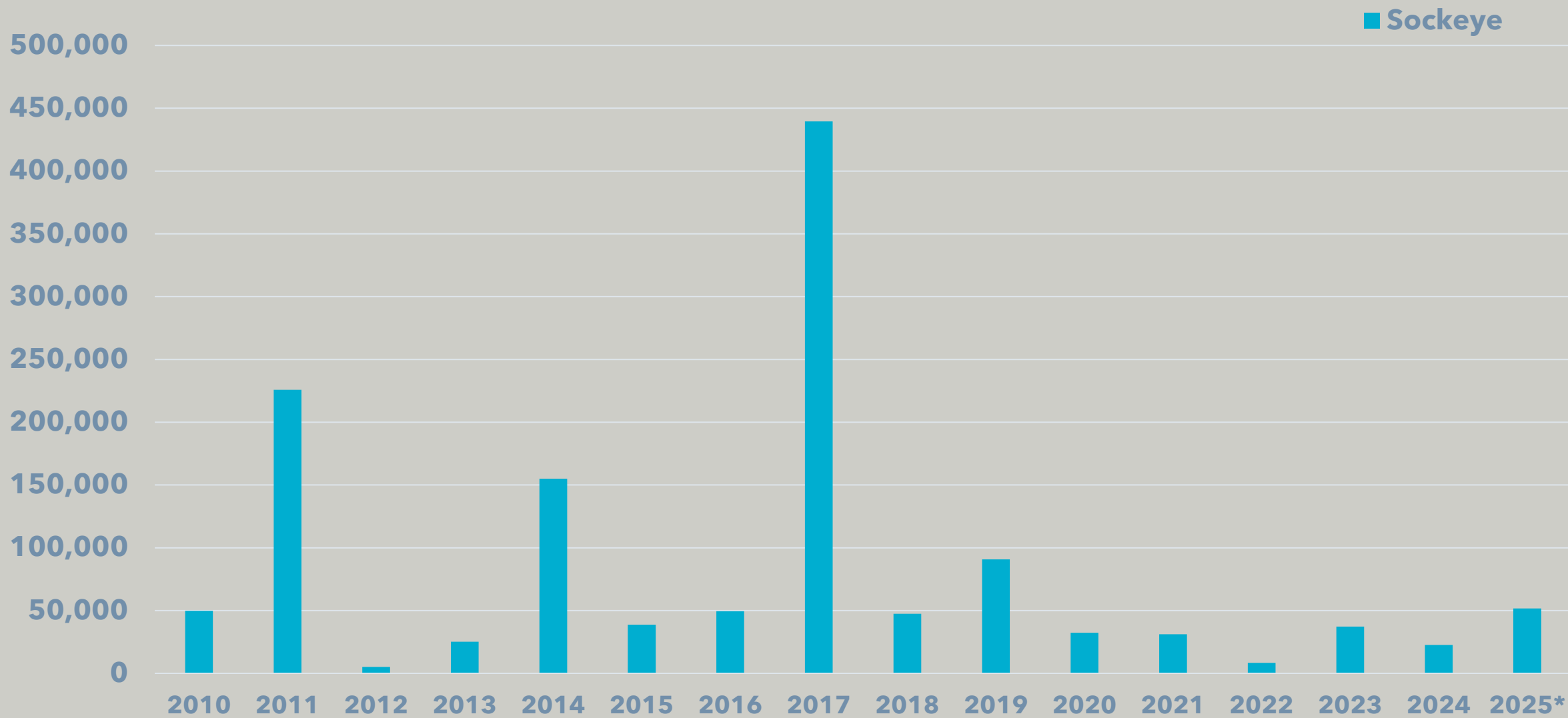
Reservoir Capture Efficiency (Steelhead)



2010 - 2025 SWW Smolt Collection

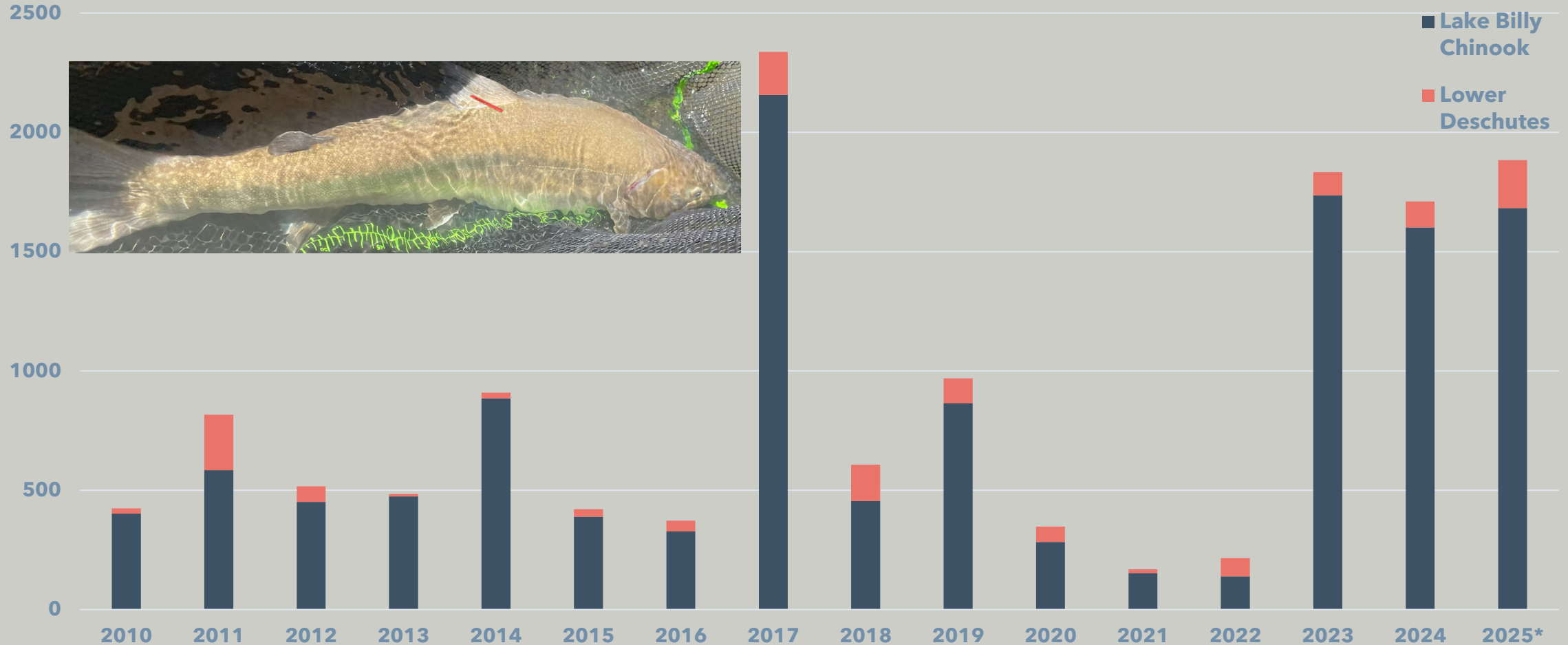


2010 - 2025 SWW Smolt Collection

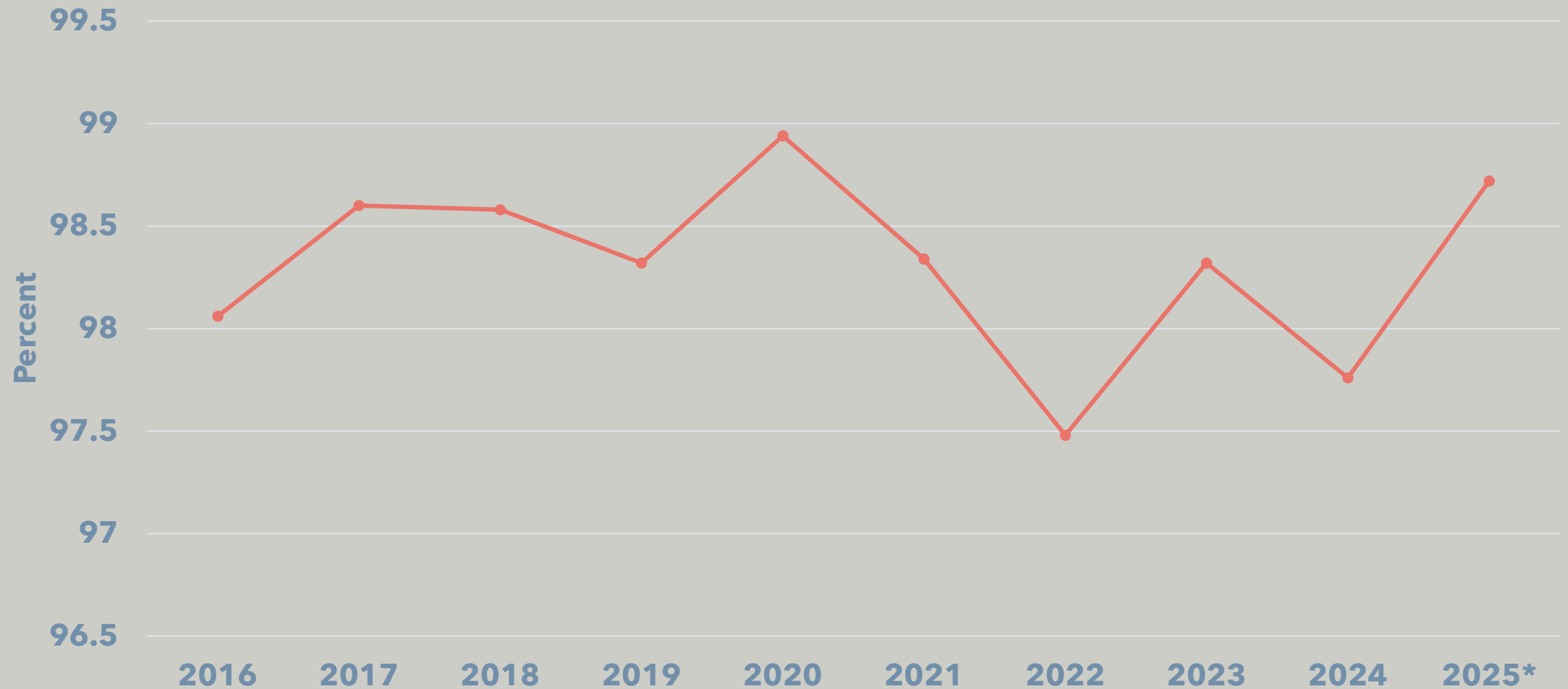


* = Jan - June 2025

2010 - 2025 SWW Bull Trout collection



Average Percent Survival through SWW



—●— Avg. Survival (Bull Trout, Kokanee, Sockeye, Steelhead, Chinook combined)



SWW Survival Improvements



1. New cover on the large raceway to prevent Bull Trout from jumping out
2. New nets on the small and medium holding raceways and more securely anchored (birds, otters & minks)
3. Additional netting to the headworks (birds)
4. Regular flushing of SWW to clear unseen debris
5. New operational procedures to reduce fish incidents
6. Bird deterrents on the forebay exclusion boom





Questions

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